

## **Blue Rose Ranch, Inc.**

Horse Rescue & Adoption

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*“Many have forgotten this truth, but you must never forget it.  
You remain responsible forever for what you have tamed.”  
-Antoine de Saint Exupery*

Dear Valued Friends,

April 28, 2017

Horses love spring. The days grow longer and warmer, and the pastures turn green. Spring cleaning has started and the horses find it very entertaining. Some of the horses try to engage in the process by messing it back up as fast as we clean it up. Many horses have arrived at the rescue this winter, and some have been adopted to great new homes.

### **New Office at Blue Rose Ranch**

Our Town of Blue Rose grew this year with the addition of an office building. Our Youth Clubhouse, grain and horse care supply building, and tack buildings are located near the horse corrals and shelters. This area is affectionately known as the “Town of Blue Rose”. The buildings are lined with a boardwalk, reminiscent of the old west. Blue Rose Ranch kept an office in downtown Springfield for several years, but one of our goals was to office near the horses. This is helpful when we have visitors to the ranch, assists our work with volunteers, and it increases efficiency to care for horses. It is also fun to look out the windows and see horses! John put many man-hours into completing the office, including electrical work and connections, floor, walls and lighting. The result is an absolutely wonderful place to office. We would like to thank Matt Gomboc, a tech savvy supporter of Blue Rose Ranch, who helped with connections to Wi Fi service.

### **Preparations for Youth Horse Camp**

Our Annual Youth Horse Camp will take place June 12-16. This comprehensive camp is designed to enrich and educate both the novice and those who are already experienced with horses. The camp agenda includes safety around horses, handling horses on the ground, care of horses, and of course, hours each day in the saddle. Joining us for the camp this year will be Alec Adams, professional horse trainer and riding instructor. Guest presenters will include our farrier and our veterinarian. If you know of youth ages 9 through teens who would be interested in joining us for a true out-west horse adventure, please have them contact Blue Rose Ranch. Over the years this camp has grown in popularity and promises to fill quickly.

Blue Rose Ranch now requires the use of safety helmets for all riders under age 18. We would like to thank the Rutherford Foundation for grant funds to purchase beautiful new helmets for our youth volunteers.

### **Horse-Snooze (Horse News)**

There are many new muzzles at Blue Rose Ranch. Several came to us because their owners could no longer afford to care for them. Somewhat unusual is that many of the horses came in pairs. *Pepper* and *Sage* are a mother and son pair of mustangs. They are light gray and stunning. It is interesting to watch these two interact with the other horses. Son *Sage* is very interested in making new friends. Mom still wants to be in charge and closely follows *Sage* and his new friends. *Dollar* and *Charles* are sorrel geldings who are long-time best friends. They are content to just be together. *Jewel*, a beautiful paint mare came to us along with her grandson, *Windsor*. *Windsor* is a mischievous and very sweet colt. You may remember *Golden Baby* and *Nugget*. They are the mom and dad of *Windsor*. It was a

complicated situation and took many months for all the horse family members of this group to be relinquished to Blue Rose Ranch. *Ivanka* is a beautiful and well-trained dun mare. Duns are a dark sandy/tan color with a black dorsal stripe and dark lower legs. *Ivanka* was named for her “flare and intelligence”. *Reagan*, a light gray Arabian, came to us via law enforcement, and he was not with us long. *Reagan* had been neglected and had advanced melanoma. This magnificent horse was noble and proud, trusting and kind. *Reagan* experienced a great “end of the trail”, and was honored and loved by the volunteers here at Blue Rose Ranch. *Olivia* and *Thor* came from a situation where there are way too many horses and no reproductive management. *Thor* is a yearling, and thinks life is just great roaming at the Canyon Ranch property. He has been gelded, and his adoptive mom and protector is *Clementine*. *Olivia* is a beautiful palomino, and very pregnant. We look forward to meeting her foal. Lots of new horses!

Several horses have found great adoptive homes. *Millie*'s new owner is kind and doting, and boards *Millie* here at Blue Rose Ranch. This is a win-win – *Millie* has a person of her own, and we still get to enjoy *Millie*! *Little Chief* and *Little Einstein* have been adopted to a home with kids who love having horses for pets. We are pleased that these two horse buddies are together and getting lots of attention. *Lucky* was a star at the “Equine Comeback Challenge”. He was a top contender and we were so proud of him. Several people bid on *Lucky* at the auction following the “Comeback Challenge” events. His new owner plans to use him as a “heel horse” in team roping.

#### **From the desk of John...Adoption Standards**

The ***Gold Standard*** is what we call our guidelines of eligibility for horse adoption. It contains one of the most demanding horse adoption standards in the country. When we first began operation we had less stringent guidelines and our incoming horses were efficiently moved through the system and then off to their new homes. Horse rescues are under significant pressure to yield to the numbers game and get horses adopted quickly. Many foundations and funding sources look favorably on organizations that have good “numbers”. On its face this sounds like a good idea: Move horses in and out and always have room for more horses.

The problem with “numbers” is that it produces a large number of horses that come back into the system or find themselves in need of re-rescuing because they were too hastily adopted to a home that was not a best choice horse facility. Almost daily we receive a call from a person that wants a horse. They have a brother that is dating a girl that lives next door to a guy who says they can keep the horse at his parent's house - or some story like that. The horse usually has a home for about two weeks until the brother and the girl quit dating. Numbers wise, this counts as a horse adoption but it is absolutely not in the long-term best interest of the horse.

Harsh truth: It takes money and facilities to properly care for horses and some people who want to own horses are not in a position to provide the resources necessary to meet the Gold Standard for horse ownership. We sadly are required to tell people that they do not meet those standards at the present time. Our duty is to the wonderful horses in whom we have invested countless hours and thousands of dollars.

I invite you to contact Cheryl, at the ranch, and have her email you a copy of our Gold Standard adoption package. It is insightful and informative reading.

***Thank you for your support of Blue Rose Ranch: through volunteer work, moral support, word of mouth, and financial support. Your contributions make our work on behalf of unwanted horses possible. We wish you a great spring and summer, and invite you to visit Blue Rose Ranch.***

Sincerely,  
John and Cheryl Webb

# New Office



*Arrival of Office Building*



*Ceiling Installation*



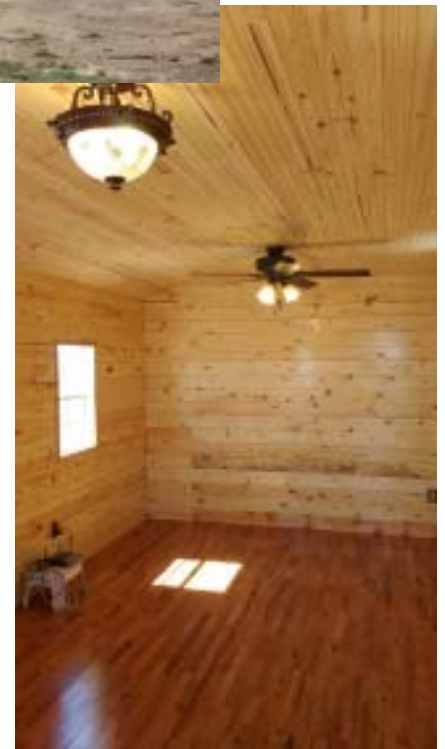
*The Town of Blue Rose*



*Our friend Matt, a real computer expert, who figured out a complex Wi-Fi bridge to the office.*



*Installing the Floor*



*Ready to move in*



## New Arrivals:



*Charles and Dollar*



*Ivanka*



*Olivia*



*Sage and Jewel*



*Pepper*



*Windsor*



*Thor*



*Reagan with volunteer Shirley Anderson, who heads our "Horse Walkers"*



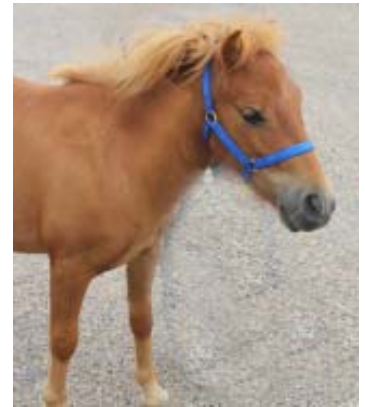
*Rhonda with her beloved horse Millie. Two lives changed forever.*



*Lucky during his award winning performance at the Horse Expo in Denver. Lucky's journey from an abandoned horse on the prairie to becoming a highly valued team roping competitive horse is what Blue Rose Ranch is all about.*



*Little Chief and Little Einstein with their Family*



***Plaques in Honor or In Memory***

We would like each of you to know about an opportunity that is designed to help raise funds to pay off the remaining balance of the Blue Rose Ranch Indoor Riding Arena. The inside of the arena is beautiful. The fabric material of the building allows light and warmth to permeate and the ceiling gives the space a cathedral feeling. The arena interior has a white equestrian railing for safety. We will be accepting donations ***in honor of*** or ***in memory of*** individuals or beloved pets, whose names will be mounted on this rail. The plaque is black steel, with a brass engraved name plate. They are beautiful. The cost of a name plaque is \$100.

To make a tax-deductible donation for this campaign and designate a name plaque, please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$100.00 to **Blue Rose Ranch, 30997 US Hwy 287, Springfield, CO 81073**

**Name of the individual/pet to be engraved on the plaque:**

- i.e. Joe and Betty Smith
- i.e. Cinnamon

\_\_\_\_\_ *Please write clearly*

**Your name and contact information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have questions please call the ranch at 303-796-7739 or email: [directors@blueroserranch.org](mailto:directors@blueroserranch.org)**



*Kiara, Sydnie, and Emma model the new safety helmets.*

**Blue Rose Ranch would like to thank  
the following Foundations for their support:**

Alice Jenkins Foundation

Animal Assistance Foundation

Anschutz Family Foundation

ASPCA

(The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to  
Animals)

Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation

Colorado Unwanted Horse Alliance

El Pomar's Hambrick Fund

Equus Foundation

Merck Animal Health

Rutherford Foundation

Sally Beck Foundation

Southern Colorado Community  
Foundation

William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris  
Foundation

Unwanted Horse  
Veterinary Relief Campaign