

Spring Creek Horse Rescue



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~From The Manure Pile~

We are full. Anyone in the horse world knows horses are in trouble. Humans have lost their jobs, their homes, and the ability to care for their animals therefore pets have nowhere to go. Ours is a sad world having to tell people we have no room at the Inn, and very few are adopting this year because of the economy. We are trying to place some of the horses we get calls on, but there are just too many. Many are being euthanized, rather than sending them to slaughter, kinder, but still very heart breaking. Many of our horses are special needs, Bentley-37 now, & still going strong. His newest friend Chloe has been too abused in her past to ever go to a new home, and she is developing Cushings, so they keep each other company along with Calvin, who protects them both. Our 2 newest residents Momma Fancy & Baby Callie have a long way yet to go, but both are doing good. Momma Fancy suffered a broken hip not long before coming here, and it is healing, but she will need a while to convalesce. She is a sweet, gentle soul who needed somewhere safe to land. Callie came in with rain rot that the vet said took over two years to get that bad, we have bathed & scraped, bathed & scraped & bathed & scraped, till she is finally healing, feeling like she has a new lease on life and acting like a 2 year old (even though she is 8). Tom is trying hard to recover from his stroke, but still has many battles to fight. Karlene Stange DVM is trying to help Tom get back some of his mobility with acupuncture & chiropractic, we thank her VERY MUCH for her donated time! Ricky is his stuck like glue a constant companion, and at 27, he counts on Tom for so much- they keep each other going. Both have put on much weight, & are looking like beautiful, REAL horses. We have the pleasure of Flash and Adrienne from 1881 Western Photography Co. doing pictures of all our horses, and WOW what a job they are doing, we now have new pictures of the "babies" running, playing, & looking all grown up & healthy. (1881wpc.com) MANY thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers & donators that help us continue to save these magnificent animals, we need your support to continue our mission. If you have room for a horse in your heart please let us know, currently we have many drafts looking for forever homes, and continue to get calls on other horses who's owners are having financial difficulties.

Diane

Tom
By: Stephanie Dean



Tom is a 16 year old Clydesdale Gelding with GREAT personality. His previous job had been as a teaching horse at a children's camp that was foreclosed on. The first thing we noticed is that he lists to one side which was caused by a stroke, he is one of only 2% of horses that survive after having a stroke. In spite of that difficulty, he is very adamant about what he wants, at 16-3HH, he is a BIG boy who trots in place if he doesn't get his way.

He was a 1 on the scale, meaning he was so thin he looked like a skeleton walking. We started feeding him slowly after 2 years of very little food, and currently he gets fed a combination mush of beet pulp, alfalfa pellets, and senior feed every 3 hours. Currently he has gained about 500#, & is really getting his "groove" back. A bath while the weather was warm was also on his agenda which he did not particularly appreciate, it took 3 people to convince him the bath was in his best interest. I do believe he felt much better after the bath although he would never admit it. He has now had 4 baths, and shines like a star, which he is and doesn't mind anymore when we get out the bathing tools. Dr. Karlene Stange, a local veterinarian, has been giving him acupuncture treatments which have enabled him to stand straight once again. He can now move around quite rapidly especially if he doesn't want you to catch him. His water tank is his favorite toy which he sloshes his nose in quite frequently and he is very vocal when he thinks it is feeding time.

Tom has a great heart and will to live, having survived foot trouble, teeth problems, infections, a stroke and pneumonia. Every time I go to the rescue, he always greets me loudly and waits for me to come give him some loving. He makes volunteering there a joy.



Momma Fancy and Callie

By: Kai



I started volunteering for Spring Creek about 6 months ago. The amazing work being done on the ranch to help the less fortunate horses of La Plata county moved me beyond words. Not too long after I started at the ranch we got an e-mail from a Sherriff in the Grand Junction area asking us to take two horses for them, a girl had "rescued" them from a neighbor who had abandoned them. While she had all the good intentions in the world she did not have the experience to give them the care they so desperately needed. After about 2 months the other neighbors had finally gotten fed up with looking at two clearly sick and starving horses and asked the Sherriff to step in. Even though we were near reaching capacity at the ranch we arranged to have them brought to us after seeing the direness of the situation. When they came rolling in at 2am we still didn't know what we had gotten ourselves into and were able to unload them into a pen with fresh hay and water and promise that they were safe and we would get to know them in the morning. Day 1 Momma was down most of the day, skinny and neglected

she had clearly lost the will to live and we were unsure if we were going to be able to help her. Callie (aka Baby / Puppy) was also severely under weight though unlike Momma she was so curious about everything and everyone that walked by her we started to question whether or not she had ever seen other horses before. After 3 days of hay, grain, and clean water both had already started to look better! Momma started nickering at us every time we walked



towards the tack room (she figured out pretty quick it's where we keep the grain) . We had a volunteer come out and do Reiki on them at which time we were told that "Momma had been promised a good home before", we assured her THIS WAS IT! Now she believes us and only slightly feels the need to supervise us if we dump her water tank (she still gets concerned that it might not get refilled). One of our vets came to check the new girls at which time we were told that the rain rot on Callie's back had taken at least 2 years to get as bad as it was. That's when we started shaving, picking, scrubbing, and bathing her to get her back to health, I learned very quickly that there was no need to shower in the morning before coming to the ranch as Callie going to make sure that if I was giving her a bath I was going to get one too! While easy to

handle at first... since deciding she's safe now she has become quite the handful. I have started referring to her as my big puppy dog (she acts more like a Great Dane puppy than a horse sometimes) you'd never know she is 8! She loves having her chin scratched and is known at the ranch as the "class clown" having been seen kicking up her heels for no reason other than happiness even in her pen. Turn her out and she'll show off her pretty gaits with her tail held high as her newly discovered spirits. Momma has turned out to be the biggest love and with lots of affection and the careful attention of Karlene Stange she finally believes she's safe. Even with still healing from a previously broken hip, she'll never be a show horse, but she is one of the kindest horses on the property. As with all the horses here they have thoroughly wormed their way into my heart and I can't wait to see these



guys go off to the loving forever homes they so very much deserve. The massive improvement I've witnessed with many of the horses here in such a short time in phenomenal, I am so grateful that we are so fortunate to have Spring Creek in our area doing such amazing work! Even the tiniest bit of improvement in any of the horses we have makes all the long hours and stress the very least we can do to help these wonderful, kind, compassionate animals that were so completely at the mercy of the people who owned them.

Tom watching his new best friend Ricky!



Please visit our website at: springcreekhorserescue.org for full stories of all the amazing horses we have for adoption! Volunteers and Donations always gratefully accepted.