

Spring Creek Horse Rescue



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From The Manure Pile

As Colorado burns around us we are trying for some normalcy. We have fires within 30 miles in all directions. Lightning has started new fires closer, but still no rain. We set up a "command post" with a list of people that are able to haul & have room for horses should this area be evacuated. Besides the fires, the lack of rain has burned up even irrigated pastures and made hay fields produce 1/3 to 1/2 of normal. Many people who usually have grass until fall have none, and hay is already in high demand. Besides the many calls we get from people having financial difficulty, now many can't find hay and many more horses will be neglected or looking for new homes. We need your help to be able to purchase our winter hay to care for the horses already at the rescue. It's going to be a rough year!

On a lighter note, we were called on an 8 wk old orphan filly whose Mom had broken her leg and she needed a place to go. When the people were loading her in the trailer to bring her to the rescue she was run into the trailer door and received 30 stitches in her shoulder. Too young to be without her Mom she got here not knowing how to eat hay or grain, totally freaked and infected, and pretty scared about what was coming next. 2 weeks later

~Ayden~ is eating good, is more comfortable with humans, and has Tiela for a role model to teach her to be a horse. She is a very smart little filly and catches on quick. Come visit her and watch her progress.....

Diane



~Ayden~



Tiela



~Ayden~ and Flash



~Ayden~ (stiches on shoulder)

Photos courtesy 1881 Western Photography Co.

We are Committed

Anytime someone is talking about getting a horse the first thing people say to them is "horses are a lot of work". At Spring Creek Horse Rescue that is an understatement. The horses we get here are here for a reason, and often that reason is because they have conditions that require the kind of care most people are simply

unable to give. I have been more than impressed with the individual attention these horses receive and by the wealth of knowledge Spring Creek Horse Rescue is generating by managing many of these medical and mental conditions that are usually given up on.

Tom, a 17 year old Clydesdale is by far the best example at our facility. He suffers from a condition called Anhidrosis. Unfamiliar with this one? don't feel like you're alone. (It means he doesn't sweat.) Some of Tom's symptoms include moments that are similar to stroke. He also has scratches on his legs which require regular cleaning. This is not an easy task due to Tom's strong character and will to live. If this is not enough he was starved for much of his life and this has complicated the diet he is required to eat. The health problems he suffers require lots of time, money, and energy, but it's worth it. Numerous members of the community whom I've asked to visit the rescue have walked away with new knowledge about managing the conditions their own horses suffer from. And isn't that what this is all about- Education.

Cassie, a 3 year old Mustang cross saved from the kill buyer suffered such bad malnutrition as a foal that it has had long lasting effects into maturity. She has a skin condition which causes her hair to fall out in patches. Despite the fact that she is a well put together little filly doing well under saddle, this takes away from her desirability as an adoptable horse. We spend a lot of time caring for her hair with MTG (Mane, Tail, Groom) and vitamins. This too takes time and patience.

(UPDATE- Cassie just got adopted and will be going all the way to San Francisco!)

New to us this year is Tiela. She is a 23 year old, BEAUTIFUL, Arabian Mare. When Tiela came to us we were told of her extreme allergies to flies. She had been on Steroid shots for the

majority if not all of her life. What is more, she was covered head to toe everyday to protect her skin. Feeling that this was hard on her and hid her full beauty we experimented with other solutions to the problem. We keep her pen immaculately clean, brushed regularly, fly wiped with precision, and added special vitamins to her diet and it has worked! Tiela now runs free of drugs and naked as the day she was born.

These are only three examples, nearly every horse here is a mental or physical abuse case, of the immense amounts of time, money, and energy that are put into these equines. Currently, Spring Creek Horse Rescue is at maximum capacity and there are horses waiting that need this kind of treatment. I encourage all our readers to donate some time, money, or expertise so we can continue to do and share our good work.

Jack



Tom



Cassie

Photos courtesy 1881 Western Photography Co.

As this newsletter is going to print La Plata County Animal Protection called and has managed to save 2 starvation horses & they will be headed our way-Please, we need your help.