



Nickers n' Tails

Serving the equine companions who have so loyally served us...

Spring 2009

In this issue...

- Work Day marked with sweat and smiles..... 2
- Arkansas slaughter resolution..... 3
- My Rescue..... 3
- Our newest additions..... 4-5
- Gala stirs excitement..... 5
- Finally home.... 6
- eBay Giving Works..... 6
- Flower Power Fundraiser..... 6

Join us in "Riding to the Rescue" - June 6th-7th, 2009

Saddle up and join us for the 2nd annual "Riding to the Rescue" Competitive Trail Ride to be held June 6th-7th at Perry State Park in Ozawakie, Kan. Sanctioned by the North American Trail Riding Conference (NATRC), the 2-day competition will take competitors through forests and along lake shores as the equestrian trails wind through various wildlife habitats and colorful vegetation.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the rescued horses at Rainbow Meadows.

A distance-only option is available for riders interested in participating without entering into competition.

Check-in begins on Friday afternoon, June 5th, 2009 from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m., with late check-in on Saturday a.m. Ride fees for adults are \$75 and \$50 for juniors (under 18). All non-NATRC members pay an additional \$15. A full meal deal is available for \$25 and covers Friday dinner, Saturday dinner and Sunday lunch (Note: Meals must be paid for and reserved no later than May 25, 2009.).

Pre-registration is required. To register, contact Hope White at hope.white@rainbowmeadowsranch.com or 913-238-9528. Negative Coggin's are required on ALL horses in camp, including non-

competing horses. Health certificates are required on all out-of-state horses.

Not interested in riding? We're always looking for volunteers to help make the event a success. Contact Karen Everhart at karen.everhart@rainbowmeadowsranch.com if you're interested in volunteering.

For more information, go to: www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com/Rescue%20images/Newsletters/RidingToRescueFlyerFull2009PDF.pdf.

Riding to the Rescue



Rainbow Meadows
Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.

Competitive Trail Ride

June 6th-7th, 2009 • Perry Lake, KS

Thank you for helping us help the horses!



Sanctioned by the North American Trail Ride Conference - visit www.natrc.org for rules and other information.



An IRS-designated 501(c)3 public charity- contributions are tax deductible.

Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.

Hoof Beats

with Karen Everhart, Executive Director

Today's economy is causing everyone to think twice on a daily basis about any purchase or other financial commitment. The experts tell us that things are dire, yet we know that if we all stop spending, or stop making plans for "tomorrow", we send the country spiraling into a deeper recession. What is a person to do?

The beauty of the horses here at Rainbow Meadows is that they don't get bogged down in these types of issues. They bury their noses in the winter hay, they relish in the spring grasses, and if times are difficult and rations are slim (such as where many of them came

from), they still do not complain. They continue to want to survive, just like you and I, and they always need comfortable companionship, just as we need family and friends. They take today for granted, never worrying about what tomorrow might bring. If troubles prevail, they will react to those stressors then. It is no wonder that the horse seldom dies of stress-related diseases like strokes or heart attacks.

But, you and I have to deal with life at a different level; we have to pay the bills. Often when the decisions get tough, we decide to pull our support

from organizations which cannot survive without our help. Such is the case with Rainbow Meadows. We cannot rescue horses and provide for their care without your continued support. Our future rests in the decisions you make with the resources you have. Please remember the horses when you can.



Karen with Indi, daughter to Lexi, rescued in 2004.

Work Day marked with sweat and smiles

On March 21st, 16 Rainbow Meadows volunteers put on their gloves and pulled out their saws for the very first Rainbow Meadows Work Day. With plenty of grins and lots of laughter, participants worked to clear trees from the ranch's 50+ acre hay meadow in preparation for the replacement of the barbed wire fence line with smooth twisted wire. The meadow supplies Rainbow Meadows' rescues with hay for the winter months, and by replacing the fencing, the horses can be assured a safe barrier during the growing season.

Rainbow Meadows Work Days occur on the third Saturday of each month. Projects vary, and can range from brush/tree cutting to fence building to fence painting to horse grooming and on. Start time is 10:00 a.m. at the ranch, and the day's hard work comes to an end with an evening barbeque and great conversation. If you are interested in being a part of a Work Day, please contact Director of Volunteers, Dawn Kerley, at dawn.kerley@rainbowmeadowsranch.com.



Upcoming Work Days:

May 16th, 2009 • June 20th, 2009 • July 18th, 2009
August 15th, 2009 • September 19th, 2009

Arkansas Slaughter Resolution Goes to Governor

by: Pat Raia

April 20 2009

Source: TheHorse.com, Article # 14000
(<http://www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=14000>)

A resolution instructing Arkansas' Congressional delegation to vote against a bill that would prohibit the export of horses to slaughter facilities in Mexico and Canada is now before that state's governor for his signature.

HCR 1004 was sent to Gov. Mike Beebe on April 3 after passing the full Arkansas General Assembly. The resolution instructs Arkansas representatives in Washington to vote against HR 503, the Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act. The federal legislation prohibits the transport, sale, delivery, or export of horses for slaughter for human consumption. It also criminalizes the purchase, sale, delivery, or export of horsemeat intended for human consumption.

Arkansas is the latest state to pass resolutions opposing the passage of HR 503. Similar resolutions have passed in:

Kansas (HCR 5004)
South Dakota (SCR 2)
Utah (HJR 7)
Wyoming (HJR 7)

Others are pending in:

Arizona (SCM 1001)
Idaho (HJM 005)
Minnesota (SF 133)
Missouri (HCR 19, SCR 8)

Meanwhile, legislation promoting privately owned horse processing plant development is scheduled for gubernatorial action in other states. Montana's HB 418 advanced to Gov. Brian Schweitzer last week. In North Dakota SCR 4021 and HB1496 await Gov. John Hoeven's signature.

Related bills are pending in:

Illinois (HB 0583)
Tennessee (HB 1361)

My Rescue...



Cash the clown *By Kira Valentin - Rainbow Meadows marketing coordinator and adopter*

If you leave it out, he'll chew on it. If you leave it on, he'll nose it. If you leave it open, he'll walk through it. Cash is the type of horse that has you cursing at him one minute and doubled over in laughter the next. He is curious, fearless and a true clown. Oh, and did I mention he is BIG?

Standing at nearly 17 hands, Cash (a.k.a. Art's Sweet Fortune) was bred as a high-performance sport horse. He is truly regal at first sight. Sired by Art I Sweet, Cash is long, lean and muscled and looks like he belongs on a Rolex course. But walk up to meet him, and Cash will be in your pocket in an instant, wondering if you have anything good to eat or what fun the two of you may have. Suddenly, you're asking yourself when they started making puppies in such large and elegant packages.

Cash came to Rainbow Meadows in May of 2006 as only an 11-month-old. He had sustained a pasture injury to a pastern as a 6-month-old, and when it appeared that the injury might threaten his career as a high-performance horse, he faced probable euthanasia by his owners. Instead, Rainbow Meadows took him in, giving him a chance to grow up and learn to be a horse while allowing time to heal his injury. On the first night at the ranch, he effortlessly jumped out of their 5' 6" metal round pen, demonstrating all the ornery life he had in him.

I adopted Cash in November 2007, and when he left the ranch, he was fully sound. The recipe for fixing it was time, love and patience, all of which he found at Rainbow Meadows. Would his past injury allow him to be a competitive top-level sport horse now? I don't know, and probably never will. But I do know that he will be a great friend and partner. I dream of what we will do together – the trails we will explore, the competitions we will enter, and the goofy moments we will share. Because that is what adopting from Rainbow Meadows is all about – finding your horse and your horse finding you.

Our newest additions

“9 Lives”

Seized in a rural Kansas cruelty case in March of 2009, 8 horses (one pregnant) were found neglected and at great risk. Severely emaciated, heavily parasitized, lice infested, and virtually untouched, the “9 Lives” were found in a 5-acre lot which resembled a public landfill. There were carcasses of dead animals littering the property. There was no food to eat and the only water available was from a contaminated pond. However, their futures are bright as they were rescued by Rainbow Meadows where they are being rehabilitated and trained to trust the humans in their life.



Juliette
Rescued Curly mare



Tinker Bell
Rescued miniature mule



Peter Pan
Rescued mule



Kiowa
Rescued Curly colt



Sioux
Rescued Curly mare



Oreo
Rescued donkey

*Note: For more information
about the Curly horse breed,
please visit
www.abcregistry.org.*

In memory

Romeo

Rescued Curly colt, March 11 - 21, 2009

Romeo was born to his dam, Juliette, only days after the rescue. Sadly, the neglect and malnutrition were too much for him to develop properly making him an ill foal. Despite the efforts of Rainbow Meadows staff, his body was too weak to survive. On March 21, 2009 he passed over Rainbow Bridge.



Holly

Rescued mare, Year of birth: Approx. 1994

Holly is a beautiful 14.1 hand mare. She was purchased from an abusive environment in 2003, and has periodically served as a pleasure mount since. However, life circumstances forced her owner to surrender her when there was just no time to provide the attention needed. She is a confident horse and will require an experienced handler. It is reported by her previous owner that she has done parades, was started on barrels and has worked cattle.

Gala stirs excitement, support for Rainbow Meadows' mission

The 2nd annual "For the Love of Horses..." benefit and gala, held February 28th at the Wichita Midian Shrine temple. Attended by nearly 100 guests, the evening featured an enthusiastic round of Horseopoly, an extensive silent auction, a drawing for a \$500 strand of freshwater pearls donated by Pearl Paradise, and a magnificent international food fare catered by Truffles Catering of Wichita.

The night's festivities brought in more than \$6,700 of proceeds for Rainbow Meadows. Thanks to the many volunteers and supporters who made the event such a great

success!

Be watching the Rainbow Meadows Web site (www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com/Rescue_HomePage.htm) and newsletter for the date for the 2010



"For the Love of Horses..." benefit and gala. We hope to see you there!

(Left) Gala attendees enjoy a round of Horseopoly. (Right) Executive Director Karen Everhart gets "sent to the trailer" in the evening's Horseopoly game.



Finally home...

Rainbow Meadows rescues go to their forever homes...



Zeus and Lady z, on their way to their new home



Wendy (one of the "9 Lives"), with her adopters



Theo and Max-i-million (one of the "9 Lives") and their new adoptive family



Mia and Trucker, with their new adopter

Like to shop or sell on eBay?

Support Rainbow Meadows just doing what you love!



Rainbow Meadows just became a non-profit member of eBay Giving Works, which means eBay sellers can now use their products to help the horses. By simply listing an item on eBay and designating Rainbow Meadows as recipient of 10-100% of the final sale price, an eBay seller turns into a Rainbow Meadows supporter. So, clean out the attic and start selling for the horses! For more information on how to be an eBay Giving Works seller, go to www.ebaygivingworks.com/ns/sell.html.

Rather shop? You can help Rainbow Meadows with your purchases by going to our organization's eBay Giving Works home page (donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=31170) and shopping from the seller stores listed.

Flower Power fundraiser uses blooms and bulbs to support Rainbow Meadows

This year, Rainbow Meadows volunteer Hope White decided to organize her own spring fundraiser for the rescue. Teaming up with the Flower Power Fundraising company (www.flowerpowerfundraising.com), Hope sold seasonal flowers and bulbs with half of the proceeds going to Rainbow Meadows. Thanks to a great idea, her time and dedication, and the many Rainbow Meadows friends and supporters, Hope raised \$570 for our rescue.

Thank you, Hope, and to everyone who bought a bulb to help a horse!



A word from the board...

by Denise Nelson, Vice president - Board of Directors

Just a little over a year ago, Karen Everhart asked me if I would be interested in serving on the board of Rainbow Meadows. Having never served on a board before, I asked what it would entail. I had already been a volunteer since Rainbow Meadows was started and was curious as to what more I could do. Karen explained and then asked me think on it and get back with her. I was extremely honored that Karen and other board members had considered me. And I knew as soon as Karen left me that day that without hesitation I would accept.

Not only have I been able to do more for the horses and are proud to be associated with our rescue, but this position has also given me a gift – the gift of making a difference! Another board member, Dr. Jan Johnston, sent an e-mail recently which contained a slide show called “The Daffodil Principle.” As I clicked through it, I was reminded how important and how magnificent even one thing can be for the causes we believe in. Many of us at times wonder if just one person can really make a difference – well one woman did, and she forever changed the world in which she lived.

The Daffodil Principle is really quite simple – “One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet, and one brain,” can make a difference. One woman over several years planting one daffodil at a time forever changed the landscape of an obscure mountaintop. This was her vision and with one step and one flower at a time she turned it into reality – 50,000 flower bulbs and counting!

We, too, can forever change the world we live in, and in choosing to donate our time and resources to the future of the horses, we can make a difference – one step at a time, one horse

at a time. It doesn't matter how small or how large the gift. What matters, not only to the horses but also to ourselves, is that we did something – something that will forever change the life of a horse. And we, too, as volunteers, donors, and supporters of a cause, will see our lives changed forever. For when we look at the magnificence of the world we live in and all the creatures in it, and then we decide to help make it even more magnificent, we become true stewards. I believe there is nothing nobler than making a commitment to leaving something better behind – something that we have improved upon and left as our gift for others.

And that is our mission at Rainbow Meadows – to forever change the lives and the future of the horses we share this planet with. I want to thank everyone who sees our cause as part of the future of this great planet. “May it be said, when the sun sets on your life, you made a difference.”



Caring for your own...

Horses need routine dental evaluations. Schedule an appointment with your veterinarian or dental technician at least once per year once your horse is two years old. Be sure that there is a complete review for any issues causing pain, including tongue or cheek lacerations, loose teeth, hooks or points preventing good chewing, or infections.



Yes, I want to give...

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip code: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Donation information:

Amount: \$ _____ Cash Check (Payable to: Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.)

If you would like to donate online, go to www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com/Rescue_HowToDonate.htm

Upcoming events

May 16, 2009

Rainbow Meadows Work Day
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Rainbow Meadows Ranch - Sedan, Kan.

June 6-7, 2009

2nd Annual "Riding to the Rescue" CTR
Perry Lake, Kan.

June 20, 2009

Rainbow Meadows Work Day
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Rainbow Meadows Ranch - Sedan, Kan.

July 18, 2009

Rainbow Meadows Work Day
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Rainbow Meadows Ranch - Sedan, Kan.

For more information about our upcoming events, go to
www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com/Rescue_HomePage.htm

All services provided by Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc. are funded entirely by gifts and donations. For more information about how you can help support these extraordinary equines, please contact:

Karen Everhart, Executive director

Rainbow Meadows
Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.
1949 Dalton Road
Sedan, KS 67361

Phone: (620) 725-3402

Email: karen.everhart@rainbowmeadowsranch.com

www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com

or click here to donate:



Thank you for your support!



**Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue
and Retirement, Inc.**
1949 Dalton Road
Sedan, KS 67361