



Nickers n' Tails

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

Spring 2007

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Join us for an Open House!

On April 21st, 2007, we will be opening our doors at Rainbow Meadows Ranch for our very first open house. We are excited about the opportunity to meet visitors from around the region who love horses as much as we do, and can't wait to share the stories of the remarkable animals here at the ranch.

We have many great things that will be going on that afternoon. There will be a silent auction throughout the day with a variety of different items, including handmade pottery and stained glass, riding apparel, horse care supplies, and more! We will also be providing horseback rides to young children, and tours of the ranch and rescues to everyone. A local acoustic guitarist will be providing musical entertainment, and a local painter will be creating a piece of art that very day to be raffled off in the

evening. There will be refreshments and a fun atmosphere for everyone!

We hope you will be able to make it to the open house. Please feel free to bring family and friends, and send the invitation along to anyone you think might be interested. We can't wait to see you!



Midge, a rescued miniature horse, enjoys the sweet green grass of springtime with fellow ranch residents, Noir and Bleu.

Our newest addition



Jade Beaudaceous (a.k.a. Beau)

Rescued gelding, Year of birth: 1990

Beau is a 14-year-old purebred bay Arabian gelding and a true gentleman. Beau was brought to the rescue in March 2007, when he was no longer wanted by his previous owner. Beau has proven to be healthy and sound since his arrival. He is a calm and quiet horse, and behaves wonderfully when being loaded, trimmed and groomed. He is also fully trained to ride. Beau is looking for his forever home.

FOR ADOPTION!!!



Operating as a 501(c)3 corporation - contributions may be tax deductible.

Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.

Hoof Beats

with Karen Everhart, President

I need to share something with you that may not be understood: *The cost to run many animal rescues far exceeds the donations received.*

Here at Rainbow Meadows, our current operations balance is **\$3,344.83**. With 13 horses in the rescue and one in the retirement program, monthly maintenance expenses run more than \$2500.00. This winter has been difficult. The costs of hay and feed have increased. The number of horses needing Rainbow Meadows to step in and save them from slaughter or starvation increased exponentially. The weather was severe and no one wanted to explore the possibility of adoption. So, expenses climbed. We

need to complete vaccinations and worming this spring for all horses and some need dental work. This time of year is always expensive as we address the well-care needs of our residents.

Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc. remains committed to providing a safe place for the abandoned, abused, neglected and unwanted horse. We know you join us in this commitment and we feel your support on a regular basis. It is difficult to face the possibility that we may not be able to continue this operation, unless we can find sources of funding which meet the monthly expenditures. Imagine what

50 monthly donations of \$50.00 each, would mean to the horses!! Without your assistance, we will be out of funds by May.

So, now you know “the rest of the story”. We cannot survive without your help and support. Please consider a monthly donation of \$25.00 or more. Or a one time donation of any amount. No matter how much, everything helps us care for the horses.



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

You're invited to an *Open House*

- ~ Tour the ranch and meet our rescues
- ~ Enjoy entertainment, horse rides for young children, and a silent auction* to benefit the rescues

**Including handcrafted pottery and stained glass, horse care items, riding apparel and more!*

April 21st, 2007
1:00-5:00 p.m.

Located at:

Rainbow Meadows Ranch
1949 Dalton Road in Sedan, Kansas
www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com



For more information, contact Karen Everhart at (620) 725-3402 or President@rainbowmeadowsranch.com.

Hosted by the Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc. Board of Directors

Meet our volunteer board of directors



Karen Everhart, M.Ed. - President, Co-founder

Karen Eastman Everhart spent most of her weekends and summers as a youngster on a small farm in southeast Kansas. There were always horses present to assist with working cattle and wherever the horses were, there, too, was Karen. Her passion for horses never died despite the distractions of high school, college, career and family. In 1981 Karen purchased her first horse, a Palomino mare she named Rainbow. Twenty-five years later Rainbow resides at Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc. At 31 years of age, she is the matriarch of the horses in Karen's herd.

Karen's post-graduate educational studies focused on exercise and wellness. She spent the majority of her professional career in health care as a medical administrator and was a part-time fitness instructor for over 28 years. In 2000, Karen founded Horse Calls, LLC, a program of equine management consultation, Centered Riding instruction, and horse training.

Her love for horses led her into Competitive Trail Riding. She has successfully competed in distance events sanctioned by the North American Trail Riding Congress (NATRC) and the Arabian Horse Association (AHA).



David Everhart - Vice president, Co-founder

David grew up in a small community south of Wichita, Kansas. His suburban lifestyle did not lend itself to the development of an appreciation for ranch life, but his summer visits to his grandfather's dairy farm in Wisconsin did. After high school, David attended Wichita State University before joining the

United States Marine Corps. He served in the Air Wing while in Vietnam and Japan. His love for military aircraft eventually led him to the Kansas Air National Guard. There he continued his career and, after 38 years of military service, retired as a Chief Master Sergeant in January 2005.

When David met Karen in 1981, she had one horse and wanted another. In order to impress her he agreed to share in the purchase of her second horse. Over the years they added additional horses to their personal herd and now have established the rescue.

These days David serves as Chief Stable Master and Maintenance guy.



Christine Abbott - Director of Education

Christine Abbott is originally from Manhattan, Kansas where she spent much of her life, although she recently moved to Overland Park, Kansas. Her career has been dedicated to higher education in family life education and consultation and she has served as a professor at a number of colleges and universities, including Johnson County Community College, Barton County Community College and Kansas State University.

Christine has had a lifelong love of horses that was first realized in 6th grade with a Shetland pony named Demi. However, with the demands of life and family, it wasn't until the age of 47 that she once again became a horse owner. In 2000, she purchased Chacco (now retired at Rainbow Meadows) and competed in North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC) events. She attributes much of her riding ability to the lessons he taught her.

With Chacco retired, Christine has taken a new mount - a gray Arabian mare named Skya. Christine hopes that she and Skya will someday achieve a national championship in NATRC and compete in Arabian Horse Association (AHA) competitions. When not riding, Christine volunteers for the Jackson County Therapeutic Riding Center. She is also a member of the Kansas Horse Council and AHA.

Christine vows to always stay connected to horses - somehow, someday. To her, the horse embodies all which is grand. A horse is powerful, graceful, spirited, compassionate, willing to please, shy, assertive, vulnerable and strong.



Jan Johnston, DVM - Medical Director

Working, training and caring for animals is what Jan Johnston grew up doing. Born and raised in Grainola, Oklahoma on a cattle ranch and wheat farm, Jan spent her early years on horseback both for pleasure and day work as well as passed many hours roping and doctoring cattle. She first became a horse owner at five years of age and has continued to own them ever since.

In 1994, Jan graduated from Oklahoma State University as a doctor in veterinary medicine. She went on to practice in a multi-vet clinic and later, in 2003, opened her own practice - Johnston Veterinary Clinic.

Jan lives with her husband and two children in Oklahoma. She owns two studs - Ima Zans Late Lena and Bold Impressiver - as well as numerous mares, colts and others.



**Kira Valentin -
Marketing director**

For Kira, horses have always been a part of life. Since she was a child, as Karen and David's daughter, they have simply always been there. However, it was not until she left home that the passion she now carries for the beloved creatures was first sparked. Since then, through coaching from her mother and

training from her mounts, she has worked to begin developing her skill as a horsewoman. She regularly competes in NATRC competitive trail riding and hopes to someday play a bit in the waters of endurance. Her friend and soulmate is Sunny, and she looks enthusiastically to the years and fun that await them.

Out of the pasture, Kira recently completed her Master's degree in political science at Kansas State University, where she also served as a graduate research assistant in marketing and communications with K-State Research and Extension. Although still quite unclear with what the future will bring her, she hopes to someday have the opportunity to work with women farmers in developing countries, particularly Africa. However, only time will tell.

In the end, it doesn't really matter what she does, as long as there are horses.



**Nita Jones -
Director of special events**

Nita Jones has spent a lifetime working in tourism, marketing and business. A resident of Sedan, Kansas, Nita has served for over 20 years as a marketer for numerous groups in southeast Kansas. She has significant knowledge in the organization of festivals and trade

shows both for business and tourism purposes.

Nita's experience does not end there. She has served on various economic development and tourism boards for Sedan, Chautauqua County, Southeast Kansas and the state of Kansas. She has also been a speaker on tourism for more than 20 years in a five-state area, where she has presented at the Governor's Conference, for Chambers of Commerce and to numerous other audiences.



**Dawn Kerley -
Director of volunteers**

Dawn Kerley moved to Sedan, Kansas in 1995 in an effort to provide her children with a hometown where they could flourish while also remaining safe. She is employed as a Para-professional in the Sedan and West Elk school districts.

Dawn was led to volunteer activities at Rainbow Meadows due to her daughter Paxton's, urging. Now, nearly a year later, she has learned the basics of safe handling of horses - how to lead, groom, tack and more recently, how to ride.

Dawn had limited exposure to horses until she began her volunteer work at Rainbow Meadows but she says emphatically "I LOVE spending time with the horses." It is her commitment to the horses which makes her the perfect Director of volunteers.

We want to
thank all of our
volunteers for
their hard work -
we couldn't do
this without
them!

Want to volunteer?

There are always plenty of tasks that need done at Rainbow Meadows.

If you would like to lend a helping hand, please contact Karen Everhart for more information at (620) 725-3402 or President@rainbowmeadowsranch.com.

Dollars and cents

The cost to maintain one rescued horse for a year exceeds \$3,000.00. This can often surprise people. Below is a description of the annual expenses to maintain a single horse:

		Total expenses:
Facility fee:	\$150.00 x 12 months	\$1,800.00
(includes pasture/paddocks, hay, blankets, grooming supplies, etc.)		
Grain fee:	\$93.00 x 12 months	\$1,116.00
Basic veterinary care fees:		\$290.00
Includes:		
Annual dental visit	\$200.00 per year	
Annual vaccinations	\$50.00 per year	
Annual worm medication	\$40.00 per year	
Farrier fee:	\$25 x 4 times per year	\$100.00
TOTAL ANNUAL COST:		\$3,306.00



Black Velvet (pictured here) was rescued in December 2006 on her way to slaughter. Since then, she has been treated for minor cuts and abrasions, scratches, rain rot, lice and a bot larva infestation, all remnants of her previous living conditions.

These costs do not include additional veterinary bills in the case of illness or injury. Often, the horses come to us in poor condition, requiring care beyond the basic expenses listed above. That means higher costs and even greater need for support from people like you.

Caring for your own...

Don't wait until it is too late to create advanced directives for your horse(s) in the event of your death. Too often, large animals are sent to auction when an owner dies as there are no written instructions for their continued care. Currently upwards of 99% of all horses at auction barns are sentenced to the slaughterhouse. Don't let that happen to your equine friend.



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.)
 Item: _____ Quantity: _____

If you would like to donate online, please visit our Web site at www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com

Upcoming events

April 21 - Open house and silent auction

May 2007 - Date to be announced for our first Play Day to benefit Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.

Date TBA - Rainbow Meadows Benefit Golf Tournament - Colbert Hills Golf Course in Manhattan, Kansas

***Help us save postage dollars -
receive our newsletter by e-mail!***

To receive an electronic copy of *Nickers n' Tails*, please send an e-mail (with "Newsletter Request" typed in the subject line) to:

Marketing@rainbowmeadowsranch.com

Don't forget to include your name, e-mail address, mailing address and phone number so we can keep you up to date on future news and events!

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, President

Rainbow Meadows

Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.

1949 Dalton Road

Sedan, KS 67361

Phone: (620) 725-3402

Email: President@rainbowmeadowsranch.com

www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com

Thank you for your support!



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and Retirement, Inc.**

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