



Spring Creek Horse Rescue

2888 County Road 234

Durango, CO 81301

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Fall Newsletter, 2017

## ~FROM THE MANURE PILE~

Unusual year! So much time & funds going to "update" the property, first fixing things in disrepair, done wrong, and the additions we need to keep the horses safe, plus daily chores, horse intake & rehab, attitudes & entertainment moments.

So many of our new volunteers are male. Not complaining, just very different. They can build a shed, create a newsletter, fix a hot water heater ( or 2 ) , and help with ranch chores. We are very thankful they care about our mission to help with the many drudgeries of daily ranch life.



Anna riding Shelby

Updates on horses: Ridge is AWESOME & the "new" favorite. He is up to weight, has a foot to walk on, is a MOST social boy. Loves interaction with his humans & all other horses ( If you remember he was turned over to the rescue because the owner was scared of him) he gets turned out & runs & runs & runs like the TB he is. He is a joy to be around.

MS. Mouse had her surgery to remove her eye & is doing great, growing like a yearling should be now & will probably be taller than Ridge ( 16-3HH).

Our newest intakes for Sept. are DJ (Don Juan) an 8 year old bay gelding/unhandled, but sweet. Shelby, 12 year old welsh X pony mare who is a cribber & just as cute as can be, & Powder, a 20 year old QH mare with a roping history. All 3 will know a better, safer life from now on.

A BIG THANK YOU to Bobbie Carll & Rob Carll construction for putting a new road in ( where



Emma & DJ



Anna and Powder

that the horses cannot get out on the busy county road.

there was NONE) last winter was so dangerous trying to safely get the horses from point A to point B, we were thankful everyday not one horse or human was Injured in the waist deep mud.

ANOTHER thank you goes out to Marilyn Holland for purchasing enough wire to fence the front of the property so the neighbors dogs are not coming and going ( & Irritating the horses & our rescue dogs) & feeling safe

*~Diane*



Volunteering with horses, something I never thought I would find myself doing. Yet somehow I did. It happened by chance I was browsing the web looking for something to get involved with when I came upon Spring Creek Horse Rescue. Since I started I have done many things which I had never done before. I of course learned to do the basic ranch chores like mucking stalls, letting the horses out and helping groom them.

The real excitement though comes from getting the opportunity to do larger tasks. For example on my fourth time there, we had some horses which needed to be picked up so Emma and I hitched up the horse trailer to my new truck and off we went. A few hours later we returned with three new horses. This was my first time pulling a trailer and hauling horses. So I got to check two things off my bucket list that day. The moral of this though is that there is always something to do and it's usually an exciting surprise.

The thing that keeps me coming back though is the fulfillment you get from knowing after a day's work you helped the horses. Maybe not directly but if only helping them have a clean pen to run in you are improving the quality of life for the horses. Oh and driving the tractor is pretty fun too. *~Nate~*





Samuel

Samuel has to be my favorite horse at Spring Creek Horse Rescue. Although, I haven't been volunteering more than five days, I probably have groomed him three times. He has such a kind eye and heart that draws me towards him. Samuel use to be a stud and a show horse. I grew up riding show horses and feel almost remorseful towards Samuel. Show horses tend to be ridden hard from a very young age to yield a profit and then are discarded when they show deterioration. Most are kept in stalls all

day long and are only taken out to be worked for an hour a day. I worked at a boarding barn for almost 7 years and I can tell you Samuel has a better life now then he has ever had before. When I groom Samuel he stands perfectly still except to shift his weight. When I find a good spot, like his belly, his upper lip will start to move. He will even reach his head around and rest it upon my arm. You can tell this horse loves to be loved.

~Emma



During my time at Spring Creek, I've come to notice that certain tools and equipment are invaluable to daily life. Among these are tools like rakes and brushes, but also OUR GATOR! Which has unfortunately broken down. The gator provides us with quick and efficient transportation around the property, enables us to deliver hay, and pick up/dump manure. There is no real substitute for the work we can get done with the gator when it's running. Currently the gator has been out of commission for a week, and chores have started to build up. Doing daily chores are not being completed and the workload is building up, which leaves us little time to prepare for the winter months ahead.

Kevin

*Donations are crucial to the function of Spring Creek Horse Rescue. In order to take in and provide loving and rehabilitating care to all of our horses, we rely on donations. Many thanks to all our donators!!*