



Spring Creek Horse Rescue  
2888 County Road 234  
Durango, CO 81301  
(970) 884-4425

Summer Newsletter, 2018

## ~FROM THE MANURE PILE~

*An update from*

Welcome our two newest intakes Candy, & Blaze. Even though we were full, these girls were in trouble: their owner passed away & their other choice was going to be the sale. Please leave provisions for your animals in the event that something should happen to you, these two are lucky we were able to make room, the other option was not going to be a good one. Blaze is a 17 year old sorrel mare that he used to take hunting- no other history & it had been awhile. Candy is older & needs buckets & some TLC, big change for these girls who had just been turned out on 17 acres.



*Blaze (left) and Candy*

It takes many people to run a horse rescue, from different walks of life, with different reasons to be here, all bringing different skills. Working side by side and sharing and getting to know back grounds, problems, fears, loves. These people become your family, each good at different things, each gaining strength and happiness from helping a cause they believe in. Here's a big hug to all of our volunteers that care about the horses- we couldn't do it without you.

*~Diane*



I came to SCHR not knowing what to expect. I knew Diane was one tough cookie before ever stepping foot here, who else could single-handedly run this amazing place? I may be from Texas, but that doesn't automatically make me a cowboy with an endless amount of horse-sense. Much like humans, each of these creatures have their own stories--neglect and abuse, recovery and RESCUE. I've been here for nearly two months now and have learned more than any formal training could have ever taught me in the same amount of time. Each of these animals have their own personal needs, their own individual quarks, and their own



Watchman

unique personalities. As a victim of post-traumatic stress disorder, this place and the animals it provides for continues to free my soul and heal my past. Not to mention Diane's motherly love and care for me as our relationship grows. What started as court-required useful public service has blossomed into voluntary care and emotion not only for her but also the amazing animals here. Time here has been a rollercoaster of ups and downs, from financial crisis to generous donations given by gracious folks from all over. We don't do it for money, we're not getting paid for our time and effort. There's not a penny that doesn't support these animals, we do it because it's the right thing to do, because these horses are depending on us. I wouldn't trade my experience with Diane, our horses, or this wonderful place for anything. I'm here to stay and will do everything in my power to keep Spring Creek Horse Rescue afloat. To anyone reading this newsletter, I kindly ask that you volunteer your time to this place or recommend good hearted folks to help us out. We need all the help we can get. Not only will these animals lift your spirits, you'll be doing a good deed for a just cause. God bless.

~Luke



For the past two years I've been volunteering at Spring Creek, I've been able to witness a few transformations. Often times horses come to us in bad shape. They may be abused, neglected, starving, or simply just in a bad state. When a horse is in this kind of condition their personality isn't really present. With many of our new arrivals and intakes, especially those with bad pasts, they will display defensive behavior; they are not as keen to let someone become a part of their life. They've been burned before, and are under the impression that it will happen again; they've become jaded. After a few weeks, sometimes months, this will change. The transformations I've been able to witness, and even become a part of, are nothing short of miracles. Many times we'll take in a



Lommet





*Asta (left) and Watchman on pasture*

horse and are told that they're shy, won't halter, or any number of things, but when they get here, we end up scratching our heads as none of it turns out to be true. Many of our animals simply just need a chance, someone patient and willing to help. When my friend Comet first came to the rescue it was very apparent he'd had a bad experience with humans. He was very scared, especially around men, and wouldn't come near you. After a little while Comet began to realize that the Rescue was a place of healing, and that no, he would not be hurt here. A year later and Comet is a completely different horse, and his personality has blossomed. He is nowhere near as shy or scared, I can happily groom him all day and he won't become uneasy with my presence. All he needed was a chance, and here at the rescue is where he got it. It is seriously mind boggling to think about the difference in this horse from a year ago. Watchman and Asta also come to mind. When they first arrived they were defensive, and not really sure about things. Once they got the lay of the land however, things changed dramatically. Asta and Watchman are completely different Horses then the ones that arrived a few months ago. They're confident and collected. They nicker every time you walk into the barn. It's quite encouraging and really impressive to see what a

little love can do for these animals. It's one thing to read these stories about amazing transformations, but it's another thing entirely to witness it first hand, and to actually take part in it. It's quite moving, and I know there will be many more years and many more horses to come, all of whom will simply need a chance. This is what Rescue is about.

*~Kevin*



In loving memory of our dear friend Betty.

Kevin Callahan  
Miss Betty  
Graphite Medium  
73.66 x 58.42 cm