



Spring Creek Horse Rescue  
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Summer Newsletter, 2020

*~Life gets in your way~*



And then there was 2020. Virus says stay home, so although volunteers would like to come, no help through the home quarantine. No rain for what seems like YEARS, dry, hot, miserable. Just keeping up with clean, fresh water takes all day. And we want to add more mouths to feed? First is Mutt & Jeff. 2 -30 year old mules, one blind, need to relocate as owner has sold the property. Not a big market for the old guys, nowhere else to go. Thanks to Cindy for stepping up & fostering them for us. Betting she is a foster failure!

**Robin**

Raven & Robin, 2 horses ready to be loaded on the kill truck, caught the attention of a friend who bailed them. When her boarding barn found out they were horses that have never been handled they said no, not set up for that. We were asked to take them on after their quarantine is done. Being unhandled Robin is believed to still be a stud, ( the feed lot said yearling, but looks more like a 2 year old) so let's hope we can get a handle on him & get him fixed before he figures out he is a stud. Next, one of our adopted horses who had been wonderful for a year is all of a sudden dangerous & striking out, hadn't planned on this or we wouldn't have said we'd take Raven & Robin. Sometimes things happen for a reason, as a rescue we will always step up & help, but can you say overload?.....

*~Diane*



**Raven and Robin**





### **Ruby All Grown Up**

As a volunteer at SCHR for over 10 years, I've seen many horses that were so badly abused, malnourished or injured they are essentially unadoptable. Once they come to SCHR they are treated with compassion, shown love and attention, and I've seen these horses flourish into trusting, almost normal horses. Even still, many of these horses will remain unfit for adoption and will stay as permanent residents at the Rescue. Others have come in and we were able to rehabilitate and find them new loving forever homes. Despite our efforts to heavily screen potential adoptees and homes, unfortunately some of the horses we have adopted have had to come back home, partially due to owners lack of knowledge, unpreparedness or lack of interest in the sheer amount of work it takes. I wish I was able to spend more time here, but health concerns and only being in Durango part time

prevents me from doing so. I do what I can via donations and coming out whenever possible. Being one of the few people who volunteers with horse experience I wish I could be here more often to help lessen Diane's work load. My message to people, especially with horse experience that have a heart for what we do, I implore you to take time to find out about Spring Creek and all that we do. We are in need of volunteers who are informed in horsemanship, good at taking direction, and can help out frequently. Volunteering can be sad and trying, but incredibly rewarding. Please consider donating or giving some of your knowledgeable care, especially in these trying times. The Rescue is always in need of funds for veterinary care, specific feed for special needs horses, and fencing among other things. The needs of The Rescue haven't stopped as a result of Covid-19, please consider donating or volunteering if you have previous horse experience.

~ Vicki



Ruby, named for Vicki's mother.



### **The Life He Deserves**

Despite the unfortunate circumstances that bring them to Spring Creek Horse Rescue, any animal that sets foot on the property is a lucky creature under Diane's care – including two adorable miniature donkeys named Dusty and Dewey. As cute as they are, Spring Creek Horse Rescue will be their forever home. But you can be sure they have the run of the place! Dewey, the small white mini-



#### Dusty and Dewey

issues. He arrived at Spring Creek after his mother was starved while pregnant, leaving Dewey with many issues that Diane works through patiently with him. Dewey was paired with Dusty who was brought up with a horse as a companion, and thinks he's a horse himself. The pair bicker like an old couple but Dewey cares about Dusty and relies on the little gray donkey for friendship and guidance. Dewey may be quirky, but his special circumstances he experienced before arriving at Spring Creek and the neurological problems that resulted from it are not his fault. Animals are willing and loving partners until they are betrayed by humans and taught not to trust them. Animals like miniature donkeys are living, feeling beings that deserve safe, healthy and happy lives, which Diane works 24/7, 365 days a year to give them, even in this hot and arid corner of Colorado. Thanks to you, Dewey and Dusty have a pen and pastures to enjoy for the rest of their happy and healthy lives. They can't say it themselves, so I will say it for them: THANK YOU!

~Emily

donkey, takes in the world around him from under a fly mask in the summer months to protect his sensitive skin and eyes from bugs and the sun. He comes when Diane calls him and is greedy with attention, but the poor little guy's back legs take short, tight strides

that Diane believes are the result of a neurological condition. He also has trouble eating – after taking a bite he will toss his head up and then push his nose down to his chest. Diane said it could be his jaws locking up, and these movements help Dewey unlock them, another sign of neurological



Dew Dew

