



Nickers n' Tails

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

Spring 2011

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Law enforcement recognized for going beyond the call of duty, Gala raises \$15,000

In July 2010, Coffey County Sheriff Randy Rogers and Detective Tom Johnson did what it took to save nearly 80 horses from a future of neglect. In February, Rainbow Meadows honored them for it.

Rogers and Johnson were recipients of the "Shining Star Award" from Rainbow Meadows as a part of the 2011 "For the Love of Horses..." benefit and gala held on February 26th at the Midian Shrine Temple in Wichita, Kan. This was the first year for the award.

Last year, Rogers and Johnson were key to the rescue and seizure of nearly 80 horses from a local horse rescue operating in Coffey County. The seizure came as a result of numerous complaints of neglect, and when removed from the premises, the horses were found to be in varying states of condition, with several severely emaciated.

In order to help ensure that the horses went on to good homes, Rogers and Johnson enacted an organized placement program that included an application process as well as facility inspection for all applicants. All horses were placed to new homes within 19 days of the start of the program.

"What Sheriff Rogers and Detective Johnson did took a lot of heart and a lot of dedication," said Karen Everhart, Rainbow Meadows' executive director. "But even when faced with so many challenges, they still stepped up and did what was right by the horses. We thank them for it."

The presentation of the award was only part of a very successful evening that brought in more than \$15,000 – the most the annual benefit and gala has ever

(cont. on page 9)

From left: Detective Tom Johnson and Sheriff Randy Rogers are presented the Shining Star Award; the event's decorations were rich and elegant; Rainbow Meadows volunteer Rosie Casseil samples a few of the incredible foods served by Truffles Catering.



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

Hoof Beats

with Karen Evehart, Executive Director

The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) is the only national accrediting organization for equine rescues. Rainbow Meadows stood for inspection on August 30, 2010. As of August, only five U.S. equine rescues had been accredited by the GFAS, which makes this a very elite group. Organizations can choose to stand for accreditation or verification (a slightly lower standard). Rainbow Meadows desires national verification at this time, with the intent to move towards national accreditation in the future.

Last week we received the committee review from our

inspection. The letter provided us a glowing review and the committee is encouraged by the commitment of the organization, including our focus on the welfare of the horses in our care, our facility, and our financial stewardship.

However, there are a few items we have to complete before we can be awarded verification. One of the items is to remove a barbed-wire barrier fence around the hay meadow. David and I have been working on this project with great focus for the past year and have successfully cut the trees, removed the old fencing, and constructed new barbless wire along 2 of the 3 sides. We need the assistance of

volunteers to get the final fencing replaced in a timely fashion.

Please join us at our Saw and Spa Day on June 18th and help us reach our goal of GFAS verification. Verification will provide an additional level of credibility to our organization and will open the door to grant opportunities that will help our organization accomplish some important goals.



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

Join us for a

Spa n' SAW



Saturday, June 18, 2011

9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Rainbow Meadows Ranch



Give the horses a hand and yourself a break with a day of relaxation, hard work, good food and tons of fun - all rolled in to one great volunteer experience!

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 9:45 a.m. | Opening activities |
| 10:00 a.m. | Brunch |
| 10:30 a.m. | Spa n' Saw work (Tree cutting, horse baths, etc.) |
| 1:00 p.m. | Lunch and chair massages |
| 2:00 p.m. | Spa n' Saw work |
| 6:00 p.m. | Catered n' classy evening meal |

Please RSVP by **June 11** to volunteer director Gracie Royle at gracie.royle@rainbowmeadowsranch.com or 316-214-1198.



Love to ride?



Try a CTR!

Riding to the Rescue



Rainbow Meadows
Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc.

Competitive Trail Ride

Perry Lake, KS

June 3-5, 2011

Perry Lake State Park, Ozawie, KS - Wild Horse Camp

Check-in begins on Friday afternoon, June 3rd.
Pre-registration required.

*****Come for your chance to win one of two \$250 gas cards!*****

To register, contact **Hope White** at hope.white@rainbowmeadowsranch.com or 913-238-9528.

~Distance-only option available for riders interested in participating without entering into competition~

For more information, go to www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com or contact Karen Everhart at 620-725-3402.

All proceeds will benefit Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue and Retirement, Inc. Rainbow Meadows is a 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to provide a safe haven for abused, neglected and abandoned horses. All services provided by Rainbow Meadows are funded entirely by gifts and donations, and all contributions are tax deductible (www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com).



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



Our newest additions

HORSE DESCRIPTION LEGEND CODES:

DOB: Date of birth

G: Gender

HT: Height

CO: Companion only

WT: Weight (lbs.)

ST: Saddle training

RE: Riding experience needed

PR: Personality (1=very calm/laid back, 10=sensitive/reactive)

TL: Training level (1=green, 5=very experienced)

Stryk'R

*DOB: 2010 ~ G: Gelding ~ HT: 13h3" (and growing) ~ WT: 700
PR: 2 ~ ST: No (too young) ~ TL: Learning baby lessons ~ RE: n/a*

Stryk'R, an APHA-registered yearling gelding, came from a large breeding facility. He spent much of his life stall-bound with limited to no turnout, but is now enjoying his newfound freedom in a large paddock with room to run, grass to eat, and the chance to grow up like a youngster should. He is expected to grow to approximately 16h in height. Stryk'R is halter trained and healthy, and awaiting his future adopters.



Samson

*DOB: 2010 ~ G: Gelding ~ HT: 13h2" (and growing) ~ WT: 600
PR: 5 ~ ST: No (too young) ~ TL: Learning baby lessons ~ RE: n/a
CO: At this time Samson is mostly blind due to juvenile cataracts*



Samson came from a large breeding facility where he spent much of his life stall-bound with limited to no turnout. However, now at Rainbow Meadows, Samson enjoys the freedom space to run, grass to eat, and the chance to grow up like a youngster should. Samson is halter-trained and APHA-registered. At this time, he is expected to most-likely serve as a companion-only horse as he is mostly blind due to juvenile cataracts. However, he is a sweet boy and would be an excellent pasture mate to a horse needing a companion.

Shasta

*DOB: 2010 ~ G: Mare ~ HT: 13h2" (and growing) ~ WT: 600
PR: 5 ~ ST: No (too young) ~ TL: Learning baby lessons ~ RE: n/a*

Shasta is a halter-trained APHA-registered yearling filly. Coming from a large breeding facility, Shasta spent much of her life stall-bound with limited to no turnout. However, she is now enjoying her newfound freedom in a large paddock with room to run, grass to eat, and the chance to grow up like a youngster should. Shasta is expected to grow to approximately 15h in height and will make a wonderful addition to her new adoptive family.



Bint Mi Seshata (a.k.a. Ses)

DOB: April 10, 2000 ~ G: Mare ~ HT: 14h1" ~ WT: 850

PR: 8 ~ ST: Unknown ~ TL: Minimal handling ~ RE: Unknown

Registering organization: Arabian Horse Association (#0580649)



Seized with her filly, Isis, by a Kansas humane society due to severe neglect and malnutrition, Ses came to Rainbow Meadows nearly full-term pregnant. She is a registered Arabian, and is due to foal in the spring 2011. Ses has spent much of her life as a broodmare, and shows signs of having had minimal training during that time. A full assessment of her training level will occur following the weaning of her soon-to-be-delivered foal.

Isis

DOB: 2010 ~ G: Mare ~ HT: 13h1" ~ WT: 600

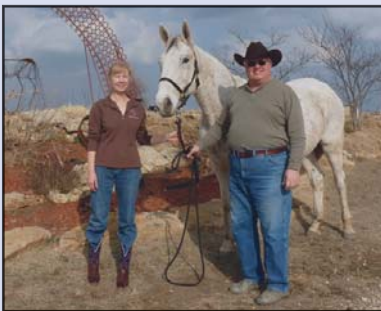
PR: 8 ~ ST: No (too young) ~ TL: Learning baby lessons ~ RE: n/a

Isis was seized with her dam, Bint Mi Seshata (a.k.a. Ses), by a Kansas humane society due to severe neglect and malnutrition. She came to Rainbow Meadows in the late winter of 2011 where she quickly proved to be a smart, spirited filly. She is a purebred Egyptian Arabian, sired by DHA Prince Shaskan. She will continue to learn her baby lessons as she grows and plays with the rest of the herd at Rainbow Meadows.



Finally home ...

Rainbow Meadows rescues find their forever homes...



Fancy and adopters



Keoni and adopter



Dolly and adopter



Juliette and adopter



DID YOU KNOW?

The American Horse Protection Association (AHPA) recently published its 2011 list of Equine Rescue organizations and Rainbow Meadows is the **only** approved rescue on the A-list in the state of Kansas!

Thanks to Karen Everhart, Executive Director, for heading up the very time-consuming process required to make it on the list!

Sleuthing for answers...

By Denise Nelson, Rainbow Meadows vice-president

Sundance is the “love of my life” horse. Of course, my first horse Adelio will always have a special place in my heart, but Sundance is the One! He has just enough spirit to make sure I mind my p’s and q’s while still keeping me comfortable. He is the perfect trail horse.

So when he came up lame about a year ago while on a trail ride with friends, I was very concerned about my Peruvian – a breed that is prone to Degenerative Suspensory Ligament Desmitis (DSLD). After a lengthy visit to the vet where he performed a variety of tests, including x-rays and ultrasound, Sundance was diagnosed with a pulled ligament in his front left leg. The vet ordered bute and rest. I then began my Google “sleuthing” as most horse owners do when faced with an injury or illness to find out as much about it as I could.

After a few weeks and still not seeing much improvement, my vet gave Sundance two Legend injections at two weeks apart. What a difference that made! He improved almost immediately and after several weeks of continued rest, I gradually started him back to riding and was able to get a few rides in last fall. Because I am a fair weather rider, I didn’t ride him once really cold weather hit. Yet, boom – he came up lame the first of December. The vet stopped by, and because the presented symptoms were very similar to his previous symptoms earlier in the year, he felt rather certain he had sustained the same type of injury or that it had not healed properly initially.

So once again, Sundance was on bute and rest, followed by four Legend injections when he wasn’t showing much improvement. But this time he did not improve following the Legend injections as he did the first time. So we followed up with another visit to the vet and new x-rays and an ultrasound. This time,



Nelson with her beloved horse, Sundance

my vet diagnosed osteomyelitis of the splint bone. He then confirmed the diagnosis with a second opinion from one of the vets at a vet school in Oklahoma, all based on non-digital x-rays. The treatment recommended was shock wave therapy, and if that didn’t resolve the issue, removal of the splint bone. Another vet who had been consulted by phone recommended immediate removal of the splint bone.

That was when I began network “sleuthing.” I called my horse advice guru, Karen Everhart, who strongly suggested I take Sundance to the Oakridge Clinic in Oklahoma. Her concern was partially based on the fact that my vet did not have digital x-ray capabilities, and the sense that I needed to have a more definitive answer before proceeding with any kind of treatment.

We drove

Sundance to the Oakridge Clinic where they performed an ultrasound and digital x-rays. Upon reading the results, the diagnosis was a stress fracture of the cannon bone. What?!?! It was significantly different from the initial diagnosis and a shocking surprise.

Now with a definitive diagnosis, treatment of a Tildren infusion was recommended and performed at the clinic. At home, I was instructed to put Sundance on complete stall rest with bute as needed, which he is currently undergoing. I will return to the clinic after 6-8 weeks after following the recommended treatment, and hopefully we will see the fracture healing.

The moral of this story? Do not hesitate to seek answers beyond your normal network of veterinarians and consultants. Sometimes different people and different establishments have access to other bases of knowledge and types of technology that can make all the difference. Certainly two - and even three - opinions (which is what it took in my case) are quite wise. Don’t be afraid to sleuth for answers!

FREE Black Gold!



Give your gardens a great start with Mother Nature’s very own fertilizer -

Black Gold!

(Household name: Horse manure)

We have plenty for the taking at various stages of composting, while supplies last. Just bring your shovel and help yourself!

By appointment only, please (call 620-725-3402).

Still haven't signed up for the 2011 Rainbow of Hope?

It's not too late!



Go to

www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com to
become a member today!

Pasture sugars



By Heather Smith Thomas

Grass is grass, right? Wrong! That lovely green pasture you've diligently watered and kept weed-free can be like Jekyll and Hyde. If your horse is at risk for grass founder or has a low tolerance for high levels of sugar, a pasture that might be perfect feed in the morning can be his biggest enemy in the afternoon...

To read more, go to: www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=17618&src=topic.

EquiFest brings education, adoptions

Rainbow Meadows' presence at EquiFest of Kansas (Feb. 11-13) was yet again a great venue of education and awareness-building as we welcomed hundreds of visitors into our booth to learn more about our mission. The contacts made that weekend have already resulted in a number of adoptions and various new volunteers and supporters!



Volunteers at Rainbow Meadows started clearing trees, ended fighting grass fire

By Leslie Chaffin, Rainbow Meadows volunteer

On April 2nd, when Linda Remillard and Joe Parker drove nearly three hours to spend the day volunteering at Rainbow Meadows, they knew they had a day of work in store for them, but they didn't know they would be involved in helping to stop a grass fire.

It is not uncommon in Kansas to see someone burning off a field or pasture. Along I-135 there are numerous signs advising motorists to proceed with caution if there is thick smoke on the highway. Spring is the most common time of year that one encounters "burning off". Danger for these fires to get out of control becomes a seasonal topic as people are warned against burning on windy days or after a dry period. The events of April 2nd are a good example of how quickly a range burn can get out of hand.

On this particular day, the two volunteers started helping David and Karen Everhart clear trees in a pasture. But as the afternoon came on, they found themselves recruited as volunteer fire fighters. With the often unpredictable Kansas winds, a pasture fire on property south of the rescue was whipped into a frenzy and a change of direction sent the grass fire out of control and onto the Rainbow Meadows property.

"The flames were 20 feet high at some points," said Karen Everhart, executive director and co-founder of Rainbow Meadows, "and the wind whipped the flames across the grasses with incredible velocity."



The Sedan area volunteer fire department was called to help quell the flames, but a good portion of the Rainbow Meadows pasture was burned when the fire was finally contained and put out. At the end of the day, humans and horses were safe. Remillard and Parker left about 8 p.m. in the evening - tired, dirty and with plenty of the smell of grass fire going with them, but they told the Everharts they would be back. There has to be a good deal of satisfaction knowing one has been in the right place at what turned out to be a time of high need.

Rainbow Meadows will typically conduct a controlled burn of portions of the pasture each year to encourage new growth, and the horses seem to do pretty well with it, but when it is

unexpected and out of control as this one became, it was "all hands on deck" to ensure the safety of the horses and the barns.

"We know there was an angel on our shoulder sending Linda and Joe down on Saturday," said Everhart. "We always need lots of volunteer help this time of year from grooming of horses to landscape work, to painting, to cutting trees to make more pasture available. Our thanks to them for making the trip and for being here to help in this emergency. And, of course, a big thank you to our volunteer fire department for their prompt response to our call!"

To read more from Leslie, go to www.examiner.com/pet-rescue-in-wichita/leslie-chaffin.



Have you seen our photo gallery?

We now have photos from our many events available online!

Just go to www.rainbowmeadowsranch.com/RescueEventPhotoGallery.htm to check them out!



“Gala ...” (cont. from page 1)

raised for the horses! With nearly 150 attendees, the atmosphere was filled with fun and excitement.

This year’s theme was “A Night with the Stars,” and the event’s opening presentation highlighted the many “stars” of Rainbow Meadows’ mission – namely, the adopters, fosters, donors and volunteers that make it all possible.

The event was again catered by Truffles Catering, who never disappoint. Their immense spread of a variety of different foods was the highlight of the evening. An extensive silent auction boasted a long list of items as well as experiences that were bid on competitively by attendees, and drawings for a strand of rare Akora pearls and a “Destiny” plush horse with accompanying starfish pendant brought in many entries. The traditional round of Horseopoly raised laughter from throughout the room, and the evening was concluded as guests were given a ribboned box of hand-made cake truffles.

Thank you to the wonderful guests who joined us this year, as well as the many volunteers that made the event happen! What an incredible success! Be sure to mark your calendars for next year’s gala – February 25, 2012!



WANTED
VOLUNTEERS
TIME OFF TEAM MEMBERS

Purpose:
Provide on-site assistance with basic rescue operations in the event of an emergency or unavailability of our operations managers, Karen and David Everhart

Skill set:
Basic horse handling skills, good organization, ability to work in a team

Monthly time commitment:
Dependent on availability of other team members, may vary anywhere from 0-2 days per month

If interested, contact director of volunteers Gracie Royle at gracie.royle@rainbowmeadowsranch.com or 316-214-1198.

Caring for your own...

Be sure to have current photos of your horse from all sides in case you have to identify them should they get loose or be stolen. You will need both summer and winter shots. Include photos of any unusual markings or brands on your horse. Every day, Net Posse (www.netposse.com) is involved in trying to recover horses that disappear or are taken from their pastures. Make sure you have everything in order in case you have to deal with this heartbreaking situation.



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

June 3-5, 2011

“Riding to the Rescue” CTR
Perry State Lake - Ozawkie, Kan.
www.natrc.org

June 18, 2011

Spa n’ Saw Volunteer Work Day
Rainbow Meadows - Sedan, Kan.

September 24, 2011

Rainbow of Hope Member Recognition
Rainbow Meadows Ranch - Sedan, Kan.

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

or click here to donate:



Thank you for your support!



**Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue
and Retirement, Inc.**

1949 Dalton Road
Sedan, KS 67361