

Changing Leads

Issue 2

December 2008

Girl Scouts Host Silent Auction

By Deb Taylor

On Sunday, November 2nd the Girl Scouts of Troop 1988 sponsored an auction fundraiser to support the important work that River Bluff Rescue Ranch does for abused and neglected horses. This northland equestrian center is in the process of expanding their facility so that they may house additional rescue horses. The silent auction raised nearly \$600 and items such as dining certificates, baby items and a selection of gift baskets were successfully auctioned off to a group of thrilled winning bidders. River Bluff is so pleased at the success of this event that they hope to include another silent auction event during a spring cookout event

River Bluff Rescue Ranch *Healing Spirits, Changing Futures, Refreshing Lives*

Equine Dentist visits the Rescue Horses

Everyone knows a twice a year visit to our dentist is vital to our health. The same is true of our horse friends.

Brooke Gray, from B&B Dentistry, came out to River Bluff Rescue Ranch to float the horses teeth. It is an all day process when you are doing six horses.

Rebecca Scharhag was one of the girl scouts who came out after school to learn about equine dentistry. About the experience, she says. *"In November I got to watch Moose get his teeth floated. I learned a lot. I learned that floating means to grind down. I also know now that*

horses need to get their teeth floated so that they can grind their food. They will cut their cheeks if their teeth are too



sharp. She ground down Moose's teeth and I got to keep a tooth. I also learned about wolf teeth. They are used for protection from predators. It is small and hard to get

out. Overall I thought it was cool and fun to watch."

Mrs. Gray will be out again in about six months to see how all the rescue horses are doing. She was especially taken with Moose. He is a case she will be documenting in her personal journals for unusual horses. She believes he has been chewing on the insides of his cheeks, much like one of us would chew on our fingernails.

The funding to float the horses teeth was donated by Girl Scout Troop #. The Girl Scouts set up at silent auction at the barn to raise money for this cause. See page for more

Work Day Declared a Success!



Kriss Miller was ready to work!

Work Day at the Ranch brought many volunteers out. Many hands made light work of the to do list. The cross-tie area received a bright paint job. The stall doors got a linseed oil treatment to bring out the natural beauty of the wood. The lockers were finished and have received a paint job as well. Stalls were

framed out in the small barn. The landscaping area at the front entrance was prepped to receive the wonderful donated plants.

Even with all the work completed, there is still more to do. If you would like to lend your talents, contact Elizabeth Hill.

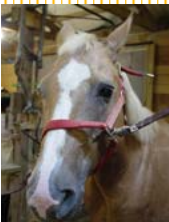
How Well Do You Know Your Rescue Horses?



A. Visa



B. Dream



C. Lindee



D. Moose



E. Big Joe

1. _____ This horse is the boss of the pasture. When rescued, his hind quarters were fly bitten and raw. He was terrified of people. Now, he is quirky and fun to ground train. A favorite of the volunteers.

2. _____ An 8 year old Arabian who has scarring on the lower part of her back legs from an unknown source. She is nervous but is responding to frequent handling, grooming and ground training.

3. _____ A 23 year year old gentle giant who was abandoned and came to the ranch through the Cass County Sherriff's office. He likes to be ridden at a walk but will trot when asked.

4. _____ Upon entering the ranch, this horse had an untreated eye injury, was severely underweight and delivered a dead foal. She has very good manners but needs to be taught how to neck rein when being ridden.

5. _____ A 20 year old Palmino who was abandoned at the barn after being diagnosed with arthritis in her front legs. She would benefit from treatment with Adequan or Corta Flex. She is calm and quiet, perfect for those beginning volunteers.

Answers: 1:D, 2:A, 3:E, 4:B, 5:C

Our rescue horses all need hoof care, dentistry, and routine veterinary care to maintain their health. Please see the enclosed flyer on how you can help these horses over the holiday. If you are interested in adopting a horse, please contact Elizabeth Hill.



Girl Scout Troop #1988

Volunteer Form

There are so many opportunities to help the rescue horses at River Bluff Rescue Ranch. Please fill out the form and return to Elizabeth Hill 7990 NW Mace Road Kansas City Mo 64152

Comments:

I can work directly with the horses by:

- Cleaning Stalls
- Grooming
- Ground Training

I can help financially by:

- Selling Sponsorship Packages
- Offering Services or Product Donations

I can help repair the facilities by:

- Landscaping
- Construction
- Painting or other refurbishing
- General Repairs

- Monetary Donation enclosed
\$ _____ amount

Name

Address

Phone

email address

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