

"Many have forgotten this truth, but you must never forget it.

You remain responsible forever for what you have tamed."

-Antoine de Saint Expery

May 12, 2016

Dear Friends and Valued Supporters

The past months have been exciting at Blue Rose Ranch. Our beautiful indoor riding arena was completed in January, we welcomed new horses to the ranch, some of our wonderful horses were adopted, and we celebrated ASPCA's "Help a Horse Day" in grand style. We are grateful for the support of our volunteers and for those of you who support our work as we rescue and care for horses.

Watching our indoor arena, *the Equus Arena*, being built was awesome. The helical foundation, the frame, the fabric sections drawn into place – it was all very cool. We constructed a railing around the inside of the arena for safety, brought in special arena surface for soft and good horse footing, and John created special trail course obstacles (with flower boxes) that can be arranged as desired in the arena. The arena has a wonderful atmosphere with natural light, a cathedral type ceiling, protection on a windy day, and warmth on cold days. It is huge.

#### **Horse News**

Kenya, our 14 year old mustang mare, was selected to compete in the "Equine Comeback Challenge". This is an event where horse trainers take untrained horses from horse rescues, train them for 90 days, and compete in three events at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, which takes place in March at the National Western Complex in Denver. Samantha Whittmore was her trainer. The two of them spent hours preparing for the competition, and they did great. The competition concludes with the horses being shown at auction. The minimum bid for the horses in the "Comeback Challenge" event was \$1000, and all potential bidders were required to complete a questionnaire demonstrating their ability to provide a quality home. Kenya was bought and has a great new home. We are in contact with her owner and receive pictures and updates. There are those in the horse world who do not believe "good" horses come out of horse rescues. The truth is there are incredible horses in horse rescues who need quality training and a chance to show their value. We are grateful to Samantha for choosing Kenya and for developing her skills and confidence.

Our baby *Titan*, who is now big, was adopted to a great home close to Blue Rose Ranch. *Titan's* new owner is an accomplished horseman, and *Titan* will be used for real ranch work when he is old enough. *Titan's* owner is also a new human dad, and we get to see pictures of both horse and baby on the cell phone at the local restaurant!

Five of our horses traveled in April to Harmony Equine Center in Franktown for training. Handsome *Cork* was one of these, and his trainer fell in love with him and adopted him. We appreciate Harmony's generosity in providing training for horses when they have space at their facility. Training is an important key to helping horses find quality homes.

Recent new additions to Blue Rose Ranch are *Apache* and *Mato*. *Apache* is a beautiful brown and white paint, who is kind and gentle and <u>so</u> loves attention. *Apache* came from a home where he was loved, but finances made it difficult to continue his care. He is older, and has a little trouble getting around. He will

help kids learn to care for horses. Someone has to stand there and be brushed! *Mato* is a very handsome and strong gelding. He, too, loves attention. *Mato* 's owner had a work schedule that required much travel and increasingly less time for a horse. *Mato* had a surgery on a leg before he came to Blue Rose Ranch. He should be able to carry a light rider in our youth horse camp and youth riding programs. For people who cannot continue to care for their horse, especially a horse with physical limitations and therefore little chance of sale to a quality home, Blue Rose Ranch provides an answer. Here, all horses are valued and have a job.

## Help a Horse Day

The ASPCA (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) sponsors a national, annual event known as "Help a Horse Day". This nationwide competition is for equine rescues and sanctuaries to raise awareness about the lifesaving work they do year-round to care for at-risk horses in their community who have often been abused or neglected. Horses have been central to the ASPCA's work since its founding 150 years ago, when Henry Bergh stopped a cart driver from beating his horse, resulting in the first successful arrest for the mistreatment of a horse on April 26, 1866.

Blue Rose Ranch hosted four days of events to celebrate "Help a Horse Day". At the Capital Theater in Springfield, Blue Rose Ranch hosted a free movie night on April 21, showing the award winning film "Unbranded". We had a great turnout. This movie is an emotionally charged epic adventure of four young men who journey three thousand miles on mustangs. The film presents the issues surrounding mustang management in the American West. "Unbranded" also demonstrates the innate value and abilities of mustangs. At the Peoples Credit Union annual meeting on April 22, we presented plaques to honor three law enforcement officers from Baca County who have courageously served the cause of neglected and unwanted horses. Over 200 hundred attended this meeting. We hosted an entire morning of events at Blue Rose Ranch on April 23 with guest speakers, a horse performance and clinic by long time Parelli student Dr. Jonell Byers from Ulysses, KS, and an introductory youth horse camp preview for young people interested in horses or our annual "Youth Horse Camp" (June 13-17 this year). 150 people joined us for this event. At noon, following the festivities, we had a free barbeque, hosted by Xi Delta Iota Sorority, in our new indoor riding arena. On Sunday afternoon at the Tractor Supply Store in Lamar, located adjacent to the fairgrounds, we held a community-wide event for horse and dog lovers in partnership with Second Chance Animal Shelter. This event was a great success. There were activities for people of all ages, including horse rides, dogs to meet, refreshments, kids making dog toys to donate to shelters, and a book signing by author and dog trainer, Sunny Weber. We appreciate the help of our many volunteers who helped us make these events possible!

## **Special Opportunities**

We initiated two fundraisers during "Help a Horse Day" that are special opportunities. Please see the enclosed flyers to learn how you can participate in a drawing for an original bronze sculpture "Mucho Caballo" created by nationally renowned sculptor **Shalah Perkins.** Each of her works is a sculpture, combined with an original poem, often located in a pull-out drawer on the sculpture base.

We also have an opportunity where you can *Remember or Honor* an individual or beloved pet on a beautiful plaque mounted on the railing inside the **Equus Arena**.

Sincere Thanks for your continued support of Blue Rose Ranch.

John and Cheryl Webb Executive Directors





Clayton - He is a Natural!

Help A Horse Day

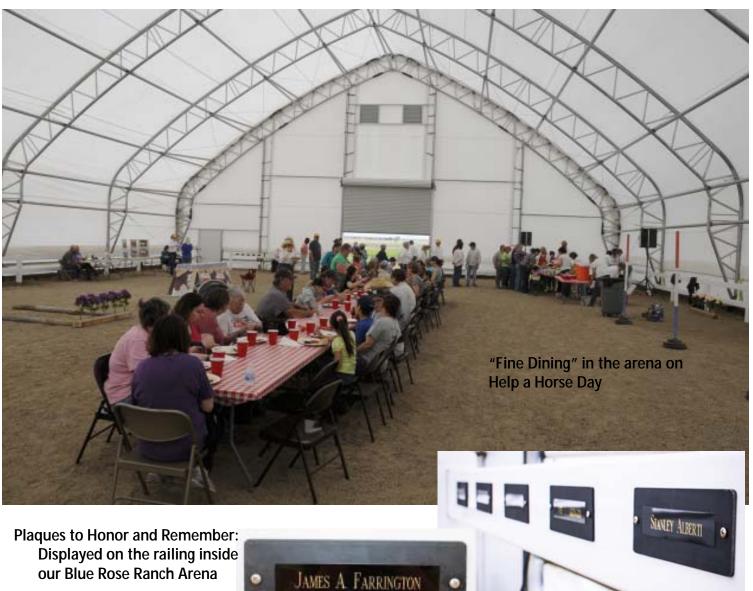


Cheryl Webb with Jaycee on Moonwalker

UNBRANDED



4 Men, 16 Mustangs, 3000 miles
So you think you want to be a cowboy...



# our Blue Rose Ranch Arena

## Blue Rose Ranch would like to thank the following Foundations for their support:

Alice Jenkins Foundation

Animal Assistance Foundation

**Anschutz Family Foundation** 

## ASPCA

(The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)

Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation

Colorado Unwanted Horse Alliance

El Pomarís Hambrick Fund

**Equus Foundation** 

Rutherford Foundation

Southern Colorado Community Foundation

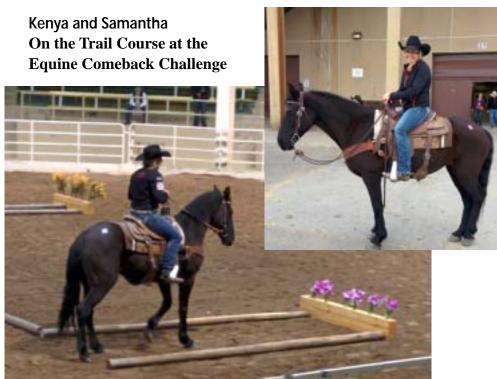
William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation

> **Unwanted Horse** Veterinary Relief Campaign

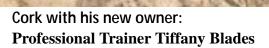
> > Merck Animal Health



Titan with his new owner **Wyatt Bishop** 





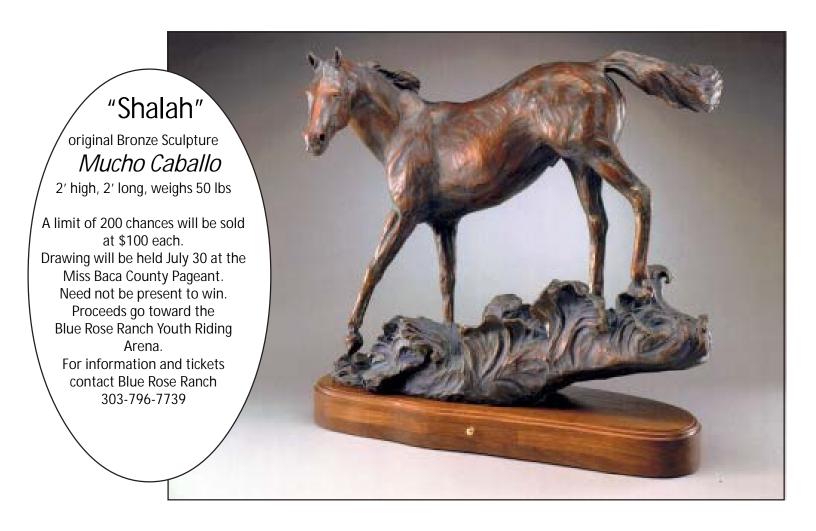




Mato meets Willie



Apache is



## Win a Shalah Sculpture

Nationally renowned sculptor Shalah Perkins has made available to Blue Rose Ranch her original Bronze Horse Sculpture, "Mucho Caballo". Her donation is to help us pay off the remaining balance on our new Youth Riding Arena. This extraordinary sculpture is two feet long, two feet high, and weighs 50 lbs. A limit of two hundred chances will be sold to own this genuine Shalah horse sculpture. Tickets can be purchased for \$100 each. The drawing will be held at the Miss Baca County Pageant on July 30th. Blue Rose Ranch has purchased two small horse statues sculpted by Shalah to be given to the second and third tickets drawn.

### **MUCHO CABALLO**

WHAT MAKES THAT HORSE A SPECIAL FRIEND STAND OUT FROM ALL THE REST? WHO ALWAYS SEEMS TO MEASURE UP WHATEVER KIND OF TEST.

EXTENSION OF YOUR HAND AND FOOT A WORKER TO THE END A WILLINGNESS TO DO FOR YOU WHATEVER SIGNAL YOU MAY SEND.

COMPANION OF THE LONG, LONG TRIP OLD FRIEND OF MANY DAYS MUCHO CABALLO AND ONE OF A KIND

A MEMORY WHICH TIME REPLAYS.

Born in Del Norte, Colorado in 1939, Shalah has spent the last fifty years ranching in the southeast corner of Colorado. Her ranch lies in canyon country that is steeped in the history of the old west. Shalah's work is unique, in that it is a combination of sculpture and poetry. Her work is in public and corporate collections such as banks, museums and outdoor parks.