

"Many have forgotten this truth, but you must never forget it. You remain responsible forever for what you have tamed." -Antoine de Saint Expery

November 27, 2015

Dear Valued Friends and Supporters,

2015 was a wonderful year for our organization. Champions of the horse world graced our corrals, we received grant funding from several foundations, we were able to complete capital improvements on the ranch, and we are scheduled to complete one of our long term goals. We want to thank each one of you, our supporters and volunteers, for your faithful contributions to the work of Blue Rose Ranch.

From the desk of John Webb

A MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT

In 2005, before we closed on the purchase of Blue Rose Ranch, Cheryl and I put together a business plan that laid out short, medium and long range goals. Looking back on that early planning we are heartened that virtually every objective and goal of that plan has been accomplished. All but one, until now...

We have recently finalized the terms, arranged the financing and put down 26% of the completed, turnkey (total) cost on an indoor riding arena to be constructed at Blue Rose Ranch Horse Rescue in January, 2016. The arena is 12,000 square feet, has clear span construction and will allow for year-round riding and training, especially in inclement weather. Our youth riding programs, our horses and our community will benefit greatly from this state-of-the-art, environmentally green equine arena.

As a matter of policy, Cheryl and I and/or Blue Rose Ranch never borrow money. In this one instance we felt we should make an exception, here's why: We believe that the financing terms are excellent and that this facility is deserving of us making this one exception. We have five years to pay off the balance and we were awarded a 0% interest rate as a result of putting 26% down and having a perfect credit history. We hope you agree with this very important investment in Blue Rose Ranch and will consider making a contribution to go toward the cost of the arena. It is a great cause. If you are feeling particularly generous or if you have a cause or person you wish to honor, the naming rights are available. The arena will be very visible from Highway 287 which borders Blue Rose Ranch on the east. The arena is all white in color, stands 35 feet high and is 160 feet long. The arena will also have two, 14 foot by 14 foot, entrances for truck access.

There is much to say, in the future, about this arena, its construction, its environmental efficiency and all the plans we have for keeping it very busy; including using and training rescue horses for therapeutic riding and for a Veteran's equine therapy program. So, in the year ahead you will be hearing a great deal about this new venture for Blue Rose Ranch.

We are in the process of finalizing, for you horse lovers, a wonderful means to permanently recognize

contributors, or the individuals whom they choose to honor or remember, who donate toward the purchase and construction of the arena. More to follow on this in our next mailing.

Horse Stories

We will remember this fall as "the September of *Dual Peppy*". This world champion cutting horse and seven of his sons and daughters, all victims of severe abuse and neglect, were transferred to the ownership of Blue Rose Ranch by the El Paso County Sheriff following a lengthy court battle where their previous owner tried to plead innocence. During the trial, the horses began rehabilitation and were cared for at Harmony Equine Center. We were honored to be chosen the horse rescue to assume ownership of and to undertake the continued care of these horses, along with the enormous responsibility to find quality, forever homes for each of them. These horses were the center of much media attention, and social media frenzy. While some claimed they knew what was best for these high performance horses and made their case for ownership in cyber world, the Directors of Blue Rose Ranch were steadfast in determining the future for these horses. Dual Peppy, a very famous world champion cutting horse, possesses an awesome presence, one of greatness and dignity. He needed a home where he would receive the respect he earned throughout his show career, and where the purpose was special love and care, rather than a home where his purpose was to earn money for his genes. We found a great home for Dual Peppy that will remain undisclosed, and out of media attention. In the performance cutting horse world, the value of a horse is determined not only by bloodline, but also by record of performance - charted starting from age 3. The sons and daughters of *Dual Peppy* were victims of abuse not only because they were starved and neglected, but because they were not able to prove their value in arena competition. They have all found good, well-vetted homes where their heritage is valued, and where their offspring will have the chance to be trained and shown in competition. One of *Dual Peppy's* daughters, Peppys Dun Dualin, currently continues to reside at Blue Rose Ranch, and enjoys roaming free and being part of "our herd".

Cheyenne joined us in October. He is a handsome horse who has spent a great deal of time convincing each of our mares that he is <u>the</u> one for them. *Cheyenne* came from a good home. His owners were forced to find a new place for him due to their life transition. *Cheyenne* will be used in our youth riding program. *Willie* and *Millie* joined us in November. They were caught in a family dispute that led to neglect. They lived on a ranch with pasture and water, but *Willie's* hooves were badly overgrown. He had a leg that had been broken and unattended that grew crooked as it healed, and he has an eye that will need to be removed. *Millie* had an injured leg that also went unattended. The two are fast friends, and destined to be favorites among our volunteers.

Our Volunteers

Our youth volunteers and those who volunteer as horse walkers deserve special thanks this season. The horses at Blue Rose Ranch thrive with the attention of these volunteers. Many of the horses who arrive need to learn to trust people again, and the unconditional kindness and patience of our volunteers are key in this process. Our youth counselors provide leadership and assistance with young riders in our program. This coming year we will have additional help from Olivia Arlt, who comes to us through Brethren Volunteer Services. Volunteers from this organization dedicate a year of their life in service to others. Olivia lives at the ranch and helps to care for and to exercise horses. She is a delightful young lady, who also helps kids and visitors when they come to Blue Rose Ranch to ride and learn about horses. Special acknowledgement goes to Michelle Ivanoff, manager of our social media and designer of our facebook page. Michelle is a trusted advisor. She spent countless hours monitoring our facebook page during the media frenzy surrounding *Dual Peppy*, and replying to hundreds of questions coming though social media.

Foundation Partnership

Foundations are important partners to Blue Rose Ranch. Grant funds this year from the Animal Assistance Foundation enabled us to repair and upgrade perimeter fencing on the Canyon Ranch. Funds from the Colorado Unwanted Horse Alliance (CUHA) helped replace corral fencing damaged by tornado strength winds this spring, and CUHA also provided funds for horse training. The Alice Jenkins Foundation granted funds to upgrade kickplates in our horse shelters. Our youth leadership program benefited from funds provided by The Southern Colorado Community Foundation. The Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign and Merck helped pay for horse vaccinations. Equus Foundation grant funds are being utilized for horse feed, farrier, and veterinary expenses. The Anschutz Family Foundation and the William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation granted funds to be used for general operations at Blue Rose Ranch. We are grateful to each of these foundations.

Your support is appreciated!

We can care for unwanted horses and provide opportunities for youth with your continued support. There are many avenues to donate to Blue Rose Ranch this season. We are participating in "Colorado Gives Day" (December 9th this year), and you can donate via their website. You can designate Blue Rose Ranch as your charity of choice through "Amazon Smiles" when you shop on Amazon. You can donate with links from our facebook page and on our website. You can mail a check directly to the ranch.

We wish you Peace and a Happy Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

John and Cheryl Webb Executive Directors

"Dual Peppy" Arrives at Blue Rose Ranch





"Palo Duro Peppy"



"Dual Peppy" and Horse Walker Volunteers



The Beautiful "Peppys Dun Dualin"

"Dual McCool" enjoys TLC from Volunteers



Cheyenne next to this first girlfriend, Candy. Candy is a thoroughbred, and Cheyenne is equally tall.



Cheyenne and Olivia



"Hotshot" Willie and Millie



Clearspan Equine Arena: Coming to Blue Rose Ranch in January, 2016

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 Southern Colorado Community Foundation William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign

Merck Animal Health