



Volume 20 Issue 7

OVER HERD



July 2017

Against all Odds

What do you do when your valued veterinarian tells you that there is only a 15% chance of saving a horse's life? Do you invest thousands of dollars on the slim chance that he can be saved? Or do you elect to humanely let him pass over the Rainbow Bridge?

If the horse was fortunate enough to end up at the Horse Protection Society, against all odds his life will have a better chance to be saved! Prairie's continual treatments for the infection in his hip by our veterinarians are over! The area is only open as tiny as the tip of a finger instead of the entire hand. We asked for prayers for this lovely big horse and folks prayed for him. We asked for financial help and we got some to cover the thousands of dollars needed to give him a chance to live.

Hard decisions had to be made. Did we care for Prairie here at HPS or send him to Davie County to Dr. Meeker's vet hospital. I made the decision to keep him here and I feel it was the right choice. We could watch him very closely and help to keep him happy and stress free. We could also add extra supplements and vitamins to Prairie's feed that we couldn't expect the vet hospital to deal with. Not everyone agreed with me and that is okay. It was helpful to hear someone else's opinion. I had the advantage of knowing the hospital and have sent different horses there for treatment over the years. The horses were normally treated and stayed overnight to just a couple of days. Prairie's treatment was going to be lengthy. And it has taken two months. One vet reported treating a similar wound for two years and never curing the infection.

There will always be muscle damage on a small part of the hip and swelling where the body tried to encase the infected area. We expect to see improvement in the nerve damage affecting his tail movement if we keep up the physical therapy. Thank you for your caring to provide for this wonderful horse. Prayers are always so important to any success.



Prairie often stood in his hay feeder, threw the hay out and then ate it off the stall mats. At times he would have all four feet in his hay feeder!

Happy Dance...Thank you God!

I'm Back!

Once a year I try to head to Colorado for three weeks. Things were too hectic last year so I didn't get to take a vacation. Out of the last two years I had maybe five or six days that I didn't work here at the sanctuary. Most days I work 10 to 12 hours.

It is so great to be able to leave and feel confident that the horses will be well cared for and anything that comes up will be dealt with correctly. If people are well centered in life, happy and relaxed, then the horses will be also. Everyone pulled together to make sure everything went smoothly and areas at the sanctuary that required attention were tended to. Tess and Michelle do the major of care for the horses each week and set the gentle pace of care for the horses with the aid of various volunteers. We have the best volunteers and helpers! Thank you everyone!

There was one small inconvenience while I was gone on vacations. We can only assume a couple of bored immature adolescents put a small box of fireworks in our plastic mail box and set it off. There is a little damage to the ceiling in the mail box, but the roof is fine and we don't have to replace the mail box. We still have a couple of scorched envelopes to explore further, but they don't look like they held donations.

Colorado was as beautiful as always. It is normally 75 to 85 degrees during the day without the humidity. Evening temperatures can drop into the high forties and fifties that make for great sleeping.

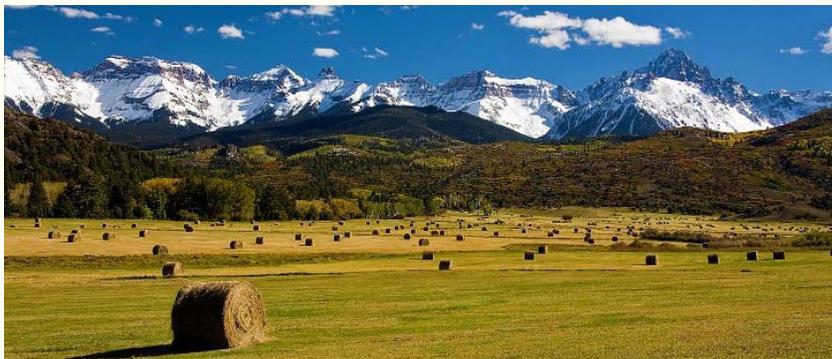
Son David's new home is lovely and outside of Golden Colorado. My city child has moved to the country and loves it. Deer graze in what would normally be called your yard. The deer often nap under his raised deck.

Patty (my daughter) and Bryant were involved with irrigating the hay fields at the ranch for the last time before cutting and baling hay. A young heifer surprised us with a late birth of a calf that we had to search the ranch to find. It is the time of the year for ranchers to earn some funds as the grown heifers and steers leave the ranch. The pigs Patty raised to market weight have left also.

Both teenage grandkids now have summer jobs. Carson is working for a farmer/rancher who farms more than 1,000 acres organically raising mainly corn and hay. Lexie works at Safeway.

Lexie went to the state FFA convention for three days that was held in Pueblo Colorado. Both kids will be showing steers and heifers at the county fair next month. Lexie will also be showing some of her registered French Lop Rabbits.

It is wonderful to have time to just be.....without having anything I have to get done. But the best is returning to find all the horses doing well and the folks that help here also.



Honors and Memorials

In Memorial of Robert Lester Gochbauer (Dr. Bob). My horse Reba is here today because of him. A wonderful person. He will be so missed. By Chris Donaghy

In memory of my mother, Margaret Jeremiah Myers. By Rita Tucker

In Honor of Ann Harrison's birthday. Love to Ann! By Mom Stacker

In Honor of a wonderful father and husband on Father's Day 2017. By Betty Lentz

In memory of Pamela Thompson Dale of Newland, NC. By Maria and Nina Braswell

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News from the Herd

Chuckles and Chiclet are the big news of the day. Finally Chiclet had enough training to safely be handled to be able to be gelded! Chuckles has never been a problem, but we felt it would be better to geld both of them at the same time. Both did great and recovered with no issues. Chiclet could use a little more handling before the two join the herd. They need two to three more weeks to be safe to have them around mares. **Cayenne** has had a bit of lameness in the front hoof. All indication suggests "graveling." This can be a bit mystifying to diagnose since from day to day it may seem worse or better. It is caused by a tiny piece of sand that lodges in the narrow white line next to the hoof wall. Slowly the piece of sand works its way up the inside of the hoof wall. It may break out at a weak spot in the wall or work its way all the way up to the top of the hoof wall and come out the top at the coronary band.

Hopi is showing signs of cancer. She is way too thin and none of the tests run are showing any issues that can be identified. By a process of *elimination we have to seriously consider cancer and watch for any signs of pain. We are doing everything we can for Hopi.*

The Herd is so content and healthy. Come hug a horse any Saturday afternoon! They love the attention!

