



***The Bluebonnet Bulletin***  
***www.bluebonnetequine.org***

Bluebonnet Equine  
Humane Society

P.O. Box 4944  
College Station,  
Texas 77844-4944

(888) 542 5163

**May 2005**

**Volume 1, Issue 1**

**Featured Horse – Dream Girl**



Hi! My name is Dream Girl but everyone calls me DG. I am 21 days old! I would like to tell you my story.

I was born on Sunday April 23, 2005 at 1:30 a.m. My mom is a big gray Thoroughbred. Her owner was very upset when she found out she was pregnant because Mom is a show horse. She said that when I was born I was to be killed. She did not know or care who my dad was. A lady called Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society to see if they could save me.

A nice lady from Bluebonnet came with her trailer to pick me up and brought a horse friend to keep me company. Her name is Skipper and she is a miniature horse. Skipper and I have a nice big stall. I don't like the bottle at all. When they are not looking I try to drink my milk from the bucket. Skipper helps take care of me but does not like it when I try to nurse from her.

I miss my mom. I cried for her when I had to leave and I could hear her calling for me as we left in the trailer. I cannot understand why my owner wanted me to be killed. I am a good little girl and want so much to please everyone. I just need a chance in life. My milk replacement is very expensive and Bluebonnet needs your help so that they can afford to buy enough milk so I can grow up to be big and strong like my mom.

You can contribute to Dream Girl's care by sending a contribution to Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society at PMB 141, 6425 S. IH-35, Suite 105, Austin, TX 78744-4230 and writing 'Dream Girl' on the check .

## President's Letter

Hello everyone and welcome to the first newsletter of the Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society! It is hard to believe we've only been working on BEHS for a few months – we've seen so much happen in such a short time. I'm really honored to be part of such an exciting new venture, and I'm proud to get to work with each one of you to make this organization great.

We've already been busy – bylaws and articles of incorporation were written in March and on March 14 we became a Texas non-profit corporation. A week later, we filed to do business as a foreign corporation in Arkansas – a move that enables us to legally operate in that state. A few weeks later, we sent our application to become a 501(c)(3) organization to the IRS. Now we're waiting to hear back from them – unfortunately that can take months.

The Directors have been hard at work getting our policies and forms together, and we'll soon have those done. Most of those are available on our website at <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/>. The directors will then work on a set of Standard Operating Protocols. They will describe how different actions are carried out in the rescue and hopefully help us run more efficiently.

We've also got our first few horses in the rescue, and you'll get to read about them as well as my trips to the American Quarter Horse Association annual convention and the American Horse Council's annual convention to speak about rescue later in this newsletter.

Once again – thank you all for joining BEHS and helping to make this organization great. If you have any questions about the organization or would like to find out how to get more involved, please email me at [jenn@bluebonnetequine.org](mailto:jenn@bluebonnetequine.org) or call me at (734) 434 9899. I look forward to getting to know all of you better and to working together to make the world a better place for horses.

Jennifer Williams, Ph.D  
President

## **Thank you to our Supporters – *your contributions help needy equines throughout Texas and Arkansas***

*Learn more about our donor recognition program on our website – <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org>*

### **Blue Ribbon Supporters**

Doris Casper	Tina Shalmy	Carrie Isaacks	Al and Sherry Fayard
Hesco Systems	Joanne Terry	Tricia Gilbreth	Stacy Griffin
Marci Anderson	Gail and Joan Millford	Leland and Sylvia Chase-Meadows	
Cindy Fanning & Bill Rose			

### **Medalist Supporters**

Paula Parr

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## Welcome to Our New Members

Charlotte Ables	Mona and Roger Alloway	Regina and Courtney Anderson	Marci Anderson
Pamela Archung	Enes Balandran, Jr.	Christine Baleshta	Cat Ballew – <b>Lifetime member</b>
Debra Barlow Laurie Benton	Robin Beauregard Elizabeth, Harlan, and Christopher Beverly	Bill and Evelyn Bench Annette Branighan	Eli Benson Susan and Maverick Brown
Debbie Buccino	Doris Casper	Le-Land and Sylvia Chase-Meadows	Terry and Tonia Chester
Dottie Clower Denise and Bobby Crosthwait	Nan Conkle Donna and Jenna Daniels	Kristin Cooke Leslie Davis	Harriett Crockett Karen Daw
Stephanie Doran Shelby and Wayne Gabella and Mad Poarch	Cindy Fanning Tricia, Michael, and Ashley Gilbreth	Al and Sherry Fayard Kenna, Glenn, Dustin, and Kamryn Grave	Jessica Frank Stacey Griffin
Leo Holm and Sharon Martin	Carrie and Ken Isaacks	Cindy Johnson	Kelly Jones
Helga Kudron Barbara and David Lucas	Nicky Ladkin Fred and Jodi Luecke	Taylor Lehr Kat Macmillan	Mary Lestings Beverly McCoy
Rose McDade Paula Parr and Michael Weisskkopf	Donna Orr Gaye, Mike, and Toby Patrick and Stephanie and Kathy Hancock	Jessie Otto Ari Pettigrew	Darlene Owings Ralph and Loretta Pinnell
Kathy Robbins	Bill Rose	Jo Rush	Joe Schedler and Leslie Davis Edith Skuca
Laura and Scott Senseman Bobbie Smith	John and Tina Shalmy Randi, Brad, and Cameron Smith	Stephen and Marianne Skarpa DD Steele	Karen Streider
Papa Joe Summy	Mearl, Wendy, and Stephanie Taylor	Maria Teigeiro	Joanne Terry
June Warren	Ricke Weinkauff	Michael White	Jennifer and Spencer Williams
Sharlene Yates	Leslie, Tim, and Casey Yohe	Steven Zunker	

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## Become a Bluebonnet Supporter

The equines of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society need your support!

Contribute to the rescue at

[https://www.paypal.com/xclick/business=cowgirljenn%40gmail%2ecom&item\\_name=BEHS%20Donation&no\\_shipping=0&no\\_note=1&tax=0&currency\\_code=USD](https://www.paypal.com/xclick/business=cowgirljenn%40gmail%2ecom&item_name=BEHS%20Donation&no_shipping=0&no_note=1&tax=0&currency_code=USD)

Or by sending a donation to to Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society at PMB 141, 6425 S. IH-35, Suite 105, Austin, TX 78744-4230

Our 501(c)(3) status is pending and donations may not be tax-deductible at this time.

## **WANTED – Your Recipes!**

Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society is putting together our first cookbook as a fundraiser! Please send your favorite recipes – we're also looking for your favorite horse treat recipes! If you have recipes for homemade treats or a favorite mash, please send those too.

Send questions and recipes to Joanne Terry at: [jmterry468@msn.com](mailto:jmterry468@msn.com)

## **Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society Debuts at the American Quarter Horse Convention**

**Jennifer Williams, Ph.D.**

During the introduction to my talk on "How Rescues Help 'Unwanted Horses'", I publicly announced the formation of BEHS for the first time. I spoke at the IMPACT 2005 – The Unwanted Horse session. During my talk, I informed attendees that owners could donate horses they could no longer keep to rescue organizations. I discussed how to select a reputable rescue and outlined donation requirements. Other presentations during the session included:

- Dr. Nat Messer IV, the University of Missouri-Columbia, discussed "The Plight of the Unwanted Horse: The Scope of the Problem." He included statistics on the number of equines being slaughtered and euthanized annually and the reasons horses may be labeled "unwanted".
- Dave Whitaker, Middle Tennessee State University, talked about giving horses to university programs.
- Carlene Taylor spoke about donating horses to therapeutic riding programs and equine assisted therapy programs
- Mike Jennings informed attendees about how they could set a reserve bid or 'no sale' on their horse during his discussion of auctions.
- Dr. Tom Lenz broached the difficult topics of acceptable euthanasia and carcass disposal.

Tim Case of the AQHA believes the session was a success and he has been contacted by people from as far away as Israel who have requested more information. This was a wonderful event to kick off our organization and I'm excited that we were involved.

## **Donation Jars for BEHS**

Are you looking for another way to help the horses of BEHS? Talk to your local feed stores, tack stores, and veterinarian offices and ask if you can put out a donation jar. We've even seen donation jars for rescues at grocery stores, gift shops, and even at Dairy Queen! Lets get our donation jars out there and help bring in funds for the rescue.

If you put out a donation jar, be sure to check it weekly and send all funds to PMB 141, 6425 S. IH-35, Suite 105, Austin, TX 78744-4230

## **BEHS Represented at the American Association of Equine Practitioners' Unwanted Horse Session at the American Horse Council's Annual Convention**

**By Jennifer Williams, Ph.D.**

The AAEP hosted the Unwanted Horse Summit at the 2005 American Horse Council convention. Preceding the summit, Dr. Scott Palmer of the AAEP moderated an educational session. Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society was represented when I delivered a presentation entitled "Rescue and Retirement Options." I discussed statistics on rescues throughout the United States and discussed unethical rescues and how to avoid them. I also spoke about where rescue horses come from, what activities rescues participate in, and how horse enthusiasts can get involved. Dr. Nat Messer IV delivered a talk entitled "The Plight of the Unwanted Horse" in which he presented statistics on the number of horses slaughtered annually in the United States and Canada and the number of horses euthanized. He also described methods of disposal and outlined some of the costs involved in keeping horses. Dr. Timothy Cordes of the USDA and APHIS described the federal transport to slaughter regulations and presented statistics on the number of violations and penalties faced by violators. Dr. Temple Grandin spoke via telecast and gave a perspective on slaughter plants and went on to explain how overbreeding and poor breeding choices lead to an overabundance of horses in this country. Dr. Carolyn Stull spoke about Proposition 6. Proposition 6 made it illegal to sell horses for slaughter for human consumption in the state of California. She noted that California had not seen an increase in neglect or abandonment since Proposition 6 went into effect.

## **RAISE \$\$ FOR BEHS WHILE YOU SHOP**

Do you like to shop at Country Supply? Do you like to shop for horse tack and supplies on-line? Well, you can shop at County Supply at <http://www.countrysupply.com/> and earn money for BEHS! When you check out, enter the Country Cares Program code behs, and we'll get a portion of what you spend.

## Upcoming Events

### Favoring Winds Ranch Benefit

On Saturday, August 6 (weather permitting), the **Favoring Winds Ranch** will host a **BEHS** fundraiser. There will be door prizes donated by some of the local merchants. Better Birds of Texas will be there and will give one lucky person a bird and complete bird kit. They will also have birds for sale. We will give 1000 pounds of Purina Select Horse Feed to lucky attendees-- courtesy of Steinhauser's of Alvin and Purina Mills.

Listed below are some of the activities available for guests:

Petting Zoo (free)	Pony rides	Concession Stand
Bake Sale	Pictures	Live and Silent Auction
BEHS Info Booth	Live Band	

Games - Fish, Ring Toss, Pop a balloon for a Prize

The fun starts at Noon and lasts until 6 pm.

For more information: Favoring Winds Ranch, 6707 CR 511, Rosharon, TX 77583  
832-244-3471

### Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society Out and About

BEHS put on three booths in the past month – we do these booths to help raise awareness about the need for horse rescue, to get the BEHS name out, and to recruit new members and foster homes. If you have an idea of a place where we can hold a booth, please get in touch with Wendy Taylor at [cowgirlwendy@gmail.com](mailto:cowgirlwendy@gmail.com).



Co-Op Grand Opening Giddings, Texas –  
April 2, 2005

BEHS Secretary Jodi Luecke set up a great booth for BEHS. The booth looked great, and Jodi met several people in the area who were interested in horse rescue – Sylvia and Leland Chase-Meadows visited the booth and are now two of our newest members!

Chili Cook-off – Johnson City, Texas –  
April 2, 2005

BEHS Member Representative Sharon Martin-Holm and members Michael and Tricia Gilbreth ran this wonderful booth. Sharon even got aprons, caps, and t-shirts while Tricia supplied some great colorful BEHS pens!





Poteet Strawberry Festival – Poteet, Texas – April 9, 2005

Mona Alloway, Bobbi Smith, Leslie Yohe, Barbara Lucas and other BEHS members put this great booth together. They talked to a lot of potential members and helped spread our name.

### **First Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society Social**

BEHS Director Marianne Skarpa opened her home in Dayton, Texas to BEHS members on April 30. Several members got together to eat some yummy food and chat about rescue and horses. Everyone had a great time, and we hope to do more of these get togethers throughout the state soon.

### **Fundraisers Needed!**

In just a few short months, we've been incredibly busy – we've already taken in six horses, and we have several more scheduled to come our way. If we want to keep moving forward, we need to plan some fundraisers to bring in the money to help care for the horses and other equines who need us. Please join the fundraising committee by sending an email to [BluebonnetFundraising-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BluebonnetFundraising-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) – lets put some fabulous fundraisers together to help the horses who need us!

### **The Horses of BEHS**

**Phoenix** is a four year old, Arabian/Tennessee Walking Horse gelding who looks very Araby. He spent some time with a very rough trainer and now he's distrustful of humans – but his foster home is working on that! We're hoping he can go up for adoption before too much longer to the right home.

**Zeek** is an eleven year old, bay Thoroughbred gelding. He was donated because his owner was heading off to college. He was a hunter/jumper, but he came up lame and had to retire. His foster home discovered pain in his back, pelvis, and hips and she's working with him to help alleviate his pain.

**Jake** is a cute, eleven year old, chestnut grade gelding. He was injured by barbed wire, and we're not sure yet how he's going to recover. While he's a little wary around new people, he is sweet and cute.

**Dandy** is a pretty, eighteen year old, bay grade gelding. Dandy is gentle and sweet, but he's also underweight and foundered. He'll be with BEHS for a while as his foster home helps him recover from founder.

**Paloma** just arrived at BEHS. She's a beautiful, nineteen year old, black Paso Fino mare. Paloma is one of those rare bombproof horses – she's been in parades and has even been used for hunting. Unfortunately, Paloma is currently unridable. She's in a great deal of pain and she'll be seeing the veterinarian to determine the source of her pain and possible treatments.

## **The People of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society**

Jennifer Williams  
President

[jenn@bluebonnetequine.org](mailto:jenn@bluebonnetequine.org)  
734-434-9899

Regina Anderson  
Vice President

[rlanderson@austin.rr.com](mailto:rlanderson@austin.rr.com)  
512 398-5775 (emergencies only)

Loretta (Lacy) Pinnell  
Vice President – Equine Coordinator  
[lacy@bluebonnetequine.org](mailto:lacy@bluebonnetequine.org)  
281-369-0382 or 1-800-444-3067

Jodi Luecke  
Secretary  
[jodi@totalaccess.net](mailto:jodi@totalaccess.net)  
979-542-8408 (emergencies only)

Ari Pettigrew  
Treasurer  
[treasurer@bluebonnetequine.org](mailto:treasurer@bluebonnetequine.org)  
512-292-3050

Sharon Martin-Holm  
Texas Member Representative  
[leosharon@earthlink.net](mailto:leosharon@earthlink.net)  
903-736-1659

Tina Shalmy  
Arkansas Member Representative  
[shalmy@tds.net](mailto:shalmy@tds.net)  
870-325-7646, 870-543-9643

Cat Ballew  
Director  
[catballew@earthlink.net](mailto:catballew@earthlink.net)

Denise Crosthwait  
Director  
[dcrosthwait@sandersandwest.com](mailto:dcrosthwait@sandersandwest.com)

Marianne Skarpa  
Director  
[mtskar@yahoo.com](mailto:mtskar@yahoo.com)

Wendy Taylor  
Director  
[cowgirlwendy@gmail.com](mailto:cowgirlwendy@gmail.com)  
817-295-6026; cell 817-291-0307

Joanne Terry  
Director  
[jmterry468@msn.com](mailto:jmterry468@msn.com)  
(936) 499-6120 (emergencies only)

Spencer Williams  
Director  
[cowboyspencer@yahoo.com](mailto:cowboyspencer@yahoo.com)  
734-434-9899

## **Foster Homes Needed**

Within days of opening our doors to horses, it quickly became obvious that BEHS is greatly needed in the horse community. We've got a waiting list of horses needing to come into the rescue – but we don't have enough foster homes! We need kind people to open their hearts and homes to the horses of BEHS.

Currently, BEHS is unable to pay veterinary bills. However, once a foster horse is adopted out, BEHS will use his/her adoption fee to reimburse any pre-approved veterinary bills and after BEHS has several fundraisers, we'll be able to begin reimbursing veterinary bills.

If you are interested in learning more about fostering and taking an active roll in helping the needy horses, please contact Loretta at [lacy@bluebonnetequine.org](mailto:lacy@bluebonnetequine.org)

## **Golfing Fore Pets to Benefit BEHS**

Do you like to golf or know people who do? Then come out to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golfing Fore Pets Tournament and help BEHS! The tournament takes place September 27, 2005 in Austin, Texas with a 9:00 am shotgun start. The cost is \$100 per golfer with 4 golfers per team (Golfing Fore Pets can put together a team for you if you need!). Sponsorship packages start at \$100 for a hole sponsor and go up to \$2,500 for underwriting.

For more information, contact Golfing Fore Pets at 512-263-2900

## **Getting to Know Each Other**

This section will feature a bio on a different member of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society each month.

Jennifer Williams is the President of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society. She was born in Missouri and lived there until 1996 when she moved to Texas after graduating from Northeast Missouri State University.

Jennifer's horse experience started young – her dad inherited an ancient farm horse from his great uncle right before she was born. Jennifer says that she was actually scared of Buck for years – he was huge! When she turned ten, the horse bug “bit”. She would climb on Buck bareback with not even a halter on his head, and he would walk over to stand under a tree. She had no idea how to ride, so she just sat on his back happily dreaming about riding. Not long after the horse bug bit, her family moved into town and she got to start taking riding lessons. At the age of 13, she got her first horse – a mare named Buttercup who she inherited from her great uncle. Buttercup was an angel – she put up with Jennifer teaching her to line drive, trying out a saddleseat saddle and full bridle, and even pulling her brother through the snow on a sled tie by a rope to the saddle horse.

Since then, Jennifer has ridden saddleseat, western, huntseat, and sidesaddle. She and her Arabian gelding FS King Presley “Elvis” won the Arabian Horse Association's National Open Event Incentive Program's High Point Sidesaddle Award in 2004. She has two favorite horse show experience – showing Ibn Kochief, one of her all-time favorite horses, in Arabian Native Costume throughout Missouri and showing Elvis at Ride Aside! 2004 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

Jennifer currently has two horses – Elvis and an Egyptian Arabian gelding name Jawhari who she is showing huntseat and planning to eventually show dressage.

When asked what her favorite thing to do with her horses, Jennifer said, "I love spending time with them – grooming, cleaning stalls, or just sitting out holding their leadropes while they graze. I can't wait to have them at home with me where I can go out and spend time with them whenever I want!"

Jennifer has been involved in rescue for over six years. She helped found and ran Lone Star Equine Rescue for over 5 years before helping to form Bluebonnet Equine Humane society. She's fostered, helped with fundraising and PR, and written grants in the past. She loves to talk about rescue and enjoys meeting people at booths and fundraisers, and she loves fostering. She says she enjoys helping horses learn to trust again and help them to become riding horses and companions for their adopters.

In addition to working with BEHS, Jennifer is a freelance writer – writing primarily for EQUUS magazine. She's also been published in Young Rider, Chronicle of the Horse, Andalusian magazine, Flying Changes, and many local publications. She holds a MS and Ph.D from Texas A&M University in Animal Science and specializing in equine behavior, learning, and welfare.

## **Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society in the News**

<http://horseracingmagazine.com/managearticle.asp?C=361&A=12983>

[http://horsecity.com/stories/042905/hea\\_recur\\_PR.shtml](http://horsecity.com/stories/042905/hea_recur_PR.shtml)

<http://kaufmanzoning.net/horsemeat/Bloodhorse04192005.htm>

## **Recycle and Help BEHS**

BEHS is pleased to announce that we have signed up with both Rethink, Ink and GreenFund Network to recycle ink & toner cartridges and cell phones. Not only are we helping the environment but we get money for doing it!

Our partner code for GreenFund Network is BEHS-ATX--please mark your items accordingly before shipping. Rethink, Ink does not have a partner code but does recommend writing Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society in full name on each item.

Ari Pettigrew has mailing labels and boxes for Rethink, Ink. They prefer to get many items shipped at one time. She will be happy to send you a mailing label but it will be cost prohibitive to mail you an empty box, so feel free to recycle one of your own. If you're in the Austin area, Ari will be happy to meet up with you and pass along a box.

She also has GreenFund Network pre-paid shipping envelopes, so if you need one of them, please let her know and she'll mail it to you.

If you need supplies, or have questions, please contact Ari at [treasurer@bluebonnetequine.org](mailto:treasurer@bluebonnetequine.org)

