



The Bluebonnet Bulletin
www.bluebonnetequine.org

Bluebonnet Equine
 Humane Society

P.O. Box 4944
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Featured Horse



Beau is a pretty, chestnut 10-12 year old, grade gelding. Beau was removed from his owners due to neglect but has made a complete recovery. After court, his owner told a BEHS volunteer that Beau had been ridden in parade and on trail rides by children. His foster home has found him a little pushy under saddle and believes he would do best with an intermediate rider.

His former owner also informed the BEHS volunteer that Beau had had colic surgery at Texas A&M in 1999. At that time, he suffered

an injury to his jugular vein. Because of this injury, he cannot receive any injections into his left jugular. Otherwise, he appears to have no lingering affects.

Beau would love to find a permanent home where he could do some riding and hang out with his new human friends. He's located in Krum, Texas and his adoption fee is \$750.

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SPECIAL ALERT

We are pleased to announce that we have been granted 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service. All donations made from March 14, 2005 on are tax deductible.

SPECIAL ALERT – HURRICANE DISASTER RELIEF

Although thoughts of Hurricane Rita have begun to fade for many across the country, the storm and its devastation are still vivid for many east Texas horse owners. East Texas is home to many horses - expensive hunters and jumpers, highly tuned race horses, hard-working ranch horses, and beloved pleasure horses and pets. The area is still suffering the affects of Rita – but many horses and horse owners continue to go without help. They've lost their grain, hay supplies, beloved animals – and in some cases, they've lost their livelihood. While the country focuses on the victims of Hurricane Katrina many East Texans feel ignored.

So what can you do? Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society (BEHS) is setting up a supply drive. We're seeking donations of hay, grain, and other supplies to take to distribution points in East Texas. Affected farmers and ranchers can pick up supplies. By doing this, we hope to extend a helping hand so that these horse owners can regroup and get back on their feet.

We need:

- Hay
- Grain
- De-worming products
- Medications/vaccinations
- Halters, leads, buckets and other supplies
- Volunteers to work at distribution centers
- Volunteers to help transport items to the distribution centers

Please consider making a donation to BEHS or volunteering to participate in a convoy. **Donations are tax-deductible.** To offer assistance, please contact Mearl Taylor, Emergency Co-Coordinator, at cowboymearl@gmail.com or by calling 888 542 5163.

President's Letter

Hello! I hope you are all enjoying fall as much as I am. I love the warm temperatures and the cooler nights. I don't like that it gets dark so much earlier, but it just means I have to pack more fun stuff into my weekends when I can enjoy the daylight!

I also hope you all are enjoying being a part of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society. This organization was formed by a great group of people who were dedicated to giving horses a second chance – the abused, the neglected, the injured, and the unloved and unwanted. This is **your** rescue, and I know all of the officers, directors, and staff members would like

to see **you** take a more active roll in directing where the rescues goes. Whether you are new to the organization or have been around from day one – please jump in! Join the BluebonnetEquineRescue email list by sending an email to BluebonnetEquineRescue-subscribe@yahogroups.com and share your ideas. Do you know someplace where we can promote the rescue? Offer to help work a booth there to hand out information! Have a great idea for a fun fundraiser? Post it and we'll help you coordinate it! Do you have ideas of how we can promote our horses and find their forever homes? Please share it with us! We would like to hear from you – how can we make the rescue better? Through promotions, fundraising, and seeking new homes we can help even more horses in Texas and Arkansas.

Please, let us hear from you – help us help these beautiful creatures who need us!

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 – www.bluebonnetequine.org

Blue Ribbon Supporters

Aubrey Angel
Jodi Luecke
Joyita Sanders

Country Supply
D. McCreary-Matthews
Heather Reeves

Kelly Kurtz
Paula Parr
Sally and Greg Valk

Medalist Supporters

Commons Equestrian Association

Sylvia and Leland Chase-Meadows

Champion Supporters

Lifesavers Wild Horse Rescue

Welcome to Our New Members

Linda and Greg
Bronson
Kathleen Hewett
Michelle Stubbs

The Cooney Family

Bill Decker

Allison Griggs

Debbie Highfill

Rosemarie Kennedy

April Parks

Thank You to Our Lifetime Member

Cat Ballew

Election Time – Nominees Welcome

Can you all believe how far we've come in a few short months?! I can't—it seems like just yesterday we were selecting a name, discussing bylaws, and nominating our first set of officers, directors, and member representatives. And now, we're already ready for another election.

If you would like to review exactly how this process works, please review the bylaws at <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/about/mission.htm>

The following terms will expire on March 15, 2006. People may be re-elected for these terms indefinitely.

President - Jennifer Williams

Secretary - Jodi Luecke

Texas Member Representative - Sharon Martin-Holm

Class A Director - Denise Crosthwait

Class A Director - Spencer Williams

Class B Director - Wendy Taylor

The Texas Member Representative and both Class A directors will be voted on during the annual members meeting held the third Saturday of February. Location and more information on this meeting will be available in the next newsletter. All nominations for these positions must be in by December 1.

The President, Secretary, and Class B director will be voted on during the directors meeting on the 2nd Saturday in January. All nominations for these positions must be in by November 1.

Any member may nominate someone for a position. All nominees must have been paid members for at least 6 months prior to assuming their position and will assume positions on March 15 2006. The directors will review all nominees to ensure that they meet any minimum requirements for their positions.

All nominations must be either e-mailed to me at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org or be mailed to BEHS, PO Box 4944, College Station, Texas 77844-4944.

Ways to Help BEHS

Become a Bluebonnet Supporter

The equines of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society need your support!

Contribute to the rescue at

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_xclick&business=info%40bluebonnetequine%2eorg&item_name=BEHS%20Newsletter%20Donation&no_shipping=0&no_note=1&tax=0¤cy_code=USD&charset=UTF%2d8&charset=UTF%2d8

Or by sending a donation 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.

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 veterinary offices and ask if you can put out a donation jar. We've seen donation jars for rescues at grocery stores, gift shops, and even at Dairy Queen! Let's 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.

Raise Money 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 receive a portion of what you spend.

Raise Funds for BEHS While Enjoying Free Pizza

Looking for an easy way to help us raise money? Do you like pizza? Here's a great way to combine these!

BEHS is pleased to partner with Domino's pizza in a fun and tasty fundraising effort. For only \$10, you can purchase a card to use at participating Dominos that will give you 1 medium pizza when you buy 1 large pizza. Better yet, this 2 for 1 offer is good for up to 20 separate times over the next 12 months. Not sure you want to eat that much pizza yourself? You can still help! You can pay a \$3 deposit per pizza card and then re-sell them to your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, etc. Once you collect payment, send the remaining \$7 per pizza card on to BEHS.

Please contact Ari Pettigrew to order cards or to receive information on how to sell cards to your friends and family to help BEHS raise much needed funds.
treasurer@bluebonnetequine.org or (888) 542 5163.

Recycle and Help BEHS

BEHS is pleased to announce that we have signed up with both Rethink, Ink and GreenFund Network to recycle ink and toner cartridges as well as cell phones. Not only are we helping the environment, but we earn 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 receive many items shipped at one time. Ari 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 those, 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

Buy Air Fresheners and Support BEHS

DD Steele is an Ecoquest dealer. She has a selection of quality air and water purification products. She'll make a contribution to BEHS for any referral that results in a sale. Contact DD at deedee@damonsteele.com for more information.

Volunteer Positions Available – Help us Help the Horses

Volunteer Positions

Would you like to get more involved in BEHS? We currently have several volunteer positions available – join us in making a difference in the lives of horses and other equines around the world! If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Jennifer Williams at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org or call BEHS at (888) 542 5163 to request a copy of the job description.

Assistant Newsletter Editor – Responsible for gathering information for the BEHS newsletter. Will need to solicit articles, read email list to gather information for the newsletter, and write articles.

Donation Committee Chairperson – Responsible for seeking donations for BEHS, managing the donor recognition program, and organizing and managing committee members.

Music Festival Committee Chairperson – Responsible for putting together and organizing a music festival as a fundraiser for BEHS.

Nominating Committee Chairperson – Responsible for running the nominating committee, seeking nominations for officer and director positions, and researching the candidates.

Resource Development Committee Chairperson – Responsible for managing the Resource Development Committee and volunteers. The committee will seek to develop relationships with corporations in order to secure donations of hay, grain, and other resources.

Fundraisers Needed!

Regina Anderson needs you! She is in charge of the Fundraising Committee, and she needs your ideas, talent, and time to put into some great fundraisers to help bring in the funds for BEHS. More funds generated = more horses helped. Please send Regina an email to randerson@austin.rr.com to learn how to join the Fundraising Committee.

Foster Homes Needed

We are now able to conservatively reimburse for vet bills. This means that we'll reimburse for pre-approved vaccinations, teeth floating, and castration, but may need to arrange a payment plan or delay reimbursement on larger veterinary bills based on our finances.

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.

Booths Volunteers Needed

Booths are a great way to spread the word about BEHS, recruit new members and foster homes, and sell BEHS products. But we need your help to staff these booths. Please email Wendy Taylor at cowgirlwendy@gmail.com if you can help out or if you know of a booth opportunity.

Upcoming Events

Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society First Annual Virtual Horse Show – November 1-30, 2005

Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society (BEHS) is trying a new twist on the horse show concept - a Virtual Horse Show! You don't have to get up early, clip your horses, or stand in long lines to use port-a-johns or register for classes. Instead, submit photos of your horses, sit back, and watch the show on-line!

<http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/virtualshow/>

Entries accepted: Until November 15, 2005

Voting/judging: November 16 - November 30, 2005

Winners announced: December 1-5th, 2005

Entry fee: \$5/photo (each photo may be entered in one class) or unlimited entries for \$70.

Prizes: Rosettes awarded to 1st-5th place. The high point horse will win a High Point Award (TBA).

Entries must be emailed to jenn@bluebonnetequine.org. Please send one photo per email. Include the horse's name, sex, breed, and age and the owner's name. The person entering the photo must own the horse or include permission from the horse's owner. For horses in the rescue class, please include the name of the rescue the horse was adopted from or is being fostered for. You may also include the rescue's URL.

Proceeds from this show will be used to benefit the horses, mules, and donkeys of BEHS. You can learn more about BEHS and our animals at www.bluebonnetequine.org

Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society Open Show in Azle, Texas – November 19, 2005

This show was postponed due to Hurricane Rita. The show has classes for beginners through advanced riders and even special classes for rescue horses. We need volunteers as well as attendees! Visit <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/news/sept24show.htm> or email info@bluebonnetequine.org to learn more.

Playday to Benefit Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society – December 3, 2005

Sponsored by Southern Texas Playday Association – Raindate December 17th
Friendswood Arena, Friendswood, Texas

Books close at 4:30; Exhibition/Playday starts 5pm
All-around Large Rosettes to 4 age groups to sixth place.
Age groups: 9 & under, 10-13, 14-18, 19 & over.
4 events: poles, straights, cloverleaf & a mystery event.
Fees: volunteer arena helpers = \$5 per event; non-helpers = \$8 per event;
Exhibition before each age/event & includes lead-line =
\$3 per run for playday contestants; \$5 per run for non-competitors.
5-DOLLAR SPEED RACE (last event): Half of the pot will go to ONE winner =
No age groups. Contestants can enter more than once.
The arena is not covered & is a "closed gate" arena
FMI: Marietta Benson, playday@pdg.net (281) 369-2375
<http://www.angelfire.com/tx/southerntexasplayday>
or <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org>

Members Holiday Get Together and Trail Ride – December 17th – Neiderwald, Texas

Regina and Courtney Anderson will host their annual Christmas party – with an additional fundraising trail ride!

If you want to trail ride, bring your horses and \$10.00 per rider as a BEHS donation, this of course is optional. If you are planning on riding - arrive around 1 p.m. and we will trail ride on Regina's neighbors property for an hour or so starting around 2:00 p.m. - until 3:00 or 3:30. Don't forget your coggins papers – no horses will be allowed on the property without them!

We will eat around 5:30 and this gives every one time to visit and if you need to get back on the road, you'll have time before it gets really late.

For those wanting to spend the night, Regina has lots of floor space or tent camping in the yard. If you want to spend the night nearby in a motel let Regina know and She will give you some addresses, or maybe more of the local Austin area people attending will offer overnight space.

Regina asks that if anyone has some extra dead broke horses and tack for others (Regina, her daughter's friend, and her 2 neighbors who are letting us ride on their property and want to be included in the ride - please let her know.)

What to bring:

- YOU and family members, the kiddos are invited too.
- Horses, extra horses and \$10.00 if you are going on the trail ride and coggins papers
- This year is going to be an old fashioned "pot luck" so bring your favorite Casserole, Vegetable Dish, Salad, Appetizer, Dessert, Meat dish, pasta dish, bread/rolls, and BYOB but just enough for your family - a little from everyone will go a VERY LONG WAY - we have always had too many left overs. Please let Regina know what you are thinking about bringing so we don't have 40 chocolate somethings - hmmm not as though that would be a bad thing, but you get the idea.

Location: 311 Martin Church Road, Niederwald, Texas 78640 - this will map out on Mapquest but if you need additional directions let me know.

Hope to see you next month, e-mail Regina to RSVP or with any questions.
rlanderson@austin.rr.com

Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society Out and About

Members Halloween Get-Together – Rosharon, Texas – October 29, 2005



Saturday, October 29, 2005, was the fun Halloween get together at Ralph and Loretta Pinnell's house in Rosharon. It was a small crowd, new members the Cooney family and Julie Bradley, Jennifer and Spencer Williams, and Ralph and Loretta Pinnell, but fun nonetheless. In honor of welcoming Jenn and Spence back home to Texas, we had a Mexican theme on food and plenty of it to eat and eat and eat. Ralph came up with some horsey games to play and we had a lot of fun trying to figure out the most simple answers he was looking for. Spencer and Ralph gave us a few tunes on the guitar and Loretta tried to follow along on the bass on a few of the tunes. Spence delighted the crowd again and again with his "Rescue Husband Blues".

I don't think we will ever get tired of that song Spence.

Although it was a Halloween party and people could come dressed in costume if they wished, only the two smallest newest members decided to dress up. Jordan (7 months) and Lucas (3 years) Cooney donned their cute Halloween Costumes and pleased us all.

All month long Loretta had been giving teasers to the membership on the guest appearance of a member at the get together. We had a lot of fun trying to figure out who it could be. We had two people guess who it was. Kristy Deslatte was the first and although she was not present at the party, she did get a prize for guessing the right name. Also



Spencer Williams tried his hand at guessing and was correct, so he also got a prize and he was present to win it. Although she was a little late, our surprise guest arrived and it was Debra Barlow with Hopeful Haven. We were so delighted to see her as she had been busy all day taking care of horses needs. She took enough time out to come and enjoy the friendship and food. Also we had Sherry Coleman, the animal control officer in Pearland, and a friend with a trailer load of food to transfer over to Debra's trailer for her to deliver to the horses in need.

So, for those that couldn't make the party, we missed you and you missed a Texas good time.

Above photos: Ralph and Loretta's grandsons were adorable in their Halloween costumes!

Left: Deb Barlow, President of Hopeful Haven Equine Rescue Organization (left) and Jenn Williams, President of BEHS (right)



1st Annual Southern Horse Expo - Warren, Arkansas - Nov. 4th & 5th, 2005

Tina Shalmy and Kenna Graves participated in the 1st annual southern horse expo held in Warren Ar Nov. 4th & 5th. They participated in the parade throwing candy and advertising BEHS and had a booth both days. They sold a couple of Koozies and gave out several membership packs and tri-fold brochures while getting a little donation money.

Contest Time!

Member/Foster/Adopter Drive

In just seven short months, we've taken in over 53 equines and have more waiting to come to us. I'm proud of our growth, but we need more volunteers, fosters, and adopters to help the organization grow so we can assist more animals. The Board of Directors would like to reward those who help the rescue grow, so we've created a Member/Foster/Adopter Drive.

The rules – points will be awarded for the following:

- Each new member recruited: 1 point
- Each new foster home recruited: 2 points per horse they can foster at one time (so if they can foster 3 horses, you get 6 points)
- Each new adoptive home recruited: 2 points per horse/equine they adopt
- Each booth organized: 5 points
- Each newspaper ad run: 5 points

The person with the most points each month will get a BEHS prize – a t-shirt, ballcap, or other BEHS merchandise. You can win more than one month.

The year-end award winner is going to get at least a \$50 gift certificate to a tack store (I just don't know which yet).

So let's kick this contest off, please! Email me off list at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org if you have activities to report.

Winners as of October 1, 2005:

Pre-July winners: Tie: Barbara Lucas, Cindy Fanning, and Tina Shalmy
July winner: Tina Shalmy
August winner: Wendy Taylor
September winner: Tina Shalmy
October winner: Wendy Taylor

Overall leader: Tina Shalmy

Please help us make this great by recruiting members, foster homes, and adopters and putting on booths or running newspaper ads. If you have activities to report, please email me at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org.

Fundraising Contest

Fundraising is a big issue we're facing in BEHS—we already have several horses who are needing us, and we need to get the funds in to pay the vet bills, costs of seizures, and other expenses. To help make fundraising more fun and rewarding, we are holding a fundraising contest.

The following will count towards the fundraising contest:

- Benefits
- Fundraisers
- Donations
- Sponsorships

The person who raises the most throughout the year will receive a \$100 gift certificate to a tack store. I am going to see about putting together monthly prizes, too. (Suggestions welcome).

If you get donations or sponsorships for BEHS, email me at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org so I can record it.

So far, our leaders are Ralph and Loretta Pinnell with a little over \$2800 raised by their benefit! Woo hoo!

The Horses of BEHS

Newest Equines

Brown Sugar is a 19-year-old Rocky Mountain Cross gelding. He is chocolate with a flaxen mane and tail, a small white blaze and two white spots on back, possibly from saddle sores. He was donated by his owner because of lameness in front feet. He had originally been a 13-year-old girls horse and used for trail rides. He is currently being evaluated to see the extent of his lameness.

Faeden is a 4-year-old Grade mare. She was a personal rescue from a feedlot and a yearling and after three years was donated to BEHS by her owner. She is sorrel with a faint strip and snip and two white socks. Faeden has received 60 days training being started under saddle last winter but has only been ridden a couple of times since. Faeden is an intelligent, strong willed and sometimes dominant mare. With the donors loving hands, Faeden is a beautiful healthy girl and should go up for adoption soon.

Topaz is a 4 year old Grulla Filly. She was donated to BEHS by members that purchased her at auction. Topaz was reportedly started under saddle (but not ridden in the ring) She is a little ribby and hippy and needs her feet trimmed. She is about 13.3 to 14hh, so is a large pony size. She follows her foster Mom around like a puppy already.

Patriot is an 8 year old Bay gelding. He was donated to BEHS by members that purchased him at auction. He has a long snarled mane and a bobbed tail (probably was equally long and snarled) who was ridden in the ring, but froze up due to either inexperience or fear. He is about 13.3 to 14hh, so is a large pony size. He is a little standoffish right now unless food is involved, but his foster home will work with him on this.

Equines Available for Adoption

Phoenix is a beautiful, 4 year old, Arabian (or Arabian cross) gelding. Phoenix was donated when his elderly owner could not keep him. He's been badly abused and has suffered an injury to the front left fetlock. A veterinary exam revealed arthritis in that fetlock, so Phoenix will be available as a pet/companion only (no riding). Due to the abuse he had suffered, Phoenix will need an adopter who is willing to gain his trust. Located in Gladewater Tx. Adoption fee \$100

Jake is an 11 year old, sorrel, grade Quarter Horse gelding. Prior to being donated to BEHS, Jake suffered an injury thanks to a barbed wire fence. It has left him unridable – but he'll make a great pet/companion for some lucky family! Although he's leery with new people, once he warms up to you, he's a sweet horse. Located in Lorena, Tx. Adoption fee \$100

Crimson is a 21-year-old possible Thoroughbred or Standard bred cross gelding. He was placed with BEHS by another rescue organization that had an overflow of horses. He suffers from DSLD and is not rideable. He's a sweet horse who gets along great with others – so he would make an excellent companion or pet for a lucky adopter! Located in Gladewater, Tx. Adoption fee \$100

Fandango is an approximately 6 year old, bay Arabian (or Arabian cross) gelding. He was seized after he had gone without water for days, but he's made a great recovery and is now looking for an adoptive home. Fandango is broke to ride and on a recent trail ride, he was an unflappable gentleman - one of the best horses on the ride! He loves attention and is a curious horse, and he would be a great best pal and riding buddy. Located in Smithville, Tx. Adoption fee \$750

Miss Priss is the cutest weanling Arabian or Arabian cross filly. She was removed from a neglectful home after going for days without water, but she's recovering nicely. She's a smart girl who learns quickly, and she's sweet and friendly. Located in Lorena, Tx. Adoption fee \$350

Shasta is a 1988 gray Quarter Horse mare. She was purchased by her donor as a companion to her other horses, but they decided to donate her to BEHS because she was not being ridden. She's not been ridden much in the past several years, but she recently went trail riding and was wonderful. Her foster home has ridden her bareback with a halter and a lead rope, and she did great. She is a bit rusty, so she would do best with an intermediate rider or a novice who is working with an instructor. In April of this year, a veterinarian discovered masses in her abdomen that may be melanomas. They do not seem to bother her. Located in Round Top, Tx. Adoption fee \$800

Handsome is a 1990 Sorrel Saddlebred Cross gelding. He was surrendered to the Sheriff's department and turned over to BEHS in lieu of seizure and charges filed against the owner. He has a loving personality. He enjoys attention and is very curious and alert. He is a big beautiful guy with lots of flash and chrome. Handsome is broke to ride. We believe he was ridden English with open reining or maybe saddle seat. He does not neck rein but willing to try new things. He will stretch out on command so it is possible that he has been shown. Handsome would make a great pleasure horse. Located in Rison, Ar. Adoption fee \$1,000

Lovey is a 1986 Flea bitten gray Arabian Cross mare. She was surrendered to the Sheriff's department and turned over to BEHS in lieu of seizure and charges filed against the owner. She

has a loving personality and is very laid back. She comes quickly when called and very easy to handle. Lovey has great ground manners and is willing to do anything asked of her. She is broke to ride and after some evaluation, we have discovered that she is great with kids. She will make a great trail horse for an advanced beginner rider. Lovey will also stretch out and it is possible that she had been shown in the past. Located in Pine Bluff, Ar. Adoption fee \$550

Sierra is a 1990 to 1995 Grade Quarter Horse mare. She was donated to BEHS from an equine rescue in Louisiana to move her to a different climate. She has COPD (heaves) and the southern climate was making her very sick. She is taking medication for the COPD and is in northern Texas and doing very well. She is very well mannered and calm. Although she is still being evaluated it does appear that she might be able to be slightly rideable. Because of her COPD she will not be able to be ridden hard or too often. If kept at a walk for short periods of time, she should be OK with her COPD. Sierra is a very stout QH red dun and is very pretty. Located in Krum, Tx. Adoption fee \$200

Roy is a registered 1995 Gray Arabian gelding. He was donated to BEHS because of Hurricane Katrina. He was located in Mississippi. He has severe COPD (heaves) and the owner felt like the only choice she had was to donate him to move him to a different climate, or he would have had to be put down. Roy has a lot of personality and is very high-spirited. He was used as a pleasure horse and his previous owner rode him around their farm and on trail rides until 3 years ago when he developed severe COPD that was caused by allergies. He will be able to be ridden lightly in good weather. If it is too hot, he coughs. Roy “dances in place” when standing in one spot for too long and will need to be ridden by an experienced handler to keep him in check so he does not exert himself too much. Located in Krum, Tx. Adoption fee \$200

Sundancer (Sunny) is a 1981 Grade Quarter Horse Mare. She is pretty flashy with her sorrel coloring, flaxen mane, white blaze and two white socks. She was donated to BEHS when her owner could no longer care for her properly. Sunny is not your typical senior, she neither looks nor acts the part. She is already ready to go for a ride. She has been ridden Western in her foster home and is a wonderful mount. Sunny also will stretch out on command, so she may have been shown in her past. She can be ridden by an intermediate or novice rider with a trainer because of her dominance to other horses. Located in Rosharon, Tx. Adoption fee \$400

Congratulations to These Adopted Horses

Zeus is a 9-year-old Quarter Horse gelding. He was donated by his owner when she could no longer give him the care he needs. He has an awesome temperament. He has been around children and has been a child’s mount. One of BEHS newest foster homes just fell in love with Zeus when they visited his foster home. They rode him for the first time and he was the perfect gentleman. He has his own new home with his own private pond that will help his anhydrosis in the hot humid days of the summer. Congrats to Zeus and his new adoptive family the Chase-Meadows.

Old and New Faces

This section will feature a bio on an ‘old’ face around BEHS each month as well as one of our new members. If you would like to have your bio included, please contact Jenn at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org

Tina Shalmy

Tina Shalmy is the Arkansas Member Representative. She grew up in Houston and wished for a horse on every birthday before blowing out the candles. Tina would ride any

chance she got until finally at 14 her parents took pity and got her Charlie. They went on trail rides mostly and did a little barrel racing and poles.

When Tina and her parents moved to Arkansas they had to sell Charlie and she didn't get another horse until her 2 children were teenagers 20 years later. Tina got Jessie and didn't know then that he was just a small start of things to come.

She discovered rescue when looking for another horse for her kids to learn on and has been active in horse rescue ever since. Tina has had several rescued horses come through her life and wouldn't trade a minute of each hour spent with them. She has also gotten involved with wild horse training and is a level I trainer/mentor for mustangs.

Tina, her husband John, and children, Anthony and Jennifer live in Rison, Arkansas with their horses, miniature donkey, 2 fosters, dogs, cat and parrot. Tina's job has recently transferred her to a different part of the state and she is looking forward to spreading the word of BEHS to new people and recruiting members.

October Financials

For September

Income: \$3,684.99

Expenses: \$3,601.24

Net Income: \$ 83.75

You can see a detailed report on our website at
www.bluebonnetequine.org.

Account balance: \$6,999.66

Members Corner

The Members Corner is a new column for the Bluebonnet Bulletin. Share your stories, poems, photos, or drawings about your horses or BEHS horses. Submissions can be sent to jenn@bluebonnetequine.org.

Rescue Horse Run Free (or A Day in the Life)

Joanne Terry

As narrated by my two pasture ornaments, Junk Yard Bob and Spirit:

Spirit: Look, there's Mom.

JY Bob: Maybe she's going to let us out to eat grass in the yard.

Spirit: I dunno. She's still pretty mad after you ate all the cat food last week, Bob.

JY Bob: Stupid cats, they should never have ratted on me.

Spirit: Well Mom caught you red-hoofed on the porch with your head in the garbage can.

JY Bob: Stupid cats. Look, Mom has a halter and lead rope over her shoulder. Red alert, Spirit! They'll never take me alive. We must run long and far. Run like the wind, Spirit!

Spirit: (whining) But I don't want to run. Look Bob, Mom has treats. Maybe she is going to groom us or give us a nice bath.

JY Bob: Don't be such a sap. My x-ray eyes can see the wormer she has hidden in her pocket. We must run now, Spirit!

Spirit: I don't see any pockets. Besides, doesn't your knee hurt? And it's hard for me to run with these legs. Look, Mom has her camera. She says she wants to take pictures of us for the rescue's photo contest.

JY Bob: Shut up and run, kid. That camera is really wormer in disguise.

Spirit: OK. Can I buck, too?

JY Bob: Wait until you're really close to her, then buck. I think she's hiding the farrier behind a tree. He'll never catch me again.

(flash to one 27 year old paint horse with blown front knee galloping determinedly around the pasture, followed by younger orthopedically-challenged sorrel horse trying to gallop, alternating with a crow hop every few feet)

Spirit: (huff puff) Can we stop now? Look, Mom is laughing.

JY Bob: Let's stop behind this tree. She can't see us here. When I say "go" you run to the left and I will run to the right. We'll cross right in front of her and buck at the same time.

Spirit: Oops, I think we made Mom mad again, Bob. Did you see how far she threw that halter? What did she say when we almost ran her over?

JY Bob: She called me an old fart and I think she called you a little s**t. She just wants to give me more bute so the farrier can leap out from behind the tree and torture me.

Spirit: I just heard her say she was cutting back on our joint supplement. Or did she say she was going to start taking it instead? She WAS pretty mad when she gave you bute before the farrier came last week, so you would be comfortable, and instead you made him chase you around the pasture for 30 minutes.

JY Bob: (wheezing) He never did catch me, did he. Hehe. That bute really worked great. OK, we can stop now. She's gone back into the house.

Spirit: Look. Mom is coming out again!

JY Bob: We're safe, kid. She has a glass of wine instead of a halter. See how many more gray hairs we gave her today? Good job, kid. Let's go stand by our buckets and wait for dinner.

Fundraising Begins at Home (or in the barn!)

Joanne Terry
Directors

Fundraising is an essential component of the activities of any non-profit organization. Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society is no exception to this. I am preparing the fundraising plan for 2006 and I am asking for the help of our members.

There are some simple things each of you can do. First, think about who in your community might be interested in the mission of Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society who might make a major donation to the organization. Anyone who might be supportive of BEH's goals, but not necessarily an active member, is a candidate for a face-to-face visit to ask for a major contribution.

Second, think about opportunities to present information about BEHS. Are there local equine groups in your area which would be interested in a short presentation by a BEHS member? Are there booth opportunities in your area? Let us know about upcoming events in your area. If you do not want to be the speaker, let us know and we will try to get someone to be the speaker. We have supplies which can be sent to you for a booth, and we can recruit volunteers to help.

Third, please print the list of available horses and take with you to the feed store, the tack store, and the vet clinic. Ask if they will post this list for others to see. Don't forget to ask if they will allow a donation jar to be left on the counter.

Fourth, ASK. Ask your fellow equine friends for their help and donations. Not everyone can make the commitment to become a member or to foster, but nearly everyone has the capacity to help with a donation, no matter how small. And if you are a good customer of a business, ask them if they will donate or sponsor an event.

Fifth, think about special skills you may have, and the place you work, which can also help generate additional resources. A member who works for a large company may be able to get the company to donate copying of brochures or flyers, for example. If someone is employed at a grocery store, donations of food for event with concessions might be possible. Some companies prefer to make donations to non-profit organizations in which their employees are active. Check out what contributions of cash, goods or services might be available at your workplace.

If you have a special talent perhaps you can make a special contribution. For example, a member who makes quilts could donate one for an auction.

Last, THANK YOU. I thank each and every one of you who have helped BEHS. You are our biggest supporters, and your continued help and support will help us continue to help the horses, donkeys and mules in need.

The Color Corner

The Color Corner Column is a new addition to the Bluebonnet Bulletin. This column will discuss interesting color patterns and coat color genetics. If you have suggestions or submissions, please contact Sharon at leossharon@earthlink.net.

Sharon Martin-Holm
Director

This month we're covering the basics...black, bay and chestnut (to be used interchangeably with "sorrel"). How every horse is one of these "base colors" and what the basic genetics are....such as "Why will I never get a bay foal from a Chestnut X Chestnut cross?"

"Chestnut" will be used interchangeably with "sorrel" because genetically they are the same. The shade of red is controlled by a different gene that you can think of as a dimmer switch; but the lightest yellow-red "sorrel" has the same basic gene form as the deepest liver chestnut.

So....here goes the geek stuff first. Try to bear with me and it will be worth it! A **chromosome** is a strand of genetic material. A **gene** is a little piece of that chromosome that controls one specific function. Each chromosome has tons of genes...picture a string of beads, where the whole strand is a chromosome and each bead is a gene.

Chromosomes come in matched pairs; therefore each gene has a "mate" on the other strand. These paired genes are called **alleles** and this is where it really gets neat. The alleles are given names and letter designations to help us visualize how they work.

There are two specific gene sites that control the basic color of the horse. They are:
-The **Extension** gene. This gives us red vs. black. Since red is recessive to black, red is designated **e** and black is designated **E**. Remember, each gene has 2 alleles, so each horse will be **ee**, **Ee** or **EE**. A horse that has **ee** means he has two "red" alleles and therefore will be chestnut. A horse that has **EE** means he has 2 "black" alleles and therefore will be black. This is called "**homozygous**" when both alleles at a site are the same. A horse that has **Ee** means he has one copy of "red" and one copy of "black". Black trumps red, so the horse will be black. This is called "**heterozygous**" when the alleles at a site are different.

-The **Agouti** gene. This controls if a horse will be black or bay. This gene does not affect the color of an **ee** "red" horse. It's affect will only be seen in a horse that has at least one "black" allele: **Ee** or **EE**.

The Agouti is abbreviated **A** (the dominant version) or **a** (the recessive version). **A** restricts the black color to the points of the horse: the mane, tail, lower legs and ear tips (a bay horse). **a** allows the black color over the entire body (a black horse). So, remember again that each horse has 2 alleles at this gene site, so each horse will be **aa**, **aA** or **AA**. The **aa** horse means he has two "all over black" genes so he will be black. The **AA** horse has two "black points only" genes so he will be bay. Those are your homozygotes again. The **Aa** horse has one copy of "black points only" and one copy of "all over black"...so remember that **A** trumps **a**. So this will be a bay that is heterozygous.

Each horse has a set of Extension genes and a set of Agouti genes. Here are the resulting colors for each combination:

ee/aa and **ee/Aa** and **ee/AA** will all be chestnut horses since the Agouti does not affect red; only black pigment.

Ee/aa is a black horse with "black all over". Therefore a solid black horse.

EE/aa is the same. One copy of **E** is enough to give you black instead of red...but 2 copies of **a** are necessary to let the black be "all over" and not "points only."

EE/AA is a black horse with "points only are black". Therefore a bay.

Ee/AA is the same.

So are: **EE/Aa** and **Ee/Aa**.

So, a bay horse can have any of these combinations. The only way to know which combination he/she has is by following the colors of the foals, or by genetic testing.

When two horses are bred, each horse gives one of his/her alleles from each gene site. Those are put together in the new baby to make a new combination and keep us all on our toes at foaling time. The only combination that you know will always happen no matter what is that 2 chestnuts bred together will always give you chestnut. This is because the mare and stallion both have **ee** (and it doesn't matter what the Agouti is because it doesn't show up on red horses) so the baby will always be **ee**.

Let's take two black horses. We know that they will be **aa**. But unless they are tested ahead of time, we don't know if they are **Ee** or **EE**. So let's pretend that the mare is **Ee** and the stallion is **EE**. The mare can either pass on **E** or **e**; but the stallion will always contribute **E**. Whether the mare give **E** or **e** to the foal is a 50:50 flip of the coin. Half the foals will get **E**; half will get **e**. However in the scene it doesn't matter; the end result is all black foals. The stallion's **E** combined with the mare's **E** gives **EE** or the stallion's **E** combines with the mare's **e** to give **Ee**. So all foals will be **Ee/aa** or **EE/aa**. All black.

Let's make it even more confusing: let the black mare and black stallion both be **Ee/aa**. So again, all the babies will be **aa**. However, now the stallion can give an **E** or **e** and the mare can give an **E** or **e**. Each time it's a flip of the coin, so the combinations will be: **EE/aa** (25 percent) **Ee/aa** (50 percent) or **ee/aa** (25 percent). That means 25 percent of this pair's foals will be chestnut (**ee/aa**) and not black. Surprise!

We won't go into the details of crossing bay horses since we're running out of space. Suffice it to say the combination possibilities are extensive. For instance, if you cross 2 bay horses that are each **Ee/Aa**, your possible babies can be black, chestnut or bay. If you really want to see it spelled out how this is figured, you'll have to email me privately: leosharon@earthlink.net

Next month we'll look at how the dilution genes pretty-up the base colors and turn bays into buckskins and chestnuts into palominos.

The Annual Members Meeting

Its time to start thinking about the annual membership meeting! Since we are all so spread out, I know that no one location is great for everyone. We're going to use a different location each year to give more members a chance to participate over the long run.

For 2006, our annual members meeting will be Saturday, February 18 in Lorena, Texas at 1:00pm. We will have elections for director positions and the Texas State Representative

position and we will discuss fundraising. I'm also taking submissions/ideas for topics to add to the agenda.

We would like our members to RSVP so we can reserve a room if we need to (depending on the number of people attending, this meeting may be held at Cat's house - thank you Cat!). We'll include lunch – and we're deciding now whether it will be catered or a pot luck. I'll let all attendees know around the first of February what we've decided on. We'll be sure to reserve to socialize after the meeting.

We'll have directors votes at the meeting and will discuss the fundraising plan, membership drive, and 2006 budget. You can RSVP by sending an email to jenn@bluebonnetequine.org. We hope to see you all there!

Fostering and Adopting Fun

The Fostering and Adoption Fun column is a new column dedicated to the foster homes and adoptive homes of BEHS. Have an update on your fostered or adopted equine? Share it here! Email your stories to Jenn at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org.



Dream Girl
Wendy Taylor, Director

Many of you know about our orphan filly Dream Girl aka DG. She was donated to our rescue as the lady wanted her show mare back on the circuit who was bred by accident at the trainers. DG was to have been euthanized at birth, but the facility she had her at to be foaled out would not do that. They told her that they would help to place the foal, but euthanasia was not an option.

A notice was placed at a local vet clinic and a lady who has worked with our rescue in the past contacted me and asked if we could help this foal. I asked what the situation was and we jumped right in. DG was born on April 23rd and we were contacted that she had arrived. We contacted the vet to do an exam to ensure all was fine with both mare & baby. The owner said that we were welcome to go and see her but that she had not will to see her. She was just beautiful.

Her dam is a gray TB and about 16.2-16.3hh. We do not know what the sire was, but from her build we are going with QH.

We picked DG up at 10 days old and the struggle was on from there. She refused to drink her Foal-Lac in any way we offered it to her. Mearl, my husband, would sit in her stall and feed her with a turkey baster just barely filling her bottom lip and letting her swallow on her own. She made 2 trips to the vet to get IV fluids as she was so weak. We also hauled her to Mineral Wells to a lady who offered her mares as nurse mares, who rejected poor DG. When we were on our way home Mearl suggested just offering her grain. I was a little worried about that, but we did it. With our mini's the foals eat at the grain while with mom anyways. We could not have beat that girl out of the bucket if we had tried. I contacted the

vet and he said to go with it. He suggested adding foal-lac pellets too. We did and she has gotten stronger everyday. She is on Equine Junior now and loves to eat!

Attached you will find a picture of DG taken on Saturday evening. She came home on Saturday morning after being at the vet for her hernia surgery. I will try to get a good picture of her up, here she was pooped out and did not want to get up. She now weighs in at 384 pounds!

We are hand walking her 2x day and she is full of it! She must remain on stall rest for 7-10 days.

Classified Ads

Classified advertising is available to our members free of charge. Larger ads are available to members and non-members for a fee. See <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/about/advertising.htm> or email info@bluebonnetequine.org for more information.

For Sale: 9 year old AQHA sorrel gelding, \$2300. Excellent trail riding mount, gentle & quiet, for an advanced beginner. Too many horses & must thin the herd. Carrie Isaacks 281-933-1396 or kemcarrie@yahoo.com

AlliRetG Photography. Portrait, Landscape, Animal, Special Events, Weddings. Now offering prints for sale as a great gift giving idea! Serving the Tarrant/Johnson/Parker County areas! Alliretg@aol.com. Please feel free to contact me and discuss your photograpic needs!

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