



Welcome to the Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society Newsletter

A Note from Your Editor

Hello and hola from Dallas, Texas!

I have stepped into the role of editor and welcome any information or new ideas for the newsletter. I decided to use my Cherry Baby as the "Horse of Course" so you will know how I came to know BEHS.

*Jayne Rogers
Newsletter Editor*

Welcome New Members

Sylvia Morgan	Javier Chavez
Cindy Slomchinski	Nancy Kinney
Helen Mosser	Debra Ferris
Patricia Radke	Margo Kinney
Valerie Ryan	Lynn Zito
Tayna Wynne	

Thank you to our Lifetime Members!

Cat Ballew	Jan Loveless	Catrina Swenson
Jennifer Williams	Spencer Williams	



Annual Bluebonnet Members Meeting

It is almost time for the annual membership meeting - it's a great time to get more involved and help make BEHS the best rescue in the world! And when we're the best - we can help even more needy horses!

Date: February 16, 2008

Time: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Regina Anderson's house - Niederwald, Texas

Details: The meeting will include a pot-luck lunch. We'll talk about the 2008 fundraising plan, our goals for 2008, plans for marketing and promoting our horses and the organization in 2008 and more. Be ready to come and help us make great plans!

RSVP: Send an email to jenn@bluebonnetequine.org to RSVP. Let me know what you'll be bringing for the pot luck. We need appetizers/snacks, drinks, salad, side dishes and desserts (my favorite part!)

I hope to see you there!!!

T-Shirt Design Contest

We would like to create a Bluebonnet Limited Edition T-shirt each year. We're looking for talented artists who can create a T-shirt design and submit to BEHS. We'll collect designs until the end of March and then have a vote to pick the best design. If you know an artist – please ask them to participate in the contest! They'll get recognition on our website, an award and a free T-shirt with their artwork on it.

Calendar Contest

Back by popular demand – the Bluebonnet Calendar Contest! Bluebonnet will be producing a calendar for 2009 to sell as a fundraiser. But we want this calendar to be full of Bluebonnet Beauties! So we're having a contest. The rules are as follows:

- 1) The entry fee is \$10/photo.
- 2) Any member may submit as many entries as they like.
- 3) The photo must feature at least one BEHS equine – either fostered or adopted.
- 4) If you submit a photograph taken by a professional, you must also submit their written permission for use of the photo in the contest and in the calendar.
- 5) You must also submit the horse's name and names of anyone in the photo.

We will accept entries until March 15. All entries will be placed on a website and current Bluebonnet members will have two weeks to vote for their favorite three photos. The photo with the most votes will win a \$50 gift certificate and the second-place photo a \$25 gift certificate. The top 12 photos will be featured in the calendar.

Submit photos and any questions to jenn@bluebonnetequine.org



October 2, 2006

A Horse of Course!

It had been many years since I had a horse in my life and since my son was now 14, I knew I had the time for a new addition to the family. Since I did not need a specific breed, I began to look to the horse rescue organizations and came across an organization I had never heard of, Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society. I knew I wanted a colt or filly so I went right to the "nursery" and my eyes locked on a little filly named Tuffy.

January 2, 2008



My heart hurt to see her picture. I quickly turned in my paperwork, had my property inspected, borrowed a truck and trailer and my son and I hit the road and headed to Arkansas to pick up Tuffy.

Mae and Mary Beth, Tuffy's foster moms, were obviously sad to see her go. They had nursed this precious spirit back to health with the love and attention she so badly needed. Tuffy quietly loaded into the trailer and within hours, she walked out of that trailer to meet her new stall-mates and run and play in her new home.

The vet thinks Cherry is a little over two years old and has no obvious signs of the starvation she suffered. She has started her groundwork and learns quickly. She is very sweet. We take long walks together around the farm introducing her to new sights and sounds.

Cherry Baby



She is a joy and I love her very much!

Thank you BEHS!



Our Newest Equine Members

<http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/horses/newlyarrived.htm>

Nominate a Hero

The Bluebonnet Hero Award was establishing as a way of saying thanks to the vets and other professionals who donate their time, services and skills to Bluebonnet Horses. They help us Preserve an American Tradition: One Equine at a Time. You can see previous Bluebonnet Hero winners at <http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/support/BEHSHeroes.htm>.

Any member of BEHS may nominate any NON-member, equine professional for a Bluebonnet Hero Award. The BOD will screen nominees and if we have more than five approved nominees, the members will be able to vote for the best five.

To nominate someone, email jenn@bluebonnetequine.org with the following information;

- 1) Your name
- 2) Your email address
- 3) The name of the person you are nominating
- 4) Nominee's address
- 5) Nominee's phone
- 6) Nominee's email address
- 7) Nominee's profession
- 8) 1-3 paragraphs describing why you feel the nominee deserves to become a Bluebonnet Hero

Nominate an Extraordinary Member

Without the members who spend time fostering horses, promoting the rescue, doing inspections, putting on fundraisers and much more, Bluebonnet wouldn't exist. To acknowledge those members who go "above and beyond" to give their all, we're establishing the Member of the Year Award.

We're asking non-BOD members to nominate a Member of the Year. This should be the person you felt went 'above and beyond' to contribute to BEHS and to the horses who need all of us.

There are just a few rules:

- The person must be a current member of BEHS.
- The person doing the nominating must be a current member of BEHS.
- The nominated person cannot be an officer or a director.



Nominate an Extraordinary Member (continued)

If you would like to nominate someone, please email jenn@bluebonnetequine.org the following info (incomplete info will be disqualified). Nominations are accepted until February 15, 2008. All info will be posted and all current BEHS members can vote. The person with the most votes wins!

- 1) Member you are nominating
- 2) Your name
- 3) Your Email Address
- 7) 1-3 paragraphs describing the member's contributions and why you think that this member should become the BEHS Member of the Year.

You Can Help Horses When Buying Tack!

Shop at any of the affiliates listed at the link below and Bluebonnet Equine Humane Society will receive a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.

<http://www.bluebonnetequine.org/help/shop.htm>

The Bluebonnet Horse Expo is Coming – Are you Ready?

The 2008 Bluebonnet Horse Expo will take place October 11, 2008 at the Travis County Expo Center in Austin, Texas. The event will be a major fundraising and promotion event for BEHS. We'll have clinicians, a "Parade of Breeds" featuring unique and rare horse breeds, vendors, a silent and live auction and more.

We're looking for area coordinators to make this event great. We currently have the following jobs open:

Corporate Sponsorship

Locate potential sponsors, send out sponsorship packets, make follow up calls. May recruit volunteers to assist in making follow up calls and in approaching local businesses in person. Maintains a data base/list of all those contacted. Also approaches potential sponsors in person, works with BEHS members to get them to approach potential sponsors, etc.

Vendors

Develop a vendor package including registration form. Organize vendor spots/booths, locate potential vendors, send out vendor packets, and make follow up calls. Make recruit volunteers to assist in making follow up calls and in approaching local businesses. Must provide a list of all vendors and their assigned spaces to the Office Coordinator the week before the Expo so that all vendors can be checked in. Must also confirm with vendor 1-2 weeks before the expo



The Bluebonnet Horse Expo is Coming – Are you Ready? (continued)

Meet the BEHS Horses

Recruit foster equines to attend the Expo and participate in the Meet the BEHS Horses section, locate handlers/riders for each equine, design stall tags describing each equine, make stall assignments. Provide instructions to those who are bringing the equines. Develop a script for the Meet the BEHS horses section. Provide a list of all equines who will be attending to the BEHS Office Coordinator one week before the event so the office can check in each equine. Confirm that anyone trailering horses to this event is an approved trailer volunteer.

Silent Auction

Solicit items for silent auction (may also recruit volunteers to help with this). Set up silent auction area on Friday afternoon. Manage volunteers to help manage the silent auction area.

Live Auction

Solicit items for the live auction (may also recruit volunteers to help with this). Locate auctioneer. Supervise the live auction during the Expo

Item sale

Solicit items for the Sale area (may recruit volunteers to help with this). Organize the sale area on Friday afternoon. Set pricing on each item. Supervise sale area during the expo..

BEHS Office

Organize the Expo office, Check in all vendors, clinicians/demos, horses, and volunteers. Take complaints and deal with situations as they arise. Organize office volunteers.

Volunteer Scheduling

Recruit volunteers to fill all needed volunteer spaces on Friday and Saturday. Assign volunteers to positions and manage the volunteers the day of the Expo. Provide a schedule to the Office one week before the expo so they can check in all volunteers.

Clean UP

Organize the clean up crew for Sat. evening and Sunday morning.



The Bluebonnet Horse Expo is Coming – Are you Ready? (continued)

PR/Advertising

Write press releases about the event, solicit donated advertising, price additional advertising, get PSA spots on the radio, promote the Expo.

PA System

Secure PA Systems for the various areas at the Expo. Make sure all PA systems are functioning properly.

BEHS Promotions

Develop and organize the BEHS Information area at the expo. Manage volunteers and answer questions about BEHS.

Horse Expo Program

Design the Bluebonnet Horse Expo Program. Work with the corporate sponsorship, parade of breeds, clinics/demos, and vendors coordinators to insure that all the appropriate information is included. Find donated or reduced-cost printing (if possible).

Kids Area

Coordinate games and other events for kids

First Aid

Put together first aid kit for humans and horses

Construction/Set Up

Provide set-up equipment such as hammers, staple gun, duct tape, WD40, nails, staples, and other set up equipment. Arrive at expo grounds Friday morning and head up the set up team.

Hospitality

Set up hospitality area for clinicians/demo people, coordinators, and major volunteers

If you are interested in helping make the 2008 Expo GREAT, email me at jenn@bluebonnetequine.org and let me know.



Letter from the President

I was just looking at pictures of our newest equine additions to the Bluebonnet Family and while I was looking at them my mind started wandering over my years in rescue and the horses I've known... and I realized that at the end of the month, Bluebonnet will celebrate its third birthday.

Wow. It's hard to believe it's been three years! Sometimes it seems that I can't recall a time in my life without Bluebonnet ... and other times it seems like just yesterday we came together to form this organization. In three short years, we've done great things. We've taken in nearly 250 equines – and helped 136 of them find their forever homes. We've met horses like Petey, Munchkin, Oreo, Ghost and Snickers – horses whose bodies were so ravaged by abuse and neglect that they could not survive. Horses who we could only “rescue” by sending them out of the world that had been cruel to them. We've also met horses like Serena, Zydeco, Pandoa, and Tiffany who survived emaciation and went on to become beloved companions, friends and riding partners.

We've also processed over 600 reports of neglect. Sometimes we've been able to educate the horse owners so that they can keep their horses and take better care of them. Those are some of our greatest successes in my mind. We've found some cases where there was nothing wrong, and in other cases like Grimes and Lee counties in Texas and Faulkner, Jefferson and Lincoln counties in Arkansas we've removed horses and found them better homes.

I'm amazed at what we've done. And I want you to know that you have played a part in this. When you join the rescue, tell a friend about the plight of rescue horses, foster or volunteer – you help Bluebonnet help horses. You are responsible not only for our success as an organization – but for the health and safety of these horses. You have done amazing things.

Since the Expo and then the Directors' Meeting, I've been thinking of the horses we have helped and what each of you have done to help make them safe – and it has reminded me how much I love being involved in rescue. I feel like today I'm more passionate about Bluebonnet, more committed to Bluebonnet than I have ever been. I feel pulled to work on Bluebonnet 24 hours a day, seven days a week so we can accomplish even more. I can barely sleep at night for thinking about the rescue and what we can do.

Please join me in making 2008 a great year for the horses in Texas, Arkansas and beyond. Remember why you joined a rescue and remember the great horses you've met or read about. Help share the passion for rescue – and we'll do great things.

If you want to get more involved or have suggestions for how we can be even better, post it to the main list (BluebonnetEquineRescue@googlegroups.com) so we can discuss or email me. Consider coming to the meeting and sharing your ideas, too! Working together, we really can *Preserve an American Tradition: One Equine at a Time*.

Happy Trails to You! - Jenn