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## EVERY HORSE DESERVES HUMANE CARE

### DONATE TO REDWINGS

Our work at Redwings Horse Sanctuary is funded 100-percent by the generous donations of our friends and supporters. There are so many ways you can help, and every penny counts!

Your donations help us provide daily care for our herd of 87 horses, ponies, and burros that live at Redwings. From the smallest Shetland pony to the largest Percheron Gelding, every one of our residents has different needs stemming from past abuse or neglect. Some need daily medication, some have special diets, and others require special handling. We have a lot of mouths to feed—and every last one of these handsome animals need food, water, shelter and care ... every day.

We need your help to continue our work. If you can DONATE \$20, \$50, \$100 or more, please mail your donation to Redwings Horse Sanctuary at the address below or visit our secure website and click the “donate” button.

You can also become a SUSTAINING SPONSOR by making an on-going monthly donation to help us plan for the future by ensuring the resources needed to care for our herd and continue our work helping horses in need.

Maybe you'd like to select your favorite horse from our herd to SPONSOR by making a monthly donation that will go toward its care. Or, if you're interested in our FOSTERING with a planned path to ADOPTION, contact Redwings to find out about the sponsorship levels available or for information about our fostering program.

Web: [www.Redwingshorsesanctuary.com](http://www.Redwingshorsesanctuary.com)

Email: [redwingshorses.com](mailto:redwingshorses.com)

Phone: 831-386-0135.



## Horse Tales from the Heart!

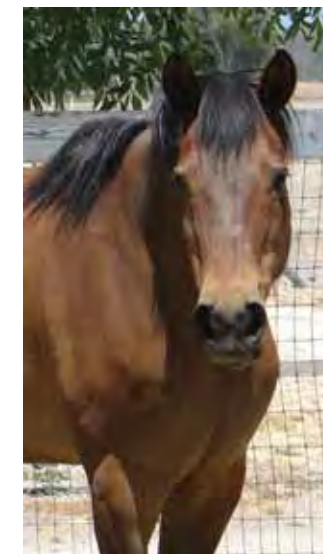
There are thousands of stories about equine abuse and neglect, and this is the primary reason Redwings Horse Rescue and Sanctuary exists. Our mission is to rescue, care and provide a safe environment to horses whose lives were often subjected to untold misery and neglect at one time or another. Supporting our efforts to save these poor souls is a team of highly-skilled, caring individuals whose contribution to these horses allows them to live out their lives free of pain and suffering. Lucy is one of these stories that will surely touch your heart.

In May of 2006 Redwings was contacted by the Horse Emergency Evacuation Team (HEET) who was in search of a permanent home for two horses—Ethel and Lucy. A year earlier the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department responded to a call about two emaciated mares that were kept in dilapidated pens littered with filth and debris. There was no hay or feed in either pen; and only one pen had water.

The horses were seized and taken to the San Luis Obispo County Animal Services where they received urgent medical treatment under the care of Dr. Eric Anderson, DVM who immediately concluded that the horses were close to death from starvation. Their ribs and hip bones were visibly protruding and they were in critical need of hoof care.

After the call from HEET, Redwings brought Ethel and her

friend Lucy to their new home at our Lockwood Ranch. They had gained weight and were regaining some of their strength while at Animal Services, but the years of malnutrition, lack of hoof care, and filth in which they existed had taken a huge toll on them. Both horses suffered from white line disease and had



Here you see Lucy trying on her new shoes.

chronic recurring episodes of laminitis, a very painful inflammation of the connective tissue in a horse's hoof. With laminitis, advanced stages can lead to rotation of the coffin bone within the foot and left untreated it can result in the death of the animal.

Both Ethel and Lucy lived at Redwings with a daily regimen of hoof care provided by the equine staff. Then after 3 years, in April of 2009, Ethel's condition rapidly deteriorated. Her pain was so severe that it couldn't be eased with medication. So sadly, it was time to end her suffering.

But Lucy, who came to us with the same chronic hoof problems, was

blessed with good fortune! Dr. Monique Craig (“Monique”), of Epona-Institute in Paso Robles and inventor of the EponaShoe. For the past five years Monique has donated her services and the specially designed EponaShoes for Lucy, to study their effect on Lucy's condition. After her first shoeing, this horse that once just stood in her paddock barely moving, took off in a gallop in Monique's arena! A truly amazing site to see!

Today, our Lucy is happy and thriving at Redwings. She's on a special diet to control her laminitis, and every 5 weeks she makes a one-hour trailer ride to visit Monique who so generously continues to monitor Lucy—taking x-rays and changing and adjusting her shoes as needed—all free of charge to Redwings. Lucy's continued care and the EponaShoe have truly given Lucy a new lease on life! Thank you Dr. Craig! If you'd like to learn more about the EponaShoe, visit Dr. Craig's website at [www.eponashoe.com](http://www.eponashoe.com) or [www.epona-institute.org](http://www.epona-institute.org).



# Introducing Sara Ruggerone! Redwings Executive Director



Sara and our loveable Percheron Draft, Rebel

Sara became Redwings' new Executive Director in January this year. Along with her extensive background in the equine world she brings a vision to Redwings that will make it possible for our organization to expand its rescue efforts to include a program for fostering rehabilitated horses as to a pathway to adoption.

Mark Sindel, president of the Redwings' Board commented, "We just knew Sara would do wonders for our organization. She has a wide-ranging background in horse training and rehabilitation, good management and team building skills that will undoubtedly push Redwings in a new, more positive direction".

Sara lives and breathes horses; and she personally owns five horses, all of them rescues. She worked for Partners in Equestrian Therapy teaching adults and children with disabilities basic riding skills to develop their self-confidence and independence. And, for two months in 2009 she served as a volunteer at a wildlife sanctuary in South Africa, further illustrating her love of animals and her very special talent working with them. This love of animals and the ability to teach others how to connect with them is a gift few of us possess.

Sara's educational background from Cal

Poly of San Luis Obispo is in animal science with equine concentration. Sara first came to Redwings to manage the Equine Care Unit for our herd of 80-plus horses and burros. And she hit the ground running, overseeing the daily administration of medication for various horses, and monitoring the special diets and nutritional needs of the herd. Her engaging personality, management skills, and can-do attitude made her a perfect fit for Redwings.

"Sara caught the eye of the entire Board of Directors," Mark said, "and they quickly concluded that she was the right person for the Executive Director position. She accepted our offer, but on one condition ...that she still have time each day to work with the horses!"

Sara has now settled into her new role and has become a major force guiding Redwings to the next level. Her leadership skills and love of horses is a combination that can't easily be matched. Sara immediate goal is to develop fundraising strategies and marketing programs to broaden Redwings' visibility locally and within the many state-wide equestrian communities. Realizing that without a continuous source of funding, all of Redwings' dedicated efforts to save equines through rescue and rehabilitation will come to an end....and, Sara Ruggerone is not about to let that happen!



Lover Boy in one of Redwings' large pastures.

## Jack and Marilyn Clifton's Lockwood Ranch Becomes a Safehaven for the Redwings' Herd

Redwings Horse Sanctuary is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit whose mission is to provide sanctuary, fostering and adoption of rescued equines. Our sole source of income is from donations provided by benefactors, equine lovers, and volunteers who support our good work. While we're grateful to everyone who can help in any way—big or small—we'd like to highlight stories of several donors who have made a huge impact on Redwings' ability to continue its rescue and rehabilitation of equines. Without these people Redwings would no longer be able to continue on or sustain such an undertaking to provide sanctuary, fostering and adoption for rescued equines.

After 14 years in Carmel, Redwings needed to find a new ranch facility for the rescue herd. That's when supporters Jack and Marilyn Clifton stepped in a big way to help rescue Redwings! They bought a 160 acre ranch in Lockwood, California, Southern Monterey County, expressly to accommodate Redwings and set up a long-term lease to

ensure that Redwings would have a permanent home well into the future.

In the early days, the Clifton's were there for us every step of the way—helping fix some of the out buildings in need of repair, putting in pasture fencing, and helping us out with monetary donations whenever they could.

So here we are 13 years later celebrating the incredible bigheartedness of the Clifton's whose Lockwood property has provided the stability of knowing that our herd, now numbering 87 equines, has a home where they can live out their lives in safe and peaceful surroundings.

Our gratitude to the Clifton's for their continued generosity and support simply can't be expressed adequately. So please join us in saying a heartfelt "Thank You" to Jack and Marilyn Clifton—longtime friends and benefactors of Redwings!

## Volunteer Spotlight!



Cassandra and Butch on their first walk together.

This photo was taken last January, the day I met Butch, a pony Redwings saved from slaughter. With his head held high and his neck hard with tension, Butch was practically rigid with fear. Something in his past had made him so afraid of people that he ran away when anyone approached him, he trembled when he was touched, and he flinched at quick movements, especially if there was a rope involved. And so, although he looks so cute in this photo, this moment was actually pretty hard on Butch. Not only did I have my left arm over his neck, I was also standing way too close in his opinion, and I was on the wrong side! But, my goal was just to show him that all this human contact was really okay.

**"The greatest gift of all is working with these amazing horses and learning from them."**

We took a long walk that first day, very slowly and he never let down his guard for a moment.

It's now been four months since that first walk. Today, when I entered Butch's pen to halter him, he stepped toward me rather than away. On our walk, he was relaxed, even when I swung the end of the lead rope. He was also curious, taking an interest in the scenery and the other horses that he'd been too frightened to notice back in January. The scared little pony from last January has an entirely new outlook on life. He even nuzzled my daughter's hair a couple times — a playful gesture she managed to catch laughingly on video that was just plain heartwarming! — *Cassandra Hannahs*

## New Members of the Herd



Player, arrived April, 2014



Fancy, rescued March 4, 2014



## It's Hard to Explain the Loss...

Few stories of abuse and neglect are as horrific as what happened to our Jazmine at the hands of her owner. She was found in a dark metal garage filled with flies and sickening filth. Jazmine. This little chestnut Arabian mare was near starvation and 3-400 pounds underweight.

After coming to Redwings Jazmine thrived and her beauty returned. She became a ranch favorite so full of love and sweetness, easily winning the hearts of employees and volunteers.

Jazmine left us in the early morning hours of May 1. It's so hard to explain the emptiness. It's hard to explain the loss...