



Roundup!

Fall/Winter 2015

Horse Tales from the Heart!

MEET DUKE

It is never a simple decision for Redwings to accept an equine. It takes a collaboration of board members, our equine care supervisor, executive director, money, time, trailers, gas, and coordination with a humane officer just to receive the horse. In a perfect world, Redwings would take in every single horse, however, it is our job to provide sanctuary and shelter to those most in need without exhausting our resources. This decision is particularly difficult when our sanctuary is at capacity with 84 equine residents, to whom we offer, good feed, veterinary and farrier care, comfortable living spaces, and companions. When Redwings received a call from an animal shelter in Northern California asking if we had room to take in one more horse, we had to consider our options carefully while making a quick calculated decision.



However, when we heard Duke's story, we knew he fit perfectly into our mission. The 26-year old buckskin gelding was seized from a cruelty and neglect investigation. A horse trader had Duke, and multiple other horses, in dire gut-wrenching conditions. The horses were in dilapidated paddocks filled with debris and feces, and the horses were in terrible condition. Duke was in the worst condition. He had a body score of 1 (healthy is a body score of 5), considered emaciated and his hooves were over grown and in very bad condition. Worse, his coat was saturated with fungus from being out in adverse weather and unsanitary environmental conditions.

The day Redwings received the call, the humane officers seized Duke with a number of other horses. Duke and another mare were in such horrific condition that they were taken directly to a large animal hospital for evaluation. The veterinarian determined Duke was in critical need of dental care and tested Duke for sand in his digestive tract. Duke most likely ingested large amounts sand from scavenging bare vegetation for food. Sand can severely irritate the GI tract, cause colic, chronic diarrhea, and in severe cases, death. The veterinary hospital was able to treat his sand filled GI tract, provide hoof and dental care, and gradually put some weight on him.

After discussion with both humane officers and the veterinary hospital, Redwings' staff was convinced Duke deserved a happy ending. Duke's happy ending came true. Since his arrival at Redwings, he has gained nearly 200 pounds. His coat glistens, mane shines, and he adores dozing in the sunshine. He is truly at peace surrounded by a few heard mates who nicker back and forth, his eyes are alert and curious, and he enjoys waiting patiently at the gate for his human friends. This handsome guy will be available for foster in just a few short months.



Sara's Journal

The days are getting shorter and the nights are chilly at Redwings signaling the arrival of winter. The sleek summer coats of our equine friends have been replaced by fluffy long winter coats. We have enjoyed the first few rain storms of the season and are pleased to report that we have little blades of grass popping up in all of the pastures.

Now that the weather has cooled off, I am enjoying spending time re-starting some of our Thoroughbreds under saddle to get them ready for future foster homes. Hank, Luna, Angel, and Tucker are all enjoying their new activities and I can't wait for them to find their forever homes. Next I plan to start Mysty back under saddle and begin ground work with young Attie. If you are interested in fostering any of these wonderful horses, please call or email us.

Little Black Jack is growing up fast. It has been fun watching him grow and romp around his pasture with his mother Circe. But now it is time for Black Jack to be on his own, he no longer needs his mother's milk for nourishment and he has been moved to a new pasture with Uncle Patrick. Black Jack is now available to foster.

Redwings is very proud and excited to be accredited after care partners for both CAEMA and SAA. CAEMA awarded us a grant to build a new and bigger mare motel and we are very excited to announce that it has been delivered and we

will break ground on the new structure soon! In October we were invited to attend the Thoroughbred Aftercare Awareness Day at Santa Anita Park. Cara and I drove down for the day and had a wonderful time with the CAEMA team educating the public about the Thoroughbred aftercare program. There was even a jumping demonstration on the race track in front of the grandstands to show off some gorgeous retired racehorses in their new careers as jumpers.

Big Joe, the beautiful buckskin gelding I fostered in May, is doing fantastic. He is very spoiled and loves his two pasture mates Rex and Twixy. He still loves his weekly walks down the beach and is enjoying all the new grass that is growing in his big pasture.

As the end of the year gets closer and we come into the holiday season, I am so thankful for the generous support of all our donors throughout the year. Thanks to each and every one of you, we have been able to accept 3 new horses (Duke, Luna, and Mysty), found amazing foster homes for 5 equines (Gojo, Ozzie, Butch, Big Joe, and Licky), and our beautiful little Black Jack was born. What a year! Thank you so much for your support in 2015 and I am very excited to see what amazing things 2016 will bring.

Happy Holidays!

Sara



Sara, Black Jack, and Uncle Patrick

Staff Spotlight: Pamela Shreeves - Equine Care Assistant

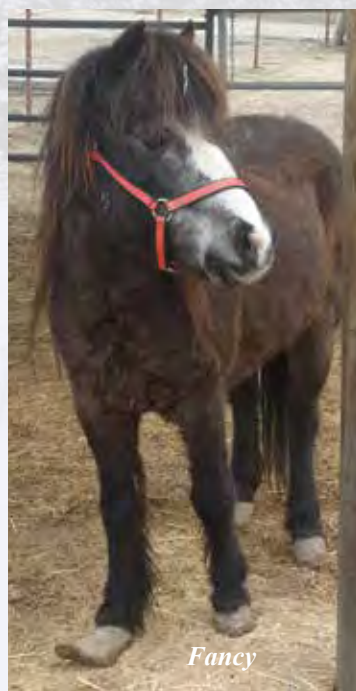
"My first memory on this planet is that of a horse. I was always a "horse crazy" little girl, something that was never outgrown. As a child, I grew up in a little town called Shandon (third generation). Living in the country, a lot of us had horses. We would meet after school, weekends, rain or shine, to go riding. That is what most everyone did!

Later in life I found Redwings Horse Sanctuary. Having been here almost ten years, I am so lucky to be part of an organization that does so much for horses. They are rescued, rehabilitated, rehomed and those with special needs stay here for the rest of their lives. Just being with them every day, helping to improve their quality of life is my way of giving back to all of the horses I have loved from that "horse crazy" little girl to today."

-Pam



Pam, Max & Red



Fancy

Fancy

After hours of clean up, the most beautiful part of the day was watching "Fancy" gallop out to her new pasture. Her miniature black feet kicking through the dust and her streaked white muzzle that subtly fades to gray over her eyes as she is snorting fresh air. Fancy was home...and even better with three friends just her size greeting her. Redwings has the pleasure to make moments like this happen, but stories do not always start this magical.

Imagine receiving the news that your neighbor, who had been very ill for quite some time, had passed away. This is sad news but as the days go by, you realize your neighbor's horses and dogs were left behind with no plan of care, allotted finances, or place to go. Redwings received a desperate call one day just like that. A woman called reporting that her neighbor had been sick for quite some time and in the course of her sickness, had run out of money to care for her pets. Once the owner had passed, her horses and dogs were left behind, deteriorating by the day.

When Redwings arrived, they found two horses huddled together knee deep in mud in the pouring rain. They were emaciated with neglected hoof care. One was an elderly feeble Arabian with protruding bones and severe laminitis and barely able to stand. The second was a small pony with hooves so overgrown she could hardly move. Redwings was told by the neighbor that the pony was very old and feral. With the help of a local veterinarian, it was determined the poor old Arabian mare was far too decrepit, and required humane relief from her suffering. The little pony appeared in better health than reported. Once the pony was haltered, she led easily and hopped right into the trailer. As the Redwings' team drove away, someone asked what the pony's name was and the neighbor responded that she was dotingly called "Fancy."

Back at the ranch, staff prepared for Fancy's arrival. A veterinarian evaluated her and rendered her relatively healthy and far younger than we were told. The vet estimated Fancy was about 15-years old which meant she had many more years of a happy life ahead. Next, Fancy spent many hours with the farrier who trimmed and reshaped her hooves to ensure comfort with every step. After a brief quarantine period, we moved Fancy into her new pasture where she galloped around and around now that she was free of the overgrown hooves that had limited her for so long.

Fancy has since gained weight, bathes daily in the sunshine with her friends (Penelope, Etta Mae and Little Bit), and leisurely roams whenever she pleases. She is not feral, just a tad shy. She resides with our pony herd next to the office where she is handled often. Fancy would make a great companion pony.



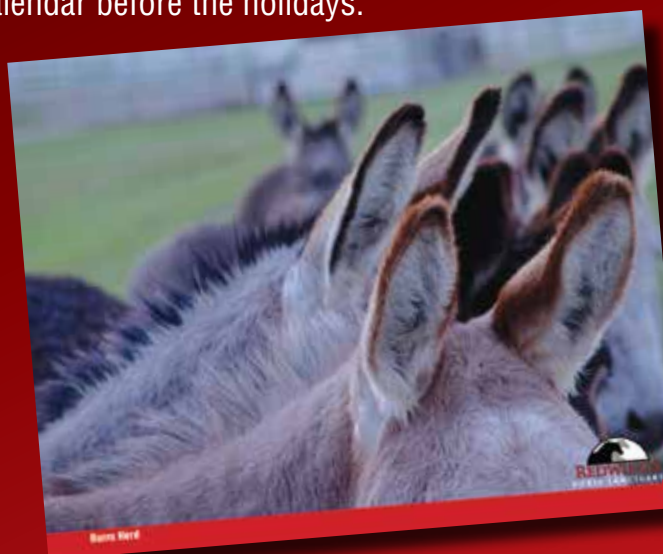
First Edition Redwings Horse Sanctuary Calendars

We want to share the beauty of our herd with YOU so we created our first 2016 REDWINGS calendar. It is packed with awe-inspiring photos and every month features one of our available foster horses. You get 12 beautiful months of our majestic friends that are all looking for a "forever home" for Christmas. Our calendars are available online (www.redwingshorsesanctuary.org) for quickest delivery, or you can fill out and mail in our order form. With a donation of \$35.00, you can get this unique calendar for yourself and/or give it as a gift to family and friends. Not only will you be fulfilling your holiday shopping list, but you will also be helping Redwings horses. Please act quickly if you want to receive your calendar before the holidays.

REDWINGS HORSE RESCUE & SANCTUARY

2016

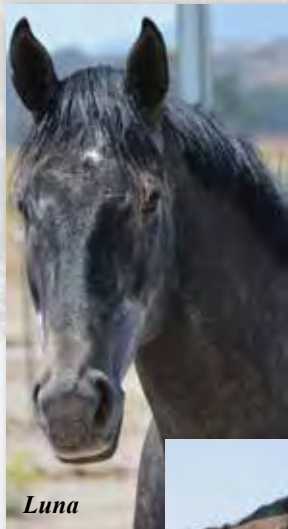
RESCUE SANCTUARY FOSTER/ADOPT



Back by popular demand!

This holiday season, give the gift of sponsorship to someone special! Your gift of \$50, \$75 or \$100 will sponsor one of the horses on our sponsorship page on our website. And, for an additional \$5.00, your gift, along with other sponsor benefits sent to the gift recipient, will include an ornament with a photo of your sponsored horse. Be sure to indicate the horse you wish to sponsor on the remit envelope, or call Redwings at 1-831-386-0135!

If you would like to just receive an ornament you can order one of your favorite sponsor horse for a \$10.00 donation. **Have a safe and Happy Holiday from all of us at Redwings.**



Luna



Angel



Hank



Mysty

Thoroughbreds CARMA and TAA

Our Equine Care Supervisor, Sara Ruggerone, has been working tirelessly to apply for both accreditation and grants from two well-respected Thoroughbred Aftercare organizations. California Retirement Management Account (CARMA) and Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA) have both approved us as accredited aftercare partners. We are so proud of Sara and the staff for their hard work and dedication. Over the last 14 months, we have accepted four Thoroughbreds with rehabilitated injuries. Angel and Hank arrived last fall from the Santa Rosa Fair Track, Luna arrived last spring through the CARMA placement program, and Mysty arrived only two-months ago and was also part of the CARMA placement program. Now under our care, they will be given a chance to heal and be trained for their second career. Each Thoroughbred is different and will be trained according to their abilities. Some will go on to dressage, hunter/jumper, and eventing. Others will go on to trail riding or simply be a pasture pet. It will all depend on the horse, their injury, and their personality. Redwings is proud to be partnered with these amazing organizations and to be given the chance to rehabilitate and retrain these horses for whatever their second careers may be.



Stacy and Mack

Volunteer Spotlight Stacy Iverson

Meet Stacy, who comes all the way from Santa Cruz area to volunteer with us. It is a three-hour drive and we cannot thank her enough for making the long trek to Redwings. She even went one-step further and set up a donation tub at her local feed shop! We were overwhelmed by all of the generous donations from the patrons of Scotts Valley Feed. It was all thanks to Stacy's hard work and dedication. We recently asked Stacy to say a few words about why she makes the trek to Redwings and what she likes most about her experience here.

"One of the best things about being a volunteer at Redwings Horse Sanctuary is knowing that I am making a difference. When I started volunteering, I wasn't sure exactly how I could contribute or be most useful. I have a lifetime of horse experience, but I wanted to directly help horses in a sanctuary situation and learn hands-on. Volunteers are the heart of Redwings – even small efforts make a big difference. Redwings staff welcomes everyone, and anyone can help horses in need. I love to spend time grooming the horses, especially those that are shy or need extra care or understanding. Sometimes just sitting or standing with the horses, talking to them, or not saying anything at all is what they ask for. Other days, it's quite busy brushing dusty bodies and long tangled tails. There is always something fun to do and the horses thrive on the personal attention. Every time I volunteer, I leave feeling lighter, happier and fulfilled, and trying to think of more ways I can help. I always feel that I have received much more than I have given. Every horse deserves a safe, loving home for life – thanks to Redwings for being there."

-Stacey Iverson

Thank you to our Supporters

As Redwings reflects on 2015, there is so much to be proud of. YOUR support and donations have allowed Redwings to take in three new horses (Duke, Mysty, and Luna), place five horses in foster homes (Jojo, Butch, Ozzie, Big Joe, and Ricki), have 2 adoptions (Ali and Topper), as well as welcome a healthy rambunctious foal (Black Jack). All of our equine family are extremely grateful for what YOU, our SUPPORTERS and DONORS, have provided them! With sincere gratitude, the Board of Directors and staff appreciate you and your generous support! YOU have allowed us to create a truly safe home for every single equine in our herd (all 84 of them).

Our Redwings family wishes you a loving and peaceful holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year! We are excited to see what 2016 holds and hope that we can continue to count on your support for our education, rescue, rehabilitation, and foster/adoption efforts for Redwings horses.

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Farewell to Ginny, Mirage and Gypsy

It is never easy to say goodbye. All three of these horses touched so many lives and we were honored to have been able to share our lives with them. Until we meet again over the rainbow bridge... rest in peace dear friends



Recent foster Ricki

Ricki arrived at his new foster home in Santa Rosa recently. We hope that you will join us in congratulating the new foster family! We hope that you and Ricki are very happy together! ☺



Welcome to the Herd

Welcome to the herd Cocabella Myst (Mysty) and Duke!





REDWINGS HORSE SANCTUARY

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EVERY HORSE DESERVES HUMANE CARE



FOSTER SHOWCASE

We are very excited to announce that Black Jack is now available for foster! He was born here on the ranch in late May and has now been weaned off of his mom, Circe.

He is a very nice colt with a great personality and a friendly disposition.

We think he will make someone a great horse!

If you are interested in fostering him or any of our other loveable horses, please contact us by phone at 831-386-0135 or email us at info@redwingshorsesanctuary.org

