



Second Chance Ranch Newsletter V. 2-10

Finding Granny Xpect Peas

I have volunteered my time to Second Chance Ranch rescue for a little over a year. In that time, I have helped the Ranch rehabilitate and care for many horses, each with a different story, each looking for a “forever home”. I recall every horse I’ve worked with, everything from the old mare with narcolepsy, to a retired thoroughbred with bone chips in the prime of life, to a young untrained filly. . I am proud to say that I have helped all of them find their place in life. Nothing I had done to that point though had prepared me for Granny.



Granny Smith, a severely underweight aged pony mare.

I received a call one evening from one of the Ranch board members. She had gone to a local auction house with enough money to save two horses from an unhappy fate. One of the first things she said was, “We got three horses instead of two.”

“What?!?” At the time, we had only two stalls in the main barn! Where were we going to keep the extra horse once it had finished with quarantine?

The board member continued... “The people at the auction house drove the injured PMU baby up from the back field for us so we could decide if he would need our help.

The whole herd – must have been over 50 horses – came up with the baby. A very thin mare came with them.”

The board member paused. “Not just thin. Starved. Skin over bones. They told us that she had been left in the field, being beat on by other horses with no way to defend herself so that she could ‘die if she wanted to’.” I could hear the anger in my friend’s voice.

“She’s that bad, huh?”

My friend, the board member replied, “I don’t know if she is going to survive the short trip to our barn.”

Hearing that filled me with sadness and anger. And determination. “She has to make it! I love her already. She will make it, I can feel it. She wants to meet me. When can I see her?”

“The horses are going into quarantine. You can see her tomorrow.”

I spent the whole night thinking about this horse, this poor starved horse, and prayed she would make the trip. I prayed she had the will to live.

The next day, I rushed to the barn to meet the horse – Granny Smith was her name. I could not believe my eyes – there, in the quarantine field was a skeleton with skin, slowly walking around. I will never forget that first meeting, as I have never before seen something so awful. My heart went out to her.



Granny’s ribs the day she came to the Ranch.

We started to feed her slowly and I watched this skeleton grow more robust with every passing day. As she became more stable, we bathed her and groomed her, and tried to show her there was kindness in life. The old mare rewarded our efforts by not giving up - she is slow moving and her tongue hangs out (our vet believes she has had a stroke), but this old girl wants to live.

Granny eats like every meal may be her last (certainly an understandable attitude, coming from a horse that was so severely underweight) and has put on 150 lbs while in our care. As she gains her strength, she also seems to gain back some of her youth and everyday we see more of her spirit and personality shine through.

Granny has shown me that animals possess an amazing capacity for forgiveness and that kindness can be a powerful force. I can only hope that someone will fall in love with this old girl as much as I have and be willing to pamper her for her remaining years. I can only hope that someone will open their heart to Granny, and give her the forever home that she deserves.

~ Paul's Corner ~

One day, two elderly men were talking about baseball.

"I wonder if there'll be baseball in heaven?"

Ed asked

Of course there will," Joe responded, "or it wouldn't be heaven."

Not long after that, Ed passed away. Then, one night while Joe was sleeping, Ed appeared in a bright light at the foot of Joe's bed. Joe was badly shaken.

"Calm down, Joe," Ed reassured his friend.

"I just came back to visit and to bring some good news and some bad news."

"What's the good news?" Joe asked.

"The good news is, there is baseball in heaven."

"That's great!" Joe responded. Then he paused and slowly asked, "Now, what's the bad news?"

"Well, Joe, the bad news is, you're pitching this coming Saturday."

SCR WOULD LIKE TO GIVE THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SPONSORED HORSES RECENTLY. WE APPRECIATE IT!

IN PARTICULAR, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

THE HART FAMILY IN NEW YORK
THE SMITH FAMILY IN RHODE ISLAND
LYNDA IN MASSACHUSETTS
CAROL IN CONNECTICUT
KAT IN CALIFORNIA

WE REALIZE THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF GREAT PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO WOULD LOVE TO HELP THESE ANIMALS, BUT SIMPLY DO NOT HAVE THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER. THE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO GET YOU INVOLVED IN THE CARE AND WELL-BEING OF THE HORSES, WITHOUT THE COMMITMENT OF TIME AND LABOR.

SPONSORING AN EQUINE GIVES YOU AN OPEN ENDED INVITATION TO VISIT YOUR "KID", A DETAILED HISTORY OF THE ANIMAL AND UPDATES ON HOW YOUR HORSE IS DOING. YOUR MONEY GOES DIRECTLY TO THE CARE OF THE HORSE YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO SPONSOR.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM OR TO MAKE A DONATION ONLINE, VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.GEOCITIES.COM/SCRRESCUE

SCR WOULD LIKE TO THANK "HEALTHY HORSE HERBALS" FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATION OF SILVER LINING HERBAL SUPPLEMENTS TO HELP GRANNY GAIN WEIGHT BEFORE THE WINTER.

For more information about Healthy Horse Herbals, visit their website

www.healthyhorseherbals.com

**Equine Classifieds – What They Really Mean
(Second Edition)**

Big circle horse ~ can't turn in 240 acres

Great stops ~ slams those shoulders and launches rider every time!

Easy to catch ~ in a 10 X 10 stall

Easy to load ~ only takes 3 hours, 4 men and a tractor with loader

Rides good ~ not rideable, but rides the trailer good.

Gentle ~ to other horses... he tore out 3 inches of my hair, kicked the kid and chased mother all the way cross the pasture.

Spirited ~ Loves to run all out all the time.

Good mother ~ Awful at everything else.

Protective mother. ~ Don't even think about getting near that baby until weaning time.

Easy breeder ~ A stallion that will mount anything that moves.

Has beautiful babies ~ good, because she's plug ugly herself.

Pasture horse ~ He'll kick a new door in your stall to get out.

Spectacularly marked ~ Horrible conformation, pretty spots.

Used to race ~ Still does, unless firmly tied to a tree.

Owner getting out of the business ~ Owner is tired of dealing with this ignorant monster.

Works well off his rear ~ Because the front end is usually off the ground.

Must sell due to financial situation ~ horse is costing me a fortune in bute and supplements.

Puppy dog temperament ~ has no manners, but is cute, so it's ok.

Always in the ribbons ~ 10th place....out of 10 riders.

Goes in a snaffle ~ ...like a bat out of hell.

Scopey ~ has jumped out of every paddock we own.

Wonderful Halter prospect ~ bred for beauty...not brains

**FEATURED HORSE:
Reno**

Reno is one of four horses that came to our care last month when the state of Connecticut intervened in a neglect case. Reno is a black and white paint colt yearling. Reno is a sweet guy who has good ground manners, and stands well for the farrier. The only thing Reno is lacking is training.

When Reno was signed over to the Ranch, we were told he knew how to work on a longe line. That is the extent of his training to this point.

If you or someone you know would like to train this flashy guy right from the ground up, contact Amy at SCREquineRescue@yahoo.com

SCR UPCOMING EVENT!

Second Chance Ranch will be hosting a **GROUNDWORK CLINIC AND MOUNTED DEMO**

with Deb Moynihan, USDF Certified Instructor, USDF Bronze Medal, and Centered Riding Clinician (Level III.)

The clinic will be held on Saturday, October 22, from noon to 2:00 pm.

The cost is \$40, lunch is provided.

This is a clinic where participants learn from the ground - the only riders will be two of Deb's students who have volunteered their time.

All proceeds will directly benefit the horses cared for by Second Chance Ranch, a 501c registered non-profit organization. The clinic will be held at Nicholson Stables - an SCR foster farm - in East Granby, CT.

Pre-registration is encouraged - please call Gina at (860)989-8724 or email scrrescue@yahoo.com to