Heaven Can Wait

FROM THE FOUNDER

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization: EIN 74-3071112 6275 Cerros Pioneros Way • San Miguel • CA 93451 P.O. Box 5 • San Miguel • CA 93451 (805) 368-5702

Hearst Corporation Fills the Barns!

What a great start to the New Year! In March, **Steve Hearst** sent Ben Higgins, Ag Director for the **Hearst Corporation**, to the facility to see how

they might support Heaven Can Wait. Less than a week later, our barns were filled to overflowing with alfalfa and forage hay! A donation of this magnitude has never happened before and words cannot express how deeply appreciative we are.



Cellar 360 & the Barn Beautiful Project

Cellar 360, a local winery, contacted us to see if we would like to have a group of volunteers come out and do work projects around the facility. Many of them had been at Heaven Can Wait before and wanted to return for this annual volunteer event. Madonna, the coordinator for the event, sent out 8 volunteers from the winery on Thursday, May 28. Their timing was perfect as they repainted the interior of the barn just days before our last Adventure with Horses program. Several of the volunteers also worked on the corrals and general cleanup. They did an amazing job and the end result was more than we could have hoped for!

Many thanks to Cellar 360 for making the Barn Beautiful Project such a success

Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance Accreditation

Besides this blessing, we are announcing a new accreditation. The Sanctuary has held an American Sanctuary Association Accreditation for many years. However, just recently we received the coveted 2015 Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance

Accreditation. These two accreditations attest to the quality of the environment and care at Heaven Can Wait and we are very proud of this accomplishment.



Adventures with Horses

On Saturday, May 30, five children and several parents came out to Heaven Can Wait for an afternoon with the horses. Angela Vinther, a teacher and horsewoman, introduced the children to the language of horses. Her granddaughter taught the students how to safely groom these gentle giants. We were amazed at how intent the children were about this subject. When they were assigned a horse to groom, they did a beautiful job! The horses loved the attention and the children obviously enjoyed the interaction as well. Each child was given a Heaven Can Wait T-shirt to remind them of the day.

If you would like to purchase a T-shirt to help support our rescue efforts, please call Susan at 805-368-5702.

New Rescue Horses Arrive

In our last newsletter, we asked our supporters, "Have you ever seen a river with legs? newsletter, next we will introduce you to one!" This play on words alluded to a beautiful 18 year-old thoroughbred that was rescued by Neigh Savers, an organization we work with on a regular basis. This race horse won over \$200,000 but apparently



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was no longer considered valuable by his owners. He was abandoned in a riverbed – hence the name River.

When Neigh Savers contacted us to see if we had room for him, Susan-the-Big-Hearted couldn't say no. River came to the Sanctuary in March but was sent back a few months later to Neigh Savers for adoption. They had a wonderful home lined up for him living a dream life in Alaska.

Another mare named Xena was also rescued by this same organization. She arrived on Thursday, April 9, and she can be seen racing happily around the facility. She already has two suitors, Grandpa and Chief, and is undoubtedly the most popular female on the property! She was sent here because she has been so badly abused and probably would never be adopted. Many attempts were made to get a saddle on her and she refused it many times over and several different trainers tried. Neigh Savers sent her to HCW to become a permanent Sanctuary horse as obviously she won't allow herself to be ridden again. She is so sweet and so beautiful ... what could possibly have happened to her to make her so fearful? If only she could tell us.

Brennan Equine Grant

Heaven Can Wait is honored to have received a grant from the Brennan Equine Welfare Fund. Grants from Brennan Equine Welfare Fund are used to serve equine rescue shelters across the country that provide dignity in the final years of aged, injured, abused, starved and slaughter-bound horses. This fund supports registered, 501(c)(3) organizations that specialize in retirement and rehabilitation services and offer a peaceful and permanent sanctuary for these beautiful animals.

On a very sad note, we lost our wonderful Mr. Zimmerman (aka Grandpa) on August 10th. He was found in his stall having passed away during the night. Oh how he is missed. Grandpa was one of the sweetest horses you would ever want to meet and was still very active at his ripe old age. When he was rescued, he was at death's door from starvation. At least he had a few years of a good and stomachfilled life – and the fun of chasing after Xena!

The Future of Heaven Can Wait

As the time has quickly gone by since our last Newsletter, we have decided to become a nonpublic Sanctuary. We have tried to have programs for kids (Adventures with Horses for example), Project HoPE for cancer patients, a program for veterans and/or their families, to work with special need kids, and to be a place of learning about horses - how to be safe, how they interact, and all the responsibility that goes with owning one. Unfortunately, except for the special needs kids and a few volunteers such as the wonderful Girl Scouts



Girl Scout Troop 40364 in San Luis Obispo

pictured here, we have been paying for insurance for programs that are not being utilized. We have decided that it is too expensive to have insurance for people on our grounds when there have in fact been very few. Keeping the sanctuary residents fed and in good health has to be our top priority. We have wonderful memories and deeply appreciate all of you who have been part of our history!

Upcoming Fundraisers

Looking forward to the future, we invite you to come alongside our rescue efforts by participating in the fundraisers next page. Don't miss these opportunities to be a part Heaven Can Wait!

Susan Schwartz, Founder of Heaven Can Wait.

