



34522 N. Scottsdale Rd, D7-168
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Office: 623-465-1519
www.azequinerescue.org

2021 Annual Accomplishments Report

Dear Arizona Equine Rescue Organization Family,

What an amazing year for the rescue even with another tough economic year. We could not continue without your dedication and support. Thank you for helping us complete our 20th year in operation and we really feel this coming year we will need to and be able to increase our service levels over 2021! Let me share with you some highlights we had this past year! We couldn't do this without our veterinary support of Dr. Longworth, Southwest Equine, Dr Kloppe of Durango Equine, Chaparral Veterinary Medical Center, Dr. Sickler of Carefree Equine, Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center, Arizona Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association (who donated hundreds of bales of hay) and many others across the state. We have to thank our farriers Trevor Duhon and Mark Russell for being willing to support our special needs horses which is a labor of love. We would be remiss if we didn't thank our special volunteers who are too numerous to list and Big Bronco Emporium for their wonderful annual fundraiser. Finally, one of our most amazing supporters is the Allen Heath Memorial Foundation and all of the generous contributors out there that send what they can so we can continue our mission. In the coming year we will be looking for help from a website manager and an event planner to help us get trainings going more frequently. We will also continue to partner with all of the amazing public and private agencies across the state to do more to help horses and horse owners in need.

RESCUE AND REHABILITATION



We had some wonderful adoptions throughout the year starting with Woody, going to a wonderful, experienced TB person doting on his every need in Flagstaff. Woody was a special needs TB that had some behavioral issues but with some training and addressing some of his discomfort, he came right around and thrives now in his new home.



Tisham, a beautiful older Arabian stallion who found the perfect person in Claudia and now lives a wonderful riding life. Tisham came from a family who simply could not offer full care anymore and did not have appropriate housing but was a hard placement due to his being a stallion. Dr. Kloppe at Durango donated a gelding surgery to help us with placement, but a late gelding still means a special person needs to take on a gelding with stallion behaviors. Luckily, we found that home. Special thanks to Trish White for fostering Tisham when we didn't have room.



Patriot, a stray left in the desert, who found a great family to love and ride him. Patriot was a stray sent to us by Karuna Rescue and AZ Department of Agriculture and had some malnutrition and foot problems. They were addressed easily, and he is healthy and happy.



Sugar was especially lucky because this sweet mare, that was seized by reservation police for neglect, found a young 11yo girl who didn't care about all of Sugar's limitations and scars. These two have a special bond that is evident by her smile. Sugar had some long-standing injuries that would require life long care but her adopter said she didn't care and just wanted to take care of a horse.



Slider, who came in on a backboard from starvation, found a sweet home with a new family on pasture and loves his new life. Slider was filling a void left by another loved horse and is now best friends with Mooch and Lisa in their gorgeous property.



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RESCUE AND REHABILITATION (continued)



Forever Thee Bask found a fantastic home at Durango Veterinary and is the star of their facility. Bask was a champion show horse that was sold to someone that eventually neglected him. Bask was transferred to AERO as a stallion and after some groceries sent to Durango Equine to be their resident stallion in their breeding program. He gets lots of love and is enjoyed by the staff. Special thanks to Trisha White for fostering Bask when we didn't have room.



Bailey, our little AZDA case mustang, found a devoted home in Prescott Valley. Bailey was adopted to be pals with the owner's other horse on her new horse property. Bailey fit in right away and is enjoying even her new dog friends. Special thanks to Trisha White for fostering Bailey when we didn't have room.



Cozi was our last adoption of the year where Karuna Rescue helped us pick her up from a home that could not provide medical care and we helped the person who called us about her find all the resources to adopt her. Cozi was spotted from the freeway with a badly injured leg and upon approaching the owner, Karuna Rescue was able to obtain voluntary surrender so the mare could get help. She is a beautiful 10yo TB and is in a lovely home.

We did lose a couple dear souls like Paco the donkey, Southern, the older TB mare picked up from a Phoenix police call, and Shiny Chevy (in his adoptive home) and know they are in greener pastures.

ANIMAL TECHNICAL RESCUE



Our emergency response team was very busy this year and had some unusual animals to move for police cases including piggies, sheep, a ram and an Emu. In fact, thanks to John and Deb Fox, we revolutionized Emu transport and created a non-stressful transport for a very stressed-out Emu so he could flourish in a new home. This poor emu was in a pen around 4'x6' and his mate was dead in the pen with him decaying. We had to dig out his gate to free him and move him into his transport pen. He was super happy to be out of this situation and the team safely moved him to his new paradise in Cave Creek where he has acres to play. His people even taught him how to play soccer. We picked up several stray horses and returned them home as well as doing courtesy transports for other rescues.



We also helped a horse that fell into a canal get lifted out named Oreo. Her people were riding her on the canal path and some dirt bikes spooked her so that she backed up right into the canal. AERO with the help of Phoenix Fire Department were able to sling her and lift her back out to go home.



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ANIMAL TECHNICAL RESCUE (continued)

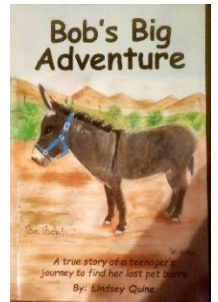


At one point in the season there were 23 wildfires going at the same time in Arizona and the Globe/San Carlos area was hit very hard. Our donors made it possible for us to send a semi of 512 bales (AERO paid for half the load) and a truckload of 100 bales (AERO paid for the full load) up to the San Carlos tribe ranchers who lost all of their pastures. Although accessing evacuation areas made it better for local resources to manage evacuation, we were on standby and supporting the AZ Dept of Agriculture with resources as required. The San Carlos

tribe was very grateful for the assistance and our hay supplier was very patient trying to get hay to their area which was extremely difficult.



We worked with HARTT to capture some BLM strays including Bob the Burro who ran away from his people while on a walk and stayed loose for several months and Dan the Mustang who was loose for 9 months. These are very complex operations because the animals can get loose even after penning them. We do not breathe easy until they are in their corrals at home.



Finally, one of our favorite things to do is support the parades and this year we helped with the Veteran's Day parade as well as the Parada del Sol and Fiesta Bowl Parade. Special thanks to Dr. Stacey Sickler and Chaparral Veterinary Medical Center for their support of rescues and the parade so we can safely get horses back home. Our ATR volunteers are second to none and spend their own time and own dime helping wherever they can.

Special thanks to the Animal Rescue Team including John and Deb Fox of Large Animal Rescue Company, Dick and Meredith Lynch, John Robinson of Robinson Ranch, Tony Sola, Trisha White, Kelly Cope, Teri Ann Tate, and Southwest Equine. They put in a lot of hours and a lot of effort into supporting all the calls we get each year.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION



This year AERO developed a wildfire livestock evacuation class in response to the many fires we worked over the last two years. The class was free and offered twice a week for several months during fire season to help horse owners be more prepared in the event of a wildfire. AERO also continues to work with AZ Humane Society and AZ Dept of Agriculture to develop better partnerships across agencies when it comes to livestock evacuation response.



We partnered with Big Bronco in their annual fundraiser for horse rescues and brought Big Jake to the event. Jake is a Belgian Draft that was brought to us by the Chandler Police Department on a seizure case along loves ice cream cones. Jake came to us unable to stand for long periods of time but thanks to our farrier, Mark Russell, he should return to sound and is thriving with proper care.





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COMMUNITY EDUCATION (Continued)



We also spent time with Animal Guardian Network helping with Officer Moose, an ex-Tempe police horse, that had some serious health concerns. Even though our assistance did create an improvement, it was unfortunately late in the game and Moose eventually had to be euthanized. However, the knowledge we shared with AGN will help their future residents and we plan to partner with them on horse care and education classes in the Camp Verde area in Spring 2022.

AT-RISK YOUTH PROGRAMS

The highlight of year was a special day for the Robinson Ranch Rescue kids in October. AERO was able to arrange for Richard Prather, polo player from the famous Worktoride.net polo program that is now sponsored by Ralph Lauren. Albertsons sponsored general admissions tickets to the Polo Party in Scottsdale so the kids could see polo in action on Saturday and then Richard taught a polo lesson to the kids on Sunday. Robinson Ranch is a partner organization to AERO that helps with animal technical rescue. The kids talked about their polo experience for months and were able to play a small game by the end of the session. Special thanks to EPR Polo and Allison Freeman for providing ponies for the kids to ride. AERO is looking to further the program in the coming years for more kids to learn life skills through horses and polo working with partner organizations.



LOOKING FORWARD in 2022

We continue to look to partner with agencies and non-profits to expand our programs for the community while offering our core expertise in extreme rehabilitation and adoption of horses and emergency response. We are looking to improve our website presence and hopefully start our children's programs again once the world returns to normal. We also received a large grant from Allen Heath Memorial Foundation to support our animal technical rescue efforts and we may be able to get another specialized rescue trailer to help build our services.

We cannot thank everyone enough for their support and allowing us to serve the community these 20 years!

Respectfully,

Soleil Dolce
Vice President and Acting Treasurer

An Arizona State Department of Agriculture Registered Rescue - EIN 86-1029061