



## Happy Spring, everyone!

It's been a while since I've sent a newsletter, so we have lots to tell you!

There are a few areas where we desperately need help, so I'll highlight them here in a short list, and you can read more details in the newsletter below. Please respond to this email if you can help, and please share with all your network! We need:

- Sponsors for a few more horses – this helps us cover basic feed costs
- More volunteers for both morning and evening feeding times
- Your help telling folks about our upcoming Derby Watch Party
- More people who can adopt horses or help with costs when we are full

## What's happening?

Well it's birthday season!! We are celebrating lots of birthdays, the most recent were Gracie turning 25 and Onyx turning 4. Max, Rev, Cash, Cowboy, and Twister all have April birthdays too!

We've finished all of our current projects (thank goodness) – extending the small and big barns to give more shelter to the horses in 2 pastures, which also enabled us to move Smoothie and Doc out of their temporary pasture into a big pasture with Max and Rev! Yay! Much better for them to have more room to run, more grass, and a big permanent structure.

We are planning our 2nd annual Kentucky Derby watch party on May 4th --- should be lots of fun! We'll have games and prizes, champagne and a new sorbet that Dulce Panda is making just for us, we'll stream and watch the Derby, and folks will get to meet the horses who need sponsors. Watch our FB page for updates and details **here**: <https://fb.me/e/5a96iSLqR> Please help us by sharing this event with your friends!

Thanks to all the rain, all of our pastures are green! We will be re-seeding in the next few weeks since last year's drought killed all the grass in some areas. And although we are grateful for all the rain, we have had some serious drainage issues that caused flooding --- which got us on NBC5 once again with videos of Elaine and I working in the flood! We have been working to correct the issues around Small Barn.

# Sponsorship

## Who's not sponsored?

I get asked regularly – who's not sponsored yet? So here's the list of horses who need sponsors:

Flame, Smoothie, Rexi, Peso, Maggie, Roux (Rexi and Peso have partial sponsors), and Isabella the mini-cow needs a sponsor too!

You can read more about the horses (and Isa) who need a sponsor here: [Horses Who Need a Sponsor](#).

## Let's talk about Sponsorship!

When you sponsor one of our residents, you're helping cover our feed costs; but more importantly, you're participating in our mission to save senior horses. You're joining the cause and stepping up for a specific animal. You're getting involved and making a difference!

On average (because every horse's needs are different, and can vary vastly), "full sponsorship" of \$250/month covers about 75% of a horse's feed --- grain, hay, and supplements. Farrier and medical costs aren't included in sponsorship. Sponsorship isn't meant to have you fund everything as though you own or lease the horse.

In addition to the satisfaction of supporting a horse you sponsor, you have an open invitation to come at evening feeding time and visit the horse you sponsor --- giving them some extra love and maybe some grooming and cookies! We also offer opportunities during the year for sponsors to come out to special events. In the past we've had a professional photographer come out to take pics of sponsors and "their" horse.

Please please help us get more sponsors! We need the help with daily costs of keeping everyone fed!

## What happens when GRS is full?

We are really full --- 31 horses and 2 donkeys, plus Isa. I never imagined we'd have this many equines. And I am getting contacted 3-4 times a week by folks asking us to take their seniors. We've had this discussion before – we can't save them all. BUT we can try to help. When we're full, I'll go look at horses, see how we can help them, and post about them to try to find a new forever home if that's appropriate. A lot of these horses need a farrier or some kind of medical help, and sometimes they need the basics like hay and grain. It takes time and money. I spend a lot of weekends driving to see horses and I seldom

have downtime. There's never enough money.

I've considered having a program for "fostering" these horses during the transition. Not taking them into your home but covering their costs while we try to get them to a better place. If you're interested in being this kind of "foster" for a horse please let me know. Do you have any friends who might be interested?

When we help rehome a horse, we put them under a GRS adoption contract that says the adopter can't sell or transfer the horse, and if they can't take care of the horse, they need to let us know. It gives the horse a safety net at GRS and hopefully stops them from ending up in another bad situation. Do you know people who are looking for a horse? Please have them reach out to me. We always have a backlog of horses looking for homes and recently we've had rideable horses and younger horses, as well as the seniors.

As always, you can see pictures and learn more about each of our "residents" [\*\*here\*\*](#).

## **Volunteering**

Volunteers make the world go 'round! We have some super-fantastic volunteers who are always willing to jump in and help, but we need more folks.

Volunteers help with chores and feeding from 7:30-9am or from 3:30/4-5:30pm daily. Volunteers poop scoop, groom, fly spray, and hand out cookies.

Volunteers with horse experience might also walk horses and help with small cuts and scrapes. There are a few more details, plus a sign-up form [\*\*here\*\*](#).

## **Have you met Roux????**

Sooooo.... Even though we are full.... Our friends at Texas Rescue in Granbury asked if we could find a foster for a horse they were very concerned about (they are full too, and we had just sent them 2 donkeys). I thought "she can come here and we'll assess her and then find a foster". You can imagine how that worked out. She's here, in Doc and Smoothie's former temporary paddock.

Roux was severely malnourished and neglected. Bones sticking out everywhere and her hair coming off in clumps. Her feet were terrible, and her teeth hadn't been done. She hadn't had shots or any other basic care.

Roux came to us on Feb 19th (7 weeks ago) and we immediately got her up to speed on all care. She is on a feeding plan of 4 meals a day, with supplements

for coat, allergies, hooves, and general health. A vet visit, farrier care, a bath, and lots of love (with cookies). She is improving every day. My goal is that at 3 months, you won't be able to tell she'd been starved. We are getting there!

Dr. Price said she's about 20 years old. Emma is going to start working with her in the round pen this week. Instinct tells me that she may make a good grandkid horse. If so, we will find her a forever home where she can be the center of someone's universe. If not, we'll see whether we need to make room for her here.

Roux does not have a sponsor today.



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The new girl, Roux

Watch for before and after pics next month!

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Birthday Boy, Onyx!!!



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Get your hats ready! Derby Day is coming up on May 4th!!!

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### **We need your help!**

Donations keep us going and growing. Many of you donate already. Please share our newsletter and **Facebook** page. We need to reach more people and more donors so that we can help more horses.

We need more monthly recurring donations to feed and care for the animals, but also to ensure we meet IRS guidelines to keep our nonprofit status. And don't forget, you can make an appointment to come visit!



## **What's Next?**



You have to watch **Facebook** if you really want to know what's going on!

[Donate to our seniors](#)



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