



Hi from everyone here at GRS!

WOW! It's hard to know where to begin... There is so much great stuff going on!

We have 7 new equines – 2 donkeys and 5 horses – who are permanent residents of the sanctuary. We've been posting lots of pics and videos on Facebook. We will also continue our partnership with Peace for All Animals and continue to help them rescue mini-donkeys, but we don't have any of their rescues on the property right now. The ones we rescued in May are happily settled in cooler temperatures in Massachusetts. Peace is currently running "Name Game" fundraisers on Facebook, so that folks can vote for new names for Mama, Little, and Big, as we called them. Be sure to follow Peace on Facebook **here**.

**We are starting our own Name Game fundraiser next week. As a subscriber, you can go vote early for new names for the Blue Ridge horses on our website here. A black mare and a red roan gelding, who are both 24 years old, need really great names. With the Name Game, anyone can suggest a name by "voting". Each vote is \$5 on the website. We will tally the votes daily and post updates.**

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## What's happening?

We have a couple of events in the works:

- Open House – we will host our annual open house, likely

in  
Sept-  
Oct.  
Stay  
tuned  
for  
more  
info.  
We'll  
post  
on  
Facebook  
and  
the  
website,  
and  
I'll  
send  
out  
a  
newsletter  
update  
as  
well  
once  
we  
have  
the  
date  
locked  
down.

- Tack  
Sale  
—  
we've  
received  
a  
lot  
of  
donations  
for  
our  
tack  
sale.  
The  
tack  
sale  
will  
raise  
money  
to  
pay

for  
Doc's  
vet  
bills  
(+\$3k)  
and  
Kaylie's  
upcoming  
ACL  
surgery  
(\$3200).  
The  
Tack  
Sale  
will  
be  
Saturday,  
Aug  
26th.  
We  
will  
post  
about  
it  
on  
Facebook  
and  
the  
website.  
Please  
share  
and  
encourage  
your  
friends  
to  
donate  
and  
shop  
the  
sale!

Most of our animals are doing really well and handling the heat better than their humans! We do have a few that overheat (Doc, Cash), and we are careful to keep them cooled off. Lots of horse showers!

Doc has bounced back really well from his hoof/intestinal emergencies that caused him to spend 2 weeks at the vet. For a little while, I thought he wasn't going to be able to come back home. So it's such a relief to have him back with Smoothie and recovering nicely.

Kaylie has also had some great improvements – her kidney and liver numbers are back within the normal range. The vet said he didn't expect that at all – he thought she had kidney disease. So that's really awesome. But it also means she's well enough to have the ACL surgery she needs. It's scheduled for August 23rd. **Please pray for an easy surgery and fast recovery!** The vet said both her back ACLs were torn – probably long before she came here – but repairing the more healthy leg should give her a better quality of life.

We had Dr. Price and the Peak team out this week to check on a number of the horses and donkeys, but one of the main things was to do allergy tests on four of the horses. The two Blue Ridge horses – the ones in the name game – came to us with horrible skin issues caused by allergies. The gelding had bloody sores on his back where he was missing his hide from the allergic reactions, and the mare was covered in bumps that looked like maybe she's allergic to fly bites. We tested Poco and Doc as well. It will be really interesting to see the results next week. We can then decide if we start them on allergy shots, which are about \$250 a horse and last for 6 months.

### **So who are all the new guys (and gals)? Let me tell you!**

- Tex  
–  
28  
year  
old  
gray  
retired  
roping  
horse.  
A  
sweetie  
who's  
a  
little  
shy  
around  
people.  
He's  
very  
healthy.
- Toby  
–  
22  
year  
old  
dark  
brindled  
bay

retired  
roping  
horse.  
He's  
HUGE.  
The  
biggest  
horse  
on  
the  
property.  
Very  
chill,  
very  
healthy.  
Tex's  
best  
buddy.

- Shakira  
—  
a  
white  
donkey  
(girls  
are  
called  
Jennies)  
that  
we  
were  
told  
is  
“ancient”  
followed  
by  
“probably  
over  
30”.  
She's  
been  
with  
Tex  
and  
Toby  
for  
more  
than  
20  
years.  
She  
loves

people,  
and  
if  
she  
thinks  
there's  
food  
involved,  
she  
starts  
braying  
and  
makes  
us  
all  
laugh.  
She's  
easy-  
going  
and  
let  
me  
put  
on  
her  
fly  
mask  
with  
no  
drama.

- Cowboy  
—  
20  
year  
old  
bay.  
He's  
a  
pretty  
big  
guy  
as  
well.  
He  
loves  
people  
and  
loves  
cookies  
more.  
He  
challenged

every  
gelding  
he  
could  
see  
over  
the  
fences  
and  
tried  
to  
win  
over  
every  
mare  
in  
sight.  
He's  
in  
with  
Flame  
and  
Twister,  
and  
they  
are  
a  
cute  
little  
herd.  
They  
get  
along  
great.  
Cowboy  
has  
a  
slit  
in  
his  
nose  
that  
needs  
to  
be  
scoped,  
and  
he  
may  
have  
a  
slight

vision  
problem.  
But  
otherwise  
he's  
healthy  
and  
hearty!

- Blue  
Ridge  
Horses  
—  
barn  
nicknames  
Lili  
and  
Roanie  
—  
came  
to  
us  
with  
Angel  
the  
Donkey.  
Lili  
is  
a  
black  
mare  
who  
used  
to  
race  
barrels  
and  
is  
said  
to  
be  
24.  
She's  
a  
little  
bit  
sassy  
but  
good  
with  
people.  
I



think  
she  
may  
be  
a  
good  
intermediate  
lesson  
horse  
for  
us  
once  
we  
get  
her  
back  
in  
shape  
and  
her  
allergies  
cleared  
up.  
Roanie  
is  
24  
and  
will  
be  
fully  
retired  
here.  
He's  
a  
beautiful  
red  
road  
but  
way  
too  
thin,  
and  
his  
allergies  
are  
horrific.  
His  
feet  
were  
terrible  
and  
he

limps  
on  
the  
front  
left  
with  
some  
arthritis  
in  
his  
knee.  
We  
have  
him  
on  
anti-  
inflammatories  
and  
allergy  
meds.

- Angel  
—  
the  
Blue  
Ridge  
donkey  
—  
is  
cute  
and  
sweet.  
Her  
markings  
remind  
me  
so  
much  
of  
“Little”,  
the  
baby  
from  
our  
Peace  
for  
All  
Animals  
rescue  
family.  
She  
foundered  
at

one  
time  
and  
has  
a  
limp,  
so  
we  
have  
her  
on  
stronger  
anti-  
inflammatory  
pain  
meds,  
and  
she  
is  
improving.  
Donkeys  
seem  
to  
be  
a  
lot  
heartier  
than  
horses,  
and  
she  
doesn't  
have  
any  
allergy  
issues.

As always, you can see pictures and learn more about each of our "residents" **here**. I hope to have all the new guys and gals added to the website soon. For now, Facebook has all the latest.

### **Projects!**

We have a number of projects going on.

Smoothie and Doc got new permanent fencing for their pasture, plus a 32x20 shaded area in their paddock.

We got a grant to fence the back pastures, extending the current pastures to

give most of the horses more grass, plus create two new pastures. The grant also covered water lines to the back and a new 16x36 shelter to service the new back pastures. While we were doing that, we went ahead and asked the contractor to put in all new water lines to the existing pastures. Our existing lines were PVC that would freeze and burst in the winter and weren't buried deep enough, so the water runs hot in the summer. The new lines are Pex and shouldn't freeze, and they are 3 feet deep and should run cool. YAY!

The other new project is a real bathroom for volunteers and visitors, so that we can get rid of the porta-potty. Another YAY! It's been super busy this summer.

**Please pray for rain and a break in the heat.**

The heat is so terrible. We still have to work long hours outside to take care of the horses and pastures, regardless of the temps, and it's exhausting. We are blessed to have some great volunteers, and some new ones!

I'm probably forgetting some important stuff, but I think this is long enough. We hope you're having a great summer!

Please help us tell more people about GRS!

Below are pics of some of the new faces.













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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!

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