



Rescues shine at the 2008 WLRCA Competition First WLRCA competition in three years, Cowgirl Spirit rescues stand out

July 11-13, 2008, marked a new beginning, as Cowgirl Spirit's rescues rode into the competition arena ready to perform. Dedication and hard work by both the horses and their riders, brought the team to that point which many questioned would be possible. Horses that were unbroken only a few months before, stood out with pride as they completed maneuvers and patterns in unison, wowing the crowds.

With four riders from our sister team, Rein 'N Rowdies, Cowgirl Spirit had the ability to compete as a team of eight - giving the horses even more of an opportunity to show their new found abilities off to spectators, as well as those interested in one of the available horses for adoption.



Elisabeth & Zoe carrying the team flag during the awards presentation 7/13/08

Last Performance of 2008

Two recues combine efforts on August 23rd

Cowgirl Spirit's last performance for 2008 will be held at the SAFE show in Bridle Trails on August 23rd during their lunch hour. By invite, this performance will not only give the horses available for adoption a chance to show what they can do, but also a chance for Cowgirl Spirit to help show the public what rescue horses can be capable of - becoming a strong and dependable riding horse. SAFE, standing for "Save A forgotten Equine", can be found at <http://www.safehorses.org>. Be sure to stop by and say hello. We look forward to meeting you! Any questions, contact team@csrdt.org.

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COWGIRLS WANTED!

Committed? Dedicated? Love horses? Want to help save, train and perform on slaughter bound rescues? If so, then we NEED you! We are now accepting new members for the 2009 competition season and we'd love to have you be a part of our team!
JOIN US TODAY!

Summer time and fundraising events!

Cool water and cars to wash, beats the heat for the summer

Red, White, and Blue balloons hung on carwash signs have come to be known as the way to say, "Cowgirl Spirit is here and washing cars!" Although hard work, we've thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet more of the public, talk about what we do, and hear personal stories from others on how horses have changed their own lives.

Our need for volunteers during carwashes, as well as other events, remain. If interested in seeing how your help could be used, please contact team@csrdt.org

Watch our discussion boards for the next carwash and other fundraising activities, at <http://www.csrdt.org/forums>.



Lise, Juliane & Elisabeth washing the next car in line, at our monthly carwash on 7/19/08



A New Rescue Joins Cowgirl Spirit, Prince Caspian

Cowgirl Spirit welcomes a new rescue, in a [not so] unique situation



Prince Caspian, stretching his legs while checking out his new pasture, 07/26/08

Please join us in welcoming our newest rescue, Prince Caspian. Caspian is a 7 year old gorgeous grey Arabian gelding who was sweepstakes nominated for breeding and shown in halter class as a yearling. He was then abandoned by his breeder and given to a horse trader. He was purchased by a local Parelli Student where he has begun learning natural horsemanship. Caspian came to us through his owner who is going through a major life change and is unable to continue his care. Caspian is a level one Parelli horse and has been green-broke. He is very bright, healthy and a real people pleaser. He loves to play games, run with dogs and generally be in the thick of things. Casper has a lot of spirit, an inquisitive mind and a high play drive. He hasn't quite learned yet that work can be fun but he is whip smart and we have high hopes for his future development on the team.

The kindness and sweet demeanor this horse radiates is precious, as well his desire to learn, and we feel very honored to have been able to welcome him into our program. Prince Caspian didn't join our group alone though, but rather along with his previous owner and now new member, Aimee Fletcher. We are excited to have her a part of our team also. Welcome Aimee!

Caspian will be attending his first performance with other Cowgirl Spirit rescues on August 23rd during the half-time demonstration at the Save A Forgotten Equine benefit horse show. Please be sure to stop by and say hello to this charming fellow. We are certain that he will find his adoptive home quickly!



Caspian, investigating the creek on his 1st trail ride August 2008

Cowgirl Spirit Spotlight Rider of the Month!

Lise Escobar is in the Spotlight this month—please read on to get to know our valued team member!

Name: Lise Escobar

Hometown: Fall City, Washington

About Lise: Horses have been Lise's passion for as long as she can remember. Pictures of her when she was very young show her in jeans, boots and a cowboy hat. She began riding at age 8. Her first job was cleaning stalls and paddocks at age 10 at a barn called "The Bit N Spur." In exchange for her work, she earned riding lessons. When she was 13, she got her first pony, a paint named Zip Code. Zippy, as she was called around the barn, was well know for winning timed jumping contests, out jumping much larger horses. Lise says her job was basically to hold on. Lise was trained by Jolene LaBour retraining thoroughbreds that came off the track. She also rode at Foxfield for several years in Southern California. Her favorite style of riding at the time was English, in particular, hunter/jumper.

Lise gave up her passion for riding and horses for 20 years as she raised her four children, finished her education and started a career. When her youngest daughter, Elisabeth, demonstrated the same deep passion for horses, it was the excuse she needed to jump back in. She has been riding again for about 5 years.

A few years ago she was the Cowgirl Spirit Team Mom when her daughter became a rider for the team. Lise was happy to support the team but longed to be riding with them. This year she has been able to fulfill that dream. She has adopted Shakirah and her daughter's horse, Zoe. Shakirah had less than a dozen rides on her at the time Lise fell in love with her. They are riding several times a week and Lise says Shakirah is helping her to relearn and remember how to be a great rider. She is very appreciative of Shakirah's patience.

When Lise is not working with horses or parenting her kids, she is busy as a principal of a high school in Seattle.



Lise & Shakirah at WLRCA State 7/13/08

Preparing Your Horse For Winter

Horses don't need to lose weight in the winter—help your equine friend stay round through the cold weather ahead with these tips.

Summer is winding down and it's time to think about preparing our horses for the winter ahead. Here are some easy steps you can take to keep your horses healthy and happy!

- Make sure they have adequate shelter. Cold doesn't hurt horses, but cold combined with wet does – they will shiver and lose weight no matter what you are feeding. A good waterproof blanket like a Weatherbeta or Rambo is the perfect way to ensure that even if they don't come in out of the rain, they won't suffer. In addition, it will help prevent skin conditions like rain rot.
- Eating itself helps keep horses warm. It's better to feed a large quantity of local hay with a little of the more expensive timothy, orchard grass and alfalfa morning and night than to feed just the expensive hays and have to limit how much your horses can have. You won't mind if some of the cheap hay gets wasted, and your horses will maintain condition better if they have something to chew on all day.
- If you have a horse who has trouble maintaining his weight, have a veterinarian check his teeth. He may be unable to chew efficiently, or if he is older, he may have no grinding surface left at all. If you have a senior horse who can't chew, the solution is hay pellets. Feeding two to three



CSRDT Alumni Dandy enjoys a wintry day

scoops of hay pellets, morning and night, soaked with warm water, will pack the weight back on any otherwise healthy senior horse.

- Regular de-worming is another way to ensure that your horses look good year round. De-worming every two months and rotating de-wormers between the different types – for example, Safeguard, Anthelcide, Zimecterin and Strongid – will ensure your horses are as worm-free as possible and you are feeding the horse, not the worms!
- Standing in mud causes hoof problems including painful abscesses, and skin conditions like scratches. A load of hogsfuel spread over high-traffic areas like around your water trough and the entrance to your run-in shed is a reasonably priced solution that will keep mud under control.
- Do you have just one horse who needs extra feed to stay round all winter? Old fashioned feed bags are the perfect way to give grain and supplements to just one horse in a field with no fussing or fighting. Just hang the bag on the horse and come back out in a half hour – mission accomplished!

Although we don't see much snow here in Washington, pasture alone isn't enough for horses as the fall comes in. Putting out some hay is a good test – if your horses eat the hay, they probably need it. Horses on good pasture will usually ignore hay in favor of the grass.

VOLUNTEER

Many of our rescues simply need the basic reassurances of daily brushing and grooming as they learn to trust humans again. If you are looking for a way to fulfill your passion for horses, you can volunteer your time to work with our rescues, clean their stalls, feed and exercise them.

How you can help...

Your support helps us to continue our efforts to raise awareness of equine slaughter in America through the transformation of "worthless" horses into athletes trained in the sport of equestrian drill.

If have, or know someone who has the resources to contribute to Cowgirl Spirit Rescue Drill Team, please contact us at:

<http://www.csrtd.org>

DONATE

Most of our rescues come to us with needs beyond those of the average horse. Your donation of services, products as well as monetary donations help us meet the physical needs of our rescues and keep them healthy and happy!

INDOOR ARENA

Cowgirl Spirit is still in search of an indoor arena close to Fall City which can accommodate 10-12 horses for our weekly practice/training sessions.

FOSTER HOMES

We wouldn't be able to help as many horses as we do without the generous donations of foster homes. We are incredibly grateful to each family that donates their pasture to our rescues. We are always looking for new foster homes to accommodate our constantly growing group of rescues.

EQUESTRIAN FACILITY

Thank you to Blue Hill LLC & Wells Nursery in Fall City for providing us with the much needed land, giving us the opportunity to house all of our horses in one area. Stop by sometime and visit us!

Feel the Spirit...

Keep on Riding

*Subscribe to Cowgirl Spirit's
monthly newsletter and have a
copy mailed directly to your home!*

Check out our website!
<http://www.csrtd.org>

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Cowgirl Spirit rescue, Shine, to start training this fall!

Having been rescued from the Yakima feedlot in May 2006 as a very pregnant mare being scheduled for shipment to slaughter, Shine went to her new home with an unknown past. Juliane Hanley took the time to see what Shine knew - surprisingly she appeared knowledgeable when it came to all the normal groundwork, from lunging to ground driving to even having a rider balancing in the stirrup. Fear quickly hit though when her rider swung their leg over her back in attempt to sit in the saddle, quickly throwing the person on her back. Her owner sent her to a trainer, who labeled her as dangerous after being thrown a few times.



Shine came to Cowgirl Spirit in July 2008. With the understanding of her deep rooted concerns of having a rider on her back, Shine will start her training in September. It is our intention to re-start Shine from the beginning, hoping to fill any gaps that exist and may be causing her fear and bucking issues. Watch our discussion board for updates on this beautiful mare!

Need Your Car Washed?

August 30th marks the next fundraising Cowgirl Spirit cars held at the Grange in Issaquah to help fund our cause. We have been extremely grateful by the support of the Grange Supply, as well as the steady stream of cars and generous supporters! We've also been very blessed by the kind volunteers and sponsors whom we have met through our fundraising efforts!

We love to talk about our rescues, their training progress and our upcoming competitions. Please stop by and have your car washed the next time you see our signs at the Grange! Or, check our website to see when we will be there next!



New Cowgirl Spirit Facility!

We are excited to announce that Cowgirl Spirit now has a headquarters facility that will house most of our rescues in one place. Blue Hill, LLC, who purchased the well-known Well's Nursery property in Fall City, has generously donated the pasture, land and outbuildings for use for our rescues.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Blue Hill, LLC, for the use of their 14-acre property. Their extremely generous donation will help us be more efficient in helping horses in need.

To get the Well's Nursery property fully functional, we need to set up safe pastures for our horses by constructing fencing. For this, we will need fencing materials and volunteers to help construct the fencing. If you would like to help us prepare the pastures for our rescues, please contact us at team@csrtd.org.

We are hopeful to have an Open House to welcome the community to come meet our rescues and learn more about Cowgirl Spirit's mission. We will be housing all of our rescues at this property, and look forward to showing each of them to our supporters. Please look forward to our August newsletter for this upcoming social event announcement.

Cowgirl Spirit's 2008 Competition Schedule

Be sure to stop by one of our upcoming competitions this season! We enjoy meeting our supporters and fans and love to show off our rescues!!

8/23/08—SAFE Benefit Show, Bridle Trails, Bellevue, WA

Check out our website for more details!

<http://www.csrtd.org>

Watch this section next month for our upcoming winter fundraising schedule!