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EIN 74-3071112

HEAVEN CAN WAIT NEWSLETTER – December 2009
A Year In Review

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

From everyone at Heaven Can Wait, may your holidays be just the opening notes of a beautiful symphony for 2010.

News from the Ranch

Good news about Rolo, our Quarter Horse with the injured right front hoof. The hoof is growing out, developing new tissue and this favorite fellow should soon be out in the pastures with the herd again. He still is grateful for those who come to walk him around while he's recuperating. It has helped and is still needed.

Thanks from many hooves to Jane and Greg Hind and the Hind Foundation for 30 stall mats so our residents stand on dry ground under their shelters. And laugh at the weather.

Adventure Club

Johnee Gange and his good friends from the Adventure Club visited HCW on November 6. They have been enjoying horse-related activities here for almost a year now. At right is Lil Man giving Meaghan a hug, as captured by John's camera.

The Club has made many happy visits to the Sanctuary this year – we're so glad they're part of

our family. More pictures from their adventures:



Wellness Community Open House November 10

The Wellness Community opened its doors to guests and visitors on November 10 to introduce everyone to the many facilitators and partner service providers in our area. HCW attended to make contacts and spread the word about HoPE.

Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center

One of the fastest growing health conditions in the U.S. today is autism, and it seems to strike one child in every 150 to some degree. President Gary Nemeth and CEO Juli Miller of the Autism Spectrum Center met with Heaven Can Wait November 19 to explore possibilities of the HoPE program serving the autism community as well as cancer patients and survivors. The idea goes before the ACS board for further action.

In the meantime, Susan, Gloria and Ramey will represent HCW at a premier screening of the documentary movie *The Horse Boy* (www.zeitgeistfilms.com/horseboy) in San Luis Obispo on December 11. This is the story of a little boy whose severe autism was greatly helped by contact with horses, eventually leading his family to take him on a horseback trip through Mongolia, among a people whose culture encompasses both equines and shamanic healing techniques.

The movie will be shown Friday December 11 from 7-9:30 PM at the Palm Theatre, 817 Palm St., SLO. The modest \$10 ticket donation goes to benefit the Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center (www.AutismSpectrumCenter.com – 805/763-1100). Everyone is welcome.

Lighted Christmas Parade December 5

This year Paso Robles was treated to a beautifully decorated, lit 16' HCW float filled with Ranchita Canyon 4H passengers, volunteers and featuring live vocals of Christmas songs by



Audrey Arellano (Shades of Gray Band). **We won the Downtown Main St. Association's Santa's Award for excellence** – thank you to Mark, Jeff and Kerin for all their very hard work making this float and getting everyone together. Ranchita Canyon 4Hers and HCW volunteers helped build and disassemble afterward. A page of photos by Jeff Smith (as is the one above) from December 5 is part of this Newsletter. Enjoy.

No More Charity from Horse.com

For several years, equine and stable supply company Horse.com donated 5% of each of your online orders from them to HCW. We recently received a message stating that due to economic conditions, this program would be discontinued. We want to thank everyone out there who supported us through their purchase from Horse.com – it made a difference.

There are other ways you can help the horses and donkeys with your purchases and in kind donations – including using www.GoodSearch.com for internet searches and www.GoodShop.com for online shopping. Plus you can pick up something horsey at our Benefit Bargain Store and shop through Ramey for Avon. Read on.

Benefit Bargain Store

5Star Hay and Feed at 275 Marquita Way in Paso Robles (805/434-3548) continues to host HCW's very successful Benefit Bargain Store. 5Star is open Monday through Saturday until 5 PM or later. Won't you stop in and see if any blankets, saddle pads, saddles, wraps, martingales, bits or other golden but good items appeal to you? We also appreciate donations of good usable tack, clothing and barn supplies as well as horse-related books and "collectibles." Call Ramey at 805/712-3109 to arrange for donation pick up.

Currently HCW also has a pony cart in like new condition, donated by one of our friends and supporters from San Miguel. To see it, call Gloria at Luv Me Tender Miniature Donkey Farm, 805/467-9204.

Avon Donation

Avon will donate back 25% of all orders taken by Ramey Zamora (805/712-3109, ramey12@wildblue.net) before close of business December 14. Choose from campaigns 24, 25 and 26 and sample almost all the wonderful products at Miranda Battenburg's Avon Store at 205 Oak Hill Rd., Ste. 103, Paso Robles (805/227-6024). You can also find products online at www.Avon.com, just order through Ramey so HCW benefits. Thank you.

Speaking Engagement

Heaven Can Wait will speak to the Paso Robles lunchtime Kiwanis Club on Tuesday, December 29 at 12 noon, location – Paso Robles Golf Course Clubhouse on Clubhouse Drive. We will be emphasizing the free community outreach programs possible and making contacts in this fine civic organization.

Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce Holiday Mixer

Come to Rabobank on Spring Street in Paso (between 8th and 9th Streets) on Wednesday, December 9 from 5:30 – 7:00 for a festive mixer. Free to all, including wine and beer tasting and tempting snacks. Help represent HCW (we are a member).

Lingerie Show

HCW is considering putting on a Lingerie Show fundraiser in February at the beautiful new Meritage tasting room on 11th St. at the Paso City Park. Anyone who is interested in modeling or helping with the organization of the project, please call Ramey 805/712-3109. Note to models: styles modeled will be tasteful and include lounge and sleepwear as well as lingerie. Sorry guys, no naughty bits. But if you see a style you like, you will be able to purchase it that evening in your beloved's size. Please stay tuned for details as the planning progresses.



Lulu Bennett – Columnist

HCW's good friend, talented knitter and artisan, gifted Lulu Bennett has been tapped by the Paso Robles Press to submit a weekly column with her byline. Congratulations, Lulu. Help us get the word out to seniors and others of the therapeutic effects of horses at the Sanctuary.

HoPE Lives

Heaven Can Wait's Horse Passion for Everyone (HoPE) is an ongoing program that began by serving the Wellness Community's Cancer Support Center in Paso Robles and has opened its arms to anyone interested in experiencing the calming, healing and empowering effects of horse-assisted activities. Our first session was in the summer of 2009, the result of many, many hours of study and practice, of thought and organization and planning, and of public outreach. Amazing volunteers with big hearts got the program underway and keep it strong now. Call Susan at 805/368-5702 if you would like to learn more.



The Spirit of Sharing at this Holiday Time

Please consider making a donation to Heaven Can Wait as a gift of sharing on behalf of someone special in your life, like a teacher, a student, a pastor, a client, a friend far away. We will send them a thank you from the Sanctuary with a beautiful image they can enjoy all year. Sponsorships on a monthly, semi-annual and annual basis are also available and make great gifts to get someone involved in the world of animal welfare and community outreach. Go to www.heavencanwait.us for details or call Susan at the number shown below.

Every dollar goes to the non-profit for the rescue, rehabilitation and sanctuary of wonderful horses and donkeys that everyone is welcome to visit all year around.

Your kindness continues to inspire us.

Susan Schwartz, Founder

805/368-5702

HEAVEN CAN WAIT FLOAT - WINNER OF 2009 SANTA'S AWARD!

