

Pony Up Express

An Update from the Circle P Sanctuary



Hoedown For Horses

Embrace Your Inner Cowboy

We at the Circle P Sanctuary value every single person that shares our desire to better the lives of the animals that cross our paths. Whether you are a donor, a volunteer, or someone who helps to spread the word of our mission, the animals and horses at the Sanctuary thank you! As you may know, we are hosting our second annual Hoedown for Horses this year and the event promises to be full of great food, dancing, raffles, and prizes! Please help to spread the word and make this our best Hoedown yet! If you would like more information or to purchase tickets go to www.circlepsanctuary.org and click on Events!

Sanctuary News

News and updates about horses and happenings around the Sanctuary!

Page 2

Featured Article

In this issue we share with you some tips and tricks to create a great pasture!

Page 4

Talking Points

Explore controversial horse issues and topics – Page 8

Community Speaks Out -
Page 9



Events

HOEDOWN FOR HORSES

PLACE: CLARION HOTEL & SUITES
900 E. DUBLIN-GRANVILLE RD.
COLUMBUS, OH 43229

TIME: 6:30 – 10PM

WHEN: SATURDAY OCTOBER 22

COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE HORSES AT THE SANCTUARY WITH FOOD, FUN, AND DANCING!

OPEN BARN

PLACE: CIRCLE P SANCTUARY

TIME: 1 – 4 PM

WHEN: EVERY 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH COME EXPLORE THE PROPERTY; MEET THE HORSES, GOATS, PICS, AND LLAMAS.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

PLACE: CIRCLE P SANCTUARY

TIME: 1 – 3PM

WHEN: EVERY 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

FILL OUT A VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM FROM OUR WEBSITE AND GET AN INTRODUCTION TO WORKING AT THE SANCTUARY!

Sanctuary News

Events, Horses, Adoptions

Have you ever dreamed of being a rockstar? Entertained grand images of yourself accepting a Grammy for your award winning voice? Well here is your chance to make those dreams come true! The Circle P Sanctuary is now hosting Karaoke Night at the Old Bag of Nails in Westerville every third Thursday of the month!

With food and drink available for purchase, good friends, and good music, how can you go wrong? The \$5 cover fee goes towards raising funds for all of our deserving animals and allows us to continue our mission to rescue and rehabilitate horses in need.

Even if the musical talent gene has passed you by, Karaoke Nights are still a great way to relax and have some fun – and all in the name of a good cause! Hope to see you there!

The Old Bag of Nails
24-26 North State Street
Westerville, OH 43081
8pm – Midnight
Every 3rd Thursday

Services Offered at the Circle P Ranch

Lazy Dog Lodge – Going on vacation? Need a place for your dog to stay? Look no further! The Lazy Dog Lodge is now offering dog boarding packages so your dog can vacation too!

Horse Leasing – For only \$250 a month you could have a horse of your very own! Hang out or ride a horse at your leisure and let us do all the work. Horses will stay at the Circle P Ranch.



Meet Bo

Our Featured Adoptable Horse

Bo is a tall (16.3 hands!), gorgeous chestnut gelding with only a small white snip on his nose. Bo came to us after having been rehabilitated in another home and was originally rescued from a massive horse seizure case. Bo can be nervous at times, but is a friendly horse that enjoys human contact. Bo is thought to be a Tennessee Walking Horse and has very smooth gaits. However, Bo has a weak hip and has experienced some lameness issues here at the Sanctuary that has limited his time under saddle. At his old home, he had been taken on trails and seemed to enjoy it very much! Bo is a great horse that needs time to regain muscle and a patient rider that is willing to give Bo time to rest when it is needed. At this time, Bo is only suitable for light riding at the walk and trot. Next time you are at the Sanctuary make sure to ask to meet Bo!

Pasture Management

Tips, Tricks, and Guidelines

Nothing is more beautiful than the sight of your horse grazing on a lush, green pasture. A horse with adequate pasture is happy and healthy, not to mention that an adequate pasture can also provide a cheap source of feed for your horse for four to eight months out of the year, when managed correctly. A well-maintained and lush 3-4 acre pasture can support 3-4 mature horses in light work for four to five months. But what needs to be done to maintain a healthy pasture that can support your horses? Follow these basic guidelines and you will be on your way to a great pasture space!

Planting and Seeding

When seeding your pasture, choose a mixture of legumes and grasses. Grasses help to offer early spring and late fall roughage and can grow thick enough to lessen weeds and help keep the ground from becoming too trampled by horse hoofs. Legumes are higher in protein and minerals and help keep soil fertile and grow quickly during the summer.

Before planting, it can be helpful to contact your nearest Soil Test Laboratory and conduct a soil test of your pasture. Grasses and legumes need calcium, nitrogen, potassium, magnesium, and phosphorous to grow well. Spreading manure on your pasture helps to return some of these nutrients back to the soil, but a fertilizer or compost may be needed if the soil quality is low.

Separate Pastures

By separating your large pasture into two or three pastures (depending on the size of your property) you can rotate your horses from pasture to pasture to ensure that the grass does not become too depleted. While the horses graze on one pasture, the other pasture is given a chance to rest and re-grow. Once grass is only 5cm high, do not let horses graze on that pasture (rotate to a new one). After 20 – 30 days when the grass is around 10cm high, horses can be allowed back to graze.

When horses graze, they eat very close to the root, and therefore can quickly ruin a pasture into a big mud lot. It is also helpful to have a designated sacrifice area in which your horses can still be turned out in if it is too soft or wet in the fields – horses hoofs easily tear into soft ground and uproot grasses. This sacrifice area can be laid with sand or limestone to reduce mud and mess.

Continued...

Try not to let your horses graze on pastureland that is too wet. Instead, turn your horses out in designated sacrifice area and provide plenty of hay.

Mowing and Harrowing

Harrowing and mowing can really help to maintain a uniform and healthy pasture. When horses start to spot graze or you notice seed heads on the weeds, it is time to mow. Mowing or trimming weeds from the pasture and along the fence line can help keep your pasture looking nice. Herbicides may be applied to weeds, but horses may have to be kept off the pasture for some time after treatment.

Harrowing or dragging the pasture helps to break up manure and level out the field. A level field that drains well will reduce mud and standing water (also reduces areas for mosquito and fly breeding). Harrowing the manure will also make it easier for it to be absorbed by the soil and expose any parasites or eggs in the manure to the heat of the sun and thereby kill them.

By following these simple guidelines, you have the chance to recover an old depleted pasture or create and maintain a brand new area. Not only does a healthy pasture look great, it also provides the best means for your horse to thrive in both body and mind. And remember, good pasture management takes time, patience, and dedication - but it is worth it!

Compiled By Jenna Letzter

Come On Down to the Bargain Barn!

Open every 3rd Sunday of the month during Open Barn from 1 – 4pm at the Equine Center, the Bargain Barn is full of a range of items for sale. From halters and lead ropes to furniture to games – the Bargain Barn has it all! The next Bargain Barn and Open House will be on September 18, 2011.

At the Bargain Barn all items are for sale as a donation, which means that YOU get to name the price! All proceeds will, of course, go directly towards the care of the beloved animals at the Circle P Sanctuary.

But you better hurry! The Bargain Barn will be closing its doors after our YEAR END SALE on October 16 – everything must go!

And Now . . . Introducing Hannah



Hannah came to the Circle P Sanctuary on August 11, 2011 and is our newest resident – available for adoption once she recovers her strength and health. Since coming to the Sanctuary, Hannah has enjoyed regular meals designed to help her gain weight safely. The first picture shown above is Hannah when she first arrived at the Sanctuary. The second picture is Hannah, exactly one month later, now weighing in at 893 pounds – that is an 86 pound weight gain! Hannah was brought to the sanctuary after a woman found her wandering around her property – how long Hannah had been loose for and where Hannah had come from was a mystery. But what was not a mystery was that she needed help, and quick.

The Sanctuary welcomed Hannah with an open heart. Hannah is a sweet, lovable horse that has responded well so far to her new situation. She is underweight and probably needs to gain a few hundred more pounds. This process must be taken slowly in order to ensure that Hannah does not become ill from the sudden increase in feed. She is an older mare and we can guess her age to be in the upper-teens, nearing her twenties. Hannah is also blind in one eye, but seems well adapted to this problem and has not shown herself to be a skittish horse. Indeed, Hannah has proven to have a kind and gentle nature. We can only guess on what Hannah's story is, but since coming to the Sanctuary, we now know that her future will remain bright.

Interested in helping Hannah? Go to the donations link at www.circlepsanctuary.org for a list of ways to make a positive impact on a horse's life!

Field Trip to Circle P Sanctuary a Great Success!

Pat Reynolds

President of the Christ Child Society of Columbus

In July, the Christ Child Society of Columbus sponsored the children in the St. Stephen's Community House summer program enabling them to take a trip to The Circle P Sanctuary, Inc. For some of the children, it was their first trip to the country and for most of them the first chance to get up close and personal with a horse. An activity many of us may take for granted. Our little caravan consisted of 30 students, 3 St. Stephen's staff members and 8 Christ Child Society volunteers. Lynne, Jen, Jenna and Garth were wonderful ambassadors for the Circle P Sanctuary. Lynne gave us all a spirited and informative tour of the ranch where the children learned about llamas, goats, pot-bellied pigs and, of course, lots of horses. It was heartwarming to see these children open up, engage and ask lots of questions.

The Circle P Sanctuary provided the children with an activity packet and pencil complete with a seek and find game depicting all of the animals at the Sanctuary. The children were encouraged to pay attention as they went "seek and finding" the animals and matching them by name on their papers. The two children with the highest scores were rewarded with prizes! With horses grazing nearby, we all settled down on the lawn for a group picnic. It was an amazing feeling just to sit back and listen to the murmuring of the excited children discussing which animal they liked best. This was a day to be remembered and cherished by all in attendance. After the children were given the opportunity to personally interact with a few of the Sanctuary's horses, we packed up and loaded the bus, popsicles in hand. A sweet ending to a perfect day!

St. Stephen's Community House is dedicated to brightening lives in the Linden community through many diversified programs. Christ Child Society is a faith-based organization dedicated to improving the lives of children in need. It is through a service project like this that we truly meet our mission's goal of making a difference in the lives of at-risk children. Giving them experiences they normally wouldn't have and reinforcing, hopefully, that people do care.

**Thanks to the Circle P Sanctuary for
making this trip possible and memorable!**



Talking Points

The opinions in this article are not the view of the Circle P Sanctuary or Ranch. This is just a way to promote awareness of current horse issues! We want to hear what you think – write in and your opinion may be published in the next issue!

Horse Slaughter

After much thought and discussion, I still believe that horse slaughter should be allowed in the United States - as long as it is done humanely. There will always be unwanted horses because horses will continue to become injured, horses will continue to become useless to their owners, and people will continue to find themselves in financial difficulties. Breeding regulations may help to stem the huge numbers of unwanted horses we are facing today, but I do not think this will completely resolve the issue. For horse slaughter to be allowed in the United States it has to be 1) Humane in all aspects including transportation and processing, and 2) Regulated by the USDA to ensure humane activities and meat quality.

I found the article by Heller interesting because the main argument against slaughter in it was because of the inhumane practices. If these practices could be changed for the better, then would so many still be against it? It did not seem that the article was against the idea of rendering plants. If slaughterhouses developed humane ways of euthanasia, then there is very little difference between a rendering facility and a slaughterhouse; both would be utilizing the horses' body for some product after it was administered a humane death, except rendering plants would use chemically euthanized horses while slaughter houses would have to use another form of humane euthanasia. I also find the argument that horses should not be slaughtered in America because they have a "special place in American culture" extremely weak. Europe, a main consumer of horsemeat, also has a long history with the horse; the horse was essential to the many battles and transportation developments in European countries. When you think of horses in America you think of the cowboy, when you think of horses in Europe you think of the knight - both have a strong resonating image of equine beauty. It is clear that slaughter in the United States is beneficial to horse welfare and the equine industry by creating an outlet for unwanted horses and by creating products to be sold.

Every animal has the right to life, but if you were faced with endless torture, suffering, and painful death versus a quick, peaceful death, which would you choose? I feel that we, as humans, have an obligation to fulfill an animal's rights to a satisfactory life when we domesticate them. Similar to what Grandin and Johnson espouse, animals need to be able to act freely and express their normal behaviors in order to feel satisfied and content with their life. It is up to us to provide the means and care to help these animals accomplish this. When we do not care for our horses or we decide to put them through the stress and trauma for slaughter, we are violating their moral rights and our moral obligations to them. If slaughterhouses were to open up again in the United States, they should not violate a horses moral right to a satisfactory life free of pain. Slaughterhouses are not the issue, the treatment of the horses is the issue, and that, I feel, is something that both sides of the equine industry can agree upon.

Written By Jenna Letzter

Community Speaks Out

Want more information about Horse Slaughter?

Read these articles:

<http://www.unwantedhorsecoalition.org/>

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/wild_horse_and_burro.html

Grandin, T., & Johnson, C. (2009). *Animals Make Us Human*. City: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Heller, Bill. (2005). *After the finish line. The race to end slaughter in America*. Irvine, CA: BowTie Press.

Write in and tell us your opinion!

Circle P Sanctuary

1909 County Road 24

Marengo, OH 43334

www.circlepsanctuary.org

www.thecirclepranch.com

Send comments, responses, or questions to:

ponyupexpress@yahoo.com