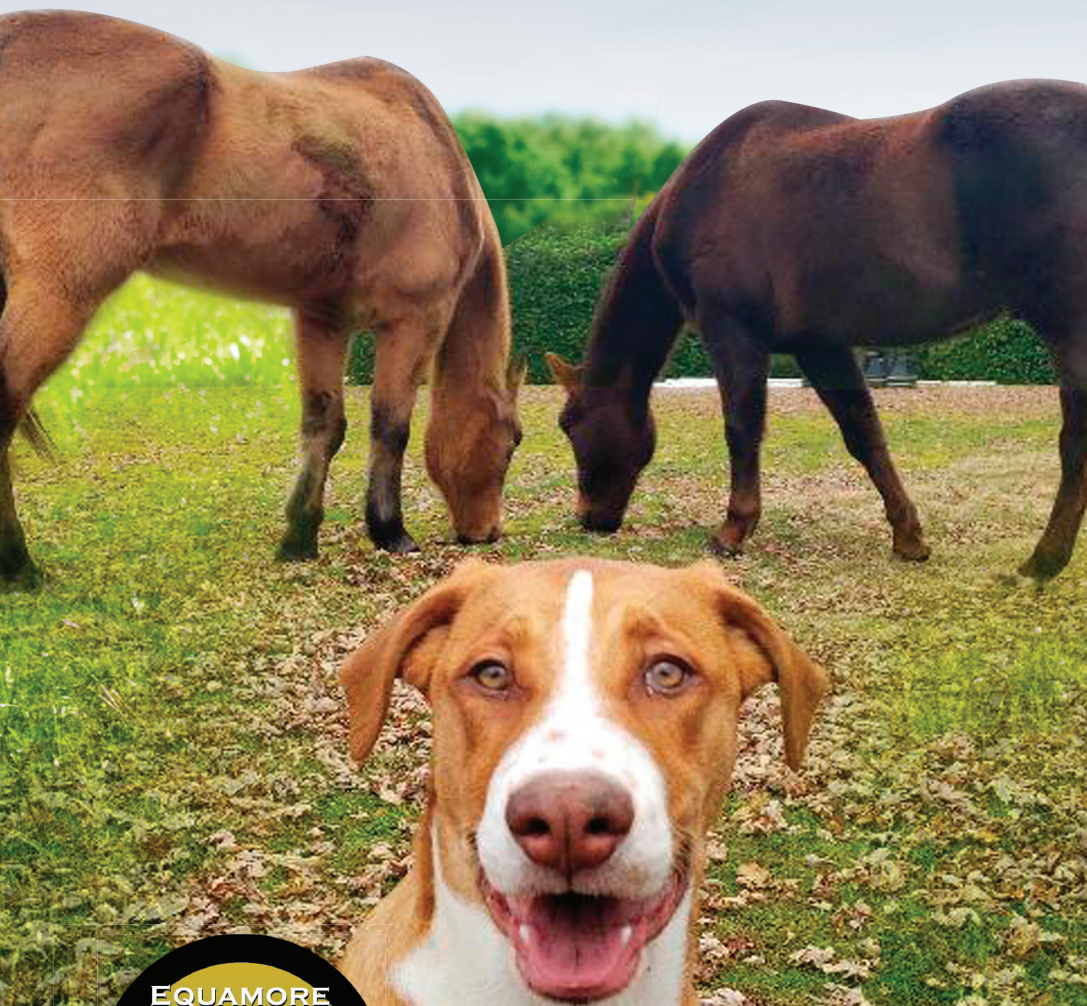


SUMMER 2020

NEIGH SAVER

EQUAMORE FOUNDATION



EQUAMORE
FOUNDATION



since 1991

Hungry, Neglected, Abused...
Never Again!

WHY SANCTUARY



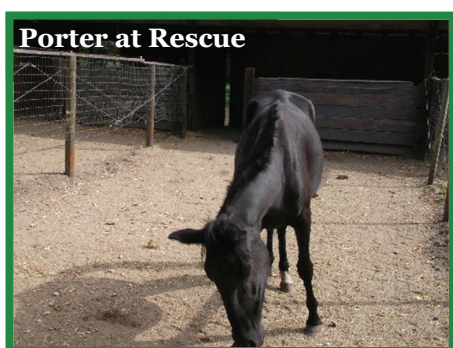
Porter with his BFF Casper

Porter. This black Peruvian Paso gelding was found by Equamore volunteers in a field where the feed was insufficient for the large herd of horses in the pasture. The larger, more dominant horses protected themselves by chasing the smaller, less aggressive horses away from the hay piles provided by their owner. Porter was one of the horses that could not compete for the available food. When Equamore volunteers found him, Porter was severely underweight and battered. He stood at a distance from his herd mates, stoically waiting for an inevitable death by starvation.

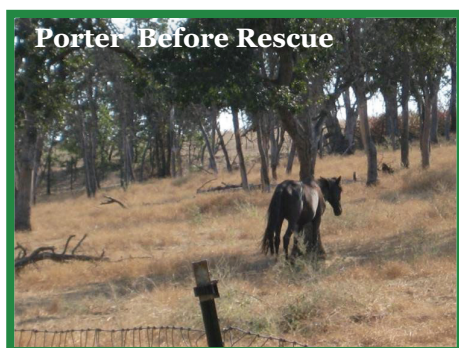
Even when he was removed from this hostile environment and safely stabled at Equamore Sanctuary, the diminutive Porter ignored the food now freely available to him. It took several days before he could be persuaded to take that first, hopeful bite of nourishment. From that time on, however, he has not looked back.

At the time of Porter's rescue, the Foundation occasionally adopted horses and Porter was considered for an adoptive home. However, radiographs revealed that he had developed substantial arthritis in the joints of his lower legs which would be exacerbated if he were to be ridden. Like most of our horses, Porter was not "useable" and thus not adoptable. He was officially accepted into the Foundation and will be an Equamore horse for the rest of his life. Porter spends his days in the large gelding field and the nights in a small field with a run-in shelter with his BFF Casper, Echo Star, and Woody. Together they are affectionately known as the "four amigos."

Often the emotional recovery is as wondrous as a horse's physical recovery. Porter, once literally too afraid to eat, is now at ease in his herd and uncowed by the sometimes-aggressive, Woody, or the proud Echo Star. He is confident, he is interested in everything, and is one of our resident comedians.



Porter at Rescue



Porter Before Rescue

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH: IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COUNT.

In our quarterly newsletter and throughout the year, subscribers to the NeighSaver learn of the big things that happen at Equamore Sanctuary. When a horse is rescued from appalling cruelty or neglect, we add the story of its recovery to our web site. We normally hold events from May to December which contribute greatly to the Foundation's annual income. During the current pandemic, as described on page 6 of this newsletter, we are making great efforts to continue that revenue stream through every means possible for nonprofits like ours.



But the success of any charitable enterprise to fulfill its mission depends just as much on the little things we do consistently well over time as it does on those big things we do to raise money or respond to a crisis. For our Sanctuary, success means establishing and maintaining what rescued horses experience every day as “normal,” even though the normality of own lives has been so decidedly interrupted. Here are just some of the “little things” your donations, our volunteers, and our staff make possible to keep things “normal” for the horses at Equamore Sanctuary.

- Every stall and loafing shed are cleaned, and the bedding refreshed every morning.
- Watering troughs are routinely checked and cleaned so that horses always have access to clean water.
- Horses are fed twice daily, every day.
- Supplements, medications, and special feeds are measured and administered to horses with special needs.
- Stalled horses are let out to pasture in the company of other horses every morning when weather permits and brought in every afternoon.
- Fly masks are put on and removed daily during fly season.
- A fly deterrent system is maintained for indoor stalls.
- Horses are groomed when needed, especially in rainy weather when horses love to roll in mud and in the spring when they shed out.
- Feet and teeth are checked regularly, and hoof and dental care is maintained by our skilled professionals.
- Veterinarians provide routine and emergency care for our horses' health issues.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and your families until things get back to normal for all of us. We look forward to getting back to the other “normals” and especially seeing our donors at special events and tours of our Sanctuary.

OUR COVER PHOTO.

We normally chose a photograph that is beautiful or inspirational for our NeighSaver cover. This time, we thought a photo that also causes smiles would be a good choice. The cover photo of this issue shows the beautiful Phoenix and Falcon grazing with a photo bomb by the rambunctious Valkyrie.

THE “BLIND FIELD”



We have four completely blind horses: General, Eddie, Cash, and Wishes. As those of you who have visited our Sanctuary know – Cash, Eddie, and Wishes live in the “blind field” with our donkeys, Holly, Joey, and Cotton. How does this work?

Their environment is safe. The blind field is flat and there are no sharp protrusions anywhere in their fields or sheds. Shed corners are covered in gym mats. Feed and water are always in the same place – and we do not rearrange the furniture.

Sound cues are provided. The blind field is bordered by driveways and a creek, so there are ample sound cues at the field’s edges. Initially, wind chimes were also installed, although the horses don’t need those cues anymore. They know where they are. Staff and volunteers always speak to the horses when approaching to let them know they are there.

They have company. Even before the donkeys joined them, they were with each other. Like sighted horses, they are social animals, but cannot generally be kept in our larger herds. Sighted horses sometimes pick on them and they cannot see the visual cues offered by their herd mates. Our blind horses know each other’s smells, they communicate verbally, and by touch.

They are intensely sensate. A horse’s sense of smell and hearing are better than a human’s and their entire body is as sensitive as human fingertips. They can also detect vibrations in the ground through their feet and may “feel” your approach before hearing it.

They get to be horses. Our blind horses graze, groom each other, enjoy their feed, take sunbaths, and listen for people to approach who might have treats! Cash and Eddie argue over the lovely Wishes. Cash can still throw a kick at Eddie and Eddie can still evade it.

Our blind horses inspire us not only with their beauty and sensuality, but also with their “can do” attitudes and love of life.

Wishes Napping, With Cash (left) and Eddie Standing Watch.



HOW TO REPORT HORSE ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR ABANDONMENT

IN JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON:

- Document everything as well as you can. Take note of times, dates, horse descriptions, exact location, trouble signs, etc. Take photos if possible. The more information you have, the more likely quick action will be taken.
- Call the Jackson County Sheriff's office at (541) 776-7208 as soon as possible. Tell the dispatcher at this non-emergency line that you are reporting a possible case of horse neglect/abuse. If you are willing to give your name and phone number, you can request the deputy to contact you once the horse has been checked.
- Write down the case number so that you can reference it later when you follow up. The case number will be something like 12-12345.
- Follow up! Find out what action has been taken. Law enforcement agencies can be busy; make sure action has been taken!

ELSEWHERE:

- Check out the [Humane Society website](#), which has information for reporting neglect and abuse nationwide.

Don't Wait – Time Matters!



Our Mission

The Equamore Foundation provides rescue and sanctuary for neglected, abused, and abandoned horses who have no other alternative for life. Each day our Sanctuary pushes back against cruelty and indifference. Our mission of kindness and respect for the dignity of all life is vital and universal.

YOU CAN HELP!
CLICK HERE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2020

October 3rd
Ruby's Groom-A-Thon
Saturday – 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**All events through
September have been cancelled.**

December 12th
Year-End Friendship Celebration
Saturday – 12:00 to 2:00 PM
Check our website for updates.

All Events Held at:
Equamore Sanctuary,
4723 HW 66,
Ashland, Oregon 97520

UPDATE ON BEAR

We introduced you to this handsome Dutch Warm Blood nearly two years ago. Bear came to us an elderly gelding with special medical needs. His owner, unable to care for him anymore, planned to euthanize Bear because no boarding facility would accept a horse with required medication administration. A seemingly old and lame horse when he joined us, Bear turned out to be a beautiful mover and committed to the ladies! He spends his days keeping a careful eye on the mares from the fence line between the back mare and gelding fields, frequently accompanying them up and down the hill. He spends his evenings in his stall surrounded by Frida and Star, with Steel, Portia, and Jewel across the aisle in plain view. He only settles in when the mares are all in their places! What a horrid waste it would have been to lose this horse. Bear, like our other horses, amazes us with his potential “beyond the finish line.”



THE PANDEMIC. This pandemic is hugely challenging for us, like so many other small charities. Just when we thought it could not get harder, our Executive Director broke her hip and arm in late April in an accident with a scared donkey. We are doing what we always do – stepping up and moving forward.

Staff and essential volunteers have taken over the horse-related duties of our Executive Director. We are so grateful for this dedicated and tireless group!

We have taken all measures available to us to ensure both the safety of our staff and volunteers and the ongoing care and well-being of our horses and donkeys.

- We have closed our facility to people excepting staff, essential volunteers, and necessary contractors such as vets, farriers, and hoof trimmers. Protective equipment is available in our barn for all.
- All events, at least through September have been cancelled. These events include our main fundraiser, “Beyond the Finish Line” Derby After-Party, our spring and summer horse shows, our summer “socials”, and our Sanctuary tours. All that lost revenue needs to be found elsewhere.
- We have applied for and received a Paycheck Protection Program loan, applied for a variety of emergency grants (some of which have been made), and ran a “match” program sponsored by two of our donors. We are so grateful for the responses and the outpouring of support for our horses.
- We have tightened our girth – all ongoing projects have been stopped and expenses have been cut where possible, which is why this issue of the NeighSaver is online only.
- We are doggedly tracking weekly our income and expenses and managing our cash flow.

All these efforts are not enough for a crisis without any certain end. Please consider helping. You can donate through our web site [HERE](#). You can also send a donation to our Sanctuary at 4723 Highway 66, Ashland, Oregon 97520, or call us with your credit card information at (541) 482.5550.

We also continue to do the all the “little things” that are so important to the welfare of our rescued horses. (See “From the Horse’s Mouth” on page 3.) We are inspired by both our amazing equines and our donors. Thank you for your continued help.

THANK YOU!