



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

May 2020



Do you sometimes wonder what the horses are saying to each other?

Well here is a chance to put words in their mouths! We'll post a photo with "talk bubbles" for you to fill in – everyone is welcome to participate – just email back the words coming out of their mouths and we'll share so all can enjoy.

Here's Jasper (on the left) and Diamond. In the foreground Lucky is hiding behind Zip!

Email to loisjames@gmail.com or miraclesinmotion@gmail.com.

KCRG

In April, KCRG reporter Phil Reed visited Miracles to interview Director of Operations Deb Leichsenring and to film our volunteers bringing in the horses for their morning feeding, while observing the new health restrictions we now must work under. You can here the stories on www.KCRG.com.



Twin Pine Farm
Est. 2005

Thanks to Twin Pine Farm for sponsoring our newsletter! Check them out on their website: www.iowagoats.com as well as on Facebook. Contact them at iowa1spanish-goats@yahoo.com.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Hard to believe it is May and have now had two months of managing Miracles in a different way. I know that we all are feeling different emotions of change; missing the students who would be on site in classes; feeling isolated at times; and limited in what can be accomplished. Along with those emotions and feelings, however, comes a new way of approaching how we create opportunities for our community to connect with the energy and spirit of the horse and Miracles.

With our PATH instructor, Diana Harris, we have a committee that is working on virtual classes, learning opportunities, and videos. More to come soon on what and how that exactly will be rolled out to our community.

We have two new horses that have been donated with Miracles. Shadow and Memphis, who have become fast friends. We are now in the process of the 90-day evaluation of these two amazing horses. As you know, it takes a special horse to be a Miracles Therapy horse!

I know the herd and all of us at Miracles are missing our community, really our family, from being out here. Be safe and take care!



Deb Leichsenring, Director of Operations

New Volunteer “adopts” Brett

Haley Lavendar fell in love with Brett at the March volunteer training and decided he was the horse for her to “adopt”. We are so glad to have someone paying special attention to a very special horse! Brett is a Rocky Mountain horse, which is gaited breed. He has a beautiful palomino coloring with flaxen mane, and is one of the most cooperative and sweetest horses in the herd. Our only challenge with Brett is that he tends to eat too much so he has to wear a grazing muzzle part of the day so he doesn’t gain too much weight. Here’s Brett kicking up his heels in the arena:

[https://drive.google.com/open?
id=1wlb0hKJ6mdbVX67VzRHtcuYgCRKV3wFR](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1wlb0hKJ6mdbVX67VzRHtcuYgCRKV3wFR)



Volunteer Corner:

Our thanks to past volunteer, Dianne Lacina, for sharing her Miracles Moment:

“I am an old volunteer (in every sense of the word) . There were many Miracles Moments in the years I was a Side Walker, but the one that stands out the most occurred twenty-some years ago – the second



year I was paired with a young girl with autism. She was 7 at the time and had never spoken. When she would pet her horse, it was from a couple inches away. She could feel the energy from there. I was excited to be working with her again, she was so sweet. The first day of that second-year session she settled into the saddle and “petted” her horse. Then the students were instructed to tell their horses to “walk on.” We all heard this sweet loud voice go ‘Wah ahh!’ All of us were stunned and as she rode her horse around the arena her parents were on the rail with tears in their eyes, as we all had. Her first words – ‘Walk On’.”

Deb Leichsenring, Director of Operations, adopts Jasper

With all she does for Miracles, Deb has gone a step further and “adopted” Jasper, our oldest therapy horse. When asked “Why Jasper?”, she replied, “What can I say – I wish he could talk. I think about all the years and what he has accomplished being 32 years old. He’s been at Miracles 19 years and counting. Jasper is a gentle soul and you see that in his mannerisms and just by looking into his eyes. I met Jasper 12 years ago at the Miracles 20th Anniversary celebration. I fell in love with him then and am more in love with him now that I see him every day.”

If you are interested in adopting one of the therapy horses, visit the Our Horses page on the website to see who is available for adoption.

