



Longhopes Legends



Fall 2015



NEWS: Just arrived 12 donkeys from a Colorado kill pen. Four were very pregnant jennets. So total will be 16. Two jack foals have already been born. We hope the other foals will be born before it snows.



Liam (above left) with mother Lorelei
Isaac (above right) with mother Indigo

I will be celebrating (well maybe not celebrating) my 60th birthday soon. Where did the time go? How could it be true that I have been rescuing and rehoming donkeys for 16 years. I have watched nearly 850 donkeys come to Longhopes and seen 760 leave again for new homes. For the most part, I remember them all and still know where they are and who they live with.

Longhopes has been fortunate enough [with help from every one of you reading this] to be one of the few equine rescues still in existence after 16 years. In the last year we have watched so many underfunded, understaffed, and poorly managed equine rescues close. It is easy to close. It is much harder to stay open, keep doing the hard work and finding the funds to pay for it.

Longhopes has always been the only donkey rescue in Colorado but the demand for our services is expanding due to the lack of similar services in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Kansas and Nebraska. We try to help donkeys out of state but long distant rescues are expensive and very consuming of our limited staff time.

Other things are changing at Longhopes too. Kelly Walters our Office Manager for 7 years is returning full time to her career as a real estate agent. Kelly helped us achieve many of our goals. We thank her for all she has done for Longhopes and wish her all the best.

I plan to be at Longhopes for many more years but we will be needing new staff, new volunteers and new board members to lead Longhopes into the next decades of donkey rescue work. Staffing demands will require us to increase our annual income so that we have the cash flow to HIRE what I have been doing everyday as a volunteer. We are one of the few rescues that does not already have a fully salaried staff. We will also be seeking new fund-raising and marketing ideas. If you can help-please contact us.

You know that I am committed to ensuring the longevity of Longhopes so that it can continue to care for the donkeys who have no protection. Please consider telling one new person about Longhopes and encouraging them to support the work we do 365 days a year to end abuse and neglect of donkeys. That alone would meet our funding goals. Can you think of one person who could join us with a holiday or end of the year gift?

Our Generous Grant Funders

**PetFinder Foundation
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Spreading the Word and Decluttering from Oregon by Sher Schwartz

Our farm is located twenty minutes outside The Dalles, Oregon so when I wanted to have a garage sale, I knew I needed to take my friend's offer and drive all the items into town where her family has a big garage. As I loaded books into boxes and put them into my car, I was beginning to feel uneasy. Wouldn't it be easier to just take these books, clothing and household goods to the library and thrift store? The practical side of me was asking ---Why do all this work for so little return? And then I realized, I could do this happily if I had a reason that really made a difference to me.

Benefitting the Longhopes Donkey Shelter immediately came to mind. From then on I priced and boxed my items with enthusiasm. As sale day grew closer, I began to look forward to it.

The event ran for a day and a half. Our region is a major agricultural hub for cherries, apples and pears, and we held the sale during cherry harvest. This meant many migrant farm workers stopped in to pick up clothing and kitchen items. A sign sitting outside the garage explained the sale benefitted Longhopes Donkey Shelter, and we printed pictures of my donkeys and pictures from the Longhopes' website and taped these to the table where people paid for their items.

I had not anticipated our project would garner so much conversation, but we soon found ourselves answering questions about Longhopes and hearing stories from our shoppers about their donkeys and mules. One woman visiting from Arizona exclaimed, "I love that you are doing this – what a great idea."

People were happy to buy from us and have their money "work for the donkeys." A little girl wearing a red and white polka-dotted dress was eager to tell me we had something in common because her toy donkey's name was Ziggy, which is also the name of one of my donkeys at the farm. The migrant workers pointed, smiled, and laughed while calling out "burro," when they saw pictures of my miniature donkeys taped to the table. I had no idea we would help Longhopes and have so much fun running a garage sale.

The following week when I signed the check and mailed it off to Longhopes it felt pretty neat to realize that people as far away as Oregon were assisting Longhopes. Truly the donkeys at Longhopes have friends everywhere, and you can feel good about helping Longhopes too when it comes time to clear the clutter and clean out your closets.



Latest Adoptions

Admissions 57

Adoptions 56



Remember Taffy's story? She was the terrified donkey from the feedlot with horrible neck wounds. Taffy's road to recovery took almost 3 years but now she has a wonderful home with Eldon, Carla and Dominique.



Checkers the mini mule is a special young guy with many talents who wanted big horses. His wish was granted and he now has two mares and the best human friends in his new family. Thank you Amanda and Dennis.



Oakley, Cotton, Clive found donkey paradise joining Longhopes' alumni Reuben and Hays. This herd has large pastures to run on and all the attention they can want from their loving new family with Scott and Nancy.



Ryker (spotted) discovered he loved other male donkeys after he arrived at Longhopes with his mother and sister. Carlos was a lonely young donkey whose companion died. Together they are an adorable pair of little donkeys. Thank you Diane and Richard for finding Carlos a burro buddy from Longhopes.

A donkey that knows the qualities of both Sagittarius and Capricorn is a what?

ASTROLOGIST

Featured Donkeys for Adoption



Lovely Hannah is a great choice for the first time donkey owner. This former BLM jennet is 15 years old. She is affectionate and well mannered. Hannah has even had a riding lesson. She is a vigilant guard and is comfortable and curious with horses.



Ruger is a handsome dark brown 4 year old gelding sent to us by the DDFL Harmony Horse.. Ruger would make a good horse companion to an active young horse. Ruger is well behaved and easily halters, leads, loads and picks up his hooves. He has great potential as a packing buddy.

What does it cost to prepare a donkey for adoption ?

◇	Hay	\$224*	*Donkeys average 7 months at Longhopes
◇	Hoof Care	\$105*	
◇	Dental	\$150*	
◇	Vaccinations	\$50*	
◇	Deworming	\$10*	
◇	Trainer	\$40*	
◇	Daily Caretakers	<u>\$609*</u>	
◇	Neutering?	+\$175*	
◇	Grain?	<u>+\$75*</u>	
◇		\$1,438*	

Appreciation to Our Generous Corporate Sponsor



Miss Bliss Corner



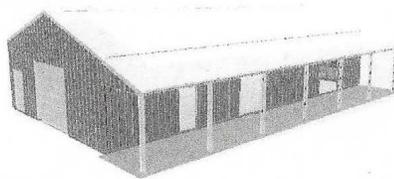
Dear Kathy:

It's my turn for a question. You know I'm not one to complain but it's been impossible to get a 2 to 3 hour beauty nap each day with all this activity around Longhopes. It seems like I'm settled in one barn only to be relocated to another barn a few days later. What the heck is going on?

Dear Miss Bliss:

While I appreciate your concern about keeping up your youthful appearance, we have had a lot of new donkeys arrive lately. Three from New Mexico, three from Wyoming and then another 12. We have to make sure we place each donkey in the appropriate barn. Some donkeys need to be quarantined, the jacks have to be separated from the jennets, the obese donkeys need a monitored diet and the pregnant jennets need to be in a safe environment for foaling. Then there are the senior donkeys who require special feed and daily medicine. Sometimes we have to shuffle donkeys to different barns to get it right.

We are working hard to get the new annex up and running so have more barn space this winter. So far we have put up new fencing, installed water hydrants, and new automatic waterers. In November we hope Western Barns will begin construction of our 40'x60' barn.



Don't forget we still have all our regular chores such as moving hay, training donkeys, meeting with adopters, vets and farriers, fundraising and mucking to do every day too.

Please be patient (that's what I have to do with you).

Lovingly your human-Kathy Dean

Who briefly turned into a donkey for skipping school?

- A. Pinocchio
- B. Gepetto
- C. Peter Pan

Answer A

This might explain our recent computer troubles!

Thanks Mark for helping us upgrade our technology.



How you can Help us Today

Your donations pay for hay, grain, electricity, insurance, vehicle maintenance, wages, medical treatment, and farrier care.

Thank you for helping us be the safety net for donkeys who deserve a second chance.



Donations Can be Made
By:



Check, PayPal, Money Order



Credit card by phone

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A program of Community First Foundation

E.A.R.S. Sponsorship,

OUR WISH LIST

Wood chipper
Folding chairs.
Senior grain
Foal grain
Carpenter

TRUCK

We **also** need a gently used truck to replace our 14 year old pickup truck with 230,000 miles on it.

Please contact us if you can help us find a newer truck ?



"You're getting old like me.
Sure you can still pull a trailer
with my friends inside?"

Hattie

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**Which Witch is Witch?
Happy Halloween!**



HO, HO, HO it's time to mark your calendar for our annual

December Donkey Delight!

Saturday December 5th from 10AM to 3PM

This fun and festive event is a great way to celebrate the holidays and help support Longhopes at the same time! Christmas gifts for sale.

Tickets include donkey cart rides, donkey tours, cookies, cider, Chili, crafts and a photo with Donkey Santa!

**Tickets \$20 per person.
Children under age 5
FREE.**

Tickets sold at the door.

