



## *The USWHBA "Pony Express"*

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### **Equine Affaire Ohio 2012:**

Members and Directors were at Equine Affaire in Columbus Ohio this past April from Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>. We were working and volunteering in the BLM Wild Horse and Burro booth with our Mustangs and Burro promoting the adoption program, as well as our own booth and stall in the Horse and Farm Exhibit. We are already planning, and looking forward to working Equine Affaire in West Springfield Massachusetts this coming November. We would like to thank the following people for their time and help at E.A. Kim and Bud Dore and their Mustang gelding Johwye and their Burro jenny Swiss Mocha Miss. Michelle Dasilva and her Mustang gelding Tango. Megan Print and her Mustang gelding Ink. Cliff Crowl and his Mustang gelding Stryker. Megan-Riley Baisden and her Mustang gelding Ukiah. Rhiannon Schneider and her Mustang gelding Kerwin. Robin Rivello and her Mustang mare Skye. Michael Yodice and his Mustang gelding Mack. Thanks also to booth staffers Dawnmarie Baisden, Joe Baisden, Jan Miller, and Lisa N. Thanks also to Steve Meyer, BLM Wild Horse and Burro Specialist from the Milwaukee Wisconsin Field Office for entrusting us with the task of representing the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program at Equine Affaire in Ohio and Massachusetts.



### **Titled Mustang Sale: Rain or Shine**

As per our last news letter, USWHBA and HorseTenders Mustang Foundation are holding a titled Mustang sale in Monroe Township New Jersey at Thompson Park on Perrineville Road. All the Mustangs at this sale are already gentled and/or under saddle. This is your chance to get one of Americas Living Legends ready to go! The sale will take place Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm, and Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup> from 12 pm to 4 pm. New photos of more available that will be for sale. We will be giving a free USWHBA t-shirt and American Mustang Halter to each person who purchases a mustang. Click on this link to see our t-shirts and the Mustang halters. [http://www.uswhba.org/online\\_store](http://www.uswhba.org/online_store) Thompson Park is easily accessed from N.J. State Highways 33 and 130, as well as Middlesex County Rt. 522 and the New Jersey Turnpike from exit 8A. Pictures of the Mustangs for this sale can be seen on our Web-site on the Mustangs available page.

[http://www.uswhba.org/mustangs\\_available](http://www.uswhba.org/mustangs_available)

As well as the HorseTenders Mustang Foundation at

<http://horsetendersmustangfoundation.org/mustangs.html>



## **B.L.M. Adoptions:**

Members and Directors will be volunteering and working at BLM adoptions in Vermont, Pennsylvania, and Ohio so far this summer. The first Ohio adoption is taking place May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. The Vermont adoption is in Rutland on June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The Pennsylvania adoption will be in Annville on July 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The second Ohio adoption will be in Franklin Furnace September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The official BLM adoption flyers, as well as adoption facility addresses and directions can be found at

[http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/adoption\\_program/schedule.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/adoption_program/schedule.html)



## **Hotrod:**

Robin and Michael brought a 15 yr old mustang gelding in who was adopted in 2002 and unfortunately was never gentled. We named him Hotrod. He had some issues from his first adopters, but when at his 2nd home he was struck by lightning. Fortunately he survived. Robin was able to get him gentled down to a point, but as a result of these issues, especially the lightning strike, he did not cope well with wind, rain, falling or breaking branches due to bad weather, and he also associated a camera flash with lightning, and always took off. Even in these photos of him, you can see he was fine until the flash, then was gone, and then very wary. Even when Robin had him on a lead he took off, and she had to go and get him. So with his best interest at heart, we decided put him down. He just couldn't cope with nature mostly, and anything that was even close to what he went through. It was a post traumatic stress disorder for him, and we couldn't bear to see him so traumatized by nature itself. He was very sweet, and would have been a great horse if he had not gone through all of this. Rest in Peace Hotrod! Click this link to see pictures of Hotrod.

[http://www.uswhba.org/mustang\\_spotlight](http://www.uswhba.org/mustang_spotlight)



## **South East Region:**

Ever wanted to meet environmental specialists? Nature artists, photographers, wildlife habitat and preservation specialists, and environmental educators will be there to help girls discover new and exciting things. Girls will help build something for our camp properties or help the Triangle Wildlife Rehabilitation Center build cages. We are geared up to show girls how to make the world a better place. They will have the opportunity to sample parts of It's Your Planet - Love It! Journeys during this adventure. Troops/girls will be placed in groups with other troops the same age.

The USWHBA was invited back by the Girl Scouts to their Good Earth Adventure March 17, 2012 10am to 4:30 pm. South East Regional director Jill Blakeney coordinated with the the Shackleford Horse Foundation to have a Mustang and Shackleford horse there. Approximately 100 girls and parents rotated to the barn area to learn about wild horses and get hands on time with them. Lil' Missy mustang delighted them by giving out some kisses and putting her front feet on the stool. The BLM provided pencils, erasers, stickers, and posters for the girls. Mustang t-shirts were given out as prizes.

Thank you to:

- Margaret Poindexter (and her friend Heather) of the Shackleford Horse Foundation for speaking, sharing 2 beautiful Shackleford horses with us, and making the day a success
- Don Vick and Davo for coordinating transportation for the Shackleford horses and providing support on site
- Connor Blakeney for help coordinating the event, transporting horses, and speaking
- BLM for providing handouts for the girls

More information on Shackleford Horses can be found at:

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



### **Financial Statement:**

Due to the costs and time it takes to bring in, train, and care for, along with farrier, veterinary and dental expenses, the Officers of the USWHBA have decided that we will not be taking in titled mustangs for the next year. We will be more than happy to assist people with re-homing their animals by posting photos of any Mustangs or Burros on the “Mustangs Available” page of our Web-site, with information about the animal(s) and your contact information, as well as advertising them in our news letters.

It is getting very expensive, and we are not getting the amount of donations that can keep us doing this any longer. We did receive a large donation last year, and as you can see it has enabled us to do a lot, but our organization is not, and was never intended to be a rescue. As you all know, we also help the BLM with returns or repossessions, even more so than in previous years, and we must keep funds available for these animals as the BLM funds are depleting too. The BLM costs for adoptions are extremely high, and caring for the 40,000 animals in holding is a major part of their budget.

Our organization also does a substantial amount of traveling, (at our own cost), promotion and public relations work on behalf of the BLM and the adoption program at events that often cost us money to participate in. We thank all of you who have supported and donated to our organization, and we hope in the future that we will be able to do more for the animals we all love so much.

To view the 2011 USWHBA Financial Report go to our Web-sites Home page.

Here's hoping this riding season is the best you've ever had, but not the best you'll ever have.

As always, thank you from the members and directors of the USWHBA.