



Red Rock Gather *by Conni Canaday*

As some of you probably already know, the BLM gathered the Red Rock herd on Thursday, February 16. The gather was necessary in part because of the fires last summer that burned almost 40% of the vegetation, and the fact the number of horses was higher than the Appropriate Management Level (AML) called for by the BLM.

The NWA did not want to see any horses gathered, we had representatives at both public meetings and our stance was that we were against the gather but would support what was best for the horses since no one wants a repeat of 2002, when the

Red Rock herd was starving.

The BLM agreed to let a couple of board members attend the gather, but unfortunately none of us could be there. The BLM gathered 37 horses, 3 were left out because they couldn't be found. It was thought that 2 of them may be foaling, so they were left alone.

I did attend the gather of the nuisance burros (the burros that have been "terrorizing" R.C. Willey and the golf course.) The BLM had hoped to gather 20 burros, but the smart little creatures must have known, because they could only find 6, 4 adults and 2 babies.

Wes and I both went along when they released

the horses that were being put back out. They released 5 studs, 7 mares, and 3 foals.

Another gather of nuisance burros was done over the President's Day holiday weekend and several more were gathered.

The horses and burros gathered by the BLM were shipped to a holding facility in Ridgecrest, CA on Saturday, February 18.



Red Rock horses being released

Cherokee *by Shari Warren*

This is Cherokee. He is a bay gelding that was born in the Buffalo Hills Range in Nevada. He was gathered in Feb. 2005 and he will be 2 years old in June. Cherokee was adopted at our October 2005 adoption that was held at the Henderson Saddle Assoc.

In January the NWA got a phone call from the adopter that he could no longer take care of Cherokee and needed to turn him

back in so someone else has a chance to adopt this sweet horse. So a few NWA members went to Pahrump and picked him up - thank you to Jan & Bob Byer for the use of their trailer. He



Cherokee

was not able to be led since his lead rope was not on him and he wouldn't let us put one on but we gently pushed him in and he loaded easily into the trailer. We stopped at Oliver Ranch to put his rope on and to get him used to being touched again. The original adopter had done some work with him but it had been a bit since he worked him. Once we loaded him very quietly into the chute, Wes was easily

Cherokee, continued on p 2

No Bake Oat Cookies

- 4 cups coarsely ground oats
- 1 cup molasses
- 1 apple

Roughly chop the apple and mix with the remaining ingredients. Drop spoonfuls of mixture on cookie sheet and allow time to dry. When they are dry, they are ready to serve.

• --From *Horse Treat Recipes* by Judith Russell

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Letter from the President by Shari Warren

Now that the Red Rock gather is finished let me tell you that people are saying the NWA did not do enough to stop the gather. That is not true. The NWA was never in favor of a gather. We tried to talk with the BLM so a gather would not happen. We were represented at every BLM meeting. The sad part is that people are blaming the NWA for this happening, yet when the BLM had their public meetings there were only about 40 people there. Sure, I can stand up alone at a podium at the BLM meeting and give a speech on behalf of our members, but without you there physically in mass numbers backing me up it doesn't mean much. I used to think (like a lot of you) that someone else would go and speak my feelings at meetings like these. I found out that there were 100 people that thought the same thing I did, so the turnout was a total of 20 instead of the 101 that could have been there. The next time there is an issue such as this, we need to be represented in larger numbers. We cannot do it alone.

But, now that the gather is done, let's move forward. There are about 17 horses back on the range (3 were never brought in, 12 were turned back out and there are 2 new babies). Sometimes we have to sacrifice some to save the rest. It could have been worse, the BLM could have pulled them all, but they didn't.

The NWA has been going through some tough times lately. For those of you that don't make the general meeting on the second Monday of the month, here is the scoop:

Over the past few months we have had some board members step down for a variety of reasons. They have all remained members and some are still very helpful, but that has left us with 6 board members and a couple of committee leads to do it all.

To top it off there have been people spreading rumors about the NWA. Back in 2001 to 2002 when we were trying to save the Red Rock herd from dying, we had an influx of donations. Our board did not know that a non-profit organization must do a special report to the IRS if their account balance goes over a certain amount. Therefore, it wasn't reported when it should have been. We are now in the process of correcting this with the assistance of a CPA. The completed financial statements were received from the CPA on March 17 (If you would like one please let us know). Since I have become president, I have had no one come to me and ask to see the check book or bank statements. How can people say bad things when they haven't reviewed the facts themselves? How sad! To boot, this oversight happened a few years ago - why didn't they mention it then? It could have been handled when it was supposed to be.

Recently there was a situation where a member brought something to the board's attention that was accidentally missed, and within the week it was rectified. But again rumors stirred that the board was hiding something.

Since I have become president, we found out that the BLM no longer is accepting our cooperative agreement that was signed about 5 years ago. Consequently, the board has been meeting very amicably with the BLM, both locally and with the state, to come up with a better cooperative agreement. Don't forget that there have also been changes in BLM employees in the past 6 months. The NWA has been working on showing these new people who we are and what we can do together in a partnership.

There have been a few other happenings, just ask board members and we'll tell you - it would take up too much room in this wonderful newsletter. As a result, I have nicknamed this board the "clean up crew." Sometimes it feels as if we always have a mop and broom in our hands rather than a hoof pick or pitchfork!

Show your support. Please come to our meeting and clinics. If you don't like something we are doing, let us know, we have nothing to hide and everything to share. Keep in mind that we are volunteers like you with full time jobs. We need your help with all of the great stuff we plan on doing in April. We need volunteers to work the booths and/or to bring your horse out for Earthfaire on April 22. If you would like to help on our Easter Ride on April 23rd, we need people to fill plastic eggs with candy and to help hang them the day of the ride. Come join us at our interactive clinics on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Check out our website for up-to-date information on clinics, meetings, horses up for adoption and so much more.

Thank you for caring, and thank you for your support!!!

Shari Warren
President

Cherokee, continued from p 1

able to get a lead rope on him. We also petted him all over so he remembered the human touch again. At that point we opened the chute and we literally walked with him onto the trailer to take him to his temporary home. When we got there Wes led him from the trailer to his new stall.

After some time of working with him he is now a gentleman at walking with you from the stall to the round pen. We have been working on picking up his feet and brushing him all over. He is still very curious at things going on around him but gets

along very well with the Great Dane puppy and the 2 pygmy goats at his temporary home as well as the other horses and chickens that are there too. He is a horse that needs consistency and love. In return he will give you his heart and trust.

If you are interested in adopting Cherokee please call the NWA voice mail at 452-5853 and leave a message or you can call Jerrie Bertola with the BLM at 515-5024. You will then need to fill out an application and have your premises

checked to see that you have the proper facility.

You will need a 20 x 20 corral, preferably pipe, which is about 5 feet tall with 5 rails and a shade cover to protect him from the sun or rain. The adoption fee will need to be paid to the BLM.

Easter Trail Ride Prize Drawing *by Bob Wiemer*

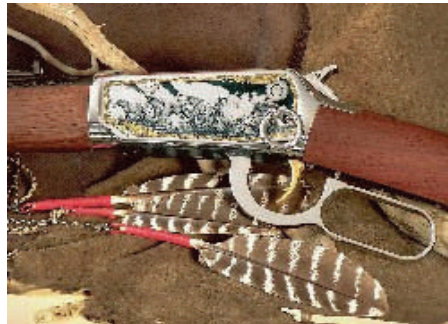
One of the highlights (that has nothing to do with colored eggs) at the NWA Easter Trail Ride will be the prize drawing for the beautiful "Mustangs in the Moonlight" 1894 Winchester Carbine provided by its engraver-finisher, NyeKass LLC of Nixa, Missouri.

This functioning, .45 caliber, "trapper-style" rifle, complete with a saddle ring, is rare indeed --a real collector's item. Engraved on both sides of the nickel-plated receiver with scenes of a herd of wild horses running at night under a full moon, the rifle also makes use of extensive 22 karat gold-plating on the trigger and on an etched lariat which frames the receiver on both sides. The bolt and hammer are complete with high-grade engine-turned "swirls," and the rifle is part of a limited edition of only three-hundred released to the entire world, and sold exclusively in Bass Pro Shops' "Fine Gun Rooms." This museum-quality piece retails at \$1,800.00.

Although a final decision hadn't been made as of our press-time, Mel Nye, of NyeKass, has said that the gun they present to the prizewinner may be their "Proof-Gun." This is the first of the "Mustang in the Moonlight" series ever made, and upon which the numbered series of 1 through 300 is based. If NyeKass decides to do this it will be the "cherry on the sundae" for our prizewinner, as the proof-rifle is the one that sets the standards for the series and may prove to be worth a good deal more money than one of the numbered guns.

In either case --proof or numbered-- the winner is getting a rare piece of American History. Although our rifle is newly-manufactured by Winchester, this

particular model has been in their catalog since 1894! And, our prize rifle is finished with the polish, blueing and attention to detail of one made a hundred years ago. This becomes very obvious when one compares it to an off-the-shelf '94 at the local gun shop. Another benefit of owning a newly-manufactured, "old" model is metallurgy. The current gun is very much stronger than the original 1894's, and that means safer with more powerful loads. It also makes for an heir-



Mustangs in the Moonlight

loom that you will proudly pass to your heirs and descendants.

Some "old-timers" may wonder about the wisdom of our rifle's being made in a handgun caliber, .45 Colt (which some call "Long Colt"), rather than a rifle caliber. Here's why... It's historically accurate. When the rifle first came out, it was only offered in handgun calibers and for a very practical reason: Cowboys wanted a rifle in their saddle-scabbard that used the same cartridges as their six-guns so they only had to carry one type of ammunition in their space-limited saddlebags. And, today folks can buy .45 Long-Colt ammunition which actually surpasses the power of the vaunted .44 Magnum! A caliber for moose and grizzly, it ain't --

but for white-tails, mule deer, and the occasional attacking cougar, it'll do very nicely. Plus, you can opt to use so-called "Cowboy Loads," (down-loaded .45 cartridges which have power about on par with the original black-powder loads). Of course, these are ideal for low-recoil target-shooting, or to use if you participate in the great new sport of Cowboy Action Shooting. So, it's a highly versatile caliber and that's why NyeKass selected it for their "Mustangs in the Moonlight" series.

Although we're asking all those folks who became "Volunteer Vendors" for the NWA Raffle, to finish up their ticket sales by mid-March and get the stubs, unsold tickets and funds turned-in by March 31, you will actually be able to get tickets right up to the very moment of the drawing at the Easter Trail Ride on April 23rd (tentative date, place to be announced --watch our web-site, www.nwha.us). If you're planning on being at the trail ride, you can obtain your tickets there --or call Bob Wiemer on his Cell Phone, (702) 683-5006 (during "reasonable" hours, please) and he will make certain that you're able to participate.

NyeKass will make arrangements for the prize-winner to take delivery of the rifle through Bass Pro Shops, or some other federally-licensed gun-dealer (whichever is more conveniently-located). As stated in our published rules for the raffle, it will be the prize-winner's responsibility to cover any taxes or transfer-costs which may be incurred. Obviously, the winner, in order to claim the prize, must be eligible to acquire the firearm under obtaining Federal, State and Local laws.

Newsletter *by Conni Canaday*

You may notice that our newsletter looks a bit different, as with most things there comes a time when change is necessary. For the last few years Barb Wolin has published our newsletter, and has done a wonderful job. She has wanted to hand it over to someone else for quite some time now and it was mutually agreed that now was the right time. Heidi

Abrams has bravely agreed to do the newsletter, but we still need someone to do the publishing part of it, if anyone is interested please call Conni Canaday at 396-8680.

Thank you to Heidi for stepping up and taking over the newsletter and thanks again Barb for the great job you've done the last few years.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Summerlin Earthfaire is Saturday April 22 at Summerlin Centre Community Park, and our Easter Ride is Sunday April 23. If you are interested and can help at one or both of the events, please call 452.5853 and leave a message or email conni@nwha.us.

Thank you in advance!



The National Wild Horse Association
presents ...



Spring Ride
and
Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 23, 2006

Breakfast - 8:00 a.m.

Ride and Easter Egg Hunt - 10:00 a.m.

Craig Leet's Famous "Sizzling Steak" Lunch - about 1:00 p.m.*

Cost per person - \$20.00 ride & lunch

\$15.00 lunch only



Call 702-452-5853 for reservations no later than Wednesday, April 19, 2006.

Leave your name, phone number, and the number in your party. Please indicate ride and lunch or lunch only.

***Please bring your portable table and chairs.**



Post Adoption Clinics *by Wes Canaday*

The clinic for February was cancelled because the BLM was using Oliver Ranch as a base camp for the gather of the Red Rock horses and burros, which is covered in another article in this newsletter. Remember our clinics are scheduled for the 3rd Saturday of the month, be sure to check our website or call 452.5853 for updated information.

We have been talking with IFA Country Store and they have offered coupons as an incentive to help make our clinics more successful. They have been generous in the past and continue to be so now. To them we say a big "thank you" and hope you support them as they support us.

We hope to have some clinics in Pahrump as soon as we can work out the details, so stay tuned and we'll keep you informed on the web site.

The interactive style we are using to help you and your Mustang get to know each other better has been fun and beneficial. Our clinics are usually held on the third Saturday of each month unless otherwise posted on our website. I would like to invite everyone who loves horses, wants to learn more about them, and have a great time interacting with a horse to join us at a clinic; whether you have a horse or not, the bene-

fits of learning from a professional trainer in this manner are great. Jesse Paxton has been gracious enough to volunteer his time to the NWA, so please take advantage of this opportunity.

Bring your chair. NWA will supply the drinks (water and soda) and chips, and let's play with some horses! Oh yeah, please bring a suggested donation (\$10.00 per person) for Jesse. Hope to see you there. For more information please visit our website at www.nwha.us or call 702.452.5853.



Jesse Paxton working with a mustang.

Dooley Elementary School and Cherokee *by Shari Warren*

There is a school in Henderson named John Dooley Elementary School that started their reading week on Feb. 27, 2006. They are calling it "Wild About Reading". They contacted the NWA because they want to help Wild Horses.

It just so happens that back in January the NWA received a call from a man that had adopted Cherokee at the Oct. 2005 adoption. He didn't want to give him up but he just couldn't give him the attention and time that is needed to be gentled and then trained. Some NWA volunteers went to Pahrump to pick him up (thanks to Bob & Jan Byer for the use of their trailer) and bring him to Bob & Jan's house where he is being cared for and worked until he is adopted. Conni &

Wes and Jan & Bob have all been helping out to do this. Cherokee is about 16 months old. He has a sweet disposition and is learning that humans are not only good but they are fun as well.

Each child received sponsorships of \$1.00 for every book they read during Wild About Reading week. In turn they donated that to the NWA to help feed Cherokee while he is in our care trying to get adopted. We have given them a coloring book so they can have a coloring contest, along with some puzzles to do. We offered to go to the school and show them a great video about the adoption process from a personal perspective that Bob Weimer put together. Unfortunately they couldn't fit that into their week long event schedule. The kids did watch the Disney movie "Spirit," which has made them even

more excited about helping the Wild Horses. They even have the Mayor of Henderson coming to read to them along with other exciting people.

But it gets even better; Stations Casino agreed to match up to \$300.00 of the kid's donations and give that to the NWA as well. The kids donated \$171.00 and Stations donated \$200.00 – for a grand total of \$371.00! It looks like Cherokee will be eating very well for a while. We really hope that we can help to find him a good home.

Thank you to the Faculty and Students of Dooley Elementary and also a big thank you to Stations Casino for supporting the students to help them read more!!!

Website

Even if you can't make it to our monthly meetings, you can still stay current on what's happening by visiting our web site at www.nwha.us. Some pages that may be of interest:

- **What's New** page - one stop shopping. Links to press releases, what's new on the

web site, and what's new with the NWA.

- Our **Calendar of Events** page lists our events, including meetings and post adoption clinics, and events of other organizations for the year.

- The **Available Horses** page has pictures and information about any horses that have been turned back in and are avail-

able for adoption (we have one now), it will also have horses that may be for sale.

- **Resources** page with links to some interesting and informational sites. If there are any sites you think should be added, your suggestions are welcome.

The web site is a work in progress, please visit and give us your feedback to help make it better.

NATIONAL WILD HORSE ASSOCIATION

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Las Vegas, NV 89112

Phone: 702.452.5853
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Website: <http://www.nwha.us>

The Preservation of the Born Free

BULLETIN BOARD

NWHA General Meetings

Monthly meetings are held the second Monday of each month, 7:30 PM at the BLM Office, 4701 N Torrey Pines, Las Vegas, NV. Guests are welcome. Next meeting April 10, 2006 7:30 PM.

Post-Adoption Clinics

Clinics are held on the third Saturday of each month. Check our Calendar of Events page on our website for time and place. Call 702.452.5853 for more information.

Horse Council of Nevada General Meetings

Quarterly meetings are held on the third Wed of the month , 7:00 PM at Mountain Crest Park, Durango and Lone Mountain.

NWHA Spring Trail Ride and Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday April 23, 2006

Bring your horse, table, chairs, and appetite. There will be a raffle with great prizes, and tickets for the rifle raffle will also be sold. The winning ticket for the rifle will be drawn at this ride.

Check the website for details, then call 702.452.5853 for reservations NO LATER than April 18.

Summerlin Earthfaire

Saturday April 22 at Summerlin Centre Community Park. If you are interested in volunteering , please call 452-5853 and leave a message.

The mission of the National Wild Horse Association is to ensure the welfare of wild horses and burros, and their survival, in an ecologically balanced environment on the open range.