



Spring 2011

Longhopes Legends

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adoptions@longhopes.org

Breaking News:



Read all about our BIG news INSIDE!

From the Top BrASS

by Founder/CEO-Kathy Dean

Because I spend my days with animals that can live 30-50 years, I am always thinking about the future. Most important to me is ensuring that our donkeys (including adopted donkeys who may they outlive their adopters) have a safe haven for the remainder of THEIR lives not ours.

Last month the future presented itself when the owner of the property just north of Longhopes announced his intention to sell the property. It is a great piece of land which includes a 15 acre pasture that Longhopes has been leasing for 10 years. Without this pasture, Longhopes would be severely limited in the number of donkeys it could house at any one time. Therefore, buying the property is vital to Longhopes' future.

My husband and I are so committed to this opportunity that we are investing over \$100,000 of our personal funds so Longhopes can buy the property. We will also be personally building fences and corrals to make this a perfect addition for Longhopes.

The balance of the \$400,000 purchase price will be paid from Longhopes' savings and a commercial loan for \$150,000 at 5.1% interest.

Paying off the commercial loan will require more help than we have ever needed before but the benefits are greater than anything we have done before. Any extra money (above our operating costs) that we can raise in the next few months, to apply directly against the mortgage principal will save Longhopes thousands of \$\$\$\$ in the long run..

I think buying hay is a much better use of funds than making interest payments to a bank, so I am personally asking for your help. Our goal is to pay the mortgage in 5 years. We can do it.

Longhopes is the premier donkey rescue in the United States and with your help, we can ensure that Longhopes is here for decades to come.

This purchase is an exciting new chapter for Longhopes. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Kathy

Unlike most charities we DO NOT use professional fundraisers so, 100% (not just 40% or 50%) of your gift benefits our donkeys.

**We accept donations by Personal Check,
Money Order, and online PayPal donations.**

Longhopes Board of Directors

Mary Wamsley	President
Ross Keller	Vice President
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Karen Kaehler	Secretary
Kathy Dean	Founder and CEO
Lindsey Bewick	Board
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Our NEW PROPERTY

Our new property includes:

- House for Donkey Caretaker (Above)
- Storage and maintenance shop (above RIGHT)
- 19 fenced acres
- Metal donkey shelter (far RIGHT)
- Steel barn that will become an indoor Training Center (RIGHT)



*****And most importantly, our new property provides security and longevity.**

We appreciate your donations to help us with this purchase and our ongoing medical, hay, farrier and transportation costs.

Our Donkeys have big plans for our New property.

Together, we can make them come true.





Longhopes On the Road-Outreach Program Update

Ring, Ring– Animal Control from Chappell Nebraska calls Longhopes. Several crippled donkeys were confiscated from a neglectful owner. The owner bought 1 jennet and 1 jack from the BLM then never neutered the jack. Result? They reproduced and the owner then had 7 untamed donkeys she could not afford. None of the donkeys had been afforded any hoof care for years. The local vets did not want to try and save the donkeys. However, with grant funds Longhopes was able to retain a vet to geld and vaccinate the jacks in the group. Kathy and Alan from Longhopes also made the long drive to assist the vet with trimming the very long hooves. Afterward all 3 donkeys were placed in new Nebraska homes.

How Much Does your Donkey Weigh????

With a generous grant from the ASPCA, Longhopes purchased a small equine SCALE.

We were previously estimating weight with an equine tape, but those tapes are designed for horses. When we compared the tape results with the scale, we discovered that the scale weight was 0%-21% greater than the tape weight.

On average the donkeys weighed 17% more than the weight tape measurement. To our surprise the disparity was unrelated to the size, age or conformation.

What we can say is that the average weight of a 47" to 49" adult donkey at Longhopes is 534 pounds.
SO WHO CARES?

Accurate weight is VITAL to calculating medication doses and especially sedatives. It is also important in determining a particular donkey's riding or packing capacity so the donkey is not overworked.

[WE have grant funds to geld jacks.](#)
[If you know of a jack owner who can't afford the surgery, contact Longhopes.](#)



Our New Thistle and Remy by Judy and Herb Bourdelais

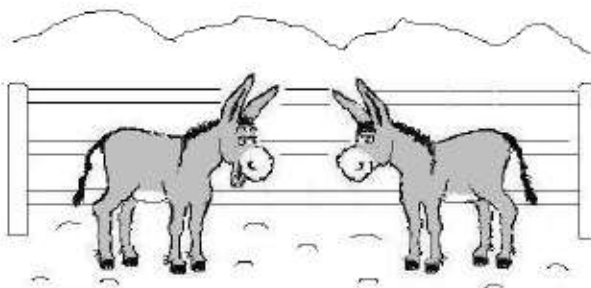
My husband and I owned horses for six years, until our daughter went off to college. Although we thought this would be fine, we soon discovered we were not comfortable with an empty barn. Searching on line, we found Longhopes Donkey Shelter, and went to the facility to meet these animals we knew little about.

Standing in the middle of over forty donkeys of all sizes and ages, we absolutely fell in love with these adorable and affectionate animals. We chose two to be part of our family. Longhopes was and still is so supportive and helpful, giving us advice when needed. We are enjoying our new family members and hope that anyone who has room in their heart and family, will consider adopting donkeys from this wonderful shelter. We only wish we knew about these loving animals and this shelter years ago.



EARS TO YOU

By Jani Isenhart



**If you could be someone famous, who would it be?
And don't pick Brighty or Prunes this time.**

2010 Statistics

Starting census	32
Admissions	+ 58
(new record)	
Adoptions	<u>- 51</u>
	39

Thank you to all the people listed
below who sponsor a donkey in our
E.A.R.S and Sanctuary Programs
You truly are guardian angels!



John Abshire & Amelia Heintzelman
Daniel Adam & Gary Russell
Lesley Alderton & Ian Cartwright
Carol Andreis & Don Blair & Jeannine Andreis
Nancy Asdell
Lindsey Bewick
Richard & Patricia Brown
Todd Burbridge
Harry & Anne & Neil & Kate Burrows
Karen Chappelow
Norah Charles
Ed & Caren Cohen
Paul & Phyllis Deane
Dale Fenner
Dale & Katherine Fitting
Bonnie Francella
Mark & Tarrita Garrard
Nadine Glemba
Terri Hulstrom
Sharon & Sarah Johnson
Danette LaGuardia & (McKenzie & Jadyne)
Justin & Chuck Loerwald
Dorothy Longstreet
Janet and Jerry Mallow
Josephine McDonald
Scott and Deborah Mentzer
Kim & Karen Meyer

Debora Mills
Lee Munsell
Lisa Negri & Eva Darrington
Frances Price
Randi Price
Susan Popp
Susan Rawson
Kim Richards
John Richardson
Conny Seiler
Barbara Shearer
Lisa Siconolfi & Carl Plum
Lisette Silva
Hernan Silva & Alexandra Granados
David & Jan Smith
Carolyn Spahr
Spirit Horse Alliance
La Vaughn Standridge Parnell & Carol Williamson
Michelle Szylowski
Pam Thode
Joyce Tucker
Amy Tsui
Linda & Arthur Vannostrand
Eileen Voth & Wil Roesler
Mary Wamsley
Arlena Wood & Joe Bosworth

Newman Update by Dawn Komar

Editor's Note:

Animal control asked Longhopes to take Newman after he was confiscated from a neglectful owner who left him tied to a fence.

Hi Longhopes,

Just wanted to let you know that Newman is completely and totally part of the family. Newman and buddy share the paddock area, and they want to be in the same stall too! Newman's favorite playmates, are the horses Ace and sometimes Duece. Ace has only ever hugged me, he now gives them to Newman too. Newman grazes with our old Black lab mix (Shay), Newman actually puts up with her cleaning his face! And he guards the goats, his favorite being Lily (of coarse, she IS the princess) even though she steals grass from his mouth. Newman is everyone's favorite. My boys go down everyday just to say hi. He can't be a more perfect fit. We LOVE him very much! Thank you again.

Dawn



To Colorado Taxpayers:

We've received several inquiries about the new Colorado State Income Tax Voluntary Check off Contribution under #42 "The Unwanted Horse Fund"

We believe you can best serve needy equines by donating directly to a horse or DONKEY rescue that you believe in so your gift goes directly to the equines.

25	Enter the amount from federal Form 1040, line 37; or from federal Form 1040A, line 21; or from federal Form 1040EZ, line 4 (Federal Adjusted Gross Income)	+25	.00
26	If line 24 is more than line 25, subtract line 20 from line 24. This is your overpayment.	-26	.00
27	Amount (you want) credited to your 2013 estimated tax.	+27	.00
ENTER THE AMOUNT, IF ANY, YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO:			
28	The Nonpoint and Endangered Wildlife Clean Fund	+28	.00
29	The Colorado Domestic Abuse Program Fund	+29	.00
30	The Horseless Prevention Activities Program Fund	+30	.00
31	The Special Olympics Colorado Fund	+31	.00
32	The Western Slope Military Veterans' Cemetery Fund	+32	.00
33	The Pet Overpopulation Fund	+33	.00
34	The Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund	+34	.00
35	The Alzheimer's Association Fund	+35	.00
36	The Military Family Relief Fund	+36	.00
37	The Colorado Breast and Women's Reproductive Cancers Fund	+37	.00
38	The Adult Stem Cell Cure Fund	+38	.00
39	The Sheeple Fair Fund	+39	.00
40	The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Colorado Fund	+40	.00
41	The Colorado 2-1-1 First Call for Help Fund	+41	.00
42	The Unwanted Horse Fund	+42	.00
43	Total of lines 27 through 42	-43	.00
44	Line 28 minus line 43. This is your REFUND. e-file this return. Get your refund faster!	+44	.00

Tag Team Guarding

Donkeys have long been used to guard livestock from predators. All the instruction materials discourage having more than one donkey to guard.

Because we believe most donkeys need the companionship of their own species, we rarely ever adopt out single donkeys. As a result few of our donkeys work as guards.



We have often wondered if the SINGLE guard theory is a rationalization to ignore the donkey's innate need for other donkeys and is just an avoidance for the of owning 2 donkeys.

Tansy and Ellie are two healthy young jennets who arrived at Longhopes very bonded. To give them a chance to stay together, we adopted the pair as livestock guards to the Rolling Thunder Ranch in Florissant, Colorado. We are excited to know that Ellie and Tansy turned out to be a great Tag-Team set of livestock guards and we wanted to share their report with you.

In my opinion Ellie and Tansy work as a team. Tansy has "special" goats and sheep that she plays with. In fact I lost a doe to old age just a couple of days ago and Tansy seems to be mourning her. We put them in with a new flock of Suffolk sheep and Tansy continues to come to the fence at the spot where the goat died. Ellie it seems doesn't choose particular sheep to be friends with but she seems uneasy when the sheep are spread out. She will try to round them back up in a tighter group, especially at dusk. The only time it seems that both girls are less concerned about the livestock is if it is raining or snowing. Then they generally want to be in the sheds. Both girls are great with babies too. Tansy allows jumping goats on her back. They stand guard if a baby is born in pasture. They are careful not to step on my Nigerian Dwarf Goats and allow them under belly and under foot all the time. They are much more patient and tolerant than the llamas or horses. They both have very distinct personalities and it seems they have different roles in guarding the animals.

We've even seen Ellie stomp on a coyote and kill it. They make a great deal of noise if a coyote, dog or anything that they don't like gets too close to the fence. We've seen bear hair on fences and presumed that the girls chased the bear.

They are still very close to one another and I don't think that they would be effective guards if separated.

I won't have any other type of guard at this point. I think they are much more effective than a dog or llama .

Dawn Ridderman, Rolling Thunder Ranch

A Horsey-Donkey Story by Susan Harris

When my husband's horse died suddenly nothing made sense for a while—not our ranch, not our attempts at replacing the horse, especially not our incurable sadness. We soon discovered that one horse is not as good as another. Our mare who had spent fourteen years with her adopted brother agreed. Then we discovered Longhopes. Two donkeys at Longhopes stood out—a beautiful little jennet and Clifford, the mammoth gelding donkey version of Eeyore. We brought the jennet home, thinking she would be a perfect companion for our mare. WRONG! on two counts: first, the jennet didn't like our mare or her habit of kicking stall mates who made her jealous; and second, our pasture fences were designed for tall horses, not standard jennets. The jennet walked right through and was nearly successful at setting off to find friends who met her donkey requirements.

Longhopes drove all the way back to our home and exchanged Clifford for the jennet. One night late in December, the wind turned to rain which turned to snow. In spite of being cold and hungry, Clifford wasn't about to venture into the barn with the mare. So my husband turned to the horse. "You have to help me get Clifford in the barn!" he pleaded. The mare looked disdainful, but she went out into the snow, moving behind Clifford to herd him into the barn with her wagging head. Then she took her place, half in and half out of the barn, blocking Clifford from leaving his dinner or the shelter. We called it our Christmas miracle.

As the days passed, the distance between the two equines shrank. Soon the mare was standing guard in the pasture while the donkey napped and vice versa. Then one evening when I went to bring the two into the paddock for the night, the mare stood at the gate alone. I called for Clifford and so did she. No one answered. The mare refused to come in without Clifford. "Show me where Clifford is," I commanded my horse. She led me up a trail that none of the horses liked much because it was frequented by coyotes. There, at the extreme rear of our property, stood Clifford. Perhaps he had run there, frightened by a passing bobcat or bear. Perhaps he had been too afraid to move. He seemed overjoyed to see us. The feeling was mutual. The mare galloped happily toward the barn with Clifford running behind her. When we reached the rear of the barn, the mare was waiting. She did an ecstatic little aerial buck-and-kick which Clifford copied. My husband and I could only stare. Was this really Clifford the Mellow?

Our mare now seems to think Clifford makes a good substitute for the offspring she never had. As for Clifford—he's delighted to find himself the lord and master of an expansive kingdom, huggable subject for grandkids, and oversized pet for human soft-hearts. We wouldn't have it any other way.



And we can never thank Kathy, Kelly, and Longhopes enough for their caring support and for the best Christmas gift we've had since my husband and I found each other many years ago.

Longhopes' MISSION STATEMENT

WE are dedicated to improving the welfare of donkeys through rescue, rehabilitation, rehoming, reduced reproduction and permanent sanctuary of donkeys and donkey hybrids that would otherwise be at risk for neglect, abuse or death.

WE seek to reduce owner abandonment of donkeys through education, training, financial services and lifelong support to Longhopes alumni and their adopters.

WE seek to promote and create a national network of viable rescues to protect donkeys.

Our Gratitude to Our Corporate Sponsor



OTHER Ways you can Help our Donkeys

Estate Planning: Include a bequest to Longhopes in your will.

Life Insurance: donate an unneeded insurance policy, or make Longhopes the beneficiary of a policy.

Volunteer: spend time with our donkeys .

Marketing: spread the word about Longhopes to friends, family, newspapers, magazines.

Sponsor: be the guardian to a donkey in our rehabilitation or sanctuary program

Adopt: take a pair of donkeys home with you.

Shop: buy a donkey lover's gift .



NEW

Burro Buddy

\$10.00 each

\$ 4.95 shipping/handling

7 inch gray stuffed donkey
with Purple bandana
Be My Burro Buddy

NEW Longhopes T-shirt *It's all about the Buddy System*

\$12.99 + \$ 3.95 shipping/handling

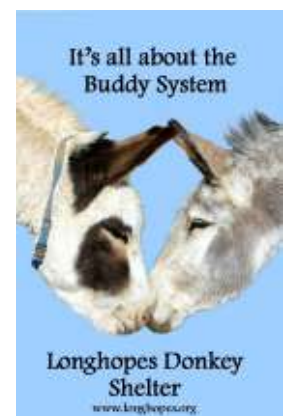
Sizes Children's SM, MED
Adult SM, MED, LAR
X-LARGE, 2X-LAR

Shirt Colors



Gray

Maroon



Dear Miss Bliss,

I know it was your first home-but I was sure you would want to know about the abuse I witnessed at the Longhopes Donkey Shelter. I couldn't believe



my eyes when I saw it but look at this instrument of torture the folks at Longhopes put on this innocent donkey. What can be done to stop this?

Archie- Ace Ass Reporter

Dear Archie:

Don't call the ASPCA just yet. I have it on reliable authority that this is a feed

bag for donkeys that need special grain.

It allows Longhopes to put grain, vitamins, supplements or medications in the bottom of the bag. The donkey then wears the bag so it can eat without competition from other donkeys and without risk of dropping a single morsel of food in the dirt. The bag is then washed and reused.

I NEVER get any grain from my human. Hey if that is torture-BRING IT ON!

Love Bliss

Have you seen our NEW Virtual Tour?
Click on this picture at www.longhopes.org
to see our donkeys in motion.



DID YOU KNOW THAT
Longhopes
is the
ONLY
United States
donkey shelter
to use grant funds
it received
to assist other
donkey shelters?

Our Wish List

- Chain link fencing
- Postage stamps
- Used pony blankets
- Office Depot gift cards
- DVD player
- Small safe
- Heavy duty gloves
- Paper clips
- Laminator
- HP 8500 printer ink
- Dish soap
- Trash bags
- Toilet paper
- Avery 5160 labels
- Small refrigerator
- Washer & dryer
- Kitchen cabinets
- Railroad ties

Single Gray Gelding Looking for Love



Simon

Distinguished, mature donkey looking for committed relationship with lonely jennet to share long walks in the pasture, delicious meals twice a day and snuggle time in a warm barn at night.

I've seen it all and have traveled the country over the last 17 years and am now ready to permanently settle down.

My ideal mate is a sweet female donkey my age (but younger is great too), who appreciates the finer things in life like a good roll in the sand and the occasional cookie.

Interested parties can contact me at longhopesorg@gmail.com

Longhopes Donkey Shelter
50 S. Dutch Valley Road
Bennett, CO 80102

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Love at First Sight