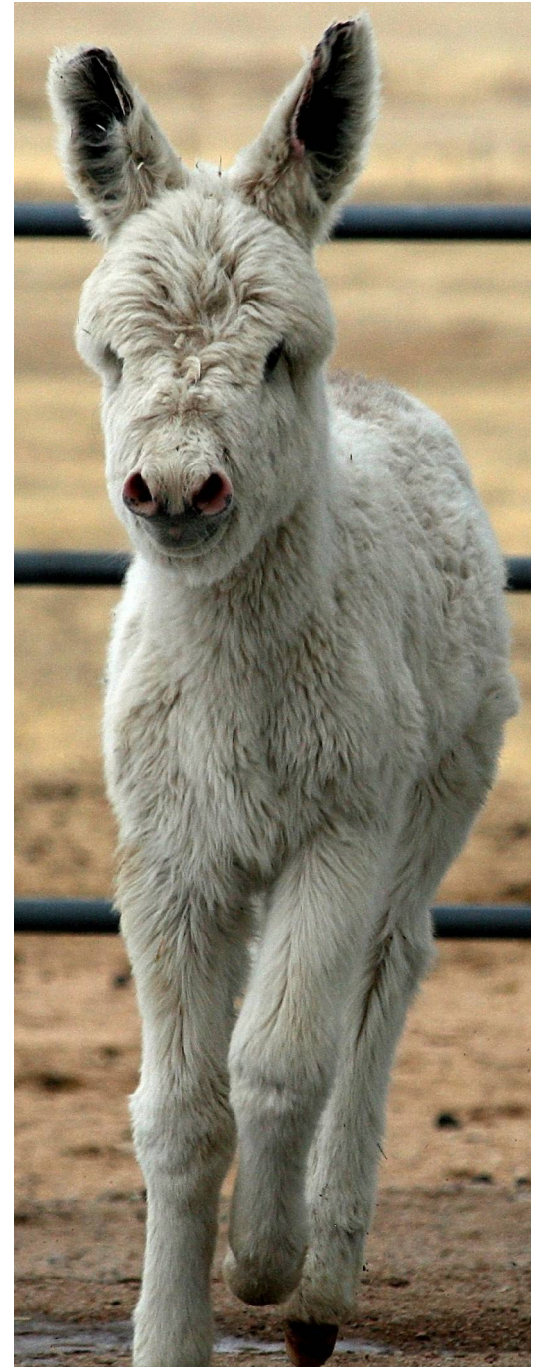
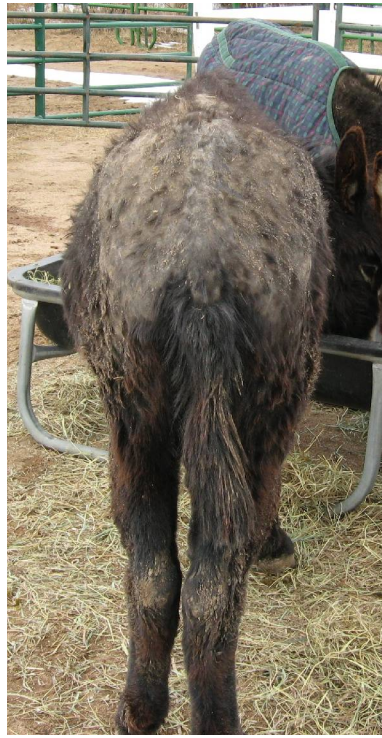


A beautiful white donkey, Posey, arrived at the shelter in early October. Within 2 weeks we noticed a significant weight gain so we suspected, as with many of our rescued jennets, that she was pregnant. After 1 month we were pretty sure because she had not cycled.

Puffen was born early the morning of January 21, one of the coldest days this winter. Poor thing got frost bit on the tips of her ears because she was born outside the corral. Being unable to keep the temperature above freezing in any of our barns, our softhearted volunteers made a makeshift corral for her and Posey in our new garage.

For several days the weather remained cold, so every evening the two donkeys were taken back to the garage (see the *action* photo on the back page!). So now we've had donkeys in the house and garage, what's next?





Longhopes Is There When Needed

In early March Longhopes was called on to take in four very needy donkeys. They were confiscated from their owner by animal control officers due to severe neglect. The owner decided to relinquish them instead of contesting the charges. Emaciated, crippled by overgrown hooves and suffering from skin problems that caused their hair to fall out, they had no protection from the winter cold but they hung on until relief came.

Before they were loaded on a trailer for Longhopes they were given their first hoof trim to ease their discomfort. Now they are part of the Longhopes E.A.R.S. (Education and Rehabilitation Sponsorship) program getting all the food they can stand, warm blankets to cover their bald backs, and some needed remedial training. It will take many months to return these donkeys to good health but thanks to your help and Longhopes they will have as much time as they need.

A big THANK YOU to our animal control officers out there who helped remove them from a very bad place.



Now we need a Daisy Mae



"Li'l Abner" was born Saturday morning between midnight and 5 a.m. He is a perfect, dark brown jack foal born to Ellie who arrived last August emaciated, with pneumonia and a rear leg injury. She sure made a complete recovery.

A Bray of Thanks!

"Hold still, don't chew, can you *possibly* keep that tail still?" That is the conversation I always think of when I imagine a donkey "posing" for one of the glorious pieces of art by our friend Barbara Meikle. She has come to the shelter several times to paint our donkeys and the results are beautiful as you can see. Paging through her book is a donkey lover's dream, and the shelter's donkeys are well represented. Barbara was also generous enough to donate the proceeds from one of her pictures to Longhopes. THANK YOU!

View Barbara Meikle's burro paintings and her new book - "The Donkey Diaries"



PIPPIN MEIKLE FINE ART
236 Delgado Street . Santa Fe . NM 87501
505-992-0400
www.pippinmeiklefineart.com



And thanks to BIG ASS FANS, the best corporate sponsor a donkey could ever want!

And let us not forget Front Range Equine Rescue.

They may be a horses best

friend, but our donkeys would welcome them to our barns any day of the week. They reimbursed part of our 2007 castration costs through a grant request awarded to its director/founder Hilary Wood.

Front Range Equine Rescue

Dear Miss Bliss:

I have a donkey, Taz, that you might remember from the shelter. This a.m. I noticed her laying down and an hour later she was still laying in the same position. After some coaxing she stood. It appears she is favoring her back right leg but I see no outside wounds and her hooves are fine. Do you have any recommendations?- I'm perplexed and concerned.

Taz's mom in Wray



Dear Mom,

Sprains and strains are not uncommon in donkeys. When a donkey is lame you first look for protruding bones, or bleeding. Look for a puncture or something stuck in the skin like a nail or piece of wire. Also look for swelling. Does the animal react in pain when you run your hand down its leg and apply a little pressure? If possible clean out the hoof and put pressure on the sole with a hoof tester.. That sometimes reveals an abscess inside the hoof that can be very painful. Is the donkey still eating and drinking, it's head up? If yes-the condition is usually not serious.

With a rectal thermometer, check the donkey's temperature which should be 98 or 99 degrees. A fever usually implies an infection process going on.

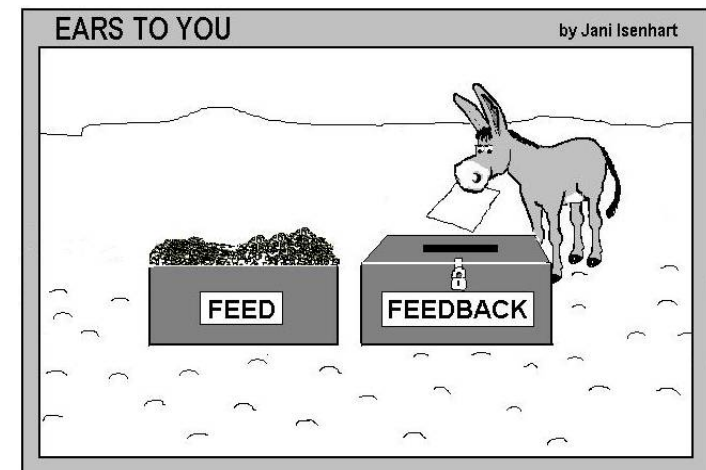
If all those fail to produce a diagnosis you can suspect a strain. Just like humans, sprains and strains take a few days to heal.

If after several days the donkey shows no improvement or is worse, it is probably time to get x-rays. We donkeys are stoic and can actually break a leg and keep moving around as if they have just a sprain.

Thanks to Kathy for help with this problem. I had to cut down the size for the newsletter, but you can read the unabridged version at www.longhopes.org/missbliss.html.

CALL FOR PHOTOS!

Do you have a great picture of the donkey(s) you adopted from The Longhopes Donkey Shelter? Some of our more photogenic alumni will be featured in next year's calendar. If you have some good pictures (donkeys only, no humans please) send it to us. A free calendar to any donkey who makes it as a pin-up!



Our Donkey Story by Parker & Logan Groves



One hot summer day, our mom and grandma took us out to a donkey shelter called Longhopes. My grandma knew about donkeys because she had a donkey named Thistle. Before we went to the shelter, we both loved donkeys. So did my mom and grandma. When we arrived at the shelter we went into the donkey pen. At that instant Logan and I found the two donkeys that set hoof prints in our hearts,

Stormy and Tater. Stormy had been born at Longhopes a few months earlier. Tater was born at a BLM facility in Canon City and came to Longhopes with his mom.

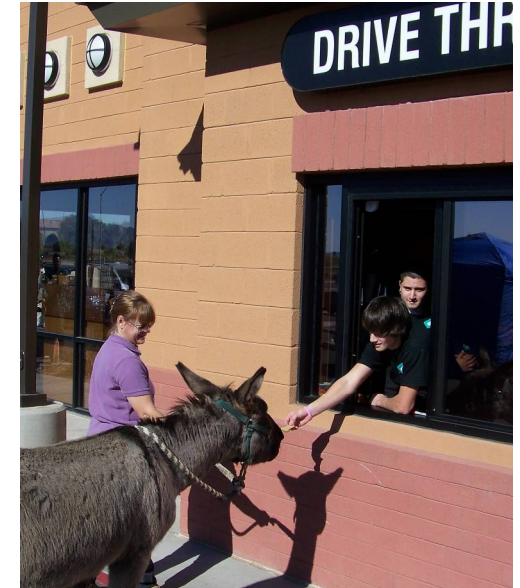
Before we knew it the Longhopes trailer was pulling up our driveway with our two new friends. At first, we were all nervous because we hadn't taken care of donkeys before, but we learned very quickly. Taking care of donkeys is not necessarily easy. Actually, at first it was very hard. But we got used to it. About a year later we got a phone call about a group of miniature donkeys that needed homes. I fell in love with one of the white ones and Logan fell in love with a brown and white spotted one. The donkeys were transferred to Longhopes for some training and to make sure they were healthy. Pretty soon they were at are [*sic*] house. Stormy and Tater weren't too sure about sharing all of their attention but it didn't take long before all four became best friends. We named the white one Moe and the spotted one Sparky. And now we have four wonderful donkeys just to our selves. Our lives have changed forever and dreams of donkeys are in our hearts. We don't think we could ever live another day with out a donkey in our lives.



The End

Have a Cuppa, Joe by Ginger Duplisse

My husband Ian read an article in the paper about a new coffee shop here in Phoenix that had a unique name, Bad Ass Coffee. There was a bit of a public outcry over the name until people understood what was behind it. The native people of Kona, Hawaii, remember the days of the "Bad Ass Ones." The bellows of the donkeys could be heard echoing through the mountains as they hauled the heavy loads of coffee up and down the mountainside. The article went on to explain that the coffee shop was about to have their grand opening in a couple of weeks and were "hoping to have a live donkey." We thought why not give them a call and offer up one of ours. So I did, and they loved the idea.



The grand opening featured live Hawaiian music, hula dancers, a costumed mascot, and our recently rescued donkey appropriately named Joe. When we arrived we weren't sure how he'd react to all the commotion of the people, music, traffic, and motorcycles, but he seemed to take it in stride and loved the attention.



We set up a stall with Longhopes banners, Joe's story and photos, and a contribution jar, then set about the business of educating everyone on donkeys in general. We even had a definition printed up on the correct terminology of the Ass. It was great fun for everyone. Not only did we educate some people on the plight of donkeys, but we also were able to raise some donations for Longhopes.

I can tell you that we all had a great time and everyone seemed to enjoy hearing about the rescue up in Colorado. I hope that the little bit of awareness and funds that were raised for Longhopes will benefit our distant donkey friends there.

WISH LIST: Our washing machine has worked hard in the last years and needs to be put to pasture. If you have an extra that you could donate, we would sure appreciate it.

Financials for 2007

There are so many good things about Spring: green grass, new babies, warm rain. Of course, along with that comes mud, and weeds, and *taxes*. It is also time to share our year end financial statements so you know how your generous donations are being spent. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email us.

Ordinary Income

Income	
Adoption Fee	14,753.00
Boarding Fee	120.00
Direct Mail Donations	19,823.87
Donation other	16,290.96
Event Donations	3,127.00
Event Fee	5,472.57
Grants	22,167.00
Recycling	768.15
Sales	8,891.55
Special Donation Funds	8,927.00
Training Fee	90.00
Total Income	100,431.10
Gross Profit	100,431.10

Net Ordinary Income 26,582.38

Other Income/Expense

Other Income

Interest earned 4,018.43

Total Other Income 4,018.43

Net Other Income 4,018.43

Net Income 30,600.81

Expenses

Advertising	1,426.39
Auction Rescue costs	3,535.00
Bank Service Charges	17.20
Burial	225.00
Cost of Merchandise	6,556.45
Equipment	18,362.17
Farrier Services	1,933.99
Feed	12,168.74
Fund Raising Costs	962.00
Insurance	1,635.00
Maintenance Supplies	8927.00
Medical	6,580.18
Membership Fee	15.00
Office	1,999.43
Professional Fees	105.00
Quarterly Newsletter	2,575.17
Tack	1,715.66
Transportation	3,287.48
Utilities	783.81
Volunteer costs	300.03
Wages	6,578.10
Total Expense	73,848.72



Remember that it is easy to help the donkeys by using www.goodsearch.com when you are doing a search on the internet. And if you are shopping online please click the GoodShop box. We will receive from 1 to 5% of your purchase price. In the "Who do you Goodsearch For" be sure to put Longhopes Donkey Shelter.



Sorry about the blurry picture, but we were in a hurry! Only a week old, Baby Puffen had been eating well and was HEAVY by the time Judith carried her to the warm garage on a cold winter evening. Leading Mamma Posey is board member, Lindsey. Without great volunteers like this we would not be able to care for little Puffen and have her be the healthy girl she is today. We would also not have been able to adopt out **54** rescued donkeys in 2007.



OUT WITH THE OLD

The Longhopes board have voted to change the look of our logo. The venerable side portrait (on the right) has served us well since the shelter opened but we thought we needed something to better reflect the spirit, energy and location of the shelter. And, hey, the new one looks a LOT better on our hats, t-shirts and letterhead! Thanks to our board member Jani Isenhart for the new design. Jani also does the wonderful "Ears to You" cartoon for each issue. Let us know what you think about this, or any other aspect of the newsletter and/or shelter. HAPPY SPRING!



THE LONGHOPES DONKEY SHELTER, 50 S. Dutch Valley Road, Bennett, CO 80102
www.longhopes.org