



Looking for a holiday gift for the person who has everything?

Consider shopping at Cowgirl Spirit this holiday season! You can purchase goods and services in the name of someone on your shopping list — Get your shopping done AND help the rescue horses of Cowgirl Spirit!

Send a donation (via check or Paypal) for an item from the list below and we'll send you a card featuring the 2011 rescues to let your friends and family know that you have honored them with a gift that helps Cowgirl Spirit's rescues have a brighter and safer future. Every gift makes a difference, so please consider Christmas shopping for the benefit of Cowgirl Spirit's rescues this holiday season!

\$15 – 1 bag of grain

\$20 – 1 bale of hay

\$40 – 1 hoof trim

\$65 – 1 trim and set of shoes

\$100 – horse blanket

\$120 – 2-wheel wheelbarrow

\$135 – Intake exam and vaccinations

\$175 – dental float

\$200 – grain & hay for 1 horse for 1 month

\$400 – panels for quarantine pen

\$800 – quality used saddle

\$6000 – tractor with mower deck

Gifts toward veterinary bills can be made in any amount!



Be sure to include your name, e-mail address, mailing address, and the item you wish to purchase for the rescues in someone's name. We will contact you to confirm your gift, and to find out where you would like your card sent. Mail orders to PO Box 83, Fall City, WA 98024 by 12/15/11, or send a donation via Paypal at CowgirlSpirit.org. Call 425-333-5747 for more info!

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Microsoft and United Way Day of Caring

Our headquarters property was the beneficiary of another outstanding performance from Microsoft employees! Volunteers more than doubled from the year before, with over 50 people participating in the United Way Day of Caring. This was a very successful day, with some of the Microsoft participants even signing up to be regular Cowgirl Spirit volunteers!

To help with the many jobs tackled that day, Home Depot gave us two-for-one rental rates on landscaping equipment, weed whackers, brush cutters and bush hogs, and Talking Rain donated over a hundred bottles of water for the thirsty volunteers. Huge thanks to all for such a great day!

Like us on Facebook for all the latest news!



www.Facebook.com/Cowgirl.Spirit.Rescue



Out with the old and in with the new horse-safe fencing!



New facing and a coat of stain on the shed.



Hand-pulling dangerous weeds from the pasture.



Installing a new cross fence.



Hanging new gates.



Mowing the overgrown hillside.



Thank you Microsoft!

Sun, smiles and a profit at the Carnation Garage Sale



A photosensitive Cowgirl Spirit volunteer, Sarah, directs foot and car traffic to our booth!

The weather was almost a little too good for the Cowgirl Spirit “sales team” at the annual Carnation garage sale. The temperature soared into the 80’s. The water bottles were pulled out early, and we even sold bottled water to thirsty shoppers.

Free hot dogs, potato salad and chips were given out by the Valley Homes and Land boutique, and Lazy K’s Pizza and Pasta delivered free pizza to the all the vendors at the street fair. Cowgirl Spirit would like to acknowledge and thank the owners of these two establishments for their generosity during this great event.

Cowgirl Spirit had tables and tables of items to sell at the event, thanks to the generosity our families, friends and supporters. Other vendors even donated horse-themed items for Cowgirl Spirit to sell for our cause — including a wooden rocking horse, which lit up the face of a toddler passing by! Of, course how could the parents resist? Everyone was smiling as Daddy carried the horse away...with the happy toddler still sitting on it!

The team was also able to put a smile on one Grandmother’s face with the purchase of a saddle package for her paraplegic grandson. Cowgirl Spirit is a huge proponent of equine-assisted therapies, and we were pleased to offer the saddle to the Grandmother at a reduced

price that was within her budget. Although traffic and sales were down this year, CSRDT was able make over \$650 in sales. Again, thanks to our many garage sale donors, the Carnation Chamber, and our members who spent sweltering hours in the sun, staging our items, assisting shoppers, and spreading awareness of our organization and our mission. We look forward to next year’s sale!

Drill Team and training update

Because of recent injuries and rehabilitation issues, our weekly riding practices have dwindled to two to three horses over the past couple of months! Cheyenne, Cricket and Maya (when sound—see Rescue Update for more information) have been spending practice time on the basics— suppling and bending, yielding to pressure, and building a solid foundation at the walk, trot, and canter. We are extremely lucky to have many skilled riders and trainers, in many disciplines, that help our horses and riders achieve a broad spectrum of solid basic skills. Jen, Ally, Jean, and Beth are some of the dedicated instructors that have shared their knowledge and skill to our rescues and riders, and for that, we heartily thank you!

Over the past two months, Cricket and Kristin have been receiving one-on-one Hunter/Jumper training from team member and Volunteer Coordinator, Beth. Cricket has worked hard on collecting her gaits, improving her flexibility, and picking up on rider seat cues which have allowed her to skillfully master trot poles. Because of her eagerness to learn and her aptitude in the sport, Beth has given the go-ahead to move on to cross rails! Pat Egan, of [Artisan Carpentry](#), has volunteered to donate his skills to craft jump uprights for Cowgirl Spirit. Once Cricket and Kristin are comfortable with their new discipline, they plan to begin showing in cross-rail classes at local horse shows in the spring! We hope her new skill will show prospective adopters what an amazing horse Cricket is so she can find her forever home! We can’t believe this outstanding little mare has been with us for over a year!

One of the (many) great things about Cowgirl Spirit is the regular educational clinics that we offer to our members and volunteers. These clinics serve several purposes. First, since we have over 20 active volunteers who contribute to the rescues’ daily care, we need to be sure we’re all “speaking the same language” when it comes to working with our horses. This not only lets our rescues know what to expect, but it also provides a structure for what is expected of them when it comes to ground handling and interacting with our members and volunteers. Also, these various clinics help all of us to expand our knowledge of general safety, first aid, health issues, and horsemanship skills, which expose our members and volunteers to a broad base of knowledge from which to draw.

A recent clinic focused on conformational and behavioral assessment. Since the nature of our mission requires us to sometimes make quick decisions on horses to take in to our program, this particular skill set is vital to the success of our organization. The material included an overview of general physical assessment, including the Hennecke Body Scoring System, a review of common conformational issues, and the impact of these issues regarding rehabilitation times and possible impacts in regard to natural aptitudes of each horse. For example, while one body type may naturally help a horse excel at Dressage, they may not be built to excel in the Hunter/Jumper arena, and vice-versa. This insight allows us to focus each rescue’s training on a discipline where they can succeed, which ultimately will result in a happy, fulfilled horse, and a life-long match with their new adoptive owner.



Christina and Cheyenne practice trot poles at River Run Ranch.

SAFE Benefit Horse Show—August 6-7th

Cowgirl Spirit had the privilege of attending the 5th annual Save A Forgotten Equine Benefit Horse Show. Our rescues were all dolled up and did an amazing job, bringing in piles of ribbons from English, Western, Gaming, and Trail classes. We are so proud of how our rescues and members shined, and we loved being able to share this fantastic experience with our whole organization!



Mollie & Hannah placed 2nd in English Pleasure, Rescue Horse. Photo Courtesy of Liz Stabbert Photography.



Amira & Charlotte placed 3rd in Halter, Rescue Horse. Photo Courtesy of Liz Stabbert Photography.



Cricket & Kristin placed 3rd in Trails, Mounted, Novice; 5th in Trails, In Hand, Open; 4th in Walk/Trot English Equitation, Novice; 5th in Walk/Trot English Pleasure, Rescue Horse; 4th in Halter, Rescue; 3rd in Showmanship, Western, Novice; and 5th in Walk/Jog Western Equitation, Novice. Photo Courtesy of Liz Stabbert Photography.



Cheyenne & Christina placed 3rd in Barrel Racing, 15 & under; and 3rd in Walk/Jog Western Equitation, 14-17. Photo Courtesy of Liz Stabbert Photography.

Kathryn Taylor work party

To help expose our rescues to a variety of new situations, we like to haul out to local area arenas for team practices. One of our favorite locations (aside from our all-time favorite “home” arena at River Run Ranch), is Kathryn Taylor Equestrian Park in Redmond, Washington, which features a 100x200 ft arena, a 60 ft round pen, and access to the Tolt River Pipeline Trail.

Our team was pleased to be able to give back to this beautiful park by attending the work party at Kathryn Taylor on July 23rd. Cowgirl Spirit assisted in putting gravel down under hitching post area, then embarked on arduous task of pulling down the footing from all the rails of roundpen. We were so thrilled to be able to contribute to the upkeep of this fantastic facility!

Think of the Cowgirl Spirit rescues next time you use the Kathryn Taylor round pen or hitching post!

New rescue—Kalookan Best

Cowgirl Spirit recently took in a new rescue, Kalookan Best. He is a sweet 5 year old Thoroughbred gelding who has a wonderful, willing personality, as well as rather stately bloodlines, including Secretariat and Seattle Slew.

Kal is a two-time rescue. He was started as a race horse, but suffered a slab fracture before his racing career began. We were told that his race owners had made the decision to euthanize him rather than rehabilitate him, but he was able to be rehomed instead of meeting that fate. The family that adopted him gave him a year to recover from his injury, then began riding him as a pleasure horse.

His rescuers later came on hard times, and contacted Cowgirl Spirit to take possession of this sweet boy. He came to us in a severely emaciated state, but he appears to be sound otherwise. We will spend the next several months slowly bringing him back up to his proper weight, and expect to begin working with him under saddle in the spring.

When a horse is severely emaciated, as Kal is, it is important to bring them up to proper weight slowly, and under the direct supervision of a veterinarian. While a person's first reaction may be — "GIVE HIM FOOD!" it is vitally important reintroduce food very slowly, with several meals of a small amount of grass hay per day. Offering an emaciated horse too much food too soon can cause him to be overwhelmed, putting undue stress on his body, which can cause his system to shut down. Over the past four weeks, Kal has been slowly having his daily food ration increased, and has been brought up to three regular feedings of grass hay, a vitamin supplement, and a grain-free, low-carb feed. Check out our [Facebook page](#) and <http://ponybootcamp.blogspot.com/> for regular updates on Kal!



Kal on his first day with Cowgirl Spirit.

Abby is adopted!

Abby has found her forever home with Cowgirl Spirit member, Charlotte! Abby is a beautiful 15hh, 8 year old, dappled bay, TB/Quarter Horse cross mare who was rescued in June, 2011.

Not much was known about Abby, aside from the note that was pinned to her enclosure at the Enumclaw auction, which read "Born in 2003, easy keeper, strong feet." Nonetheless, Charlotte felt a connection to Abby and brought her to the intake committee's attention as a horse in need. Cowgirl Spirit had a space available, and Abby seemed like a great fit, so we moved forward with welcoming Abby into the Cowgirl Spirit program. She spent a couple weeks in quarantine at the home of Cowgirl Spirit Vice President and Treasurer, Belinda. After a clean bill of health and a tooth float from Dr. Hannah, Abby was moved to the Cowgirl Spirit headquarters, where Cricket and she became fast friends.

Charlotte began working with Abby as soon as Abby arrived at the Cowgirl Spirit headquarters in Carnation. When Abby was ready to attend weekly practices, she and Charlotte began developing their bond under saddle, which let Charlotte know that Abby was the horse for her. Abby and Charlotte continue to work with a trainer to refine their skills, and we look forward to watching their continued progress!



Charlotte and Abby on their way home.



Annie & Graycee spend a quiet moment together after a run at the beach.

Casper update:

Graycee (formerly known to Cowgirl Spirit as "Casper") was adopted by Joan Moore of Latigo N' Lace drill team over 2 years ago. This past year she has done exceptionally well, bonding with and taking care of her new rider, Annie McCabe at drill competitions, trail riding, and even Graycee's very first beach ride! At the beach, she instantly walked into Pacific Ocean with ease, and only moments later was galloping through the waves with the wind in her mane.

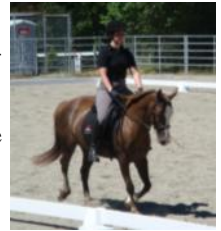
Earlier in the drill season Graycee had some trust issues and could be unpredictable during drill team practice. However this is not the case now. After getting used to her routine, she is a gentle and willing horse, responsive to light aids. Graycee was even given the great honor of presenting the American Flag at the Clark County Fair Drill Competition in August! [Click here](#) to see the video!

Graycee has matured into a stunning mount, and as Annie said, "This horse is a prime example of how many excellent rescue horses are out there, where time and patience pays off." Congratulations Graycee! We're so proud of you!!!

Current Cowgirl Spirit rescue updates:

If you would like to arrange a time to meet Cowgirl Spirit's rescues, or visit their headquarters in Carnation, Washington, please e-mail officers@csrdt.org. Members are also available to provide educational tours at our HQ to scout troops, home school groups, and more. Please e-mail for more information!

Mollie, a 14.1 hh, five year old Morgan cross mare, has been thriving in Pony Boot Camp! Mollie is a highly intelligent, funny little horse who is basking in the attention she is receiving at a private stable in Monroe, WA. Cowgirl Spirit Member, Hannah, is donating Mollie's board so they can both benefit from regular riding and training over the winter months. Hannah works with Mollie several times per week, and Mollie is getting quite comfortable with life in a boarding facility. In late July, Cowgirl Spirit Trainer, Ally, rode Mollie to her very first dressage tests at Hollywood Hill Saddle Club, where she got a **FOURTH PLACE RIBBON** in a Training Level 3 Dressage Test! We are so proud of what Mollie and her riders have accomplished! Mollie is ready for her forever home, and will make someone an exceptional mount! Mollie's adoption fee is \$750.



Mollie's dressage test.

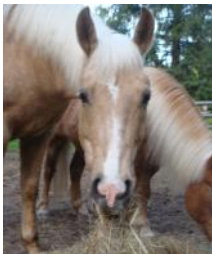
Cricket has begun Hunter/Jumper training and is showing a real aptitude for the sport! She has mastered trot-poles, and will start jumping cross rails in the upcoming weeks. The team hopes to cheer Cricket on in her first cross-rail class in early 2012! Keep your eyes peeled on Facebook for upcoming shows that Cowgirl Spirit will attend. Since Cricket has such a willing and friendly personality, and is so proportionately built at 13.3 hands (she's built like a tiny Thoroughbred), she would make an outstanding child's show horse. Cricket is a truly exceptional little horse who continues to impress everyone who works with her. Cricket's adoption fee is \$750.

Cheyenne, a 14.3 hh black Morgan cross mare, has an adoption application pending for her! We are so excited that Cheyenne will be finding her forever home. Keep your eyes peeled on Facebook, where we will announce when Cheyenne's adoption is final. We are so thrilled for this amazing, sweet, mare!

Ruben is enjoying his time at [National School of Academic Equitation](#) in Woodinville, Washington, where he is being sponsored by Christie and Nate Fisher for his full board and ongoing training. Ruben is an original Cowgirl Spirit rescue from 2005, who was returned to the organization when his adoptive owner ran into financial difficulties. Ruben is blind in one eye, and is approximately 18 years old. Ruben is a very sweet boy who bonds closely with a buddy horse and his humans. If you are interested in adopting Ruben as a light riding horse, and/or a pasture pal, he is available on a gift contract (the adopter would own him, but must return him to Cowgirl Spirit if they are unable to keep him) with no adoption fee.

Amira is a sweet, wonderful mare who is a true favorite of the Cowgirl Spirit herd. Every person who works with her is able to feel her true essence — a deep, sweet, loving soul. Amira is basically bomb-proof, has great ground manners, and will do anything she is asked under saddle. Amira will be returning to a private boarding facility for one-on-one training to fine tune her already solid skills under saddle. Amira is also ready for adoption, and would make an outstanding addition to any horse-loving home. Her adoption fee is \$750.

Maya is a gorgeous 14.2 hh, four year old Quarter Horse filly with a chestnut coat and flaxen mane and tail. Maya was rescued from starvation and neglect, but has recovered beautifully thanks to the care of the [Northwest Equine Stewardship Center](#). Maya was born blind in her left eye, but is not letting it affect her training. She has been started under saddle and is proving to be a willing student, however, Maya has been experiencing some chronic lameness issues, so she is currently under the care of Dr. Hannah Evergreen from NWESC. We look forward to finding out what we can do to help Maya remain happy and healthy so we can continue her training, and help her find her forever home.



Mandi (Strawberys Blossum) is a beautiful, loving, 12 year old registered Quarter Horse mare. She is approximately 15hh and is absolutely stunning. After a few months of stall-rest Mandi has fully recovered from the leg injury she sustained earlier this summer. She will be returning to the Cowgirl Spirit headquarters in the upcoming weeks where she will again attend weekly riding practices, as well as practice ground-work each day with Cowgirl Spirit's members. We are so excited to welcome Mandi back to the headquarters! We've missed seeing her sweet face, and can't wait to see how amazing she'll be when she is back in regular training under saddle!

Sunny, a 4 year old Thoroughbred who was rescued in early January 2011, remains at the [Northwest Equine Stewardship Center](#) where she is being sponsored to receive regular medication as well as regular acupuncture and chiropractic bodywork treatments. Sunny is a very complex young lady who is reaping incalculable benefits from her recuperation time at NWESC. Cowgirl Spirit cannot thank Dr. Hannah Evergreen, NWESC, and Sunny's sponsor enough for their assistance and generosity with her care.

Feel the Spirit...

Keep on Riding

Cowgirl Spirit Wish List

If you wish to donate to Cowgirl Spirit, they would be thrilled to provide you with a tax receipt for the donation or discount provided! The following items are on the team's current wish list:

- *Tractor with brush hog*
- *Round pen panels*
- *Gooseneck stock trailer*
- *DeYoung's senior feed*
- *14"-16" Barrel saddles*
- *Medical supplies*
- *General horsie supplies*

Cowgirl Spirit Rescue Drill Team

P.O. Box 83
Fall City, WA 98024
Phone: 206-617-1136
www.CowgirlSpirit.org
Email: officers@csrtdt.org



Continued support from Coldwell Banker Bain

Cowgirl Spirit has again been the beneficiary of Coldwell Banker's Community Partnership Program. This program allows Coldwell Banker agents to designate a charity as a recipient of a portion of an agent's sales commissions.

Agent Pauline Corbett, a Cowgirl Spirit volunteer, and agent of Coldwell Banker Bain, has recently named our organization as the beneficiary of the program for her most recent property sale. We can't thank you enough for thinking of us, Pauline!

If you are considering buying or selling a home or horse property, please contact [Pauline Corbett!](#)

Portapotty sponsorship

We'd like to give Anne Polavin from Grand Rapids, Michigan a huge thank you for contributing to our monthly portapotty bill.

When Anne learned that our original potty sponsorship ran out, she immediately offered to contribute each month to help us defray the cost to keep this necessity at our headquarters. Thank you Anne! You have made many, many Cowgirls (and Cowboys) very happy!

If you would like to join Anne in sponsoring our potty by making a small monthly contribution of any amount, please contact officers@csrtdt.org!



New sponsors: Vetericyn & Grizzly Products

This summer we have been privileged receive two great new sponsorships. First, we have received a year's supply of Vetericyn, which has already come in handy! Vetericyn is as safe as water, and is designed to replicate the actions of our rescues' own immune systems to fight infections. This great product can be used for a variety of conditions, including fungal, bacterial and viral infections, is a disinfectant, and speeds healing. To find out more, visit www.Vetericyn.com.

We also want to thank Grizzly Products, based in Woodinville, Washington, for their continued support. This company provides Cowgirl Spirit with a continual supply of Joint Aid supplement and Omega Aid oil supplement, which we give to our rescues, as needed, each day. You can find more information on this great company by visiting their website at www.Healthy4Horses.com.

As always, we're so thankful to our sponsors and sustaining donors:

We could not do this without the generous support and donations of our sponsors. Please show your thanks for their support by patronizing these organizations whenever possible:

NWESC

Meadow Lake Farm

Bird Boyz Builders

Images Plus

RB Rubber Products

Carnation Chamber

Vetericyn

Steritech

ASPCA

Grange Supply

Evergreen Holistic Vet

Accurate Auto Body

Carrel's Vintage Tractors

Business Telecom Products, Inc.

Grizzly Products

Talking Rain

Marcelina McGinnis

Sign Pros

BP Trucking

Artisan Carpentry

Edith Bowler

Tracy's Clothesline

Pauline Corbett

Olson's Tack

Special thanks to our dedicated sustaining donors: **Sylvia Starr, Belinda Jensen, Christie and Nate Fisher, and Anne Polavin.** If you're interested in becoming a sustaining donor, please contact officers@csrtdt.org.