

Happy New Year!

As we look back on 2018, it was quite the year and we have so much to be thankful for.

We'd like to welcome the new sponsors and members who joined the Bear Valley Rescue family in 2018.

We started some great new projects this past year and got a lot accomplished, though it will probably be most remembered as the year our Open House got snowed out, in September! In spite of the less than cooperative weather, it was a fun event with a better than expected turn-out of those who braved the roads. Thank you to all the contributors of the lovely raffle items, which raised a substantial amount for the horses.

We look forward to better weather for the Open House in 2019!



Thank you to all our wonderful supporters who made our 2018 Christmas fundraiser a HUGE success. We surpassed our goal by a huge margin, raising a grand total of...

\$26,830!

That's amazing! It feels good knowing we'll have a short-term cushion going into 2019.

Our intern volunteer program kicked off in February of 2018. This program allows volunteers from across Canada and anywhere in the world to come and stay at the Rescue for extended periods. It has been wonderful having all the extra help! So far, we've had volunteers from Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, and Mexico.



Two of our dedicated volunteers, in coordination with Cochrane Humane Society day camp program, initiated our Bear Valley Rescue education program over the summer, with children coming out once a week to experience the Rescue and meet the animals. To help spread the word about the Rescue and our mission, these same volunteers also run a booth for us at local farmer's markets on the weekends during the summer.



Every year we must face the loss of some of our cherished horses and other animals and 2018 was no exception, but we take comfort in knowing they received the best care for as long as they were with us . Berlinetta, Ellie, Lola, Pharlap, Russa, Shantique, Tacoma, Twobits, little Rocky and Rusty, and Mike's horse Shiloh, all crossed the rainbow bridge last year.

We were able to help a lot of new animals last year. Here are some figures from 2018:

Intakes in 2018:

- 76 equines, 15 of them returns, which is great as it means our program is working. We encourage adopters to contact us if a situation arises where they cannot keep a horse that they acquired from Bear Valley.

Of the 61 new intakes, 3 were donkeys, 7 were minis/ponies, and 4 were foals. At least 5 or 6 of the mares that came in later in the year are also pregnant, so there will be foals at the Rescue in the spring!

- 19 rabbits
- 3 turkeys
- 1 calf

Placed in new homes:

- 50 horses
- 1 donkey
- 3 rabbits

We also have 46 horses and 3 cows currently in foster homes. Not included in the above numbers were instances where we were able to connect horses to new homes directly, which is definitely a win/win situation for all involved.

Currently residing at the Rescue:

- 165 horses and 2 donkeys
- 8 cows and 4 steers
- 2 llamas and 4 goats
- 4 turkeys, 1 goose, 5 ducks, 19 chickens
- 17 rabbits
- 3 dogs and 20 cats (plus a new feral cat that showed up just last week!)



Pilgrim



Jezebel



Bunnies



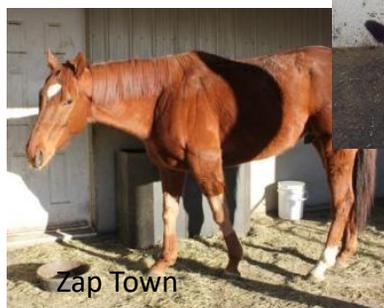
Walter



Ariel



Little Bear



Zap Town



Russa



Berlinetta

The Rescue received a very generous grant in the fall from Donner Canadian Foundation to build a hay shed to store round bales. Being able to store round bales under cover will eliminate the large amount of hay that can be lost to waste from exposure to weather, and we won't have icy fingers from dealing with frozen twine!



Removing existing corral fencing.

We started with the site prep in October and that was completed before the onset of cold weather. Come spring, this will be our big project for 2019. Donner Canadian Foundation has been a benefactor of Bear Valley Rescue for many years and we are very appreciative of their on-going support.



Clay and gravel moved to level off the site.

All that we have accomplished to help the animals has been possible only through the very kind and generous support of you, our community, both near and far. Thank you for making a difference!

