



## **Volunteering at Laughing Pony Rescue**

Laughing Pony Rescue is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to rescue and rehabilitate unwanted and abused horses of all breeds. We are looking for dependable and responsible volunteers. All of our volunteers start at the same level and work their way up to ensure that you are comfortable and know how to interact with our horses. If you have any questions or are in doubt, please make sure to ask a fellow volunteer that has a red line under their name on the volunteer board. We want to make sure you and our horses are safe!

### **Contact Us**

Volunteer mailing list (email to find someone to cover your shift, etc.)

Email: [workerbees@laughingponyrescue.com](mailto:workerbees@laughingponyrescue.com)

Volunteer Co-Chairs and Coordinators (email with questions about volunteering, etc.)

Email: [volunteers@laughingponyrescue.com](mailto:volunteers@laughingponyrescue.com)

Fundraising/Marketing Chair (email with fundraising or marketing ideas or info on events, etc.)

Email: [fundraising@laughingponyrescue.com](mailto:fundraising@laughingponyrescue.com)

Celia Sciacca, President (email or call to contact Celia directly for business calls, etc.)

Phone Number: (619) 920-2313

Email: [laughingponyrescue@gmail.com](mailto:laughingponyrescue@gmail.com)

### **When are volunteers needed?**

We need volunteers seven days a week. We have two shifts; one is in the morning from 7:30 to around 12:00. Our second shift is between 3:00 and 4:30 in the afternoons.

Please put your name and availability on the volunteer board and please put your information the contact information notebook.

### **What do volunteers do?**

Volunteers help us with mucking stalls & the barn, feeding horses, grooming horses, preparing daily supplements, keeping the ranch grounds tidy.

We are also interested in people who can help with our therapeutic sessions, fundraising activities, outreach programs, and generally getting the word out about our organization.

### **Why is being dependable so important to us?**

Because LPR depends entirely on the help of volunteers, we need dependable people. Lessons and other activities are planned with regard to the volunteers scheduled for each day. Thus, if a volunteer cancels on short notice, LPR is in a difficult situation of not having sufficient help to guarantee the safety for the scheduled lessons. Of course there is always a possibility of an emergency like falling ill, taking care of a sick relative or dealing with a broken down car. However, being hung over after a party does not count as an emergency!

We ask that if you are scheduled and cannot make it on short notice please email the volunteer mailing list at [workerbees@laughingponyrescue.com](mailto:workerbees@laughingponyrescue.com) to find someone to cover for you. We ask that volunteers make every effort to make sure their shift is covered.

### **What do I do if I know that I will be on vacation or have long term plans?**

Vacations and other long term plans (such as work or health-related issues) usually are not a problem if we know in advance. In this case please leave a note by your name on the volunteer board and email the volunteer mailing list at [workerbees@laughingponyrescue.com](mailto:workerbees@laughingponyrescue.com) so that other volunteers can cover your shift if they are available. If possible, we request you give us at least 2 weeks notice so we can make sure your slot is filled.

Your commitment is vital to our success and we greatly appreciate your contribution through volunteering.

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### **Our Mission**

Besides rescuing unwanted and abused horses, our long term goal is to have a facility where disabled children and adults can take part in therapeutic riding programs featuring rescued horses.



### **How it all Began...**

Celia has rescued more than 300 horses, nursed them back to healthy mind, body and spirit, and adopted them out to loving homes.

At ten years old, she got her first horse, Hot Foot Honey. She used to ride her bareback through the streets of New York. Later she got a job breaking, training and exercising horses for the racetrack and riding in the fair races.

Her first rescue was an Appaloosa stallion named Don, who was on his way to the feed lot to get fattened up and sent to the slaughter house for meat.

Celia was among the first to go to Nevada to help rescue the wild horses. She now works closely with the United Pegasus Foundation. They care for hundreds of horses and have sent many of the difficult cases to Celia for rehabilitation.

Celia is the President of Laughing Pony Rescue, a non-profit 501(c)3 founded in 2009. Each day she and her team of volunteers take care of up to 20 horses at the Laughing Pony Rescue Ranch. They have other rescue horses in their network being fostered at ranches around Southern California. The rescue operation, rehabilitation, training, and sponsorship/adoption efforts take hard work, but it is well worth it when an amazing animal that has been given a second chance finds a loving home.

## **SAMPLE DAILY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**Please be flexible because this schedule will change as the necessity arises.  
We will notify you of any changes.**

- 7:30** Sweep all mats to prepare for placement of morning hay
- 7:40** Feed all horses
- 8:20** Prepare Vitamins and muck all stalls
- 8:40** Deliver Vitamins
- 8:45** While the horses are eating their vitamins put all fly masks on, fly  
spray all horses, and do all ointments
- 8:55** Collect and rinse all vitamin buckets
- 9:05** Prepare hay for the track, the ponies (Gypsy and Ruby) in the  
paddock and the mares (Barbie and Reba) in the far paddock
- 9:15** Let the geldings out (Johnny, Geno, Amigo, Mitch and Tango)
- 9:20** Move the ponies into the paddock and move the mares into the far  
paddock
- 9:25** Move Benny into Geno and Johnny's stall and bring Trea down to the  
track/ring with the rest of the geldings
- 9:30** Dump and fill all water buckets. Tango's and Prima's get filled up to  
the top. The black buckets in Barbie, Reba and Trea's stalls get  
filled up all the way. Check all the automatic watering buckets,  
including those in the barn.
- 9:50** Prepare the hay in the barn, make the beds and muck
- 10:30** Bring the geldings up and back into their stalls
- 10:45** Move the mares and ponies from the paddocks down to the  
track/ring
- 11:20** Bring the mares and ponies back to their stalls
- 11:30** Check all gates, waters, and horses to make sure everything is  
in order