



Curly Horse Rescue, Inc.

A 501c (3) Vermont Corporation
910 US Route 2 Marshfield, VT 05658
www.curlyrescue.com

Newsletter

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Meet your New Officers for 2010

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Vice President: Caren Schumann,
North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
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Foster and Adoption Liaison:
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Fundraising:
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Owner Assistance:
Lisa Whitten, New Hampshire
Public Relations:
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Membership:
Annette Drinon, Kansas

CHR is looking for volunteers to help us in these areas. If you are interested in helping us out, or you have an idea, please let us know!

Find us on the Web!

<http://www.curlyrescue.com>

And on facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Curly-Horse-Rescue-Inc/159857681886>

Or visit facebook and search for "Curly Horse Rescue".



Homes Needed!

Interested in becoming a foster caregiver or adopting an available Curly Horse? Know someone who is? Let us know. We can provide you with a foster care or adoption application.

We also need people who are willing to be on standby for when a need arises. If you have some extra room at your place and a lot of love in your heart, volunteering to be a foster caregiver might be for you. Contact us through the website at www.curlyrescue.com for more information on how you can become a foster or adoptive home.

To become a member, contact us at chrworklist@gmail.com or via the website www.curlyrescue.com

We'd love to have you join us!



The Adoption of a horse, or: How Tango became Cloud Dancer

Submitted by Caren Schumann

I remember very well when an e-Mail from Daniela, a good Curly Horse breeder friend of mine, reached me late one evening in October 2009. It contained a cry for help from a six year old black and white pinto Curly Horse mare scheduled to be shipped to slaughter within the next two days. I was shocked. Such a rare beautiful young horse. In Europe, especially in Germany, I personally have never heard of a healthy horse taken to the slaughter just to make meat out of it. It was obvious we needed to help prevent that Curly Horse from such a sad fate, and we donated some money for her. I was also thinking that if nobody else was interested, I would buy her and determine how to proceed next. But then I heard that she had been saved by the Curly Horse Rescue organization. That was the first time I became aware of horse slaughter in the US, and Curly Horse Rescue, Inc.

I simply did not get that whole issue out of my head. I was looking at all these awful videos about horses and slaughters, and again, I simply could not comprehend what my eyes were seeing. And of course, I was also looking at the homepage of CHR, curious how things would develop for that pinto mare called "Sheza Dances Tango". What a name.

Days and weeks passed by, and I saw the news on that rescued horse every now and then. She was ill now, strangles. Poor thing. I was wondering why nothing was published about somebody stepping up to adopt her. I started to google her name, and found some past sales advertisements for her. One said, 7 from 10 points in terms of temperament, green broke, strong minded ... it sounded like a very interesting horse, why would anyone send her to slaughter? And especially that girl who was describing her as so friendly in the advertisements? It seemed to be a puzzle that simply made no sense to me.

I talked to my husband Peter about it. He was looking at me, smiling, and said "Caren, you already made up your mind, right?". Yes, he was right. As I saw no news about a US adopter, and I was so interested in what I had learned about that horse so far, I contacted CHR and told them that I would love to adopt her, though I knew that this would mean another stressful event in her life due to quarantine and air flight to Germany. But on the other hand, I could offer her a place here in Germany in the beautiful nature setting of the "Bergisches Land" (mountain country) in a mare herd of about 20 mares and foals. Fortunately, Annette from CHR and all the other Board members decided that this could be an option for Tango as well, so I filled in the adoption application form.

Tango. No, I knew that was not her name. I remember when I was a child, the clouds in April in my hometown were always fighting between pure white and deep black, and we always had very strong winds at that time of the year. This horse looked like a part of that stormy April weather! As I recognized later, she is also born in April. So I decided to give her a new name if CHR would let me adopt her. She would be April Cloud Dancer (shortly: Cloud Dancer or Dancer).



A frisky Cloud Dancer enjoying her new home

In December, CHR finally gave their OK to the adoption. I felt that I had to visit her first before I would take over the responsibility. Meanwhile, I also had contact with Kati, the girl from the internet advertisements, the former "good" owner of Dancer, not the owner who had sent her to auction.

She really told me A LOT of interesting things about Dancer, and I was really happy and so eager and curious to see her personally in January.

At the end of January, I went on board my flight to Philly, looking forward to finally meeting our Dancer mare. The day when I went out to Bernville, where Dancer was boarding, it was perfect weather, blue skies, but still cold.

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The Adoption of a horse, or: How Tango became Cloud Dancer

Sue from Another Chance for Horses, the organization where Dancer was located physically, gave me a very warm welcome, and we went out to Dancer's paddock.

What I saw then was something that I really had not counted on. Though I saw all these horrible videos, it was not clear to me what happens to a horse that has gone through all of this stress. Dancer was full of tension, running around all the time. She showed all the typical signs that horses in great stress normally show: Ears turning round like propellers, yawning often, not addressable. She was biting and kicking, but not really, just as a test. There was one single moment in about 4 hours I stayed, when she tried to make a contact with me. I knelt down in front of her, and after a while, she gently put her muzzle on my head, breathing deeply, looking at me in a heartbreaking way, when I looked up to her. That was all of contact we had, but it was really intense. I understood that she could not give more at that point in time.

I went back to my hotel, devastated. This was really something I had not expected. I was emailing a lot of friends, asking what they thought, and what I should do now. They were telling me different things. Being really unsure, I decided to sleep over it all for one night. The next day, I was sending around the videos I took during my visit. I called my husband Peter, and asked him what he thought. He said: "Ok, take her home. We will give her all she needs, and if she can't gain trust in human beings again, we have at least a fourth horse for our personal herd! Take her home, everything will be alright." I was so happy that he encouraged me, because thanks to that small contact Dancer and I had, I was sure we would have a basis to build on. But again, I felt kind of helpless and unsure, and it was so good that I got that kind of encouragement.

I went to the airport, and interesting enough I met a young German lady there. We talked a little, and it turned out that she owned two stallions. I was asking her what she would do in my situation. She simply smiled at me and said, "You know, one of my stallions bites. The other kicks all the time. This is the way they are. And I love them both so much. I would try."

Once I was sitting in the launch, I started all preparations. Maike, a very good friend of mine, was really helpful, answered questions, gave me contacts to teachers of the Ecole de Légèreté that could assist me when we would have major problems with Dancer. Daniela also encouraged me to take her home, and she has a lot of experience with abused Curly Horses. I arranged the transport, and moved Dancer to a first class location with a buddy horse at her side, waiting for her trip to Germany. I guess she will be kind of irritated at us if she can't go to the horse tanning booth, and not be washed and have her hooves painted on a daily basis anymore!



Cloud Dancer enjoying a good run



Cloud Dancer happy in her new home

Now she has arrived here in Germany. We are all excited. It is unbelievable, even after only three days, her behavior is changing amazingly. She is a curious lady with a lot of temperament and she loves to be scratched and rubbed on her withers, you can see it by her lips! She will be integrated into the herd in May, but we are building a small herd around her now, so she will not be alone.

Looking back, I maybe was kind of naive about this story. But I am sure that April Cloud Dancer, our Cloud Dancing mare, will be a great enrichment for all of us. She will give us lessons to learn, and we will give her lessons to learn as well. We took the risk, but when I think about it, I am convinced that with love, time and patience, the reward will be incredible.

Owner Assistance

<http://www.curlyrescue.com/assistance.shtml>

For more information, Contact
Liz Goodson Russell
Renegait Ranch
www.renegaitranch.com
Phone: 512-318-4214,
512-288-4453
Austin, TX



Renegait White Lightening
\$800 OBO



Renegait Robin Hood
\$500 OBO

For more information, contact:
Kristina Applegate Lutes,
Kids Share Workshops, Inc.
292 Drown Road,
Randolph, VT 05060
E-mail:
KidsShareWorkshops@gmail.com
Website:
www.kidsShareWorkshops.org
Phone:
(802) 485-9021 or (802) 485-8406



Color

For more information please contact
Deer Creek Farms
P.O. Box 100
Troy, Texas 76579
(254) 624-4535
Or Email Deer Creek Farms
at afinch@deercreekfarms.com
(other horses available)



Warrior Stands Strong
\$500

For more information, please contact Sierra Benny
sierra_benny2000@yahoo.com

Savannah-\$1,000



Kayla-\$400



Moe-\$1,000



Jackson-\$1,000



*Owner assistance is a service provided by CHR in order to help owners who need to sell their horses quickly, and have reduced their prices to below a set price determined by CHR. In order to qualify for a listing on the website and newsletter, horses must be priced below what a "kill buyer" would pay at auction. At this time, CHR would be happy to provide an "assistance" listing for curly horses who are priced at or below \$1,000.00. Please provide clear photos, an accurate description of each horse listed, along with contact information, and we will post your listing for you on the "Owner Assistance" page of our website.

Randy Jay (ABC 3249) located in Montana

For information on Randy Jay
Please contact Mike Conte:
Or phone: 406-295-9985 406-295-9985

