



Compassion Ranch

Animals getting second chances for life inspiring compassion, patriotism, courage...

Progress & Plans report to friends about caring for and developing animals and people.



Hank served many funerals as “cap” horse, including for Gen. Colin Powell.



Lincoln carried riders & pulled.

The Short Story

These two recently retired soldier-horses need us, and we want to serve. Captain Lundquist flew from Ft. Myer for a site visit and recommended us to adopt. As a friend and supporter of our animals, programs, and ranch, we share more of this process (which started circa Veterans Day).

Hank needs our care with special diet and exercise, somewhat like a person with diabetes – he needs help managing sugar, also weight. We need to soak his hay to remove some of the sugar content, provide exercise, and check his health indices more often than most horses. Hank is a Morgan horse.

Lincoln was injured on the job and started avoiding handlers out of fear of pain. I think of him having a case of PTSD. We need to give him patient care and earn his trust so he feels secure as he heals fully physically and mentally. Lincoln is a Percheron cross horse.

A few of you have asked how we can help to get them here and help them transition. Our cost will be three thousand dollars to get them here, including 1600 miles travel and horse transport with stops and horse motel, new halters, hay bags, hay net, hay, medicine.... If you are inspired to help them get here, you can donate today, tomorrow, or as soon as you can: www.CompassionRanch.org. Also, we invested thousands of dollars in new stalls, pens, and a paddock (small pasture) fence, spring-fed watering hole, and clearing unwanted plants. Work on the paddock fence continues, and we would love to add a round pen to help give Hank and other horses exercise. More to follow.

Some of our Plans to Prepare for these Honored Horses

If you are interested in more detail about some of the action needed to prepare, you are invited behind the scenes to see part of our list.

What we want to do

1. Purchase new halters that fit Lincoln and Hank.
2. Improve the new stalls and pens.
3. Replace the old wire in the paddock with wood fence posts and rails for increased strength.
4. Water trough to use to soak hay.
5. Bales of hay we can divide into flakes and soak to let dry before feeding.
6. Hay net to dry or add a table surface suitable for placing the hay to let it dry before feeding.
7. Build a trough in the rehab pen for feeding one or more horses hay.
8. Purchase low starch and low sugar supplemental feeds for Hank's dietary plan.
9. Finish the corral fence: wood posts, rails, and gates around the barn for horse safety.
10. Build a round pen to use exercising Hank and other horses plus showcasing animals for students.
11. Carpenter leading on barn improvements – pens and gates, barn loft, repairs and improvements.
12. Pay student workers who help clean food and water bowls, stalls, event spaces, pastures....
13. Build a covered pavilion to host students in rainy weather and to store hay at the back.
14. Animal Assistant to help us improve care – lab work to assess blood and intestinal parasites, help with medical treatments, grooming, hoof care and trimming, coordinating with volunteer groomers, assisting with health care...Saturday afternoons to start.
15. Student-parent-teacher programs and events showcasing the animals and compassion-courage....
16. New stable/barn for Arlington horses and more individual stalls, lab and treatment area, gallery to inspire students, covered pavilion, kitchen for events, round pen....

Donations the Animals Need Soon to help us improve Care

1. Lumber and wire fencing for paddock connected to stalls and pens – posts, rails, sakrete, labor...
2. Sponsors for rescued animals to boost sustainability – monthly recurring donations.
3. Carpenter for building and repairs on fences, barns, equipment.
4. Horse groomers for mane and tail and/or farriers to help trim hooves.
5. Student workers for cleaning stalls, troughs, pastures, grounds, equipment...

What's your calling or idea for helping animals and people with care and development?

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We have a new web page featuring "riderless horses": [Riderless "Cap" Horses – Compassion Ranch](#). Or, go to www.CompassionRanch.org, at the top menu: select Animals, then Riderless Horses.

Congratulations to our chairman of Patriotism in Action, Col. Bob Barefield (USA Retired) for selection as Veteran of the Year by the American Legion of Alabama. Bob and Nancy coordinate the riderless horses in the National Veterans Day Parade and have led our patriotism initiatives since the September 11 attacks on America. They serve veterans most every day. Well deserved!!!