



August 2025

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2026 calendars will be available on September 1.

Calendars are available online at:

wildhorsesanctuary.org/store

All proceeds from this calendar go directly to the Wild Horse Sanctuary.



Photo Credit: Kathy Higgins

Hello Friend,

We have been very busy at the Sanctuary since I last wrote. Our quest to protect and care for the wild horses and burros never ends, and their beauty, intelligence and silliness inspire us every day. The horses munching away on our acreage don't know that they have you to thank for their hay and secure fencing, but we do. Every day, whatever we do, we are grateful for your support. You allow the wild ones to thrive.

We are excited to announce the completion of Frontier Village, our charming new cabins built from materials reclaimed from the original Wild Horse Camp. Disassembling the original camp, transporting the salvageable materials and building a better version of camp in a more accessible spot was a gargantuan task. It required detailed planning and logistics, implemented by a crew of dedicated volunteers over innumerable hours. While the new village was a shared dream and many hands helped, it was the sheer determination and tenacity of Doug and Liz Juenke that made the dream a lovely reality. Please check out the story and photo on page 3.

Frontier Village allows the Sanctuary to offer multi-day opportunities for guests to experience the transformative magic of the horses, the land and nature—without spending 4 hours in the saddle. We have already hosted several activities, including the wedding of a long-standing volunteer (see the photos on page 4). Please consider the Sanctuary as you plan retreats, reunions, clinics and other getaways. You and your guests will be enriched by the experience and you will be helping to ensure that the mustangs and burros in our care flourish. You might even be treated to Camp Rolls (page 2).

Don't miss the Volunteer Spotlight on page 3, introducing the passionate mother and daughter volunteer team, Sharina and Zara, who have become integral to the Sanctuary's horse care routine.

Mark your calendar for our Annual Open House, September 20, 2025 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's a free, family-friendly day of horsey activities, crafts and demonstrations, with our magnificent mustangs just being themselves. Come learn about wild horses and visit with some of the less-wild ones.

We have accomplished so much this year, but challenges are continual. We achieved our goal of necessary cross-fencing, but repairing our 14 miles of perimeter fencing never ends. Keeping our well-loved equipment in good working order is essential to care for the horses and keep them safe. Your support enables our continued existence and motivates us every day. I hope that you will help ensure that the mustangs and burros stay happy and healthy. I also hope that you will visit the magnificent creatures you sustain.

Best regards,

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Palmer

President, Wild Horse Sanctuary

From Dianne

Summer is in full swing and as the grass turns gold as it does this time of year, memories of past trail rides stir. I can't think of camp without remembering the wonderful meals we enjoyed with friends we made on the trail.

The most requested recipe from the camp menu was our signature Camp Rolls. I used to say it was a secret, and I would only share it with volunteers, or those who rode with us ten times!

Well.... much has changed, but not the recipe for our rolls - so, by request, I'm sharing the recipe with you. We used to make two dozen at a time, but I'll cut that amount in half. These are best if prepared in a cast-iron fry pan. However, you may use any suitable baking pan.



Camp Rolls

Ingredients: One dozen ready to eat dinner rolls, one cube butter (melted), Kraft Parmesan cheese (grated style), aluminum foil

Directions: layer 6 rolls snugly on the bottom of the cast iron pan or baking dish, drizzle with one-half of the melted butter, and sprinkle generously with Parmesan cheese. Create a second layer with the remaining six rolls, drizzle with remaining melted butter and sprinkle generously with cheese. Cover the pan and seal tightly with aluminum foil and put in oven. Set oven to 400° and heat the rolls until steaming hot! Approximately 20 minutes. (time can vary according to oven and pan type)

Enjoy!!!! And – if you've ever ridden with us – savor the memories of a camp dinner around the campfire while watching wild horses grazing in the meadow.

Burros, Donkeys, Mules, and Hinnies: What's the Difference?

As you know, the Wild Horse Sanctuary is home to a small herd of wild burros. We LOVE our burros, and most visitors do, too! We get questions all the time about the difference between burros, donkeys, mules, and hinnies. Yes! A few people have even asked about hinnies!

When it comes to burros, donkeys, mules and hinnies, things can get a little confusing—but don't worry! We'll break it down here. These animals are all related, but each has its own unique traits that make them special. Let's dive in!

Donkey:

A domesticated member of the equine family, donkeys are sturdy, cautious animals with long ears and a reputation for being stubborn (but smart). Male donkeys are called jacks, and females are jennies. They're used for carrying loads, transportation, and companionship worldwide.

Burro:

Burro is the Spanish word for donkey. In the U.S., it often refers to wild donkeys found in states like Arizona, Nevada, and California. These burros are descendants of domesticated donkeys brought by explorers and settlers centuries ago, and they've adapted to living in the wild.

Mule:

A mule is a hybrid of a male donkey (jack) and a female horse (mare). Mules inherit traits from both parents, which makes them super strong and hardworking like a horse, but also tough and resilient like a donkey. They're almost always sterile due to genetic differences between horses and donkeys.

Hinny:

Like mules, hinnies are hybrids but result from breeding a male horse (stallion) with a female donkey (jenny). Hinnies inherit more traits from their donkey mothers, making them smaller, more docile, and cautious. Like mules, they're almost always sterile.

So, there you have it! A donkey is a species, a burro is just a Spanish word for donkey (or a wild donkey in certain regions), and mules and hinnies are the hybrid result of a donkey and horse pairing. While they all have their differences, one thing's for sure—they're all amazing animals!



Wild burros, aka donkeys, living at the Sanctuary.

How you can help

Visit our website for more information:
wildhorsesanctuary.org

Make a donation

No amount too small! Use the donation form on the back page or donate online.

Planned Giving

A gift through your will, trust, or retirement plan will help the Wild Horse Sanctuary continue to provide a safe haven for these iconic symbols of the American West.

Honoring Memories, Embracing New Adventures: 'New' Camp Is Coming Soon!

For over four decades, the Wild Horse Sanctuary has been a place where guests could step away from the everyday and immerse themselves in the beauty of wild horses and the open range. Many of you will remember the cherished evenings at Wild Horse Camp—gathering around a glowing campfire, exchanging stories under the stars, savoring hearty cowboy barbecue, and falling asleep to the soothing sounds of grazing horses. These memories, built thanks to the vision of our co-founder, Dianne Nelson, and the tireless efforts of volunteers and family, are treasures we hold dear.

While the decision to disassemble the original camp was a difficult one—necessitated by safety concerns and environmental risks—the spirit of Wild Horse Camp never left us. Our team carefully salvaged and preserved materials from the original site, and these pieces of history have become the foundation for the new camp, which Dianne named Frontier Village.

We are thrilled to announce that Frontier Village is almost complete and will offer the same warmth, camaraderie, and adventure, with modern comforts and enhanced safety, all set in a breathtaking new location designed to protect both our guests and the wild horses we love.

Tour camp during this year's Open House on September 20, 2025, and stay tuned for details on how you can reserve time at the Wild Horse Sanctuary's Frontier Village!



Two of the five cabins at Frontier Village. Just wait until you see the view from the porch!

Volunteer Spotlight: Sharina and Zara: A Dynamic Duo Bringing Love and Laughter to the WHS

When Sharina and Zara first set foot on the Wild Horse Sanctuary, they had no idea their lives were about to change. It was September 2023, and the Open House had drawn them in after Sharina's husband, Marshall, spotted a WHS calendar at a local farmers market.

Sharina vividly recalls her first impression of WHS—the sight of over 200 horses grazing freely amidst the Lassen Peak skyline. It was, in her words, “an out-of-body experience.” The sheer beauty and freedom of the herd brought her to tears. That day, she and Zara painted handprints on Wyatt, one of the WHS saddle horses, a moment that resonated deeply with Sharina. As a teenager, she had painted her therapy horse at an equine trauma ranch in Arizona, and now, years later, she was sharing the same therapeutic experience with her daughter.

From that day forward, Sharina and Zara became weekly volunteers. Initially, being involved was part of the homeschool regimen for Zara. Sharina and Marshall knew when they moved to Shingletown, they wanted her to get involved in the community and volunteer. “Being around the horses and burros to practice commitment, hard work, and learn has been amazing!” Whether feeding the herd, scooping poop, brushing the older horses, or simply soaking in the majestic presence of the animals, every visit leaves them feeling grounded, revitalized, and connected.

Sharina's favorite responsibility is feeding the ‘wilds,’ while marveling at their dynamics and watching the show they put on as they interact. She and Zara also adore the burros, especially when there are babies involved and agree they are the cutest things on the planet!

One of Sharina's most profound experiences at WHS was witnessing the arrival of the Reno 11, a group of horses who came to the WHS through Wild Horse Connection in Nevada. Watching the horses acclimate to their new surroundings and eventually join the wild herd was magical. Watching them flourish in their newfound freedom is a testament to the incredible work done at WHS.

For Zara, WHS has been a playground for learning and connection. She loved working with Liz and the WHS interns to gentle young burros to prepare them for their adoptive homes. Nights around the fire, singing, laughing, and bonding with the team were highlights for her. Zara also has a soft spot for Colter, the dog with a personality bigger than life. When she's not cuddling burros or laughing at Doug's antics, Zara enjoys learning woodworking skills from him—an unexpected but very cool bonus of volunteering at WHS!

Sharina and Zara's life outside WHS is just as vibrant as their time spent on the sanctuary. They live with Marshall in a cozy cabin in the woods near Shingletown where homeschooling, music, and creativity abound.



Zara, learning the fine art of burro gentling.

Donate your unused gift cards

Do you have unused gift cards? Donate the balance to the Wild Horse Sanctuary! Visit the [How You can Help](#) page on our website for details.

Shop our online store

Logo t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, water bottles, tote bags, ball caps and visors available in a wide array of colors and sizes.

Volunteer

Whether you are a horse person, love outdoor projects, or like working on ranch projects, we would love to hear from you.

Around the Sanctuary

In addition to the daily chores, projects, and guided walking tours to view the wild horses and burros on the sanctuary, we've opened our gates for some special activities. There's more to come this year and going forward. Enjoy the photos below from a wildflower arranging class in April, a wedding in May, and a photography workshop in June.



Sharina led the wildflower arranging class at the Sanctuary.



Calendar of Events

- **Year Round:** Guided Walking Tours*
- **Year Round:** Internship Opportunities*
- **September 1:** 2026 Wild Horse Sanctuary Calendars Available
- **September 20:** 2025 Open House, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
5796 Wilson Hill Road
- **October 4:** Manton Apple Festival, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. See us at the festival and then swing by the Sanctuary on Wilson Hill Road to share apples with the domestic horses.
- **October 11 – 12:** Masterson Method Light to the Core equine body work clinic at the WHS*
- **October 29:** Halloween Trick or Trunk at the Manton School
- **December 2:** Giving Tuesday

*Call 530-474-5770 or email info@wildhorsesanctuary.org for more information.



P.O. Box 30, Shingletown, CA 96088



info@wildhorsesanctuary.org



www.wildhorsesanctuary.org



530-474-5770

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Wild Horse Sanctuary Contribution and Order Form

Yes, I want to help!

Enclosed is a check for:

- ☐ \$50 to feed one unsponsored horse for one month
- ☐ \$150 to feed one unsponsored horse for three months
- ☐ \$600 to feed one unsponsored horse for a full year
- ☐ \$110 for one mineral supplement tub
- ☐ \$55 for one dewormer block
- ☐ \$18 for each calendar (includes S&H)

Contributions are tax deductible #95-3611770

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Please make checks payable to the Wild Horse Sanctuary
Mail to: P.O. Box 30, Shingletown, CA 96088



Online: Donate or purchase merchandise at
www.wildhorsesanctuary.org

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Protecting and Preserving Freedom for America's Wild Horses