VOL. 10 | Spring 2026

SEA STAR HORSE SANCTUARY

SANCTUARY SPOTLIGHT

53A Riley Ranch Road, Carmel, CA 93923
831-595-2185 | SeaStarHorseSanctuary.org

A Flourishing Spring at The Sanctuary...

Save the Date: Meet the Artist Reception for Charlie on Sunday, May 3rd

Costs: $150 for 11x14 print and $100 for 9x12 print.

You're warmly invited to a special open house celebrating one of our beloved volunteers and his generous gift to the herd. Long-time Sea Star supporter Charles DeWeese is a gifted artist and musician. Charlie created a beautiful series of colored-pencil drawings capturing the birds and wildlife that can be seen around the sanctuary, along with portraits of *Namesake Seastar* and our *Herd Leader Kiva*. He graciously donated prints of these works for the sanctuary to offer for purchase and raise funding to support the horses. Join us for a relaxed reception and exclusive preview sale of these prints on **Sunday, May 3, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the sanctuary barn**. Charlie will be there signing prints and playing his guitar as you browse the collection. Enjoy baked goods, fresh lemonade, and iced tea as we gather in community to celebrate art, nature, and the herd we all love. We hope you'll stop by and share in this special morning with us.

Fundraising Appeal: State-of-the-art Treatment for Peppy's Pain

When our beloved Peppy was rescued from slaughter and brought to Sea Star, she arrived with serious chronic pain and physical limitations. This was a result of being born with twisted hind legs and not receiving the appropriate professional care that she needed. Since her arrival to the sanctuary years ago, Peppy has been rehabilitated and treated with ample love, veterinary care and holistic therapy to help resolve her physical and emotional injustices and pain. Now as a senior horse, Peppy's joints have stiffened with osteoarthritis, causing her more pain and less mobility. Sea Star's vet, Kayla Dykstra, DVM recently identified a new treatment for Peppy's developing osteoarthritis in her hind leg. The first treatment is Shockwave Therapy, which uses high-energy sound waves (acoustic pulses) to stimulate healing in injured or stressed tissues. It also has an analgesic effect while acting on pain receptors. The second treatment uses Equine ProStride, a regenerative joint therapy injection that supports long-term soundness and mobility by reducing inflammation and protecting cartilage. This healing treatment course costs $5,000 per year. We are hopeful to provide Peppy with the relief she deserves. If you feel called to support Peppy in her healing journey, visit *https://seastarhorsesanctuary.org/donate/*

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Our Newest Member: Willie Settles into His Forever Home

Willie, a sweet Palomino Morgan horse, arrived to the sanctuary earlier this year after spending much of his life in boarding stalls. Willie was sponsored by a kindhearted donor to spend the rest of his life as part of the sanctuary herd. His first days in wide, open pastures were filled with visible wonder as he discovered the joy of grazing and roaming freely. Gentle, intelligent, and eager to please, he brings a calming presence to both horses and people and has settled happily into sanctuary life. With a little help from his new barn mates, Takoda and Bentley, Willie's transition into the herd was smooth and welcoming. Now he spends his days exploring, connecting with his herd, and enjoying daily grooming, walks, and companionship with the volunteers in his forever home. To help sponsor Willie, visit *https://seastarhorsesanctuary.org/sponsor-a-horse/*.

Healing Touch for the Herd: Restoring Balance, Comfort & Calm

Healing Touch is a heart-centered, intentional light touch therapy that helps balance and energize the body's biofield using specific techniques. These sessions support physical comfort, emotional calm, mental clarity, and spiritual peace. Beneficial for both people and animals, it complements traditional care and is especially helpful after trauma, around surgery, and during major life transitions. Practitioners are certified through *Healing Touch for Animals®*. We are grateful to have certified volunteers that assist our herd in achieving deeper balance. Learn more: *https://seastarhorsesanctuary.org/holistic-care/*

Edwin: A Sea Star Superhero

With steady care and quiet dedication, Edwin Salinas tends to the land that sustains our herd. He maintains the plants, nurtures the pastures, and ensures the sanctuary remains a safe, beautiful, and nourishing home for everyone. Edwin's work often happens behind the scenes, but its impact is everywhere you look. In the healthy grass beneath hooves, the vibrant hues of the blooming flowers, the tidy paths, and the thoughtfully cared-for grounds, his presence is felt in every corner of the sanctuary. Day after day, Edwin brings patience, consistency, and heart to his role. He understands that caring for the horses begins with caring for their environment. Because of his efforts, the herd can graze freely, rest comfortably, and live in a space designed for their well-being. We are deeply grateful for Edwin and the care he pours into the sanctuary! His presence ensures that the property, horses and visitors truly flourish.

"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature—the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."

— Rachel Carson