

BACA HORSE NEWS

Spring 2023

Hello to our Friends of the Bacas. I hope everyone has survived the winter. Here in Northern California, we have had one of the wettest and coldest winters that I can remember. We are finally getting a break and beginning to have hope for some sunshine. All I can say is “Welcome Spring”!

I. Blue Oaks Center (Carol Powell)

On June 28, 2022 Blue Oaks Center was excited to announce the birth of La Mar Isa (BC Bella Isa x BC El Sevillano). She is the first 87.5% Baca Barb to be born under our breed-up program which is part of the plan to save this strain. In the near future, Bella Isa will be bred to Legado (Coloradita x El Savache) a 100% Baca, to carry on the Pure Bred Baca Preservation. BOC continues to be extremely proud of our foundation and 2nd generation Endangered Breeding Program.



La Mar Isa at 5 months with mom Bella Isa

2022 was a busy year for us, introducing the Baca Barbs to our community and local areas. In May, BOC had a booth at the Art in the Park Festival sharing information about the art of Preservation of endangered horses. Sevillano made his debut at the Nevada County Fair in August. Lisa Calder, Mindful Horsemanship, demonstrated his ground skills over a 3 day period. In October, BOC hosted a Garrocha clinic. The Garrocha is used in the old Californios Vaquero ranch skills. The Bacas have been in training using the garrocha under Lisa Calder. The garrocha has become very popular and showcases the relationship between rider and horse with the use of a pole (the garrocha). When done with music, it becomes a dance of grace and athleticism, slow and fast, turns and spins around the pole.

Due to extreme weather conditions in the beginning of 2023, we had to cancel clinics that were scheduled. We are currently preparing for an Intuitive Equine Massage Clinic to be held in our arena. Usui Reiki Master, Meredith Cherry will guide the participants in massage techniques for pre- and post-show, trail rides, injury recovery and old horses.



Carol, Lisa and Sevillano



Sevillano and Lisa demonstrating at the Fair



The Garrocha



Art of Preservation

Our focus for 2023 is the Preservation Program offering Micro Satellite Preservation Sites for preservationists with 5-10 acres. This gives a greater opportunity for preservationists to own, train, participate in their desired equine disciplines using the Baca Barb as an ambassador.

In pursuing our Preservation Goal for 2023, BOC will complete the collection and semen storage for all available Baca Barb colts and stallions. Currently the Bacas have close to 500 straws in storage to assure the Baca genes will not be lost. In addition, semen straws will be placed with the USDA Agriculture Genetic Resource Preservation Research Office.

Currently, we have 2 colts, Estebandro and El Legado, in training with JP Dyal Horsemanship. While they are there in training, JP will be coordinating with the Hunter Stallion Station for collection, storage, and shipping both domestic and international.



Estebandro



El Legado



Baca Ambassador Mare Adelina



Lisa Calder and Raquero



La Tijera



La Catalina, Adelina, Vanoona de Latte

In conclusion, having a program as large and extensive as BOC's takes a lot of work. Unfortunately, at the beginning of March Carol was injured. She is doing fine but her physical therapy will be a couple more months – we can't wait for her to be back on her feet. We are so grateful to the dedicated, committed and loyal volunteers and workers who stepped up and are taking care of the horses 24/7. Not only are these BOC "angels" feeding, giving meds, grooming, exercising, cleaning and providing hands-on, they are following the strict procedures that BOC has set as standard. We would like to send out a huge THANK YOU to: Adella, Dale, Deb, Destiny, Donna, JP, Jared, Jeff, Jennifer, Jesus, Jim, Joseph, Kerry, Lisa, Mae, Meredith, and Suzanne.



For more information about BOC or for past copies of our newsletter, please visit our website:

www.BlueOaksCenter.org

II. Center for America's First Horse (Stephanie Hayes)

News from The Center for America's First Horse
By Stephanie Hayes

We are welcoming spring with open arms here in Vermont and are excited for all of the plans for the upcoming summer. For starters, BC Santino Adelmo, Blue Oaks Center's first born (2017) of the Baca Barb preservation efforts will be attending his first International event in Ontario, Canada, May 27-28. I will be riding Santino in a private lesson with Working Equitation Senior Judge Antonio Vicente from Portugal, who was one of the WE judges at the World Championships in France in 2022. The following day is a Working Equitation show where we will be riding under Mr. Vicente as the judge. This is such a rare and wonderful opportunity to showcase Santino!

Our June, 2022 colt Indio is growing up to be so sweet and lovely. He has long, graceful legs and a very sweet face like his dam Eliza (Little Wing). He'll be turned out with the rest of the Baca geldings in a few months to teach him social order. Since weaning, he's been baby sat by another fun-loving gelding so it's time for him to learn the ropes of living in a larger herd.

I'm happy to share that I now have four of my older Baca geldings out on leases to the next generation of riders. Chispa, Ringo and Frio are all at the same barn with little girls who adore them and are learning everyday how to be better riders. Augustine is with a 13 year old girl who will be doing some low level dressage shows with him this summer. Although I miss "the boys" I know they are in very capable hands and have the best life as they so deserve. All four of them have been with me since the beginning of my journey with the breed 18 years ago.

Speaking of the beginning...Adelantado, who started all of this will be celebrating his 21st birthday April 22! I remember like it was yesterday when we first laid eyes on the little 2 year old black pony who arrived in Vermont in the fall of 2004. I would have never imagined how our lives would be changed. That's another story for the next newsletter!

Happy Spring, Stephanie



Ambassador Santino at the Eastern Zone Championship Show 2022



Ringo and his girls who adore his funny personality



Frio and his new little girl Grace



Adelantado, our inspiration

Keep up to date on our travels and promotion of the Baca horses by visiting our website www.centerforamericasfirsthorse.org and on Facebook - Center for America's First Horse.

III. Sandhill Center (Linda Zimmerman)

Here at Sandhill, we're looking forward to two more Relampago babies for 2023! One of the mamas-to-be is Sonrisa, a black full Baca mare by El Savache out of BC Larga. This 100% Baca foal will be a full sibling to Fuego, our 2021 stallion who is now fortunate enough to be residing in Tucson with Mickey Pliakos. I'm so glad that Mickey is enjoying our Funny Boy's never-ending sense of humor, and thank you Mickey for all the silly videos!

Sandhill's other expectant mama is Chiqui, a red dun half Baca mare by a Karma Farms stallion out of BC Salome. This foal will be a 75% Baca.

We're so excited at the prospect of welcoming two more beautiful foals into our Baca herd, and will happily share photos with anyone who might be interested!

You can find out more information at www.sandhillcenter.org

IV. General Information

- It wasn't long ago when the Baca horses were near extinction. This is the reason that this Preservation Program is so critical. We would like to thank you for your continued interest in the Baca horses. We hope that you will consider donating to help prevent them from ever returning to "extinction". All donations are welcomed and 100% of your money will be used to support the Preservation Program. You can donate through our website (www.blueoakscenter.org) or you may contact me at 510-673-5000. Extinction Is Forever.
- Would you consider sharing this newsletter to one new potential Friend of the Baca who might enjoy learning more about this strain? The Baca Herd thanks you.
- Please note that a copy of past newsletters can be found on our website at: www.blueoakscenter.org

Happy Trails,
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