

Dunrovin Welcomes Maddie's Herd

Maddie's arrival at Dunrovin includes her six equine partners. Five horses and a mule, all of whom have been faithful co-workers in her own business, [Flutterby Holistic Equine Therapy](#). Integrating her herd into the Dunrovin herd will take careful planning and supervision.

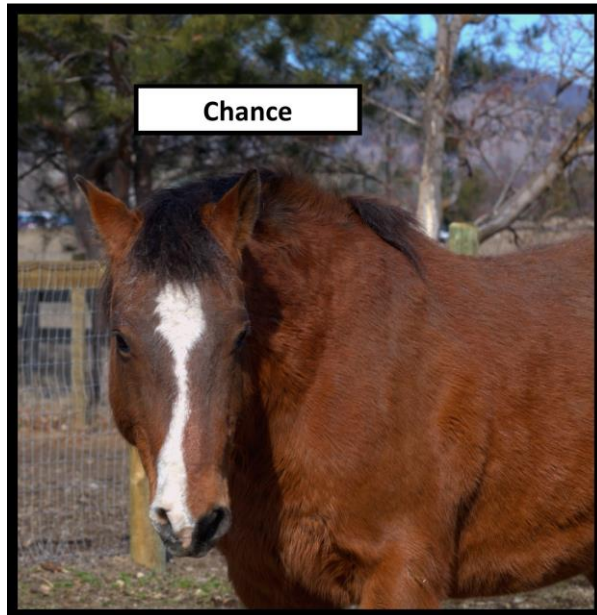
Horses develop strong social bonds with their own herd mates. They can be protective of other herd members and of their own positions within the herd structure. Integrating two herds, both of which have been together for a long while, can take some time, depending on how individuals interact and jockey for position within an entirely new structure that encompasses all of them. New alliances, friendships, and competitions will arise as the herds share their resources and activities.



Happily, Dunrovin's photographer and ardent animal lover, Sandee McLaughlin, was at the ranch with her camera on the day that Maddie's herd arrived. Thank you, Sandee, for the great photos along with the group photo below taken by Maddie on the same day.



Meet Maddie's Horses



Chance is a Mustang from the Federal Bureau Land Management (BLM) in Colorado.

He is a very sweet and sensitive equine. He was born August 19th, 2008, and rounded up from the Piceance Colorado BLM land when he was 3 years old. A very good friend had owned him since he was 6, until he was gifted to me when she became ill. He has been a sturdy trail horse and guide for most of his life. He enjoys lessons with calm kiddos but absolutely loves being out in the woods trailblazing.



Charlie "Russel" is an American Quarter Horse and the baby of his herd. He was born February 12, 2013, which makes him 13 this year, and still as playful and curious as a yearling. That being said, Charlie is brave on the trails and gentle in the arena. He was born in Virginia before making his way to Montana at 6 years old. He was trained by Ken McKabb and his crew, who gave a sweet snippet about Charlie: "I named him after Charlie Russell because he is pretty as a picture yet rugged enough for the western landscape, gentle enough for a kitten and quiet as a lamb. Like the artist he loves new country and is a great trail horse who is totally fine by himself or with others. I have put absolute beginners on him and I have used him myself and Charlie will always be the same honest guy. We used Charlie in a March clinic for the United States Marines Corp. and he pulled the tarp through a group of twelve nervous riders on their horses and never even flinched. He is not a deadhead, but he is bomb proof and calm. He is steady as a rock and has a heart as big as the Montana sky."

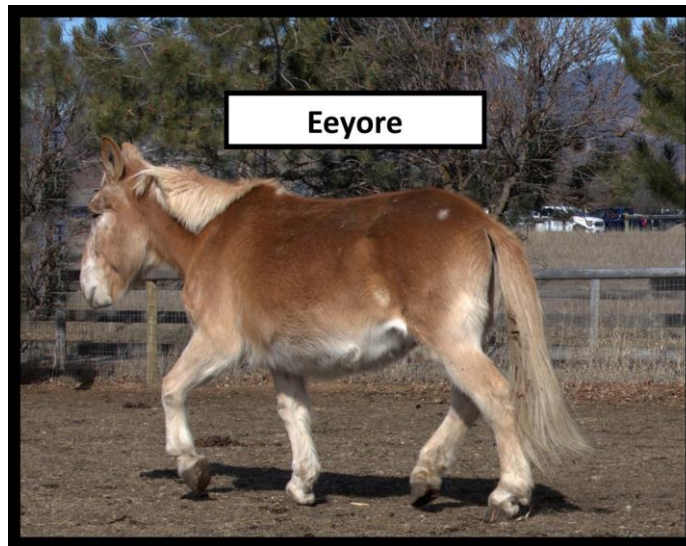


Casper is an American Quarter Horse and the friendliest grey around! He loves attention and giving hugs. As far as we know, Casper has been a trail horse for the majority of his life. He is about 21 years old, estimated to be born in 2005. He has been leased to many outfitters for guests and hunters to ride for pleasure or to go on hunting trips. He retired from the lease-horse life in March 2023 when I purchased him and his best friend, Mr. Big. Now, Casper loves his job as a lesson horse and still enjoys his occasional trail rides.

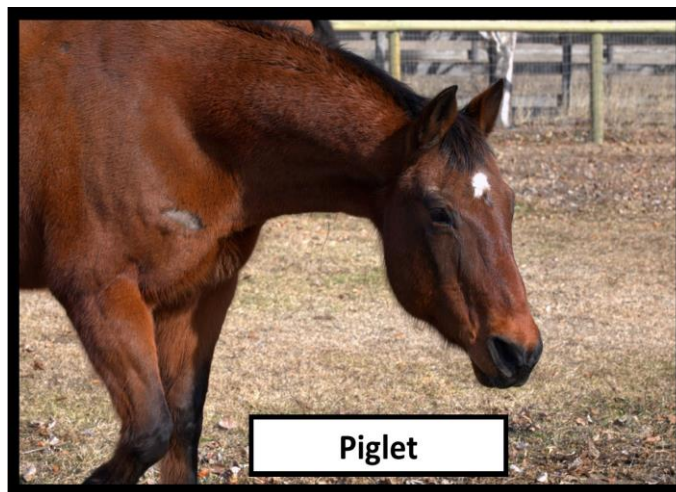


Mr. Big is an American Quarter Horse and our most photogenic of the herd with his flaxen mane, he was even in a professional photoshoot! He and Casper are extremely bonded. Mr. Big was also part of a herd that was leased to outfitters and hunters before being brought to his permanent home with Casper. Being about 24, estimated to be

born in 2003, he now also enjoys poking along on a trail with a kiddo on his back and easy lessons in the arena.



Eeyore is a 25-year-old draft mule and a retired Forest Service Pack mule. His birthday is November 7th, 2002. His favorite things are treats and shoulder scratches! He has an easy retired life and gets all the scratches and brushings he desires, while helping educate people about mules and pack animals.



Piglet, an American Quarter Horse, is a beautiful bay (a reddish-brown horse with black lower legs, mane, and tail), boy who turns 26 this year, born on March 31st, 2000. He is my first official personal horse and the foundation for Flutterby. Before becoming an extremely chill lesson horse, Piglet was an all-around ranch horse. He also competed in rodeo as a header in team roping. He is what some would call a true cow horse and has also moved a fair share of cattle across the canyons. He now enjoys hanging his head,

napping, while being groomed and loved on. Piglet still loves trail rides as well as playing follow the leader in lessons.