



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR – WITH A FEW SURPRISES

# Lusco Farms Donkey Rescue



Dec. 2017

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## RESCUE CASES

by Team Lusco

We have had another very busy year. With a few surprises along the way. We had our first pot belly pig rescue, PORK CHOP and shortly thereafter, we had another two pot bellies come in named Wilma and Boss Hog. In total Lusco Farms rescued 35 donkeys and three pot belly pigs in 2017. Keeping in mind we are all unpaid volunteers that work fulltime jobs in addition to caring for the donkeys, a very busy year indeed!

These rescues are done in the evening or on weekends. We love our rescue volunteers and the sacrifices they make to help bring the donkeys back to the rescue. We also are thankful for our fellow rescue groups; ARL of Des Moines and Lucky Star Rescue out of Alden, Iowa for assisting in rescues where horses are involved. We don't have the space for horses and they have been great to work with.

The latest Rescue in November involving the five donkeys who needed new homes is a mass undertaking. A very sad situation as the husband has a medical condition and the wife struggles to care for a total of 8 donkeys. In total three male (Jacks) and two pregnant female (Jennies) needed rehomed. We worked with the owner to geld or castrate Corky. He is the paternal jack of the

herd. At age 20 there is an increased risk of complications when performing castration but in good faith we could not leave Corky intact and allow him to breed the females again. This would only perpetuate the overbreeding and possible inbreeding situation at the owner's home.

Corky recovered well and after a few weeks at the rescue he was reunited with Jazzy, the maternal Jenny of the herd. They will now live out their days together happy. After Jazzy gives birth to the baby she is carrying next spring she won't have to worry about getting pregnant again. Her body can finally rest. We will check in next spring to see if the baby is male and if so we will offer castration services for him as we did with Corky to prevent breeding. Our focus is not wanting or needing to take animals from their owners but more of educating owners about overbreeding, proper care etc. and allow the animals to remain in the current home.

When that isn't possible we open our hearts to the animals as in the case of the Fremont 5. We are now faced with the cost of castrating 4 males (including Corky) and caring for two Jennies that are pregnant. Please consider making a tax deductible donation for the care of the Fremont 5.



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### Fremont Five Recue

Shown above the donkeys in Fremont NE are assessed and the team discusses the process with the owner.



### The year of the potbellies

Check out how Pork Chop stole our hearts and has become a resident at the rescue.

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# Potbelly Pigs???

By Team Lusco

Well it was only a matter of time before we would experience a situation where there were more than just donkeys and mules that needed rescued. In July we went on a rescue call involving two donkeys and a horse. Working in conjunction with Lucky Star Rescue they agreed to take Tommy the horse while Julio and Maria, the two donkeys were scheduled to come to Lusco Farms. We soon found out that they also had 2 pot belly pigs that needed homes as they were losing their property in the fall.

We welcomed Wilma and Boss Hog to Lusco Farms. With a few phone calls and emails to other rescues we took a crash course in pot belly pig care! We found out that Boss Hog had been overweight for some time and due to this his eyelids had covered his eyes completely and he became blind. Apparently a very unfortunate and often occurrence found with these creatures. It is an irreversible condition so we knew we had to find a special needs home for him.

A wonderful couple who had already adopted 5 donkeys from us in 2016 were the first to respond to our plea for a home. Affectionately called the "Misfit Farm" by Robert and Brooke (owners). They had space and told us to start planning transport.

We are happy to report Boss Hog is losing weight and he and Wilma are fitting in fine with the rest of the Misfits! What better people to be named Adopters of the YEAR!



*Scott with Boss Hog and Wilma as they get introduced to their forever home in Illinois.*

## HOW TO HELP

Want to adopt, donate, volunteer just drop us a line!

HOW TO HELP?  
[info@luscofarms.org](mailto:info@luscofarms.org)

Mail Checks to: Lusco Farms

32295 Lambert Ave  
Malvern Iowa, 51551



# Adopters of the Year

by Team Lusco



*Rob and Brooke showing their support for Lusco Nation. Those shirts are going to look sharp when they are cruising down the road on their bike!*

Brooke and Robert Story adopted a herd of donkeys in 2016 from Lusco Farms. We meet them ½ way across Iowa at a municipal airport. What a sight to see a donkey swap at an airport! We soon learned that Brooke and Rob had the land of misfits and were proud of it. When we put out the call for a home to place Boss Hog and Wilma into it wasn't long before Rob called Scott and said they had a home with the misfits! This couple exemplifies the true spirit of the rescue world. Without hesitation and little knowledge of donkeys and now, pot belly pigs they open their home for these animals. Without loving homes like theirs we could not continue our work.



*Brooke and Scott talking about body condition of Smoochie. Doesn't she look beautiful.*

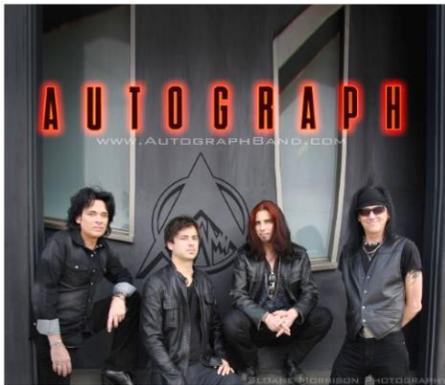
Wilma and Boss hog have fit in well and we had the chance to see how the donkeys were transitioning. Smoochie and Macho man as well as the others are all doing fantastic under the care of Robert and Brooke.

If you have the heart... you will find a way!



### Ride with Jesse James

Meet Jesse James- Dupree – owner of Full Throttle Saloon! He is also the leader singer of Jackyl. He will lead the riders out on Saturday and perform later that evening with the band. Don't miss your opportunity to get up close and personal.



## 2018 FUNDRAISER

MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>

JOIN THE FUN IN 2018

What a wonderful opportunity Loess Hills Harley Davidson has come up with to sponsor the donkeys once again! This time they have outdone themselves with a 3 day concert on May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at Loess Hills in Pacific Junction Iowa. Thursday and Saturday bands have been announced. We are waiting to hear who Friday night will bring?? We have truly been blessed with this opportunity to grow the awareness of our mission.

Camping is available on sight as well as many hotels close by for your stay. Check out ticket info on our Facebook page or on Loess Hills page. Get your tickets now.

We hope to see all of you there. The donkeys will be onsite and we will be discussing our rescue and everything donkeys. This is the largest fundraiser we have ever been involved in and we hope Lusco Nation will be out in full force to see the shows!!



FOR MORE INFORMATION



Go to [www.luscofarms.org](http://www.luscofarms.org)

or email [info@luscofarms.org](mailto:info@luscofarms.org)

TICKET INFO

For tickets-

<https://www.facebook.com/events/536318986760512/>



**Don't forget your end of the year donation is tax deductible!**

We are a nonprofit rescue under the IRS guidelines of 501c. We can provide you with a donation receipt for tax purposes.

There are many ways you can help us continue our fight for the American Donkey. Leave a legacy by thinking of the donkeys in your will.

Where there's a WILL there's away!

