



Monero Mustangs

**Sandi Claypool,
Founder and President**

Preserving the Past for the Future
Direct Descendants of the War Horses
of the Conquistadors

Presentation to New Mexico Legislative Council



My
Great
Grand
Mother
came
here
from
Spain



A close-up photograph of a horse's face, focusing on its eye and the surrounding fur. The horse has dark, thick hair around its eye. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid on the top left of the image.

My father worked for the Park Service

- Lived in many different places including Mexico, New Mexico, Arizona, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Texas, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin
- Lived in New Mexico over 40 years.

Both my parents were archeologists



A photograph of four wild horses running through a brushy, hilly landscape. The horses are in various colors: a white horse on the left, a brown horse in the center, a grey horse to the right of the brown one, and a dark brown horse on the far right. They are all running towards the right side of the frame, kicking up some dust. The background consists of dry, scrubby vegetation on a hillside.

Created a 5000 acre Wild Horse Sanctuary in the Chama area*

Living and working on the sanctuary

* ~50 acres/horse

Monero Mustangs has attracted excellent Board members two of which are famous in their own right and which add to the tourism appeal.

- Mrs. Gene Autry, widow of the famous actor/musician
- World Renowned Veterinarian Dr. Hooton DVM.

Promoted Eco-Tourism through International Photo Workshops....



...Magazines...

"IT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENT world out here," says Sandi Claypool from her Tierra Amarilla home which is also the headquarters of Monero Mustangs, a sanctuary for about 75 wild horses on 4,700 acres 90 miles north of Santa Fe. "People come out here, and they leave crying. These aren't domestic horses; they're wild horses, but they're in a safe place, so they'll let you walk among them."

Horses like the ones at this sanctuary have probably been living in New Mexico since the arrival of Don Juan de Oñate in 1598. Today, many of them have also been subjected to abuse: shot for recreation, inhumanely captured, or dragged behind vehicles. Plus, it isn't easy to survive in the high desert of northern New Mexico: Water is scarce, which means vegetation is, too. Thus, many wild horses starve. To prevent this, the U.S. Forest Service rounds up the bands for adoption or auction; while this can be good for individual animals, the practice depletes the bloodlines of these Spanish horses.

The setting at Monero Mustangs allows the horses to live in bands and reproduce. "I love horses, but I prefer it to be wild horses," says Claypool. "They have survived because they're the strongest. They have this intelligence, and that's what I like."



Sandi Claypool

Claypool and her mother, Ila Bromberg, founded Monero Mustangs sanctuary as a nonprofit in 2003, and welcome visitors. On a typical tour, a guide takes visitors around the ranch in a 4-wheel-drive vehicle to see the horses and their habitat. While the horses aren't broken and can't be ridden, they are generally calm at the sanctuary, and will let their curiosity take over when it comes to interacting with humans.

"You may see wild horses in other places, but if they're not protected, they won't let you get that close," says Claypool.



Go on a Southwestern-style camera safari with Wild Horse Workshops:
One-day, \$240: March 27, April 11, April 24
Three-day, \$650: May 21-23
Four-day, \$925: May 28-31
For info: www.lynnegomerantz.com

RETREAT & REJUVENATE: DON'T WORRY—YOU CAN AFFORD IT!

MARCH 2019

New Mexico

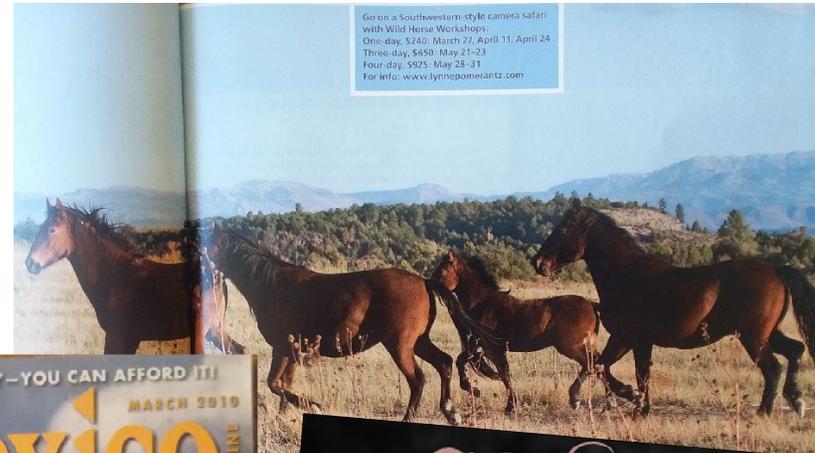
MAGAZINE

Places to come alive

Soothing Spa Weekends

- Luxe Eco Escape
- Healing Hot Springs
- Home Spa Staycation

Southwest Safari:
Wild Horse Sanctuary



Go on a Southwestern-style camera safari with Wild Horse Workshops:
One-day, \$240: March 27, April 11, April 24
Three-day, \$650: May 21-23
Four-day, \$925: May 28-31
For info: www.lynnegomerantz.com

true COWBOY

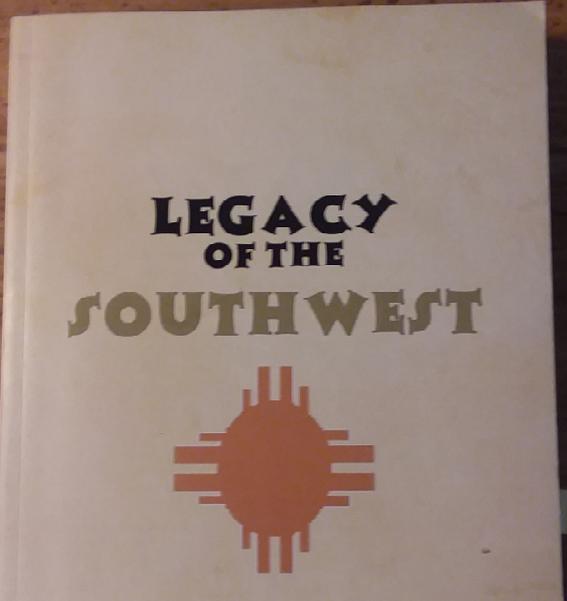
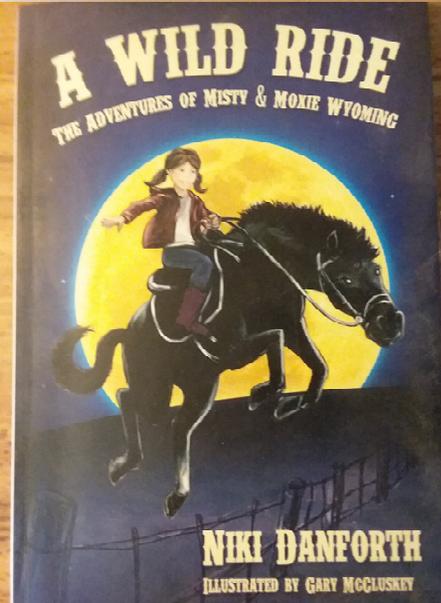
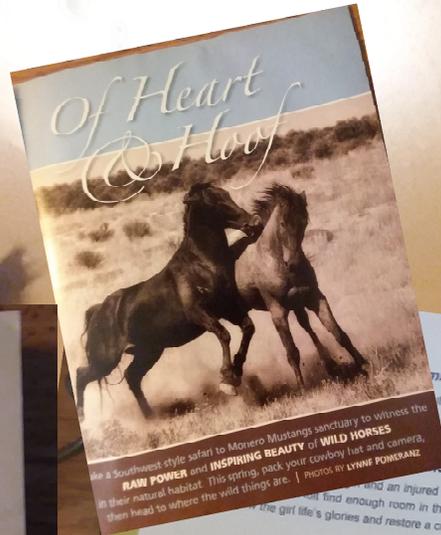
February 2014

magazine

Our February Buckle Bunny the fabulously incomparable, **Lela Reynolds**

20 Answers with RT Fitch
Vivo Los Monero Mustangs
The Legendary Karamati, Stallion of India

...Authors...



Praise for *We'll Have The Summer*
"One of the most touching stories I've ever read. The love man, woman and horse has never been so poignantly depicted."
—Tom Scrima, General Manager of the ACTHA
"Dutch Henry paints vivid and realistic scenes with compelling depth of character that only a skilled author can produce. Even the bitter-sweet pull of love and loss should read this book."
—Carrie Herder, President, Cavallo Home & Ride Inc.

Most of all, people really love seeing these horses free and happy with their bands. These animals have been our important partners as we've settled this country. We are losing a priceless heritage.
This article was written by Sandi Claypool, founder of Monero Mustangs. You can visit her website at <http://www.moneromustangs.org/>



Indians.
In 2011, Mustang Sanctuary, POB 249, Tierra Amarilla NM 87575, had 75 wild horses on 4700 acres, 90 miles north of Santa Fe.
www.moneromustangs.org
sandi@moneromustangs.org
Señor Don Hernando Cortéz, one of the earliest Conquistadores was under orders from Spanish King Carlos V to claim land and rob gold in the New World.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
Three years ago, research for this book took me on an enlightening journey to New Mexico. Driving north from Santa Fe, my husband and I stopped in Tierra Amarilla, a small town off US Highway 84, near Chama. The route took us through Georgia O'Keeffe country and some of the most scenic and unique views this area has to offer. It was in this setting that we found Monero Mustangs Sanctuary. Owned and operated by Sandi Claypool, it was a haven dedicated to the preservation of the American Mustang.
Recently, Monero Mustangs Sanctuary was forced to move the wild horses off the land it had occupied. Sandi never stopped working, relocating the horses to a temporary place, then finding forever homes for these beautiful animals.
Thank you, Sandi Claypool, for being a wild horse advocate and for giving a voice to these magnificent creatures. Seeing you work in the setting you loved allowed me to create this story.

...and Artists



Rural Economic Development

Monero Mustangs attracts many tourists to the town of Chama.

They eat in the local restaurants; stay in the motels and shop.



Hosted Heritage Days - twice this summer

Rural Economic Development

One summer when the train trestle was down and train tourism also was down, a local motel owner approached me, hugged me,

and thanked me for the business I sent her. She said that **without Monero Mustangs she would be facing going under.**



...and hosted Territorial Days, representing the late 1800's

Monero Mustangs in Rose Bowl Parade in 2003

We had people representing all the different cultures that the horse had impacted, Ranchers, Native Americans, Spanish, Buffalo Hunters, Mountain Men, etc.



Pasadena
Tournament of Roses



Stock photos from Rose Bowl Parades



My name is Terry "Doc" Guisto and a few years back I was having a reunion of my Vietnam buddies and living close to Monero Mustangs, I knew Sandy Claypool and her work with wild Mustang horses. She invited all of us to see the horses and a doukey. Everyone enjoyed the experience and we even saw endangered burrowing owls. One friend went home with a puppy, that he still has. We were paratroopers from the 173d Airborne Brigade a highly decorated unit, but the horses were tops!

Merry Guisto
Terry Guisto

Monero Mustangs
working with Veterans

Questions?

