



Our history began in the mid nineties when Sherrie Borneman, living on a small acreage in Mission, was dreaming horses. Dreaming of looking after those that needed a second chance. She began taking in a horse or two and finding a home for it. She met with others who helped her form a society in 1997 calling it the Bar F Horse Rescue Society. "F" for Sherri meant freedom for horses, freedom from want and neglect and freedom to be.

There was interest at the Ferndale Minimum Security Prison to host the Rescue. For two years all went well. The program received national recognition. Then things went awry and Sherri found a place for the Rescue on Starr Rd. in the Bradner community. That's when Sherri gave Walter a call to see whether he could help her out. They knew of each other through their professional contacts and she was aware of his interest in horses. She went to the barn on Starr Rd. each morning before she went to work and at evening upon her return from work. She was there every weekend and had a few friends who came to help from time to time. Walter went by on Saturday mornings and on occasion, at other times. He mucked out and worked with the horses. Soon it became evident that she needed help with administrative matters. She had not maintained reporting requirements to Victoria nor had she registered with Ottawa for charitable status. Walter helped her with both provincial and federal requirements.

The Vancouver Foundation invited her to submit a grant for operating Bar F but she was not able to follow through. Walter was able to do that for her on several occasions. One of the results was obtaining a Ford 4000 tractor.



Among the horses she had at the rescue one of the favourites was Ray Ray, a pony of about 10 or 11 hands. It could not be ridden and was terribly herd bound. She had to be with another horse at all times. She was in poor health, turned 40 years of age and died shortly after. After more than a year on Starr Rd, the rescue was moved to Lefuevre Rd. [see in pic to the left], just west around the corner. Both locations were made available **free**.

In 2000 Sherri moved to Alberta to be with a son on his farm. She took all the horses with her. In the Fall, a number of people decided to maintain the rescue, called a public meeting through the press, and re-organized as a number of people expressed interest in volunteering and in sitting on the Board. One of these was Sue Kirkland, who is still with us today. At one of our meetings in the barn when we were still on Starr Rd. we talked about changing the name Bar F Horse Rescue. On numerous occasions folk called us BarF for short. While amusing at first, it became tiring. After some discussion Sue suggested why not call it Circle F Horse Rescue. We would keep the F for freedom but replace the Bar with Circle, an open, welcoming symbol. The board approved of the name change as did Victoria and we have been known as Circle F Horse Rescue ever since.

