

Whispering Spirit Ranch

SUMMER 2008

COAL GAP, 946 PINEY GROVE ROAD GREENEVILLE, TN 37743

ISSUE ONE



Always Home.
Never Astray.



Hello, my name is
Appalachia-Bloom.

My human
companions call me

"Apples"
for
short.



I was born in southern California on July 21, 1999. Growing up in California I love to go hiking, running down dirt sand trails, over top of boulders and rock, and through the sage and tumbleweed. Many

days during the week I would go to work with my master and sit in the office next to his desk and chew on my rawhides.

On June 13, 2006 my master called to me that it was time to for the ride home. I love riding "shot-gun" in his truck with the window down, my head out, my long beautiful ears blowing back in the wind and looking at myself in the side mirror. But this day was different. I stood up to move and everything was going dark. For a couple of days I had a bad headache that wouldn't go away.

But today was really bad. My master climbed down onto the floor with me and asked why I

*Welcome to the first
edition of the official
newsletter of Whispering
Spirit Ranch ~ Home of
LoveHandlers.org*

wasn't feeling well. Of course I couldn't respond, except with a reassuring lick to his face letting him know I would feel better soon. But that day as I



stood up I couldn't see my master. I heard him talking to me, but my eyes were covered and I was unable to see. I didn't understand why -- then I heard the urgent fright in his voice as I walked directly into the wall of his office. I couldn't see. Everything was blackness.

Next thing I knew he was rushing me into emergency at the local vet clinic. I didn't need my eyes to know where I was; I could smell. Minutes passed into hours, and after I had drops in my eyes and they were poked and prodded, I could see some shapes and shadows. My master was beside me the entire time. I could tell by all the different voices something must be really wrong. I heard in my master's broken voice the news. "Glaucoma"? For the next 24 hours, my sight came and went. I was on medications, and the pain in my head and eyes was slowly going away, but so was my sight.

The next morning I felt my master move. I knew I was awake, but it was still dark. I felt his hand on my shoulder as he guided me outside to my yard. He sat beside me and with an upset voice he explained to me that I was blind; never again to see.

I was grateful to have him to lean on. He cared for me, led me around, took me to the office, had long walks, played

with my three dog sisters, treated me to cookies...and I even continued to swim in the pool! Then one day he said that because of being so responsive in my rehabilitation, I would become the founder of my own ranch for other differently-abled animals.

As founder of the Whispering Spirit Ranch, I can't express enough of what it's like to be alive and have the love of my caring family. I get to still go for long walks in the mountains, sleep by a warm fireplace on a cushy pillow, get my treats, two meals a day, plenty of fresh water and now will have so many more new friends to visit and play with. I love life! I may be blind, but my "sniffer" and my ears work better than ever. So welcome to my website and on behalf of all my friends here at the Whispering Spirit Ranch, we love you! LICK!



Apples

Founder of WSRanch

Established 2007



Roads, well, water; septic, electricity, Dogwood USA barn, groom shop, home construction and more...it's all coming together!

Dawg Gone Good Sayin's

"Properly trained, a man can be a dog's best friend."

Good Lick Links!

<http://www.photoshow.com/members/aikane>

www.thegroomingshop.net/

www.rollingdogranch.org



Lovehandlers.org is a 501(c)3 Charitable organization established as a no kill sanctuary for differently-able animals located in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains at the Whispering Spirit Ranch of Greeneville, TN. Contact us at info@lovehandlers.org or 423/329-0554 for more info.