

# RUBEE AND KATHRYN

*A special connection*



"Rubee is a super special horse. Over my years riding at SSTRP, I have truly bonded with this gentle giant. She understands me. She's like my best friend. We get each other. She has just one eye and I'm mostly blind - I feel like she knows how it feels to not be able to see and when I get to ride her, it feels like I'm with my best friend. I believe there is a deep and therapeutic connection between the rider and horse: Rubee and I have a mutual understanding of what it's like not to see.

Rubee shares my struggle, and at the same time she encourages me to be resilient as she is herself. She brings me much joy and is full of love.

I love Rubee!

Many people can't relate or fully understand what it's like not to see well, but Rubee gets it."

-Kathryn Blalock, rider

"Rubee came to her forever home at Savannah Station over 4 years ago. Reflecting back to that day and the years since fills my heart with joy. When she first arrived, I knew she was special. She came from a "kill pen," but I could tell this beautiful horse was saved for a higher calling. She has not disappointed.

Rubee came to us with her own disability. She only had one eye on her right side and a hollow eye socket on her left. It seemed she had been that way for some time since she compensated well.

Rubee has been a trooper since day one. When she arrived, we sprayed her with fly spray only to see hives appear moments after. Off to the shower we went! She took it all in stride. She has been so kind and patient with us as we learned how she would like us to handle her, lead her, and talk to her, as well as experiment with homemade fly spray!

Then it was time for classes. She took to