



April 2003

Over Herd

Volume 5, Issue 4

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.

2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023

(704) 855-2978

On the Web at:

www.horseprotection.org

and www.angelfire.com/nc/horseprotsocnc/

Mark your Calendars:

April 12th

Members Meeting

Lunch at 12:30 PM

Please bring a covered dish to share.

Do you have E-mail?

If you currently receive the newsletter by mail and have

E-mail, please contact us with your

E-mail address to help cut down on mailing costs:

AmbeOC@aol.com



Itsy Bitsy is quickly learning to love her human friends, here she gives Dani Lewis baby kisses.

very good mothers. The weather has cleared and Itsy Bitsy and Munchkin are enjoying running and playing in the front field. They are traffic stoppers! The babies are alive today because you make HPS possible to be here, and provide the needed care for the horses. May God's blessing be with you!

The court left Sweetheart in our care since she was still in poor condition. She is steadily gaining her weight back, but still has at least 100 to 200 pounds to gain. April 4th we go back to court for a Show Cause hearing. The owner maintains that the horses did not need to be taken by Animal Control, and there was nothing wrong with them.

Two Foals Born to Surry County Mares

The past month has been very busy and many changes have taken place. Both Honey Bee and Mercy have given birth to their foals. Honey Bee delivered a premature tiny filly Feb. 26 that we named Itsy Bitsy. She was only about 50 pounds at birth and needed to be under a heat lamp for days.

February 28, the horses had their first hearing in Surry Co. Dale Powers' lawyer petitioned the court to move the horses to a location in Stokes County. HPS petitioned for continual position and care for the horses. The judge left Honey Bee, Itsy Bitsy, Mercy and Sweetheart in our care. It came out in court that Dale Powers (the owner) did not know that Mercy was bred and do to foal. The judge felt that the other horses had recovered enough to be safely moved to Stokes County for boarding. The gentlemen that will be caring for the horses will do a fine job seeing that the horses are provided what they need. A few days later it came to light that Dale Powers has a past felony conviction, and guns were found when the horses were removed from his property. The A.T.F. is after him now, and they will be presenting this information to the grand jury to see if there is enough evidence to charge him with gun possession. If convicted, the charges carry a federal jail sentence.



Mercy, Munchkin, Honey Bee and Itsy Bitsy

March 7th, 5 o'clock in the morning, Mercy gave birth to a small 60-65 pound colt foal that we named Munchkin. Munchkin's back legs were not right; he is over at the fetlock and back on his heels. The hock joints are also swollen and stiff. He also could not maintain his body temperature, and had to be in a stall with a heat lamp. The weather was so awful we could only allow the mares and babies to explore the big barn for exercise. Both mares were suffering from fescue toxicity, and without our care surely the foals would have died, and the mares would also have been at great risk.

Both babies had to be tested to make sure they have received the necessary colostrum. The expensive Domperidone that we gave the mares had done its job and the mares produced colostrum. Munchkin's hindquarter has slowly improved - time will tell if he will have a full recovery. Honey Bee and Mercy have gained weight and are

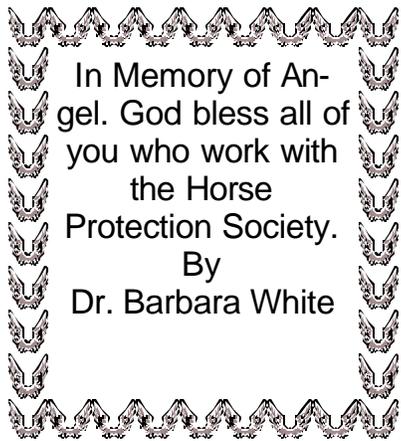
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☆☆ *This is the last month to purchase* ☆☆☆
☆☆ *Raffle Tickets for a chance to win* ☆☆☆
☆☆ *the beautiful quilt or one of the* ☆☆☆
☆☆ *many other prizes.* ☆☆☆
☆☆ *See page 5 for all the details.* ☆☆☆
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HPS Officer Spotlight

Hi, my name is Valerie Berns and I am the secretary for HPS. I am a Clerical Assistant for Case Management at a local hospital. I am married, have two children, one in high school and one in college, 4 cats (Sassy pictured) and a dog.



My journey with the rescued horses began in February 1998, when I read an ad in the paper offering an opportunity to interact with a horse for a monthly fee. My daughter, Cari, and I began sponsoring Cheyenne and



In Memory of Angel. God bless all of you who work with the Horse Protection Society. By Dr. Barbara White

learning alot about horses. I am one of those women, and we are many numbered, that always loved horses but couldn't afford one nor had a place to keep one. The ranch allowed us a chance to "have" a horse, without the huge expense and the 24 hour care. We volunteer our time, and get such a great return on that investment. We have probably met, touched, and helped the lives of approximately 100 horses in our time at the Ranch. And we have met, touched the lives of and enjoyed a vast number of folks and continue to meet people every day! I give new visitors tours, and orientation to new members and sponsors! The saying "the outside of a horse is good for the inside of a person" is so true. These horses need people who care to help both their inside and outside feel good!! Hope to see you soon!

The Ark

Special report to "Overherd" by Smoky, the Pumphouse Cat
(with a little help from Roberta McCardle with creative credit to Valerie Berns)

Some of you may not know much about me -- I am a quiet kitty of even temper. I live in the pumphouse and am deeply grateful for the shelter, wonderful (& regular!) comestibles, and the safe haven I have found here. By myself in my pumphouse world, I enjoy watching the doings of the other animals and visiting two-leggers. There has been a flurry of activity lately with much commentary by all. I really did not pay too much attention to this, however, until one day, a chance remark of Woolly's made me think. He was on the back porch and commented to Tundra, "I hope there's room in the Ark for us."

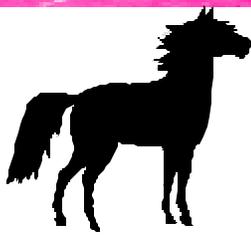
Curiosity piqued, I began to venture out of the pumphouse at different times of the day and night with my ears wide open. I made a most startling discovery -- the horses were building a Equine Ark down in the woods!! They were totally weary of all the rain and the resulting mud. As Dakota noted, "HPS is able to take care of us (food, medicine, hay, vet care) but maybe She won't have enough money to build a ship to save us all from the rain."

I had no idea horses were capable of such deep thought, long-range planning, and such coordinated effort! Dizzy served as the blind. Anytime the horses were putting boards together they had Dizzy stand in front to block the view. Windwalker, Laredo, and Chinook were attention-diverters. If a two-legger headed toward the Ark, they did some fancy footwork & diverted them. Everybody had a job.....even little YumYum. His task was to gather up the wire from the hay bales. The carpenter horses used this to lash boards together. Navajo's job was to develop a way to secure the Ark's doors. He is such a whiz at unsecuring doors that this seemed like a natural assignment.

On the surface, the horses seemed to work well together. I soon detected, however, undercurrents of discontent and personal concern. Firebreeze was deeply worried about the banana supply in the Ark. Dakota wanted to know if there was to be a grooming area. Tundra did not want to be billeted anywhere near Laredo. Sugarfoot was concerned about proper storage of alfalfa cubes. Chinook was insistent that his stall be next to Raven's. Summer wanted only colors complimentary to her coat used throughout the Ark. Queenie planned to measure the food dishes to be sure that hers was the biggest.

I listened, observed, and stood this foolish chatter as long as I could. Finally, one day, this Siamese had enough! "Hey, guys, listen up," I observed. "It is promised in the Good Book that rains will never last more than forty days. Your Ark is totally unnecessary!"

Aghast, the horses all stopped what they were doing and looked at me. I affected nonchalance and continued to meticulously groom my right front paw. After much discussion, they finally came to a sensible conclusion -- the Ark will be used for pleasure trips in the pond during the hot summer months. The hasty activity stopped and I returned to my Pumphouse, content in the knowledge that once again, Siamese wisdom had made a difference in the world.



News From The Herd

Tonto was placed in a beautiful new home. I am sure he thinks he is in heaven – green pastures, wonderful stable and loving care.

Wrangler went off to a new home this past month. His young person will lovingly care for him. He is one of the lucky ones to be placed.

Cloud Dancer has been placed in the home that took him for Short Term to keep Legacy company until we placed a horse with them for their daughter. Legacy, Wrangler and Cloud Dancer will all be together in their new home.

Aztec and Sweetheart have a nasal infection that has been very hard to clear up. We had to do another round of antibiotics with them. Please say a pray for the girls complete recovery.

We still have several months that will require hay from other areas. Please consider making a donation of hay if you find that you have more than you are going to need for your horses.

Two of Tundra's puppies have been placed in new homes (4 to go).

*In loving memory of Sam Price, father of Gayle Cannon.
By Brenda & Rich Cunningham*

Thank You Dr. Robin Smith

Sunday morning, February 23, I found PR Viargo, our 22 year old purebred Arabian gelding, down in his stall; Stomach distended and not able to lift his head. He had coliced and was dying. After giving him a double dose of banamine paste, I called the vet and ran to the house to tell my husband and daughters. The banamine eased his pain, and he was able to get up on his own. His knees would crumble, and we were careful not to let him fall on us. Hilary, my 14 year old daughter, walked him in the yard until Dr. Smith arrived twenty minutes later.



Hilary & Viargo

Dr. Smith knew Viargo before we purchased him 5 years ago. She also knew how special and sweet he was and how much we loved him. Dr. Smith quietly talked to Viargo and quickly assessed he had a twisted colon. Although covered by the Strongid Colic Surgery Program, our family didn't feel surgery was the humane thing to do. He had been suffering, and we didn't think he could stand the long trip to Raleigh. Although healthy and sound, his age was not in his favor.

Dr. Smith put him down with the utmost dignity and compassion. She constantly talked to him and petted him as our whole family quietly cried. It was such a shock to lose him as we have other older horses with serious infirmities.

PR Viargo was Hilary's first 4-H and Arabian Circuit show horse. He was so safe, sweet, willing and sound – he was absolutely the perfect first horse. I have said many times, "If we could clone Viargo, we would be millionaires." Every young girl should have a horse like Viargo.

Dr. Smith – we still tear up as we are reminded of him in various ways. We are grateful to you for doing your best for him. Although not a glamorous gift, our family has donated to HPS a new round bale hay feeder in your honor. We share your love for all horses and wanted to do something positive for those horses we can help.

On a sweeter note, we also remember Dr. Smith 2.5 years ago helping deliver our first foal. By sleeping in the barn, our family witnessed the birth of Imminent Fire and has wonderful memories of it. We called Dr. Smith out at 11 PM for a "false alarm," and then at 6 AM for the real thing. Imminent Fire is doing well and was Viargo's best friend. He was whining for Viargo the day after his death.

In appreciation – The Robbins Family

*For Gayle Cannon
In loving memory of Sam Price
By Mr. & Mrs. James Pyke*

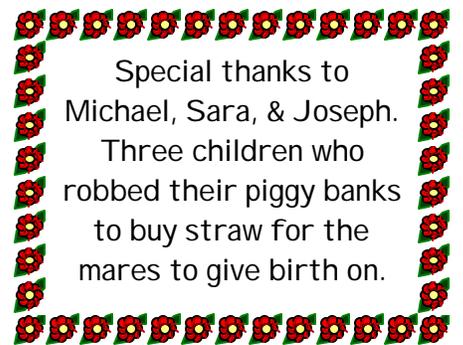
*In memory of Mrs. Dorothy Rebhan, mother of Dottie Rebhan.
By Susan Collins*

*Cathy Wray & Debie Cort's children put their money together to buy straw for Honey Bee & Itsy Bitsy's bedding.
Thank you!*



The horses would like to send a heartfelt thank you to the following folks for helping them this month. Without you there would be no Horse Protection Society.

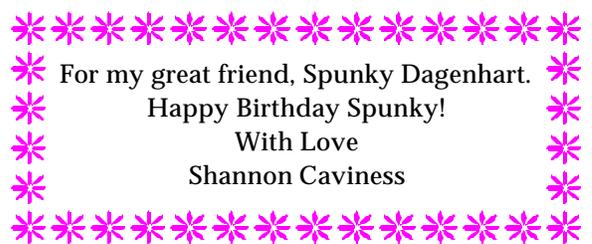
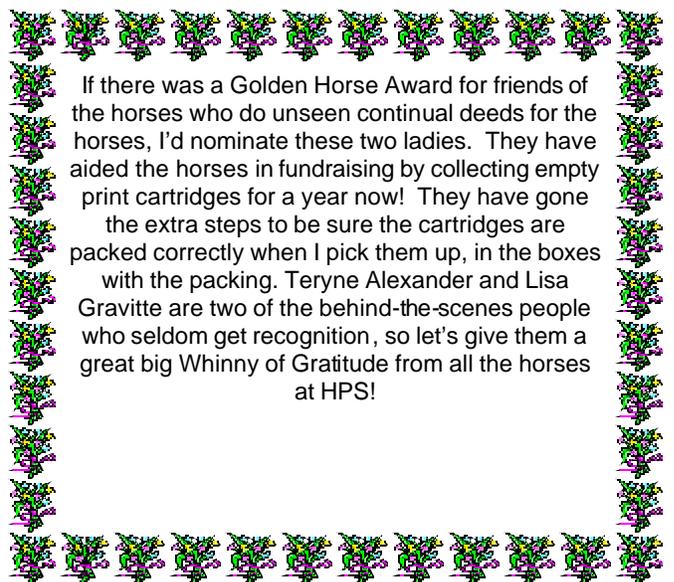
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|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| William Allen | Theresa Gahren | Lynn Matsey | Lane Thornhill |
| Tina Barnett | Michael & Chris Gailey | Roberta McCardle | Alan & Cheri Walters |
| Liz & Natasha Bechinski | Jenni Geiselman | Cheryl McDermot | Mary Walters |
| Catherine Bellamy | Andrew & Nancy German | Elizabeth McGurk | Sherry Wheeler |
| Mrs. Bruce Betts | Lisa Hachey | Jill Messer | Dr. Barbara White |
| Helen Bishop | Tonya Hayes | Barbara & Harold Moore | Tracy Owen Wills |
| Teresa Bonk | Malvine Hoover | Mary & Alva Moore | Deborah & Wayne Wilson |
| Teresa & John Bonk | Julie Hornburg | Gary & Mary Moran | Sue & Gary Wortman |
| Catherine & Ken Briggs | Linda Johnson | Suzanne Nutt | Cathy Wray Children |
| M. Kathy Britt | Ryan Johnson | Elizabeth & Reuben | Debie Cort Children |
| Lucy & Douglas Buchanan | Susan Klemm | Phagan | Kim Wrenn |
| Merrie & Ken Burns | Lillus Kurland | Ann Powlas | |
| Frances & Billy Caudle | Jim & Sherri Ladislas | Mr. & Mrs. James Pyke | |
| Shannon & Scot Caviness | Kathy Laye | Elizabeth Richardson | |
| Susan Collins | Sara Lewis | Holly Robbins | |
| Jane Cornell | Nancy & Luther Lippard | Sharon & Duane Robinson | |
| Brenda & Rich Cunningham | Vince & Terri Lockhart | Sheila Saints | |
| Megan DePalmo | Diane Forbes c/o Loeffler | Marvin Saunders | |
| Linda Dowdle | Ketchum Mountjoy | Harriet Seabrook | |
| Gary Eklund | Katherine Lofgren | Gail Shinn | |
| Lesley & William Ensley | Sulena & Richard Long | Dr. Deborah Tanzer | |
| Janet Fields | Denise & Anthony Lopez | Dianne Thomas | |
| Dee Ann & Elkanah Flanary | Ellen Lopez | | |
| | Barbara Mack | | |



Hoofbeats *By: Roberta McCardle*

Every time that I think Mud Season might be over, it rains again! This month's column is dedicated to all the wonderful people, both new and old, who have come out to the ranch to feed or do other projects out in our barn-boot deep, rich mud. Sometimes the mud is like quicksand and other times it is like a slurry. On occasion it is glue-like...once your boot comes off, the mud does not want to give it back up. Shoshoni and Willow were both moving rapidly toward me (and my two cans of feed) one day as I hopped on one foot, trying desperately to get my left boot back on. They probably all had a good laugh over it later. Please note that this in no way equals Joanie's flat-out fall in the mud (where's Val and that camera when you need her?).

Seriously, a sincere "THANK YOU" to the dedicated folks who have tried to work through the mud (and gone home very dirty).....Kathy Biggers, Valerie Berns, Cathy Wray Brown, Paul Brown, Debbie Cort, Marie Freeman, Jenni Geiselman, Kathy Haw, Tonya Hayes, Tracey Hubert, Joanna Kesler, John Kiwacka, Ambe & Dani Lewis, Ann Powlas, Dottie Rebhan, Diane & Barry Reed, Charlotte Revels, Erika Torrence, Sue Wortman, and Charlie Adams. I'm sure other folks have been out as well....a hearty "thank you" to you all.....especially Jim Nance who works for E.J. Erwin and was kind enough to attack some mud on a bulldozer one recent Saturday.



Raffle!

Over 18 prizes including: Handmade quilt, Princess House crystal, Shannon crystal, Pfaltzgraff Accents, and much much more! Complete and submit a \$5.00 raffle ticket today!



YARD SALE... HELP

We need your help as soon as possible. **WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH ITEMS TO HOLD THE YARD SALE!** The two yard sales a year are the most profitable fundraisers we do each year. HPS counts on that income to provide springtime needs. Please look around the attic and basement for items you can donate for the sale. Anything in your house, attic, basement, garage or storage buildings you don't need.... We do! If we have already cleaned out your house, please ask your neighbors and friends for their unwanted items. Please round up your things and if you can't bring them to the sanctuary – we will arrange pick up. Thank you for caring.




 Loeffler Ketchum
 Mountjoy sent a \$500
 check to honor Jane
 Cornell. Diane Forbes,
 VP Operations said,
 "Jane is a friend that
 previously consulted
 with our agency. She
 has been a source of
 great guidance for us,
 and for that reason, we
 would like to make this
 donation in her honor.


\$5 RAFFLE TICKET \$5

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE/E-MAIL _____

**GRAND PRIZE: QUEEN SIZE QUILT
OHIO STAR PATTERN**

17 additional prizes-Visit our Website for photo and list!

DRAWINGS TO BE HELD MAY 4, 2003
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT RESCUED HORSES
HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC
2135 MILLER ROAD, CHINA GROVE NC, 28023

\$5 www.horseprotection.org **\$5**

In remembrance of E lliott –
Owned and loved by S punky Dagenhart.
By E lizabeth Phagan

Donation Form:

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Your e-mail: _____

Is this for a memorial donation? Yes No

Whom do you wish to Honor: _____

Their e-mail: _____

Their Address: _____

Your Message (for newsletter): _____

Any donation amount is appreciated: \$_____ Please make checks payable to **Horse Protection Society**.
For a \$25 or more donation the honored person can receive a year of "Over Herd."

Would you like the newsletter sent? Yes NO

Please clip and mail to: Horse Protection Society

**HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY
OF NORTH CAROLINA INC.**

2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023

Phone: 704-855-2978

Email: hps@horseprotection.org

Web site:

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and www.angelfire.com/nc/horseprotosocnc/

Making the World a Better Place for Horses

It is the mission of the Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc. to make the world a better place for horses through education, rescue and rehabilitation.

Founded by Joan Benson and incorporated in 1999, we continue to reach out and to grow. We are always seeking new members.

HPS is a fully incorporated 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations. Your donations are the main source of income to support the sanctuary and are eligible for tax deduction.

**Horse Protection Society
2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023**

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Secretary.....	Valerie Berns	(704) 855-1574.....	sweetalmond902@hotmail.com
Parliamentarian/Historian.....	Cari Berns.....	(704) 855-1574	cberns@hotmail.com
Executive Director.....	Joan Benson	(704) 855-2978	horseprotectionsoc@vnet.net
Newsletter.....	Ambe Lewis	(704) 838-1922.....	AmbeOC@aol.com
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Medical Needs Chair.			
Publicity Chair.....	Kathy Biggers	(704) 782-3095	dkbiggers@vnet.net
Volunteer Coordinator			
Sponsorship Coordinator.....			
Placement Coordinator.....	Tracey Hubert	(704) 599-3415	bosstaff@earthlink.net