



**SAVE THESE DATES:**

**Farrier & Volunteer Day:**

**Saturday, April 14th**

We need all the hands we can get on these days. Please email HPS if you are able to attend for any length of time on either or both days. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Farrier day is potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share!

[hps@horseprotection.org](mailto:hps@horseprotection.org)

\*\*\*Also, The Mane Event 2 is coming in June.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:**

We have no right to distress any of God's creatures without a very good reason; we call them dumb animals, and so they are for they cannot tell us how they feel; but they do not suffer less because they have no words."

~ Anna Sewell, from Black Beauty

## June 2<sup>nd</sup> Is The Mane Event

The countdown has started. There are just nine weeks from April 1<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>. HPS plans to mail the invitations at the end of this month to everyone on our mailing list. You will receive four tickets in your invitation that you may purchase for just \$35 each. The extra tickets are so you can invite your friends, **who love to shop**, to join you to help the starved and abused horses of NC. HPS has held the price of the tickets down to cover expenses only. We want everyone to have left over money to purchase the fabulous auction items that will be available. There is no problem requesting more tickets to be mailed to you for additional friends to fill a table of eight.

The following are some of the close to 300 items that will be available to you:

1. Antique Brass Boot Tree from Old Railroad Station
2. Copper Horse Garden Thermometer
3. Black & Decker 3 in 1, Detail Sander, Power Screwdriver and Power Scraper
4. 'Virginia's Song' Stained Glass Table Lamp with 424 pieces Stained Glass in Reds, Yellows and Purples
5. 'Collector's Item' Men's Large Winfield Cover- San Francisco Suede and Leather with Silver Concho - Cowboy Hat
6. Deborah Young, Photographer will take a photo of you with your favorite critter. This is fabulous!
7. Championship Horseshoe Game in a Case
8. Classic Wooden Tool Box with Removable Tray
9. Milwaukee 1.5HP Heavy Duty Router
10. 16" Western Roping Style Saddle in Chestnut Brown and Dark Coffee. Seat is stitched Quilted Suede in Dark Coffee.
11. Western Horse Bridle, Halter with "I Love My Horse" saying and Lead Shank  
14K Pearl Necklace and Pearl Post earrings

Just a small sampling.... See you at the Speedway Club June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## What Is To Become of Justice?

Justice's first court date was to be March 14<sup>th</sup>. I drove to Lincoln County and met with Officer Dwight Martin, Head of Animal Control. We waited and waited in the courtroom for the defendant to be called. Sometimes the defendant is ready to be heard; sometimes they ask for a postponement or a court appointed attorney. When Susan Klutz was called, she asked for a postponement and said she would either defend herself or get a lawyer. It was difficult to hear what she said. The next court date is April 11<sup>th</sup>.

I had a chance to learn a little more about the conditions poor Justice had been subjected to. Officer Martin had pictures of Justice tied on a long nylon rope behind the modular in a mud lot. If he became

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### Did You Know...

A horse's tail is very important to him. Not only does it act as a fly swatter in summer, it keeps his "bottom" warm in winter! The area between a horse's hind legs is the only part not kept warm by hair, so it loses the greatest amount of warmth if left exposed by too much trimming.

From a horse's point of view, the best tail is a natural tail.

Some horses have thin ragged tails, while others have tails so thick they cannot be braided for formal riding events and shows. To make the best of their appearance, thick or thin, different tails are treated in different ways. Some styles even go in and out of fashion!

## Last US Equine Slaughter Plant to Close

It is very frustrating that as a 501(c)3, the federal government does not allow nonprofits to try to influence elections and or laws. However, we can report news. In 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate each approved funding limitation amendments barring USDA from using funds to conduct horse slaughter inspections. In response, USDA issued special new rules to circumvent Congress's decision to de-fund horse slaughter by having the slaughter plants pay for inspections themselves. Who are these people who think they can go against the legislation that was put in place to stop the slaughter of equine? The USDA buried past bills in committee that would have stopped the slaughter of horses.

In February 2006 suit was filed by different organizations and by residents who suffered living next to a horse slaughterhouse. You do not want to know what the residents had to say! This challenged the USDA's decision to allow the slaughter company to pay the meat inspectors.

Then January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the Circuit Court of Appeals issued a unanimous opinion upholding a Texas state law banning the sale of horsemeat, all but shutting the two horse slaughter plants in Texas and leaving only one remaining in Illinois.

A Federal Court ruling just announced that it is illegal for the USDA to accept payments from the equine slaughterhouses for the inspection of any equine killed for human consumption. Finally, the last slaughterhouse is effectively closed. There is a possibility of appeal, but as of this minute, the slaughter of horses for human consumption in the United States is over. The district court found that USDA violated the National Environmental Policy Act by failing to conduct any review of the adverse impacts of horse slaughter on the surrounding communities before implementing the new rule. The court characterized the USDA's environmental review of these impacts as "deafening silence," and concluded "there is no evidence whatsoever that the agency head – or any USDA official – even contemplated...environmental effect[s]" of the agency's actions.

The funding limitation on inspections for horse slaughter was included in the Fiscal Year 2006 Agriculture Appropriations Bill, which carries over through September 30, 2007 because of a Continuing Resolution passed by Congress.

Is the fight over.....??? I don't think so. What about the horses transported to Canada or Mexico for slaughter? But this is a positive start.

### *Justice...Continued from page 1*

tangled in the rope, that could explain the past injury to his front leg and infection that damaged his hoof. There was a fenced area, that some time ago was damaged and needed repair. That never got done. There was some old moldy looking hay in the picture, but no fresh hay. There was no feed there for him.

Justice is doing wonderfully and is gaining weight at an incredible rate. We had to nurse him through several different problems. If he had not had the correct medications, chances are he would have died

## Mysterious Conditions

Things at the sanctuary had been quiet concerning the health of the horses for a while. We have just been dealing with the usual spring problems. Some of the newer rescues have rain rot (fungus on the top line and hips) and care has to be taken not to spread it to the other horses. Other types of fungus, like thrush and what is called greasy heal or scratches will show up this time of year. There are hundreds of different fungi.

Some of the horses are so itchy from their hair shedding early this year, that they are rubbing and scratching themselves on anything they can get to try to rub off their hair. It is not unusual to see a horse hanging over a round bale rolling it back and forth under its belly. One post has been rubbed so much that it is covered with a variety of hair color. The birds think the hair is there for them to help build their nests. We do not want to shed them yet since we will have some cold nights. Small cedar trees have suffered greatly. Many are now horizontal from horses walking over the top of them, bending them down to use as stomach brushes. When the horses find the right thing to rub on the look of satisfaction on their faces make us laugh.

Then in the last month, our vet bill went from a credit to now a little over \$2,000. That is a bill you hate to open! First, there was Popcorn's eye surgery. Dr. Jonathan Featherstone thought he was going to be able to do the procedure at the sanctuary and quickly figured out that it was going to be more extensive than first thought. Popcorn would need to go to the vet office for the surgery. She did great and recovery went perfect. Second, Miracle needed the usual new horse blood panel, tetanus shot, teeth floating and special medication for her bad back leg with the infection and proud flesh. Justice also needed the new horse work-up of blood panels and tetanus because of the infection on his face. Then when his sheath swelled, he had to be put on Banamine paste. Montana was due to have his insulin levels rechecked and the newer test is more expensive, but well worth it.

Olympia just did not seem right to me. Not exactly what one would call medical terms or a diagnosis, but it was just a feeling I had when I was around her. So I had her insulin checked, SRVC blood panel, and a CBC count done. The result was that her kidneys were failing. No one knows why this is happening and the vet was at a loss to tell us anything to help her other than reduce her protein. We have dealt with this before with other horses and have found several things that will help them recover. Often the liver will not be functioning correctly, but may not show on the blood tests, and Milk thistle may help. Cherry juice has proven to be better with the horses than cranberry juice to aid the kidneys, along with a natural antibiotic. Olympia is feeling much better and shortly we will repeat the SRVC panel to check her kidneys.

Starlight just was not herself and she developed a non-pitting edema on her belly line. Her itching was even worse than the other horses. I had a blood panel done to see what was going on and it showed low blood platelets. These are the symptoms of Equine Infectious Anemia. The Coggin's test was negative but it would have been irresponsible not to have the test done. The vets did not have much to offer except to start a series of very expensive tests like bone marrow biopsies. We started her on a vitamin therapy to help her and will have her retested in a few weeks.

Feather has not really been what I would call healthy since she was rescued last year. She had symptoms that responded to the EPM treatment HPS uses. Still I did not like the way she acted. Insulin and blood panels showed she has Cushing's syndrome. Feather and Olympia later developed non-pitting edemas; no one has any idea why. Feather's edema seemed to soar, but Olympia's did not.

Three of the horses had to be put on Adequan to help break on-going pain cycles. Liberty, Jingle Bells and Padre have benefited from this treatment. Each now gets an injection just once a month, after the first loading weeks.

This is how to spend a little over \$2,000 with the vet and still not know what has caused some of the problems the horses developed this month. The good news is they all seem to be doing well at the present moment. Thank you God.



## ANONYMOUS EULOGIES: Spontaneous interviews

By Amanda Cowtipper Domestic Goddess, AKA "Grandma"

*Greylag geese originated in Eurasia a thousand years ago as a meat source. They will interbreed with others--domestic and foreign. Grey in color, but patches of white may indicate males.*

~~~~~

"She's dead, you know. Passed on about a year ago."

"Thank God for that!"

"Yeah!"

"She was one aggressive female."

"Yeah!"

"Now give the devil her due. She took care of family. Raised two kids."

"The three greys left down at the pond didn't raise any of their own this year...only adopted. Course, that little wild mallard is treated like Cinderella."

"Did she have a life partner, do you know?"

"Well, there was that Canadian illegal and after he left some grey one showed up out of the blue, but I seem to remember that Grandpa fooled around with a younger woman before he went on to his reward."

"No wonder she was so crotchety."

"Yeah."

"Personally, I miss the excitement. Remember that time she chased the slow volunteer who escaped only because she threw the empty feed bucket over Grandma's head?"

"Yeah!" (giggles)

"That old broad could bite!"

"Yeah!"

"How do you think my fuzzy tail got all bent out of shape?"

"Do tell. Musta' hurt."

"Yeah!"

"She stole my kibble and whatever else she could get her beak on."

"I hear tell she was an assassin with the mob before she got to the farm. Probably in the witness protection program."

"How can you hide with a honk like that?"

"Well, I think she should have been invited to dinner up at the house years ago...as the entrée."

"Yeah!"

"I kinda miss her, tho."

"Yeah!"

Respectfully submitted, A. Cowtipper

***Reminder: If you have email access and would be willing to receive your Over Herd issues via email, PLEASE contact Shelly Walsh at [shellywalsh@bellsouth.net](mailto:shellywalsh@bellsouth.net).***

***Emailing saves precious pennies for HPS!***



HPS would like to thank the monthly donors for your continued generosity and love for the horses in our care. You are helping us make the world a better place for horses through education, rescue and rehabilitation. If your donation was later in the month your name will appear next month.

In honor of my mother, Melanie Boone for her birthday. ~By Jennifer B. Barbee

In honor of my dear friend Shannon Carviness' Birthday. ~By Spunky Dagenhart.

In memory of Edgar Dunham. He died Feb. 14, 2007. Ed always wished that he was physically able to help out with the horses. ~By Maggie Dunham & Margaret O'Kelley

In honor of Mary Walter's Birthday on April 15 th. ~By Linda Johnson

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**\*\* Any donation is appreciated. Please make your check payable to Horse Protection Society.**

**\*\* For a \$25 or more donation, the named person can receive "Over Herd" for 1 year.**

Mail completed form to: Horse Protection Society, 2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023

## Horse Protection Society of North Carolina



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China Grove, NC 28023

Phone: 704-855-2978  
Email: [hps@horseprotection.org](mailto:hps@horseprotection.org)

**Check out our Web site:**  
[www.horseprotection.org](http://www.horseprotection.org)

## 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

«first» «Laster»  
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