



# OVERHERD



## Family Crisis *by Joanie Benson*

Volume 11 Issue 4 April 2009

**MANE EVENT**  
 Lowe's Motor Speedway Club  
 Saturday, May 30th, 5:30 pm -  
 dinner at 7:00 pm. Come join in  
 the fun!  
 Tickets are just \$35 each. Make  
 your reservations early as there is  
 limited space. Check out some  
 auction items:

Stubben - Roxanne - 17" all purpose saddle, Ottoman with rose pattern, Dragonfly stain glass lamp, Emanuel & silver running horse bracelet, Solar fountain, Solar copper bug zapper, Antique wicker baby carriage, Antique silver hand hammered frame, Half chaps, Various original oil Paintings, Match book collector cars - Only 100 manufactured, Gas generator, Roomba vacuuming robot, Portable DVD player, 2-1 landscape edger, Cuisinart four slice toaster - stainless steel, Onyx and gold earrings, Nintendo DS lite video game system, Telescope, Trex Bike Pass Navigator, Opal necklace and earrings, Fender Guitar -electric, Designer purses, 1800's small camel back trunk, Echo Shred N' Vac - blower or vacuum, Sony Blue Tooth micro high shelf system, TUMI leather travel satchel, Waffle maker, Izod I men's canvas jacket, Cameras, 22" TV, Antique jockey hitching post and the list goes on and on. This is just a very small sampling of all the wonderful items for the Silent and Live Auctions. All items unless listed as an Antique are new.

A family is in a crisis; with two teenage boys at home (we know how they eat without providing any income) the husband lost his job, so the wife becomes the breadwinner. The unthinkable happens and the wife is struck with cancer. The family was already having difficulties making ends meet before this happened.



One of HPS' members stepped in to help provide feed for this little 21 year old Arabian. He had started gaining some weight, but unfortunately she was no longer able to afford the feed for him (she has her own horses to provide for), so he started losing what he had put on.

The wife was back in the hospital. Fortunately the husband was able to find work; but it was still impossible to provide feed for the skinny little gelding. Caring friends and relatives became very concerned about the health of the Arabian (he is the wife's horse). *(cont pg 2)*

## Causality of Unemployment *by Joanie Benson*

### Inside this issue:

This is proving to be a difficult year for the horses. Husbands and wives both have to work to make ends meet. Many people work extra jobs to help pay for the horses, which are for their recreation. Many sacrifice a lot in order to keep them. But what happens when one of the spouses lose their job? The horses lose out, especially if the

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horse is older and has special needs. It will be the first to be given up when it becomes difficult to provide for the horses.

Lucky for Concho (a beautiful champagne colored horse with hazel eyes) has found a place at the sanctuary. She is a low 2 on the Henneke Body Scoring and is reported to be 32 years old. She is very weak in the hindquarter. *(cont pg 4)*



## The Black Sky has Opened to Red Cloud *by Joanie Benson*

Tamara Eichorn knows a man that has been breeding Quarter Horses for years. Their care has been minimal, and over the years Tamara has helped get some of them new homes. The stallion was placed and the herd was down to ten horses. But problems still prevail; there is now a 3 yr old colt in with the mares.

The horses are in acceptable condition with the exception of one mare. Tamara was able to get the owner to give her up. If she were to get bred by the colt in the condition she is in now, I am sure she would die. Let's hope the stallion hasn't gotten to her already. Over the next three weeks, we will watch her to see if she comes into season. If she does not, we will have the

vet check her when she is stronger.

This poor mare is a train wreck! Starting at the bottom, she has an abscess in a hind hoof, she cannot swish her tail, (the muscles have been reabsorbed), her teeth need to be done, and she has terrible rain rot. (Do people not realize how much rain rot hurts a horse!) It extends all the way up her neck and back to her tail. If she were brushed, most of her hair would fall out. Her Body Score is a 1.

The owner said the mare is 22 years old. I got a small peek at her bottom teeth and they seemed very upright. That would not be the case for a 22 year old horse.

I put her up in the round pen to keep her safe and to do the worming. Red Cloud went to the hay and attacked the fresh pile. I started talking to a couple of gals in the front field when I realized Red Cloud had taken a walk-about. She had found the grass down in front of the old barn and was happily eating as fast as possible. (*We came in through the back stall door and I didn't close it behind us*).

We have seen horses in worse condition..... but not by much. Red Cloud has a tiny bit of fat at the bottom of her ribs, a little bit over the top of her ribs below the spine protruding up. Over the hips is concaved in. The pictures never really show how thin a horse is, especially with winter coats. This adds about 100 lbs to the look of a horse.

*(cont pg 3)*



*(Family Crisis cont pg 1)* The best thing to do was to bring him to the sanctuary and provide for him here, with hopes of returning him to the wife after she has recovered and costs reimbursed.

We had a full blood panel done returning with the expected results. The worming, dental work, and hoof trimming have been done. The dental and worming has made a big difference in helping him to gain his weight back. The needed supplements, soaked alfalfa, and high quality feed are all aiding in his recovery. He is responding to the treatment for his rain rot.

Diego is his new name while he is with HPS. He has a new friend (Concho) that has just arrived which he adores. They took to each other immediately since he had been by himself, and she did not get along with the horses where she lived. I explained to Diego how the horses where she lived were mean to her and would chase her. I wanted him to go very slow and easy; as not to scare her. I turned him loose and he took tiny slow steps around the edge of the round pen. Diego would stop and look at her; I think he was saying, "I want to be friends." Little by little he moved towards the hay pile she was eating at. Diego went to the far end and started eating too while she watched him. Within a short time they were grooming each other and now are inseparable. They want to be in the same stall all the time but they need to be separated to be fed. We put them in separate stalls so that they can see each other so they are happy. It is wonderful to see the depression lifting that he was suffering from before coming to us.

## Half-Size Me *by Jellybean (with clerical assistance from Roberta McCardle)*



“What’s that little fella doing in with those horses?”

“He’s too small to be there.”

“Oh, that little guy is sooo brave to be next to that full-size horse.”

People, these are examples of some of the (woefully) ignorant comments that two-leggers make about me. I used to be in the field with some of the special needs horses. You know what I mean....some older horses who no longer had the same zing they once had. Shenandoah used to jump professionally but he recently confided to me that he no longer had any desire to do so whatsoever.

“Kid, years ago I used to size up every fence and every barrier – How high was it? How wide was it? What was on the other side? Would I have to immediately start a climb or do a turn? The adrenalin would start to flow and the challenge was absolutely irresistible. Pure poetry in motion....that’s what the audience used to say about me. I got applause both entering and exiting the ring. Ah, it was the life..... Now, however, I am older as well as wiser. The old knees just can’t take it.”

Gentle Reader, do you see what I mean? The zing is gone for these old guys. MY zing, however, is still intact. Plus, there is something else. Something that we need to keep between me and thee. Can you keep a secret? Raise your right hand and promise me.

Do you remember the movie “Shrek” and what happened to Princess Fiona at night? By day she was just your regular stereotypical princess-type. Ah, but at night....she was transformed into her real self, a more robust sort of girl, i.e. an ogre.

This is very similar to what happens to me. By day, I am a cutesy little guy – a bit rotund with a long, dreamy mane, gorgeous brown eyes, and charming ways. Women and children swoon over me. Even strong men start to feel a little melty. I have that effect on people, and I take a certain pride in that. But here’s the real deal – sometime after sunset a feeling comes over me. It first starts as a sweaty feeling, then my legs feel strange and a little sore. There’s a sunburst of energy inside me and BAM! I am a full-size horse, on par with Amigo, Renegade, and all the rest.

We have a fabulous time at night! We do have to watch the noise, however, because we do not wish to draw any attention to ourselves. We run races by the light of the moon, we have dances, we organize hay fights. In short, the ranch nightlife is a blast!!! Believe me, no one says, “Look at that cute little fella” then. I can run and kick with the best of them. Force = Mass X Acceleration....when I’m my real 1300 lb. self, I can hold my own. Any horse who thinks I cannot just needs to wait until nightfall for his comeuppance (NOTE: Even the mighty must sleep). One hour before dawn, there’s this rushing sound in my ears and bingo, it’s all over and I’m a little guy again. It’s the best of both worlds! (This tale was inspired by a story written by Carson Miller, a second-grader with a first-class imagination).



(*Red Cloud cont pg 2*) Red Cloud is slowly started back on feed to keep her from colicing. Also, to give her digestive track a chance to start working correctly again. It is always important that starved horses be given good probiotics to get the gut working again.

Please consider being Red Cloud’s Angel Sponsor. She is so worth saving! She needs love and care and I think she is going to be fine.

### Quote of the Month:

If the horse does not enjoy his work, his rider will have no joy.

- H.H. Isenbart

I have put up 2 donation jars for the HPS in my town, and have collected over \$20.00 in the past 6 weeks! One of the jars is at my after school care and the other is at the local feed store. My big sister also helps me by giving me all of her tip change from being a part-time waitress at a local restaurant in the town. The reason that I am doing this is because I know that the HPS needs all that it can get and that every penny counts. I saw how pitiful the horses looked upon arrival and how much they needed help, so it was the least I could do to help out. There’s more donations to come, and I’m willing to help out as much as I can!

Love: Abby Kluttz, Age: 10

## Tetanus Anyone? by Roberta McCardle

Is your tetanus shot up to date? If you come out to the ranch, it is very important to have a current tetanus shot. One of the questions on the HPS membership application asks if the applicant has had a tetanus shot. There's a reason for this....tetanus is more prevalent in farm and ranch environments.

Tetanus shots are good for ten years. I knew I had one in 1999 when I began to work at the ranch and recently got another one. Yes, the shot site gets a little sore, but it is nothing compared to the seriousness and misery of getting tetanus. Many large companies with an Employee Health department will give an employee a tetanus shot. Shots are also available through the County Health Department...or you can go to your family doctor's office and get one there. It doesn't matter where you get it as long as you get it!

(Unemployment cont pg 1) The worming has taken place, but we need to wait to do her dental until she is stronger. Of course she has rain rot on her back. We are progressing slowly with her as to not upset her or cause undo stress.

She is a small horse and not much taller than her buddy Diego. It has helped her settle in to have Diego as a friend. In her previous home, the other horses would chase her off from the feed which kept her stressed. We put her on Aloe Vera juice to fend off the possibility of ulcers. (Anytime a horse is this thin, you can figure they have ulcers from the stress of lack of feed).

When Concho was placed in the round pen, she attacked the pile of hay. She is doing well eating our soft leafy green hay, whereas, the owner reported she would not eat the hay she had provided. It is so important to buy quality hay for horses. She loves her soaked alfalfa cubes and looks for her meal as soon as the feeders arrive.

Concho is not a very trusting horse; it is going to take some time to win her over. The owner told me Concho would only come to her..... when she felt like it. When things are quiet here and everyone has left, she will come up to me. Both Diego and Concho are now in the small front field by themselves so they have more room to move around. It also gives them a little bit of fresh grass to nibble. I would expect her to have a full recovery over time.

The horses keep coming in, but the applications for placement are few and far between.

In Loving Memory of Muzzy and Duron. By Janet & Lou

In Memory of Pauline Stanek. By Leigh Graham

In Memory of Wrangler, by Roberta McCardle

In Memory of Allen Wolf ex MFH Mecklenburg Hounds. By Alston Good Wolf

In Honor of Father  
Thomas Clement's  
birthday from his  
namesake "Padre."

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Please use my donation for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ New Barn Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Use

Angel Sponsor: \$20 for 1 month \$60 for 3 months \$120 for 6 months \$240 for 1 year

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Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Would you like the above recipient to receive "Over Herd" - Yes No

Your message for the newsletter:

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

# Monthly Donations & Contributors

May the Lord Bless You this Easter Season for your endless giving to the horses. For without your generosity, the horses would not be given "new life".



Thank you to MacKenzie Stall, who chose to raise donations for HPS to earn her Girl Scouts Bronze Award. MacKenzie raised \$200 for this project.

**In Memory of Denali, who left me behind in April four years ago. By Dottie Rebhan**

**In Honor of Amy Doss on her birthday. Love, Dianne Doub**

Happy Birthday to my mother, Agnes Sovis.  
Love, Frank Zinke.

**In Memory of Carole & Ronnie Massey's beloved horse, Jasmine, who went to the rainbow bridge March 11, 2009. By Alex & Carolyn Alexander**

**In Honor of Tiffany Ferebee. By Charlotte, Chris, Christopher & Collins Ferebee**

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Treasurer	Kari Fingerlow	704-756-7375	karifingerlow@aol.com
Secretary	Shirley Hengel	704-992-6300	shengel@bizjournals.com
Executive Director	Joanie Benson	704-855-2978	hps@horseprotection.org
Newsletter	Sandy Daily	704-279-0427	sdaily@carolina.rr.com
Event Coordinator	Gayle Cannon	704-483-0461	gayle43@charter.net
Web Administration	Deborah Baker	704-855-1267	de_bakre@yahoo.com
Web Administration	Stephanie Maleady	704-560-9712	slmaleady@windstream.net
Medical Needs	Katie Muir	508-527-4314	kmuir@jrmracing.com
New Member Orientation			
Café Press	Kathy Haw	704-782-0390	kahaw@us.ibm.com
Pet Finders	Heather & Ian Yarnot	704- 779-2908	<a href="mailto:ian_yarnot@hotmail.com">ian_yarnot@hotmail.com</a>
Historian	Angie Shuping	704-637-6042	shupingangela@yahoo.com
Riding Program Coordinator	Katie Simmons	704-904-7709	KSIM7300@ctc.net
Equine Placement Review	Heidi Crowley	704-636-1191	highd45acp@bellsouth.net

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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.

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