

## SAVE THESE DATES:

August 5th,  
Saturday:

Farrier & Volunteer Day

September 2nd,  
Saturday:

Farrier & Volunteer Day

We need all the hands we can get on these two 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!

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

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

“A man that don’t love a horse; there is something the matter with him.”

~Will Rogers,  
American entertainer

## This month’s featured horse: Night

Night is a large, 19-year-old gelding with a sweet disposition and excellent health that is looking for a sponsor ...or a home! This beautiful, black Thoroughbred integrates smoothly into new groups of horses. He responds to a light touch, is gentle under saddle, and loves to go trail riding with his friends.

He is the only horse that HPS has ever had to repossess. Night originally came to HPS 3 years ago with a sore back and possible navicular. After rehabilitation, he was placed in a home, however, the couple that took him went through a divorce and ceased taking care of Night. We found him with no water, hay, or grazing pasture.



Night glances sweetly at the camera while Nathan Wright, Catawba College intern, holds his lead. It is easy to see how beautiful a creature Night is. This gentle boy deserves a forever home.

Electric fences were down and Night was roaming looking for food. The couple refused to mend the wires to repair the fence so Night was brought back to the sanctuary.

If you are interested in sponsoring a small portion of Night’s care or in giving him a loving home, please contact us at

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

## Equine Cushing’s Syndrome

HPS is now caring for three equines that have been diagnosed with Cushing’s syndrome: our new boy, Tulsa; little Snickerdoodle and Nevada. We also had Montana tested once again and I still think he is a Cushing’s horse. His thyroid levels were too low and he is now on medication. HPS does not use the normal prescription medications to treat the horses. They only treat symptoms and seem to help for only a year or two. Some of the side effects are terrible. Nevada and Snickerdoodle had already gone into laminitis that turned to severe founder.

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## 37 Incredible Reasons to Donate

There are currently 37 horses at HPS. Some of the horses have no health issues so you may not hear much about them through the months. However, all horses need to be fed and cared for twice daily not to mention scheduled dental and farrier care throughout the year. Please pick a horse and become an Angel Sponsor. Some of the horses have never had a sponsor in all the years they have been at the sanctuary. This is a great way to care for a horse and show your love for equines without having to sell your home to move to a farm!

Below is a list of our current “babies” and a brief description of each horse’s situation.

1. **Amigo-23, Quarter Horse**, is still very thin even though he has gained about 175 pounds. He has 100’s of pounds yet to gain. He is happy to be out with “The Little Guys” and is making friends with Starlight. We have not been able to detect any problem other than starvation. He is so happy not to be alone any longer.
2. **Blackberry-25, Morgan – Quarter Horse**, has adjusted well to life at the sanctuary and loves being with other horses after 20 years of being alone in a field. She is fully recovered and cute as a button. We hope to start her back under saddle soon.
3. **Cheyenne-17, Saddlebred**, is in training at Tamara Eichorn’s stable in Gold Hill. She is doing great under saddle. Cheyenne had an eye problem, but with Tamara’s care, she is recovering fine. She is going to make someone a nice trail horse.
4. **Dakota-17, Saddlebred**, good old Dakota is such a tall fixture at the sanctuary. Because of his fear issues, he will stay with HPS, and at seventeen hands, you would not expect this. We have been treating a strange ailment where his face swelled up for no apparent reason. The swelling came back after the first round of antibiotics so he is on a longer-term treatment.



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### Equine Cushing’s Syndrome *Continued from page 1.*

Equine Cushing’s Syndrome is a relatively common condition but is difficult to treat with conventional medication. There is usually a nonmalignant tumor on the pituitary gland. Some research shows hyperplasia or the pars intermedia occurs more frequently than an actual adenoma. Both result in the same symptoms. This can cause increased endogenous cortisol, insulin resistance, elevated adrenocorticotropic, and decreased thyroid hormone levels. Symptoms include no loss of the winter coat in summer, laminitis, weight problems of over or underweight, frequent infections, lower immunity to parasites, intestinal wall integrity and infertility. The incidence of the syndrome is increasing and the condition is being seen in younger horses. What causes Cushing’s to occur is not known. One theory is chronic stress.

The Cushing’s based laminitis may be associated with poor integrity of the gut wall. When laminitis occurs in the winter, it may be time to check for Cushing’s. High sugar diets of fresh grass and sweet feed can increase the chances of diabetes and laminitis. Diabetics are prone to infections due to the high levels of sugar in their blood.

Colic, low grade and/or recurrent have been reported as signs associated with this condition. Poor teeth with multiple dental abnormalities often may be from a general breakdown of the systems. Increased intake of water and huge volumes of urine, soreness, weakness, and lethargic can indicate the need for testing. A low dose dexamethasone suppression test is perhaps the most often used. The veterinarian needs to draw blood early in the morning. The horse can only have hay the day of the test and no feed or treats. The second drawing of blood for testing will be done in the evening. A chemistry screen is also advisable since some of these horses have a variety of metabolic problems associated with their condition, including liver disease and chronic infections. Many are prone to skin fungus and thrush. These are expensive horses to care for, but with your help Nevada, Tulsa, Snickerdoodle and Nevada can live long healthy lives.

### When I am an Old Horsewoman

When I am an old horsewoman... I shall wear turquoise and a straw cowboy hat that doesn't match and doesn't suit me.

And I shall spend my social security on white wine and carrots and sit in the alleyway of my barn listening to my horses breathe. I will sneak out in the middle of a summer night and ride the dappled mare across the moonstruck meadow, if my old bones will allow.

And when people come to call, I will smile and nod as I walk them past the gardens to the barn and show, instead, the flowers growing there and the stalls fresh-lined with straw.

I will learn to shovel and sweat and wear hay in my hair as if it were a jewel. And I will be an embarrassment to all who have not yet found the peace in being free to love a horse as a friend. A friend who waits at midnight hour with muzzle and nicker and patient eyes for the kind of woman I will be when I am old.

~~Author Unknown

In memory of Katie Harrison.

In honor of Maggie and Ed  
Dunham, "Real Horse People."  
~By Patricia Scudder

In honor of my dear friend  
Susan Winget.  
~By Spunky Dagenhart

Happy birthday to Barbara  
Moore.  
~By Anita Engle

**Miss Angel LeHouf**

Gallant Pony of Dauntless Courage  
August 19, 2002

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever:  
Its loveliness increases; it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing."  
~Sadly missed by Roberta



## 37 Incredible Reasons to Donate

*Continued from page 2.*

5. **Dream Catcher-16, Quarter Horse**, needs a new loving home, but he has proved to be a handful under saddle. His health is perfect. We just need to find the time to work with him more.
6. **Feather-26, Saddlebred**, was as skinny as a horse can be and still walking around. She has done wonderfully and only has to gain about 100 more pounds. Feather does not seem to have any other health issues. She has made friends with Nevada and Padre.
7. **Fire Breeze-39, Arabian Cross**, is doing great. He has slowed down in the heat, but still is trailing Morning Glory around like a lovesick puppy. Morning Glory hides from him from time to time, which drives him crazy. The veterinarian says he is forming cataracts.
8. **Freedom-11, Register Quarter Horse**, has returned to a normal weight and his hooves look normal. He still has some lameness from an old knee injury. Looking at the pictures reminds me of how bad his hooves were when he came to us from Catawba County.
9. **Irish Night-43, Thoroughbred/Saddlebred cross**, is an amazing horse. She is like the energizer bunny...just keeps on going! She has dropped a little more weight during the heat than we like, but Irish is not like other horses. If we give her an extra pound of feed, it will be left in her feed bucket. Irish shows no signs of EPM as long as she receives her supplements. She now has a repartee of about five different funny faces she will make at you during feeding time. She loves to hear us laugh at her.
10. **Jingle Bells-26, Quarter Horse**, needs another 50 pounds to complete her recovery from starvation. She has a slight weakness in a hind-quarter, but otherwise is in good health. She is a sweet easygoing big girl, who we hope will find a loving home.
11. **Liberty- 10, Registered Paint Horse**, from Catawba County. Liberty is not doing as well as Freedom in recovering from the horrible neglect of their hooves and starvation. His weight is perfect, but he has a dropped sole and one of his front legs really causes him lameness. Getting kicked in his elbow did not help either.
12. **Majestic-14, Tennessee Walking Horse**, has not done as well after this trimming. She chooses to lie out in the heat of the day, when she could lay in the shade or her stall. The Adequan that we have been giving her does not seem to help much yet. It can take such a long time for the horses with such savior founder to recover.
13. **Midnight-15, Thoroughbred/Saddlebred cross**, has changed so very much since she first arrived at the sanctuary. Deborah's hard work has paid off. She is so much more relaxed, looks for attention and even seems to enjoy Deborah's short rides with her.
14. **Montana-22, Thoroughbred**, is doing very well even with his long list of problems. His latest round of tests has shown a low thyroid. He has not been on the medication very long, and yet it already seems to be helping. He shows no signs of the narcolepsy, COPD or EPM that plagued him for so long. The signs of arthritis are now hard to detect. Under Lisa Murray's watchful eyes, every spot or nip is doctor'd.
15. **Moon Glow-24, Appendix Horse**, will always have hoof problems since she was never trimmed before coming to HPS. She will always be a Pasture Pal and no one has ever shown an interest in providing a home for her. Her best friend is Summer and she hates to be separated from her.

*Continued on page 4.*

## 37 Incredible Reasons to Donate *Continued from page 3.*

16. **Morning Glory-36, Quarter Horse**, had a bad time of it last winter and everyone was concerned for her. The spring changed everything. She decided to try to make friends with Olympia, who was not the least bit interested, and chased her all over the big field for several days. Fire Breeze spent his time trying to chase off Tulsa and Quicksilver who are often with Olympia.
17. **Navajo-41, Arabian**, often shoots out of his stall as if he is at the starting gate in a race. Last fall he became upset when there were several horse races around the field and he came in forth twice. Now he will not race with the other horses. (It really hurt his ego.) He is in good health and still wants to go for a trail ride, but he has to be in the lead or it is a fight to make him walk. He is amazing!
18. **Nevada -28, Saddlebred**, is still a champion to us. He is recovering from long-term founder in all four hooves. The last bad hoof has started to reattach to the laminate and coffin bone. In eight months to a year, he should be perfect. Nevada has been diagnosed with Cushing's syndrome. We have him on supplements to help him with this devastating illness. This is a nonmalignant tumor on the pituitary gland. He has been kept underweight because of the founder and now we can build him back to a normal weight.
19. **Night-18, Thoroughbred**, is a pleasure to look at and to ride. He has one of the best personalities. He is not a beginner's horse, but with some experience, anyone would enjoy him. He is waiting for the right new home.
20. **Olympia-26, Hanoverian**, is a very special horse. She is settling into the sanctuary and has gained almost all of the weight she needed. She received a kick in the elbow that required a few stitches, but is recovering with no ill effects. Blackberry and Salida have also spent a great deal of time trying to make friends. Blackberry is now hanging out with her. There was a lot of laughter when finally she picked a name by shaking her head with three exaggerated head bobs. Some lucky person is going to get a great horse.
21. **Padre-18, Paso Fino**, is an incredible little guy. He is not ready for a new home, but it will not be long. Being put back under saddle has made all the difference in his recovery from founder. He is a pleasure to ride. Some lucky child or small adult is going to get a wonderful horse.
22. **Quicksilver-12, Appaloosa/Quarter Horse**, is a beautifully marked gray. He has an affectionate personality too. The bad news is that he will never be able to be ridden, because of the dropped pastern in the back and the injured tendon. Help us find a good loving home for this excellent horse.
23. **Sahara-18, Arabian**, is great ride. She likes to go English and she is not quite ready for a trail ride yet. We had to move her out of the "Rowdy" field (now changed to the "Joyful field"), since Tonka was excessively interested in the girls and thinks he is still a stud.
24. **Salida-14, Quarter Horse**, is as pretty as they come. Okay, so she is overweight and looks pregnant. She definitely likes being a field lounge lizard and is not very interested in any kind of work. Salida can make the funniest faces I have ever seen to show her displeasure. However, on the ground Salida is a doll baby to work with and loves the attention.
25. **Santa Fe-13, Quarter Horse**, has come a long way in trusting people in the time he has been with us. His body displays the injuries that he has sustained, and many look like they could have come from beatings and others from terrible accidents. It is better to approach him from the right side so he can see us coming. I do not think he has been blind in the left eye too long since he has not adjusted to it yet. Soon he will be ready to go back under saddle.
26. **Seneca-9, Tennessee Walking Horse**, is a lot easier going than he was. There are some people he likes much better than other people. It is difficult to tell if he is ready for the next step of going back under saddle. Any volunteers to help with his ground work?
27. **Snickerdoodle-28, donkey**, is still best friends with Nevada. They have been together for 26 years and now they share the same illness: Cushing's syndrome and founder. Snickerdoodle is doing better now that she is on Adequan and we have changed the way she was being trimmed.
28. **Spirit-28, Arabian**, and "Spirit" is the perfect name for him. He is full of fun. We have had a time with an eye ulcer that required surgery twice, three types of medication and finally he has fully recovered. He is going to make someone a fun horse for trail rides. Love the Arabian prance!
29. **Starlight-19, Thoroughbred**, is recovering at an incredible rate. It will not be long and she will have all of her weight back. There has never been one problem with behavior. She is going to make someone's life feel complete.
30. **Summer-34, Saddlebred**, has had quite a life, show horse, injured then brood mare, miss diagnosed with brain lesions... that is when she came to HPS. We were helping the owner by letting her be put to sleep here, but then we stopped it and asked if we could keep her. She had EPM instead and was treated for this in 1999. Last year the symptoms returned and we are treating her with natural supplements. She is doing wonderful and one day she may wear a saddle again.

*Continued on page 5.*

*Reminder: If you have email access and would prefer/be willing to receive your Over Herd issues via email, PLEASE contact Shelly Walsh at 704-724-0004 or 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.

*Continued from page 4.*

- 31. **Tacoma-4, Standardbred**, is vacationing at Leatherwood, NC attending training classes with Susie Lurz. He is doing great and hopefully will be ready for a new loving home soon.
- 32. **Tonka-6, Mustang**, is as showy as can be with his wavy mane and tail. He is much more relaxed now but would benefit from a professional trainer. He thinks he is still a stud and goes after the mares when they are in season. The two mares had to be removed from the "Joyful field." Anyone interested in helping with his groundwork?
- 33. **Tulsa-21, Quarter Horse**, is an ex-roping horse. He has had an old injury to a back pastern area, but it gives him very little problem. He is being treated with DMSO and supplemented with MSM. The latest tests done showed he has Cushing's syndrome. We hope to control the illness with natural supplements and vitamins. He should be able to live a long and happy life. Finding him a loving home is going to be a little difficult because of his illness.
- 34. **Willow-31, Quarter Horse**, has never been under saddle since she has been at the sanctuary. The past owner tried to trim her hooves instead of using a good farrier and ruined her hooves. On and off she has a problem with one front hoof and stone bursas. Her sole is right on the ground. Moon Glory has the same problem from lack of trimming for years.
- 35. **Wind Song-14, Thoroughbred**, is so in need of her own loving person. Her hooves are almost fully recovered from the horrific founder she had when she arrived. We had to have Caslick's surgery done since Tonka thinks he is Mr. Stud. She had to be moved to the "Little Guys" field to recover. She tries the fences continually to get back in with her boyfriend Tonka.
- 36. **Wrangler-22, Appaloosa**, is doing wonderful on the EPM supplements. He no longer needs the eye medication for dry eyes, and he walks much better, except for an old injury to a front knee.
- 37. **Yuma-32, Quarter Horse**, is now on EPM supplements. He was showing breathing problems and dragging his hooves. There was no sense in waiting until he got worse. He has recovered all except the last few pounds. Yuma and Feather are still best friends.

### Monthly Donations

- Sheila & James Austin Jr.
- Vera Bennett
- Karen Koch Berger
- Helen & John Bishop
- Deborah Blythe
- Leslie A. Brown
- JoAnn Burluson
- Patricia Cade
- Gayle Cannon
- Steven & Pam Carlton
- Frances & Billy Caudle
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Donation From: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
Please use my donation for: \$\_\_\_\_\_ New Barn Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_ General Use  
Angel Sponsor: \$20 /1month \$60 /3 months \$120/6 months \$240/1 year  
Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, or Angel Sponsor (please circle)? Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
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Would you like the above recipient to receive "Over Herd" - **Yes** **No**  
Your message for the newsletter:  
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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.**

## Horse Protection Society of North Carolina



2135 Miller Road  
China Grove, NC 28023

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

### 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

## HPS Officers

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