



OVER HERD

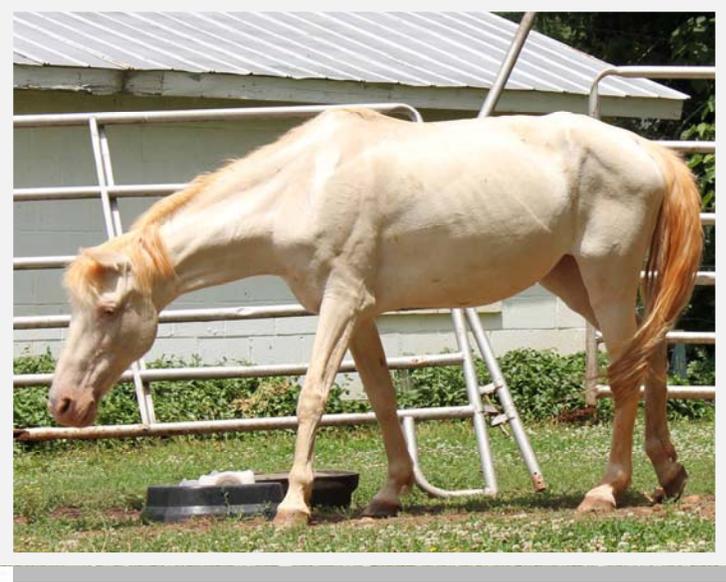
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Newsletter

August 2013

As Sweet as Frosting

Once again Iredell County Animal Control called concerning an equine in need. Frosty is just a small pony-sized horse about 15 years old. Frosty is white and her mane and tail are colored red from rolling in the Carolina mud. A good bath will change this quickly, but it would have been fun if that was her coloration!



Frosty's body condition is not as bad as we often see so she should recover quickly at her young age. She was surrendered along with a couple of other horses that were able to be placed in other homes by Animal Control. This always makes it difficult to learn anything about the horses' history when they come from Animal Control. Frosty was able to have her dental work done, but Rain (read her story on Page 2) will have to wait until she has recovered more and her heart murmur lessens. Most of the starved horses have heart murmurs and recover fully from this condition as they gain weight. In a few months we will be able to determine what type of training Frosty has had. She is a little spooky when doing farrier work and just needs to realize no one here is going to hurt her. Too many horses are handled roughly when things like farrier care need to be done rather than going slow and allowing the horse to relax.

HPS is hopeful that there will be less abuse calls because of all the rain and cooler than normal temperatures allowing the fields to continue to grow and provide enough grass. Come meet Frosty and Rain and pick one to become an Angel Sponsor. These wonderful little horses can use all the help they can get!

*New volunteers are always welcome at the sanctuary.
You do not need horse experience!*

A Few Miles from Virginia



Last February I received information about a horse located in Rockingham County close to the Virginia line. This is too far for us to try and conduct an investigation and work with the owners. I told this caller how to best help the horse and if they were able to get the owners to release the horse, we would come and get it.

Recently I received a call from another person about a horse in Rockingham County that they were hoping to save from a bad situation. Little did I know that this was the same horse I had heard about in February! Both people were working to get the same horse away from the

abusive owners. The original caller was able to secure the little pony-sized horse of only about eight years old. As soon as I saw pictures of the horse, I knew we needed to get her here as quickly as possible!

The young mare has a body condition score of only a one. “Rain” has had no care in the last year or more, not even hoof trimming. Owners like hers always have a zillion excuses and of course, it is never their fault. None of the adults in the household are employed so there is little money for animal care. There were un-spayed and un-neutered dogs having puppies and little children running around with no shoes on..... anyone hear of hook worms?

It is my understanding that Animal Control finally put the fear of God in them, giving them 10 days to make things right or charges would be filed. We often hear this and then the owners finally get the idea they are in trouble. All too often, though the fast solution they choose is to lock the horse out of sight in a building and that’s what happened in this case.

Tom McCardle is wonderful at driving our truck and trailer and getting us in and out of tight spots. I will happily handle the horses and leave the driving to Tom. Our only problem is we get talking about things and once in a while, miss a turn! We always put fresh hay in the back of the trailer for the horse to nibble during the trip. This little girl dove into the huge pile of hay and polished off 98% of it on the two hour trip to the sanctuary!

Frosty, our other little rescue (her story is on Page 1), was delighted to have a new little companion and so was Rain. She had been by herself for over a year and was very unhappy. When are people going to learn that horses are herd animals and should never be without the companionship of another equine? Horses don’t speak cow or goat or any other language except equine.

Rain will melt your heart and would love a visit! Angel Sponsors would be a great help!

News From the Herd

Once again we have been reminded that no matter how carefully our horses' environment has been constructed, we cannot fully protect a horse from themselves. This is the second time that Midnight has done serious injury to herself. The first time she did a rocking horse type of buck and came down on the top of the stall wall jamming her tail head and compressing vertebrae.

Lisa Amos-Knowles always arrives early for morning feeding and the first thing she does is walk the barns and check for any problems that may have occurred overnight. Lisa found Midnight in a terrible situation and ran to the house to get me. She had kicked so hard that her back hoof had gone in between the top front rail and the next board. (There is only a 2" gap between boards.) Her hoof was caught and she was on her back, with the front legs crunched against the front of the stall wall and her head extended outside the open stall door.

I ran to get the Sawzall and an extension cord and quickly called Deborah Baker and asked her to call our veterinarians and to come to the sanctuary as quickly as possible. I cut the top board of the stall wall to free Midnight's back leg, she was cast and had to be rolled in order to be able to get up. I had just completed tying a rope on the inside front leg and the outside back leg when Deborah arrived. I was afraid to tie the rope around the leg that had been caught since we could not determine what damage had been done. Deborah took the lead rope on Midnight's halter to help roll her head, Lisa had the inside front leg rope and I took the back leg. Together we were able to roll her on to her side and get her to a position where she could get up. It took several tries but finally she was able to stand. There was a pool of perspiration under where she had been laying.

Cloud had been hovering over Midnight this whole time and followed us to the med stall and continued to stay with her for the whole morning refusing to leave for her breakfast, so she was fed in the stall next to Midnight.

We administered Banamine to Midnight because she was colicing. Dr. Mary Gochnauer arrived and treated Midnight for tying-up, colic and the leg injury, which turned out to be much worse than it looked. The opening was only the size of a 50 cent piece and was to the bone. There was tissue damage above and below the opening.

Midnight had to have many bags of IV fluids for the colic and to help flush her kidneys from the tying up, which can destroy a horse's kidneys. We are giving cherry juice to help the kidneys, Aloe Vera juice for ulcers, vitamin E- selenium for the tying up, Banamine twice a day for inflammation, two types of very strong antibiotics and the pressure bandage has to be changed every day and the wound cleaned. *(Continued on Page 4)*

News From the Herd (Cont'd from Page 3)

Deborah Baker has taken charge of Midnight's leg care and is doing a great job! Pressure bandages have to be put on correctly or they can cause more damage. The veterinarian wants Midnight kept up for two to three months..... and Midnight is not happy about this! She is still bucking and kicking out at any horse that ventures too close to her stall.

It will take months to see if Midnight will have a full recovery. There is a chance that the bone was damaged and this may not show up for five or six months.

To date Midnight has needed five veterinarian visits and her bill is \$2,058.00. She also required over \$200 in supplies for her leg, sterile pads, cotton and vet wrap, not counting the supplies that we had on hand.

Sonoma had a choke and there seems to be some obstruction in the esophagus causing issues even with his feed soaked.

Baby and Desperado had middle gas colics that were quickly resolved with veterinarian care.

Honors and Memorials

In honor of Ann Harrison's "big 60th birthday.

By Richard Steady

In honor of Sybil Athey's birthday.

By Kristi Hartwig

In loving memory of the Great Comanche who departed this life on July 14, 2000. He was a wonderful horse. Forever in my heart.

By Roberta McCardle

In honor of Winifred Littlejohn, my Mom.

By Pamala Chandler

In honor of Ann Harrison's birthday.

By Beverly Padgett

In memory of a wonderful Mom—Helen Greenfield—who is missed daily!

By Janet Elmo

Diamond B Saddle 4-H Club once again made a generous donation to aid in the care of the horses.

A Huge Horsey Thank You!

A Special Thanks To Our Wonderful Contributors

Lisa Asmo-Knowles	Brown Hobbie	Lisa M. Slatt & Alan Spanos
Sybil P. Athey	Sue Immen	Sharon R. & Jerry Smith
Judy Blackmon	Bonnie M. Johnson	Tacy K. Smith
Teresa Bonk	Mary Jurgel	Richard Steady
Joanne Bunch	Teri Kaler	Mary E. Stout
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Dr. Leslie C. Henson		

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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



September Newsletter Notice

Anyone who would like to have an Honor or Memorial placed for September newsletter needs to have the information to HPS by August 20th. We have to close the information for the newsletter by that date in order to have it to the printer in time for delivery the first of August.

Summer is here...