

Over Herd

Volume 10 Issue 2

Reminders:

~Thank you to those that have allowed us to email the newsletter. We have moved over 300 people to email! If there is anyone else that would enjoy receiving Over Herd via email, please let us know. This saves HPS precious pennies!

~Your help is always welcome at the ranch. Please contact Joanie if you are able to come out to volunteer some of your time. It is a great family activity! Get out in the fresh air, move around, learn something, love on some amazing animals, and feel great bonding with your family.

~If you prefer to send a gift card donation in lieu of monetary donations Tractor Supply Company is a great choice. We can get many supplies there.

~There are many horses that are ready for their new home. Please spread the word to as many people as possible about HPS and the wonderful animals ready for new families. Check our updated website for photos and descriptions or better yet, come see them in person!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

Horses and children, I often think, have a lot of the good sense there is in the world. ~Josephine Demott Robinson

Good Samaritan Saves Horse

What do you do when your neighbor no longer cares about a horse? Everyday you are watching him go downhill. This Good Samaritan neighbor brought the horse over to his property to care for him. The owner would have sent him to auction or given him over to anyone who came along. Our Good Samaritan knew this could be the horse's demise and did not want to see him end up in the wrong hands. His care worked well for sometime until the drought depleted the grass in the fields. The old boy lost weight. Normal feed and hay did not help much to put the weight back. The Good Samaritan had his own horses to care for and with the increased cost of hay, this poor old fellow was just too much for him to deal with. He knew he needed medical care and a complete check up with a veterinarian.



The typical horse owner has no idea how to care for the older horses. Most vets will give the pat answer to feed them senior feed. Often, the horse would have to eat huge amounts of feed to get what they need. Most of these products are not what is best for the older horses. Too many of the senior feeds are full of fillers. This just stresses the digestive system and does not add the nutrition that is needed. A high quality pellet feed is much better. A higher concentrated ...Continued on page 2

Snowstorm Sweeps the Ranch

By Ambe Lewis

Actually two arrived within weeks of each other, the one you immediately think of is the white stuff falling from the sky and covering the ground. We had that in January, but the more memorable Snowstorm to hit the ranch in my opinion was the return of a well loved albino appaloosa named Snowstorm. Stormy originally came to the ranch as a severely foundered stallion in May 1999. With a 10 to 12 degree rotation in his coffin bone he could not remain standing for long periods of time. When laminitis set in his owner had continued to over-feed him (cow feed) which quickly spiraled him into the severe founder he arrived with. We also learned he had been used as a breeding stallion, even with his small size and albino skin tone. Once he had regained some initial strength and was gelded he was able to return to the ranch to start the road to a full recovery. When I started volunteering at the ranch in spring of 2000 he was well on his way, so much so that he was about to be put under saddle and placed out in a foster home with a young girl. Well....saddle training did not go well, when the attempt was made to ride Stormy he proceeded to run up and down the fence line and generally misbehave. The girl was given a different horse. He was also the terror of feeding time. I believe his favorite game was to see how many times the feeders had to chase him around the triplex before he was caught or gave up and decided to go into his stall. Over the summer of 2000 my daughter Danielle (who was 11) began working with Stormy, who had developed a large abscess in his front hoof. A connection was made! Danielle could get Stormy to do things that others just didn't believe: stand quietly in his soaking bucket, come when called, and surprise....be an angel under saddle. We had always dreamed of having horses of our own and for three wonderful years Snowstorm and Salida lived with us under the long term foster care program. In 2005 Snowstorm was placed back out in the foster care program with a family who ran a boarding ...Continued on page 2



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facility and had horses of their own. Snowstorm was the daughter's trail horse. Due to the drought and hay shortage this year the family has closed up the boarding barn and moved their personal horses to a barn at their home. They requested that Stormy be returned to us at that time, so off went Kathy Haw to pick him up. He arrived back at the ranch on a warm Saturday and was promptly greeted by well wishers, Danielle (now a college freshman), Sue Wortman, and I had been anxiously awaiting his return. He is slightly overweight, with a fat crest on his neck but other than that seems like the Snowstorm we love. At just over 14 hands and with his fun personality, we hope it won't be long before another young girl wants to adopt him and call him hers. Please stop out at the ranch and meet Stormy, when he peeks out from under that mop of a forelock with that gorgeous blue eye your heart will melt.



Good Samaritan *cont'd from page 1...* feed is easier on their digestive system and they do not have to eat such an enormous amount. Sweet feed is the worst of all for any horse!

Shaman is a perfect name for the newest horse under our guardianship. His eyes are full of wisdom and his heart is open to loving his caregivers. His coat is long and shaggy hiding the bony body that body scores a one and half. Shaman is a Tennessee Walking Horse and is at least 31 to 37 years old. When we have his teeth done, it will be easier to tell his age. His front teeth are worn very short.

I love the older horses. There is something so special about them and I wish they could tell us their life story. I watched Shaman following a couple of members leaving his field and I could hear him saying, "Hey, come back here. I would like some more attention. Don't leave."

Shaman now has a chance for a happy healthy life. Thank you for making it possible for horses like Shaman and all the others to receive the care they need. Truly they are your horses. Without you they would not have a chance!

Ways to Help & Updated Website

Our website has been updated with all the horses and new articles. We have not had time to add the horses' stories yet and plan to keep working on the site. Hit your email list and send the website to all your contacts. Tell the story of the many horses at the sanctuary and remind folks of the drought and the need for donations. Please remember to mention the new barn the horses desperately need.

A huge thank you and God bless the folks who have sent in a donation towards the construction of the new barn. Some folks have sent donations with a notation of "Use where needed." This allows us the freedom of applying some of the funds to provide for the horses and also towards the new barn.

The expenses keep rising. The feed has gone up \$.50 a bag. We have already been warned that the cost of round bales will be going up \$5.00 a bale after spring cutting. This is all understandable given the huge increase in fuel costs. All costs just keep going up! We are cutting back everywhere possible without putting the horses in jeopardy.

One of the best ways to help is to tell HPS's story to friends, family and co-workers. Give them a copy of the newsletter or send them to the website. Leave copies in break rooms, vet offices and other places where people have to wait for appointments. Leave several so folks feel free to take one with them. You may be responsible for a horse finding just the right loving home or increase needed donations. There are still so many people who have no idea HPS is here caring for so many horses in need. We do not have one application for adoption on hand at the present time.

Several of our devoted feeders have health issues preventing them from being able to feed. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact the sanctuary. I guarantee you will learn a tremendous amount. Weekdays are our most difficult time to locate additional help. If feeding and doctoring the horses is not your thing, we have several other volunteer options. Please contact the sanctuary by phone or email. We can use your help!

News from the Sanctuary

The sad news is that Baby died in his stall. The vets felt that the infection had already gotten into an organ or the stress was just too much and his heart gave out. This is the 8th horse here, out of the hundreds and hundreds, that we could not bring back to health for at least a window of time. Each one is engraved in my heart. All 8 had a secondary horrific problem along with starvation. The others were humanely let go by a veterinarian. Would we try again with a horse like Baby? Yes. That is what we do!

Vaquero

Vaquero had days of fighting for his life. The vets were here everyday for days. It all started with Vaquero rolling in the field. He normally does not roll. So right off I knew something was very wrong. His gut sounds were extreme. Vaquero felt so bad that he was not interested in eating. Thank God for the hospital stall where he had to live for over a week. At first we thought he had an intestinal bug causing gas and diarrhea. It was treated like colic and a nasal tube gave oil and fluids. IV fluids and antibiotics were given around the clock. We had to withhold food and within several days an impaction was detected. Thank you to the members who stayed with him while he got his IV fluids. None of us were voicing our concerns that his cancer may be causing the problems he was suffering. The first internal check let us know that the three plum size tumors had shrunk to small hard knobbls. The cancer treatment we were trying was working! Vaquero was a wonderful patient. He understood we were trying to help as we administered shots of penicillin morning and night. He was later changed to a very expensive antibiotic that was given very slowly into the catheter. He let us know that this felt terrible, but allowed us to continue. Finally he passed the impaction, but had developed ulcers during his confinement. He would nibble his hay, but turned up his nose at his feed. We had to give him Aloe Vero juice morning and evening. After several more days in the hospital stall, Vaquero was back to eating his feed and could be turned out. Vaquero is not back on his cancer treatment and we pray to see continual improvement.

Sierra

We have to start Sierra back on the same treatment. We are fairly sure she has cancer. She is just not gaining as she should and other indicators make me feel this is her problem. Please say a prayer for this pretty girl. She has had a terrible life of neglect and deserves to have a life of good care and health.



HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY

Wishing Lois Hunt a happy birthday. ~By Mary Paige Hunt

Susan Hanley, a horse woman I admire, is honored by Ruth G. Shaw. Fire Breeze has been sponsored in Susan's name.

In honor of my traveling buddy, Dottie Rebhan. ~By Leigh Graham
In honor of Lois Hunt. ~By L. Gordon Hunt
In honor of my grandmother, Margaret Reed. ~By Doris & Lemuel Smith
In honor of Mrs. Barbara Sanford, Mr. & Mrs. John Williams and Mrs. Amy McGuire. ~From Cathy Mayfield and her staff at Pretty Pups
In honor of my grandmother, Margaret Reed. ~By Christianna Noe & William Gaskin
In honor of Sharon & Jerry Smith. ~By Louise Hart Ross
In honor of Luida Ceuidera & Marie Kadan. ~By Cindy Brooks
In honor of the Barn Women of Hawks Meadow who have celebrated seven winter solstices together. ~Love Tree
In honor of Lucy Brock. ~By Meredith & Jim Thompson
In honor of Rick & Ruth Smith. ~By Karen R. Walsler
In honor of Mary Walters. ~By Ellie Sprink
In honor of Scott Clark and family. ~By WBT-AM & FM Radio
In honor of my niece, Morgan Beck. ~By Stephanie Collins
In honor of Betty Lentz's Birthday. Happy Birthday! ~By Floyd Lentz
In honor of Mr. Bill Becker celebrating his 70th Birthday. ~By Marilyn & Harry Swimmer

In memory of John & Dot Rebhan
In memory of Dakota. ~By Mary Walters
In memory of Largo, and the Wonder of Lamborghini, Windfall, and Mandolin. ~By Ruth G. Shaw
In memory of Kristen Leigh Hinds. ~By Vernon & Dorothy Sherrill
In memory of Kristen Hinds. ~By Mark Hinds

Sam, 4, and JuJu, 2, donated their Christmas money to help the horses. ~Love, parents Ruthie & Rick Smith

Elaine Hayes, a horse woman I admire, is honored by Ruth G. Shaw. Navajo has been sponsored in Eliane's name.

Happy Birthday to Lois Hunt. ~From Suzanne Weber

Monthly Donations

HPS runs on monthly donations. We could not do this without your support! Thank you.

Missy & Doug Anderson, Sheila & James Austin Jr., J.G. Bailey, Betty Lou Baker, Betty & W.T. Baker, Morgan Becker, Mr. Bill Becker, Vale & Dale Berns, Alice R. Bischoff, Helen & John Bishop, Judy Blackmon, Jill Walton Bogage, Barbara Braun, Catherine & Ken Briggs, Mary K. Britt, Lucy Brock, Cindy & Jeffrey Brooks, Pam & Steven Carlton, Frances & Billy Caudle, Evon Chalk, Mieke & Peter Chalmers, Barry & Glenda Childers, Alan B. Church, Scott Clark, Linda Cole Country Ride Saddle, Stephanie B. Collins, Courtney Conder & Mark Jessop, Barbara Conrad, Donald Cox, Elizabeth Creviston, Rita T. Curran, Patricia L. Curran, Spunky Dagenhart, Sandy & Frank Daily, Jodi & Todd Douthit, Debra Eident, Janet & Lou Elmo, Diane & Chris Etheridge, Marsha & Milton Evans, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, William Fingerlow & Kari Lines, Loretta L. Foreman, Barbara & Mark Gemme, Melynda & Nizar Ghuneim, Dan & Linda Gordon Family Foundation, Leigh Graham, Tina L. Hamlin, Susan Hanley Quietude Stud, Miriam Harris, Jackie L. Hatmaker, Mark & Sandra Hawkins, Elaine Hayes Lake Norman Dressage Center, Eddie Hendrix, Mark Hinds, Brown Hobbie, Christel P. Hoineycutt, Teresa B. Hollar, Christel P. Hoineycutt, Amber S. Hozey, L. Gordon Hunt, Lois Hunt, Mary Paige Hunt, Rebecca Hyde, R.S. Iscaro, Charlene Issak, Beth Jenkins, Margaret Kennedy, Stephen & Mary Kicinski, Susan Kotraba, Lillus Kurland, Joe & Meg Leidinger, Dean Lentz, Betty & Floyd Lentz, Floyd T. Lentz, Brittney & Ed Liddic, Kari Lines & Bill Fingerlow, Katherine B. Lofgren, Sulena & Richard Long, Donna & James Love, James Lowery, A. Burton Mackey, Jr., Janice & John Mahon, Cathy Mayfield Pretty Pups, Luann & Robert McCain, Roberta McCardle, S. M. Mencer, Susan B. Meyer, Elizabeth Milam, Norma B. & James Miller, Mary & Larry Monroe, Lisa Murray, Mary & Chuck Needham, Mary & Chuck Needham, Christianna Noe & William Gaskins, Colleen O'Malley, George D. Patterson Family Fund, Bruce C. Pethel, Melissa Pletcher, William Poole, Elvira Possinger, Barry & Ann Powlas, Margaret & Kenneth Quick, Sandra & Charles Quinn, Margaret Reed & Donis Willis, Judy Reuter, Fiona Ritchie Productions, Holly Robbins, Shawn & Duane Robinson, Louise Hart Ross, Michelle&Eddie&Ethan&Mallory&Lauren Ruggie, Alice R. Sangster, Monika & Bernard Schnacke, Ruth G. Shaw, Vernon & Dorothy Sherrill, Angela & Todd & Kristen Shuping, Side Walk Deli Patrons, Lois Simmons, Donis & Lemuel Smith, Ruthie & Rick Smith, Sharon & Jerry Smith, Ellie & Christopher Spink, David & Paula Stewart, Marilyn & Harry Swimmer
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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

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Welcome to the New Officers

HPS is blessed with some wonderful members that have stepped forward to accept positions as officers. I know I can count on everyone to pitch in and make the transition an easy one for our new governing officers. Thank you to everyone who has stepped forward to take a position.

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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.