

Over Herd

February 2004

Volume 6, Issue 2

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.

2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023

(704) 855-2978

On the Web at:

www.horseprotection.org

and www.angelfire.com/nc/horseprotsocnc/

Mark your Calendars:

Members Meeting
February 14th

Come early/stay late!
Lots of projects.

Lunch/Meeting at Noon.
Please bring a covered
dish to share.

Meet Montana

HPS has helped therapeutic riding stables in the past, when they had a horse they needed to find a home for. The stable had been hit hard with a drop off of support and had to move the horses to a boarding stable. A horse had been returned to the owner that she had sold years ago and now had ringbone. The horse could not be used at the stable. Another horse had developed a fetlock problem and could only be ridden at a walk. We had to tell the owner that at the present time, she needed to do everything possible to place the horses somewhere else first. They were able to place the one horse with a little blind girl.

During the conversation I mentioned that the officers had said we would take in the next two COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) horses in order to continue with our study and possible cure for this illness. The stable owner had placed a COPD horse with a nonprofit that kept a few animals for show on an old farm that was open to the public. She gave them the horse with high ringbone, and then



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Queenie

By Joan Benson

Many of the members have never taken the time to get to know Queenie. At times you will hear someone refer to her as "Mean Queen." It is true that she has never been a benevolent leader of the big barn herd. Queenie loves attention, but sometimes her actions would make some believe to the contrary. If another horse approaches within 25 feet while you are brushing her, the ears will go back, she will swing her head with teeth bared and may kick out. After being around her for a year or more folks may start to realize that these unattractive actions are not being directed at them, but towards the possible intrusion of another horse. Still it is not a pretty sight as she dances around acting as if she is going to take someone's head off.

Dottie Rebhan and thirty-four year old Queenie have built a wonderful relationship. I think Dottie's years as a teacher gave her infinite patience with all types of children, which had to be an advantage. Queenie now needs all the love, attention and prayers that she can get. She has been diagnosed with EPM (Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis). Many horses have been exposed to the protozoa and may never display the symptoms or have it get into their spinal column as it has with Queenie. When a horse has been under stress, often the protozoa will take hold. Queen injured herself kicking in her stall at feeding time. (A common practice for Queenie.) After several visits with the equine chiropractor, it was determined that her problem was neurological. Often the symptoms will display as a weakness of the hindquarter. Without treatment this will worsen until the horse can no longer stand.

There are two new treatments for this condition. Marquis by Bayer Company was the one Dr. Robin Smith felt would be the safest for Queenie. Dr. Smith wanted Queen to have Banamine paste twice a day for the first few days and then once a day after that. This was to help keep down swelling from the killing off of the protozoa in the spinal column. The treatment lasts for 28 days and is very expensive. It seems as soon as we get the vet bill under

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YOU WANT TO ADOPT A WHAT?!???**By Colleen O'Malley**

....**DID YOU SAY A " CHICKEN "** Yep, that's the response I got along with smiles, laughs and a few head shakes. Confused? Well, one night while waiting for the vet to come and relieve "Fire Breeze" of his colic (1st Mesa, 6 days later Fire Breeze. \$\$\$\$ CHA CHING \$\$\$) several of us were chatting with Joanie and massaging Fires belly, when the topic of the fowl around the barn came up. Joan commented on how the birds eat the ticks, crickets and generally keep the bugs down while breaking up dirt clods. She then mentioned wanting some more chickens, now, the most I know about chickens is boneless and skinless @ \$1.99LB (on sale) however, I have spent a lot of time at the Mecklenburg Co. Animal Control and have seen a variety of game type birds, so I thought, Joanie needs a chicken.....a chicken she shall have!!!!

I dropped by the "pound" after work in search of a fine feathered bug catcher, dressed in a navy coat dress and heels and when I inquired at the desk the officer said..." **YOU WANT TO ADOPT A WHAT?....DID YOU SAY A CHICKEN?**", before I knew it 4 officers (I think they couldn't believe their eyes) confirmed with me that yes, I **WANTED TO ADOPT A CHICKEN!**. Luckily there was one in "inventory" with an adoption date of December 30th. Now, I have a cat and she travels in a Sherpa Bag so I needed to find something to transport a chicken in (definitely not a Sherpa Bag). At work I asked a friend if I could borrow his dog kennel, he said sure if he still had it and was curious as to why? Well guess what his next statement was.....yep, **DID YOU SAY A CHICKEN?**. He no longer owned a kennel but was diligent in finding just the right sized box. As work places go, mine is no different, several people asked "Colleen, what's the big box for? you moving?". No, I need it for a chicken...**DID YOU SAY A CHICKEN?**

On the 30th I showed up at the "pound" with my box (poked with holes), my (raised on a farm) boyfriend and the \$2.00 adoption fee (free in Alamance County...I checked while home for Xmas, figured, boxes were easy to come by, why not get as many chickens as I could!.....none in inventory). Chickens are girls and roosters are boys right? Roosters have red hanging down fleshy things under their beaks right? Well, besides not being white (remember boneless & skinless) the bird I saw was black and white, but animal controls "inventory" bird was a reddish brown female with red fleshy stuff!. After stating my adoption request .. more smiles and giggles, not to mention failed attempts at tendering the \$2.00 adoption fee, (I am now a licensed chicken owner in Meck. Co) this bird had to be **CAUGHT!!!!**

Oh yea, you got it, let the fun begin! I met Mike Richardson a volunteer for CMPD whom along with wife Elizabeth, are members of H.P.S.!, and I quote from Mike "**DO I HAVE TO CHASE THAT CHICKEN AGAIN!!!!!!**" I guess Mike flipped a coin with one of the officers on duty, an older gentleman along with the officer who helped me at the counter: who by the way walks with the aid of a cane, met David and I at the gate to the barn. Low and behold right at the barn door was that red chicken pecking away at bugs....next stop, two doors down into a stall.....uhg hugh,.....let me tell you, I hope I move half that fast when I'm scrambling thru hay to catch whatever at 1/2 their age!!!!

Your probably asking yourself, what about the black and white chicken? Believe me, I put forth my best

sales pitch to take the (not in inventory) bird off their hands, but these ole guys weren't about to catch anything other than a break!!!

Needless to say , Joanie is the proud bearer of , if I may say so myself, **THE PRETTIEST AUBURN CHICKEN** (with red fleshy stuff....hope they know a rooster from a hen) **I EVER HAVE SEEN!!!!**

Me & Mike have Mecklenburg County covered, so stop by your local animal control and see if they have any fine feathered bug catchers you can give to a good home, or ask around at work or church and catch the smiles, giggles and head shakes when you are asked the question; **YOU WANT TO ADOPT A WHAT?????**

**BALANCE**

**When your day seems out of balance-
And so many things go wrong.
When people fight around you
And the day drags on so long.**

**When parents act like children
In-laws make you think "Divorce."
Go out into your pasture...
Wrap your arms around your horse.**

**His gentle breath enfolds you,
And he watches with those eyes.
He may not have a PhD
But he is oh so wise!**

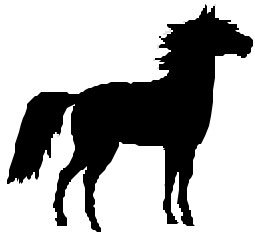
**His head rests on your shoulder
You embrace him oh so tight.
He puts your world in balance.
And makes it seem all right.**

**Your tears they soon stop flowing.
The tension is now eased.
The garbage has been lifted
And your quiet and at peace.**

**So when you need the balance.
From circumstances in your day
The best therapy that you can seek-
Is out there chomping hay!**

**We have over 30 horses at HPS wait-
ing to provide you with balance...
come visit them!**





News From The Herd

The Herd has been enjoying the cool weather and is often seen running and generally raising cane in the field. It is a wonderful joy to see them so happy and playing with each other.

Cherokee's male private parts swelled and the vet found an infection in his bladder. He has had a continual problem of not being able to retract his male part. This seems to be a result of his starvation. Antibiotics and penicillin needed to be administered. Several of our members had a chance to learn to give a large shot to Cherokee. If you can give a shot of penicillin to a horse, you can give anything.

Navajo & Dream Catcher needed eye care. Navajo poked his blind eye and spent a day with the lid closed. Both recovered quickly with a little medication put in the sore eye.

Sky Ghost had a colic that lasted over night. The next day she was willing to kick down the stall to get out and was demanding food.

In Memory of Champion companion and protector for 12 years.
Sandy & Chuck

Given in memory of "JB," a thoroughbred gelding stolen and recovered in 1979. Later dying of colic at age 31 and barn mate "Miss Money" a foundation bred quarter horse, who also died of colic at age 29.
By Marta Force

In loving memory of my beloved partner, Bold Aristocrat "Bucky," deceased 1991

Queenie **Cont from page 1**

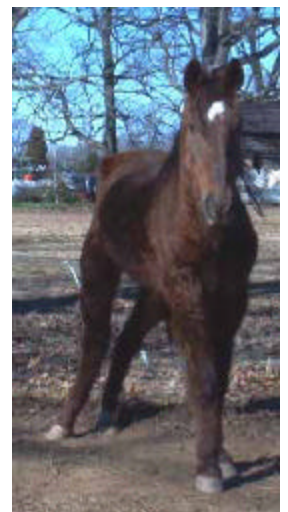
\$5,000 something happens and up we go again.

My heart was so warmed when we were discussing Queen's problem and the cost of treatment, several little girls went out to their car and returned with two bags of dollar bills and coins from their allowance that they gave to help pay for Queenie's treatment. At that moment we knew people's hearts would be opened to help this lovely Saddlebred live out her life comfortably.

The treatment has started and Queenie is doing fine on the medication. We moved her to the half way house and tried putting sweet Meadow Flower in with her for company. By day three, Meadow was so depressed from how mean Queen was being to her, that she stopped eating. Queen seems to be doing fine by herself, but would love a visit from you. The treatment has made her very itchy, and she loves a hard brushing.

As if that was not enough to deal with, Summer, also a Saddlebred, is having a reoccurrence of EPM. She was treated four years ago with the old treatment. There has been a high incidence of reoccurrence with the older treatment. A great deal of study has improved the understanding of this devastating illness. Summer is 32 years old. Neither company that produces the new treatments tested this on geriatric or debilitated horses. Once again, we can provide needed information to the horse owners that may be faced with deciding whether or not to treat their beloved older horse for EPM. If our horses recover and do well then maybe other people will elect to treat their horses instead of choosing to euthanasia them. Thank you for caring about these wonderful horses and making life possible for them!

Thank you – Kyla & Hayley Western, Logan Floid and Anna Garber



Queenie needs your help!!



Meet the Members...

In the spring of 1998 we went for a ride, as we did quite often. We went down Orphanage Road from Rte 73 and saw all the horses, such beautiful animals. Another day took us back the same direction. After reading an article about abused horses we met a gentleman and he told us about the Horse Protection Society. We traveled up to China Grove and found Miller Road and visited with Joan Benson. I shared that my husband worked for a grocery store and asked if we could bring greens to the horses. Each morning the produce is cleaned out and outdated items discarded. That's when we started to bring out the fruits and vegetables each week for the horses....and we are still at it. It's funny but as our car comes to the ranch the horses know it and they will start to line up for a hand out. We enjoy doing this for the horses at HPS. We hope to continue doing this for more years to come. It certainly makes us feel good that we can do something.

Joan & Erling Frivold

Editors Note

As our monthly newsletter goes to press Joan is currently sick and hospitalized. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Erling both. Get well soon, the horses and members of HPS are thinking of and missing you.



Love Blooms Unexpectedly, Even for Chickens by YumYum (with clerical support from Roberta McCardle)

Meet Montana page 1

brought us the big beautiful thoroughbred that they had that had been diagnosed with COPD. There is only one problem, when Dr. Robin Smith checked him there is not a thing wrong with him other than a little stiffness in the hind quarter. I think that can easily be solved, with a couple of good trimmings and light exercise. He may have allergies that show up during the warmer months, but at the present time there is no breathing or coughing symptoms at all.

Naming a new horse is always a problem. This horse is as tall as Dakota only heavier built. He is blind in one eye and turns his head towards you in the most endearing way when anyone walks up to him. We put him in with Bow and Cherokee. The boys have become best friends. A list of names was put together, and he didn't like any of the first ones. The next time we added Montana and that was the one he wanted. He knew his name from then on. Montana is stealing everyone's heart with his good manners and gentle ways.

Life is never, ever dull here at the ranch. Just when you begin to feel a little complacent....boom -- something happens to capture your interest. One of the two-leggers here has fallen in love....with a chicken! (I could understand falling in love with a noble creature like a horse -- but a lowly chicken?!)

It was not apparent at first. Oh, she was subtle. I'd catch a remark here and there -- "what pretty chickens we have," etc. but nothing out of the ordinary. There was also something in her tone, an extra note of gentleness if you will, when she spoke to this bird.

One cold evening about dusk, I heard her express concern about where the chicken would be for the night. She even walked up to the house to discuss this!! After obtaining the ok for the chicken to stay in a particular building, this woman then started to worry about the cats bothering the chicken, AKA "Miss Carmel." (NOTE: has anyone ever asked if the cats bother me?)

Windwalker saw her (& says she would attest to this in a court of law) shoo a cat out of the building and close the door. This level of concern for a chicken's well being is unprecedented. Then I thought to myself, "YumYum, relax. She's going to do something productive with this bird, i.e. chicken soup, chicken potpie, roast chicken, etc. That's why she is so concerned." This thought was short-lived. Boy, was I ever wrong!

Couldn't this woman just get in her car and go? No, of course not. She had to go back and check on the chicken again. This was the worst. She picked the chicken up and (shudder) cuddled it. The fowl played it for what it was worth -- with every stroke of her feathers she emitted more cooing noises.

Then, suddenly it hit me -- like five bags of pelleted feed falling off a truck -- the nutty woman was in love with the chicken!!!

Gentle Reader, this pony was appalled. Where is dignity? Where is decorum? Gone, all gone. The final coup de grace was when I overheard her musing about tucking the said chicken under her arm and taking it home with her.

Where would the chicken live?

What would her husband say?

How would her children feel about being displaced by a chicken?

Didn't she realize this is called "chicken stealing"?

The Law does not accept the excuse of True Love as a reason for illegal activity. Everyone knows the fickle nature of poultry and that's why so many of them meet a violent end in a stockpot.

Special thanks to all the kind people who supported HPS over the past month:

Teresa & John Bonk
Linda & Dennis Braund
Kathryn Clancy
Kay Coltrain
Betsy D. Dean
Ronda & Amber Duncan
Beth & Anna Garber
Heather & Carey Head
Judith & Gene Hoots
Lillus Kurland
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North Carolina Dressage & Combined Training-Charlotte Chapter
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Beryl Rehn
B. Robert's Food, Inc.
Marvin Saunders
Ann Schoonover
Anne Shrago
Basil Watkins, Jr.
Michael & Suzanne Webb
Jamiy & Kyla Western
Kyla & Hayley Western & Logan Floid
Kim Wrenn

TOP TEN EXERCISES TO BECOME A BETTER HORSEMAN

10. Drop a heavy steel object on your foot. Don't pick it up right away. Shout, "Get off, Stupid, GET OFF!"
9. Leap out of a moving vehicle and practice "relaxing into the fall." Roll into a ball and spring to your feet.
8. Learn to grab your checkbook out of your pocket or purse and write out a \$200 check without even looking down.
7. Jog long distances carrying a halter and a carrot. Go ahead and tell the neighbors what you are doing - they might as well know now.
6. Affix a pair of reins to a moving freight train and practice pulling a halt. Smile as if you are having fun.
5. Hone your fibbing skills: "See hon, moving hay bales is FUN!" and "No, really, I'm glad your lucky performance and multimillion dollar horse won the blue ribbon. I am just thankful that my hard work and actual ability won me second place."
4. Practice dialing your vet number with both arms paralyzed to the shoulder and one foot anchoring the lead rope of a frisky horse.
3. Borrow the US Army's slogan: Be All That You Can Be -- bitten, thrown, kicked, dragged, slimed, trampled, frozen...
2. Lie face down in a puddle of mud in your most expensive riding clothes and repeat to yourself, "This is a learning experience, this is a learning experience, this is..."
1. THE NUMBER ONE EXERCISE TO BECOME A BETTER EQUESTRIAN: Marry money.

Special thanks to Irwin Industrial Tools for photocopying the monthly newsletter.

Donation Form:

Your name: _____ **Is this for a memorial donation?** Yes No

Your phone number: _____ **Whom do you wish to Honor:** _____

Your e-mail: _____ **Their e-mail:** _____

Your Message (for newsletter): _____ **Their Address:** _____

Any donation amount is appreciated: \$_____ Please make checks payable to **Horse Protection Society**.
 For a \$25 or more donation the honored person can receive a year of "Over Herd."
 Would you like the newsletter sent? **Yes** **NO**
Please clip and mail to: Horse Protection Society

**HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY
OF NORTH CAROLINA INC.**

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Web site:
www.horseprotection.org
and www.angelfire.com/nc/horseprotosocnc/

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

Address Correction Requested

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.

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Sponsorship Coordinator.....			
Placement Coordinator.....			