



OVER HERD

Volume 24 issue 2

February 2020



Do a little Dance & enjoy the warm weather.

A Dear Friend was Lost

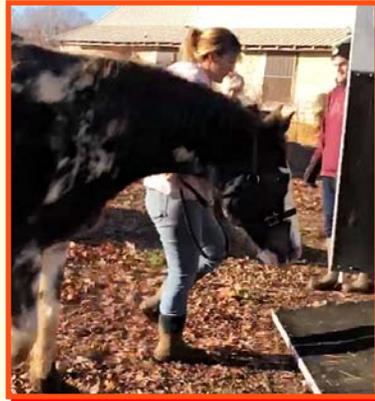
Harold Speck was a close friend of the Horse Protection Society. He regularly supplied almost half of the hay needed for the horses. Sometimes on a Sunday afternoon, Harold would stop by just to visit. We would discuss the foxtail grass when it invaded his fields, how the hay crop was doing, and if there would be enough to feed the horses that year. The weather was always a critical topic since the hay was dependent on the rain we received. Harold was a contractor and I was always interested in his latest project. He was a cattleman and not a horseman. The horses harassed him every time he brought a load of hay and had to unload it into the covered hay feeders. The horse loved to eat the bales while they were on the hay wagon and often refused to move. I told Harold it was God teaching him patience and giving him a chance to admire the beauty God has created. Harold, you will be missed.#



A Surprise Christmas Present

Austin and Lanie have great imaginations. They wanted to surprise their Mom with taking Thunder home on Christmas morning. They were scheduled to care for the horses in the morning and the whole family was coming so it wouldn't take long, and they would be on their way home early.

We had some things that had to be taken care of without tipping Melanie off. The truck and trailer had been sitting, and we kept forgetting to start it to keep the battery charged. So one morning I asked Austin in front of Melanie to start the truck since Melanie and I kept forgetting. (Perfect cover!) The battery needed to be on a charger all night to get a full charge. Austin checked the tires and made sure all was ready to haul Thunder home.



Continued on Page #2

Off to a New Home

Years ago, we had several families that would take in a horse that was expensive to care for, or was old and couldn't be ridden. You can imagine my surprise when I received a phone call from a past volunteer asking about the horses no one would want.

Sarah and her daughter helped at the sanctuary years ago, and her daughter is now a small animal veterinarian. Sarah made a vow that one day she would help HPS by taking home a horse no one would want.

There were three geldings at home, so a gelding would be best to add to the little herd. *Continued on Page #2##*



A Surprise Christmas Present *(Cont. from Page 1)*

The family came in to say, “goodbye” Christmas morning when they finished caring for the horses. We had secret signals for Lanie to let me know that Austin had Thunder in the driveway with his bow on ready to surprise Melanie. I handed her the keys to the truck and trailer, and it didn’t click what was going on.

I shooed her out the back door, and when she saw Austin standing in the driveway holding Thunder, she just sobbed. It was a great moment, and we all teared up. The kids didn’t tell their dad until Christmas eve. They weren’t sure he could keep the secret.

Thunder is a great horse that kept us all laughing. We will miss him but will content ourselves with the fact that he is in a perfect home.

Off to a New Home *(Cont. from Page 1)*

The two best choices would be Freedom, at 22 years old, and Chicopee who is 15 years old. Sarah felt that Chicopee would be less likely to find a home since he has a cleft palate. It should have been fixed when he was a foal and against all the odds, Chicopee has done great over the years, flushing his mouth and nose in the water tub after he eats.

Chicopee left the day before Christmas, how perfect is that? Chicopee is one of the lucky ones to have a fantastic new home and new horsey friends.

According to Sarah, Chicopee has settled in faster than expected and is accepted by the other horses.

Happy Valentine’s Day



**Love From
the
Herd**

**Thank you for your caring about the rescued horses!
We Send our Love and Wish you Peace and Joy.**

Happy Birthday Tiffany Ferebee! From the Seagles

In Honor of Anna Danner. By Jamie & Scott Harrell

In recognition and honor of Gayle Cannon. By Debra Cannon

In Honor of my animal-loving husband, Michael, by Patsi Sheets

In honor of Ron and Judy Smidt of Troutman, NC. By Jennifer Smartt

In memory of BJ and Lacy. God Loves A Creatures Great or Small. By Julie Wilson

Linda P. Anderson
Judy & Niko Antonakakis
Sybil P. Athey
Lynn & Paul Baldwin
Janet K. Baxter
Kathy & Tony Bell
Julia Bemis
Jane B. Billingley
John A. & Judy Bonk
Michael Brazeal
Suzanne Wallace Casey
Judith D. Cashwell
Tonya & Jeff Chandler
Pat Constantine
Rebecca T. Cottrell
Connie Couden
Ann & Benny Crayton
Liz A. Cullington
Anna Curry
Betsy D. Dean
Ann DiSanto
William Donovan
Tony England & Lisa Sherman
Susan Ferguson
Mary F. Fitzgerald
Sarah Frerichs
Mary May Gillespie
Dan & Linda Gordon Family
Shirley A Gough
Tommy J. Hall
Jamie & Scott Harrell
Kathy A. Haw
Brenda & Charles Hemperley
Dr. Leslie C. Henson
Amber Hozey

Mary & Arnold Isaacs Jr.
Patricia & John C. Jaap
Constance M. Jewett & Glen
Christofaro
Virginia M. Johnson
Martin Kazanjian
Randi Kinney
Joellyn Kobler
Kim Lane
Gerry Layson
Judy & Mike LeGrett
Brittney Liddic
Katherine Lofgren
Myra Mahoney
Roberta & Tom McCardle
Elaine & Mario Merida
Jill & Charles Messer
Carolyn Miller
Gail & David Miller
Patty Miller
Jackie Mooney
Debbie O. & Mike Morris
Lisa Murray
Pamela L. Nance
Susan B. Nulf
Jane T. Oglesby
Michelle Osenbach
Pay Pal giving fund
Gerald & Lisa Jordan- Pearce
Joan G. Peck
Karen Pellow
Melissa Pletcher
Margaret & Kenneth Quick
Debra K, Ramsey
Donna Reiter

Betty & Harold Rhoads
Melanie Ruscoe
Sheila J. Saints
Jo Anne Sanford
Dr. Robert Schantz
Patricia D. Scudder
Harriet A. Seabrook
Ann Farrar & Benjy F. Seagle
Patsi & Michael Sheets
Gail M. Shinn
Carole L. Simmons,~
'Charity League of Salisbury
Lisa M. Slatt
Jennifer Smartt
Tacy Smith
Kara Stacy
Stars and Bars
Rodger Steed
Patricia C. Stewart
Beth & Timothy Summitt
Margaret K. Thorsen
Elaine D. Towner
Mary O. Tucker
Rita A. & George Tucker
John Vinal
Timothy W. Walsh
Basil M. Watkins Jr.
Kathy D. Watson
Laura Willis
Julie & Keith Wilson
Sue Wortman
Lillian O. Wright
Rhonda Wright
Linda M. Yarrington
George York

Desperate Situation!

A Good Samaritan called the sanctuary to report two horses. She thought one must have pneumonia because several weeks before the horse was breathing so hard that she went down in her back yard, and our good Samaritan couldn't get the horse up. She was convinced that the mare was going to die, but in time she did get up. The two horses often got out of their fenced area.

Melanie and I couldn't find the two horses. We searched up and down driveways and only found a couple of donkeys.

Animal Control had been called many times to no avail. One of the Investigators realized that the mare was in a desperate condition, and the owner may be charged. Once again, we were called, and the owner now wanted to release the two horses so she would not be charged.

Chris Morgan hooked up the trailer in record time, and we were off to pick up the two horses. This time the directions were much better, and we headed off. It is always vital to go as quickly as possible or the abuser may hide the horses or give them to an inappropriate person. We never know what we are going to face when we arrive at a location. The Good Samaritan and the owner were present. We could tell it was once a well cared for property that belonged to her father, who died not long ago.

It was the first time that Melanie was with me to pick up a horse in the horrible condition of the white mare. She had the worst Recurrent Airway Obstruction (RAO) that I have ever seen. Each breath was torture for her. I knew she would not be with us for very long. I watched Melanie's lips tighten, and her body went rigid. When we see a horse like this skinny, sick mare, it is hard to keep from saying or doing something unpleasant. The mare was old and maybe Arabian with a body score of a low one. We had no choice but to let her go.

The other horse is a black 13-year-old Appendix gelding. His body score was a high three and in the short time he has been with us, he is gaining weight nicely. We have been putting together a list of names hoping the Black will like one of them.



Winter coats hide the skinny body of the white mare. There is no fat cover over the mare's ribs. She looks like she has a worm-belly. Horses like this have to be de-wormed slowly with a couple of small doses before a full dose is given. Their hooves look as if they haven't been trimmed in years.

The pictures were taken right after the horses were unloaded here at the sanctuary.

Reducing Costs

HPS is not interested in reducing the top-quality care given to the horses! We are looking at every other possible way to cut costs. We are troubled with some of the choices that had to be made. Some donors have been receiving the newsletter mailed to them for years and have not made a donation. It costs \$14 a year per-person to print and mail the newsletter. By dropping the non-contributors from the mailing list, it will save HPS about \$3,000.00 a year. If folks become a contributor once again, we would be overjoyed to add them back on the mailing list.

Our prayers are that each person responds to the letter we sent to the past donors. Each person's name means it was someone who cared. We hope and pray that each one is well and prospering.

HPS will be printing the newsletter in-house to help save funds. We are working with a US Postal person to help us set up a different mailing system to save money.

We want to extend a special heartfelt gratitude to the contributors that are once again aiding the rescued horses. The one thing in life we can all count on is "Life Changes." We believe that peoples' hearts are opened to recognize that this is a blessed mission. We are the folks that have been called on to make this place possible for the horses in need. May you be blessed as you bless the horses. The horses need each and every one of you.



In Honor of Lisa Murray's January Birthday. By Sybil P. Athey

In Honor of Joanne Johnson. By Suzanne W. Casey

Merry Christmas to Judy Cashwell. By Gail Miller

In Honor of my best friend, Vicki Troutman, and horse lover at Christmas. By Mary Tucker

All my Best in 2020! To Jordan and Kristin. By Sheila Saints

In memory of Red, Stormy, and Tookie....much loved and so very missed. By Lisa Jordan-Pearce

In memory of Harold Speck. He helped to kept the horses fed. His family and HPS will miss

his good and generous nature. By Kathy Haw

In memory of Sundance. By Patty Miller

Donation From: _____ Phone# _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email address _____
 \$ _____ General Use, \$ _____ Monthly Angel Sponsor, \$ _____ Health Expenses, \$ _____
 Membership—single \$35 _____ Membership—Family \$50 _____
 Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, (please circle one)?
 Name: _____ Email address _____
 Phone _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Your message for the newsletter: _____



Horse Protection Society
 2135 Miller Road
 China Grove, NC 28023

PRSR STD
 NONPROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PINEVILLE, NC
 PERMIT NO. 45

Address Correction Requested

«First» «Last»
 «Address»
 «City, NC » «zip»

You can help support our efforts to save horses by providing your email address to us at:
hps@horseprotection.org
 This will save money in printing & postage.
 THANK YOU!



HELP the horses and receive a beautiful calendar that will sometimes have you laughing and other times be inspiring.

For just a low cost of **\$15.50** and \$3.50 postage = **\$19.00** you will aid the horses and enjoy them all year.

You can mail a check to:
Horse Protection Society
2135 Miller Road
China Grove NC 28023

Or go to www.horseprotection.org/
 To order your calendars on a credit card.

HPS needs all the help we can get to supplement the hay shortage. Donations are sorely needed.
 Please help feed the rescues!