

January 2003

Over Herd

Volume 5, Issue 1



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/horseprotsoenc/

Mark your Calendars:

**January 11th
Project Day/
Members Meeting
Lunch at 12:30 PM
Please bring
a covered dish
to share.**

Christmas Eve Miracle

By: Joan Benson

The horses were fed and I had left some of the older horses closed in the big barn with lots of hay and water. I went back down to check on them and make sure they were treating each other with Christmas spirit. As I approached the barn my head was filled with all the chores I need to finish for the dinner party here at the ranch Christmas day. I was greeted with a loud eerie sound. Two of the barn cats were perched in the hayloft, and it sounded as if a cat was howling from the loft. The screams echoed through the barn as I descended from the hayloft still wondering what animal was making this terrible cry for help.



Tundra and her new family!

Tundra appeared out of the shadows, carrying something small and covered with dirt in her mouth. She approached me with her head down making it difficult to see what she was had. Tundra was covered with dirt and had mud caked over a large portion of her body. Normally she keeps herself clean even in rainy weather. I knelt down next to her concerned about my face so close to her large white teeth. Tundra was chomping down on a newborn puppy! "Oh, God here I am in a stable on Christmas Eve with a dog that won't let me touch her, and she is having babies. I need your help."

Tundra is a large white Mamare that lives with and guards the horses. She came to us from a rescue in New Hampshire and was only 8 months old at the time, she turned two years old this month. Nothing we did helped to endear Tundra to any of us. She would not come to or let anyone touch her. Tundra won our hearts when she saved Meadow Flower's life. I had only gotten to the point where she would slowly approach me and take a treat from my fully extended hand if I didn't look at her. No one dared look her directly in eyes or she would growl and become aggressive. We were given the impression that Tundra had been spayed. In the last few weeks we realized that Tundra may have been bred or as we hoped, was having a false pregnancy. *See Miracle Page 2*

Happy New Year!

By: Joan Benson



Chinook & friend

Our prayers are with each and every one of you for a blessed and happy New Year! There is much for us to be thankful for this year. Many horses were placed in wonderful new homes. The last horribly starved horses we have taken in are recovering wonderfully, and will soon be ready for new homes. Last spring's Yard Sale was the start of a turn around of our horrific left over financial woes of the previous year. Donations were way down; the veterinarian bill was way up, and we even owed a hay bill. Some was paid on the bills, but towards the end of summer the vet bill went up over \$5,000.00. The herd had to have their rabies shots, vaccinations, and some major dental work done.

The horses have truly been blessed this year. So many wonderful folks have taken an interest since the September 2002 article appeared in the Charlotte Observer that for the first time we have been able to keep our bills paid for five months in a row. We have been able to schedule the Equine Chiropractor three times to see the horses that need this type of help during winter months. Normally this would not be possible. The supplements the horses need, can be ordered in a timely manner. We even have enough money to weather in the barn. This type of project would normally be impossible to consider undertaking the expense during the winter months. (Now we just help on Saturdays to get the work done.)

There is a big sigh of relief here at the sanctuary as a new year arrives, "HPS has made it through another year." Sometimes it is touch and go, but we keep the faith in God to keep going, at times against all odds. Over the past year 50 horses have been under HPS's protection. There have been times of extreme sadness, moments of overwhelming joy, and times of hysterical laughter. You missed my flat out fall in the mud...then Sue Wortman did her graceful flip into the mud soup, she also did a not so graceful flip off of Bo and broke her collarbone earlier in the year. Roberta McCardle has many times, been heard to say, as she starts the Friday evening feeding, "I'll be your server tonight, and we have some nice pelleted feed for you. Now if you will all just please get into the correct stalls, dinner will be served." The horse diehards are here in all types of weather to lend a hand. *See New Year Page 2*

New Year...Continued from Page 1

Sometimes the numbers are few, but we manage. A few devoted members wore out and had to step back for a while.

The collaboration of ideas, to solve problems, has brought about some fun and interesting times. Gene Cain and John Kiwacka have spearheaded projects with great results. The older horses now have a much-needed covered hay feeding area. None of the gals are unhappy about the guys taking the tools away from us! Very early on Roberta decided carpentry work was not going to be a second occupation for her. Part of one of the buildings has been affectionately named "Man Land."

The devotion of folks to some of the poor horses has helped in their recovery. The attention, brushing, and of course treats, helps to aid in bringing them back to health and restore their will to live. The barn and stall cleaning done by members has been wonderful for the horses. (The mud and holidays has put us behind in this needed chore.) After each winter rain the horses need to have their coats fluffed so they will be able to stay warm on the cold nights. Dress warm, get fresh air and exercise of the best type... come to the sanctuary. One of our favorite sayings, "The outside of a horse is good for the inside of a person." Our prayers of thanks giving and praise are with you for your continued help and financial support to make the sanctuary possible. May God bless your lives!

Merry Christmas
Rob Carl
from Deb Bovard

Merry Christmas
Harold
by Mary Hanig

Miracle...Continued from page 1

I realized the screeching was another puppy left behind some where in the barn. I talked quietly to Tundra telling her I understood she was scared and I was going to help her, but she had to give me the puppy. I tried to encourage her to open her mouth by gently putting my fingers in her mouth and softly stroking her head. Didn't work! Then I just asked her to drop the pup and she did. I scooped it up before she changed her mind, and now to find the other one. I went rushing to look in her favorite places. She had buried it in the hay in her private stall. I needed to get her into the house to help the puppies, since both were very cold. Miracles of miracles Tundra followed me into the house and then into the office, which seemed the safest place for her. Tundra had never been in a house before. I grabbed towels, flannel sheets to cover the floor for her. The pup was washed and I saw the fatal injuries Tundra had inflicted. The second pup needed warming on a hot pad. Another pup was coming; I talked and stroked Tundra to make her be gentle with the new pup. I needed help... So of course I called Roberta McCardle, who is a true dog lover. She rushed the injured first-born pup to the Emergency Vet Hospital. The pup could not be saved.

I stayed with Tundra as she delivered the rest of her puppies. She would become upset if I left her side or stopped stroking her encouraging her to be gentle with each new puppy. We now have six fat puppies and Tundra living in the office. I talked to Tundra and asked her who the daddy was of the beautiful black and white puppies. A picture flashed in my head of a large beautiful Border Collie that had spent several days visiting at the sanctuary a couple of months back. I had completely forgotten about his visit. Finally about 10:30 at night things had settled down, I was doing dog laundry. I could finally start making the stuffing and preparing for the guests that were due to arrive Christmas day for dinner at 1 o'clock.

The pups are going to need loving homes. They will be raised with the horses and should have wonderful livestock instincts. Mamas are livestock guard dogs and with the Border Collie herding abilities you could have a wonderful livestock dog.

The one thing you can count on here is there is nothing you can count on here at the sanctuary. You never know what is going to happen from one minute to the next. I had to laugh because at least this time it was the night before the dinner party and not the night of the party. There was another dinner party where the guest served themselves and left while Dr. Bert Parker and I helped Babes recover from a terrible colic. At 11:30 that evening Dr. Parker and I headed to the house and warmed the leftovers from the turkey dinner I had prepared.

This Christmas Eve Roberta McCardle, Sue Wortman, Erika Torrance and myself will never forget. Thank you God for being with Tundra and us.



A big horsey **Thank You** to the following folks who worked at Kohl's department store recently to raise funds for HPS: Sandy Babinski, Shelia Clewis, Lisa Germano, Ann Powlas, Kathy Haw, Charlotte Revels, Roberta McCardle, and Mary Walters. At this busy time of year these members gave up some their time to help our horses.

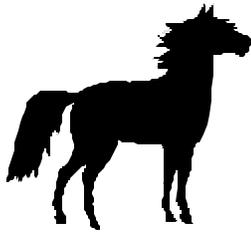
Hoofbeats...By Roberta McCardle

Hello and Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a nice holiday. I know it seems early but it's really not too soon....**now is the time to be thinking of the HPS spring yard sale** as we re-configure closets post-Christmas. This would be a great time to tidy up our homes at the same time we are getting items ready to donate to benefit the horses. Please feel free to go ahead and donate now. If transporting items is a problem, let us know and we can make arrangements. Thank you!

It's cold outside but the horses still need and appreciate attention. Even if you can only come out for an hour, please do so! As we all know, the outside of a horse is good for the inside of a person. Hope to see you at the ranch!

The Berns Family,
Valerie, Dale, Chris, & Cari
were honored
by Gerry Baker

In honor of my wonderful friend
Sandy Quinn
By Brenda Laramie



News From The Herd

Dr. Robin checked **Summer's** stifle joints and could not find anything wrong with them, nor could our Equine Chiropractor. She was adjusted and is doing great...Thank you God!

The Herd is in desperate need of good quality square bales of hay. We can use alfalfa, timothy, fescue, or orchard grass. Anyone who can donate a few bales would be greatly appreciated. We have been unable to locate any in North Carolina of a good quality. If anyone has knowledge of where we may purchase some hay please let us know. The only round bales we have been able to purchase are of an inferior property. We will need to supplement the horses with good square bales. Our only other choice is to order them from out of state and have them shipped in. Please help if you can. We had made arrangements with one person to purchase 150 round bales but in spite of his word to us sold them to someone else! We are also in desperate need of more round bales for the winter.

All the horses were trimmed December 21 in one day by three Natural farriers, Ann (Tree) Coley from Ashville, Cindy (Hawk) Sullivan from Georgia, and Patrick Eanes from Union County. None of the horses had to be put in the sling for trimming since they have improved so much. Even Moon Glow got her front hooves trimmed without drugs... that is a first. We thank the members who gave of their time and our wonderful farriers who do so much for the horses.

Dizzy continues to grow new hoof and is walking better.

Yum Yum's thyroid function was tested and he was found to be hypo thyroid. His weight gain has been too rapid and the long hair he arrived with was not a good sign. He will be retested in six weeks.

Raven tested positive for Cushing's syndrome and Hypo thyroid. Most of the time, the tumor that affects the pituitary gland and the connectors to the thyroid is non malignant. She is now on heavy antioxidant vitamins and thyroid medication. Her thyroid will have to be checked again in about six weeks.

Dream Catcher was returned to the sanctuary the weekend before Christmas. He had been placed with a wonderful sweet young girl. The problem started with little nips that grew into terrible bites and kicking. The result of allowing bad behavior is never good. If you are not in charge of the horse the horse will be in charge, and you will not like the results! Dream Catcher was put into the round pen and several members worked with him to join up and let him know we are in charge here. He tried showing his bad self several times and has now settled down. He will wait to be caught, walk with us with just a soft rope over his neck and easily be put up to be feed. His retraining will continue for a time, and then he will join the "Rowdies" in their field.

Cloud Dancer is off visiting **Legacy** for a while. **Legacy's** buddy, **Falcon** had a freak accident and had to be put to sleep. The family is working with **Wrangler** in the hopes he will join Legacy.

Willow has developed an abscess on a front hoof so she is sharing the front pasture until recovered. Erika Torrance is still the main person she will trust to have her feet trimmed or to doctor her.

Wrangler's cancer looking growth by his eye has completely disappeared since he has been on strong antioxidants.

Queenie has been very hard on her stalls over the years, and finally all her kicking has caused her to injure herself in the hindquarter. The Equine Chiropractor is helping her feel better. We asked Dr. Robin Smith to be here expecting to have to drug Miss Queenie, but it was not necessary.

The Herd made it through the ice storm with flying colors. Not one cold horse, but very anxious to be turned out in the morning. The power at the sanctuary was not off even a full 24 hours. We were very blessed. Sue Wortman and Ann Powlas spent most of Tuesday before the storm, washing 5 gallon buckets, filling tubs and generally helping to get ready for the coming storm. The next day was taken up with putting hay in stalls, tying down water buckets and making provisions for the storm so the horses would be safe. As it turned out, **Queenie** was put in a stall in the big barn and some of the horses were left loose in the barn. **Queenie** broke out of her stall and then busted out of the barn letting the other horses out. They returned quickly and were dry in the morning. **Queenie** stayed out and was wet, but not iced. **Whisper** was put up in the stall in his field, while **Night Mist** went into the new stall off the round pen. **Whisper** hollered and hollered for his new friend. Sometime during the night he broke out of his stall, but was fine in the morning. He was very happy to have Night Mist returned to his field.

In loving memory of
Snickers, gentle pony
 & true friend,
 January 30, 2002
 By
 Roberta McCardle

The horses would like to send a heartfelt thank you to the following folks for helping them this month. Without you there would be no Horse Protection

Gerry Barker
 Dominique & Alan Barne
 T.Bennett
 Helen Bishop
 Judy & Derald Black
 Teresa & John Bonk
 Debrah Bovard
 Linda & Dennis Braund
 Lucy & Douglas Buchanan
 Harold & Patricia Bunton
 Jo Ann Burleson
 Janna Burns
 Patricia Cade
 Aletha D. Call
 Sue & Jerry Castelloe
 Shannon & Scott Caviness
 Cedarhill Farm
 The Chalfont Foundation, Inc.
 Charity League of Salisbury
 Claire & Jay Collie
 Pam & Donald Cox
 Spunky Dagenhart
 Betsy D. Dean
 Hilarie G. Donohoe
 Warren & Barbara Drey
 Dr. Scott Duncan
 Ronda & Amber Duncan
 Jackie Dwelle
 Gary Eklund
 Janet, Mark & Hannah Epstein
 Delores & James Erickson
 Tiffany Ferebee
 Ingrid M. Foxall
 Sandra J. Frank
 Theresa Gahren
 Laura Galford
 Deanna Godfrey
 LaGena & Daniel Greene
 Clay Griggs
 Mary & Harold Hanig
 Amy Harbor
 O. Charles & Patricia Harriss
 Ulla Hasselro
 Margaret & William Heeney
 Elizabeth H. Hefner
 Rose & Yates Honey
 Betty Honse
 Tracy Hubert
 Jennifer Huffstickler
 Carol Jackson
 John & Helen Jeffries
 Constance M. Jewett
 Kathryn Kahn & Michael Varnum
 Robert & Kim Kinney
 Patsy & Fred Kiser
 Lillus Kurland
 Jim & Sherri Ladislas
 Brenda & Robert Laramie
 Ambe Lewis
 Sara Lewis

Emily Liles
 Jamie Link
 Katherine & Lex Lofgren
 Ellen Lopez
 Robin M. Martin
 Dew Matousek
 Lynn Ann Matsey
 Jayne & David Maurer
 Roberta McCardle
 Kelly Beth Mckee
 Donald & Jo Ann Means
 Jill & Charles Messer Jr.
 Leslie Bailey Metcalf
 Richard J. Mitchell
 Melody Murphy
 Mary Myers
 Keith & Debra Nagy
 Jodi F. Niswonger
 Holly Nothnagel
 Ada & John Offerdahl
 Beth Oldham
 Buntin & Donald Podrebarac
 Ann Powlas
 Kimberly & William Quinn
 Kathryn Reaves
 Dottie Rebhan
 Virginia Redmond
 Beryl & Kirby Rehn
 Lynne Reinstadtler
 Edna & C.F Rice
 Elisabeth Richardson
 Holly Robbins
 Jessie Robbins
 Shawn & Duane Robinson
 Margo M. Rose
 Andrea Schmidt
 Ann Schoonover
 Ingrid & Hans Schreiber
 Harriet Allston Seabrook
 Joan & Warren Seaver
 Jackie Shapaker
 Gail Shinn
 Neil & Laura Sidden
 Sharon R. Smith
 Tony Sparacino
 Elizabeth Summer
 Lane Thornhill
 Thomas Trotter
 Melba B. Von Sprecken
 Mary Walters
 Martine & Frank Warot
 Michael & Suzanne Webb
 Donald Webster
 Ellen Weisiger
 Deborah A. Wells
 Sherry W. Wheeler

**A donation honoring
 Michelle Cox
 By: Leslie Metcalf, Larry Futral,
 Mary Anne Butler, Shauna Flach,
 Kara Collins, and Brett Snyder**

**In honor of Charlotte Revels
 By Lynne Reinstadtler**

**Mr. & Mrs. George H.
 Mero were honored
 by Lillus Kurland**

**How Dakota Really Hurt His Leg
 ...or Ballroom Dancing is Harder than it Looks
 By Queen (with a little help from Roberta McCardle)**

It all started, as so many adventures do, with a conversation around a hay bale. You may think that we just stand there and eat but let me tell you, there is MUCH more to hay-eating than meets the eye.

Someone made a remark and one thing led to another. The first sign of any dissension was Dakota's tail; he was swishing it rapidly and with power. I overheard Laredo, a relative newcomer, make a remark about Dakota's leg injury of last fall. The implication was that he was a klutz for slipping around in the mud. "Queenie, I've GOT to tell them the truth," whispered Dakota, "this is killing my reputation."

"Oh, alright," I said crossly. "But remember how you pledged me to secrecy? I'm not the one with a loose lip!"

"Guys, listen up! If you must know the truth, I'll tell you," said Dakota in a stern tone.

The horses around the bale continued to eat (of course) but shifted so that they had a better view of Dakota.

"Let me tell you," he began, "it's not always easy being a stalwart horse. People call me all sorts of names - like "the big moose" for example. A horse grows weary of such limiting appellations! I have a graceful side as well. It's so unfair! So...in an effort to help others be aware of my capacity for powerful yet harmonious motion, I began taking ballroom dancing lessons in Charlotte last fall."

"The beautiful surroundings, the lovely mares, the delicious refreshments, and the pleasure of mastering new dances all went to my head. One day, without the Dance Master's permission, I attempted to do something I've never done before...the tango of the Argentine. I had surreptitiously warmed up in a corner with a ballet move or two from my youth. When I did so, I felt a twinge in my left front leg. I ignored it! When the tango music started, I leaped into the middle of the floor and began leading Gisele, a beautiful mare, in the dance. Back and forth we went, slowly at first and then faster. The floor at one end of the ballroom was a tad slippery and it was just enough for me to lose my balance and start to fall. I caught myself with my left front leg and alas, the damage was done."

Dizzy spoke up and said, "I've heard music coming from your stall late at night, it's you, isn't it, Dakota? You're playing dance music!"

"Gorgeous Girl, you are partially correct," said Dakota. "I watch ballroom dancing videos to improve my style. I'm trying to take it easy on my legs for awhile."

I heard Bo mutter to Laredo, "Good golly, you think you know a horse and then they reveal something like this!"

**In honor of Spunky Dagenhart,
 A true horse lover!
 Merry Christmas with love,
 Shannon Caviness**

**Merry Christmas.
 A Gift in honor of
 Spunky Dagenhart
 by Jennifer Huffstickler**

**Merry Christmas
 Kelly Beth
 Love Annie**

**In honor of
 Spunky Dagenhart
 By La Gena Greene**

**Christmas Honorarium
 for Roberta McCardle
 from
 Uncle Jim & Aunt Dodie**

Long Sleeve Tshirt Color: Green ___ Blue ___ Red ___
Size: Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___

Crew Sweatshirt Color: Green ___ Blue ___ Red ___
Size: Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___

Hooded sweat shirt w/zipper (Medium weight) Color: Green ___ Blue ___ Red ___
Size: Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___

Price: Long T-Shirts: \$12.00 Sweat shirt: \$14.00 Hooded sweatshirt \$ 23.00

For XXL size add \$3.00 each for Hood/Crew Sweatshirt, \$1.00 each for Tshirt

If can't pick up at the ranch (we'd love to see you!) Add \$3.50 for shipping in NC, add \$4.50 for outside NC

Total Order: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Order Form for HPS Shirts & Sweatshirts



Logo will be in white.

We will be taking shirt orders till February 15th. At that time the order will be placed, you will be contacted when the order arrives. Thank you for helping to support your horses

**Merry Christmas
Chris & Joyce Warot,
Your membership has been
paid by Marine & Frank**

**Heidi (My son's St. Bernard)
My "grand dog."
I will miss your "wet, wet" kisses
and all the love you so freely gave.
You have a special place in my
heart.**

**The Epstein family allows their
children to each select a charity to
donate to. 6 year old
Hannah Epstein selected HPS.**

**Jessie Robins celebrated
her birthday and honored
HPS by asking her guests to
make a donation in lieu of
gifts.**

**In lieu of Christmas gifts a donation to HPS
was made by Spunky Dagenhart to honor :**
The Whitman Family
The Hagerter Family
The Mchugh Family
The Greene Family
Shirley Anderson
Shannon Caviness
The Huffstickler Family
The Huffstickler/Caruso Family
The Buchanan/Wright Family
The Sanderfer Family
Lillus Kurland & Brenda
Stephanie Ghoens Gandy
Morgan Ray
Monogram Magic—Ruby & Beth
Rusty Spur—Bobbie
Woof N Hoof—Donna
Neighborhood Feed—Tom
Style-a-Rend—Ted
Wilgrove Express
Perry's Market
Kathy Stogner
Parelli Natural Horsemanship

**In honor of
Mrs. Bobbie Webb
by Michael L. Webb**

**Merry Christmas
Susan Summer
from Elizabeth Sum-**

HPS NEEDS HAY:

If you can part with any square bales to fill the hayloft, please HELP! Hay is costing us 40% to 50 % more, and we cannot locate all that we need. We cannot afford to purchase square bales. The horses can have fescue, orchard or timothy grass. If you know of any round bales for sale, please call the ranch: 704-855-2978

Donation Form:
Your name: _____
Your phone number: _____
Your e-mail: _____
Is this for a memorial donation? Yes No
Whom do you wish to Honor: _____
Their e-mail: _____
Their Address: _____
Your Message (for newsletter): _____
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.**

2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023

Phone: 704-855-2978
Email: hps@horseprotection.org

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

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

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.

HPS Officers

President	Roberta McCardle	(704) 637-9049.....	rmccardle@salisbury.net
Vice President.....	Kathy Haw	(704) 782-0390.....	KAHAW@US.IBM.com
Treasurer.....	John Kiwacka.....	(704) 795-9471.....	Kiwacka@ctc.net
Secretary.....	Valerie Berns	(704) 855-1574.....	sweetalmond902@hotmail.com
Parliamentarian/Historian.....	Cari Berns.....	(704) 855-1574	cberns@hotmail.com
Executive Director.....	Joan Benson	(704) 855-2978	horseprotectionsoc@vnet.net
Newsletter.....	Ambe Lewis	(704) 838-1922.....	AmbeOC@aol.com
Fundraising Chair.....	Roberta McCardle	(704) 637-9049.....	rmccardle@salisbury.net
Construction Committee.....	Gene Cain.....	(704) 279-5308	gcain@foodlion.com
Web Administrator.....	John Kiwacka.....	(704) 795-9471	Kiwacka@ctc.net
Medical Needs Chair.			
Publicity Chair.....	Kathy Biggers	(704) 782-3095	dkbiggers@vnet.net
Volunteer Coordinator			
Sponsorship Coordinator.....			
Placement Coordinator.....	Tracey Hubert	(704) 599-3415	bosstaff@earthlink.net