



Over Herd

January 2006

Volume 8, 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

Mark your Calendar:

Volunteer Day

Saturday

January 14, 2006

Pot Luck Lunch

Come early/stay late!

Lots of projects.

Farrier Day

Saturday

January 21, 2006

Pot Luck Lunch

Call the ranch if your
available to help.

The Mane Event

Friday

February 10, 2006

See page 2 for all
the details.

Many Horses May Need HPS

This is going to be a bad winter for many horses. There have been a number of abuse calls already. The late summer draught has caused the fields to have little or no grass. The rains came too late to get any growth in the fields. The cold weather has taken any nutrition out of what grass may have been remaining in the fields. Your horses here at the sanctuary have been going through huge amounts of hay. The horses sometimes eat as many as thirteen large round bales a week.

We took in three horses this month.

One was an old mare that had a foal that was old enough to be weaned at her side. The owners kept the foal. The mare was in terrible condition from being kept as a field horse. She had an undermined serious problem that caused us not to be able to save her. There was a hard non-pitting edema on her belly that was very painful to the touch. It was impossible to get blood work down over the weekend and by Monday it was too late. This type of edema may indicate liver or kidney failure. It was too late and there was nothing we could do to save her. Some horses can survive as pasture horses and foal with little or no problem. The foals can be separated to be fed and will grow into healthy horses. If they are left to fend for themselves the foals often times will be stunted in their growth. Some horses cannot survive on pasture care only. Two examples we took in are Wind Song and Majestic. Many horses need more feed **See Many Horses, page 4**



Santa Fe gets a much needed hoof trimming.

The New Barn By Joan Benson

It has been frustrating to watch how slow things have progressed on the new barn. The weather has been against moving this project along with any speed. It took several weeks to get the well finished. The freezing weather made it necessary for the folks to stop drilling and fix other peoples frozen wells. We of course wanted them to take care of people with no water first since we still had our other well in use. The pump on the drilling truck froze and broke. It took about a week to get the new part and get the truck fixed so drilling could continue. Mike Morgan had given us a very reasonable price to do the drilling to 425 feet and then a price per foot

The volunteers, who work so hard here at the sanctuary, and myself would like to thank you for all of the beautiful holiday cards and wonderful messages that were sent to the sanctuary. All of us wish you a Happy New Year!

for any additional drilling. They went to 500 feet, and we called it quits with the amount of water we had. Mike was kind enough not to charge us for the additional feet that they had drilled. We have been very happy with the kindness and good work that has been done by Morgan's well drilling. If you have well problems or need a new well, we would recommend this family owned company—704-933-047.

Jerry Freeze has been trying to bring in the 50 loads of fill dirt we need.

See New Barn, page 2



Arguing in the Barn By The Horses

It is New Year's Eve and the horses are arguing in the barn.

There is a new barn that is going to be built on the farm.

The two-leggers are constructing ten stalls and there won't be enough room.

Summer spoke up, "I'm sick with EPM and I need a warm stall very soon."

Moon Glow cried, "If Summer goes I must have a space beside my friend."

Willow stepped up and said, "You two promised to be my friends to the end."

We must stay together was the agreement that was reached.

How about Irish, and her buddies whose friendship must not be breached?

It is impossible for us to decide who should have the new stalls.

There is the two in the halfway house who will need more than three walls.

Others will be coming who will need to get better,

And will have to have shelter from the weather.

We are trying to be thankful for all of our blessings but it is really tough,

When thinking about the new rubber mats and our floor is so rough.

Montana spoke up, "Remember there are two Rowdies with no stalls at all.

We have to be patient and hope for the best for we all want new warm stalls."

The barn became quiet as all thought of the sweet hay that never ends,

For there was a time when the feed didn't come and we just had to fend.

Our stomachs are full, our needs are met and our hooves are kept clean,

There are no beatings, their words are soft and no one is mean.

It is a New Year and all will be well, for we trust the kind folks to find away

So all of us will have a new stall in the barn to be built....if we have our say.

New Barn...from page 1

The rain has slowed this down to a snails pace at times. The first problem was finding good fill dirt that was not too far from the sanctuary. The transportation and fuel costs can raise the price to an extremely high point. Jerry was very concerned about finding the right sub-soil so that it will pack correctly. Each time it would rain the filling and grading would come to a stop to wait for the soil to dry out. The fill would be mound so the rain would drain off better and it helped some. They were almost done when it poured again Christmas Eve.

Now if we could just get some dry weather for a bit, the fill and grading could be completed and the first ten stalls of the barn started. There are still some donations coming in for the new barn. We have about \$34,000 and it has cost about \$10,000 so far. With \$24,000 we maybe able to get the walls and the roof constructed for that amount. We will do the best we can with what we have to work with. Say a prayer please.

In celebration of the Christmas Season and in honor of all the volunteers at HPS.

Pam Cox has been honored for her love of horses. By Don L. Cox

Alyessa Wainright has been honored for her love of horses. Love Aunt Sheila

Dear Dottie, Happy Birthday and a Merry Christmas. Love Miriam Park

In honor of Liz Sanderfer and her love, Charlie and another. By Lillus Kurland

In honor of Spunky and all her beloved "critters." By Lillus Kurland

Honoring Dottie Rebhan on her birthday, Happy Birthday. By Carole Graham

In memory of Colleen O'Malley's father. By Your Friends at H.P.S.

You will be receiving your tickets through the mail, and we are looking forward to us all getting together to support the horses. **Tickets are a \$75 person.** The fun begins at 6:30 pm, dinner, dancing, and a great auction. Dress is casual... (Good thing since I don't have any dressy clothes any longer.) Keep the tickets and mail the stubs back with your check.

There is nothing wrong with recycling those Christmas gifts that you will never use for either the silent auction or the live auction. We need more items so check with your favorite merchant for a donation of something for the auction. You can drop things off at the sanctuary or get in touch with Gayle Cannon to stop by her home. Gayle 704-483-0461

We are hoping this will be a great success for the horses and help with the construction of the new barn.

"The Mane Event" - Having a Heart for Horses

Please Save the Date



Horse Protection Society
Presents the 1st Annual
"The Mane Event"
Having a Heart for Horses

Catawba Country Club
February 10, 2006
6:30 pm Casual Dress
Dinner, Dancing & Auction
\$75 per person

Visit our website at
www.horseprotection.org

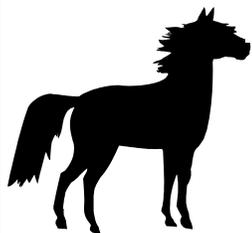
Please Join us for an Evening to Benefit the Horses and Help Build them a New Barn!

How can You Help?

- Attend Our Event
- Become a sponsor
- Donate Live/Silent Auction Items
- Advertise in our Program
- Volunteer your time

For more information contact
Gayle at 704 483-0461
gaylec43@charter.net

HPS Mane Event
P.O. Box 362
Terrell, NC 28682



News From The Herd

Hawkeye has not improved as one would hope on the new diet for EPSM. His condition has changed in that it is much more apparent the right hindquarter and stifle joint seems to be causing the main problem. Dr Jonathan Featherstone examined him and prescribed Adequan, which is an intramuscular injection once a week for the first month. The first month's cost is \$240.00. Hawkeye has improved greatly on the Adequan, but we still need to locate the cause of the problem with x-rays.

Morning Glory has been in a very bad mood and telling people to leave her alone by threatening to bite. Usually she likes attention. Her one remaining eye had a discharge so she had a visit with Dr. Featherstone. He feels there maybe a problem with the lens of her eye and the attachment. Two eye ointments have taken care of the problem. Blood was pulled for a complete work up and everything was okay except she was a little low on iron. Many of our older horses seem to have a harder time getting the iron their bodies need from the dry form in their feed and Red Cell needs to be added to their feed, which is a liquid.

Ladybug is acting her young age now and is pulling some very funny antics in the field to get our attention. She tries to do the fancy Lipizzaner moves of going up with all four feet off the ground. A draft type horse doing this just does not have the same grace and causes laughter. It is wonderful to see her running and full of energy in such a short time. Now to see if her body will change to more what it should be.

Back-up Plans! by Snickerdoodle (with clerical assistance by Roberta McCardle)

It was a mild day for December and I was thoroughly enjoying the new round bale in our pasture. The sun was warm and the hay in my tummy was soooo delicious. This delightful peace was disturbed by the sound of pounding hooves. I looked up to see Navajo galloping into the barn.

"Where's Morning Glory," he panted, "I've got to talk to her."

"The Boss is up at the water tub," volunteered Salida.

"What's the matter, Nav?" said MG.

Navajo snorted, "Terrible news! There has been a fire at the Purina plant in Statesville. It's serious."

"Navajo, I'm very sorry to hear that but you can't do anything about it," said Morning Glory gently.

"You don't understand, even if our food does not come from there, this should open up a whole new line of thought for the herd. What's the back-up plan? Have our Two-Leggers carefully thought this thing through? What will happen to poor horses who get their food from that plant? I was starved earlier in my life and believe me, I do NOT want to ever again be that hungry."

"You know," Morning Glory thoughtfully replied, "you may have a point there. Let's call a meeting of the herd. Hawkeye is one fast pony.....he can spread the word."

We met at 8:00 that evening, being careful to only go over the fences where JB could not see us from the house. Morning Glory had Fire Breeze use his best announcer's voice to call the meeting to order.

Dream Catcher (a bit of a smarty) asked about the refreshments right away.

"Bub, that comes after the meeting," said Dakota, "everybody knows that."

Morning Glory shared the news about the Purina plant. There were groans and sympathetic murmurs from the herd.

"All right, people, let's have some solid suggestions," said Morning Glory.

"I think that we need to have a back-up plan to cover all eventualities for each step of our grain delivery process," noted Wrangler. "This means not only where we get our grain but also how it gets delivered here, right from the milling plant to our feed room to the feed bins. What if our nice deliverer is sick? What if he runs out of gas? What if bad weather holds this up? What if...?"

"Whoa, Wrangler!" said Irish. "We can do some planning but we ALL need to remember that in the whole time we have been here, and for some of us it has been years, the HPS Two-Leggers have never failed to take care of us. We have all always eaten and we have all always had a doctor take care of us when we are sick. Planning is ok but let's not get carried away here."

There were cries of "hear, hear," and "Irish is right."

"May I say something?" I asked. Being a donkey, I sometimes feel a little overpowered by all the horses.

"Of course you may, Snickerdoodle," graciously assented Morning Glory, "You are a wonderful donkey and a credit to your breed."

"I think the Feeders could form a convoy of their cars and bring us our feed that way. They could just all go wherever fine feeds are sold. People with bigger vehicles could pick up more bags and people with smaller vehicles could pick up fewer."

There were cries of "The little donkey is right!" and "Way to go, Snickerdoodle!" (That was from Padre; he is my friend and a nicer horse never put four hooves in the front pasture).

Morning Glory took control of the meeting again saying, "Well, that solves that but now we need to get the idea in the Two-Leggers' minds. We have to do it in such a way that they think it is their idea -- those egos!"

The herd moved to form a Sub-Committee composed of Windsong (who can be exceedingly charming when so inclined), Spirit, and Monty to study the issue.

"NOW can we have the refreshments?" asked Dream plaintively.

Many Horses...continued from page 1

than they can get from pasture and hay only. These horses will slowly starve to death. The other horses may seem healthy, but often times are suffering from the lack of important nutrition that is not available to them. Other horses like Nevada, will founder when kept on pasture only as he and Snickerdoodle did.

There was a very nice Quarter horse that we named Santa Fe. (Little play on words since it is Christmas time.) He was also a pasture horse, and it was easy to tell he was not getting the needed nutrition or care. Not way under weight, but lacking good hoof growth, desperately needed trimming and had a large worm belly. He had been taken in on trade for another horse and the owner didn't want him. The owner felt that he could never be ridden again because of a creaked hoof and an old leg injury. Deborah Baker and I looked him over and felt he needed a chance to recover. The old leg injury looked as if it had not had ANY care when it accrued. This was not the only injury this horse has suffered in his life. There are large divots on both sides of his neck, smaller scaring on his front leg, other signs of old past injuries on his body and is blind in his left eye. This poor guy has been through too much in his life and deserves to have a chance for a good horse's life. He is gaining energy and the weight that he needed. What a sweet boy. When his old coat sheds out in the spring, he is going to be a real looker.

Santa Fe has made good friends with an old mare that we took in to help Tamara. She was injured when a round bale fell on her. The day she came home from the hospital, a man brought the horse and said he did not want her and get rid of her. Of course Tamara said, "Okay" even though she would be in a body brace for the next three months. She asked us to take her in, and we were happy to help her out. Tamara has done so much to help HPS by working with some of the horses. Jingle Bells is doing great, gaining all the needed weight, and we expect a full recovery. The first worming has



Santa Fe 's hoof

to be done with great care when they are so full of parasites that their bellies are distended. Jingle Bells is a very sweet Quarter horse.



Come and meet Jingle Bells

"In Loving Memory of my kind-hearted cousin Don Erickson who cared for and enjoyed animals his entire life. December 26, 2005" by Roberta McCardle

Christmas Blessings for an Abused Horse

*Twas the night before Christmas, but my manger was bare
My coat is still matted, the spots that aren't bare.
My thirst shows no mercy on this day of the lord.
My stall is still filthy, manure covering the floor.
Outside the stars are brilliant, in the clear sky they shine.
Peace and love fill the world, except the corner that's mine.
Here it is cold and hunger that are more the rule.*

*The seasons joys and blessings aren't shared by the cruel.
My owner is comfortable, all snug in his bed.
He doesn't care that I haven't been fed.*

*When out in the pasture, what should I hear?
But the sound of a sleigh and the hoofs of reindeer!
I peered out of the stall for there rose quite a clatter,
as Santa strode in to see what was the matter.
I heard your poor suffering, even from afar.
Your owner doesn't deserve you, the good horse you are!
The scowl on his face didn't fit the jolly old elf.
His anger had gotten him quite beside himself.
He threw open the stall door and in a flash,
Had my rack filled with hay and feeder with a mash!
You enjoy this, he said as he strode to the house,
I'm going to stir up much more than a little old mouse!*

*As I munched I looked to see what would occur.
Santa entered the house and he caused quite a stir!
He grabbed my owner by the back of his shirt.
And pulled him to the barn, where he stopped with a jerk.
This horse is Gods creature, placed in your care!
Santa fairly shouted his wrath filling the air.
You have used and abused him, for far to long.
And worse, you don't even think it is wrong!
I have your Christmas list. Santa brought it forth from his
coat.
You want toys and gizmos, a new car and a boat!*

*Santa said with a grin Your gift this year is much better by far,
Then any shiny new toys, or even a car!*

*My owner's eyes grew wide and filled with fear,
Not sure what it was that next he would hear!
Santa took a deep breath,, then said with a sigh.
You shall switch lives with this little guy!
Then laying his finger beside of his nose,
He winked at me and switched our roles.
I was no longer a horse, all battered and thin,
But stood on two feet, wearing a grin!
The horse in the stall neighed loudly in protest.
Santa just smiled and shook his head as he left.
I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight.
Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.
I watered my horse, and cleaned out his stall.
Amazed that there are some seasons blessings after all!*



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Angel Sponsor: \$20 /1month - \$60 /3 months - \$120/6 months - \$240/1 year
Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, or Angel Sponsor (please circle)?
Name: _____ phone # _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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Would you like the above recipient to receive "Over Herd" - Yes No
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Any donation is appreciated. Please make your check payable to Horse Protection Society.
For a \$25 of more donation the named person can receive "Over Herd" for 1 year.

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina



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Phone: 704-855-2978
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Web site:

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.

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