



OVER HERD

January 2016

Happy New Year!

We send our prayers to each of you for God to bless you this coming year! You have been a blessing to all the rescued horses that have come to the sanctuary over the last 17 years. So many of you have been aiding the horses for many years and have never forgotten them. There are always new contributors that have just learned of the important work we do saving the worst starved horses.

You have provided the needed hay through three draughts. You have made it possible to build two wonderful barns to shelter the horses and a covered hay feeder. The Indoor Training Area was a wonderful gift to work with the horses to put them back under saddle. Our gratitude goes out to the grants that helped with these projects!



As I have written about before, the hay prices locally have doubled since starting the Horse Protection Society. It was decided that a second Covered Hay Feeder (see photo of proposed building below) would help to save needed funds on the purchase of hay for years to come.

The blessing we have received is the needed funds to complete this project that will be so stupendous for the horses. No more hay out in the field in all weather, no more areas in the field that grass will not grow, saving on hay loss, and the most important, shelter for the horses in all weather. It will also keep our fields from being hurt by the huge tractors running through them to put the hay where we need it outside. This is going to make such an improvement in so many ways for the horses.

We had one contributor that started things off with a generous donation and wishes to remain anonymous. Then a surprise grant from a self-directed foundation. This foundation has been a blessing to the rescued horses in the last couple of years. They do not accept applications for grants and also wish to remain anonymous, so they will not be inundated with grant requests. We thank the other folks who helped also. We now have enough funds to also provide



the rock to go around the edges and the custom made welded gates that will be needed for the inside to hold the hay bales in place. We will be able to insulate the roof to prevent condensation from dripping on the hay. Our heartfelt "Thank you" to everyone that made this important project possible before the weather gets terrible. The horses are going to love their covered hay feeder and there will be enough room for all of them to eat in peace and comfort.

The area where the Covered Hay Feeder will be constructed doesn't provide any good grazing and part is in a sacrifice area off to the side between the two large barns.

We have a little bit of re-fencing to do and have gotten the process started to get the needed fill dirt and grading done. We are on the list with Mid-State metals that have done a wonderful job building our other buildings. We have had no issues with anything they have constructed for us.

Everyone here, who loves the horses, is so thrilled with how quickly HPS received the needed funds! There is no possible better Christmas present. (Happy Dance..... Thank you God!) Prayers do get answered!

News from the Herd

Half of the Herd received their rabies vaccination this month. The rest will get vaccinated after the first of the year. This helps with expenses to keep half the herd on different time frames.

Traveler showed signs of colic and our Dr. Mary treated him. But even then the colic didn't respond quite normally. I spend the night checking on him and got 2.5 hours sleep. Dr. Bob treated Traveler the following morning and once again, Traveler's colic did not act like a normal colic. Everyone was so frustrated to not be able to determine what was causing his symptoms. The standard colic treatment was not helping. The next night Traveler was showing other symptoms. Heavy perspiring on a cold night, blanked him and had to change his wet blanket several times since it was wet though and his body temperature was low. I was in constant contact with the vet on call and she did not feel there was anything else that could be done for Traveler until we could do some tests in the morning. The sedation was not helping. Later at night Traveler became neurological and I knew the end was very close and the vet would not make it to the sanctuary before he passed. We can only speculate what illness caused the secondary symptoms of colic. The only other horse I have seen like Traveler had severe liver failure, but there is a long list of could have been..... We thank our veterinarians for trying to save his life. (Mobile Large Animal Veterinary Service – 704-528-1717) He will be greatly missed!

Eclipse had four loss teeth in the front that were causing him pain. They had to be removed. I had never seen teeth removed that were this large and still attached. Eclipse had periodontal disease and the only option was to remove the teeth or leave him in pain. The follow up treatment is to keep the holes flushed with warm water and banamine for a few days. Watch for infection. The sedation caused Eclipse to shiver and he had to be blanketed until the drugs wore off. We were told that Eclipse also has loss teeth in the back and we will check them again when the herd gets their dental work done in late winter early spring. We were also warned that over time he may have to have the other front teeth remove.

Anasazi has had issues with eating her feed for as long as she has been here. There are days when she would eat all of her feed and other days when she just was not interested. One small piece of a broken loss tooth in the back was removed and the few teeth she has left in the back were reduced hoping this would help her feel better and eat better. We will reduce these few remaining teeth again when the herd gets their dental done. If good dental care of the horse had been done over the years this could have prevent the issues that we often have to deal with here at the sanctuary. Dr. Brian Taylor is our equine dentist and does a great job. (336-998-2253) The cost is no more to use a specialist in equine dentistry.

Just for Fun

Chiclet and Chuckles are now out of the round pen and in the front field with Eclipse. They are getting along great. They have a couple of balls to play with. If you do not want to invest in a ball for your horse until you know whether he will enjoy it, try a gallon milk jug with a few pebbles in it. If you play with it first it will get your horse more interested.

Crazy baby duck saga continues. The little ducks have grown large enough to figure out that the female Wood Duck sat on a nest of Indian Runner Duck eggs. You may remember that we took in two of this type duck last summer. Now we have five to seven more. They are fast little rascals and hard to count and normally mixed in with the other ducks and geese on the pond. The baby ducks have taken up with our Indian Runner Ducks and come up with them to be fed.

The horses are enjoying the cooler weather rather than the hot summer we had. The heat makes us lazy and the horses also. I am seeing a lot more running and playing. Rolling in the mud is a favorite pass time. This is something I will never understand when there is grass to roll on.

The over-seeded new grass is coming up already with the rain we have had. The horses, ducks and geese are enjoying the tender new grass. I hope we have some left by spring.

Our New Year's resolution is be able to continue providing the best care for the horses. Please make one of your New Year's resolutions to come and visit the sanctuary if at all possible. Remember we are open for visits every Saturday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

Honors and Memorials

The beautiful Christmas cards and words of encouragement mean a great deal to lift spirits when there are almost always stressful issues to deal with. Our gratitude goes to each of you for relieving the biggest stress of funding for the care of the rescued horses. My prayers are also with the volunteers who love the horses as their first priority to see that each one's needs are met. The two words "Thank You" never seem to convey the true feels of your importance.

May you have a blessed year!

In honor of Judy Cashwell. By Gail Miller

Jay Bolin & Cramony's daughter donated funds from her 6th birthday party for the horses.

In honor of Laura Domingo. By Mary Warner

In memory of Jan Smith. By Carol R. Neill 12/11/15

In memory of Margaret (North) Goodstal. By Barbara & Frank Freer

In memory of my husband Jerry's Birthday, 12-30-31. By Imogene Caldwell

In honor of my granddaughter, Vivi and her horse Doc. By Nancy Aubel

In honor of Lisa Murray's Birthday in January. By Sybil Athey

In honor of my mother, Debbie Morris. By Heather Sanders

A Special Thanks To Our Wonderful December Donors!

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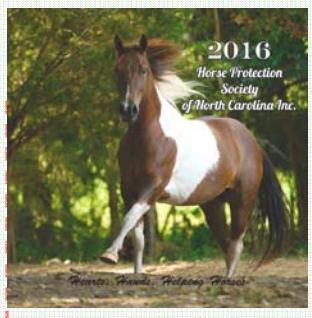
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