

Happy New Year!

The horses insisted on having a New Year's Eve party. They wanted party hats and noisemakers. Shinook lead the revolt by refusing to wear a mask, and all the others agreed. Dusty voted to ignore social distancing. He is a big supporter of hanky-panky with the mares. He has been caught taking the girls out behind the barn.

Tusca smelled cookie breath on one of the two-leggers, and the horses agreed on cookies with grated carrots, no sugar, but a little molasses or licorice or vanilla, oatmeal, and oats. Decorated with organic Cheerios would be nice too.

Freedom and Flame wanted to introduce the other horses to eggnog with a little rum or brandy in it.... But don't let the two-leggers know.

They all threatened to have a peaceful protest if they didn't get what they wanted. Of course, the horses got what they wanted. We couldn't have the horses carrying signs out front protesting.

These partygoers wish each of you a safe and joyful New Year!



*"Give me the peppermint
COOKIES!"*



"Just fill my feed pan
with rum and eggnog."



"I'm going to fall
down."

Tax Notices

HPS will be sending each donor their notice listing the total of the contributions donated through the end of December 2020. You should receive your mailed Tax Notice before the end of January. Watch for the envelope with TAX NOTICE on the front.

We will share some of the elective expenses that we anticipate in the first quarter of 2021. We will need additional help from you to be able to fulfill all of the anticipated needed expenditures.

Looking ahead to the New Year

All of us need to keep the prayers going for the wonderful folks who have been affected in 2020 in different ways, serious illness, loss of their employment, and other issues caused by COVID-19.

There are some issues that may affect things in 2021. Last year we had to cancel the Silver Jewelry sale we had planned for early spring. We are hoping to have the event in the spring. The price of silver has gone up exponentially, but the silver jewelry prices will remain low. Some of our contributors have been adversely affected, and we pray for them!

It would be super if Farmer's Day would take place in the coming summer. We had a great time with Peaches the summer of 2019 at Farmer's Day. The little kids loved her, and the donations were a help. We were disappointed the event was canceled.

HPS will seriously pursue securing the funds for generators to ensure the horses will have clean water when the electricity goes off and be able to maintain the same high quality of care for the babies.

Our 24-HP Kubota tractor has been a Godsend since 2006 when Joyce and Teddy Hixson showed up with the tractor and brush hog. What a great gift. Up until then, the fields were mowed with an old Murphy ride mower. Normally we would wear the mower out and look for an old used one to buy cheap the next year. All barn cleaning, rock, and groundwork had to be moved with a shovel and a wheelbarrow.

It is time for a more powerful tractor to deal with the mud around the covered hay feeders. We will look into purchase one of the 40 to 50 horsepower 4WD automatic front loader tractor. Having two tractors would be fantastic. Our little Kubota was in the repair shop most of the summer. It got boxed in by equipment that was torn down, and the parts needed were not available.

Finally, we got our tractor back, and rock delivered to help with the grading and refilling.... **And then the rains came....again and again. We think we may need flood insurance.** At times the driveway looks like a trout stream.

The fields have been reseeded, and the new grass is coming up. The geese think the tender grass is theirs, and we would like a way to convince them to leave without killing them.

Most years we have a pair of Wood Ducks that hatch a brood of chicks. This year is no exception. They buzz around in the pond so fast that I have not been able to count them. The little ducklings grow so fast and then they are gone until next year.

The wonderful news for the end of 2020 is that Sparrow has a new home with other horses and will be the special horse for a young girl.



News from the Herd

You know that saying, when it rains, it pours. We experience that often here at the sanctuary. We will go so long without having to call the vet in, and then all of a sudden, we'll have to call them to come out every week. You make that first call and then hold your breath thinking, please, nothing else.

Our young girl, **Honey**, suffered from a mild colic. She initially let us know by banging her foot against one of the stall walls repeatedly. We called the vet, and thankfully, she came out of it quickly and had no relapses. Honey was back to her old self the next day.

We noticed that one of our mares, **Scooter**, had some weird looking discharge in her stall after feeding. We made a note of it, checked her over, and kept a close eye on her. We noticed nothing else until two weeks later when there was a considerable amount of the same kind of discharge. We collected a sample and had the vet out again. Scooter received a thorough examination with a culture taken and different medications administered. So far, the prognosis is good, and we haven't seen any more of the discharge.

We were particularly concerned because **Scooter and Dusty** have an on-again, off-again type of relationship. Dusty is very enamored with just about every single mare in this herd. We were concerned about two things: is Dusty spreading anything from Scooter and the other mares, and why is Dusty acting like such a stud muffin? From all appearances, he is definitely a gelding, but what if he is a cryptorchid horse, a condition where one or both of the testicles did not fully descend, so therefore he would not have been gelded? Yes, we had a moment of panic while we envisioned a dozen pregnant mares running around the sanctuary! So we had the vet come out to perform Dusty's test to ensure that he is a gelding. It is a simple procedure but requires the vet to come out twice in one day. We are delighted to say that Dusty is definitely 100% gelded and is now on some medication to help curb his amorous appetite. We are also happy that he did not spread anything between any of the mares. Scooter was just one of those odd cases that can't be explained but could be resolved.

You may remember that **Nova** had an accident several weeks ago and has needed ongoing veterinary care. She was examined again recently, and we are pleased with her progress. She is improving, but we will need to continue to keep her on her medications and supplements. We were very concerned for a while, but I think it is safe to say that she is out of the woods. She is one very tough old gal!

We have had to have several of the horses seen by the chiropractor, with a couple of them needing more adjustments. **Freedom** must have had some accident that injured his pelvis on his right side, and he needs to be adjusted every two to three weeks. We have seen a definite improvement in him since his latest adjustment. The poor guy was struggling for a while, but just this morning, he was horsing around and trying to stir up the other horses to race around with him. It made us so happy to see him feeling so much better!

We also had the vet out to assess our insulin resistance horses. We made some changes to Ebony Star's medications and have seen an improvement in her. We could tell she was feeling miserable, so it is good to see her back to clearing out her side of the hay feeder and claiming her spot at it. *(Cont. on Page 4)*



News from the Herd (*Cont. from Page 3*)

Peaches is not doing so well. Her back hooves' radiographs are hard to look at, showing the worsening rotation of the coffin bones from her foundering that she experienced before coming to us. We will be meeting with the farrier to discuss how we can best help her. The vet has recommended her having a trim every four weeks instead of our regular six-week rotation. We are still awaiting her blood test results, and depending on those results, we may need to make some adjustments to her medications and supplements.



We thank you for your donations that go to helping these horses! The vet bills can almost take my breath away sometimes, and we couldn't do this without you! When it rains, it pours, but thanks to your support, we can continue helping our rescue horses be healthy and happy.

HPS received 15 donations through Network for Good. We feel that it is sad that we never knew who donated the funds. We do not share our donor List! We like to thank our contributors and add the donors to our Newsletter list.

In honor of Vicki Troutman...Just Because. By Mary Tucker

In memory of Warrior, my heart horse. It has been 16 years since I lost him. I still miss him. By Rita Tucker

In memory of my beloved Sunni. By Mary Myers

In honor of Joanne Johnson. By Suzanne Wallace Casey

In memory of CALLI, a sweet cat I had for too short a time. Kristi Hartwig

Happy 91st. Birthday to my mother-in-law, Martha Stacker. We love you!

By Ann Harrison

In honor of Lisa Murray's birthday in January. By Sybil A they

In memory of our beloved dog, Cayee. By Diane & Chris Etheridge

In Honor of Betty Lentz. Merry Christmas and thank you for everything you do for the horses. Kim Clark

In loving Memory of Beryl Keith. By Gayle Garfield

Thank you to Dottie Rebhan who has helped our elderly parents tremendously! She has been an angel to our family. By Carolyn McTish

In Honor of horse lovers and caregiver, Grace Brooks. By Mandy Spady

Happy New Year

Thank you for all of the thoughtful notes and beautiful cards. It warms our hearts to read your messages of blessing and caring for the volunteers and the horses.

Hope this is a season of warm and happy memories and your New Year is filled with health, contentment and peace.

You have brought peace to HPS by helping to provide the needed funds to start the New Year. Cost always increase in the winter.

All Collectibles U Need

Amazon. Smile

Anonymous

Sybil P. Athey

Avantti Equine Vet. Partners

Lynn & Paul Baldwin

Charles L. Beck

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Thank you! We wish
you a Happy and
Healthy 2021!

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