



# Horse Protection Society of North Carolina

a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

## OVER HERD

Volume 16 Issue 7

Newsletter

July 2013

*Comanchero before...*



### Look at Them Now!

**Comanchero** came to the sanctuary in May of 2012 and his story was in the June *Over Herd*. He had been sold to a gal who transported him to Oregon. Over the next ten years the previous owner kept in touch to make sure her beloved horse was doing okay.

This communication between past and present owners of Comanchero was to

*Comanchero after...*



his advantage. The owner in Oregon began having financial issues so his old owner in North Carolina was able to take Comanchero back. Then, the person in North Carolina was offered a better position across country. Comanchero had become very thin where he was kept and it was determined that he could not make the trip across country at the age of 26 years old. These large boned, older type Thoroughbreds, such as Comanchero, that were used for cross country, stadium jumping, dressage and many other sporting eventing, need large amounts of feed to stay in top condition.

It took a while to get Comanchero's weight up to where we were happy with it. He was tested for EPM and was negative. He does have a cataract in his right eye. We know how to help this issue to keep him from going blind in that eye.

Comanchero is a happy horse with Baby, his girlfriend and constant companion. He and Baby love to hang out in the barn during the day. Baby is dwarfed by Comanchero's large size and disappears when standing behind him.

**Cree** is another one of the old timey Thoroughbred types that could do it all. Cree is at least 30 years old, so he will live out his life at the sanctuary. Cree was featured in the August 2012 Newsletter. You may recall that he was abandon in a field in Chatham County and Annie Schoonover had her first experience pulling a horse trailer to bring him to the sanctuary.

Cree had a great deal of trouble gaining his weight back so we had him tested for EPM. His numbers were very high and after treatment, he started gaining the needed weight. We recently retested him for EPM and need to do it again in five or six weeks to see if the numbers are going up. He may need to be retreated even though the numbers were a fraction of what they were when he was first tested.

*Cree before...*



### Comanchero and Cree are both wonder-

ful horses that are very easy to work with, unless you want them to stand still for a photo. As horses recover from starvation, their coat colors will often become much darker. You could become an Angel Sponsor and come spend time with either one. Both love attention!

*Cree after...*



## News From the Herd

**Red Cloud** had a serious eye issue that could have caused her to go blind in that eye. The volunteers did a great job every day treating her eye, and all the issues have been resolved. Any eye issues need immediate attention by a good veterinarian.

**Sonoma** had a choke that the new veterinarian with Dr. Bob and Dr. Mary Gochnauer's office Mobile Large Animal Veterinary Service, Dr. Sara Walker, did a great job resolving.

Due to a generous grant, HPS was able to check many of the older horses' eyes for cataracts and nuclear sclerosis. The following horses were checked due to their age or the fact that they were blind in one eye: **Santa Fe, Anasazi, Baby, Breeze, Comanchero, Desperado, Diego, Honey Bun, Maverick, Sonoma and Zuni**. Each horse had an issue, except for Santa Fe. HPS has found that a handful of chopped cabbage three or four times a week helps to keep cataracts soft. Once a cataract hardens, blindness ensues. We also put horses on 50,000 iu of Beta carotene gel caps and one Lutein with bilberry every day. Using this protocol we have had cataracts dissolve and eye sight improve. Studying a group of older horses for eye issues has shown that all horses should have their eyes check by a qualified veterinarian by mid-teens and then every couple of years. The veterinarian should use Tropicamide to dilate the eye, not atropine. The Tropicamide wears off in about 6 to 8 hours and the horse should wear a UV fly mask during this time to protect the eyes. Atropine may take a week to two weeks to wear off. During this time the eyes remain dilated and in danger of damage from the sun even when protected by a fly mask. To prevent damage, a patch can be made from duct tape and put on a fly mask over the dilated eye.

**Aurora, Natchez, River and Sonoma** were well enough to receive their rabies vaccinations after coming to us starved.

**Kit Carson** and **Cree** when previously tested for EPM showed the highest values and were treated. We retested these two horses. Cree will need to be treated again then retested in about five or six weeks. He may need further treatment. Kit Carson had perfect numbers indicating no reoccurrence of EPM.

**Cloud, Desperado, Diego, Freedom, Honey Bun, Legacy, Mingo and Pontiac** were tested for Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis (EPM). Legacy still needs treatment for EPM.

**Pontiac's** testosterone level was tested. His behavior led us to believe that he could possibly be a cryptorchid or high flanker. These two conditions leave the testes up inside the body so the horse may look like a gelding, but is really a stallion. Pontiac's test was negative. Now we know we are dealing with a behavior issue and can deal with him appropriately.

# Honors and Memorials

Congratulations & best wishes for your marriage,  
Emily Williams & Tray Forguites!  
By Debra & Ken Rockett

In honor of Sybil Athey's birthday,  
July 11th!  
From the horses & Dottie

In honor of Alexia &  
Asher.  
By Selena & Dan Baptista

Thank you for being there!  
By Bruce Pethel

*In memory of Carolyn M. Johnson of  
Burlington, VT.*

*She was 77 years old and often shared  
stores of her favorite horses with us.*

*By Mike & Jane Granato, Barb Tucci  
& Linda Swinson*

Happy Birthday,  
Ann!  
Love, Mom  
(June 29th)

# *A Special Thanks To Our Wonderful Contributors*

Elaine Addison	Hawkins Charitable Fund	Debra T. & Ken Rockett
Sybil P. Athey	Brenda & Charles Hemperley	Robert H. Schantz
Selena & Daniel Baptista	Dr. Leslie C. Henson	Harriet A. Seabrook
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## Free Grocery Coupons and Help Feed the Rescued Horses

This is so easy and you get to feed your family for less and help to feed the starved horses too. Just go to : <http://www.commonkindness.com/> To the right is a “Find” block for nonprofits. Type in **Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.** A page will come up for you to sign in under our name. Then, when you print coupons and use them at your local grocery store, a small percentage comes to HPS. Why spend more for groceries when you can save using coupons and donate at the same time? Thank you for helping.



Donation From:- \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please use my donation for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Use , Angel Sponsor\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Angel Sponsor: \$20 for 1 month \$60 for 3 months \$120 for 6 months \$240 for 1 year

Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, or Angel Sponsor (please circle)?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Would you like the above recipient to receive "Over Herd" - Yes No

Your message for the newsletter:

\*\*Any donation is appreciated. Please make your check payable to Horse Protection Society.

\*\*For a \$25 or more donation, the named person can receive "Over Herd" for 1 year.

Mail completed form to:

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



# August Newsletter Notice

*Anyone who would like to have an Honor or Memorial placed for August newsletter needs to have the information to HPS by July 20th. We have to close the information for the newsletter by that date in order to have it to the printer in time for delivery the first of August.*

# Summer is here...