



Over Herd

May 2004

Volume 6, Issue 5

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:

Yard Sale Set Up - April 30th
Email Roberta with the time available. Rain date: May 7th

Yard Sale - May 1st
Email Roberta with the time available to help. This is going to be the best sale yet! Don't miss it
Rain date: May 8th

Members Meeting - May 8th
Lunch/Meeting at Noon. Please bring a covered dish to share.

Farrier Day - May 29
The horses will be trimmed. We need folks to hold horses and write information down. Let us know if you can come. Please bring a covered dish to share. If you are planning to come, please email the sanctuary.



Popcorn will steal your heart

Tacoma and Shiloh Need our Love

Tacoma and Shiloh are both from Union County and were cared for by volunteers of the Humane Society for a couple of months after rescue. Tacoma is involved in a court case that maybe heard April 30. The Union County Humane Society has brought the case. Tacoma is a Standard bred horse about the size of a yearling but is two years old and ungelded. His body condition does not look bad to most people until they are told his bred and age. He is filling out wonderfully, energy levels are up, and his coat shines in the sun now. (We pray his growth plates have not closed.) Our old ladies would like nothing better than for Tacoma to join them in their field. (The hussies!) They are not happy about the super charged electric fence separating them. I am sorry you will have to wait until next month's *Over Herd* to hear if the case is heard, and if the judge returns Tacoma or removes him from the charged person. Tacoma could use your prayers that the judge will not return him to a life of starvation!



Welcome Tacoma!

See Tacoma page 2

Popcorn's Solitary Confinement Ends

Monday morning at the sanctuary: John Kiwacka is on vacation and I have the herd all to myself. No big deal to feed, mix supplements and water 30 horses. On a day when the horses cooperate, I can have everything done in about 2.5 hours. Of course "Her Royal Queenship" (formally known as "Mean Queen"), takes the longest to care for. I had been up since 4:30 am and head to the barn about 7:30. The sun was shining warmly and it had the promise of a beautiful day. The peace and my blissful thoughts were shattered by fearful whiney screams from the Little Guys' field.... The "Rowdies" had broken in and Wind Walker, a six-year-old black TWH, was leading the charge! The little guys were scattering in all directions, running for their lives. Seventeen hand Dakota and the speedy Seneca were in hot pursuit of Wind Walker. The rest of the Rowdies were trying to figure out how they to could get into that field as they raced back and forth along the fence. I have never seen Yum Yum gallop that fast! With difficulty, I herded the Rowdies into a small area and quickly put up the gate. I checked the shaking little guys and they seemed not the worse for wear by all the kicking and carrying on.

See Popcorn page 3



Tacoma...continued from page 1

Shiloh has been with Tacoma since his rescue December 2003. He was starved and turned over to the Humane Society to avoid prosecution. He had terrible rain rot when rescued, but his coat is coming in beautifully. Shiloh is quickly adding the last of the needed weight. He is between 17 to 19 years old and has a great personality. I would bet this big boy has had some good training in his lifetime. The Humane Society has transferred Shiloh to HPS. He is keeping Tacoma in his place sharing the front field with him. We are not sure of his breed, but he is a great looking big guy.



Shiloh has beautiful unique coloring!

Our wonderful hoof specialists have trimmed their hooves, and they both have great feet.

*In loving memory of my precious poodle "Cookie" who went to doggie Heaven after 15 years of companionship and love.
John & Helen Bishop*

*My sister Patricia passed away a year ago. She was a paraplegic who loved horses and dogs.
By Catherine Briggs*

*My dear friend Shannon Caviness
Is honored for her Birthday
by Spunky Dagenhart.*



*Thank you to each and every person that answered our desperate call for more items for the Yard Sale. We have been overwhelmed with your kindness and wonderful donations. The officers thank you, the horses thank you, and our vet will thank you.
Do not miss this HUGE sale!*

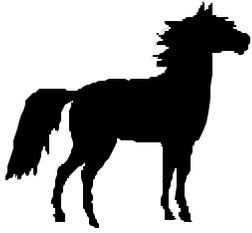
A Special Breakfast by YumYum (with a little help from Roberta McCardle)

Well! You will NEVER GUESS what is going to happen here next week! It's a very special surprise which will astound and amaze the herd. A couple of months ago I happened to be perusing the *New York Times* (one section of it had blown into my pasture). There was an ad in there for a contest involving breakfast. Naturally, this captured my attention so I read further. It was a contest for a famous chef (some guy named Emerald or something like that) to come to your home and prepare a sumptuous breakfast for you in bed.

Hotdog! There isn't much difference between breakfast in bed or breakfast in a stall....so grabbing a pen I quickly whipped up the required essay to enter the contest. I waited for our Two Legger to leave the house and I quickly ran in and flitched a stamp. And voila!.....six weeks later a peregrine falcon swooped by and dropped the notification letter by my left front hoof. We had won!!!

Ahhh.....I have been daydreaming about our menu....apples....bananas....pineapples....all fruit to be flambe'd. I think some Kashi would be nice with some extra granola for good measure. How about some fresh alfalfa cubes with some candied baby (organic) carrots mixed in? Apple juice would be a nice change from plain water. Melon balls over lime sherbet would be most refreshing too.

So many of the horses here have known such hard times – they deserve to have some lovely times and create some beautiful memories. Oh, I can hardly wait! NOTE: This will be televised live on Emeril's television show. Stay tuned and watch for us! PS I may request a five second delay on the TV feed just in case something goes a little bit wrong.....you never know what those rowdies are going to do.



News From The Herd

The Herd is doing GREAT! Everyone is shedding their winter coats and could use your help in this endive. The extra hair can cause them to over heat now that we finally have some warmer weather. Come brush a horse. (It will be bath time soon. We could use bottles of the Mane and Tail shampoo and conditioner from Wal-Mart.)

Queenie continues to gain her weight back and is doing wonderfully. She shows a slight weakness in her hindquarter. She is truly a horse of a different color... her in summer coat is coming much darker than she has ever been before.

Yum Yum has not been doing to good. We changed feed in hopes his appetite would increase. This seems to be helping some.

Desert Sand had not been handling the loss of her vision due to the cataracts. We had tried everything that we knew to help her. One evening when feeding had just started, something frightened her. She took off running and ended up in the Rowdies field. She took a sharp turn and kept going until she hit one of our neighbor's buildings. She did not suffer and died immediately. God made the decision that had been in the back of everyone's mind that was close to her.

Popcorn...Continued from page 1

Desert Sand was shaking, "Bute for you girl." Later Sugar Foot would not eat, 1cc of Banamine seemed in order. I surveyed the damaged fencing and four areas had suffered their wrath. I had to get all the fencing in good working order since a new member of the HPS family was going to be picked up today. Finally at 10:30 I was able to feed the old lady barn. I was feeding a packed house and tried to explain why breakfast was running a little late. With all the commotion in the "Little Guys" field some of the older horses were hiding out in the woods.

The old mares' attentive gelding buddies were at their sides in case the Rowdies came racing into their field. I was finally finished by 12:30 and had a short time to type up the release agreement, put together what I needed to take and clean up a bit by 1:30 pm to pick up a rescue pony. (Sunday Kathy Biggers and I made the call to see the pony. We were very concerned since the initial call did not go well talking to an older grandchild of the owner.)

Charles Lentz was on time, and we headed out with his nice slant load trailer. (It is a good thing the little girl liked her name since we picked it before she even got here.) Popcorn is about 12 hands a dappled sorrel and white paint pony. The body condition is not bad, but the front hooves are a mess. Some miss-guided farrier sawed off the long front of the hooves and left four inch heels. Poor little girl is in agony! Popcorn alternates between trying to go up on the sawed off fronts and rocking back on the four inch heels, which throws everything out of line. Up on the toe, she goes over at the knee.

The owner got her for her grandson when the pony was two years old. One of her eyes had been destroyed by a barbwire accident before the purchase. The eye was never sewn closed. When she was reported to HPS she was living in a bare field with a goat. I believe that she was cared for until the owner's health started to fail. Money became an issue and the pony was neglected.

Popcorn has not been with any horses or ponies for the last 20 years while with this owner. Her first view of the sanctuary was other horses. As we walked her loud calls to the other horses could be heard across all the fields as horses answered her back. Her little steps quickened, as she looked around at the other equine on the way to the halfway house. It didn't take her long to navigate though the fences and join the Rowdies. Lisa Murray and I came running to save Popcorn from their roughness. Surprisingly they were nice to her! Once again the fences were repaired and peace was restored! (This time we made double sure the fences were hot.) Popcorn will have to remain across the fence from the other guys until she can have her shots and deworming. Then for the first time in 20 years she can have equine friends. Our wonderful hoof specialists will do everything possible to return her deformed hooves to normal.

Update: The little guys did not welcome Popcorn into their field at first. Finally they are not chasing her off. Hawk worked on her poor huge feet and it was a joy to watch her return them to normal looking hooves. The folks that were here clapped when the work was completed. Thank you for making Popcorn's rescue possible.



Popcorn's hooves before Hawk worked her magic!



Meet the Members...



Denise, Justin and Irish

Justin, Scott and I have actually been members for three years. But little did we know what we were missing by not coming out to the ranch.

Justin has always "wanted a horse". So I brought Justin out one cold day in January, just so he could see what is involved in caring for a horse. Joanie showed us around and introduced us to the horses. That was it! We were hooked. We have found a little bit of heaven on earth. Justin decided then & there he wanted to come back. We returned the next Saturday to help Roberta feed. While feeding, Irish showed Justin her big toothy smile. Justin decided Irish was something special, she has been his buddy ever since. For me the ranch and the horses are one of the best stress relievers there is. Just being around the horses is so peaceful; you can't help just letting go of all the days' worries. Even with all the work involved it's so wonderful to be able to give something back. Coming out to the ranch is a joy and a blessing.

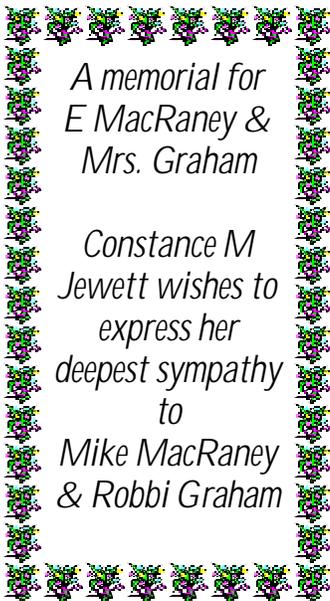
Girl Scouts come to the Sanctuary

Tracy Thompson arranged for troop 256 from Gastonia to do a project at the ranch to help the girls earn a badge project. The troop was interested in helping to improve our grooming area. It took several visits and lots of work. The girls cleaned out a small stall under the hayloft to store hoses, ladders, and mowers. Another small area became our bucket storage. The area was raked and extra items were put into their new areas. The girls hauled big rocks from the woods. The dads even got involved in this project. Four by four posts were sunk in the ground to make six hitching areas and a top rail was attached to each. This made a super hitching area around our old dead tree trunk.

We had started ivy growing and a wisteria up the tree. The girls dug out weeds, trimmed a tree growing in the area and constructed a low rock wall around the trunk. Then they filled it with our wonderful compost. The last part was to add plants and seeds. They purchased a climbing jasmine, and pinks. The gold finches will enjoy the low growing sunflowers when they go to seed. For decoration, they painted some old items, a metal wheel, a wheelbarrow and a metal milk bucket.

A big thank you goes out to the leaders Tracy Thompson and Linda Barrerr. We extend our gratitude to the hard working troop: Emily Arndt, Taylor Baird, Alyssa Barrera, Caroline Boyce, Emily and Leah Fayssoux, Mercades Furr, Rena Gupta, Madis on Lawing, Sarah Reese, Kelsey Stryker, Sammie Thompson, and Megan Whisnant.

Today everyone is enjoying the new hitching posts, and it is now much easier and safer to groom a number of horses at one time.



*A memorial for
E MacRaney &
Mrs. Graham*

*Constance M
Jewett wishes to
express her
deepest sympathy
to*

*Mike MacRaney
& Robbi Graham*

The difference between caring for a horse or a child

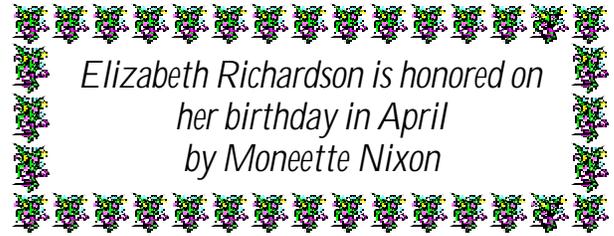
- You don't need to get extra phone lines for a horse
- It doesn't take 30 minutes to get a horse ready to go outside in the winter
- Horses never turn up their noses at dinner
- Horses cannot lie
- Horses don't pester you about picking up a friend
- Horses don't care what the neighbor horses have
- You don't have to wait up till your horse gets home
- A horse doesn't care about a name brand on his shoes
- Your horse is not embarrassed if you sing in public
- You don't have to have that birds and bees talk with your horse
- A horse will NEVER want a tattoo
- You get to pick your horses friends
- If your horse is a bad seed, your genes cannot be blamed.



Thank you to this months contributors:

Earl & Carolyn Alexander
 Clinton Anderson *Downunder Horsemanship*
 Sheily & Sony Austin
 Charles J. & Ellenda Beck
 Helen & John Bishop
 Teresa & John Bonk
 Melanie & Rocky Boone
 Peggy & Raymond Bouley
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 Angela Buchhop
 Jo Ann Burlison
 Gene Cain
 June Cauthen
 Betty & Robert Conkle
 Spunky Dagenhart
 Paula Dobbins
 Rhonda Duncan
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 John & Shirley Gough
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 Sharan & Michael Shively
 Sharon & Jerry Smith
 Sue Taylor
 Carol & Tom Tighe
 Melba Von Sprecken
 Mary Walters
 Nanette Watson
 Dorothy Harris Weathersbee
 Michael & Suzanne Webb
 Paul, Cindy & Jake Wilcoxon
 Shelagh Winter
 Judith Witmer
 Sue & Gary Wortman
 Kim Wrenn



Elizabeth Richardson is honored on her birthday in April by Moneette Nixon

Beware of horse hair!

In a press release today, the National Institute of Health has announced the discovery of a potentially dangerous substance in the hair of horses. This substance, called "amo-bacter equuii" has been linked with the following symptoms in humans:

- * reluctance to grocery shop or cook
- * reluctance to perform housework & yard care
- * reluctance to wear anything but boots
- * reluctance to work except in support of a horse
- * physical craving for contact with horses (maybe an addiction)

Beware! If you come in contact with a human affected by this substance be prepared to talk about horses for hours on end.

A public service announcement.
I think we are all in great danger!

Special thanks to Irwin Industrial Tools for photocopying the monthly newsletter.

Donation Form:

Your name: _____ Is this for a memorial donation? Yes No

Your phone number: _____ Whom do you wish to Honor: _____

Your e-mail: _____ 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/

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.

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

Address Correction Requested

HPS Officers

President	Roberta McCardle	(704) 637-9049.....	rmccardle@salisbury.net
Vice President.....	John Kiwacka.....	(704) 795-9471.....	kiwacka@ctc.net
Treasurer.....			
Secretary.....	Jenni Geiselman	(704) 622-8191	chicky9162@adelphia.net
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@adelphia.net
Fundraising Chair.....	Roberta McCardle	(704) 637-9049.....	rmccardle@salisbury.net
Construction Committee.....	Charlie Adams	(704) 933-4949	Bscladams@yahoo.com
Web Administrator.....	John Kiwacka	(704) 795-9471	kiwacka@ctc.net
Medical Needs Chair.	John Kiwacka.....	(704) 795-9471	kiwacka@ctc.net
Corresponding Secretary.....	Dottie Rebhan.....	(704) 633-0900	
Volunteer Coordinator	Valerie Berns	(704) 855-1574.....	sweetalmond902@hotmail.com
Sponsorship Coordinator.....			
Placement Coordinator.....			