



Over Herd

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 Calendars:

**Members Meeting
October 9th**

**Come early/stay late!
Lots of projects.**

**Lunch/Meeting at
Noon. Please bring a
covered dish to share.**

**Shop Food Lion =
Help for the horses**

**Food Lion Gift Cards
Page 2**

**Food Lion Shop & Share
Page 3**

Aluminum Can Recycling:

We have started recycling cans to help earn funds to support the horses.

Please save all of your aluminum cans and bring them to the sanctuary.

Ask your neighbors also! Please help us to make this an on going fundraiser for the horses.

Christmas Comes Early

HPS has needed a tracker for years. It has been impossible to save the needed funds to purchase the equipment that would be so useful here. My sister, Joyce Hixson, and I talk often on the phone. Joyce asked me what I wanted for Christmas. I told her I really had all I needed in life. (I am thinking along the lines of a salt grinder for my sea salt and a pepper grinder to match that is not too modern looking.) Later in the conversation Joyce asks me what equipment we now have at the sanctuary. I laugh and tell her we have a ride mower that gets beat to heck and so does the person riding it, mowing the fields, and it is in and out of repair. I tell her that John Kiwacka will rent a Bobcat to clean up areas and Charlie Adams runs it. It would be great to own a Bobcat! (I should have known that my sister had something up her sleeve.) A later phone conversation I mention that the guys don't think a Bobcat is what is needed, but a tractor would be better. Joyce breaks up laughing and tells me she and Teddy were about to buy us a Bobcat. (Teddy, Joyce's husband, thought this was a terrible idea and that a tractor would be better.)



A few days later Joyce calls to tell me she has purchased a 20-horse power Kubota tractor with a 55-inch bucket on the front. The tractor only had 1,000 hours of running time. The trip to North Carolina from Pennsylvania was planned..... then canceled..... then back on for a few days later because of the pending hurricane. There coming to NC, in its self, was exciting to me since I don't get to see my sister very often. (The visit was way too short!) Some of the gals helped haul yard sale

See Christmas...page 4

Indigo's Surgery By Kathy Haw

It was a dark and stormy morning...my alarm has just gone off, 4:30 am. I never get up at this hour but it's an important morning. I'm trailering Indigo to North Carolina State Veterinary School in Raleigh, and we need to be there by 10:30 am! Thanks to your donations, Joanie felt safe to make an appointment with the vet school to operate on Indigo and remove the tumor that was attached to her ovary. I got to the ranch about 6:20 and thank goodness the rain had stopped ...Joanie had already brought Indigo up from the pasture and cleaned her up; she was caked with mud from the overnight rain.

Joanie gave me Indigo's lead rope to load...well, she had no intentions of getting on the trailer. GASP-tight schedule! We prodded, pulled and even loaded Cimarron, her buddy. Getting a little desperate! Joanie went to get Indigo a nice sedative, and a little grain for incentive....then we ran a cotton rope around her rump. I had her lead rope, and we tried again....Indigo amazed us and stepped up into the trailer!...it was 7:30.

Whew...pulled into the parking area in front of the hospital at 10:00 AM...despite the heavy rain, rush hour traffic and construction, we were 30 minutes early!

I met Dr Tate, who would do the surgery. Dr Frederico, the resident vet, who would assist with the surgery. Within a half hour of getting Indigo settled into her stall, the students

See Indigo's Surgery...page 5

Meet the Members...

WOW, WHAT A YEAR!!!!!!!

Hi! I'm Colleen O'Malley and I became an HPS member 1 year ago this month. I was introduced to HPS by the heart wrenching article in the Charlotte Observer, at the time I thought "I can't go out and help my heart couldn't take it, and I can't afford to sponsor them all!!!". BOY WAS I WRONG! That story stayed with me, I sent a check to become a member, and shortly after met volunteers Lee Ann & Michelle on a trail ride, I stopped by the ranch on the way home to S. Charlotte from Burlington and received a personal tour from Joan Benson. My love and respect for horses grew over the years thru trips to Dude Ranches, cattle round ups, and many trail rides thanks to good friends who own horses, all this left me wanting more.

Right away I became a regular feeder and a "sponge" to the how's and why's of the Equine world, I'm like a little kid with all my questions and need for hands on experience. This year I have seen bags of bones go off to new homes all FAT & HAPPY!, I've learned all about colic, doctoring (including injections ouch!), proper saddling, and the miracle of herbs, vitamins, proper nutrition and time. I've learned horse language, natural hoof care and natural horsemanship, I've witnessed miracles (Queenie and Cherokee) and tragedy (miss you Desert Sand) and was honored to be elected to the board of directors as Parliamentarian/Historian, most of all I learned a little goes a long way and a horse does appreciate!! My stress level is off the charts and my week incomplete with out horse hugs, kisses, a muzzle at my neck, and of course being used as the occasional scratching post!!!
YUP..WHAT A YEAR!



Purchase Food Lion Gift Cards in any amount from \$5 up to \$499. 5% of every purchase comes back to HPS to help support your horses. You shop every month...why not order gift cards each month to do that shopping, also for holiday gift giving. Gift card orders are submitted on the 15th and 30th of each month so order yours today!

FOOD LION GIFT CARD ORDER FORM

Please complete a separate order form for each person you who is purchasing gift cards. Completed orders need to be mailed to: Lisa Murray- Food Lion Gift Card Coordinator, 1529 Mill Wheel Dr, Salisbury N.C. 28146. Full payment must accompany your order. Checks must be made payable to Food Lion.

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone: _____
 Quantity: _____ at \$ _____
 _____ at \$ _____
 _____ at \$ _____

Name: _____
 Address: _____

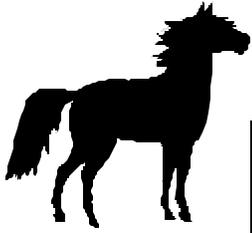
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Delivery Instructions:
 Mail my cards to the above address
 Leave my cards at HPS to be picked up by me

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 Mail my cards to the above address
 Leave my cards at HPS to be picked up by me

If for some reason you do not receive your cards 15 days after your order date please let me know.

**Thank you,
 Lisa Murray, Food Lion Gift Card Coordinator
 Questions please call me at 704-630-6155 or 704-640-3695**



News From The Herd

The cooler weather and lower humidity has been wonderful for the horses. It is great to see them running and playing in the fields. The horses are fat and beautiful and should be in good shape for the coming winter. Majestic and Warrior are the only ones that are still in need of additional weight gain.

Wrangler needed his eyes and poor gait checked. The vet feels that he may have had reoccurring uveitis in the past that has damaged his lenses. He also is having difficulty producing enough tears to keep the lenses lubricated. The uveitis has not reoccurred since he has been at the sanctuary that maybe due to the Beta Carotene that he receives everyday. Wrangler has had a visit with the equine chiropractor and the adjustment seemed to help somewhat. I am afraid that we are going to have to have him x-rayed to get a better diagnosis of his hindquarter stiffness.

Indigo has been a wonderful patient to deal with. The penicillin shots were not a favorite of hers and we were all glad when the round was completed. She has to be confined to a small area for several months during her healing time. Indigo has a tiny outside area so she can get into the sun, a large stall and two aisle ways to move around in. She needs to be walked for at least 20 minutes everyday. The danger is of breaking open the stitches and opening the surgical area up. It will be months until she can safely be in with other horses.

Wild Flower's proud flesh on her fetlock joint was not responding to treatment the way we felt it should. The veterinarian has cut away a good deal of it, and taken x-rays of the joint. The x-rays showed the joint covered in calcified growth over the old injured joint. We are praying that the surgery of the proud flesh will now allow the area a chance of finally healing correctly. Then we can start treatments with DMSO when the bandages come off

Hay! Er, Hey!

Have you re-linked your **Food Lion MVP** card for 2005 yet? Time is rapidly passing and the year will be over before we know it! It only takes a few seconds to do this at www.foodlion.com -- click on more information for the Shop & Share program and when that comes up click on re-link MVP card. You will then be prompted to enter your twelve (12) digit MVP card number and the first few letters of your last name. The computer pulls up your info & after confirming that the Horse Protection Society of NC is listed as your charity of choice, you hit "finished" and you're done & out of there! **If you don't re-link by 12/31, your purchases in Quarter # 1 (Jan-Feb-Mar) will not count toward helping HPS!** You can obtain MVP numbers (need address & phone # too) from friends, co-workers, etc. -- remember, you do not have to be a member to help in this way. Don't forget to tell people that doing this does NOT affect their MVP savings in any way, shape, or form. The total of their purchases just counts toward the total for HPS. If someone is new to the program, it only takes a few more seconds to enter their information. YumYum says **THANK YOU** and is delighted to learn of a fund-raiser that involves food (Navajo thought this was a pretty great thing too).

Tacoma had his day in court and God was with him. The owner did not answer the charges and did not respond to notices. She did show up in court, but the Judge found in favor of the Humane Society. So Tacoma is now HPS's. We made arrangement with Bonnie Lentz to care for Tacoma after his gelding. He will be staying with her for at least one month. Thank you Bonnie! (September seems to have been the month of surgeries.)

Tundra recovered wonderfully from her surgery for removal of one of her toes. She found something to step on that almost severed the toe on a front paw. It was very interesting having two large dogs in the house for 10 days. Tundra was boss dog over Sirius. Tundra even came to me several times to be patted. That ended as soon as she was returned to the horse field.



Christmas...from page 1

stuff out of one of the upstairs' bedroom so they would have a place to sleep. I ran the vacuum cleaner to suck up some of the spiders, and the mounts of dog hair from both Sirius and Tundra, who was still recuperating in the house from her surgery.

The day is busy, but seems to be moving slowly – I can't wait for Joyce and Teddy to arrive! FINALLY they are here! It was so wonderful to see them that I did not realize for a bit that there was also a Bush Hog attached to the back of the tractor. Joyce is laughing like crazy since she had asked me about Kubota dealers in the area. They had stopped off and purchased the Bush Hog at the dealership right outside of China Grove. On the back of the seat of the tractor is a "Showboat" decal from Atlantic City, New Jersey. My sister won the money to buy the tractor at the casino!

Gene Cain was one of the first guys to see the tractor, and was as excited about it as I was. He called John Ki-wacka and left the message, "The tractor is mine and keep your hands off it!" (More toys for the boys! Those two are always giving each other a bad time.) It is driving me crazy that I have not had the time to play with... I mean work with the tractor yet. Every moment is taken up with getting ready for the Yard Sale Oct. 2nd.

My nickname for my sister is "Better Homes & Gardens." Teddy and Joyce's home in Pennsylvania is to die-for-beautiful. Wonderfully rebuilt old stone farmhouse with magnificent additions they have added. The gardens are perfect and the barn and outbuildings have been fabulously restored. Teddy is the very best finish carpenter and cabinet builder I have ever met and Joyce's ideas and decorating is as good as the best professionals. (Decorating has never been one of my strong points.) You can imagine Mrs. Better Homes & Gardens reaction to the old farmhouse here when she sees that nothing has been done since her last visit, except on the outbuildings. Of course we talk about some of my ideas for the old place, which she nicks totally. Joyce now wants to take on the farmhouse as a project.... Hey, works for me. Her taste is much better than mine. Joyce feels that the casinos in Atlantic City can provide the needed funds to do the place over. Teddy thinks she is very lucky playing slot machines. Her winnings bought him a new truck with all the bells and whistles. I think God works in mysterious ways! All of us send our "Heartfelt Thank You" to Joyce and Teddy for the tractor, bucket, and Bush Hog.

Special Report to Overherd by Indigo (with clerical assistance from Roberta McCardle)

I knew something was going on. The two-leggers were talking about getting me on a trailer. Just having gotten a bit settled at the ranch, I wasn't enthused about going elsewhere until I heard them talking about taking good care of me, helping me feel better etc. "Oh," I thought, "they want to take me to a spa, how nice!"

So when Miss KAH asked me to step up into a trailer, I immediately did so. We had a pleasant drive to Raleigh with appropriate stops for sustenance, etc. My first hint that something was wrong came when I got out of the trailer and saw the entrance to the building. Where was the red door? I did not just get off the boat yesterday; I knew that every Elizabeth Arden spa had the famous red door.

Well! This was a little irregular but being a cooperative horse, I followed my friend into the brick barn. This was more like it! People greeted me left and right and I was ushered into my own spacious stall. I even had my own servant to look after me.

The second hint that all was not well was the lack of food. Those of you who have met me know that I am a robust girl. It takes fuel to maintain the inner horse. "Oh, well," thought I, "perhaps this is a combination slimming & luxury spa. Tomorrow's another day & surely they will feed me in the morning before they do my hooves and give me a bath." With that pleasant thought, I fell asleep.

The night swiftly passed and I was rudely awakened at an hour when civilized horses are still asleep. If this was their idea of luxury, I was NOT impressed. Several two-leggers hustled me into a really funny room. There was a table in there and a big light in the ceiling but that was it. Where was the bathing pool? Where was the luxury hay rack? Where were my minions to gently rub me down? Surely there was some mistake and I was in the wrong part of the spa.

WELL! The worst was yet to come. Some low-down sneaky two-legger stuck a needle in my rear and I got woozy right away. That's the last thing I remembered..... when I came back to consciousness, I still felt woozy and my tummy REALLY hurt. It wasn't easy but I struggled to my feet. Several pairs of eyes watched me through some windows. Then I noticed that I was in a padded stall -- yikes! What was going on? What kind of nutty people had me in their power? I fervently wished that I were in my stall at the ranch. Would I ever see my own stall (and that scrumptious pelleted feed) again?

At this point a nurse approached me & asked me how I felt. "Aha!" I shouted, "This is no spa and you are no masseuse. I have been LIED TO grievously. This is worse than a farm call by the vet. Take me home this instant!" And they did....three days later. Young Ones, take a lesson here: never get in a trailer unless you are absolutely certain of your destination.

Indigo's Surgery...from page 1

brought her into the examination room. There they gave Indigo a shot to relax her. They described the tumor as firm and guesstimated that was 20 cm in diameter. That's BIG.. The tumor was actually attached to her right ovary.

Dr Tate gave me a tour of the surgical area. It's made up of a room called the induction room where Indigo will be anesthetized. The floor and walls are completely padded, also included is a slant table to assist with laying her down without injury. Next door to the induction room is the recovery room....it's also padded and as the name implies Indigo will be brought here after surgery. Once sedated Indigo will be moved between the three rooms with an overhead hoist and pulley system. They have lots of experience moving patients around so although it sounds a bit mechanical, it really is a safe method for both patient and staff.

Surgery was scheduled for the next day a 10 AM. I visited with Indi in her stall that evening, visiting hours lasted till 7:00pm. She seemed relaxed although a bit on the hungry side...due to the scheduled surgery she still has not had anything to EAT! I brushed her.

Since I was working (that darn work always gets in the way!) I could not get to the hospital before the surgery started. When I did arrive at 12:30...I ran into Dr Tate.

He had just finished up and had left Dr Frederica working on stitching Indigo up. He brought me over to the surgical room. My first impression is that Indigo looked like a big puppy dog rolled over on her back waiting for a tummy scratch! Indi was nested into a V shaped table; her front legs bent at the knees, and her whole hindquarters was covered in surgical drapes. Dr Tate said, "All went as expected." He did have to draw off several vials of fluid from the tumor in order to get it out of the incision. It was that big! With that he pointed over to one of the tables in the surgical room and there sat "the blob". It was pink and healthy looking, if that can be used to describe a tumor and about the size of a soccer ball. He said, "It was a granular tumor, this is good. It's the least offensive type, and the tumor was not attached to the hip wall as was previously thought. A biopsy will be done regardless and the results will take a month."

When Dr Frederica finished stitching up Indigo's incision, she was brought into the recovery room. Through the little window, I could see she was lying on the padded floor on her side still "out of it". Dr Federica and the anesthesiologist were monitoring her and continued to do so until she came off of the respirator. As soon as she started breathing on her own, they quickly got out of the room. For the next 10 -15 minutes the staff observed her through the windows. To aid Indigo in getting up, ropes were tied to each end of her. One rope went from her halter to a ring in the wall and then out the observation window, the other went from her tail to a ring on the wall then also out the other window. These would be used to guide Indigo up as she tried to stand.

I saw Indigo later that night in her stall she was looking quite a bit more like herself. I checked her approximately 10-inch incision; one end that started on her belly just in front of her flank was puffy because of the way the doctor had to pull the skin together. It was hard to see the other end, it curved back and up towards her rear. The stitches would dissolve on their own in about a month. The doctor told me to expect to see considerable amount of swelling or edema along the underneath of her belly in the next few days but that it should subside in a week to ten days.

Indigo was scheduled to get a "mash" Wednesday evening, first feed since Monday evening at the sanctuary. They explain to me that they had to be careful about reintroducing food...they don't want her to colic. The veterinarian also did Caslick surgery on Indigo. This was to prevent manure from entering the uterine area from the outside. Friday Dr Tate declared her well enough to go home! Yeah! Her under belly had the edema as expected. But she was eating and pooping very well. Thank you!

Dr's Tate and Frederico gave me instructions on care. She would need penicillin shots twice a day for the next five days and "bed rest" for the next month. This meant she could not be out with her pals for a while....even after the first month was up Dr Tate recommend limited turnout for a month after that. He obviously was concern about her running and jumping too soon or getting kicked by another horse. So two months of recuperation time! Friday afternoon after I got Indigo "discharged," I wondered how well she would load this time. Dr Frederico led her out. Dr Tate was standing by with the lunge whip. Indigo started for the trailer, stopped and bulked. Dr Tate tapped her with the lunge whip and she let him know with a little bucking hop that she did NOT appreciate that! I quickly told him ...that we had better success last time with a cotton rope behind her rump....no problem he had one of those. This time I led, Dr Tate had the rope positioned behind her and without too much pressure she stepped in the trailer. Hey, she's getting the hang of this trailer thing!

Indigo's progress has been great. Joanie's only complaint is that we can't keep enough hay in her stall...the girl can eat! Finally this week, Joanie gave up trying, and just gave Indigo her own 800 pound round bale.

Indigo's future is bright! THANKS TO ALL OF YOU who were so caring! If you get a chance come out and see her. I have it on good authority she'll be your best friend for a carrot!!

Kathy submitted a four page story about Indigo. Please see our Internet site for the full detailed story.



Special *Thanks* to this months financial contributors:

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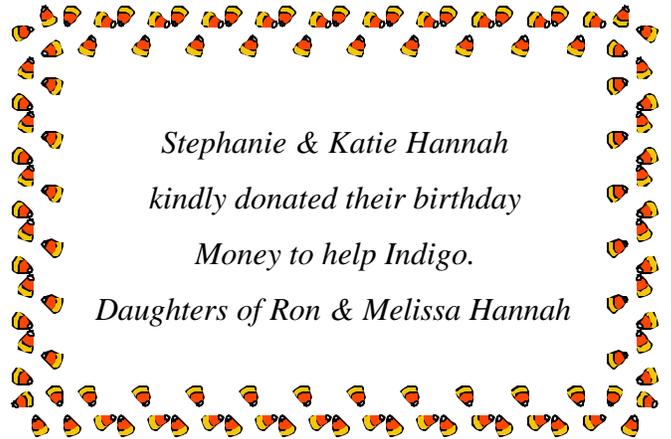
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Shelagh Winter
Sue Wortman
Kim Wrenn

Yard Sale Thank you!

Our annual fall yard sale was held on Saturday, October 2nd. A huge *thank you* to everyone who worked sorting, pricing, setting up, cleaning up, and working the sale. And to all the people who cleaned out closets, garages, and attics *thank you*.

Looks like the fall yard sale will come in at right around \$5000 in profits. We might actually be able to pay the vet bill before we head into the winter season.

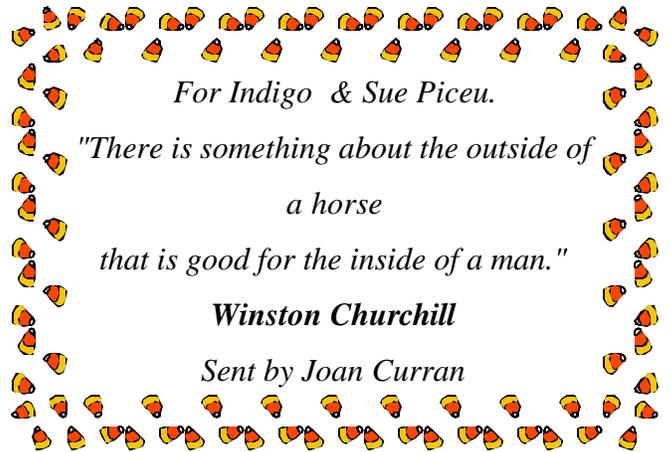
Thank you all!



*Stephanie & Katie Hannah
kindly donated their birthday*

Money to help Indigo.

Daughters of Ron & Melissa Hannah



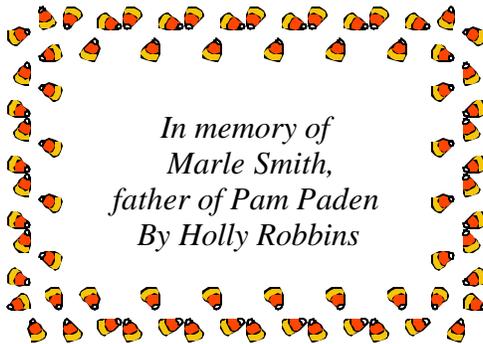
For Indigo & Sue Piceu.

*"There is something about the outside of
a horse*

that is good for the inside of a man."

Winston Churchill

Sent by Joan Curran



*In memory of
Marle Smith,
father of Pam Paden
By Holly Robbins*

Special thanks to all the HPS contributors, from those of you who give monthly to those of you who opened your hearts and became first time donators upon hearing one of our residents story. Each month a handful of people donate their time and energy to feed, medicate, and work miracles at the ranch. Your donations allow these miracles to continue...thank you!

Donation Form:

Your name:

Your phone number:

Your e-mail:

Your Message (for newsletter):

Is this for a memorial donation? Yes No

Whom do you wish to Honor:

Their e-mail:

Their Address:

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."

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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

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

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.

HPS Officers

President.....	John Kiwacka.....	(704) 795-9471.....	kiwacka@ctc.net
Treasurer.....	Michael Hulme.....	(336) 698-0049.....	MichaelHulme@bellsouth.net
Secretary.....	Lisa Murray.....	(704) 630-6155.....	murray1728@bellsouth.net
Parliamentarian/Historian.....	Colleen O'Malley.....	(704) 544-6426.....	doubleirish@juno.com
Executive Director.....	Joan Benson.....	(704) 855-2978.....	horseprotectionsoc@vnet.net
Newsletter.....	Ambe Lewis.....	(704) 838-1922.....	ambeoc@adelphia.net
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