

Over Herd

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.

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On the Web at:

www.horseprotection.org



New Resident Needs Our Help

Another white horse! Padre is a 19 year old Paso Fino, and foundered in both front hooves. X-rays have been taken, and the first trimming has been completed. Padre is on a very special diet to help him grow new healthy hooves and to take down the huge hard fat deposit on the top line of his neck. I am afraid we are going to have to take him down thin to lose the fat on his neck. Yet his diet has to be balanced so he has enough nutrition to stay healthy and grow good hooves. Because of his white color we started him on antioxidants to help prevent cancer. The x-rays showed a 16 degree rotation in one hoof and 12 in the other one. This is very fixable.... It just takes time and lots of trimming. He is already more comfortable with his high heels cut back. Now that we have the x-rays even more can be taken off.



Come and meet Padre!

Too many times people mean well, but do not have the knowledge to care for foundered horses. It took three weeks to get Padre to the sanctuary and start his treatment. Padre was at a stable in Mecklenburg County. The people meant well, but had no horse experience. They are planning to find a barn manager for their operation.

Continued on page 4

Mark your Calendars:

**Volunteer Day
October 8th**

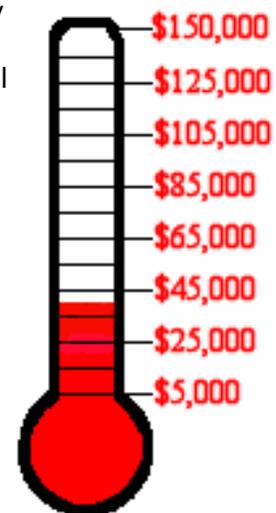
Come early/stay late! Lots of projects.

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

New Barn Project Update...

We are down to the wire on the starting time for the NEW BARN. One hundred and forty five kind folks have helped with the effort to date. The money pledged for the project is coming in and there is only \$1,737 pledges to be received. We now have \$28,878 in the savings account and the pledges will make a total of \$30,615. We have enough funds to start the barn, but with the huge increase in lumber and all other construction costs it will only be a small start to the 35 stall barn that is so desperately needed. Our prayers are that there are last minute donations that will be coming to aid the construction. This is 20% of the amount that is need for full completion of the barn.

Winter is around the corner, and we are open to all the help we can get to at least get this project started. We still need a licensed plumber to lay the pipes and set the hydrants. It is not too late to jump on the wagon with whatever help you can provide. Even if we could build half of the barn that would give every horse shelter for the winter and allow us to start taking down some of the other old buildings. What can I say except, "PLEASE HELP."



Would you Believe...

It was late morning and Dottie was finishing up the last few things from feeding the horses. I was walking back to the house after working on Majestic's hooves with Dottie's help. Passing 'Little Red,' the HPS car. I noticed a small bird with a large orange beak sitting on the car. I went to ask Dottie if she knew what the bird was. Dottie identified her as a domestic finch. The little bird flew to the top of Dottie's car, then into a tree, on to a roof, and back into a tree. Dottie asked, "Where is she?" I answered, "Sitting on your cap on your head. See if you can move into the car with the bird on your head." Dottie was slowly moving forward and the little thing flew off into a tree. Dottie went to the barn to get some birdseed. The scared little thing flew to my shoulder. With tiny steps I moved towards Dottie's car, slowly lowering into the seat, and turning the key to raise the window. Dottie returned and said, "Now what are we going to do?" I replied, "I don't know". This is as far as the plan went. I slipped out of the car while she was happily eating seed on the dashboard. I had an old birdcage, which was one of the thin bamboo type that had to be put together. Dottie took a look at it and said, "I don't think we are going to get that together in a week." Then she remembered that Vera had left a small hamster cage here. Dottie slipped into the car with the cage and carefully caught our little feathered friend.

Dottie has two parakeets at home and an extra cage. I had been hearing a strange little sound for the past three days and at one point thought it was another strange bug making the sound. That was when I was heading to the barn late in the evening when it was dark out. I don't usual hear birds then.

This is the fourth domestic bird that we have caught at the sanctuary. Domestic birds cannot survive when they escape or get loose. I am so glad they end up finding their way to our sanctuary. Maybe they come because it is such a blessed place of peace that draws them to us for help.

Happy Birthday Laura Knight.

Laura had a birthday party and requested the guests make a donation to the Horse Protection Society rather than bring gifts. Laura has been giving money donated by her friends and family to a charity for years instead of receiving presents. Once again Laura picked HPS and wanted to help build the new barn for the horses. The following families wish Laura a Happy Birthday. Myma & Keith Cosby, Marcus & Beverly Lesseur, Ellen & Michael Fiori, June & John Witherspoon, Amy & Randall Light, Beth & Jeff Knight, and Michelle & David Keen.

Big horsey "Thank You" to Linda Cole of Country Ride Saddlery in Mooresville and her kind customers for their donations

This month HPS participated at the Hoof 'n Holler at Biggerstaff Park in Dallas, NC. Hoof 'n Holler is the creation of Linda Salinas and benefits Catherine's House, a shelter for women and children.

Snowstorm and Salida went to the event in hopes of finding new homes for all their friends and for themselves at the sanctuary. Snowstorm was a very popular fellow with all the children and received an application for a new home.

Lisa Murray, Sue Wortman, Deborah Baker, and Kathy Haw were on hand to talk to interested people about HPS and its placement program. As a result of the event, we have heard from many people about giving our horses loving homes.



Salida and Deborah enjoyed the day!



Serene Serenity?! By Roberta McCardle

As some of you will remember, several years ago HPS participated in the rescue of more than two dozen neglected, starving Saddlebred. These were horses that were not accustomed to being handled, which made their rescue and subsequent stay at the ranch most interesting.

One of these was a lovely mare, light gray in color. Deana, a HPS member, was hit by Cupid's arrow the first time she gazed upon the beauty of Serenity. Deana saw things in Serenity that no one else could see. Keep in mind that "Serenity" is a misnomer. This horse would never, on her best day, be elected Miss Congeniality. Her personality could turn on a dime and she was not one to hold anything back. She was not a warm-fuzzy kind of horse and she particularly hated men. Serenity's philosophy was "kick first and you will never have to ask questions later." She even applied this to the one person who loved her right down to her hooves -- Deana. On one occasion, she kicked Deana right out of her stall.

I will never forget one Saturday morning when I was down in the barn feed room. I had closed myself in the feed room to decrease the chance of any horse trying to join me. The small size of this room and the big step up to reach it are no deterrent whatsoever to horses. As many of you know, this feed room sits in the middle of the barn and there are three barn aisles immediately adjacent. At one point I felt like I was being watched. I straightened up and turned around to see this huge, unblinking eye watching me through a crack in the wall boards on the back aisle. It was Serenity. When she knew that I knew she was watching, she moved on. I relaxed and went back to what I was doing. My relief was short-lived. I turned around again and that big, unblinking eye was watching me once more but from a different aisle. And that's how we spent the next several minutes: Serenity circling the feed room and watching me between the boards, and me trying to regain my natural air of insouciance. It was chilling and Hitchcockian. SHE KNEW WHAT SHE WAS DOING. So....did I make a run for it? No, I thought about it but I knew she was faster. I did what any sensible, scared person would do -- I waited for Joanie to save me.

Fast forward to 2005: Serenity has been with Deana for a few years. Deana has worked and worked with this horse. She has showered her with love and attention, and been with her through sickness and health. Joanie recently had a delightful visit with Deana & Serenity and says Serenity is doing absolutely great! She lets small children pet her and ply her with treats; she now takes carrots without taking fingers. She behaves! She is loving! This so perfectly illustrates what consistent kindly attention, good care, and a lot of love can accomplish. Deana saw something in Serenity that no one else could see....her potential. When Joanie told me this, I asked if perhaps she visited the wrong horse. No...it was Serenity....she has retained one itsy-bitsy quality from her earlier days....if you are a man and wish to live out the remainder of your natural days, don't go in Serenity's stall.

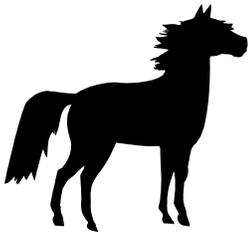
(NOTE: My personal opinion is that some of the other horses secretly enjoyed Serenity's stalking behavior and egged her on.)

*In Memory of my mom,
Florence Schoonover.
With love, Annie*

*In memory of
Beauty and Yum Yum.
I miss you both.
Vera Bennett*

*In Memory of my brother,
Chuck Morehead
September 27, 1947 -
March 17, 2002.
By Melanie
Morehead Boone*

*In loving memory of
Anunt Wilba.
By Lucy Buchanan*



News From The Herd

Spirit had to have eye surgery to remove some painful scar tissue on the eye. It had to be scraped off. Dr. Jonathan Featherstone performed the surgery and Spirit has fully recovered and is pain free.

Irish had a colic episode that scared all of the folks that were here at the time. After the time we had at Christmas with her, no one wanted a repeat of that. Fortunately she recovered quickly and was back out with her friends the next day released from the hospital ward. (It was let her out or she was going to tear the place apart.

Beauty had been a very difficult case to work with. She had such a terrible hip that seemed as if it had been broken and healed back wrong. She never laid down and we had two very bad turns with her that I thought, "This is it... we have to let her go." But both times she bounced back. Then we found her down in the field and unable to get up. We tried and tried to help her up to no avail. The kindest thing to do was to let her cross the Rainbow Bridge.

Hawkeye had a choke and the stress caused a light colic. Dr. Parker used the standard oil treatment and he recovered quickly. Hawkeye has had a hindquarter weakness problem since he came to us. Our investigation leads us to believe he has EPSM (Equine Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy) or some would call it PSSM (Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy). Effectively these are the same illness, a condition in horses where there is abnormal glycogen storage occurring in muscles resulting in the accumulation of excessive amounts of glycogen and an unusable polysaccharide. What all this means is the horses that have this condition have to be on a nonstructural carbohydrates. This simply means take the grain out of their diet and adding oil back in for calories. A muscle biopsy will have to be done to confirm our belief.

Yum Yum had lost even more weight in a very short amount of time. We had another full blood work up that showed he was suffering from cancer. We knew he had Cushing's syndrome and had been on thyroid medication for years. At the age of 35 we had to say, "Good by," to this funny little Hackney Pony. We were worried about Sky Ghost since they were always together. Sky is spending more time with the other horses in the field and is doing okay

New Resident *From page 1*

But it is unreasonable to expect a barn manager to know how to treat a foundered horse correctly. Padre's founder had gone on for years, from what I could gather from the people at the stable. There were no x-rays even though the veterinarians had been called several times.

Too many times the farriers are asked to work on the foundered horses without x-rays to work from. This is a terrible disservice to the horse. As time goes by they need to be retaken to see that all is going well as planned.

The Paso Fino is from South America and Puerto Rico. They are a small horse with four natural gaits that are extremely comfortable for the rider. Through selective breeding the gait is natural and does not have to be trained to the horse. The fastest gait is a four-beat, which can achieve speeds of up to 16 mph. They are usually intelligent with good temperaments. It is thought that the Paso Fino is a descendant of the original Spanish horses brought to South America.

I received a nice email from a young girl in Darien, Illinois that told me that the girls had found our web site and wanted to do a fundraiser to help the horses. I later received a very nice email from one of the girl's mothers that explained more about these wonderful girls. I had planned to share the email with you, but the computer went nuts. When I got it back from repair, everything in my mailbox was GONE. The five girls started a club, S.A.S. and set about to do fundraisers to help the horses. They wanted to do this as part of their upcoming Bar Mitzvah that celebrates their twelfth birthday and the entrance into the new stage of life. How proud the parents must be of the following young ladies, S.A.S. Club, Stacey, Stephanie, Lauren, "Allie" (Allison) & Taryn.

The horses say, "Thank you," for caring, and so do the hard working members of HPS.

“Thanks” to the following who made financial contributions to help support the horses day to day needs:

Jane A. Abbs
 Earl C. Alexander
 Sheila N. Austin
 Deborah Baker
 Charles L. Beck
 Vera Bennett
 Christy & Chris Bertoletto
 Cindy Trobaugh
 Therese Bertoletto
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 June & John Witherspoon
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 Kin Wrenn

New Barn Contributors:

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 Missy & Douglas Anderson
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 Deborah Baker
 Charles L. Beck
 Carol & William Bellinghausen
 Vera Bennett
 Dave Benson
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 Amy & Douglas Bernstein
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 Therese & Barry Bertoletto
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 Melanie & Rocky Boone
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Donation From: _____ **phone #** _____

Is this a donation for the NEW BARN? \$ _____ **, Amount for general use? \$** _____

Whom do you wish to Honor or send a notice of Memorial to? _____

Their address: _____

Email Address: _____ **Your Message for the Newsletter:**

Any donation amount is appreciated. Please make your checks payable to Horse Protection Society.
 For a \$25 or more donation the named person will receive a year of “Over Herd.” Newsletter to be sent: **Yes No**

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina



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Email: hps@horseprotection.org

Web site:

www.horseprotection.org

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.

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China Grove, NC 28023

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