



OVER HERD

Volume 25 Issue 1 January 2024



Our Property in the 1930s

TWENTY FIFTH YEAR!

The Horse Protection Society has served North Carolina's equine population. Over the coming year I will show the progression of the property and the parts you may have missed.

It all started in January 1991, when I first stepped out of the car on the property, I felt the peace! I have known since I was a young child that I had a mission in life.... I just didn't know what it was. A few people have a mission, like building the Horse Protection Society. Many have the mission to HELP! EVERYONE needs to find their place to make a difference. No one can do it all by themselves. You will feel the peace and know it is correct. Whenever you are in the right place, doing what you are supposed to, there will be nah-sayers.

The first horse arrived even before closing on the purchase of the property. The poor little mare had extreme founder. An acquaintance called and had the hardest time trying to tell me that she had not been able to sleep for two weeks ... she hemmed and hauled ... until finally got out that there was a horse in trouble, and she was suppose to call me and tell me. And so the horses started to come.....

It was about 1991 or 1992 when a car of older folks pulled into the driveway. They were apprehensive because, in the past, the caretaker told them to leave the property. They were in the area to visit their younger brother. I introduced myself and invited them to look around.



They shared that they were brothers and sisters who lived on the property during the 1930s, and it was the happiest time of their lives. Their Dad was a share chopper. The house would have been tight with the five kids.



Mom sitting on the porch.



The block building is to the left looking at the picture and the old barn is behind. The only entrance was to low crawl under the hay loft.



Street side of the old barn

It was impossible to get around the east side of the barn. There was a tree on the wood extension.

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EVERYTHING was wrong with the old house and all the buildings. I often asked, "Are you sure God this is the right place?" When you have a mission in life, no one ever said it was going to be easy...

.Twenty-Fifth Year of HPS

Over the next few months, you will have a chance to see pictures and the progress that has occurred over the years. For the first eight years, I took in horses, helped them recover, and found new homes for them. It took years to make the house livable and to work on the barn and other buildings for the horses.



Hooray! Hooray! for Honey

Honey had a terrible start in life. Some still think that if you have a mare, you breed them. Honey came from a trailer park and lived with her mare in a small fenced area behind the trailer. There was no shelter or a way to separate the horses at feeding time.

Honey could be aggressive if challenged, or she thought you would threaten her. Poor baby was just two years old and undersized from lack of the right food.

It takes extra time when horses are starved to gain their full height and the growth plates to close. Honey was over five years old before being started under saddle.

Honey is now seven years old and has an approved application for a new home!

THIS IS WHAT WE DO, AND WE COULD NOT WITHOUT YOU. Honey, Thanks You for saving her LIFE.



After Surgery



My Miracle at HPS

By Kelly Moran-Brown

I have been a volunteer with HPS for almost 3 years now. I was diagnosed with MS in 2011, and after years of struggle, I was finally in a place that would allow me to venture into life again.

My family and I decided to move to Mt. Ulla, NC (a little miracle in and of itself), and I was going to get a horse when I moved to NC, but I kept getting a little voice in my head that I should seek out horses that need help instead. After researching, approaching, and calling about ten rescues, I received a return phone call from Joanie. It was no ordinary phone call, lasting 2 hours and 45 min. At the end of the call, Joanie said, “Well, come down, and we’ll see if the horses like you.”

The following day, at 6:45 AM, I showed up, and that was the start of a beautiful little miracle. The people were amazing, the horses were magical, and I felt I would make a difference in at least one of the horses’ lives.

Little did I know that we would be helping each other more than I could have ever dreamed. To make a long story short, Joanie (knowing my background in herbs, part of that long phone conversation) asked me to help find a cure for EPM. There was no pressure there...LOL...we are now testing the horses after treatment, and the results are a miracle. Those who follow HPS have heard of this adventure and the promise it may bring to saving the horses, and you’ll hear more about this in the future.

I give you all a heartfelt, soul-warming thank you for helping support this research and saving the horses.

However, MY miracle occurred when I received my latest MRI (right after getting our first phenomenal EPM blood results), and it showed that I had NO new lesions and am stable! That was the first time my MS hadn’t been challenging and the first time I did not have new lesions. Part of this, I KNOW, is from the healing grace our miracle horses give in return for being loved and cared for. Horses remember, and the support and love they receive is returned in the most remarkable way.



Happy New Year and God Bless Everyone!

I have seen things so beautiful they have brought tears to my eyes. Yet none of them can match the gracefulness and beauty of a horse running free.

Author Unknown

Two Horses Need Your Prayers

I had left this page of the Newsletter blank, hoping that I could report that two horses in desperate need had arrived and were safe before Christmas. But all I can say is the horses are still being starved.

The horses were reported to Animal Control early on December 11th. I received a phone call and was made aware of the horses. I checked on them on December 14th. One of the horses was a low one on the Henneke Body Scoring. The other one was hard to tell, and the horse had longer winter hair. But the ribs showed no fat cover.

The horses had no hay or feed on December 14th. (Except for a small amount of hay buried in the mud.) The small open area in the woods is where the two horses are kept. There was no hay or feed until December 23rd or 24th, when a small amount of hay was put out. I have reported to Animal Control about the lack of food, and the water tub was frozen the last two times I checked on the horses.

I was told there is a “No Trespassing” sign, so I can't return on the property. December 26th, I had to check on the horses, and I was sure I could see them without stepping on the property. I told Animal Control often the horse was going to die if it didn't receive help quickly.



The back has no fat or muscle. The horse would be rated a low one on the Henneke Body scoring. The horse could die at any time with out correct care: Dec.14th, rotten hay behind the horse.



If you look carefully, you can see no fat over the ribs. The coat is long and hides how skinny the horse is. The horses ate the hay behind them, and it was gone the next day.

In honor of Joyce Poe, By Ann Seagle

In memory of Marilyn Houck and Jeffrey Boumbaugh. By June & Seamus Clancy

For Marlene Lane & Mary Moses, who lived their love of all Gods Creatures. They made the world better. By Kim Lane

Merry Christmas, Judy Cashwell. By Gail Miller

In memory of Benj Seagle. By Tiffene Ferebee

In honor of Ann Seagle. By Tiffene Ferebee

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 This will save money in printing & postage.
 THANK YOU!

Happy New Year!

By Kelly Moran-Brown

Now that 2023 has passed, so too, we pray, will its trials. I tend to think back on the previous year and ask myself what I have done that is good; I always think about Matthew 25:40 . *“In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”*

My message is that the little things we do for the least of us can make the most significant difference in a life. Here at HPS, hope burns eternal, and we are ever hopeful in the giving, kind spirit of all our generous donors who help bring hope, health, and life to our once-forgotten horses. We cannot thank all of you enough for keeping hope alive: the hope of a better life for the horses, the hope of a cure in our ongoing research to eradicate EPM, and the hope that no matter the trials, we can overcome them. Thanks to all of you! In this New Year, we at HPS and all the horses wish you the gift of love, laughter, and prosperity in all you set out to do. Please continue to bless HPS.