July 2002



Over Herd

Volume 4, Issue 7

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.

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Raven Feather & Eagle Spirit Check In And Out!

By: Joan Benson



July 13th, 2002
Project Day/
Members Meeting
Lunch at 12:30 PM
Please bring a
covered dish to
share.

July 27th, 2002
Duke Power Day
Dress in old clothes
and come ready
to work!!

Lots of fun! Great days to help out with ranch improvements. Mark your calendar today!



Raven Feather is a 21-year-old black Quarter horse, Thoroughbred cross. Eagle Spirit is her 14-year-old son who was sired by a Thoroughbred. Eagle has spent his whole life with only Raven. Life changes have caused the property to be sold, the marriage to end, and the owner to need to move almost all the way across county. The owner went on a search for the right sanctuary for the horses and thought it had been found in Virginia. But after filling out all the paper work, weeks of time, signing



Eagle Spirit is anxious to make friends with the other horses.

the contract, notification came that they would not take the horses. Time was fast running out and when HPS was contacted. The officers agreed we needed to help out and accept the horses.

The owner had extensive x-rays done on Eagle Spirit's front legs when he was only two years old due to the onset of lameness. He had just started his saddle training and was then put out to pasture with Raven Feather. He remained there until brought to our sanctuary. The only indication that he may have a problem is he will set his toe down first, and then heel. We have seen no other signs to indicate a problem. How wonderful it would be if this beautiful boy healed himself with all the ...continued on page 3



The Horror of Starvation

Last Tuesday a member of the Sandhills Animal Rescue League called to enlist our help. Animal Control had told a family that they had until 9:30 pm to do something about their horse or they would receive a \$1,000 citation. The only choice the people thought they had was to dig a hole and shoot the horse. I was able to reach them by phone a little after 9:00 pm. They were more than willing to transport the horse to us the following day. The owners told me they had been feeding him Sweet Feed, and he would not eat hay. They bought the horse two years ago for their son from a 21 year old gal who owned him since she was about 7 or 8 years old. They said the horse was thin when they got him and they put weight on him. Over the winter he would loose weight and

then gain it back when the grass returned. But this year there was no grass. The horse had not been seen by a veterinarian during the two years they had him. They called the Animal Control officer and let them know what they were going to do with the horse. After the owners had left, we shed tears for this brave horse. How could anyone let this happen!...continued page 2

Our apologies to Morgan's Coffee House who were inadvertently left off of the Golf Outing Donor list in last months newsletter. Thank you for helping to make the Golf Outing a success.

Where is the Wallpaper?

By Miss Angel LeHouf (with a little help from Roberta McCardle)

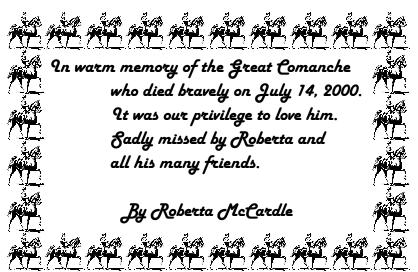


Can we talk? White and green are perfectly lovely paint colors....on a barn. Neither my stable mate nor myself consider our abode a "barn." It is a duplex! This is an entirely different type of housing. Can you imagine our chagrin when on a recent Saturday, several HPS members stained some of the buildings (including our stalls) green and white? What an outrage; what a failure of good taste!

I was so taken aback that I could even talk about it for a couple of days. Everyone is so kind and good to us here that I thought it was understood – we wanted wallpaper the next time that any remodeling/decorating was done to our building. To look forward to wallpaper with some lavender in it (and possibly some butterflies to give it a truly bucolic appearance) and to get a barn-like stain instead is very jarring to one's Inner Pony.

Was a desire for wallpaper asking for too much? I think not. I did not expect any kind of Martha Stewart-esque décor, no candles tied with raffia, no artful re-painting of Tundra's Ol Roy Chopped Beef Dinner cans...merely some wallpaper in a couple of small stalls. What is the point of getting to my age if one cannot indulge one's taste a little bit?

Oh, I will get over it; I'm a sensible pony. I know that we are all loved & cared for and provided with all the necessities (and some luxuries such as alfalfa too). BUT....it was very difficult for me to get over the other evening when that young scamp Phoenix trotted up and down our fence line saying, "Na, na....Angel lives in a barn, na, na!" Cloud told him to hush and Bo said he'd keep a look-out in the burn barrel for some bits of wallpaper for me. Maybe we could get some at the next yard sale?



Short Term Foster Home Needed

HPS needs a Short Term Foster home for Raven Feather! Mother and Eagle Spirit need to be separated in order for them to have a normal happy horse life. We have a major Oedipus complex going here and it is not safe for any other horse to be in with them since Raven treats Eagle like a small foal, and will not let another horse near him. He wants to run and play with the boys and Mom will have none of that cavorting. This is not normal horse behavior, and we need to aid these two horses so they, can have a happy horse life. Please contact the ranch if you could provide a loving understanding short term home for Raven. The sooner this could take place the better it would be for both horses

The Horror of Starvation

The following is Cari Berns impression of the arrival of our latest resident: He showed up in an open livestock trailer, drenched from the rain storm and shaking with a chill. I saw immediately as I walked up to the trailer, that he was close to death. He was not even a ONE on the Henneck rating scale, his teeth are in bad condition, and he had diarrhea. When he was let loose in he round pen, he headed straight for the hay and did not want to withdraw his head from the hay feeder. Earlier the owner stated that, "He didn't like hay too much, so I feeds him sweet feed." When I had a chance to be with him one on one, I kept wondering why the sweetest, gentlest horses keep ending up in the worst conditions. This horse greeted me with ears perked and head extended towards me. An HPS member had to leave, because she was so upset after meeting him. He is such a sweet horse, and I am praying he recovers.

Editors Note: I have heard the stories of how poor condition some of our current residents arrived in, Meadow Flower or Dakota for example; but I have not been an HPS member since a horse in such poor condition as our new boy is arrived. Sunday morning before we started to mix up breakfast for the residents my daughter Danielle and I headed over to meet our newest addition. Upon opening his gate and stepping into his pasture area my heart broke and tears welled up in my eyes as this walking skeleton came eagerly forward to greet us. How did he half the energy to stand? Has he arrived in time for us to help him? Who would do such a thing to one of God's creatures? These and a million other thoughts ran through my mind. But then a realization hit me this mistreated, starved creature was still finding the strength and hope to hold on and reach out to us, trusting us to help him. I pray that in time we will watch him run and play with the others who came to us in similar conditions.



News From the Herd

On Tuesday, June 25th we lost two of our faithful four-legged friends.

Cheyenne

As sad as it is, it is time to take the lead and halter off another of our beloved friends. Cheyenne, 24 years old, has crossed the Rainbow Bridge. As regal and friendly as he was, he could not ward off the development of cancer in his sinus/nasal cavities. A few years back as you know, he was diagnosed with Cushing's Syndrome, where a tumor grew against his pituitary gland. With the weakened immune system, cancer developed in his sinus cavities. It was impossible for him to fight the ensuing infection that was a part of the cancer in the nasal area.. There is no cure for Cushing's in horses only treatment for his symptoms with prescribed medications, which he got. He is and always will be a majestic golden copper beauty, with loving eyes, "got milk" lips and the sweetest heart melting nicker you ever heard.

Sprinkles

It's funny how a small pony who had been with us such a short time could make such a large impression in your heart. Sprinkles came to us in May and after an emergency vet call within her first couple of days she seemed to be doing much better. Our biggest concern was the strange way she was gaining weight heavy and low in her middle. After some background digging our fear was that this sweet old girl could very well be carrying a foal. With her age and condition we decided that we needed to have her checked for pregnancy. In the processes of the exam it was determined that because of an abnormality in her intestines the kindest thing to do would be to put her to sleep, the alternative being a painful death for this sweet little girl.

Raven Feather & Eagle Spirit

continued from page 1

years of field rest. If we can separate him from his mother, we are going to have a wild one on our hands. He has been under mother's hoof for way too long and wants to be free to meet all the other horses. Raven will have none of this, and will not let another horse near her boy. Raven is a very protective mommy. (Baby is about a hand and a half taller than Raven.) Raven has not been under saddle in years. We are more concerned about her dropped pasterns than Eagle's

lameness. Some young 4-H riders were allowed to use her in the early 1990's. Today only the very lightest rider could be on Raven. If we can separate these two horses we will have a very good chance of finding wonderful homes for them.

Editors Note: Raven & Eagle Spirit are shaping up to be quite the pair after less then a week at the Sanctuary here is what they have been up to, as reported to me by Joanie. The morning started at the usual early hour of 5:30. I answered all the e-mails and head out to feed the horses. There had been a break out and Raven and Eagle Spirit were visiting Angel and Morning Glory. I went to work, once again on the fences they had taken down. I would put them back, and they would Raven is a VERY overprotective Mommy! break out again. It was getting late and I needed help if I was going



to get the horses fed, so I called Paul Torrance. He went to work on the fences and I started to feed the horses, shortly after Cari Berns arrived at the ranch. Suddenly, Eagle Spirit and Raven were running down the drive and across the road. It was impossible to catch them at that point. Cari and I followed their tracks about 3 miles from the ranch and lost them. Paul had to go to work so we returned to the ranch to feed the barn girls who had been waiting in their stalls for breakfast. (They got lunch instead.) I phoned Animal Control in two counties and the Sheriff's departments. Calls for help went out to Cathy Wray, Debbie Cort and Paul Brown. Erika Torrance and Cari Berns joined the search. About 4:00 o'clock Cathy spotted the horses not far from where we had lost their tracks. Cathy and Debbie caught them up and Erika and Cari walked the tired horses back to the Sanctuary (through a downpour). We were hot, tired and very dirty, but it was time for the evening feed. The escaped prisoners are under house arrest in the round pen.

Hoofbeats...

By: Roberta McCardle

May we take a moment to reflect on HPS accomplishments in recent months? The list is quite impressive -- improved drainage by the barn, our biggest yard sale to date, our first golf tournament fund raiser, staining of some of the buildings, the ongoing fencing repairs & improvements, the completion of two more stalls, and the current big project -- building a protected yet accessible area for round bales. We did all this while continuing to carry out our mission of education, rescue, rehabilitation, and sanctuary. HPS members should all feel good about what's been accomplished.

We need to continue this momentum -- whatever your interests or skills, we need you! Occasionally, someone will remark to me that they're busy and could only come out once a month or so....that's ok; we still need you and would love to see you! Every effort helps and is much appreciated. There's the regular ranch work of feeding, watering, stall cleaning, etc. plus the not inconsequential fact that every horse needs a friend. So come on out....whisper in someone's ear, make someone's hooves feel better, slip carrots to someone and see the enjoyment in their big brown eyes. Peace and kindness may be found at the ranch. Being a part of helping these animals, many of whom have endured unspeakable cruelties, will gladden your heart. So if you've been thinking of coming to the ranch but have not yet done so, come on out! We'll be here.

My chocolate toy poodle who was born October 1986 and died May 15, 2002 of cancer. She was a gift over fourteen years ago and came to be loved by our whole family. She had four puppies over the years, one of which survives and lives with me now, Babe, age 13. Prissy was so excited by all animals, wanting to play with them no matter their size or type, so I'm sure she would have loved the horses you all provide such wonderful care for.

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By Charles Beck

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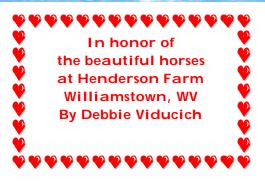
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Once again HPS would like to thank all of the kind folks who donated the wonderful items for the yard sale, and Roberta McCardle and Kathy Haw who picked up load after load. We still have a few "IOUs," to collect from members, Dani Lewis is going to place some great Barbie dolls on eBay and Jim Ladislas will be doing the same thing with a few cameras. Jim, also took a pick-up load of the very best leftovers to Charlotte for another Yard Sale to benefit the horses. Some nice folks came by and I sold them the rest of the leftovers. To date HPS has collected \$5,237. We came out of the winter with a stack of bills. The vet office received \$3,000 towards our bill, other bills were caught up, supplements and wormer were ordered, and we were left with about \$300. Don't forget we do this again in the fall. The Fundraising Committee is planning on the first weekend of October.

Top 10 ways to tell that Martha Stewart has been in your barn

- 10. There is a potpourri pomander hanging from each halter
- The horse's hooves have been cut with pinking shears
- 8. The horse treats are all stored in McCoy
- 7. The manure fork has been decorated with raffia
- 6. That telltale lemon slice in each new silver water bucket
- 5. You find carrot & apple treats stamped out with copper cookie cutters and decorated with royal icing using a #2 rosette tip
- 4. Mane & tail hair has been collected and put into wire baskets for nesting material for the birds
- 3. A seasonally appropriate grapevine wreath adorns the front of each stall
- Your horse goes outside naked and comes in wearing a thyme colored virgin wool hand knit ted blanket with matching leg wraps
- 1. The manure pile has been sculpted into swans

Donations:

- Duke Energy Foundation
- Ann Powlas
- Helen Bishop
- Donna Thome & Hank Schulez (they were responsible for Cues and Morning Glory's rescue.)
- Patricia Cade
- Lillus Kurland
- Becky & Jason Causby
- Leslie Rivers
- Beverly Block
- Victoria Kiser
- Kirsten Ashley Boyd
- Elizabeth & Patrick Antrim
- William Shannon
- Gail Shinn
- Tonya Hayes
- Roberta McCardle
- Kathy & Rodney Laye
- Casey & Emily Doyle collected donations from their friends for the horses.
- Holly Robbins donated several needed saddles.
- Shelly Adair donated saddles for the horses

New Members:

- **♦** Dottie Rebhan
- **♦ Laura Gregory**
- ♦ Tonya Hayes
- ♦ Kerri Hertler

New TLC Sponsors:

- **♥** Gail Shinn
- ♥ Lisa Carver
- ♥ Charles & Jill

Messer

HPS NEEDS LIST: We are going into a very expensive time to

meet the needs of your horses. Each one needs his rabies shot, at a cost of about \$600 plus dental work done. The vaccinations need to be ordered for a cost of \$390. If half of the herd needs dental work, the cost could be a \$1,000 or more! SrongidP, or Rotectin 2 are needed for the once a year worming for tape worms and this takes a double dose of wormer for each horse, or 60 Tubes of wormer! This will be a cost of \$370.

To make things even more challenging, we are going to have to get in a large supple of hay from out of the area. This will cost us a huge amount of upfront funds to purchase the hay. The drought has caused the local fields to dry up and many will have to be reseeded this fall. This means there will be no crop then, either! A two-month supply will cost at least \$1,300 or more to have it shipped in. The new horse's vet work up will cost \$285 or more. The cost of the horses, just to meet these needs will be \$3,945. This does not take into account the normal monthly expenses for the horses. Add in another \$3,000 plus, and we will be able to meet July's financial needs for the horses, barring any emergencies! (And when is it we don't have emergencies?) If each person who receives the newsletter sent in just \$20 we could meet these needs. Please be one of the caring folks.

For the Horses:

Garlic oil, (we use it in our fly repellent.)

Natural fly repellents

Refill chemical for the fly traps

Purina Strategy, (Angel needs this special feed.)

Golden Flax Seed, (all older horses with arthritis)

Red Cell, (we are almost out of this important supplement.)

Shredded Beet Pulp, (wonderful for rehabilitation, diarrhea and aiding in weight gain)

General Barn Needs

2"x 6"x 10" treated lumber

1"x 6"x about any length, (some treated, but mostly need untreated, can be rough cut) Metal hay feeders, (to hold round bales and prevent waste of hay)

Cut away Western Saddle Blankets

Miscellaneous Operating Needs:

Stamps

Printer Ink Cartridges, (contact Ambe Lewis, Editor.)

Printer paper

½ inch black, gray, blue or green binder, (needed each time we place a horse.)

Clear shelf paper, (can be purchased at Wal-mart or Family Dollar. Used for display posters and HPS Scrapbook)

Members needed for help with:

Fund Raising Committee

Placement Committee (horse experience is very helpful.)

TLC Committee

Continual Barn Cleaning

Donation Form: Your name:	Is this for a memorial donation? Whom do you wish to Honor:	Yes	No		
Your phone number:	Their e-mail:				
Your 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					
Pleas			•		

HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA IN C.

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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.

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