



Beauty is Only Skin Deep

Often we hear sad stories and this is one. The couple had the two horses. They rode and took care of the horses for many years. The couple aged to the point where the horses had to be kept in a smaller field so they could be cared for and fed. Over time, the health of the couple deteriorated so much that both had to be moved to a full care nursing home. The care of the horses fell to their son. He commuted between Raleigh and Union County to care for them, but had no interest in horses and didn't know how to properly care for them.

Both horses are Tennessee Walking Horses. Raisin is a 30 year old roan mare and you could call her a paint with all the white on her. When you look at her body, she is beautiful...until you look down at her hooves. The hooves show more than laminitis, she is foundered.

Then there is the 14 year old Misty who could be a cover girl, she is so pretty. A beautiful black coat with a white streak in her mane, a mostly white tail and high white stockings, she is gorgeous. However, her hooves are in worse shape than Raisin's.

We arranged for radiographs to be done as soon as possible and our worst fears were realized. Both horses are severely foundered. Miracles have happened here before and these two horses need a miracle! For the best possible results, the two horses need to be trimmed every three weeks with periodic radiographs to evaluate the results of the trimming. The veterinarian drew blood from the horses before the morning and evening feedings in order to test for thyroid, insulin and Cushings. This was the best test to determine a possible cause for the foundering.

The test results showed that both Raisin and Misty have Cushings. They are on Prascend that is a Pergolide product. Normally the horses will need to be on the medication for the rest of their lives. The cost is \$2.00 per day per horse. HPS presently has two other horses on Prascend.

The cost for farrier care, medication and radiographs will be between \$800.00 or \$900.00 every nine weeks. It was important to have the radiographs done before the farrier came the first time to care for Misty and Raisin. The shoes were then removed from the two horses.

Misty and Raisin could use your help to cover some of the upcoming expenses and Angel Sponsors.
Thank you for caring.



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Misty's Radiographs



It hurts my heart to see how rotated the coffin bones are in the front



Raisin's Radiographs



Dallas Returns



Life changes and no matter how much we want things to be as they were, change happens. It breaks our hearts when a placement mom has to return a loved horse to the sanctuary when her original plan was to live out her life with her beloved babies. Dallas was out for six years in a wonderful home and had the best care!

Upon his return, we initially tried to isolate Dallas in the front field with the new horse, Rocky. Dallas, however, wanted back in with his old buddies, Freedom, Pecos, and Flame, who were still at the sanctuary. We turned him out with the herd and he was overjoyed, and ran and bucked.

Dallas is about 15 years old. He is a wonderful gelding that would make a nice horse for some special person! Welcome back Dallas, I hope there is another perfect home in your future.



Old Horses are Wonderful

A gentleman rescued two horses years ago when they were taken in an abuse case in Alexander County. He had 40 acres and a barn. Time went by and the property was sold. His daughter took over the care of the horses and boarded them at a stable that kept the horses in stalls most of the time.

The mares were later moved to another boarding stable and kept on pasture boarding. Hay was provided but it was up to the owner to provide grain. There were four other horses in the field and the old girls may not have been able to get their fair share of hay. The stable was too far away for the daughter to go and feed them every day and the **horses lost weight. She realized she couldn't do right by the horses and called us.**

The horses are both 33 years old, and were welcomed at the sanctuary. The Appaloosa picked the name "Sky." Her belly was swollen with parasites and her Henneke body score was a one. The veterinarian checked her eyes and felt she has recurrent uveitis, which over time causes blindness. Appaloosas are prone to recurrent uveitis, blindness and cancer. We learned many years ago how to treat and prevent blindness due to recurrent uveitis and should be able to help Sky with this issue. We also need to check her all over for cancer, but we don't want to rush things with a new horse because that just creates stress.

The pretty Quarter horse picked the name "Naavya." One of the volunteers spotted an issue with her top lip. It was swollen and she couldn't move it. We had the veterinarian check her and the prognosis was not good. She has serious cancer in her mouth, both the top and lower area around her teeth. At the present time she is able to eat with no issues. We have to watch for pain to know when it is time to let her go. The cancer is too extensive to try to treat. We have no way of knowing how long she may be with us, before we will need to let her go. It makes us all sad when we take in a horse that is so seriously ill. Sometimes it seems they come to us because we will do the right thing.

The girls have graduated to the side field where they have a round bale under a shed all to themselves and each have a stall to eat their grain and supplements with no stress. The two are so sweet!



Naavya 33 years old



Sky 33 years old

Rocky

Poor Rocky has had more poor care than any horse should have to endure. In July 2021 the Lauren County Sheriff's department in South Carolina brought charges against the owners of over 400 animals and illegal drugs. There were 12 horses on the property. The sheriff's department reported where the dogs and cats were placed, but would not give any information on the other animals including the horses. I talked to most of the equine rescues in South Carolina and they knew of the case but were never contacted to take in the horses.

A copy of the Coggins test came from Lauren County Sheriff's department which shows that Rocky was one of the 12 horses in the abuse case of July 2021. Rocky was listed on the Coggins as a Tennessee Walking Horse, a sorrel, with a star on his forehead, and small sock on his right hindlimb.

Rocky's present owner bought him from a horse trader in September 2021. The new owner was having difficulty getting to the farm to feed Rocky. A kind neighbor had taken over feeding Rocky in the mornings to help out the new owner, but he needed more feedings to gain weight. The neighbor had horses of her own and was unable to continue feeding Rocky, and advised the owner to let HPS help him.

I have written about false registration papers before and here is another case of a horse trader giving false papers and a false narrative, misrepresenting the horse and his experience.

The "honest horse trader," (that is what the purchaser called him), gave two copies of the Certificate of Registration to the purchaser. One from the Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse Association and another from Rocky Mountain Horse Association were given to the purchaser. There was only a scribbled signature on the back with no date or other information...hmmum! This is a 20 year old horse.

Both so called registration papers list the horse as "Red Chocolate," with a star, and flaxen mane and tail. Rocky is a chestnut, no flaxen mane and tail and there is no listing on the papers for the right hind leg sock that Rocky has. Things like a sock do not get missed on registration papers. He looks like and moves like a Tennessee Walking Horse not a Rocky Mountain. All of the papers, the Coggins and the two so called registration papers are poor copies.

Rocky would benefit from a special Angel Sponsor to come and brush and love him. Thank you for making it possible for Rocky to have a safe place to be given the special care he needs



Rocky



Red Chocolate Horses: A red chocolate horse is a black horse that carries the Bay (Agouti) gene and the Silver gene. The black is restricted to the points by the Agouti gene and the black points are then diluted to a shade of chocolate/flax by the Silver Dapple gene. A red chocolate horse can also be called a silver bay.

The costs have been over the moon with the new horses' medical and farrier needs. Even though you didn't know the extra costs we were sustaining, your kind generosity has carried us through the beginning part of the new horses care.



All of the mares are in season and the geldings have lost their minds. Raisin got a kick from another horse on the inside of her hock. (strange place) This is an area that needs to have the hair trimmed off, cleaned thoroughly, and stitched closed. **Raisin needed happy juice so the vet wouldn't get kicked. Since we didn't have the vet records for Raisin, she had to have a tetanus vaccine.**

Thank you, Thank you for your help in providing for the new horses and all the other babies. May you be blessed! And Happy Easter!

In memory of Ernie Griffith. By Jennifer & Carl Beck

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Each year I write a short note to remind folks to make arrangements in their will to care for their loved critters, whether they are big or little. The following are sad stories we have heard in the past:

1. **“Mom and dad left their estate to me. When they died, my wife and I took our friends on vacation and paid all the expenses. We spent all the money and the money left for the two horses. Will you take the two horses?”**
2. Caring owner did not have an appointed medical trustee in her will and when she needed care after a stroke the state came in and sold everything she had. To save the two horses from being put down by the state, HPS took them in.
3. **“I agreed to take in my friend’s horses, but I didn’t really think I would have to. After her death, my friend didn’t leave any money for their care. Will you take them?”**
4. **“My husband had these horses and I never liked them. The vet won’t put them down, and I can’t find anyone to haul them to the auction. Will you take them?”**

The stories go on and on! Each time I think, “If only the horses’ owners had done things correctly the horses could have had a safe landing in a good equine rescue. Even if you don’t have horses, leaving a bequest to HPS will save horses’ lives. Please make HPS aware of your intentions.