



OVERHERD



Of course, everyone needs to eat. Why not raise money for the *HPS* horses while you are grocery shopping? All you need to do is purchase *Food Lion* Gift Cards! For every dollar that you spend in *Food Lion* gift cards, *Food Lion* will donate 5% of your total purchase to *HPS*.

The *Food Lion* Gift Cards work just like cash at any *Food Lion*, *Bloom* or *Bottom Dollar* store. You can purchase a card in any amount from \$5.00 to \$499.00.

Orders need to be sent to the address below or left at *HPS* by the **last Monday** of every month (1 order is placed on the 2nd of each month). You will receive your gift cards in 7-10 business days along with information about using the cards and a receipt.

You can use your gift cards in conjunction with your *Food Lion* MVP card. Make sure your MVP card is linked to *HPS*, and a percent of your total purchases will be donated to *HPS*! We can raise even more money for the horses!

They are great for college students and to give as gifts. People need to eat and so do the horses!

If you have any questions please call, 508.527.4314. Mail orders and a check/money order (made out to *HPS*) to:

Katie Muir

**Food Lion Grocery Card Coordinator
150 Springdale Acres
 Mooresville, NC 28115**

**The Horses Thank You for Your
Continued Support!**

Yadkin County Starved Horse

by Joanie Benson

I received an email about a horse in Yadkin County that was very starved.

First email: "Hey Joanie, Thanks for emailing me back. The weirdest thing happened after I had sent the email to you all, the following day all 4 of those horses were gone, the only person that knew that I had emailed you all was my mom so it wasn't like the word got out in the neighborhood and scared these people to get rid of them. It was raining that day and I thought that maybe they were staying in a barn on the pasture, but the only building in that field was closed up and 4 horses couldn't have possibly fit in there. Then I thought that maybe someone from horse protection had gone out there to see about it that quickly.

(cont pg 3)



Another Abandoned Horse by Joanie Benson

What is going on in Iredell County? This is the second abandoned horse found since December in the county, Cornflower being the first.

Memorial Day weekend was very busy at Love Valley in Iredell County. At the end of the weekend, there was still a horse in the corral and no sign of the owner. The horse was given some hay



over the next few days. They then called Animal Control to come pick up the horse since the owner still had not returned for the horse.

The kind folks at Animal Control told me it was obvious (cont pg 5)

Soft Heart by Joanie Benson



There is no way to know how many people are rescuing starved horses. Getting them out of a bad situation and often paying to do so. We sometimes get emails and phone calls inquiring how to care for them then. These are softhearted folks who mean well. As you have read in past newsletters, sometimes they get in over their heads with expenses and time; thus making them unable to continue.

This call for help came a woman after she had had the horse for about three weeks. Her marriage was breaking up. There are children and other horses involved. Under these circumstances, we will try to help by taking in the horse.

The previous owner had showed her a picture of the horse taken two years ago and he was gorgeous! I called this owner since the more we know; the better able we are to help the horse. She had owned him for five years and due to circumstances two years ago, needed to find him a new home. She felt the new owner would take good care of the horse. However, when she went to check on him, the fencing was never extended from the small starting paddock. He was very thin, needed farrier work, and worming. She took him back. She had him back about a week before she placed him with the gal we got him from. She did this because she did not have the finances to care for him.

The past owner was so happy that he was now at the sanctuary and would get everything he so desperately needed. I wish all owners would check on the horses they sell or give away; and if they are not cared for, take them back.

Stetson is going to be a big boy when he recovers; he is only about 20 yrs old and 16 hands tall.

Because so many people have cared about him, someday, he is going to once again be a stunningly beautiful paint horse.

Quote of the Month:

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

Author Unknown

MURPHY'S HORSE LAWS

- No one ever notices how you ride until you fall off.
- A horse's misbehavior will be in direct proportion to the number of people who are watching.
- Tack you hate will never wear out, and blankets you hate cannot be destroyed.
- If you approach within 50 feet of your barn in clean clothes, you will get dirty.
- The number of horses you own will increase to the number of stalls in your barn.
- Hoof picks always run away from home.

(Yadkin County cont pg 1) But the next couple days since then it hadn't rained and still no horses were in sight. So hopefully, someone has gotten these horses that will take care of them. I will keep an eye out and see if any horses return to that location and for future reference I will know that pictures will help you guys out. Thanks.”

Next email: “Hey Joanie, I believe I found that horse I had previously emailed you about where it was moved after I sent the first email. I was able to get a couple of pictures. I only saw two horses in this small pasture and the other horse looked ok, but I do believe this is the same horse I had seen before. I got on the county tax map and looked up the address and found out the name of the owner of the property, he also owns the property where I had first seen the horses so I can only assume that this is the same horse, the renters must have moved into another place of the same landlord. The address I could find is *(not shared for privacy purposes)* there was no numbers that I had seen on the mailbox, the mailbox was a bluish color and the pasture is in the front yard. The mailbox before this one is *(not shared for privacy purposes)* on the right side of the road.”

Folks like this gal are responsible for the rescue of many of HPS’ horses. They do not give up and keep trying to do the right thing. She included good pictures to show his condition and Cindy went to check things out. She was able to contact Animal Control, who met her at the property. Together they were able to arrange the release of him and Cindy picked him up the next day. ANOTHER LIFE SAVED!

Pawnee is a gelding, and is a one on the body scale. He is gaining weight and does not seem to have any other health issues. We feel he is strong enough to have his teeth floated, which will help him eat hay.



We are on TV! UNC –TV came out and did a short segment on the sanctuary. If you missed it, please go to the HPS website homepage and/or click on the following link.

[Horse Protection Society on NC Now](#)

Or type in the following address on your web browser.

http://flash.unctv.org/ncnow/ncn_horse_protection_072709.html



The Dream of Stallion To Gelding Support

by Susan Lurz, Director

Stallion To Gelding Support, a program designed to give free gelding services to qualified applicants, has been Joanie Benson's dream for the past ten years. Finally she saw her dream come true when SGS was launched last January.

Through the years, Joanie has witnessed the suffering of horses caused by the growing problem of equine overpopulation. She has loved and nurtured hundreds of these horses and given them the promise of peace at the Horse Protection Society. Our goal at SGS is to try to alleviate the suffering of those wonderful horses by finding a humane approach to equine overpopulation.

Our country has been practicing spay and neutering for dogs and cats as a form of animal control for many years—why not for horses? Of course, we have euthanasia as an alternative—but is euthanasia the answer? Some seem to think so. At the University of California-Davis they believe it is. They are proposing a plan to create shelters that would deal with unwanted horses in much the same way that most animal shelters deal with unwanted cats and dogs. Basically, unwanted horses would be taken to assessment stations. They would be evaluated based on health, age, training temperament or suitability for continued use. Those deemed unsuitable for continued life would be designated for “dignified end of life solutions,” which means euthanasia. It's an interesting thing we do as humans deciding if another living being is worthy of life.

Let's look at it from a different perspective. What if you were the one deciding between life and death for these precious animals? I recently spoke to the manager of an animal control facility in NC. As he sat across from me lifeless, he told me how he's had to quit his job three different times—because of burnout. He is directly responsible for ending the lives of 10-12 animals a day...a day!

So, Joanie had a dream and now I have a dream—to prevent the suffering of horses before it even has a chance to begin. Since starting SGS last January, I have heard from people all over the country—some in support of our cause and others who believe that slaughter and euthanasia are the only ways to end the overpopulation issue. Due to spay and neutering programs you only have to look at the declining numbers of euthanized dogs and cats over the last ten years to know that SGS can work. And I am happy to report that four other states have begun programs similar to ours. Thus far, SGS has gelded almost fifty horses which have been directly responsible for producing more than one hundred and forty offspring. Had those fifty stallions not been gelded by SGS, they most likely would have produced the same number of foals again this year and as many as seven hundred over a five year period. Seven hundred lives spared from a possible life of suffering or the brutality of slaughter.

It is time to find new ways to better manage our animals. It is time to create awareness about what is going on in our country regarding slaughter and euthanasia. It is time to change our thinking from the devastation of death to the beauty of life. And at SGS...we have a dream.

To learn more about the SGS program, visit Suzie at <http://stalliontogeldingsupport.org/index.html>

(Abandon Horse cont pg 1) that the horse had been ridden hard. There were still signs of the saddle pad and having been extremely wet from sweat.

We always try to pick up a horse on the day that we get the call, but I did not get the message until after closing on Friday evening late. The next morning I went searching for someone who could help pick up the horse. Finally, through a HPS member, I got in touch with a friend of hers. We made it there with 10 minutes to spare before closing time Saturday afternoon.

The horse had an old injury in a back lower hind leg. There was proud flesh on both the front and back of the leg. This type of injury often is from a leg tangled in wire or a fence. The poor girl moves in pain as if the back tendon has been severely damaged and the front muscle has been damaged as well. The ligament is so damaged that the pastern and fetlock joint are dropping. I believe if a veterinarian had cared for the injury, the healing would not have been so poor. There is no sign that the wound was stitched closed or that the horse had any care after the injury. As if that was not enough, the pathetic creature is over at both front knees.

Who are these people that could possibly treat a horse so horrifically? First, it is left with an untreated injury, in poor body condition. Then to abandon the horse! I cannot imagine the pain this horse felt to be ridden in this condition.

The very sad consequence of the neglect this horse has suffered is constant pain. The kindest act we could do is to let her pass over the Rainbow Bridge. We kept her on pain medication for a couple of days with good feed and attention to let her know how much we care when others did not. Then we quietly let her go.

There are times I just want to express the extreme anger I feel towards the past owners of so many of the horses that have come to HPS. The only thing that keeps me from hunting down these people is my belief that God WILL take care of them in ways more creative than we could by handing down the punishment.

Thank you for all the caring folks who love these horses!



Keep Those Aluminum Beverage Cans Rolling!

By Roberta McCardle

Many thanks to our wonderful members who continue to collect and transport aluminum beverage cans to the ranch to the Can City holding area. This is one of our ongoing fundraisers. Every bit helps and is put to good use on the horses' behalf. Your efforts matter and are appreciated! Let's maximize our opportunities to collect cans.....put a bag in your breakroom at work.....ask your family, friends, and neighbors for help. I pick up cans from a local business every couple of months and they are glad to do some good in a couple of ways – help a charity and help the earth by recycling. **Please note that this is ONLY for aluminum beverage cans.** We are still finding wadded up pieces of foil, vegetable cans, soup cans, plastic water bottles etc. in the bags. The salvage yard mentioned this to us so now Tom and I try to check the bags better before loading. Thus far in CY 2009, the ranch has made \$ 433 on the cans. Again, thank you for your kindness in taking the time and going to the trouble to do this for the horses. If our four-footed friends could speak, they would say, “Thank you for caring about us enough to help!”



Sanctuary Update ~ by Joanie Benson

It has been an interesting month at the sanctuary. I took a week vacation and everyone took wonderful care of the horses while I was gone. (They didn't even miss me.) A big horsey "Thank You" to all of our devoted two leggers that care for your horses.

The wonderful news is Pumpkin is fully recovered and once again ruling the outside. A huge "thank you" to the folks who helped with his bill! He is a great kitty and at times likes to follow folks around the sanctuary. He will flop on the ground looking for a belly rub. (May have spent too much time inside with Sirius, who loves belly rubs best of all.)

Wind Star was diagnosed with low grade sand colic. The vets treated her four times in a week and she is doing great. She is looking beautiful compared to what she looked like when she came in last January. She still has about 75 pounds to gain.

All of the starved babies are gaining weight and doing beautifully. Cornflower was placed under saddle and was the perfect lady, as she always has been. She is going to make a great addition to some lucky family.

Morning Star has a new family. She will be boarded at Tamara Eichorn's. This is a great match for her and her new person, Kari Fingerlow. There is an approved application for Red Cloud. She just needs a little more field rest before she is ready to go back under saddle. Her new family is finishing her barn and getting everything perfect for their new baby. Finally! We are getting some good qualified interest in our wonderful horses! We have a couple of other families interested, also.

This round of dental work is completed and two horses have cavities. We need to have a specialist come and take care of them. With the terrible condition that the horses come to us in, I am surprised we do not see more cavities. (I draw the line at brushing their teeth!)

You caring folks make the rescues possible – You are in our prayers!



MORNING STAR ~ rode to her new home July 29th!

Donation From: _____ Phone# _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email address _____
 Please use my donation for: \$ _____ New Barn Fund \$ _____ General Use
Angel Sponsor: \$20 for 1 month \$60 for 3 months \$120 for 6 months \$240 for 1 year
 Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, or Angel Sponsor (please circle)? Name: _____
 Phone _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email address _____ Would you like the above recipient to receive "Over Herd" - **Yes No**
 Your message for the newsletter:

****Any donation is appreciated. Please make your check payable to Horse Protection Society. **For a \$25 or more donation, the named person can receive "Over Herd" for 1 year. Mail completed form to:
 Horse Protection Society, 2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023**



Monthly Donations & Contributors



As we all take vacations and much needed rest from our crazy lives, I would like to say THANKS on behalf of the horses. As we rejuvenate, the horses do also. Your faithful contributions never waiver, making sure that the hay and feed doesn't either. Thus gives the horses the benefit of our fruits of labor! THANKS and May the Lord Bless You.

In Blessed Memory (4-28-09) of Mustang Sallee, the beloved soul mate & companion of Susan Kotraba. From Frank Zinke

In Honor of Erica de Flamond. Happy Birthday. By Marilyn Swimmer

In Honor of Dr Stewart Roberts. Happy Birthday. By Marilyn Swimmer

In Memory of Frank Zinke Sr. Thank you Dad, we love you. By F. Zinke Jr. & Greg Zinke

In Honor of Tracy Byrnes. Happy Birthday. By Marilyn Swimmer

In Honor of Janet and Lou Elmo. Happy 40th wedding anniversary! By Marilyn & Harry Swimmer

In Memory of Warrior - I can still hear his special deep nicker he would always greet me with. Thanks again for your wonderful care! Rita Tucker

In Honor of Ann Harrison's birthday. By Jackie Mooney

In Honor of Emily Beroth. By Betty Talbert

Carol & William Bellinghausen
Jane B. Billingsley
Judy Blackmon
Victoria S. Breece
K.A. & Catherine Briggs
David L. Brown
Tracy Byrnes
Frances & Billy Caudle
Mieke & Peter Chalmers
Alan B. Church
Elizabeth Creviston
Heidi Crowley
Rita T Curran
Patricia L. Curran
Spunky Dagenhart
Frank & Sandra Daily
Erica de Flamond
Paula L. Dobbins
Dianne Doub
Donna L. & Robert C. Dziura
Janet & Lou Elmo
Kari Fingerlow
Dawn Foss
Olivia & Bob Giddings
Deanna D. Godfrey
Tina L. Hamlin
Brenda & Charles Hemperley

Ann Charlot H. Henry
Dr. Leslie C. Henson
Nelson Hill
Leai Ho & Eileen Smith
Amber S. Hozey
R. S. Iscaro
Patricia & John C. Jaap
Mary & Peter Jurgel
Sara L. Kobs
Mrs. Erinn Koonce
Floyd & Betty Lentz
Katherine B. Lofgren
Daphne Martin
Roberta McCardle
Patricia M McLain
Mary L. McNeilly
Elaine & Mario Merida
Jill & Charles Messer
Elizabeth A. Milam
Jackie & Thomas Mooney
Barbara Moore
Debbie O. Morris
Colleen O'Malley
Melissa Pletcher
Rachel Pope
Ann C. Powlas
Kim T. & Gail S. Purcell

Dr. Stewart Roberts
Patricia A. Schaeffer
Monika & Bernard
Schnacke
Harriet Seabrook
Gail M. Shinn
Angela & Todd Shuping
Side Walk Deli Coustomers
Jerry & Sharon Smith
Sharon Smith
Tacy K. Smith & J.R. Schermerhorn
Cindy W. Stroud
Marilyn B. Swimmer
Betty W. Talbert
Judy L. Taylor
Elaine D. Towner
Sonny & Rita Tucker
Debbie Viducich
Sarah J. Walentine
Suzanne & Michael Webb
Shelagh A. Winter
Kimberly Wrenn
Ian & Heather Yarnot
Linda Yarrington
Frank Zinke

HPS OFFICERS

President	Katie Simmons	704-904-7709	KSIM7300@ctc.net
Vice President	Deborah Baker	704-855-1267	de_bakre@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Kari Fingerlow	704-756-7375	karifingerlow@aol.com
Executive Director	Joanie Benson	704-855-2978	hps@horseprotection.org
Newsletter	Sandy Daily	704-279-0427	sdaily@carolina.rr.com
Web Administration	Deborah Baker	704-855-1267	de_bakre@yahoo.com
Web Administration	Stephanie Maleady	704-560-9712	slmaleady@windstream.net
Medical Needs	Katie Muir	508-527-4314	kmuir@jrmracing.com
Stallion to Gelding Support	Susie Lurz	336-973-5501	slurz1@aol.com
Pet Finders	Heather & Ian Yarnot	704- 779-2908	ian_yarnot@hotmail.com
Historian	Angie Shuping	704-637-6042	shupingangela@yahoo.com
Riding Program Coordinator	Katie Simmons	704-904-7709	KSIM7300@ctc.net
Equine Placement Review	Heidi Crowley	704-636-1191	highd45acp@bellsouth.net

Horse Protection Society
2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAILED FROM
28041
PERMIT NO. 11

Your business tag line here.



This newsletter is printed on 30% recycled paper. Please recycle your newsletter after reading and/or pass it along to a friend..



2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023
Phone: 704-855-2978
Email:
hps@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.

Check out our Website:
www.horseprotection.org