



Volume 15 Issue 8

NEWSLETTER OF HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA INC

a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

OVER HERD



2012

\$\$ HPS FUNDRAISER \$\$

HPS is hosting a fundraiser at The Kilted Buffalo in Huntersville on Tuesday, August 7 from 7-11pm. Two of our dedicated volunteers will be behind the bar serving beer and wine for tips for HPS. The Kilted Buffalo is a great sports bar with shuffle board, corn hole, skee ball and other fun bar games. We will also be raffling off items during the evening including a massage, gas card, jewelry, and other items. We invite everyone to come out, enjoy a drink or two, mingle with HPS volunteers and officers and learn more about HPS and the horses that live there. The sanctuary is near capacity and our funds are extremely low.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT MORE THAN EVER.

See you there!

**The Kilted Buffalo
8625 Townsley Road
Birkdale Village (between Gap & American Eagle)
I-77 exit 25
Huntersville, NC**

Can't make it to the fundraiser?

Here are some other ways to donate to HPS

**** Link your Food Lion MVP card(s) to HPS (this can be done on the Food Lion website). Then every time you use your MVP Card, the amount you spend on qualified items is automatically credited to HPS. Another way is to order Food Lion gift cards through HPS. For every dollar you spend on gift cards, Food Lion will donate 5% to HPS. Please visit the HPS website, www.horseprotection.org, and click on Ways to Donate. There is a form for ordering the gift cards.**

**** Become a member for a ONE TIME membership fee of \$35.00.**

**** Become an angel sponsor to a favorite horse and receive updates on his/her progress.**

**** Visit the HPS website and make a donation or send in the form on the last page of this newsletter.**

The horses need you!

Two More Forsaken Horses

By Joanie Benson

It's easy to know what to do in different situations when you have received a decent education. You can list your options and decide the best course of action. Not everyone can do that. What if your education was lacking and you were raised in a more closed society? What if you had a large family dependent upon you and you were hit hard by the poor economy? Then you have a chance to bring in a little money by letting someone put their two horses on your property. Of course, you are going to jump at the chance. (You already know how this is going to go, don't you?)

The owner stopped paying and did not come around. If that was not bad enough, he was sent to prison. The horses were not in good shape when they came to the property; the owner called the black horse "Bones" and the other horse, a paint mare, had a bad eye. The people were finally able to get in touch with the owner, who said, "Just keep the horses." They did not want the horses and had no idea what to do with them or who to call.

Months passed, then almost two years, until a small animal veterinarian heard about the compromised horses. Like so many horses, they were not visible from the road. After she saw the horses, we were called and arrangements were made to pick them up.

Deborah Baker and I took off with Tom McCardle to a location in Rowan County. When horses are not cared for and left to fend for themselves, they revert back to their wild instincts and do not trust people. It only took us a couple of moments to realize this and to see that the black mare was in charge. *(continued on Page 3)*



Deborah said, “You catch the black mare and I will get the paint mare.” The two horses gave us a guided tour of the 10 acres they were located on. Finally, the black mare stopped and let me give her a few feed pellets, scratch her neck, put the lead line over her neck and then slip on the halter. Deborah had an issue with the paint mare since the left eye was infected and she needed to put the halter on from the right side instead of the left side. They walked back with us beautifully; it may have been because we kept giving them a few pellets.

The black mare was not happy about getting on the trailer and the paint was nudging her in the butt to get her to move. The paint got right on and then got a little upset because the black was still thinking about getting on the trailer. A little encouragement from behind by us did the trick and she walked on.

It was late Sunday when they arrived at HPS. Monday morning the two mares were not going to let the feeders catch them to go to their stalls for breakfast. The black let me catch her with just a soft line over her neck and the drama was over. Later, Dr. Olivia came to check the paint’s eye. The eye was completely closed with pus coming out. There is no eye in the socket and there is rough tissue that could be from scaring or cancer. If it is cancer, 85% of the surgeries are successful in removing all the cancer. Dr. Olivia is a board certified surgeon and would be qualified to take care of the paint mare’s eye, but we want to clean-up the infection first. The paint also has an issue with a front knee. Daily DMSO treatments may help.

The black mare is worse than the paint in body condition, about a low two on the body scoring and the paint is a low four. They have huge worm bellies. Their hooves have not been trimmed in years and have been breaking off. We are hoping for a full recovery of both horses..... time will tell.

Did I mention that the black is a Tennessee Walking Horse? Many of you know that I have not had my own horse in many years. My first “horse love” was a black TWH. The first horse I personally owned was a black TWH. (I have always called TWH’s my first love.) Some years ago I bought a TWH paint and within a week of bringing her to the sanctuary I knew something was very wrong with her. I was heartbroken when cancer showed up and there was nothing we could do to save her.



Horse Abandoned in Chatham County

By Annie Schoonover

I was going about my life when a starved, pitiful looking horse was put smack in front of me...a complete bag of bones, his head hanging down, flies all over his emaciated body. I could not believe my eyes once they adjusted to the dim light in the shed. He had been found in a pasture down the road-- dumped.

After the shock passed, I sprang into action: providing buckets of fresh water, unlimited senior feed, and turned a fan on him. I could not sleep all night, wondering what his outcome might be. The next day, I witnessed him eating, drinking water and keeping his head up at times....I felt that this horse had a chance if he could get the right help.

I reached out to Joanie Benson at HPS. Joanie responded immediately! She explained that my good intentions of feeding large quantities of feed to a malnourished horse can cause much harm and potential death. This mistake is called the "Re-feeding_Syndrome". In starved animals and humans, the gut's flora must be SLOWLY replenished and balanced to avoid neurologic damage, cardiac, pulmonary and organ failure, followed by death.

We decided it best to transport the horse THAT NIGHT in the cooler evening air. The only problem was, I had never transported a horse or pulled a trailer, did not have a horse trailer, and knew that the horse might "go down" on the journey. Boy was I scared! But, I was determined to provide this horse with a chance of recovery. I prayed for help and the doors began to spring open!

A friend of a friend offered the use of her trailer and hooked it up for me; Joanie coached me on how to prepare the horse and configure the inside of the trailer, and the weak, starved horse loaded and stayed upright the entire trip. We made it safely to the sanctuary! Of course, I was driving s-l-o-w-l-y in the far right interstate highway lane praying-- and --praying --and --praying! By turning off my negative voices (DON'T GET INVOLVED, DON'T TRAILER, etc.) I was able to use my FEAR and adrenaline to "practice" new behavior..it must be true that "Courage is Fear that has said its PRAYERS".

This brave horse is fortunate to now be supported by a dedicated and skilled team of HPS volunteers---and me too! His life has changed forever, and, mine is all the better for finding the courage to get involved.

By Joanie Benson

The large, older horse had a long ride from Chatham County and did great. We put him up in the hospital stall with hay and water for the night and I checked on him a number of times. He was a high one on the body scoring and I was concerned about the additional weight he would loose on a restricted diet.

Many times I have done research on saving a starved horse that may have been over fed and could die from re-feeding syndrome and there is simply no information. Once again, we were in uncharted territory. It seemed reasonable to give him a chance to detox by providing no
(continued on Page 5)

grain feed and only the supplements that we know a starved horse has to have to support their organs. These were given in a small amount of soaked alfalfa cubes. He had free feed on lower quality hay. The restricted diet had to continue for a week to get past the danger time. Happily, even on the restricted diet he gained weight!

What a wonderful, quiet and friendly horse! Very kind and easy going. At some point in his life, this was a well-trained, loved horse. Finally we were able to move him to the front field with Shaman and Honeysuckle (both are doing great) and he is putting weight on quickly. It was about 10 days before we were able to get his first photograph and he is looking a good bit better than when he arrived at HPS.

I called the owner of the field where he had been found to get the full story. The field was down the road from their stable with no houses close by. She had checked with the Sheriff's Department and there had not been any reports of a missing horse. I called a nearby county and they did not have any reports either. I hate the thought that someone just dumped this wonderful horse like trash along the road. I would rather think that he got lost and someone saw him and put him up in the field for his own safety. I am the eternal optimist! We may never know the true story on this old boy. I checked the website Netposse.com, a site for lost and stolen horses, and could not find him listed.

We have named him Cree and he is now safe due to Annie's courage. Thank you so much for caring and extending your comfort levels. Our devoted contributors have made it possible for a veterinarian visit and a blood panel, and to provide for his special needs. Life is precious and all of us appreciate this fact.



HONORS and MEMORIALS

In memory of the Incomparable
Miss Angel Lehouf, August 19, 2002
Sadly missed by her friend Roberta

In honor of Pam Currie
by
Betty Laferty

In memory of Hailey, By Pam Chandler

**In memory of my beloved cat, Ivy
By Sara Lewis**

Happy Birthday Sybil Athey!

By Lisa Murray & Dottie Rebhan

Happy Birthday Ann Harrison

By your Mom-in-law

*In memory of Breann Currie
By Carolyn Tice*

In memory of Jan E. Smith

By Anne N. Kenny

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Monthly Donations & Contributors

Thank you to all donors for helping us to continue to provide a sanctuary for all the horses that need a new home. You have enabled us to take in those who were not so fortunate to have regular feedings and to provide care to those that need it. Full details and photos of the horses may be found on our website: horseprotection.org

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www.horseprotection.org

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

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