



Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.

2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023

(704) 855-2978

On the Web at:

www.horseprotection.org

**Mark your
Calendars:**

Volunteer Day

December 10th

**Come early/stay late!
Pot Luck Lunch at Noon.
Please bring a covered
dish to share.**

Farrier Day

December 24th

**Please call the ranch if
you are available to help.**

One Comes Back

I pray that this never happens again. Very early in the morning an email notified us that one of the horses we had placed in 2001 was in need of our help and Animal Control had been called. We had 20 high school students coming to tour the sanctuary. Deborah Baker was going to lend a hand with the kids. Fortunately the kids had to be back to school and did not have too much time.

I had everything ready that we needed to take with us and as soon as the bus pulled out of the drive, we jumped in "Little Red," and off we went to Waxhaw. The trip was nerve racking and scary not knowing what we would find. The gate was closed, but not locked. As we slowly pulled into the rutted drive it was apparent that everything had fallen into disrepair. We knocked on the door and woke up the husband. We introduced ourselves and asked to see Midnight Moon.

The grounds looked as if they had not been mowed all summer, and the barn was in terrible condition. There was no good hay... just a rotting pile of old bales. The stalls had at least a foot of old manure. The feed room had a few bags of the cheapest sweet feed and was filled with old empty bags. The fields that were once green and filled with nice grass had become full of weeds with broken down fences. The husband put out a few handfuls of very poor hay for the five horses on the property. He kept telling us that they were trying to move the horses to South Carolina. I asked what had happened and he said,



Welcome back Midnight Moon

See One Comes Back page 6

A Ladybug in November?!

Everyone loves the big draft breed horses and Ladybug is fast becoming a favorite here at the sanctuary. The story is that she is supposed to be half Percheron and half Belgium. Ladybug is just 3.5 years old and very small for a draft horse. (We were told that she was two years old.) The poor girl shows the signs of not getting enough of the right feed to grow the way she should have. Ladybug's neck is too short, and she is very short backed. All four hooves are



Ladybug is making new friends at the ranch

cracked and split. These are signs of poor nutrition when she should have been growing. Ladybug may have a chance to catch up some on her growth. The draft breed horses often will continue to grow until they are five years old. Only time will tell how she will mature. We can guarantee that Ladybug will get good healthy meals to help her grow.

Ladybug started her life out with the person who bred her, and then was sold to an older man. He had health issues and told a gal that he was going to have to send her to auction. Of course, she could not stand for that to happen, so bought her. Well, things in her life changed very quickly when her first baby arrived early. She quickly realized that with new baby, she had taken on too much with the time Ladybug was going to take with her care and the added expense. She only had the big girl for about a month, but had become very attached to her and wanted best for her. *See Ladybug page 4*

Thankfulness By Joan Benson

This has been a wonderful year with many blessings. Just this past month Dottie Rebhan made a commitment to help get built a two stall barn in the front field since we will not be able to build the total new barn needed for all the horses. This will give all of the foundered horses shelter for the winter. We used the materials we had on hand at the sanctuary so only the labor was needed. R.C.R. Home Improvement did the work for a very low price to help us out and did a wonderful job on the construction. Roberta McCardle, Deborah Baker and myself kicked in to help pay the cost. Perry Morgan gave us some additional wood that was a big help. Nice folks to work with and now we get to stain the building on the outside. If you would like to help out we could use Bare Exterior white Stain from Home Depot. We will be using the same white stain on the exterior of the new barn. (Not Paint, Exterior White Stain) If you have a job that needs to be done give RCR a call at 704-798-3300 – Clair. I have heard that some of you like to paint. Here is your chance. Let's get the job finished. We have the brushes.

This has been a great year for new folks helping out at the sanctuary. The feeder list has increased, but we could still use more feeders. Some peoples name show up many times through the month. To spend time working with these great horses is to love them even more. The sanctuary could not function without these devoted people.

Gayle Cannon and her committee are working hard with the plans for *The Mane Event* to take place in February, and we are looking forward to the fun evening. We have some tickets here at the sanctuary or you can contact Gayle at 704-483-0461. Wow! This could be wonderful to help finish the barn by spring if we all support this HPS Fund Raising event.

HPS is so blessed with the best officers that are so devoted to the horses and their well being. They work hard and often are doing triple duty. They love and care so deeply for the horses. Each one helps to keep things running so much smoother than it would without them. We are so fortunate to have everyone of them.

Joyce and Teddy Hixson have improved the old farmhouse beyond belief. The office now has real office furniture and an oak file cabinet, a roll top desk, but still looks like a paper explosion has taken place in the office. (Does anyone want to do filing to help out?) The kitchen is beautiful and is so wonderful when we have volunteer day and lunch on the days the horses get trimmed. I still can't cook, but it sure is pleasant to work in. The sink in the utility room has been handy. The only thing left on the outside is to installed the new siding on the back of the house. They arranged to have the well fixed, which we could not afford to do and also the furnace (what a joy to have heat).

The new barn will get built, just slower than we had hoped for. The beginning of the grading has been started. It was a fun day with Perry Morgan supervising the moving of the duplex to get ready. The rain has held up the delivery of the 50 loads of fill dirt needed for the first phase of the building. Fences and water tubs have been moved to allow room for the construction. The drilling of the new well for the horses' water is scheduled and slowly we are moving ahead. We still need a plumber and concrete finisher.

We are all thankful for the continuing recovery of the EPM horses. None of them could have survived the expected treatment with Marquis by Bayer Company. We pray what we have found will cure this terrible illness and help many other horses in the future.

So many wonderful horses have recovered this year and many have found new loving homes. This is what it is all about! The rescue and rehabilitation of God's beautiful creatures... the magnificent horses.

Merry Christmas and thank you for making is all possible. We pray your New Year will be blessed.

Easy Way to Help Feed the Horses -- No Cost to You!

There's an easy way to help the horses and it doesn't cost you a dime. If you are not already doing so, please either give us your Food Lion MVP card number (all twelve digits) or go to www.foodlion.com yourself and sign up for the Shop and Share program with HPS as your chosen charity. When you buy groceries, the total of your purchases is added to the total for all folks who have signed up in the Shop & Share program with HPS as their designated charity. Each quarter Food Lion looks at this total and decides how much they will donate to us. You still get your regular MVP savings, just like always. You can still save money with your coupons, just like always. The only difference....the horses benefit. All MVP cards for the Shop & Share program must be "re-linked" for the coming year each fall by December 31st. We have already re-linked all the numbers we have for 2006. If you previously gave us your number then we still have it. **It only takes a minute on our part but it matters so much to the horses.** Thank you for caring enough to help



*In loving
memory of
my husband
Richie Cunningham's
Birthday Nov. 3rd.
He would have been 67*

By Brenda Cunningham

Welcome Patches! Reported by Snickerdoodle (clerical assistance - Roberta McCardle)

"Hey, Harley," said Little Mouse, "tell us again about that place you came from."

"Oh yes, please, Harley," said Medium Mouse. "All you young ones gather 'round," he instructed.

"Sure, glad to oblige," said I. "Ahhh, fellas, you don't know how good it was.....before that silver-haired sneaky Two-Legger captured me in a feed bag and drove me far, far away. I lived in a feed room and it was a brown rat's dream. There was a HUGE bin overflowing with grain. They frequently left the cover off this bin when they were delivering food to the horses. If that was not enough, there was even another bin of somewhat different feed -- also quite palatable. Grain, boys, is the real way to a brown rat's heart. When I lived there I looked like a Polynesian prince -- a rat of substance! What you see before you today, well, it's sad; I'm a shadow of my former self."

"And that's not all -- once a week there was a regular delivery of a variety of fresh (NOTE: "fresh" is a relative term) fruits and vegetables. It was a cornucopia, just for me! The Two Leggers frequently left wheelbarrows full of this stuff unguarded! It was child's play for a fast brown rat like me -- in and out, I always say. Collect your produce and run!"

A small voice piped up from the back, "But Brown Rat, if it was so good, why don't you go back?"

"Youngster," I said, "some things are just too risky. They have a new cat and she lives in that feed room."

"Cat, smat," sneered Medium Mouse, "they've always had cats there."

"Not like this cat," I corrected. "She's Serious with a capital 's.'" This cat is on duty 24/7, no weekends, no holidays. She sleeps with one eye open. Her Mother wore combat boots. She files her claws to a razor-fine edge at least once a day. She is focused and takes no prisoners. The Two Leggers are crazy about her because they think she has a sweet personality -- Ha! What do they know? You ever see lightning, kid? Well, that's how this cat strikes. If you want to live to be a big mouse, stay away from HPS!" (NOTE: HPS is delighted to welcome Patches, a beautiful calico, to the feed room. She is a very sweet girl but don't mistake sweetness for weakness. The Friday night feeder heard a sound not unlike a power tool. Further investigation revealed that it was emanating from Patches -- she was telling another four-legger to take a hike).



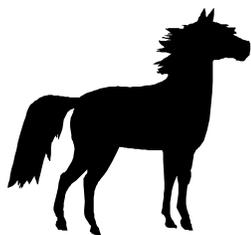
For the person who has everything How about giving them a **HORSE!!**

Have you started your holiday shopping yet? There is bound to be at least one person on your gift list who is always impossible to shop for - the person who has everything! We have a fabulous gift idea! **Sponsor a horse as a gift for your friends and loved ones.** You'll have the satisfaction of giving a unique gift, and knowing that you are helping care for some of the rescued horses at The Horse Protection Society! Oh yea, not to worry.... We'll do the feeding and clean up! All your gift recipient will have to do is enjoy the benefits of being a sponsor - benefits including:

- . **HPS News Letter**
- . **A Photo and Biography of their horse**
- . **An Opportunity to visit and interact with their horse at the Ranch**

We have over 30 horses who would love to have a new Angel Sponsor for Christmas!

The costs of caring for our rescued horses can be overwhelming and we rely upon people like you to assist us. By sponsoring a horse for 1 month for \$20, 3 months for \$60, 6 months for \$120, or a full year for just \$240 you are not only giving a unique gift, you are quite literally helping us save lives!! Please complete the donation form on page 7 of the newsletter and forward with your check to the ranch.



News From The Herd

Hawk (Cindy) Sullivan, Anne (Tree) Coley and Marilyn Gilligan traveled great distances to trim the horses at the sanctuary on November 26th. Hawk is from GA, Tree from Ashville and Marilyn drove hours from SC. A big herd thank you to each of these great gals. It thrilled us to see such wonderful trimming for our babies. Tree and Marilyn will be here again on Dec. 24th. Please come help if possible. The horses also need two more barefoot specialists to help with the trimming... suggestions?

Hawkeye is the only horse that had on going problems from his ESPM that was mentioned in the November newsletter. We could not get him trimmed and will have to have the vet here to give him an IV injection to be able to trim him next time.

Irish, Wrangler, Montana and Sumner are doing wonderful on the natural herbs that they are receiving for their EPM. They are improving each week. The gate to the rented pasture was left open by one of the family that we rent it from. Navajo (40) is the great escape artist. He must have found the gate open and invited Moncha, Salida, Montana, Irish, and Fire Breeze to go for a run in the open fields. A neighbor reported the escape and off we went in Dawn's pickup. Irish took off with Fire Breeze and Navajo and beat us back to the gate racing the pickup truck. Dr. Busko caught up Montana and he had to walk back to his displeasure.

Wild Flower once again had the huge pound flesh on her back fetlock removed. This time we used a different medication recommended by Dr. Lisa Busko. I had read on the Internet that Alum could help reduce the chances of proud flesh so we added that to the medication. Wild Flower is healing perfectly and can now go without her bandage.

17 of the horses had to have their updated rabies vaccinations. We divide the herd up twice a year so the rest will be done in February 2006. (Over the years it has just worked out that way.)

Moncha went off to a new home that is going to be perfect for her. Kimberly loves her new girl, and she is fitting right in with her two little Miniature horses.

Buttercup was one of the very luck pasture pals to find a great new home with two other pasture pals.

Tacoma went to a beautiful new home in Leatherwood. He will receive his training and Susie hopes to find the perfect home for him among her friends after a year of training.

Snowstorm's little girl has been ill and in the hospital. Please say a prayer for her and her recovery.

Sonoma is in a wonderful new home and is dearly loved. He has a pretty retired mare as a companion.

Wind Walker could not have found a more perfect home. Someone finally appreciates and laughs at Wind Walkers silliness. They are having a great time together.

May God bless these wonderful families for caring about rescued horses and their willingness to provide a loving home.

Christmas Night

Ladybug From Page 1

Ladybug needs some ground work but will be easy to work with since she loves people and has to greet everyone who comes into the field. She is already feeling better and is now running and does a funny little buck when she is happy. Her favorite past time is eatingand eating and then in between...eating.

At first the other horses in the "Little Guys' Field" were not very nice to Ladybug. Finally there was a peace treaty and all are getting along fine. This will be a Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas for Ladybug and the other horses at the sanctuary since this year they will all have full bellies thanks to each of you and your generosity in helping the horses. *Each horse sends their blessings and wishes for a wonderful holiday for each of you.*

*The night is bright with stars and the sky is clear.
The horses are gathered around the hay bales.
They speak to each other about past fears,
And tell the new horses the hay supply never fails.*

*You are in a safe place with kind folks who care,
And they see to our needs in the gentlest ways.
All the things that you have been through are not fair,
You will hear tonight that all will be good in coming days.*

*All creatures who have breath give praise to the Lord,
For we will have a special visitor tonight.
Who will speak to us and move us to adore,
Because Jesus was born after Mary took flight.*

*His first night was in a stable,
And the time is near for us to go in
To hear the story that is not a fable.
For God loves his creatures and wants no sin
Against them to be welcome at his table.*

Christmas Wish List

THE HERD hopes you have added them to your Christmas list. Their needs are many everyday. We pray you will make their needs part of your holiday and celebrate the lives that have been saved through your caring. May each and every one of you have a safe and Merry Christmas.

Hawkeye, Montana, Padre, and Sky Ghost – Alfalfa pellets for their specialized diets.

Alfalfa cubes – Seven buckets of alfalfa cubes are soaked in hot water morning and evening.

Ladybug, Hawkeye, Majestic, Padre, Montana, Nevada, & others -Red Cell – Tracker Supply, feed stores.

Wrangler, Fire Breeze, Moon, Sky Ghost, Padre, Spirit – Beta Carotene gel caps, 25,000 IU – drug store.

Irish, Summer, Montana, Wrangler, Hawkeye & others – Vitamin E gel caps, 400 IU – drug store.

Montana, Hawkeye – vegetable oil, eight cups needed each day – SAMS

Morning Glory, Fire Breeze, Willow – Beet Pulp - Feed Stores.

MSM – Each of the horses receives this supplement everyday. 5 to 10 pound buckets, feed stores, Internet –Jeffers.

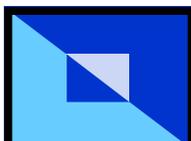
Equimax wormer – needed for every horse this month – feed stores – Internet – Jeffers.

Feed Bucket hangers – Feed stores, Tractor Supply

Out door Extention Cords

Tub Heaters – the type with the cord coming out of the top

*This is only a small list of the supplements the horses need each month. We have arranged suppliers that will allow us to purchase their needs at reduced prices. It is more cost affective to make donations for grain, hay and their other supplements. **May God bless you for caring***



WANTED: ANGEL SPONSORS



My name is Seneca! After 3 years, I'm finally rehabilitated to be placed in a loving home thanks to angel sponsors. Would you consider sponsoring me? For \$20.00 a month you can help me or one of my pals with special needs like extra vet visits, medicine, special supplements and feed etc. INTERESTED? Send your \$20 to address below.

Thanks, Seneca

THE HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY

2135 MILLER RD

CHINA GROVE, NC 28023

One Comes Back *From page 1*

“Nothing has happened. Everything is fine.” Midnight Moon came right up to me and put his head between my arm and body pressing against me. It took every bit of control I have to keep from raging at this man at that moment. I had to move away, so Deborah and I went to inspect the fields and fencing.

There was too little manure for the number of horses and a gate was down leading into a wooded area off the property. When we checked the fence along the road we found a section down and the weeds matted where the horses had gone through to the road. That was it! We returned to the barn and I told him that Midnight Moon was in immediate and apparent danger. We would be removing him that afternoon.

The husband had called his wife and she arrived totally out of control. The only thing she cared about was finding out who had called to report them. We told her the fences were down next to the road. Her only response was the horses are going to be removed on Monday. She left to go see her lawyer and the husband went and started to clean one of the stalls. They were not the least bit concerned about the broken fences. This family had fallen apart and the people were not rational. They had separated.

Deborah had to go to work and I called Charles Lentz as soon as we got back to China Grove. I put together what I needed to go get Midnight and went to meet Charles. I knew the husband was suppose to leave for work at 4 o'clock, and there was no way we were going to make it back before then. Charles had helped HPS many times pick up horses and I knew we could handle what ever we found upon our return to Waxhaw. The husband was there and brought out Midnight who jumped right on the trailer. I don't think we were there five minutes. It seemed like a terribly long trip back to China Grove.

Lisa Murray was feeding that evening and had prepared a stall for Midnight. He unloaded perfectly and seemed relaxed as if he was just returning home. He immediately attacked the huge pile of hay and fresh water.

Midnight Moon needs to gain back about 100 pounds, have his hooves trimmed, shots, worming, scratches doctored on his back pasterns and the rain rot treated. I would expect him to return to his beautiful black thoroughbred self quickly. He is now 17 years old. I pray we never, never have to repo another horse. Midnight Moon's Christmas will be a good one.

In honor of All that they have done for my guys and me.

***Merry Christmas to the following:
By Spunky Dagenhart***

- The Horse Protection Society*
- Joanie Benson*
- The Witman Family*
- The Hageter Family*
- The McHuge Family*
- The Greene Family*
- Shirley Anderson Cook*
- Shannon Caviness*
- The Huffstickler Family*
- The Caruso Family*
- The Buchanan/Wright Family*
- The Sanderfer Family*
- Lillus Kurland & Brenda*
- Stephanie Goens Gandy*
- Morgan Ray*
- Monogram Magic-Ruby & Beth*
- Rusty Spur-Bobbie*
- Woof 'n Hoof-Donna*
- Neighborhood Feed-Tom & Adam*
- Style-A-Rema-Ted*
- Wilgrove Express*
- Perry's Market*
- Kathy Stogner*
- Karen Lynd & Sara Marie*
- Parelli/Glenn Group-Cammy & Everyone*
- Shirley McVicker*
- The Davis Family*
- Parelli Natural Horsemanship*
- The Jon Tilly family*



*In honor of Shirley &
Norman Cook,
and Beth Phagan & Chris McHugh.*

*To thank them for ALL they do for my
guys and me - pasts, present & future!*

Spunky Dagenhart



*Thank you again for the great
love and care you gave Warrior.*

*Its been a year since he's gone to
the "Big Pasture" in the sky.*

Rita & George Tucker



In Celebration of the Holidays

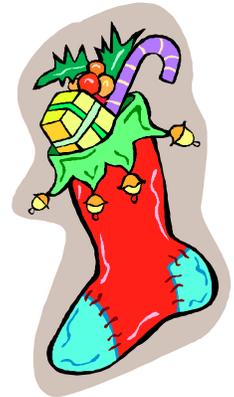
*For the Clark Family
And their love of Horses*

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Donation From: _____ phone # _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email address _____
 Please use my donation for: \$ _____ New Barn Fund \$ _____ General Use
 Angel Sponsor: \$20 /1month - \$60 /3 months - \$120/6 months - \$240/1 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 of more donation the named person can receive "Over Herd" for 1 year.**

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina



2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023

Phone: 704-855-2978
Email: hps@horseprotection.org

Web site:
www.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.

**Horse Protection Society
2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023**

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