



Over Herd

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:

Members Meeting
February 12th

Come early/stay late!
Lots of projects.

Lunch/Meeting at Noon.
Please bring a covered dish
to share.

Farrier Day
February 5th

Please call the Ranch if
you can help

Come Meet a Trakehner

The Trakehner is known for its friendly temperament, athletic ability, intelligence and beauty. The breed stands 16 to 17 hands. The breed can be traced back 400 years to one of the oldest warmblood breeds and is based on a small Prussian horse called Schwaike. King Frederick Wilhelm I of Prussia wanted his soldiers to have a reliable warhorse and established the breed in 1732. The Schwaike was crossed with English Thoroughbreds and Arabians. Strict selection permitted only the best to breed.

During World War II less than ten percent of the Trakehners made it to safety. West Germany established the West German "Trakehner Verband" and a Stud Book that continued to document the breed. The first documented importation of the Trakehner breeding stock in North America occurred in the fifties. It was not until 1974 that the American Trakehner Association was founded.

We were happy to welcome Denali to the sanctuary. Of course he has some major problems.... He has foundered, has difficulty growing a healthy hoof, needs to gain about 175 pounds and has arthritis in his joints. Denali is 18 years old and was used as a show horse for many years. His young owner grew up and went off to college. He was moved from the trainer's barn to a less expensive stable. Later the trainer saw him and was very concerned about his condition. The trainer then arranged for Denali to be

moved from New Jersey to a new owner in North Carolina in about 2001. All was going well with him at his new home in NC until financial, and life problems took a huge down turn. The owner was very concerned what would become of Denali.



Welcome Denali!!

Special Thank You

By Joan Benson

We have a privilege that many folks miss. The nicest young people come to the Sanctuary. The horses and some of us had the pleasure of meeting the wonderful young ladies of *Hoof Beats 4-H Club of Cabarrus County* and their leaders.

Like many Saturdays there was too much taking place and nothing was happening at the time scheduled. I knew the 4-H group was coming to take pictures, what I did not realize is that the pictures they wanted to take was the presentation of a \$750 check. I invited them to go ahead and take whatever pictures they wanted and rushed back to what I had been doing. I went back when I realized they were just standing and visiting with each other. My confusion was happily changed to understanding. They wanted to present HPS with a sizeable check that would be going to help pay our vet bills. The girls had worked hard to earn this \$750 and I am so proud of their accomplishments. As usual we had know sooner taken a couple of pictures, and the new horse arrived that we had been expecting hours earlier, and I had to run off again to settle in the new horse. Their time allotted was all too soon over, and they needed to head back.

We send out heartfelt thank you and pray that each one will be blessed for their kindness towards the horses.

Spirit Joins the Herd

Deborah Baker and I headed out on an abuse call in Cabarrus County. We never know what we will find or how the owners will react to being reported for not caring for their horses. These owners were frustrated with the poor advice they had been getting on the care of their older horses. They have had the horses for 15 to 17 years and yet had never really learned about their care. Younger horses will seem to do okay even with fair to poor care, but then as they age the cost of care can increase substantially. The mediocre care will show up in the horse becoming more difficult to maintain as it ages. Then add in that the interest that was once present in enjoying the horses has waned. We felt the owners were concerned that they would become one of the families that are seen on TV like with "Animal Rescue" for abusing their horses. The owners called us back and asked us to take the horse that was in very poor condition. Gary Moran once again helped to transport another needy horse.



Spirit before he arrived at HPS

Deb suggested the name Spirit, and he liked it. Spirit will more than tug the heartstrings. He looks like he maybe a small Arabian but it's hard to tell when looking at a skeleton with skin and shaggy hair. Spirit started out very weak, but his attitude is good. He is below a one on the rating scale. It takes a great deal of care to bring a horse back to health when they are down this far, and the expense is astronomical. Spirit's blood work was as we expected. The stool check was off the charts. After one worming with Safe Guard the egg count was still 5,800 per gram. (Remember one gram is less than an ounce.) This complication puts him at an even higher risk. It is well worth any amount to see them blossom under the loving attention and care of the folks who help at the sanctuary. But all this would be for naught, without the financial needs met. He is sharing space with Beauty and they are getting along fine.

Spirit is 25 years old. The owners still have one horse they are going to sell and one they are giving to a family member. All three horses hooves have been neglected. One of them had a past founder. I am amazed when I hear all the poor advice that they received on the care of this poor old horse. I am surprised he has survived. The unseasonable warm weather may have saved his life. He did have shelter, but not fresh water or hay. The horses' field was eaten down to nothing and this time of the year there is not any nutrition in the grass anyway. There wasn't even a mineral block. We will go back to check to make sure the owners have found homes for the other two horses. They were thinner than they should have been, but the right groceries would turn them right around.

Come meet Spirit and Beauty. Both have names that maybe in the future they can live up to. Please become an Angel Sponsor for one of these needy horses. They deserve to have everything that they need and only you can provide that.

Love that HPS Pre-Paid Grocery Card!

By Roberta McCardle

When I asked Lisa Murray, the HPS Food Lion shopping card coordinator, about participation in the grocery card program, I was disappointed at her response. I'm not sure that everyone understands how this works so wished to share with folks what a positive it has been for my family. Near the end of every month I give Lisa a check made out to Food Lion in whatever amount I want from \$5 - \$499. I've learned that \$200 works good for me. Then, usually a week or so later, I get my Food Lion card. Lisa will mail it to you or you can pick it up at the ranch. No more writing multiple checks to the grocery store every month! When you use the card, you get two receipts. In addition to getting your regular receipt of items purchased, you also get a receipt that reflects how much is left on the card. I keep my card on the kitchen counter and if another family member needs to go to the store, they can just grab the card. Best of all, Food Lion donates 5% of the value of my card to HPS. So....every time I get a \$200 card, HPS is given \$10. This also means that 5% of your grocery bill (that is paid for by this card) is now tax-deductible. It's a win - win. We get fed and the horses do too. Just try it, you'll like it!

See page 4 for order form.



Trakehner...continued page 1

The stress of his founder may have made it difficult for him to maintain his weight. His appetite is now up, and he seems to be feeling a bit better. He will need on going x-rays for his front hooves and close attention. This could take several years until we see sound front hooves.

Taking Denali's picture turned out to be more challenging than I thought. He saw the camera and started making the most hilarious faces that I have ever seen a horse make. I didn't know a horse could open their mouth that far. This is a horse that obviously enjoys people's laughter and wants to play.

Please come visit this wonderful horse that will steal your heart and watch his progress to recovery.

The Valentine's Day Dance That Wasn't a Ballet

by Snickerdoodle (with clerical assistance from Roberta McCardle)

You do know how quickly time passes, don't you? And how easy it is to imagine that one is still in one's prime years (when one is not)? This truth was recently brought home to Navajo.

Ah, Navajo. This gelding is one of my favorite horses. He is 40 years old, Arabian, with one functioning eye. Does this deter him? No! He has an effervescent personality, beautiful movement, a hearty appreciation for his victuals, and an eye for the mares. He has spunk without being obnoxious and a jaunty self-confidence that is not the slightest bit arrogant. Navajo is one fine horse.

It all began, as so many of our adventures do, with some chitchat around the hay bales.

YumYum inquired, "Hey guys, do you know what's coming up in February? It's a holiday! Valentine's Day. Doncha think we should do something special, like have a dance or something?"

"Yeah, buddy! I LOVE anything that involves running and eating!" This came from Moncha. (Note: In deference to her feelings, the writer has refrained from using the adjective "Rubenesque" in front of Moncha's name).

"Hotdoggies," shouted Tacoma, "let's boogy!"

With this kind of enthusiasm, the plans were rapidly made. Navajo and the genteel Willow proposed that at least part of the dance be a classical ballet. "Come on, guys," said Nav, "we've got to expose the young ones to some culture." Other members of the herd grudgingly agreed.

Even the older horses wanted to participate. Wearing the evening feeders' headgear (i.e. mechanic's headlamps), they choreographed some lovely movements that made use of the different light settings on the lamps. What artistry and imagination! I was impressed, never having been in a herd with such creativity.

It was determined that Majestic, Nevada, and I would lead the way and carry a banner into the barn since none of us could move very rapidly. This would then be followed by the ballet, then the moving light dance, and then the floor would be opened to all.

The day before the dance, Navajo whispered to me, "Golly, kid, I better practice. Need to see if I still have the old magic hooves. I can use a stall door as my barre." And off he went into the barn. That was the last I saw of Navajo that afternoon. He usually spends most afternoons grazing with his friends, Fire Breeze, Irish, and Morning Glory, but I just assumed he was doing some intense dance practice.

Late in the afternoon Monty galloped by -- I felt the whoosh of wind and a momentary vacuum of air so I knew he was moving on. Effortlessly, without even slowing down, he cleared the fence and headed up the driveway. (Gentle Reader, it was a fabulous sight.....Monty used to be a jumper and is built like a brick house). He skidded to a stop by the back porch and began making sounds of distress. Our Two-Legger flew out of the house, "Monty, what are you doing up here?" she asked.

Wordlessly, Monty turned and galloped back to the barn with our Two Legger in heated pursuit. The two of them disappeared into the barn and then I heard a loud, "OH, NO! How on earth did you do this, Navajo?"

Our Two Legger came tearing out of the barn saying, "I've got to get some help!"

"Nevada," I said, "go over to the barn and see what's going on!"

Nevada did so and visibly paled under his dark coat. "Snickerdoodle, you won't believe this. Come see! I'll boost you up."

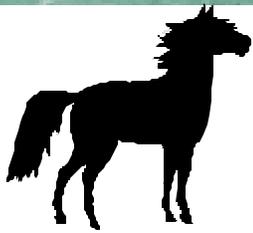
When he did so, my mouth fell open. Navajo had somehow caught his right front hoof up on top of the stall door. Other than being in this terrible position, he appeared to be ok.

"Oh, hi, Snickerdoodle," he said, "My legs aren't quite as flexible as they used to be. Don't worry -- our Two Legger went to get some tools and some help. I'll be fine."

Fine! Didn't he know all the different ways that a horse can get hurt in such a predicament? Didn't he know that all of us little guys loved his kind heart & sweet personality?

Well! I know when it's time to take charge so I did. The ballet was cancelled. The light show went on and so did the open dance. Navajo was our guest of honor. Wearing a lovely shade of blue Vet Wrap on his leg, he reclined in comfort on a nice, big pile of hay.

"Hey, Snickerdoodle, what do you think of ballroom dancing?"



News From The Herd

Yum Yum has been feeling very under the weather. We had a thyroid function test done and his levels are way out of wack. He is back on medication, and we hope this time it will help him.

Navajo is now 40 years old. One would think that at this advanced age he would slow down soon. But, oh no, not Navajo. John Kiwacka and I were doing the morning feed. Navajo is stalled next to Irish at feeding time. I was just opening Irish's stall door when I turned to unhook the latch and realized I was starting at the bottom of a hoof that was at eye level. Navajo was standing quietly with his leg stuck on top of the chain that holds his stall door closed. I tried to lift his leg out, and then called for John. He ran to get the bolt cutter and free his hoof. Navajo acted like this was a daily event and it was no big deal. He got a Bute with breakfast and an ice pack later. He suffered no ill effects from his fancy ballot leg stretch.

Fire Breeze poked himself in the eye again, and he had to go on an antibiotic eye ointment.

Denali had his x-rays done by the nice new vet with South Ridge Vet Hospital, Dr. Lisa Busko. There is rotation and some damage. More x-rays will be taken, and we should be able to provide more information next month. Dr. Busko also was the vet available for Yum Yum's evaluation, Spirit's first examination and check up and Montana's testing. She has really jumped in with both feet at the sanctuary. The folks who use South Ridge will enjoy meeting Dr. Busko.

Montana just does not act like he feels well. His blood panel did not show anything of concern. The next step was a combination test for thyroid function, insulin, and Cushing's. His symptoms of rough coat, and lack of energy warrant this test. It can take over a week to get the test results back. We have him on a new supplement for his breathing problems and the vet said his lungs were clear with no sounds of problem. He is now on Spirulina powder (Blue/Green Algae). The latest studies show about 80% of the horses on this supplement breathing problems improve. This costs about \$14.00 a pound and is less expensive than the supplements we have been using. The horse gets 20 grams a day after a loading period of twice a day. (We are still not 100% sold on this new treatment. So if you decide to try it, do it with care. Remember Irish coliced three days after starting her on this supplement.)

Beauty is gaining her weight back. The back hip problem is improving as her body condition improves.

FOOD LION GIFT CARD ORDER FORM

Please complete a separate order form for each person you who is purchasing gift cards. Completed orders need to be mailed to: Lisa Murray- Food Lion Gift Card Coordinator, 1529 Mill Wheel Dr, Salisbury N.C. 28146. Full payment must accompany your order. Checks must be made payable to Food Lion. Orders for cards are due the 6th of February.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Quantity: _____ at \$ _____
 _____ at \$ _____
 _____ at \$ _____

Delivery Instructions:
 Mail my cards to the above address
 Leave my cards at HPS to be picked up by me

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Quantity: _____ at \$ _____
 _____ at \$ _____
 _____ at \$ _____

Delivery Instructions:
 Mail my cards to the above address
 Leave my cards at HPS to be picked up by me

If for some reason you do not receive your cards by the 28th of the month please let me know.



The horses send a huge “thank you” to the following contributors this month.

Brenda Arthur
 Sheila & James Austin, Jr.
 Sandy Babinski
 Margaret & Joseph Bachofner
 Deborah Baker
 Dr. Tim & Gail Baxter
 Pam Benet
 Timothy Benton
 Vitoria Breece
 Lucy Buchanan
 Kimberly Clark
 Leatrice Davis
 Ann & Rocco DiSanto
 Paula Dobbins
 Ronda Duncan
 Michael Eckles
 Beth Garber
 Hoof Beats 4-H Cabarrus County
 Lillus Kurland
 Floyd Lentz
 Katherine Lofgren

Ellen Lopez
 Susan Lurz
 Roberta McCardle
 Yvonne McJetters
 Charles & Jill Messer Jr.
 Susan & Chris Monroe
 Fred & Kay Moss
 Lisa Murray
 Jodie Ochoa
 Ann Powlas
 Dottie Rebhan
 Elizabeth Richardson
 Holly Robbins
 Ingrid & Hans Schreiber
 Sharon & Jerry Smith
 Deborah & Dwight Stanton
 Mary Walters
 Basil Watkins Jr.
 Shelagh Winter
 Sue Wortman
 Kim Wrenn

*In memory of Hazel Daniel,
 Sherry Lowery's Mother.
 By Lisa Murray*

*In loving memory of Spur.
 By Lucy Buchanan*

*Betty Lentz has been honored
 for her birthday, Jan. 24.
 By Floyd Lentz*

*In memory of Mrs. Hazel Daniel -
 Sherry Lower's Mother.
 By Dottie Rebhan*

*Larry Bachofner has been honored
 by his parents
 Margaret and Joseph Backofner*

*In loving memory of "Gatsby," who
 was a friend and companion for
 many years of Spunky Dagenhart.
 By Joanie Benson*

Spring Yard Sale Alert!!

We need items for the HPS Yard Sale planned for spring 2005! We'll need lots of help collecting anything and everything (except adult clothing). Ask your friends and neighbors to keep us in mind while cleaning out those closets to attics. Buying new furniture? We could use your used furniture. Spread the word and thanks for your help.



Donation Form:

Your name:
 Your phone number:
 Your e-mail:

Is this for a memorial donation? Yes No
 Whom do you wish to Honor:
 Their 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**

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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Placement Coordinator.....			