



## OVER HERD

Volume 16 Issue 2

Newsletter

February 2013



### Happy Valentine's Day



*Once I was so horribly hungry that I ate bark off trees, I had no warming hay, and I thought that I might freeze. There was no shelter from the rain, my dirty coat would mat, no one came to even fluff my hair and my poor body had no fat. I live with good care now, and I have lots of chow. There are always huge piles of hay and EVERY day is Valentine's Day.*

*You can have your chocolate candy and flowers,  
I'll be having more grain in a of couple hours!*



*There are 45 horses at the sanctuary that would love to be your Valentine!*

*By Joanie Benson*



## The Happy Story!

By Joanie Benson

Often, reading the so very sad stories of the rescued horses can be upsetting. It is hard to understand how some people can be so mean and neglectful of these once beautiful creatures. It is hard to hold back tears as the stories of the starved rescued horses unfold, and often the tears roll down my cheeks as I relive and write about the rescue of a horse. The devoted volunteers who come to the ranch to care for the rescued horses get to see the changes and how these magnificent animals grow into what God meant them to be. All the kind folks who make this possible but aren't able to be onsite miss this wonderful part of the story. We want to share that with you for out of the sadness come many happy stories. Remember -- Saving the life of one horse may not change the world, but to that one horse the world has surely changed.



**Mingo - Before**

The following horses are just a couple examples of the devotion of our caregivers and our supporters to the rehabilitation of the horses here at the sanctuary.

Mingo and Taiga were in a tiny wooded lot and starving. They arrived at the sanctuary

August 2012



**Taiga - Before**



**Mingo - Today**

**Mingo** has a Recurrent Airway Obstruction and is on medication during the summer months. This

**Taiga** is a beautiful true black Standardbred and is also 23 yrs. Old. She is recovering wonderfully



**Taiga - Today**

# News from the Herd

By Joanie Benson

Commodore is one of the best built horses that has ever come to the sanctuary. He has the bone structure that could have carried a heavier rider, but the poor boy has neurological issues that affect his back legs to the point that he does not know where he is putting them down. I really hoped he had EPM since that can be treated; we even had him tested twice, but he keeps testing “negative.” It is very frustrating when we do not know exactly what is causing an issue with a horse.

Deborah and I decided to take Commodore to Dr. Meeker’s office in Mocksville for a second opinion. Deborah pointed out an old injury on the top of his neck that extended down both sides. The radiographs confirmed that this was where the injury was in his neck vertebra.

There is an IA steroid injection that will correct some injuries for two to five years and then can be done again. We had hoped that this treatment would be possible for Commodore, but because of the type of damage that had been done and the location, the injection may have made things worse. The issue has not gotten worse since he has been at HPS so we are hopeful he can live out his life here at the sanctuary.

Commodore also has an area right in front of his shoulder blade towards the bottom that has damaged muscles. Oftentimes, this type of injury happens when a horse is tied and spooks, pulling back so hard it rips the muscle. If he also went over backwards at the same time, that could be the cause of the neck vertebra injury.

This is just one of the reasons we never tie a horse here at HPS.

Wind Dancer, Taiga, Aurora and Baby all tested positive for EPM. Wind Dancer’s numbers were the highest. Her treatment will start after the other three since her medication is a little different and we don’t want to take any chances on them being mixed up.

Approved applications: We have three approved applications! If all goes well, some of our beloved babies will be leaving us soon for wonderful new lives.

Cruelty investigations are on the rise. So far, we have been able to work with the owners and educate them on correct feeding. In some cases, we have other people keeping an eye on things to make sure the people are caring for the horses.

## Spring Tack Sale and Much More

By Joanie Benson

A BIG “Thank You” to the kind folks who have contacted HPS with the promise of some wonderful items they are going to donate. This is just the beginning as we need to hear from all of you good people. Look around the tack room and your home. Surely you have something that isn’t your style but that someone else would love to own! Post our need on your Facebook page, ask your friends and family. They will feel good for helping the rescued horses. This fundraiser is *critical* to helping support the horses this coming summer!

Another way you can help is to join our Fundraising Committee. Help us build a group to be reckoned with. We need you! The horses need you! Just call the sanctuary ~ 704-855-2978 ~ or email us at: [hps@horseprotection.org](mailto:hps@horseprotection.org)

Remember – we’ve got a need that you can fill!

Sale price reduced from \$15.00

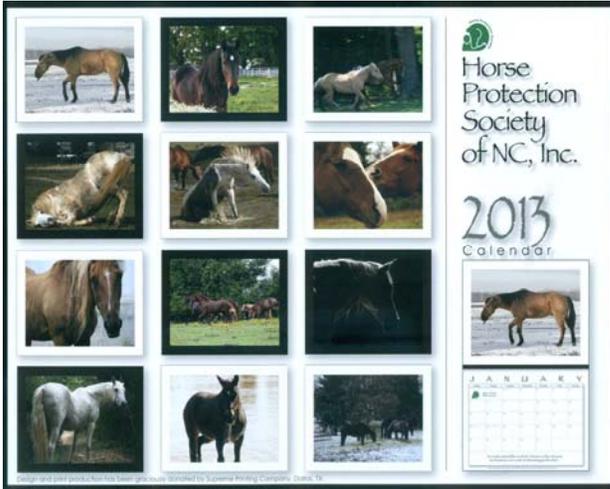
**now only \$10.00**

This is the only winter fundraiser we were able to do to aid the rescued horses.

The printer kindly sent us more calendars than we expected.

## **Beautiful HPS calendars**

The Horse Protection Society is offering a 2013 calendar featuring pictures of the rescued horses. Place your order now since we have a limited number available. The cost per calendar is only \$10.00 each and we will be happy to mail it to you for only a \$1.00 each. The calendars will be delivered to HPS or to you directly.



### 2013 Order Form

Number of Calendars \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Costs : Number of Calendars: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 1.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my calendars at HPS: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Health tips**

***Abnormal chemicals in the brain fuel violence:*** Many people with behavioral disorders have abnormal levels of copper, zinc, lead, cadmium, calcium, magnesium and manganese in their blood. These nutritional imbalances can easily be diagnosed via tests of blood and urine. Parents, educators and mental health providers need to become aware of the nutritional research, some of it decades old, that can TREAT these individuals, many of whom are currently on pharmaceutical medications that only add to their delusions, suicidal tendencies and impulses to violence.

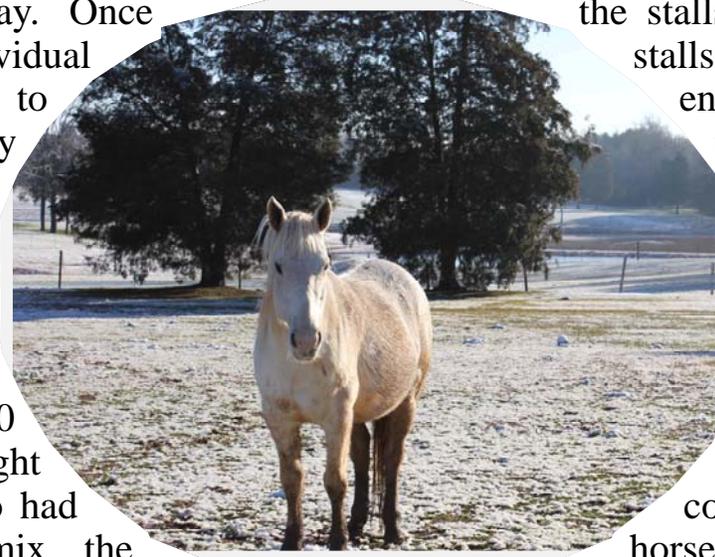
***Do you need more magnesium?*** Add more magnesium to your diet with foods and supplements. Westerners are often magnesium-deficient while taking in too much calcium. That's a ratio for disaster in many ways for many organs. Magnesium is the master mineral involved in over 300 metabolic functions.

# *Snowy Night at HPS*

*By Joanie Benson*

After a weekend of very mild rainy weather, Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, came as a shock. Snow! That night caused so much extra work for the Members who were helping here during the day and who came to distribute the evening feed. To make matters worse, there was a prediction for sleet at night and the fear was it could have easily turned into an ice storm. To prepare for whatever weather might arrive, large rubber water containers were placed inside the barns and filled with hay. Once the stalls were cleaned, hay was also put in the individual stalls by the morning feeders to get things started and to encourage the horses to stay in the barns. Normally the horses like spending the nights outside.

We did not feel that the danger of an ice storm was great enough to require that the horses be locked in their stalls. The evening feeders, Tracy and Lara, came after work and arrived about 5:30 pm. Pam had sensed that the weather might pose some difficulties for the evening feeders, so had come earlier to start the horses' feed. She had falfa soaking and mix changed to a heavy wet snow shortly after Tracy and Lara arrived. Darkness was setting in fast. Most of the horses were happy to get into their stalls for dinner.



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Lara and Tracy were working as quickly as the weather allowed to get everything done and were at the hay feeder, loading the cart to put more hay in the barns when, suddenly, the barn lights went out.... It was 7:30 PM and blacker than a Halloween cat! The house lights stayed on... makes no sense to me! With very minimum light from headlamps, the gals went right on working to put out the needed hay, let the 45 horses out of their stalls and finish up what needed to be done. There was some occasional lightning off in the distance during the snow, but not close enough to light up the snowflakes and make them look like fireworks.

Tracy later told us she could not sleep that night for worrying that the horses' water troughs would freeze or something else terrible would happen at the barns. Lara was also concerned. All of the large water tubs have tub heaters to keep the water from freezing so the horses will drink more (which is very important in the cold weather to help avoid colic).

In the morning, the horses were dry and happy but the barns were a mess! The morning feeders had a lot of extra work cleaning barns, but were very relieved to know that all the horses had weathered the storm so well. *What wonderful devoted volunteers we have to take care of your horses!*

# Special Honors and Memorials

*As a gift to my sister in law, Ann Hough, has been honored by Mark Hough.*

*Congratulation to Maria and Laura. By Lois Hunt*

*Thank you for taking in "Bo" mare when my husband had strokes.*

*In honor of Carolyn Alexander. By Dr. Barbara White*

*In memory of Warrior. By Rita Tucker*

*In honor of Susan Williams. By Suzette Biskey*

*In Honor of Elaine Addison. By Anna May Danner*

*In honor of Janet Elmo. By Mary Schuver*

*In honor of Ellen Bancroft. By Betsey B. Wu*

*In honor of Kim Clark for Christmas, 2012. By Mom*

*On Christmas ~ In honor of Floyd Lentz. By Betty Lentz*

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*In honor of my sister, Jayne Ortiz. By Wendy Neustrup*

*In honor of Kipling, Grayce and Gretel - our "Furbabies. The Willis Family*

*Two caring young gals had a bake sale and raised \$110 for the rescued horses.*

*Thank you so very much.*

*In honor of the WBTV sales staff. By Ann Harrison*

# *A Special Thanks To Our Wonderful Contributors*

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	<i>Lara Smith</i>	803-467-7440	charlsmith5270@yahoo.com

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## Free Grocery Coupons and Help Feed the Rescued Horses

This is so easy and you get to feed your family for less and help to feed the starved horses too. Just go to :

<http://www.commonkindness.com/> To the right is a "Find" block for nonprofits. Type in **Horse Protection Society of North Carolina Inc.** A page will come up for you to sign in under our name. Then, when you print coupons and use them at your local grocery store, a small percentage comes to HPS. Why spend more for groceries when you can save using coupons and donate at the same time? Thank you for helping.

Donation From:- \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please use my donation for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Use , Angel Sponsor\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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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



# March Newsletter Notice

*Anyone who would like to have an Honor or Memorial placed for March newsletter needs to have the information to HPS by February 20th. We have to close the information for the newsletter by that date in order to have it to the printer in time for delivery the first of March.*

# Spring is near...