



OVER HERD

January 2009

Volume 11 Issue 1

Who Owned This Starved Mare?

By Joanie Benson

December 6th Iredell County Animal Control found this poor starved mare in a cut cornfield. If some caring person had not called AC, this could have been her last resting place. She was so frail and debilitated that she could no longer get up without help. Once she was at the animal shelter, they provided her with fresh water, hay, and feed. She grew stronger while they waited for someone to claim her. No one called. She was a “1” on the Henneke Body Scoring when she was found on Corn Flower Road in Iredell County.

December 19th Animal Control called the sanctuary and asked us to please come get “the old horse.” They had waited long enough for someone to claim a missing horse. I called Tamara Eichorn for help to bring her to the sanctuary.

The first thing we noticed was that she was missing a shoe on the front. Then we glanced at her teeth and realized she is not that old. At first glance she appears 10-12 years old. The vet will be able to give us a better idea when her teeth are taken care of. The extended belly tells us there was not much, *(cont pg 2)*



Our Tenth Year Anniversary!

By Joanie Benson

Can you believe it? We have been rescuing horses for **10 years!** The first year, 1999, was incredible and we never had less than 54 horses in our care. HPS found the Carol Lewis Saddlebred horses on Orphanage Road in Cabarrus County deserted and starving so we took over the care of 34 horses January 1999. We cleaned 80 acres of dangerous hazards, rebuilt two buildings and spent a year caring for the horses on that property. There was a great group of volunteers that came morning and evening to feed and water them. Folks stopped by during the day to check on them.

HPS brought to the courts the first felony abuse case in North Carolina. *(Starving horses to death today is no longer a felony. That did not last long!)* That first and second year I took most of the expenses on as personal debt. In March 2005, I finally got the costs paid off by paying \$700 a month. *(I would have gone and celebrated, except I was broke!)* *(cont pg 2)*

Keep Those Aluminum Beverage Cans Rolling!

by Roberta McCardle

Many thanks to our faithful members who collect and transport aluminum beverage cans to the ranch! This is an easy, no-cost-to-you fundraiser. This works most effectively as a team effort....put a collection bag in your break room at work; ask for help from friends/family/neighbors. Our total for CY 2008 was \$ 906. Yay, this is terrific! Let's bump it up even higher in 2009 and see if we can top \$1,000. *(Just a gentle reminder that this is ONLY for aluminum beverage cans...not cat food cans....not pie plates....not any other kind of can).* With thanks to my husband Tom McCardle for his able assistance all year...he has been the "muscle" as well as the driver (shifting a truck smoothly is not one of my gifts). Most of all, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU for making this our best can fundraiser year ever!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Starved Mare continued	2
10th Anniversary Cont	2-4
Honors & Memorials	4-6
Monthly Donations	7

(Starved Mare cont pg 1) if any, of a worming program. She was so gentle and easy to handle that she stepped right into the trailer. As soon as we reached the sanctuary and got her settled in; Tamara went looking for my farrier tools. She was determined to get the odd shoe off before leaving for home and her evening chores. Once again, the mare showed her good manners and was a perfect lady to have the shoe removed. I noticed in the first couple of days that she was stool eating. This usually indicates long-term starvation. Most of the time, horses will only do this as a last resort to starving to death.

Among some of the suggested names for our newest baby were Maze, Corn Flower, and Holly Berry. She picked Corn Flower. It fits her color and where she was found. She will come into her stall and stick her head out over the back door if you call her name. What a super nice horse!

I hate the thought that someone would just turned her out or that she just escaped and no one cared enough to report her missing. We have called the three closest counties to see if anyone has reported a missing or stolen horse..... Nothing! No reports! I have checked the most popular web sites that list stolen and missing horses..... No listing for her!

Years ago a young stallion showed up at the sanctuary. I called the sheriff's department and animal control to report a found horse. No one had called to make a report. Three days later a man drove in and said, "You have my horse in your field." He had been driving around looking for his horse. He told me he never thought to report the horse missing. HOW COULD ANYONE NOT THINK OF REPORTING HIS OR HER HORSE MISSING! So maybe her owner is just driving around looking for her. People forget a horse can easily travel 20 miles a day just walking along. Based upon her poor condition, either she was on her own for a long time or she was not being taken care of in her home or both. What do you think? Was Corn Flower just turned out to fend for herself or was she just another case of a stupid owner driving around looking for a horse?



(10th cont pg 1) January 2000 we placed some of the horses out in short term foster care and brought 15 of the of the remaining horses to the sanctuary. The case was still going on. At that time, we were caring for 48 horses. We had won the case, but had to settle with the people who owned horses in the herd. With the help of the Saddlebred Association, we traced each horse's background and registration. Then notified the owners and they refused to come get their horses. Lewis did not get any of her horses back. She hid her four starved stallions and later moved to Whiteville, NC. Who knows where she is now or if she is taking care of her horses? Lewis had abuse problems in Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. When she returned to North Carolina that is when we nailed her! People like her need to be prosecuted!

Anyone who met Angel will never forget HPS's spirited 28" mascot. To know her was to love her. She typified man's inhumanity to equine more than any other. She was a tough little thing and lived to be 51 years old. She was deliberately starved to make her small. Even her ears had been trimmed to look smaller. She had rickets from the starvation. Angel spent most of her life being dragged from one carnival to another billed as the world's smallest horse in the sideshow. Roberta McCardle was one of her most devoted two leggers.

So many wonderful horses over the years and each one so dearly loved! Do any of you remember Sun Dance? The beautiful palomino that had been ground tied for 17 years, beaten and starved. She was the most amazing horse. If we had a problem with another horse, we could ask her to go and talk to the horse. That would be the end of the problem.

Then there was Comanche, who was responsible for saving maybe thousands of other horses' lives. A fly spray manufactured by Bayer Company poisoned him. I learned it was labeled incorrectly stating, "Apply as needed." The chemical was cumulative in the horse's body up to two weeks and should have (cont pg 3)

(10th cont pg 2) been labeled, "Use only once every two weeks." The fly spray caused paralysis of the hindquarter. Once I informed Dr. Parker of my discovery, he was responsible for Bayer Company removing the fly spray from the market. It took Comanche five months to recover from the paralyzes, but his liver and kidneys were very damaged. He was with us for just a couple more years as Angel and Snickers' guardian and lived to be 32 years old.

Whisper came here in the final stages of COPD (*Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease*). Because of him, we were able to discover a cure for this terrible illness. The cure also works for people. When his previous owner came down with a degenerative lung disease and was close to death, he used our treatment.

Cinnamon was the cute little Appaloosa that aided HPS in the cure for chronic uveitis; also know as moon blindness. This illness causes more horses to go blind than anything else. It just takes (3) 25,000 IU of beta carotene twice a day for the rest of their life. Research has been done on beta carotene, but the researchers never gave the horses a large enough dose. MIRACLES happen here at the sanctuary!

Shortly after September 11, 2001, I called an emergency Officers' Meeting. That was a terrible time for so many people and we also suffered. Donations were sorely short and we became deeply in debt. One year later things were very bleak! The September 2002 Officers Meeting was a group of depressed down hearted folks at a loss as to what to do to bring in the so needed funds. I told them to go home with a belief in God and to pray. Shortly after that meeting an article about HPS appeared in the Charlotte Observer and everything changed. We were able to pay all of our bills and put some funds aside to help carry us through the winter months when expenses escalate. It was a miracle to receive that much response from a newspaper article. We also benefited from many wonderful new members, and some became devoted volunteers at the sanctuary. We are still hearing from people who read that article about HPS. Another MIRACLE!

Joyce and Ted Hixson donated a fabulous tractor with a brush hog and bucket in the Fall of 2004. Until then every bit of gravel, dirt, and heavy work had to be done by hand. Joyce and Ted took a look at the old house and said, "Nothing has been done to the house in years and years." My comment back was, "But we need new barns and that is so much more important." Joyce said she would take care of it. Ted replaced a section of the rotted sill in the back of the house. We have gained a new kitchen, interior doors, siding, and a new roof. A new office and other furniture have greatly added to the inside appearance. Wow, we have a place to be proud of today and the work continues!

Remember the Yard Sales! I cannot believe the fabulous items folks donated to HPS to help raise money. The work to pull those off was incredible. The front porch would be up to the ceiling with stuff and covered with tarps. (We could have competed with the Clampetts.) The inside of the house was wall to wall boxes. It would take three days to set up for the sale. "Yard Sale" is two, four letter words.... Not to ever be uttered on this property again!

It is amazing the hundreds of horses returned to health in the old buildings we had but no choice to use. Some were built from salvaged materials and all the buildings were repaired with recycled materials. In the beginning of 2005 when I said we were going to raise the funds to construct new barns for the horses; there were some who thought I had gone off the deep end. Joyce and Ted Hixson donated the needed funds to be able to have the taxes audited and we were on our way to securing grant funds for our first project. Today there is not one volunteer at the sanctuary that would go back to the old barns. It only took 4 years to build 2 wonderful barns that provide 40 stalls and a cost effective covered hay feeder. With the increase price of hay to \$45 a round bale, the hay feeder has already saved us a small fortune. The 2nd barn shutters are being completed and will be installed as soon as they are built. There are a few odds and ends to be completed, but nothing major. We have close to \$300,000 worth of new buildings. What an incredible MIRACLE! (Of course it did not cost that to build them due to the hard negotiating I did.) Thank you so very much for (cont pg 4)

(10th cont pg 3) making this possible for the horses. They love their stalls and new barns.

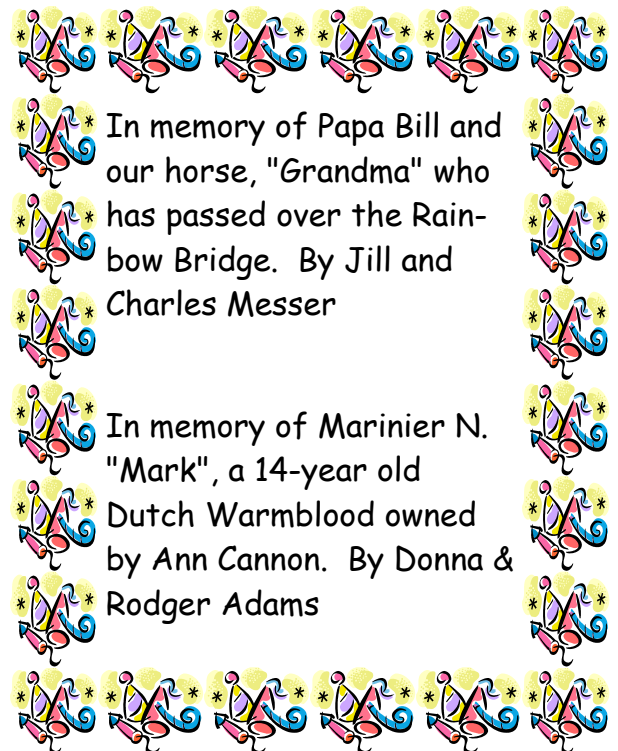
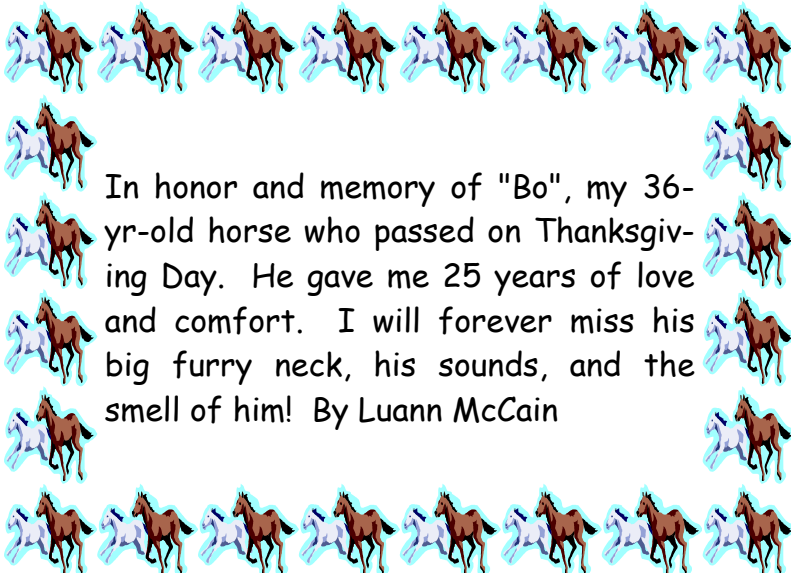
Over the past 10 years volunteers have come and gone. We have had many devoted folks that have made a difference in the horses' lives. Many who can no longer help at the sanctuary still aid financially. Today we have the largest, best group of folks that I have ever had the privilege to work with! The volunteers are focused on the horses and their well being first. Even in bad weather they are happy and full of fun. The volunteers get along and like each other. There is a willingness to step up and help each other. Not only do they come up with great new ideas, but also enact them. We are all fortunate to have them caring for your horses. Of course we can always use more help.

Some of the devoted volunteers can ride and are giving more time to be involved with our new training program. This program is to improve their riding skills so they are able to get horses under saddle. The prayer is to be able to place more horses in good loving homes if we can get them trail riding well. Deborah Baker and I would take the horses off the property occasionally. Now a group of us are getting ready for our first off property trail ride.

There are still money concerns, but not anything like it was. The support of the Mane Event has been great. It grows each year as folks learn how much fun it is and the great buys at the silent and live auctions. Joyce and Ted Hixson spend the year putting together the best things! We could not have the Mane Event without them.

The memories of the last 10 years are mostly happy ones. The hard part is when it becomes the time to say "Good Bye" to one of our beloved horses. It is the final kindness we can do for them even as it hurts our hearts.

Over the past 10 years, HPS has cared for approximately 600 or more horses. All of them received the best possible care because of **YOU and your LOVE** for these beautiful creatures. Thank you for making all of this possible and you will be blessed. *Wait until you read in your tax letter what HPS has planned for the coming year!*



In honor of Sybil Athey. By Vicki Sanders

In honor of Dottie Rebhan, Happy Birthday. By Sasha & the Staff at the Stichin Post

In honor of Keri Edwards. By Streamline, LLC

In honor of Joanie Benson for all she does for her rescued "friends/children."

By Marilyn & Harry Swimmer

In honor of Dianne Boub from East Bend NC. By Amy Harris

In honor of Tiffany Ferebee. By Charlotte, Chris, Christopher & Collins Ferebee

In honor of Jay and Jessica Griffin. By Carol & Laird Griffin

In honor of Sybil Athey. By the Hinsons

In honor Harry and Marilyn Swimmer. By Diane & John Kibler

In honor of Katie Simmons. By Michelle & Robert Lupo

In honor of Katie Simmons. By Susan & Dake Pond

This is an Indian Legend..... When a human dies there is a bridge he must cross to enter into heaven. At the head of the bridge waits every animal he or she encountered during his life time. The animals decide which humans may cross the bridge and which are turned away.

The horses at the Horse Protection Society sanctuary will be there to see you safely across. Sent by Spunky Dagenhart

In honor of Katie Simmons. By Jennifer Keeter

In honor of Vicki & Peter Childers. By Rob & Angie Rosengerger

In honor of Dottie Rebhan for her birthday and Christmas. By Miriam Park

In honor of Linda Guidera & Marie Kadanx. By Cindy Brooks

In honor of Lex and Kathy Allen. By Brittary Burleson

In honor of Betty Lentz. By Kimberly Clark

In honor of Marty and Debbi Kniedt, such wonderful loving parents. By Kristin Kriedt

In honor of two very special women - Joanie Benson & Marilyn Swimmer. With love, Janet & Lou

In honor of Susie Lurz on her birthday. By Flo & Mel

In honor of Melanie Boone's birthday. By Cynthia McGrath

MONTHLY DONATIONS & CONTRIBUTORS

The horses would like to send a heartfelt THANK YOU and wish you all a very Blessed and Happy New Year. For without YOU there would be no Horse Protection



Rodger & Donna Adams
 Mark & Julie Alascio
 Anne Marie & James Allison
 Sybil Athey
 Deborah Baker
 Bill & Carol Bellinghausen
 Ellen M. Bennett
 Alan & Patti Berkebile
 Gloria Berthelsen
 Jane Billingsley
 John & Helen Bishop
 Judy Blackmon
 Allison & Brad Bodin
 Jill Bogage
 Teresa & John Bonk
 Peggy & Raymond Bouley
 Annette G. Bradley
 Cindy Brooks
 David Brown
 Linda Brown
 Lucy Buchanan
 Brittany A. Burleson
 James & Nina Burton
 Patricia Cade
 Althea Call
 Ann Cannon
 Bill & Frances Caudle
 Margaret Causby
 Peter & Mieke Chalmers
 Charity League of Salisbury
 Vicki & Peter Childers
 Alan B. Church
 Kimberly Clark
 Linda Cole Country Ride
 Saddlery Ltd
 Kay Coltrain
 Courtney Conder & Mark
 Jessop
 Jean & Marvin Creech
 Heidi Crowley
 Patricia Curran
 Rita Curran
 Spunky Dagenhart
 Isabella Reyes DiBenedetto
 Ann & Rocco Disanto
 Melissa Dobbs
 Dianne Doub
 Judy & Todd Douthit
 Rhonda & Charles Douthit
 Rhonda Honey Duncan
 Margaret & Edgar Dunham
 Ryan Durant

E.B.R. Foundation
 Debra Eident
 Jill Eklund
 Kelley Elledge
 Janet & Lou Elmo
 Chris W. Evans
 Susan & Gregory Ewin
 Charlotte & Chris Ferebee
 Mary Fitzgerald
 Robert & Anna Francis
 Jill Garrett
 Randy & Kerry Garrett
 Carole Graham
 Jack & Mary Graham
 Carol B. & Laird Griffin
 Merrill Griffin
 Donald Guglielmo
 Janet Hall
 Peggy & Bradley Hall
 Harold Hanig
 Ron & Melissa Hannah
 Cadenza Granite
 Amy Harris
 Chuck & Brenda Hemperley
 Shirley & Keith Hengel
 Leslie C. Henson
 Kelly Jo Hill
 Cindy, Franklin & Samantha
 Hinson
 Brown Hobbie
 Birgit Hood
 Hoofbeats 4-H Club
 Amber Hozey
 Lois & Robert Hunt
 Angela & D. Andrew Hurst
 R. S. Iscaro
 Patricia & John C. Jaap
 Elizabeth Jenkins
 Constance M. & Glen Jewett
 Mary & Peter Jurgel
 Jennifer Keeter
 Diane & John Kibler
 Nancy & Curtis Kirkner
 Sara Kobs
 Flo & Mel Kostur
 Kristin Kriedt
 Andrea & Glenn Lane
 Kim Lane
 Margaret Lane
 Judith & Michael Legrett
 Betty & Floyd Lentz
 Floyd Lentz

Jennifer Leutenegger
 Mark & Jeannie Lins
 Eric & Betsy Little
 Kathy, Lex & Lauren Lofgren
 Sulena & Richard Long
 Ellen Lopez
 Michelle & Robert Lupo
 Susan Lurz
 Frances P. Martin
 Tom & Carolyn McAnallen
 Roberta & Tom McCardle
 Luann & Robert McCain
 Cynthia McGrath
 Jennifer McKenzie
 Mary McNeilly
 Mario & Elaine Merida
 Jill L. & Charles Messer
 Elizabeth Milam
 Dylan Moose
 Jahala Morehead
 Louise Mullis
 Mary Myers
 Amos L. Norris
 Jane Oglesby
 Steve Oglesby
 Linda Olscamp
 Dr. Ronald Ostrowski
 Miriam Park
 Merrie Jane Pierce
 Melissa Pletcher
 Susan & Dale Pond
 Rachel Pope
 Cherly Powers
 Amamd Prothero
 Dottie Rebhan
 Angeia & Rob Rosengerger
 Jo & Mick Rowell
 Sheila Saints
 Vicki Sanders
 Judith McFall Sapp
 Patricia & Howard Schaeffer
 Tiffany Schepens
 Ingrid & Hans Schreiber
 Harriet Seabrook
 Rowena Sewell
 Wendy Shaw
 Lisa Sherman & Tony England
 Sandy & Khevin Sherrill
 Gail Shinn
 Sidewalk Deli customers
 Katie Simmons
 Tricia Sistrunk III



Donis & Lemuel Smith
 Elizabeth B. Smith
 Tracy K. Smith
 Pat Starnes
 Roger Steed
 Stitchin' Post
 Streamline, LLC
 Cindy Stroud
 Liz M. Suits
 Marilyn Swimmer
 Judy L. Taylor
 Elaine Towner
 Nicky & Gilbert Turner
 Michelle & Stephan Ugolini
 Carol Upchurch
 John Vinal
 Alyessa Wainright
 Sarah Walentine
 Mary Walters
 Dorothy Weathersbee
 Suzanne & Michael Webb
 Deborah Wells
 Jo Ann Wetzell
 Sherry White
 Elaine Wilson
 Kimberly Wrenn
 Linda Yarrington
 Frank Zinke



HPS OFFICERS

President	Kathy Haw	704-782-0390	kahaw@us.ibm.com
Treasurer	Kari Fingerlow	704-756-7375	karifingerlow@aol.com
Secretary	Sandy Daily	704-279-0427	sdaily@carolina.rr.com
Executive Director	Joanie Benson	704-855-2978	hps@horseprotection.org
Newsletter	Sandy Daily	704-279-0427	sdaily@carolina.rr.com
Event Coordinator	Gayle Cannon	704-483-0461	gayle43@charter.net
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
New Member Orientation	Cathy Morris	704-872-6111	cemorris38@yahoo.com
Café Press	Kathy Haw	704-782-0390	kahaw@us.ibm.com
Pet Finders	Kari Fingerlow	704-756-7375	karifingerlow@aol.com
Historian	Angie Shuping	704-637-6042	shupingangela@bellsouth.net
Riding Program Coordinator	Katie Simmons	704-904-7709	KSIM7300@ctc.net

Horse Protection Society
2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS REQUEST

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

Horse Protection Society of North Carolina

2135 Miller Road
China Grove, NC 28023

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

Check out our Website:

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.

