



## HOORAY ~ 20 years of Rescuing Horses!!!! A Wonderful Anniversary

It doesn't seem possible that the Horse Protection Society has been rescuing horses for 20 years! We are known for bringing the worst sick starved horses back to full health. For eight years before I started HPS, I worked by myself rescuing hundreds of horses and finding good homes for them. Some even came from auctions and were bought out from under kill buyers. *(Cont. on Page 2)*

### Hi Honey

A call came in from yet another officer at Iredell Animal Services. There was a poor 2.5 year old little filly that was going to need good shelter from the impending ice and snow storm. Her body score is just a low one. The filly's dam was on the property and didn't look too bad, but I did not put my hands on her and her winter coat was standing up.



This had to be the worst behaved little horse we ever had to put on a trailer! I made the mistake thinking that the owner could put her on the trailer since he said he had loaded her before. We worked and worked and the owner could do nothing with her. We even tried putting the dam on the trailer...no way... that little girl was not getting on the trailer. Finally we had to call one of our vets to administer some 'happy juice.' Even with three doses it still took about another hour.

Wayne and Beth were a great help. Wayne did a wonderful job getting us in and out of the subdivision. It was an obstacle course to get out and not have the little thin mare fall inside the trailer. Huge pot holes everywhere.

When we finally arrived back at the sanctuary, it was too late to introduce her to the small front field. It was going to be really cold with the snow storm coming in. She spent the night in the hospital stall.

### A Stable for Two Starved Horses for Christmas



It was later in evening and the phone rang. I checked the number before answering. It was Iredell Animal Services, so of course I picked up. "Two horses were in trouble north of Statesville. Would we take them in?"

We have always felt it was important to help the animal controls whenever possible. It makes their job easier if they know there is a place for the horses to go.

There was a slow cold rain all the way to the property where the horses were located. Jared, Christina and I were making the trip. It was supposed to take about an hour.

It helps if the property and condition the horses are in is looked over as carefully as possible. This can provide important insight in the future. The two horses were in a small area surrounded by three strains of electric fence, approximately 75' by 100 feet. That is less than 20% of an acre. There were once trees in the area, but they were all dead. *(Cont. on Page 2)*

### A Christmas Kitten

We have a new kitten at HPS. His name is Oliver and he is 4 months old. We are hoping that someday soon, he will help us with our mouse problem. We pity the mouse that attempts to show its face in the feed room right now! That is where we are keeping Oliver until he adjusts to the sanctuary and grows up a little. Because of the snow storm that is heading our way, Linda will be keeping Oliver for us during the storm so he won't get underfoot. She actually fostered him since he was just 2 weeks old, so thank you Linda for giving your time to raise him and helping him find a home and for keeping him warm and safe during the storm. He is so very cute! He is just a kitty that does not like to cuddle.



(Cont. from Page 1) **Hooray— 20 years!** I realized that the abuse and starvation was not going to stop and a non-profit equine rescue was needed that would continue for as long as needed.

It took me an extra year to start the nonprofit. I spent months researching and locating horse rescues that had failed. Often the founder could direct me to another one. This was one of the most disheartening things I had ever done in my life. These poor people had worked so hard and often the volunteers would feel they could do better and was able to vote and remove the horses to another location. The founder was not allowed on the property and the horses disappeared. Several times it was a new couple that said they bought a great property and all the horses should be moved to their property. They didn't buy the property they rented it with bogus checks. The horses disappeared. When the founder was able to stop the trouble makers, they did what they could to discredit the rescue with lies, since they couldn't take it over. I was amazed and still am how people can be around horses for a short time and suddenly they know what is best and lie when they don't get their way. (We have had that happen here.)

Finally I know I had to follow through and file the paperwork. January 1999 There was approximately 26 rescued horses at the sanctuary I had been caring for. Then in mid-January HPS took on the 34 starved Saddlebred herd in Cabarrus County and we brought the first felony abuse case in North Carolina and won.

Wow!!!! 20 years!!!! So many needy horses!!!! We will be mailing you more information in January about our 20 years. When I look back at all that HPS has accomplished it even surprises me. Some of you have been involved since very early on and this has been so important to the horses at HPS and its ability to continue. We hope that our newer donors will be as loyal over the coming years.

(Cont. from Page 1) **A Stable for Two Starved Horses** The horses had reached many feet above their heads and eaten all of the bark off the trees. There was no manure in the area and even though there were trees all the way around the area, there were not many leaves in there. The ground outside the fenced area was littered with leaves. The horses' corral was nothing but mud. The small water supply was full of green slime. Of course, there was no shelter for the horses. After all, the owner has only had eight years to build a small barn for them.

Just think about if you were outside for the last eight years with no shelter. The mare was about 12 years old with a new filly at her side according to the owner when they arrived at his property eight years ago. The young mare is about eight and the older mare is about 20 years old now. The younger mare may have been getting most of the feed that may have been put out. She is about a high 3 to a low 4 on the body scoring. The old mare has very prominent spinal vertebrae. Her winter coat is hiding the thin body that lies underneath. She seems to be approximately a two on the body scoring. The two horses' manes reminded me of the wild horse with long dreadlocks hanging down.

It was time to put on halters and leads and the owner was making talk, like this was not going to be easy and he seemed apprehensive almost frightened. Jared had been giving the two small amounts of feed and alfalfa pellets. They seemed at ease with him. I suggested for him to start with mama. This went very well and then the owner held her while the more difficult younger mare was worked with. The owner was holding the older mare in a death grip that was upsetting her. The pretty little eight year old mare has not had much, if any training. He told us that he use to ride her all the time years ago. Jared slowly pursued baby mare and she realize he was not going to hurt her and the halter and lead were slipped on.

The owner and Jared lead the two into the trailer and Christina and I closed the back doors and tail gate.

It was still raining when we arrived back at the sanctuary, hay was put into the two stalls, but neither one would go in. Christina and Jared worked with the two and little by little they finally stood with their heads in the stalls, but still wouldn't go completely in.

By the following morning, the two were fully in the stalls and finishing off the last of the hay. They didn't venture out until it stopped raining. Both will have a stable for Christmas for the first time in eight years and it may have been even longer. We don't know what life was like for this old girl before this owner.

How about a couple of Christmas spices? The 20 year old mare is named Nutmeg, and the little eight year old mare is Ginger.

*Please make a Christmas donation to aid Nutmeg and Ginger or become an Angel Sponsor to help them. We need all the help we can get. I have a feeling this going to be a hard winter for many horses out there that are not getting fed right and don't have shelter.*

## ***Happy New Year to One and All!***

***In honor of my wonderful mama, Betty Lentz. Merry Christmas! By Kim Clark***

***In honor of Judy Cashwell. By Gail Miller***

***In honor of Lisa Murray's January Birthday. By Sybil Athey***

***In honor of Michael and Olly Wiebe. "Merry Christmas!" From Dianne Doub***

***In memory of my son, Jason Douthit. By Jodi and Todd Douthit***

***Merry Christmas Susanne from your husband. By Rev. Harvey Blume***

***In honor of Tyler, Bailey and Hunter. By Donna & Robert Dziura***

***In loving memory of all our pets. Diane & Christ Etheridge***

***In honor of Marilyn Gideon. By Marilyn Green***

***In honor of Harry & Marilyn Swimmer. By Dianne & John Kibler***

***In loving memory of Sunni. By Mary Myers***

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***Happy New Year and  
may it be a blessed  
year.***

***Thank you for all the  
beautiful cards and  
heartfelt messages!!***

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**2019 Horse Protection Society Calendar**

**SALE**

The calendar pages are 9” by 12.” By shrinking the calendar just a little, we have been able to keep the postage the same even with the postal cost increase.

**1 calendar = \$15.00+ postage of \$3.50 = \$18.50 Plus donation = \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

**2 calendars = \$30.00 + postage of \$5.70 = \$35.70 Plus donation = \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

Please order the calendars and help HPS provide for everything needed.

**Gallop on over and pick up your calendar.**



*Make the Christmas Merry for the rescued horses.*

*You are who we count on to make the sanctuary possible for the horses. May you be blessed.*