



23 Years Later . . . Two Horses Returned

We are often presented with a surprise gift at Christmas time.

This year it is two past horses coming back to us.

January 1999 HPS took on the care of 34 Saddlebreds on Orphanage Road, Concord. HPS brought the first felony animal charges in Superior Court in North Carolina against Carol Lewis. She was found guilty!

I received a phone call from a gal that we had placed three Saddlebred horses with 23 years ago. One of the horses, under her care, died and that left the other two geldings. Bronco is now 31 years old and Rising Star is 25 years old. For many years the horses were well cared for. The last few years brought changes in the person's life and also her daughter's life, who had always helped with the horses.

Joyce and I went to check the horses so we would have an idea of what we were dealing with. The 12 acres had overgrown and there were only small open areas with pathways around the rest of the property. There was no grass for the four horses and the indication was that the horses may have been stool eating. (A healthy horse will produce 35 to 45 pounds of manure a day. There was nowhere near that amount found on the property.)

The two younger horses on the property didn't look in bad shape, but we did not do a hands-on check. The daughter's plan is to complete the fencing on her property and then move the two other horses home once we have taken the two Saddlebreds to the sanctuary.

Because of Bronco and Rising Star's age, and condition, refeeding has to be done slower than I would like. Bronco is swaybacked and has a heavy long coat. We need to have a Cushing's test done, and a complete examination by a veterinarian. The rain rot along both sides of his topline should be easy to treat. It has to be done with care so Bronco won't lose all of the hair on his back. He has what looks like a huge goiter under his throat latch. *(Continued to Page #2)*



Bronco Recovering 1999



Rising Star Recovering 1999



Rising Star Poor and Starving.





(Continued from Page #1)

Rising Star is thin and needs to gain weight. He has a huge crack that runs up the front of the hoof and runs around towards the back of the hoof. Rising Star came up to me and several times put his nose in on the top of my head. I had a distinct feeling that he remembered me. The daughter was very surprised about this when I told her.

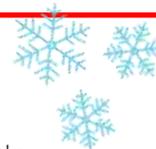
The two horses have been on the property for 23 years and any change is stressful. It is dangerous to rush the veterinarian and farrier to work on the horses, but is hard to have patience! It is helpful to observe the horses to determine any other issues we may see before the professionals are called. (I was stressed waiting for Sunday to pick up the Saddlebreds.)

Finally, it was time to pick up the two horses. Richard was driving the truck and trailer, and Rhonda and Joyce were going to take pictures. Christina and Grace were to first get the two horses that were staying into stalls. Then to build trust with the two Saddlebreds to be able to put a halter on each. We were bribing them with a few alfalfa pellets and bunches of hay. Rising Star was first to be caught as Grace put the halter on as Christina fed him. Bronco was slightly harder to catch as he was smart enough to slip away from the halter after getting treats. Christina slowly continued to approach him while gently stroking him and getting him to trust her. After a few minutes, she gently slipped the halter on and both horses were ready to be trailered.

The boys were well mannered and led very easily towards the trailer. Rising Star was loaded first followed by Bronco. Christina and Grace took the leads off and got off the trailer. It was then time to bring the boys back to HPS. After arriving we had let them settle a while before taking them out and bringing them into the front pasture. Christina and Grace got the boys and unloaded them and showed them around the area before releasing them. The boys trotted around for a little bit, but after a short time they settled and started nibbling the hay. The boys and the volunteers made for a smooth trip and we are glad to have them back so they can be cared for!



Cataract Results and EPM Tests



Dr. Peacock had quoted a cost of **\$55.00** a horse to check their eyes for cataracts. The plan was to check all the horses that are 14 years and older and that included 19 horses. Here are the seven horses that had cataracts: 1. **Aslan** – 24 yrs. – left eye 2mm. 2. **Dusty** – 19 yrs. – ½ mm scar. 3. **Ebony Star** – 25 yrs. – left eye – 1 mm. 4. **Flame** – 26 yrs. - right eye – 1 mm. 5. **Gypsy** – 19 yrs. – left eye – 1 mm. 6. **Meeka** – 18 yrs. – right eye – ½ mm. 7. **Shasta** – 21 yrs. – left eye – 1 mm. Dr. Peacock was so impressed with how good all the horses were with getting their eyes checked that she dropped the price to **\$25.00** each. She said that normally it can be difficult to check horses' eyes.

Dr. Peacock drew blood from all the horses to retest them for EPM, while Ebee and Penny were tested for the first time as they are new. The samples have been sent to UC Davis in CA. They cost a little more, but we trust their testing. The horses at HPS have been tested and treated since 2010. It is not unexpected to have some of the horses needing to have retreatment and this time we have 12.

HPS has always worked to provide the best care for the horses. Some people don't understand how important this is to test for and treat EPM. Years ago we have had horses die from this illness that showed no outward signs. This is why we test all of the horses.

Thank you for understanding the importance of testing for cataracts and EPM. Treatment can be provided for both. **With your aid, we can continue to provide for all of the horses' needs.**

Volunteering at HPS

By Ruby Baker

Hi! My name is Ruby, and my mom (Sarah) and I help out at the rescue on Friday mornings. We were originally introduced to HPS when my friend and I wanted to raise money and buy supplies to donate to a local equine rescue. We had a place set in mind, and when we drove over to donate supplies, the rescue closest to us was long abandoned. Soon we came in contact with HPS and were able to give them what we had bought and began volunteering. This all started in July of 2020. I have been around horses and ridden horses for awhile, but mom had not had much experience working with them. When we began volunteering, mom and I brushed up our scooping and sweeping skills, all while learning the horses' personalities. I soon began learning how to feed, care, and medicate the horses from a knowledgeable volunteer and Mrs. Joyce. After a year and a half of working at the rescue, mom has become best friends with Santana and loves to brush and hang out with him whenever there's down time. Personally, I can't choose a favorite horse, but I love spending time with them and helping out Hillary and other volunteers as much as I can.



Santana and Sarah



Sunshine and Ruby



Happy New Year!

The Horse Protection Society wishes each and every one of you a joyful, prosperous, and healthy New Year. With health issues and financial issues, it so worries us when we don't hear from you.

Some of you have been Friends of the horses from the very first year, 1999. Many of you have joined in to help for so many years, 15-20 years. We hope that all is well with you! Others have donated in the last few years. Each person is cared about by us, and we pray for your well-being.

New Years Resolutions

Gypsy – I will do more carrot stretch exercises..... Hoping to get more carrots.

Santana – I will wait at least 5 minutes before peeing in my stall.

Tusca – I will work on my cute face to get more treats and be more awesome than last year!

Gallant – I will try to stop picking up Oliver, the cat, by the tail.

Oliver - I will remember not to slap the horses in the face and to take more time out of my stressful day and take more naps.

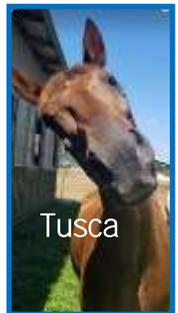
Chief - I will not use poop for my pillow.

Sunshine - My New Year's resolution is to stop putting my hoof in my mouth all the time ...I'll bet yours is losing weight, HUH, **Shasta?**

Shasta - I'm not fat, the two-leggers call me fluffy. MY RESOLUTION IS NOT TO KICK HORSES IN THE FACE THAT SAY MEAN THINGS.

Chuckles - I'll try really hard not to crib on my stall rails.....**NOT!**

Honey – I will only spook at terrifying things, like plastic bags.



Tusca



Shasta



Honey



In honor of all the associates with the Horse Protection Society. By Vicki Troutman

In honor of Judy Cashwell. By Gail Miller

In memory of Barbara, my wife of 52 years who passed away, Dec. 17, three years ago. By Paul Hoecke

In honor of Rev. Harvey L. Blume. By his "Secret Santa."

Merry Christmas to my best friend, By Robin

In honor of Judy and Mike LeGrett. By Kay Hollingsworth

In memory of the horses, I raised and loved. Especially my beloved "Shalimar" half Arabian who won west champion at Syracuse State Fair at halter- 1980's. By Barbara Freer

In memory of my wife Alice Bischoff. By Robert Bischoff

In memory of my beloved mare Sunni. By Mary Myers

Anonymous

Argen R. Aycock

Lynn & Paul Baldwin

Wendy Baynard

Charles L. Beck

Kathy & Tony Bell

Carol & William Bellinghausen

Robert H. Bischoff

Judy Blackmon

Nina & James V. Burton

Jean & Ronald Chandler

Anna Curry

Betsy D. Dean

Judith Dearlove

Chris V. & James Donaghy

Dianne Doub

Lori & Douglas Drake

Tony England & Lisa Sherman

Diane R. Etheridge

Robert Francis

Barbara & Frank Freer

Darlene Galbraith

Gina D. Goff

Nina Grauer

Kathy F. Gray

Barbara A. Grigos

Rich B. & Eileen Hansen

Kristi Hartwig

Kathy A. Haw

Maggie & Thomas Helfert

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Dr. Leslie C. Henson

Cynthia Hever

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Dr. Leslie C. Henson

Cynthia Hever

Donna M. Hipwell

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Constance M. Jewett

& Glen Christofaro

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Elaine & Mario Merida

Jill L. & Charles Messer, Jr.

Carolyn J. Miller

Jill S. Martin

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Elaine & Mario Merida

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You can help support our efforts to save horses by providing your email address to us at:
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THANK YOU!

TAX NOTICE

The tax notice for your contributions will be mailed this month, providing the computer doesn't blow up and I don't shoot the printer or throw it out the window. It seems as if each year when we have a huge printing project, the electronics laugh as they refuse to work correctly.

