



# Over Herd

Volume 10 Issue 7

**Looking for an easy way to help HPS?**  
 Print this newsletter and hang a copy in the break-room at your office. Spreading the word about HPS is a huge help to us.

## Projects Day:

July 19 at 8am is the next projects day at HPS. We need as many hands as we can get!

Plan ahead for August 9th at 8am for our August Project Day.

~Thank you to those that have allowed us to email the newsletter. If there is anyone else that would enjoy receiving Over Herd via email, please let us know. This saves HPS precious pennies!

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

**If there's a lot of try in the human, there's a lot of forgiveness in a horse. ~Walter Josey**

## Cloud Dancer: A Rare Condition ~Joanie Benson

Cloud Dancer was returned to the sanctuary last fall. The people who had him apparently stopped caring for him as was evident by his thin stature and his unconditioned hooves. His skin was loose also which usually indicates quick weight loss. We did all of the usual supplements to improve his weight and hooves. His weight did improve, but he never acted like he felt well and his hooves got worse. The outside of his hooves looked like the bark on trees. Even though his weight improved his skin never tightened up and actually got worse. He was beginning to look like a Shar Pei dog on parts of his body.



We had Dr. Kristi Pierce look at him and she remembered an illness that dogs get that affects their pads. She thought there might be a similar illness in horses. After some investigation Dr. Pierce came up with Pemphigus foliaceus. The pictures on the web looked very much like Cloud's condition. Pemphigus foliaceus is a relatively rare condition caused by an allergic response to a substance in the horse's own skin. The condition initially produces blisters, scabs, and scaly skin. Later on, ulcerations appear with crusting and oozing of serum. We have the crusty and oozing around the coronary bands on all four hooves, but not on the skin yet.

Now the hard part: How do you treat an autoimmune disease? The treatment that is suggested by most research papers is steroids. They also stated that most of the horses are put down within the first year or two even with treatment. Remember we lost Spring Rain to immune-mediated polymyositis, which is another type of autoimmune disease. The only treatment

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## New Barn Number Two and More ~Joanie Benson

I cannot express how wonderful it is to see a dream come true and see the new barns! Thank you to each and every one of you who helped support HPS to make this possible. We had hoped to get the horses moved from the old barn to the new 26 stall barn by now, but the hold up has been putting up the new fencing in the hard packed ground. It has just been impossible to pound the t-posts



into the ground even using the bucket on the tractor, but we have a plan. We are going to use five gallon buckets with holes drilled into the bottoms, fill them with water and let them drain into the ground to soften it. I hope this works! We also need to put up the extra clips and chains on each stall

to keep our escape artists from letting themselves out. We also need to put more rock around the outside to prevent erosion of our new fill dirt. Bob Miller is going to build the shutters for the barn. I am meeting with an electrician to get a list of the materials we need to do the electrical lights and outlets. A generous company has told me they will help supply what is needed.

The water hydrants are hooked up and the well has to be run through to clean the old water out. Deborah Baker is pressure washing the first barn to use that water with the added benefit of a clean barn. We should be able to use the new well to fill the tubs. No more dragging hoses!

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## Working with Santa Fe ~By Kati Muir

I am so excited I wanted to share how my work with Santa Fe has been going. I took it slow at first so we would have a chance to bond. I walked out to the pasture with a lead rope and a halter on my shoulder. I put the rope around his neck and he started walking with me. I wasn't going to put the halter on until later, but that wasn't Santa Fe's plan! We walked a little and he stopped and looked at me; we walked further and he stopped again and looked at the halter. Then he nudged the halter with his nose. I put the halter on and we were on our way again.

### What is Joyce Up to Now! ~By Joanie Benson

As most of you know, Joyce Hixson has supplied 99% of the wonderful items for the silent and live actions at the Mane Event for the last two years. We all wonder how she does it! I was talking to Joyce about how difficult the winter is going to be for HPS to meet expenses with the higher costs of everything. Since spring 2007, feed has gone up 55%, round bales that were \$25 are now \$45 each and everything seems to be going up at an incredible rate.

Well, leave it to Joyce to come up with a great idea and put it together. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the sanctuary. There is going to be a fantastic, enormous, tremendous, extreme, sensational Jewelry & Accessory Sale. The prices are going to be so reasonable that you will not believe it. What perfect timing to pick up Christmas gifts with the added token of helping the horses.

I have inside information and have seen pictures of some of the pieces and I am saving up! This is a great time for so many of you to come to the sanctuary and see all the great work and improvements that have taken place. I am not going to give you all the information now, but watch for more details in upcoming newsletters and save the date!

For the next few weeks, I would brush and comb him and just spend time with him. Last night, I decided I was going to introduce the saddle pad and see how Santa Fe would react. I placed the pad on the hitching post, and then tied Santa Fe up right next to the pad. He was able to smell and look at it. I let him look at it again, rubbed the pad on his neck and back, and then put the pad on his back. He didn't seem the least bit bothered by it. I rubbed it on his back and then pushed it up on his neck like Kathy did with Phoenix. Santa Fe just stood there like "Okay, I remember this thing too." I took the pad off and put a different pad on; he reacted the same way.

Sandy was there and was working with Gold Rush. She wanted to sit on her bareback, so I left the saddle pad on Santa Fe and went to help Sandy. Gold Rush did very good and we decided to try a little more with Santa Fe. He was a little unsure of the mounting block. Sandy held him as I walked up the steps. I had them on his left side, which is his blind eye. Sandy and I were thinking that maybe I should try things from the right side because then he could see better. I put the stairs on his right side and starting petting his back. He was unsure of this again and starting stepping around and eventually turned around so I was on his left side again. That kind of answers my question as to what side to work with him from. After he relaxed

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**Cloud Dancer** continued from page 1... recommended was antibiotic steroids. We were not able to secure this for her and had to let her go. Another autoimmune type illness that we see at the sanctuary is DSLD (Degenerative Suspensory Ligament Desmitis). Necropsy results have shown DSLD horses are affected in the tendons and ligaments of all legs, patella, and it can also affect the eyes and aorta and some organs, skin and all the ligaments and tendons. The entire body becomes affected as the disease progresses. There is no treatment for this illness and we have to put about one horse a year to sleep due to DSLD.

We are hoping that if we can find something to aid Cloud Dancer that it may also help other horses with autoimmune type illnesses. Our first choice is Transfer Factor and if anyone has used this, please email me with your experiences. I do not want to use the steroid treatment for Cloud Dancer since the success rate is so low. Regardless of the treatment selected for Cloud, it is going to be expensive. Please say a prayer for this wonderful horse and help with his expenses if possible.

**New Barn** continued from page 1... Even with the higher cost of metal and other materials, I was able to build the barn for less than projected. Many companies stepped up to help the horses enjoy good safe housing. I thought, "While we have all these wonderful folks who helped us build the barn, maybe they would extend their deep discounts to help HPS with just one more project." And they did. I drew up the plans for a covered hay feeder and got an estimate for the labor and metal. Then I contacted the lumberyard, the treated lumber plant and the concrete company. They willingly got on board to help. HPS now has a 30' x 44' covered hay feeder. There is an 18" overhang all around the outside. We saved money by using some of our assorted gates and cutting them down for the horses to eat over. We only had to buy one 8' gate. The rock needs to be put around the outside edge of the building and we need to put up a few chains to hold the gates, but it is mainly done and ready for horses. I cannot wait for the first load of round bales to go into place and see the horses standing in the shade to eat their hay. No more rain damaged hay! No more wasted hay! Some funds from the Mane Event and funds saved from building the barn were used to construct the new covered hay feeder.



It is time to start taking down some of the old buildings. We need your help. This is a great way to work out some of the aggressions from the workweek! We have some things that need to be removed first and some clean out is needed as well. Do you like to paint? We have projects! Please come lend a hand any weekend.



**HORSE  
PROTECTION  
SOCIETY**

In honor of Allen Wolf for father's day. ~By His Family  
In honor of B-Bop Clayton. ~By Barbara & Bill Clayton  
In Loving Memory of the Great Comanche, July 14, 2000. ~Sadly missed by Roberta

**Monthly Donations**

HPS runs on monthly donations. We cannot do this without your support! Thank you.

Jeri Arledge, Betty & W.T. Baker, Lise R. Benson, Val & Dale Berns, Judy Blackmon, David L. Brown, Wink Bullard, Patricia Cade, Frances & Billy Caudle, Maria (Mieke) & Peter Chalmers, Barbara B. Clayton, Heidi Crowley, Patricia L. Curran, Sandra Dermer, Paula Dobbins, Lori & Douglas Drake, Debra C. Eident, Kelley Elledge, William L. Fingerlow, Janet L. Hall, Tina L. Hamlin, Ron & Melissa Hannah Cadenza Granite & Marble, Dr. Leslie C. Henson, Cindy & Franklin & Samantha Hinson, Birgit Hood, Amber S. Hozey, R. S. Iscaro, Mary & Peter Jurgel, Margaret Kennedy, Stephen & Mary Kicinski, Victoria S. Kiser-Breece, Meg & Joe Leidinger, Betty & Floyd Lentz, Brittney & Edward Liddic, Katherine B. Lofgren, Sulena & Richard Long, A. Burton Mackey Jr., Roberta McCardle, Rosemarie Menegay, Elaine D. Merida, Elizabeth Milam, Henry Moore, Louise T. Mullis, Jane T. Oglesby, Melissa Pletcher, Fiona Ritchie Productions, Monika Schnacke, Gail M. Shinn, Sidewalk Deli Customers, Stephanie V. Slavin, Sharon & Jerry Smith, Tacy K. Smith, Cindy W. Stroud, Elaine D. Towner, Alsoton Osgood Wolf, Kim Wrenn

**Help the Horses Find Homes!**

We presently have forty-four horses at the sanctuary. Eighteen of the horses are looking for new homes. You can help us find homes for these horses by printing out the flier on our website and posting it at stores in your community.

Simply go to our website at [www.horseprotection.org](http://www.horseprotection.org). and click on **Help the Horses Find Homes!**

**<http://www.horseprotection.org>**

Have you visited the website lately? If not, you are missing out on a lot of great photos and updated information about the horses and the new barns. Not to mention there is shopping! You can buy HPS gear through the Café Press link at the bottom of the page. Profits go directly to HPS.

**Working with Santa Fe** *continued from page 2...* a little, I started to apply pressure with my hands on his back. Santa Fe did not react while I was working with my hands. I then leaned on him with my upper body. His ears went back and he started sidestepping. I tried it one more time and he reacted the same way. Sandy and I figured that he had done so well with the saddle pad, stairs and me standing above him, that we shouldn't push him too far.

I was so excited and proud of him after last night. I cannot wait to work with him again. Santa Fe is such a smart, sweet horse and I cannot wait to see him back under saddle!

*Kathy has been working with Phoenix and has him now starting back under saddle. Check out her write-up on our web site under "Saddle Pals" – Phoenix.*

*We need more folks who know how to work with horses to help out at the sanctuary. Please come help with the horses and it will aid them in finding a new loving home.*

Donation From: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
Please use my donation for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ New Barn Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Use  
**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: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Email address \_\_\_\_\_ 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:  
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**Check out our Web site:**  
[www.horseprotection.org](http://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.