



Welcome Kachina

We are still searching for a Livestock Guard dog for the sanctuary to no avail. I always look at the senior dogs, also knowing that most of them will not get a new home. There was one dog that often showed up on my searches, a seven-year-old baby in Iredell County Animal Services advertised as part Bernese Mountain Dog. She was found running loose and the owners, after being contacted, never came to get her.

Every day, Melanie urged me to start looking for a new house dog. Finally, we went to see the Iredell County dog. The breed or mix has never been important to me. She was friendly and a little silly and did okay when exposed to a kitty.

The paperwork was signed, and Melanie wondered aloud how she would do in the car. I wish I had roller skates on because the minute she heard the word "car," she pulled me to the door and picked the right car racing to it, pulling me on the end of the leash. She was so excited about leaving the shelter that she couldn't be still in the back seat.



I asked her several different names, and she liked Kachina the best. (American Indian meaning, "The spirit in the people.") Kachina loves all the people that she has met, minds wonderfully, walks much better on a leash now, is housebroken, likes Oliver and is a pleasure to share a home with.

Please consider an older dog the next time.

Mystifying Illness

One of the wishes I have for this year is that when people are asking us to take in their horse/s, they are truthful about the equine's condition. I called the veterinary office that was listed on our release form, and only the horse's name was recorded, but they had never seen the horse.

The story we were told was that about a year ago, she bought the horse from one of the places that saves horses supposedly going to slaughter. The horse was skinny then, but the new owner asked a young boy to ride the horse for her. There was \$300.00 donated towards the horse's bale out, and the owner only had to pay an additional \$300.00.

The owner shared that she had cancer, and needed to find homes for some of her animals. She said the mare was hard to catch but was healthy.

The little mare is about 13 years old and a bay Arabian. She picked the name Dewdrop. It didn't take any time to realize that she had severe issues. It looked like she was in pain since it would take five or six times for her to try to lie down. Dewdrop didn't want to go into the stall, so during rainy times, we would move her to the hospital stall.

Dr. Mary Gochnauer came to give her a rabies vaccine and to pull blood for an EPM test. The medication that we used for years to cure EPM doesn't work any longer. Dr. Mary recommended trying Toltrazuril that has to be given by a nasal tube once a week for three weeks. Shinook and Red Sky are still suffering from EPM and are going to be treated also.

The news concerning Dewdrop's EPM test is mystifying! Her test was negative. We moved Dewdrop to the side field with Peaches, and they ignored each other for a few days. She still won't go in the smaller stall.

Shinook and Red Sky were treated today with Toltrazuril, and they will need to be treated once a week for two weeks.

The mystery that Dewdrop is presenting kept me awake, trying to think of all the possible neurological illnesses. Dr. Mary is testing for Vitamin E and Selenium deficiency as well as Lyme Disease. We can treat these issues, but if it turns out to be something like Wobbler Syndrome, it can't be treated except with a \$5,000 to \$6,000 operation, which may or may not be successful. There are other possible illnesses, but I would rather not think about those since they are a death sentence.



You could have Asked to Go Out

There are always surprises! Last week the new black horse decided he wanted to join the herd. The front quarantine area utilizes the two-stall “condo” building. There are Dutch doors on both sides of the stalls. Our big guy kicked out both the stall doors that lead to the herd. One of the stall doors was knocked off the hinges, and the board that holds the hinges will have to be replaced.

The big fellow was having great fun introducing himself to all the mares and playing with the geldings. We needed to let him settle for a few days before we could get him calmed down enough for him to pick a new name. The horses seldom pick the name I think they will. The Black surprised me by selecting “Gallant.”



Come here Honey!

December Facebook Fundraiser

I emailed Facebook and didn’t hear back from them concerning the December fundraiser on our Facebook page. For you folks that missed the opportunity, Facebook offered to match the first seven million dollars donated to nonprofits that signed up. HPS received \$6,575 in donations. We received a donation for Network for Good, and while looking up the donor, I learned that Facebook had turned our funds over to them. The donors are always listed as “Anonymous.”

The Network reports that they write their checks on or by the 15th of the month. It will be interesting to see when they decide to issue our funding of \$6,575.00. They are not listing any names of the donors, but I made a list before it disappeared from our Facebook page. Their reasoning is that by donating with them, the names will never be sold. We would NEVER sell our list of donors!

The funds arrived just in time to include the funding in the newsletter along with all of the names of folks who donated.



Chief and Rain



Heavenly



Chuckles and Gallant

The horses love to spend time with each other, play and roughhouse until they are tired and need a nap. They also love to EAT and EAT! Chief and Gallant fit right in with the herd, and they get along with all the horses. Dewdrop is too sick to be in with the other horses.

It is easy to say, “Horses are herd animals,” but how often do you get to see a herd of horses interact together? The sanctuary provides a natural setting for the lack of stress and the feeling of safety. The right folks with a good spirit will aid the horses to bring healing to the needy ones and help to improve their health.

We have worked to create a horse paradise here where they are free to roam the property or nap in the barns or where ever they are comfortable.

When preparing your estate, please leave a legacy to the horses. In 2008 the sanctuary was saved by the amount in an estate that helped HPS for years to come. Someday we may be able to afford a larger property. My dream would be to be able to grow all their feed without toxic spray and chemicals.

Watch for Lice on Your Horses

Under the right conditions, any horse can pick up lice, and treating a case is a hassle. Winter and the long hair on the horses seem to promote the start of lice in the colder time of the year.

There are two types of lice, the blood-sucking type and the dander, skin and hair eating type. The blood-sucking type is the easiest to get rid of on your horse. Give a full dose of Ivermectin and repeat in 8 or 9 days. I know of times when it took three or four times to treat the horses with Ivermectin to kill all the lice. The blood-sucking lice are plain on their back, where the chewing lice have darker lines across the back.

The dander eating type is harder to kill off when the pests show up in the winter. Everything needs to be treated to kill the adult and nymphs, including blankets, saddle pads, bridles, grooming tools, and anything else used on your horses.

There are many shampoos for treating lice but read the ingredients carefully. Most of the commercial products we would not use, but have found that using an 8% to 10% Tea Tree oil added to 5% to 10% plain Dawn soap and the balance of 87% to 80% warm water. Wet the whole horse and rub it on thoroughly. This solution can be left on overnight and then washed off the following day. If you need to wash the horse the same day, wait at least one hour before rinsing thoroughly.

During cold weather, the above treatment may not be healthy for the horse, even with warm water. Pure sulfur may be better to use when it is so cold. Tuck a wet rag over the horse's nose and hook it in the halter. Brush it into the hair or use your hands wearing rubber gloves. You also should wear a dust mask and protective glasses.

Regardless of the treatment used, it should be repeated in 8 to 9 days. Fortunately, you cannot contract lice from your horse. The lice that live on people are different species. Horse lice are very specific to equids; they do not affect people, but they can affect all equines.

Coronavirus

The news coming out of China is not good concerning the new variety of Coronavirus. Millions and millions of people in whole cities have been quarantined in China.

The virus typically only affected animals. There was a study done a couple of years ago that dealt with the increase of Coronavirus in cases in horses and how it is more severe than previously thought. A few years back, we sent Pecos to a training stable, and he brought back the virus. He was young and healthy, so Pecos didn't get sick. He just passed it on to a young weaker horse that was his best friend. When it got passed to another horse, we were able to diagnose the illness and quarantine the sick horse along with his best friend.

We have used Colloidal Silver for many years that cured some nasty infections. We purchased the Silver by the gallon for a year and then bought a generator from The Silver Edge to make the Colloidal Silver. We also use acidified sodium chloride, MMS, which works well for some viruses and infections.

All things of creation are children of the Father and thus brothers of man. ... God wants us to help animals, if they need help. Every creature in distress has the same right to be protected. ***Francis of Assisi***

News from the Herd

Autumn (21) and **Freedom (23)** are never far from each other. Autumn picks the people she likes and will always demand to be treated like royalty.

Canela (22) is still leery of most people. She can usually be seen with **Meeka**. Canela responds to people when approached correctly.

Chicklet (6) and **Chuckles (5)** are full of fun and truly happy horses. If there is a race or roughhousing, typically one or both of them will be in the middle of the tussle.

Chief (14) loves everyone, human and equine! Some white horses are fictitious, but not Chief. If there is a yucky spot, he will roll in it. During the short warm days, all the horses had a bath because lice were seen on two horses. Most of the horses still look clean and shiny, but not Chief. He looks like a dark gray horse.

Cruiser (18), we are blessed to have such a wonderful and beautiful horse to use to help some of our volunteers to ride. A genuinely kind horse that loves attention!

Dewdrop (13) will be an exceptional horse if we can get her better. Arabians are incredible horses.

Ebony Star's (24) type 2 diabetes seems to be under control. It is almost time to do blood workup for **Peaches** also.

Flame (25) is full of spirit and fun. I will never understand why no one wanted Flame. He has a strong presence and is the opposite of a laid back quarter horse. So beautiful!

Equine Neurological Disorders

Symptoms of a neurological disorder in your horse can vary depending on the cause, but the most common symptoms include:

- Abnormal posture such as the inability to keep limbs aligned, asymmetrical neck and head positioning, or a distorted spine contour.
- Abnormal behavior such as becoming unresponsive, or overly reactive to stimuli like sound.
- Stumbling or incoordination.
- Muscular weakness.

The main viral offenders to the neurologic system in the U.S. are Western Encephalomyelitis (WEE), Eastern Encephalomyelitis (EEE) and West Nile virus. All three are mosquito-borne Viruses. We have also had cases of EHV-1 (Equine Herpes virus-1) in the NC and SC area. It is highly contagious so it is important to diagnose cases as quickly as possible in order to quarantine the affected horse/barn. In the most serious cases, the virus can cross into the nervous system and cause neurologic signs. It is important to always be vigilant and to act when symptoms arise.

The following names are of the kind people who donated on the Facebook challenge.

Christina Burns
Carolyn Sawin Osborn
Lorraine Gibney Newton
Jo Ladd Zarnoch
Julie Breedlove
Brenda Gonzalez
Julie Nye
Judy Smith
Shirley Barger
Kathy Florio Bell
Sandy Porebski Fisher
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Judy Taylor
Gayle Libberton
Eileen Hansen
Peggy Winecoff Rogers
Cathy Barnby
Susan Parker
Joanie Benson

***Thank you for helping to
buy the needed hay!!***

In memory of Sweet Boy....Turk. By Dianne Doub

In memory of my wife, Alice, who passed away on Dec..7th. She was a life long lover of horses. By Robert Bischoff

In memory of my Warrior. By Rita Tucker

My grandmother grew up on a farm and loved horses. She lived from 1893 to 1980. By June Clancy

Elaine Addison
Carolyn H. Alexander
Anne Marie Allison
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Argen R. Aycock
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Joan Baron, Gone to Ground
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Amy & Kit Borrass
Joan S. Bowen
Lisa M. Bowler
Diane & T.F. Brown
Toni Brown
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Robin L. Crosswhite
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Melissa Dean
Chris V. & James Donaghy
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Brenda & Charles Hemperley
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Maymie Lisa Higgins
Amber Hozey
Virginia M. (Ginger) Johnson
Randi Kinney
Henry H. Land
Norma Laughter
Gerry Layson
Judy & Mike LeGrett
Brittney Liddic
Kathy B., Lex & Lauren Lofgren
Mike, Kathryn & Jackie Mabry
Myra Mahoney
Robert A. McCardle
Elaine & Mario Merida
Jill L. & Charles Messer, Jr.
Carolyn Miller
Deborah H. Miller
Jackie Mooney
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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!

The Covered Hay Feeder

Joyce Darling knew a nice young man that is a welder, named Travis Johnson. Joyce explained to Travis our problem of hay being wasted since we couldn't afford to have the railings made to keep the horses away from the hay bales. Travis never told us who donated the square rods for the rails. The project is perfect and is responsible for saving a lot of hay from being wasted.



LAST MINUTE NOTICE I just spoke with Dr. Mary concerning Dewdrop's test results: blood panel – normal, vitamin E and Selenium – normal, EPM – negative, and Lyme Disease – negative. Does anyone have any ideas about what could be effecting Dewdrop other than Wobbler Syndrome? I would very much like to hear from you.
hps@horseprotection.org This is expensive testing for all of these illnesses, and the EPM treatment for Tusca and Red Sky are running us in the **Red**. Please help if you can.