



## Ernie Griffith Will be Sorely Missed

Ernie died January 31, 2022

Ernie had been a good friend of HPS and the horses since early 2015. Ernie told me he had never photographed horses and wanted to give it a try. That was the start of years of friendship and so many beautiful photographs. Many of his pictures ended up in the calendars over the years. After Ernie took all the pictures for the day, I would transfer them using his photo card to the HPS computer. Then I would spend some time with Ernie showing me the pictures he liked the best.

One of our favorite photos was of several horses careening out of the pond with splashing water above their heads. Ernie entered the picture in a photo competition and won third place. It was a favorite picture of so many people.

The family has requested donations be sent to the Horse Protection Society in lieu of flowers. The following pictures are a tribute to Ernie Griffith and his wonderful ability to photograph the horses.



## Fun Afternoon with Two Horses

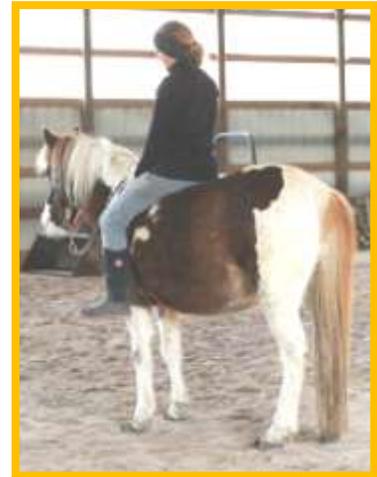
Chicklet is just 8 years old. It has taken an extended amount of time for him to be ready to start under saddle. He is finally ready after Grace has worked with him for a long time.



Grace was bouncing up and down and putting her weight across his back.



**That wasn't the most graceful mounting I have seen. Chicklet didn't seem to mind.**



Grace easily turned Chicklet with the lead line. And then popped off.



Grace has spent several years gently playing with Honey, grooming her and spending time in her space,

Honey came to the sanctuary when she was just two years old and had a bad attitude! Most of the issues were around food. Honey was small for her age and it took several years for her to reach the height she is today.

Honey is a beautiful mare and Grace is turning her into a good citizen that is going to be a horse that could be taught anything. This is only the second time Grace has ridden Honey. Ears are forward and her tail is carried perfectly quietly.

Grace is using a halter with a long line clipped on one side and loosely tied on the other side instead of reins and a bridle.

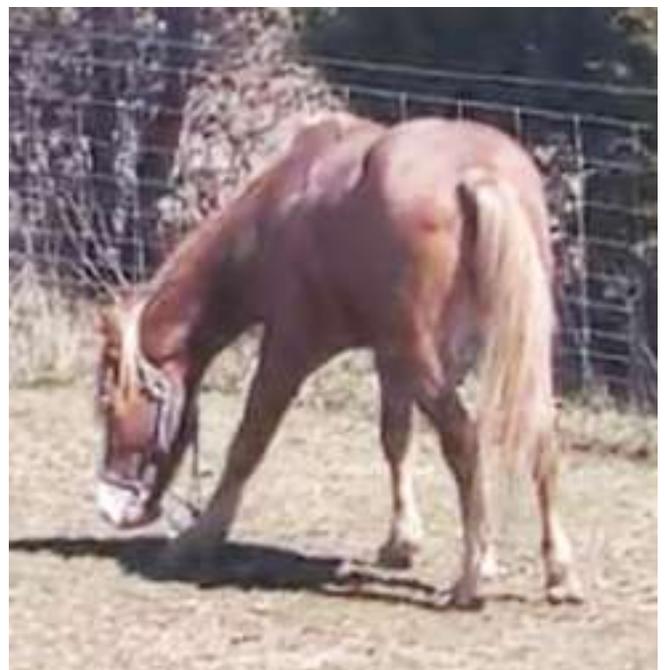
## Why do People not Understand?

**TAKE THE @^&#!\* HALTERS OFF!** Horsemanship 101, DO NOT LEAVE A HALTER ON A HORSE! Think about the metal rings and the buckle on the halter and how they will freeze brand the horses' face in those areas and heat brand the same areas in the summer. Dirt builds up under the halter straps and can rub the skin raw. I don't understand why there are rescues that haven't worked with their horses so they don't have to wear halters. It is dangerous and common sense not to leave a halter on a horse. I have seen pictures of a horse that rubbed his face on a t-post and got the halter hung-up, it didn't end well! As soon as a horse arrives at the sanctuary, and we put them in the quarantine area, the halter comes off.

We normally have 30 plus horses here at the sanctuary, and we can go up to any horse with just a lead line without a clip on the end and gently put it around a horse's neck. We softly hold the two ends and ask the horse to walk with us. The only time you will see a halter on a horse here is if the veterinarian or the farrier is on their way or we put on a halter to take a horse to be groomed and/or saddled. We also don't tie horses. HPS has had too many horses come to us that have been tied and gone over backwards and they were seriously hurt before they arrived at the sanctuary.

I drive by a field or see pictures, on the Internet, of horses with halters on in the freezing cold or the heat of the summer and I wish there was something I could do to educate people. Horses have died by getting a hoof caught in the halter or caught on something and hung themselves.

The pictures below were sent to me of a horse with a hoof caught in a rope halter. I have seen pictures and heard terrible stories of what happens when you leave halters on horses. Please help us educate the public. Post this article on your Facebook page, and send the newsletter on to people. Thank you!



## What Should We Call the Condition?

Heaves, inflammatory airway disease (IAD), recurrent airway obstruction (RAO), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic respiratory disease (CRD), and today the experts are now calling it asthma or asthma syndrome. The result is the same regardless of what name is put on the illness. The good news is there is still research and more information that may make a difference in the future to aid the horses.

Researchers in the U.K. and Australia have linked tracheal inflammation to high bacterial counts in tracheal washes of racehorses. The relationship between that bacterial tracheitis and mild equine asthma is not quite clear **at this point. It is known that in horses with severe equine asthma it's quite common to isolate bacteria in their tracheal mucus.**

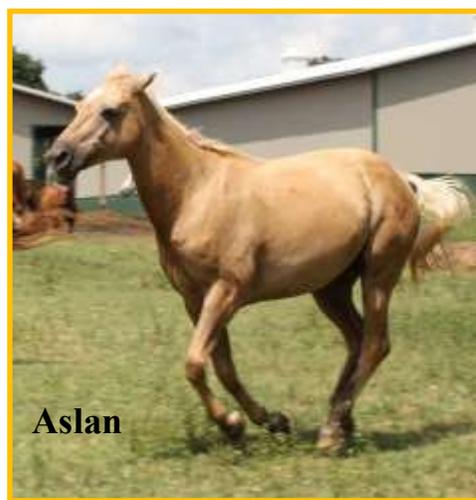
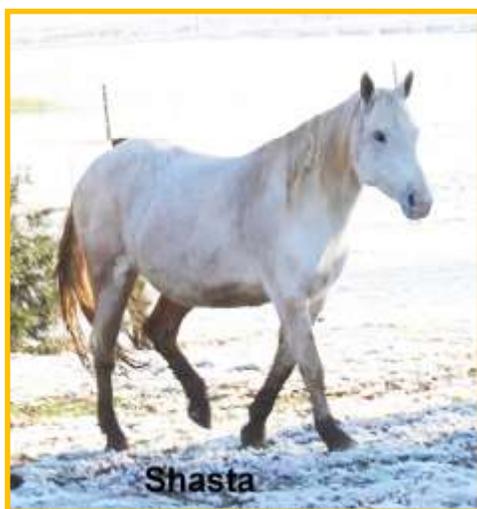
Researchers have identified a strong association between tracheal inflammation and the presence of bacteria. In that study, *Streptococcus equi* subspecies *zooepidemicus*, *pneumoniae*, and *Mycoplasma* spp were the three main bacteria identified.

Researchers are still exploring the potential role of less common respiratory viruses (such as equine rhinitis or equine herpesvirus- 2 or -5) **because studies have shown they're common in nasal swab samples from sick horses and healthy control horses.**

**In horses with severe asthma we've known for quite some time that this is really an allergy disease caused by mold content in hay. Dust also increases inflammation in the horses.**

HPS presently has two horses with asthma, Aslan is 25 years old and Shasta is 22 years old. We have four different medications that we can use to help the horses. One is a steroid and the last resort to help a horse through a savior attack of asthma. Based upon the latest research, we will be trying different things that we have found that will help horses with bacteria and virus infections.

During the cold winter months normally we can take the horses off all of their medications. Both are doing great at the present time!



*There are days when the phone rings and another horse is in need,  
 It could be Animal Control, concerned citizen or an owner calling.  
 There are so many who are waiting for someone to care and feed,  
 There is no shelter from the freezing rain and the temperature is falling.  
 A trailer arrives with sweet hay in the back,  
 It is time to leave for a safe home with warm shelter  
 With your help we can care for them all.*



Sparrow fully recovered, was trained and today she is with a sweet little girl. WE MUST NEVER FORGET

*In honor of Caroline Mannion, in Ireland. By Seamus and June Clancy*

**In memory of Terry Nelson. May she Rest in Peace. By Allison Norton**

**In memory of Bo. By Glenda Walters**

**In memory of William Michael Hegedus. By Shirlene Gray**

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### Frosty and Rosie

Frosty and Rosie enjoyed the snow. They are maturing into livestock guard dogs now that Frosty is one year old. I can hear them chasing critters at night. They like to bark and run after delivery trucks that come in the drive. They also like to open the packages that come. It wouldn't be a problem except they eat the boxes and everything that is in the carton. After they ate 12 ink cartridges and the box, our white dogs were black and white.

We knew we had to do something different. Joyce repurposed a large plastic trunk used for transporting tack, and put a large sign on the outside, "DELIVERIES." We are hoping this will solve the problem. (Until the pooches figure out how to open the box.)