



# OVER HERD

2010



## Used, Abused and Thrown Away

This poor mare had the 'honor' of being the first horse to come to the sanctuary in April. She had shown up on a woman's front lawn, and the local sheriff was called. The deputy came out and found truck and trailer tracks leading from an open field next to the woman's property. Yadkin County Animal Control referred the woman to us.

The story continues - the mare kept breaking out of the small field in which the woman's other horses were kept, so the caller tied the mare to a tree. Joanie asked if she should bring hay for the horse to eat on the trip back. The woman laughed and said she'd been out of hay for two weeks! She also told Joanie that the mare was dripping milk and had blood on her back legs.

Fortunately for us, a friend to horses, Dave Kissiah, was willing to help pick up the mare. When they arrived, they were astonished to see a poor starved horse with a rope around her neck, tied to a tree. The horse had created a three-foot wide trench in her constant circling of the tree. She had neither hay, feed nor water, and they were told the mare had been in this spot since the prior evening. Not surprisingly, the mare was a good girl to load, and she was happy with the hay that was in the trailer for her trip 'home.'

**(continued, page 2)**

## Huge Tack & Construction Sale to benefit the horses of HPS

Come one, come all, and bring your friends!  
**to the sanctuary: 2135 Miller Road in China Grove  
on Saturday, May 1st, 8 AM-3PM; Sunday, May 2nd,  
9:30 AM-3PM (rain dates: same times, same place on  
5/8 & 5/9)**

Thousands of items - all priced to sell. They range from what you can carry in your arms (English & Western saddles, bridles, halters, blankets, pads, brand-new show clothing for men, women and children, grooming boxes and supplies, and much more) to what you can't (2-horse trailer, 200-year-old columns and architectural pieces, split rail fencing, wood burning stove, water pumps, old bottles, signs, etc., etc., etc.). There's one brand new M. Toulouse saddle that will be available but it probably won't last long. All new items are marked at 1/3 of their retail price, including this saddle.

We will accept cash and personal checks - ALL PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORTING OUR HORSES, like the newly arrived mare pictured at the left. Come and see what you can use at your barn or home, and have a tangible reminder of the good works your purchase has done.

## A Horse of a Different Type to benefit the steeds at HPS

Some people like their horses in large groups, like the ones found powering motorcycles. If you're into horsepower without having to pick feet or use a curry comb, this event is for you. The HPS Benefit Poker Run, followed by free live music and food, is scheduled for June 5th. Registration begins at 11 AM at The Lucky Turnaround, 1560 Hwy 29 S. in China Grove. You may also participate if you drive a car rather than a bike, so everyone, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 5th. Prizes for you; proceeds for the horses.



(continued from page 1)

Joanie, Dave and the mare arrived back at the sanctuary late in the day. The wonderful evening feeders had prepared a hospital stall for her. The next morning, our wonderful morning staff cleaned up the mare, getting all of the blood off of her. The vet came to check her, but she was - not surprisingly - very protective of her hind end, and he was not able to do an internal exam.

Within a few days of her arrival at the ranch, she came into foal heat. We can only speculate that she had a foal that died, and her owners turned her out. Her knees have been damaged, and she has the biggest belly anyone at the ranch has ever seen!

The good news is that she is now safe with us. In time, she will tell us more about herself, and she'll pick a new name with which to begin her new life. For the time being, she is just happy to be eating and gaining back that much-needed weight.

She would welcome your support as her Angel Sponsor as she has been deprived of anything angelic for a long, long time.



The main reason why the Horse Protection Society retains ownership of the horses that leave for what we all hope will be "forever" homes is that "forever" does not always last. We could no more allow a horse - that we have rescued and rehabilitated - to return to its former life of starvation or abuse than we could allow those at the ranch to do so. And we know that life is not static; things change, circumstances change, and the guardians of our horses know there will always be a place here at the sanctuary if they are no longer able to care for their charges. You have read in these pages earlier this year about our frustration when we are NOT contacted and help is needed. So we are always grateful when we get a call asking if we can take back companions for whom the humans are no longer able to care. We know it's a difficult decision to make, and a difficult phone call as well.

Such was the case this month when Teton, Coyote Joe and Maverick came back to the sanctuary.



TETON



COYOTE JOE



MAVERICK

## Their History:

TETON is a 17-hand, 18 year-old Thoroughbred who used to race. He is among the sweetest horses we have ever known. He came to HPS in August 2002 with a rib out of place; this caused great discomfort especially when he was saddled. Once this issue was resolved, he was perfect under saddle.

COYOTE JOE was only about 7 when he first came to us in November 2004 along with a companion who was very thin. Their owner's life had taken a serious downturn, but Coyote was in pretty good condition at the time. He's now a great little 13 year-old Quarter Horse!

MAVERICK is about 25 years old, and may be part Tennessee Walker, although he's a little short for that breed. He moves with such grace! When we first got him from his very neglectful owner, we were required to buy his round pen panels as part of the deal to let the horse go with us. Thank goodness that one of our members alerted us to his situation and enabled us to save him.

The three came back to us in basically great shape, although there are some issues we will want to deal with before we can consider placing them again: some pesky aural plaque in a couple of ears (not easily remedied as it's painful and the horses don't like having their infected ears touched), and Teton has scratches that need treatment.

We know they were well treated for the past five years, and hope to be able to find new forever homes for them once they are all healed.

Also bouncing back to the ranch are Crackerjack and Jelly Bean, our two miniature horses with very, very sick feet. We had never intended for them to leave the ranch, but thought we had the perfect situation, only to find that the perfect situation was here at HPS. They are back to being permanent residents, and are happy to be home.

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Jelly Bean with good friend, Glacier

### We Never Cease to be Amazed! By Joanie Benson

For as many years as I have been on this earth and for as long as I have been involved in equine rescue, I am still, very regrettably, caught off-guard sometimes.

In April, over 300 creatures - pigs, goats, sheep, dogs, different types of fowl, and five horses - were seized in Lincoln County. All of the birds had to be destroyed because they were so diseased as to be beyond rescue and there was concern about infecting nearby commercial fowl. It was in the news here, and may even have made it to newspapers outside of North Carolina.

Three of the horses came to HPS and two went to the farm of Tamara Eichorn, our farrier/trainer. I won't go into detail about the condition of the horses. Suffice it to say that they were here for kindness and care while a veterinarian report was being prepared that would give support to allow a judge to issue an euthanasia ruling for one mare. Before that was completed, however, the horses were removed by a volunteer with Lincoln County Animal Control! It was a sad day for us, and more importantly, for the animals. I pray that they are no longer suffering, and I guess I will never cease to be amazed by two-leggers.

## *Honors and Memorials*

Happy 17th Birthday, Sullivan, aka Sully, my dear friend's horse. He recently had to have an eye removed due to infection. I honor him and his wonderful owner, Sharie Penney.  
By Tara Linden

In loving memory of Jynxster  
June 1993-May 19, 2009  
My treasured and most precious companion. You are greatly missed, my beloved friend.  
By Jaime Richardson

In honor of  
Father Thomas Clement's  
birthday.  
By Dottie Rebhan

In memory of my dearest friend who loved all 4-legged creations. Chrasta Granger passed away last month.  
By Sharie Penney

In Memory of Denali.

"When your horse follows you around without being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine....You know you are loved." John Lyons

By Dottie Rebhan

In honor  
of Dottie Rebhan  
& Rosie.  
By Suzanne Casey

In honor  
of my new kitten,  
EMMA.  
By Barbara Moore

In loving memory to my niece & nephew's cat, "Kero." She passed away in March at 17 years of age.  
By Gail Shinn

In Memory of Nonnie Kolkebeck  
February 24, 1925—February 6, 2009  
By Ken Kolkebeck

## Monthly Donations & Contributors

The Angel Sponsor program is up and running — and growing. To those of you who are participating, we hope you both enjoyed the first communication about your horse and know how much your sponsorship means! We also greatly appreciate those of you who contribute outside the Angel Sponsor program, as well as you who honor and memorialize loved ones through these pages. May your lives be blessed with all good things.

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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: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Would you like the above recipient to receive "Over Herd" - **Yes No**

Your message for the newsletter:  
 \_\_\_\_\_



### 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 organization. Your donations are the main source of income to support the sanctuary, and are eligible for tax deduction.

**The Officers of the Horse Protection Society of NC meet on the second Sunday of every month. All members are welcome to attend these open meetings, held at the ranch in the home of the Executive Director. The role of this body is to make decisions regarding the day-to-day activities at the sanctuary and to ensure that those decisions are properly implemented.**

#### HPS Officers

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