

Over Herd

The Mane Event

The plans for the Mane Event are finalized and we once again are able to offer the tickets for only \$35. The ticket price covers cost and HPS does not make any money on them. This is our only large fundraiser in the year. We pray to have a packed Speedway Club to bid on the wonderful items offered at the live and silent auction. Please invite your friends that love to shop. We will be happy to send you more tickets!

One member shared with me that they did all of their Christmas shopping last year since there were so many wonderful things that could not be found easily elsewhere. They are planning on doing their shopping again, "Shopping and helping starved horses. It does not get any better than that!"

Yes, all of us are feeling a pinch from the economy, but please remember the horses have suffered so much more than any of us, and they desperately need you. Please come to the Mane Event and help to make sure the horses receive the care they deserve. If you reserve an entire table we will have a place for you to display information about your business. Or for anyone who would like to be a sponsor for \$500 to \$1,000 we will display your business prominently.

Please send in your reservations as soon as possible. We have to let the Speedway club know by May 29th the number of reservation we have for the Mane Event.

Some items offered at the Mane Event silent auction: Marshall Rouso handbag, Waterford Glass, Gorham Rose Bowl, Antique horse clock, DVD player, Garden art, 2-way radios, Graphite rod, reel and 53 piece tackle, Coach signature Soho small Hobo purse, horse metal door stops, Power scissors, Blue Topaz necklace, Mantle clock, Peridot bangle bracelet, Freshwater pearl necklace & earring set, Antique Bowl & Pitcher set, Antique English stirrups, Iron Horse head Hitching post, Iron Bird Bath, Trail of Painted Ponies collectable horse, and MUCH more!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

A horse is worth more than riches.
~Spanish Proverb

Update at the Sanctuary ~By Joanie Benson

We have been dealing with many different health issues at the sanctuary. Cancer and Cushing's syndrome are two that do not have treatments through your vet that are affordable and have a good prognosis. Sometimes it is easy to diagnosis cancer when the horse has large melanomas visible on their body. However, sometimes your horse is losing weight and no matter how much or what he is being feed makes a difference and the blood work does not show anything remarkable, but you just know; it is cancer.

Normally HPS loses one horse a year to cancer. At the present time we have four horses with cancer. Fire Breeze, at 41 years old, has had melanomas on his nose for the last several years. The preparation we put on them causes them to dry up and fall off. We know from past experience that this is a precursor to cancer. Most of the time you only have a few years left with the horse at this point. For the last few years, Fire Breeze has also displayed strange neurological symptoms. He would go blind for about 20 minutes and then his sight would return. Then the sight did not return in his right eye after one of his episodes. The veterinarians could not figure out what was causing his problems as he started loosing weight, but I felt he had cancer.

Sierra spent years with no care and at 27 years old came to HPS. One tooth was over three inches long. There were so many strange symptoms including high blood levels of sodium and yet she would spend a lot of time at the salt block. Weeks and weeks went by and she just did not gain any weight.

Shalimar has large melanomas around her rectum and under her tail. She is just 20 years old and her color is white. Vaquero at 17 years old is also afflicted with cancer. His color is white.

...Continued on page 2



Above, Sierra before treatment. Below, our beautiful girl now.



The New Barn ~By Joanie Benson

Everyone is so excited about the new barn. I have bargained, wheeled and dealed, and begged to get the lowest prices possible so we can keep working on the barn with the very limited funds we have for construction. Lumber prices were at an all time low. We got all the lumber just before it went up 10%. A huge "Thank you" to everyone and their kindness to make this possible and to keep the horses on the road to recovery. We could not do any of this without you. God has blessed the horses with many caring people. The barn is going up so quickly and it will be this month when the horses will be able to enjoy their new barn. Pit Board Charity and **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** is helping HPS raise the rest of the funds needed for the new barn. They have helped HPS in the past when **Kelley E. Elledge** learned of our rescue and the sanctuary. The board will be putting up information about their fundraiser soon. Please visit www.pitboardcharity.com. Thank you so much to everyone involved with the Pit Board Charity.

Chantilly Montessori School's Loose Change ~By Margaret Kennedy

A few weeks ago I had the honor of visiting the Chantilly Montessori School in Charlotte. Deborah Bunting, who works in the Media Center at the school, had organized a "loose change" campaign with the children for the horses at HPS. They had made a large wooden box, decorated with a photo of a horse (that looked a lot like Sierra!), with a slot at the top for the loose change. The children, with a little help from their parents, collected \$650.00 for the horses! What a fantastic thing to do.

Since I was invited to thank the children in person, I visited Chantilly Montessori with saddle, brushes, and photos in hand. The captive audience consisted of about thirty 4 and 5 year olds, who were quite eager to hear about the horses. Deborah Bunting had shown the children our website often, so the kids were already familiar with the horses and what we do at HPS.

We thank Deborah Bunting and the children of the Chantilly Montessori School SO MUCH for their donation! Come visit us on Saturdays, and meet the horses you have helped.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Updates can't	2
Project Day	2
Reminders	2
Rosebud	2
Monthly Donations	3
Honors & Memorials	3



Reminders:

~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!

~Your help is always welcome at the ranch. Please contact Joanie if you are able to come out to volunteer some of your time. Get out in the fresh air, move around, learn something, love on some amazing animals, and bond with your family.

~If you prefer to send a gift card donation in lieu of monetary donations Tractor Supply Company and Staples are great choices. We get many supplies at both locations.

~There are many horses that are ready for their new home. Please spread the word to as many people as possible about HPS and the wonderful animals ready for new families. Check our updated website for photos and descriptions or better yet, come see them in person!

Updates *continued from page 1...* All four of the horses with cancer are doing wonderful. The company that we were buying the supplement from decided that they could not supply the supplement in the large 56 oz containers any longer. They would only have the 4oz bottles at \$13.00. This would have put our costs so high that we would have not been able to supply this to the ten horses receiving it as we use two 4 oz bottles a day. I must say I went into panic mode and emailed Global Light immediately! The owners, Dave and Libby, responded in record time. They were going to donate the supplement each month for the ten horses that so desperately needed this supplement. I was so excited and happy for our horses! Please say a prayer for these kind folks!

Feather, Padre, Miracle, Oswego and Montana have Cushing's syndrome and/or insulin resistance. Cushing's is usually caused by a non-malignant tumor pressing on the pituitary gland. This causes the horse to retain its hair and not shed out, possible laminitis and a weak immune system. Feather and Montana also have EPM. Padre is IR and foundered and Summer was receiving the supplement while she had a bad cough and infection which was resolved quickly. We are going to start Inca on the supplement. At 19 years old, she is not gaining the last of her weight on the top line. This often happens to Cushing's horses. Miracle is finally filling in on the top line and we are hoping it will aid Inca. All of the Cushing's horses are shedding out except Montana. It will be interesting to see if their hair comes back in too heavy.

Navajo has had an eye problem that started at the end of February. We thought it was under control and the eye developed another ulcer. Remember, Navajo is blind in his other eye. The feeders are doing a great job caring for him.

Willow coliced and I spent the night in the barn giving IV fluids. (It is not as easy staying up all night as it used to be!) The next day she received fluids all day again. The impaction could not be felt at first, but the fluids broke it up and it moved enough forward. That evening she had her head hanging out the window greeting Dr. Jonathan Featherstone with loud whinnies. We all knew she was screaming, "I'm better! Let me out of this hospital stall!" Willow wasted no time high tailing it out of the barn after her check up.

I left the worst for the last update. Poor Spring Rain! She just was not gaining weight as she should have. She had so many vet visits I have lost track of all of them. Spring Rain was a fussy eater from the very first. She never attached to her food as most starved horses will do. Full blood panels did not show anything remarkable. We had her teeth floated feeling this may be causing a problem. Spring Rain just held her own for sometime and then started to lose more weight. More vet visits and more blood work and still no answers. We had to help her up twice and each time she was seen by the vet. The last time Sandy and I were sitting on the ground with her talking to her before we helped her up. I wiped out her nose and noticed blood spots on her mucus membranes. I remembered reading about a very serious illness that this was a symptom of. Sandy and I got Spring Rain up and I went to do an Internet search. This is an illness that all horse owners should be aware of. It starts with a respiratory problem that could be bacterial or caused by S. equi. Or there could be another trigger that starts the illness. Spring Rain never displayed discolored nasal discharge, coughing or labored breathing. By the time the blood work showed high white cell count it was too late to save her. After a few days it was evident we needed to let her pass on. The illness is immune-mediated muscle disease or immune mediated polymyositis. Within three to four days an affected horse loses muscle mass, starting on the top line and haunches. Within a week, more than half of a horse's muscle mass might waste away. Antibiotic treatment and steroid treatment to limit the muscle atrophy is recommended. Keep the 43 horses in your prayers, please.

Rosebud Receives Much Needed Help

~By Margaret Kennedy

Thanks to a wonderful and generous contributor to HPS, our sweet little Rosebud is receiving professional massages from Janet McGuigan, a licensed equine massage therapist. During Janet's first visit working on her, Rosebud was so relaxed she dozed off a few times! Janet also instructed Deborah Baker and Ambe Lewis on how they could do a similar deep tissue massage every few days.

A big THANK YOU from both Rosebud and HPS goes to our anonymous contributor, who read about Rosebud in our last Over Herd Newsletter. Thank you, Deborah Baker and Ambe Lewis for working on Rosebud. And another "thanks" to all of our feeders who are gently massaging Rosebud every single day.

Project Day

~By Joanie Benson

A big "Thank You" to the folks that came and helped to clear the old hay from the fields to allow the grass to grow. We were not able to clear all of the areas and need more help to clean up the sanctuary. The hay storage area that was put together needs to be taken apart, leaves cleaned up, weed eating, weed spraying with our special safe spray and the new tack room. Shelves and needed to be cut and installed so we can get the room cleaned out. Please come and help out to get things in order here. Anytime!

Mailing and Emailing List for the Newsletter

A huge "Thank you" to everyone who has sent us email addresses to receive the newsletter. We have about ten email addresses that bounce back to us each month so please remember to update HPS if you have a new email address. Some people who have high security and have to enter our email addresses to allow receiving notices from HPS we have two email addresses: hps@horseprotection.org and horseprotectionsoc@vnet.net. Please help us maintain our mailing and emailing lists with your updates.



**HORSE
PROTECTION
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Monthly Donations

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

Elaine Addison, Missy Anderson, Sybil P. Athey, Joseph & Margaret Bachofner, Deborah Baker, Betty & W.T. Baker, Deborah Baker, Catherine Bellamy, Carol Bellinghausen, Jilia C. Bemis, Karen Berger, Valerie & Dale Berns, Jane B. & John Billingsley, John & Helen Bishop, Judy Blackmon, Teresa & John Bonk, Peggy & Raymond Bouley, Nancy Braun, Catherine & K.A. Briggs, Diane Brown, Teresa Brown & Teresa Payne, Joanne Bryla, Jo Ann Burleson, Patricia Cade, Bill & Frances Caudle, Frances & Billy Caudle, Shannon Caviness, Mieke Chalmers, Kailyn Chase, Alan Church, Kathryn Clancy, Benda & Gary Clem, Linda Cole Country Ride Saddlery, Courtney C. Conder, Mary Cooper, Thad c/o Cozart Lumber, Elizabeth Creviston, Heidi Crowley, Deb Cullen, Patricia L. Curran, Rita T. Curran, Sandy & Frank Daily, Terry & Dwight Dennis, Dianne Doub, Jodi Douthit, Eva Duggins, Donna Dziura, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Debra Eident, Bill Eutsler, Lynn Fansler, Jessica Fendley, William L. Fingerlow, Deanna D. Godfrey, Clarice Cato Goodyear, John & Shirley Gough, Carole Leigh Graham, Allie & Tommy Hall, Janet L. Hall, Paul Hall, Thomas J. Hall Family Foundation, Tina L. Hamlin, Ron & Melissa Hannah Cadenza Granite, Keri & Carter Hansen, Betsy Hargett Jr., Carrie Hensley, Leai Ho & Eileen Smith, Brown Hobbie, Christel Honeycutt, Anne Honeycutt, Birgit Hood, Amber Hozey, Lois Hunt, Pat. M. Jaap, Beth Jenkins, Linda Johnson, Kevin Jones c/o Martin Marietta, Mary & Peter Jurgel, Margaret Kennedy, Sara Kobs, Susan Kotraba, Kimberly Lane, Barbara M. Lawther, Rick Lee, Betty & Floyd Lentz, Brittney & Ed Liddic, Ginna Little, Katherine B. Lofgren, Charissa Loftin, Sulena & Richard Long, Donna & James Love, Jane & Lewis Lowery, Jean C. Lucas, Susie L. Lurz, Brenda Lyons, A. Burton Mackey Jr., Amber Marshall, Roberta McCardle, Randy McCory c/o Concert Supply, Dianne McLees, Elaine & Mario Merida, Ted Merideth, Jill Messer, Elizabeth Milam, Doris Molina, Chantilly Montessori School, Lisa Murray, Emily Nantz, Lauriane Niklas, Millie & Andrew Norris, Mr. Kennedy C O'Herron, Mrs. Patricia O'Herron Norman, Robert Owen, Cinnamon M. & Scott Pacer, Page's Painting LLC, Christine Palmer, Shannon Parsell, Tony & Claire Parsons, Gina Patton, Michael Pawlyk, Dale Jr. Pit Board Charity, Melissa Pletcher, Rachel Pope, Dottie Rebhan, Kelly Reiter, Epona Ridge LLC, Fiona Ritchie Productions, Adele & Clarence Roseman, Arlene Rosich, Reid Satterfield, Elaine & Greg Scott, Harriet Seabrook, Gregory Seeling, Gail Shinn, Katie M. Simmons, Glenda Sistara, Geraldine S. Skehan, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Smith, Sharon & Jerry Smith, Walter Smith, Robbins Wood Preserving, R. Mark Spaur, Susan H. Sporn, Kat & Brian Staton, Dale & Mary Thompson, Tracy Thornton, Elaine Towner, Donna Tucker, Rita A. & George Tucker Hardwood Flooring, Nicky & Gilbert Turner, Helene P. Turpyn, Mary Walters, Dorothy Harriss Weathersbee, Michael & Suzanne Webb, Betty P. White, Susan Winget- Farmhouse Studio, Shelagh Winter, Judy Witmer, Virginia Wood, Carla Woodcock, Brenda Woodward, Kim Wrenn, Toni & Michael Wyatt, Cole Young

In memory of Warrior. ~By Mary Tucker
In memory of Nugget, my Palomino. ~By Missy Anderson
In memory of Shelly Walsh's father, Dave Wells. (10/45 - 12/07).
~By Greg Seeling, Deb Cullen, Reid Satterfield, Rick Lee, Lynn Fansler
In memory of Lillus Kurland, who passed away on Monday 3, 2008. ~By Susan H. Sporn

In honor of my Beloved Blaze. ~With love, Janet L. Hall
In honor of my dear friend Spunky Dagenhart on her birthday. Have the happiest one ever! ~By Shannon Caviness
In honor of Kristen. Happy Birthday! ~From Mom and Dad

In honor of my dear friend Mary Walter's birthday, April 5th. ~By Linda Johnson
In honor of Elizabeth Richardson's birthday. ~By Michael Pawlyk
In honor of Father Thomas Clement's Birthday. ~By Dottie Rebhan
In honor of Leanna Graves' birthday on April 4, 2008. ~By Anne Honeycutt.
In honor of our wonderful vet, Bert Platt's birthday. Thank you for all you do for us! Happy Birthday! ~By Kelly and Donna Reiter, the girls & the dude.
In honor of Elizabeth Richardson's birthday. ~By Betty White

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****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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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.