



OVER HERD



Will I Ever Find My Forever Person?

Reported by Joanie Benson

This same sad story is taking place across all of North Carolina. The poor horses are being passed from one owner to another, over and over again. Often they are going to people who have no idea how to care for a horse or do not have the resources to pay for the proper care. Many times, the owners mean well and think they can help the horses only to have a change in their finances or lack the knowledge to provide what the horse needs.

It has been impossible to trace even the recent history of our latest arrival with as many owners as she has had just since July 2010. We know of at least three and maybe four people; there could be more based upon what the second



person back had to tell us about the paint mare. They passed her on saying, 'They could not get her to eat and had her only a few weeks.' (Hmm! Not so sure about this.) Who was responsible for our latest rescue's horrible condition is difficult to say. We feel that the last person who had her meant well and received her in starved condition. She sent us pictures of the mare's hooves and body condition. The pictures showed horribly overgrown hooves, terrible cracks and splits with old nails *still present* even though the shoes had not been on for some time. We do know, from an old Coggins test dated July 21, 2010, that this drama started in Virginia and ended up in Burke County, North Carolina.

The last owner (before she came to HPS) called a farrier for her hooves and a veterinarian to work on her teeth. She reported that there was no issue with getting the horse to eat. All was going well until a job was lost after only a couple of weeks of caring for the horses. This is a story we hear all too often. Most of the time we will not take in horses from private owners, but in this case it was definitely a life or death situation - and that changes everything! This horse did not have much time left if she did not receive the correct care that we could provide. HPS member Susie Lurz picked her up and brought her to the sanctuary. I was surprised that she did not go down in the trailer during the long trip.

Her new name is Anasazi, for a lost Indian tribe that disappeared in the 13th century. What a fitting name she chose, since she, too, was almost lost. Anasazi's body score was a **very low** one. There was no fat line even on the bottom of her ribs.

The only two health issues we have to be concerned about are a back fetlock that has arthritis (it is being treated) and her retracted rectum. This is dangerous because it pulls the vagina up to the point where manure can be trapped. If this happened, it would likely cause an infection which, in as weakened condition as she is, would be a disaster! She may have to have Caslick's surgery to close part of the vaginal area to prevent this from occurring.

(continued next page)

Anasazi's teeth also have issues. They were just floated with the old-timey file floats, which will not fix long-term neglect. We cannot give a rabies vaccination until she gains weight and no one wants to check her mouth without her having the vaccine. In addition, she is way too poor in condition to take the stress of major dental work with the electric floats. At the present time, she wants to eat hay, but her teeth are too bad to allow her to chew it up. We have had to buy her bales of chopped alfalfa hay, at a cost of \$17 a bale! She is also getting four servings of soaked alfalfa each day along with her feed and supplements.

During her first week with us, Anasazi did not gain any weight. This is to be expected since she needed to heal internally first. Now she is gaining about 10 pounds a day, which is what we want to see. With the way she is gaining weight, her age on the Coggins may be close, placing her at about 16 years old.

It amazes us that a horse that has bounced from person to person, and not fed or cared for can still be happy to see people and have such a sweet personality.

Anasazi is going to be very expensive to bring back to health. She will need a lot of people to help her - if you can become an Angel Sponsor for Anasazi or can just send a donation to help with her extra expenses, her faith in people will once again be rewarded. And, as her Angel Sponsor, you will receive updates on her progress and great satisfaction in knowing that YOU made it happen. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The People's Corner

Health Tips from Joanie Benson

Coming to you from Joanie's personal experiences or research

Various mainstream media have been running a hoax over the past month; examples are "Study: Vitamins may increase death risk in older women" by USA Today, and "We've Been Wasting a Ton of Money on Vitamins and Dietary Supplements" in LA Times and other media. There is also a study in the Archives of Internal Medicine titled "Dietary Supplements and Mortality Rates in Older Women."

They mailed three surveys over 18 years to 38,772 older woman and then took the results and altered the data. Using their figures, this is what it really said in the study:

Vitamin B complex: 7% reduction in mortality
Vitamin C: 4% reduction
Vitamin D: 8% reduction
Magnesium: – 3% reduction
Selenium: 3% reduction
Zinc: 3% reduction
and in mortality!

By their own admission, they first adjusted all the numbers for *"age, educational level, place of residence, diabetes mellitus, high blood pressure, body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared), waist to hip ratio, hormone replacement therapy, physical activity, smoking status, and intake of energy."*

They want us to believe that multivitamins, folic acid and copper will cause you to die earlier. Any of us who has had a class in statistics understands how easy it is to get any outcome you want when you massage the data in the way this study was done.

Guess who supports the Archives of Internal Medicine—yup, drug companies advertising, creating an obvious conflict of interest! It has been proven time and again that the correct vitamins, supplements and diet can cure diabetes and so many other illnesses. Let's keep us all sick so we can support the pharmaceutical cartels...

Monthly Donations & Contributors

It's hard to believe that we are nearly finished with another calendar year! But November has arrived, and with it the special fourth Thursday when all Americans celebrate Thanksgiving. Here at the sanctuary, every day that the mail brings donations from our wonderful Angel Sponsors and gifts from generous donors is Thanksgiving for the horses. It means they will continue to have the medical care they need, that their hooves will be trimmed with love and care, that their hay racks will be full and their feed buckets delivered with nutritious and tasty food. What it means, best of all, is that they will be free to graze, to run and to be safe.

Each of you will be in our thoughts and thanks this November!

Lorrie H. Allen Sybil P. Athey Karen W. Beck Jane B. Billingsley Judy Blackmon Jennifer Brest Joanne Bunch Pam & Steven Carlton Suzanne W. Casey Billy & Frances Caudle Mieke O. Chalmers Alan B. Church Courtney Conder & Mark Jessop Patricia L. Curran Rita Curran Janet & Lou Elmo Donna M. Frescatore Bonnie Gajardo Gina D. Goff Tina L. Hamlin Margaritha G. Harmaty Bev Hatfield	Gena A. Haviland Brenda & Charles Hemperley Dr. Leslie C. Henson Nelson & D. L. Hill Brown Hobbie Suzanne T. Immen Pat M. Jaap Beth A. Jenkins Mary & Peter Jurgel Anne N. Kenny Judy & Mike LeGrett Betty & Floyd Lentz Katherine B. Lofgren Donna S. & James F. Love A. Burton & Nancy J. Mackey Jill S. & Paul E. Martin Roberta McCardle Elaine & Mario Merida Jill & Charles Messer, Jr. Norma B. Miller Jayne N. Ortiz Thomas R. & Mary M. Pletcher	Rachel Pope Elizabeth Roundtree Patricia A. Schaeffer Monika Schnacke Harriet Seabrook Gail M. Shinn Lisa M. Slatt Bob Smith Laura M. Smith Mary E. & David Stout Elaine D. Towner John Vinal Timothy W. Walsh Michael & Suzanne Webb Barbara A. White Ann N. Whitworth Susan L. Williams Linda M. Yarrington Linda G. Young Jennifer L. Zirt Nancy J. Zuilkowski
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Memorials

In loving memory of "The Great Mystic Dream"
November 13, 2001
Never to be Forgotten!"
By Roberta McCardle

In memory of Papa Bill's 79th birthday,
October 4th.
By Jill & Charles Messer, Jr.

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SANCTUARY UPDATE

By Joanie Benson

The finished Indoor Training Arena is great and has proven to be very helpful for working with the horses. We are able to work with many more horses in each session than we did before we had this wonderful structure. A HUGE Thank You to each person who helped make this possible. We just were able to pay our last bill for finishing the electrical work.

Fortunately, we are getting some good applications for your wonderful recovered horses. None of us can understand how Diego has remained here this long as he is a great horse. The only thing that seems to turn folks off is that he is an Arabian - but he does not have the stereotypical Arabian personality that many people think of for this breed. Finally we have a very good application and hope he will soon have a wonderful new home.

We have seven horses at the sanctuary that have EPM - Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis. The horses with this terrible illness are Cheyenne, Cherub, Commodore, Inca, Spirit, Teton and Wind Star. Any one of them can crash because of the EPM and have to be euthanized. (This illness is caused by a protozoa found in opossum droppings; when the protozoa crosses into the brain, there is little that can be done.) A new treatment is being tested for FDA approval, and if preliminary work on it goes well, your horses will be part of this study. The ingredients are much safer than other current treatments and deal with both types of protozoa that infect horses. The treatment lasts for ten days, but can be extended if needed. At the present time, the treatment has to be compounded.

Here are details of the treatment process and costs:

First, blood needs to be drawn and sent to the researchers. The cost for this is about \$125. The ten-day treatment itself will cost \$150, plus shipping, (with additional costs if additional treatment is needed). Finally, there is after-treatment testing, costing another \$125, to make sure the protozoa have been killed off. Each horse will cost approximately \$400 to treat. The total expense to treat all seven horses will be over \$2,800, if none need additional treatments. The researchers are reporting a 93 % cure rate.

We are going to start this new treatment with Wind Star since she is the most likely to crash (see photo on last page). She has never responded as well as some of the rest of the herd to the two supplements we give the EPM horses to help keep them comfortable while we look for a cure that really works. Everything we have tried with Wind Star helped for a short window of time, and then she would be right back where she was before. If this treatment works for Wind Star, we are going to need your help to be able to treat the other horses. Next month, we will let you know how Wind Star has responded to this new treatment. Will you help us as we work to wipe out this dread disease?



What you see in this photo is Wind Star's hind feet. Note that the left one is crossed in front of the right one.

A very telling symptom of EPM is that the horse cannot UNcross her feet. Generally, if you try to cross the feet of a horse, it will resist you or realign itself immediately. An EPM horse can't do that.

In addition, a horse with a weakened hind end due to EPM will have trouble walking or, in worst cases, standing. You can imagine why this would be dangerous with a 1,000-lb animal who is built to move around while grazing over 18 hours a day.

If Wind Star's treatment is successful, we will use it on the other six HPS horses with the illness.

Donation From: _____ Phone# _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email address _____

Please use my donation for: \$ _____ Indoor Training Arena 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: _____ Email address _____

Phone _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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:

Horse Protection Society, 2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023



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2135 Miller Road
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us save on printing & postage by
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letter through an email link.

Happy Thanksgiving

What does this special time of the year mean to you?
For the horses it means a safe place with lots of hay to chew.
The horses come to the sanctuary in all shapes and sizes,
They come starved to the bone... none would win prizes.
Even the poorest of horses is so thankful for the food and care,
You give life back and all is provided with nothing to spare.
They return to health, run like the wind and the abuse is over,
We are so thankful to you that the horses are now in tall clover.