



OVER HERD

Volume 20 Issue 11

November 2017



Happy Thanksgiving and Thank You

Each word in the title has deep important meaning to the horses and the sanctuary. "Happy" is not a big sophisticated word, but filled with so much importance. The horses are "Happy." Being part of a herd makes them feel safe and "Happy." Knowing they will be fed twice a day and have an endless supply of hay brings "Happiness." Our "Happiness" is being able to provide for all of the rescued horses' needs.

Your "Giving" makes it all possible for the horses. You care and it makes all the difference! Some "Giving" helps to take care of the short fall during the summer months. The monthly "Giving" has profound significance and value in helping to keep things running smoothly.

Kindness and "Giving" go hand in hand. Every donation is needed and so appreciated. One way of helping this fall is to purchase a calendar/s. They make great Christmas presents, too. Speaking of Christmas – Please, Please don't forget to put your horses on your Christmas list. The horses have needs every day of the year. If not for you.... who would care?

Thank you for loving the horses!

A Real Life Example of Unwanted Horses

October 8th, Sunday afternoon we received a call about two miniature horses running loose in a close housing development. A nice couple lured the little guys into their fenced back yard and called the sanctuary. They had already called Animal Control. AC didn't have a trailer available but we did so the couple called AC back to let them know we would pick up the two wanderers and help to find the owner.



You never know what you are going to encounter when you head out. Kim Sadler and Dani Lewis were here so they drove the truck and trailer and headed over with the gentleman who was holding the minis. The two little miniatures were cute and at least one was fully intact. (The little black and white one is a Stallion.) The sorrel and white is full of himself, a wild little guy that acts like a stallion even though there is no visible evidence of this.



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Calendars are Available NOW!

We will mail the calendar directly to the person you wish to send a gift and include your Christmas message. Easy to write on calendar pages.

You will be helping the rescued horses.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Donation \$ _____

Number of Calendars: _____ X \$19.50 = \$ _____ + postage \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

Postage for 1 calendar \$3.00, Postage for 2 calendars is \$3.50, Postage for 3 calendars \$3.75 or

Will pick up calendars at the sanctuary: Date _____ Enclosed Total = \$ _____

Or go to our website to order on Pay Pal. www.horseprotection.org

Or Mail to: Horse Protection Society, 2135 Miller Road, China Grove NC 28023

Order early and get your Christmas shopping done with ease!



Cont. From Page 1

Kim and Dani took the halters and leads and headed in to catch up the little guys. Between the two of them they caught the little black and white. Now, the sorrel and white was a different matter. The gals each took a tumble trying to catch him. (And me without a camera!)

Another fellow showed up that was a friend of the property owner. He had called for reinforcements. Between the two guys, they were able to hold on to him and get a halter on him. Several times he reared straight up in the air. With one person in front and one behind, they were able to get him on the trailer.

The owner of the babies showed up that afternoon. He had been out looking for the minis. (Reminder: always call animal control and the sheriff's department if you have any type of livestock that gets out and disappears.)

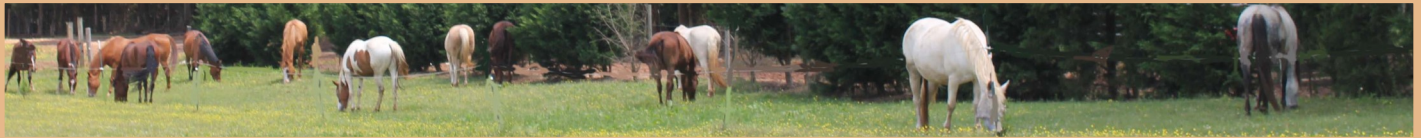
The owner lives a number of miles away from the vacant land he owns and where he keeps the little guys. He was concerned that they are not halter trained and need more than he can provide.

I had been talking to a gal that was looking for a miniature horse or donkey or two for a good nonprofit that works with little children. I referred her to a rescue that had a couple of miniatures, but the rescue wanted to keep them.

The gal was interested in these two minis and their owner said he would help with some of the expenses if the nonprofit wanted them and felt they could work with them.

Dr. Elise was here a couple of days later and I had her pull blood to see if the sorrel is a cryptorchid. This means the male parts are retained up inside and to geld him would be a surgery that could be quite expensive. The results show he is a cryptorchid. (I just had a feeling he was.)

The sad news is that the gal who was interested in these two minis had two little ones show up on her property and has her hands full with them. The owner found a couple who would like to have the minis and is willing to have them gelded. Good by little guys!



These are some of the lucky horses that were rescued and came to the sanctuary.

Unwanted Horses in the US

The ASPCA estimates that there are approximately 200,000 unwanted horses annually in the United States. I don't think it is right to call the horses that are sold to the kill buyers "unwanted." It just happened that there weren't enough buyers at the auction to buy all of the nice horses offered for sale. Most buyers are concerned that they don't have the knowledge base to buy a horse at auction because they think the horse may be drugged or that all auction horses have something wrong with them. Estimates are that 120,000 to 130,000 horses end up being shipped to Canada or Mexico slaughter houses.

The next group of unwanted horses are the mustangs taken from most western states by the BLM. There is so much open land that the mustangs could be transported to in the US. The BLM seems to be destroying the gene diversity by removing too many horses from areas. Some estimates are that the BLM is holding 100,000 or more horses on open lands and off-range.

Wait a minute! What is wrong with this picture? The ASPCA estimates 200,000 unwanted horses and there are more horses between the ones that go to slaughter and the Mustangs held by the BLM. So many times I have trouble with these so-called surveys concerning horses and the conclusions drawn by them. Also, the ASPCA only talked to 3,000 people. 21% of the folks surveyed made less than \$25,000 a year. Somehow out of these figures the ASPCA estimated that 1,200,000 people want a horse or will want one in the near future. Because of their figures, they feel there should be no unwanted horses.....

Good Luck With That!

How can we Help?

I believe in the power of collective thinking. If enough people start thinking about a solution to an issue, there is a much better chance of finding the answer. Let's put our ideas together to come up with a possible solution for at least some of these unwanted horses.

HPS started the first program for gelding stallions (Stallion to Gelding) in the US. Our goal was to get as much publicity as possible so that other organizations would start a gelding program. We never planned to continue when other programs started across the country. HPS paid for the gelding of stallions in most states.

So many people talk about the unwanted horses, but I don't see anything being done. I see the same old rhetoric of how an owner can place their unwanted horse. I am guilty of repeating these same things to people who want to place unwanted horses that have been said hundreds of times. The lists can be found on the Internet. The problem is that seldom do the things listed help: contact rescues, therapeutic stables, or other riding programs, free ads on the Internet, place the horse in a paid retirement stable, lease the horse, and more. The problem is that these choices usually don't work or the owners will not make the effort.

The program that you can think of would not have to work for all horses. Even if it was just helpful to the horses that still could be ridden and have a useful life would have a huge impact. I've suggested to people to place ads on the Internet for a "free horse" along with nice pictures on Dream Horse and Horse Clicks but I have never seen a free ad placed by anyone that I have spoken to and suggested this way of finding a home for the horse/s.

Please drop us a note or email any ideas you may think of: 2135 Miller Road, China Grove NC 28023, hps@horseprotection.org or horseprotection@windstream.net
One idea may lead to another and then someone else adds a thought. The next thing you know, we'll have some idea for a way to help these horses find new homes and not end up in the hands of a kill buyer. Please help with any thoughts you may have.

Our gratitude is extended to the following noble souls. Thank You!



Reagan asked her friends and family to donate to the Horse Protection Society for her birthday.

The Horses Thank You!



In Memory of Miny Minetto, by Alexandra Buck

In memory of Cree. By Sybil Athey

In loving memory of Dakota, "Big Red One." ~October 2, 2007~ Great horses live again, always in my heart, Roberta

Sybil P. Athey
Tony J. Bell
Jane B. & J. David Billingsley
Judy Blackmon
Alexandra M. Buck
Nina & James V. Burton
Susan G. Buzza
Pamela A. Carlton
Judith D. Cashwell
Spunky Dagenhart
Jodi Douthit
Kelly & Hailey Furr
Ernest C. Griffith Jr.
Kathy Haw
Brenda & Charles Hemperley
Dr. Leslie C. Henson
Debbi C. Hood-Miller
Tracey Hubert
Pamela B. Iman
Constance M. Jewett
Paula Johnston
Randi Kinney
Mary E. Lammonds
Henry H. Land

Judy & Mike LeGrett
Betty & Floyd Lentz
Kathy B. Lofgren
Myra Mahoney
Robyn Martin
Roberta McCardle
Jill L. & Charles Messer, Jr.
Marilyn J. Miller
Debbie O. & Mike Morris
Melissa Pletcher
Cherly A. & Thomas Powers
Sabrina & Reagon Quillin
Betty J. & Harold Rhoads
Mary Jo Scarlette
Harriet A. Seabrook
Gail M. Shinn
Lisa M. Slatt
Christina Smith
Marian L. Swinker
Elaine D. Towner
John Vinal
Dr. Barbara White
Rhonda P. Whitlow
Linda Yarrington

Donation From: _____ Phone# _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email address _____
 \$ _____ General Use, \$ _____ Angel Sponsor, \$ _____ Health Expenses, \$ _____
Angel Sponsor: \$20 or more for 1 month \$60 or more for 3 months \$120 or more for 6 months \$240 or more for 1 year
 Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, or Angel Sponsor (please circle one)?
 Name: _____ Email address _____
 Phone _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Your message for the newsletter: _____



Horse Protection Society
 2135 Miller Road
 China Grove, NC 28023

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 NONPROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PINEVILLE, NC
 PERMIT NO. 45

«First» «Last»
 «Address»
 «City, NC » «zip»

Address Correction Requested

You can help support our efforts to save horses by providing your email address to us at:
hps@horseprotection.org
 This will save money in printing & postage.
 THANK YOU!

Equine Supplements

We have about a dozen equine supplement companies that email us often and send us catalogues most months. That is just a very small representation of companies selling horse supplements and/or manufactures them. How do owners sort through the hundreds and hundreds of options to determine the right ones for their horse? Research says that folks ask other horse owners, veterinarian, Internet, chatrooms, trainers, farriers, and often listen to folks who don't even have horses.

Unless an owner has spent time learning about equine nutrition and the correct vitamins and minerals, advice should be sought from a reliable expert.

A few years ago, a lady wanted one of our "babies." We always ask if they are using any supplements for their other horses and what they might use for the new horse. That person was giving four different supplements, but for the life of me I couldn't figure out why she was giving these, nor could I get a reasonable explanation from the owner. Two of the supplements had selenium in them, and most feeds have selenium in them also. *Too much selenium affects hair and hooves. Selenium has a very narrow range of safety. Too much selenium can be toxic. Pay attention to labels and do the calculations. Evaluate selenium when supplementing vitamin E.* Vitamin E works with selenium as an "antioxidant team".

All four supplements had copper and most feeds also have copper added. Too much copper can cause liver damage. The ratio of calcium to phosphorus is important in horses' diets. Calcium and phosphorus must be provided in a horse's diet in the correct levels and ratios.

It is possible to easily learn the correct ratio for different vitamins and minerals that horses need with the use of the Internet. Vitamin E deficiency can be life threatening to a horse. We always start a starved horse on vitamin E and watch them closely. We use human gel caps. We feel these are easier for the horses to digest than powder.

This is just a reminder for folks to be careful about the combining of different supplements.