



# OVERHERD



Volume 11 Issue 10 October 2009

## Keep Those Aluminum Beverage Cans Rolling!

Many thanks to our wonderful members who continue to collect and transport aluminum beverage cans to the ranch to the Can City holding area. This is one of our ongoing fundraisers. Every bit helps and is put to good use on the horses' behalf. Your efforts matter and are appreciated! Let's maximize our opportunities to collect cans....put a bag in your breakroom at work....ask your family, friends, and neighbors for help. **Please note that this is ONLY for aluminum beverage cans.** A recent run to the salvage yard resulted in \$84 for HPS.. Thus far in CY 2009, the ranch has made **\$ 517** on the cans. Again, thank you for your kindness is taking the time and going to the trouble to do this for the horses. If our four-footed friends could speak, they would say, "Thank you for caring about us enough to help!"

Cimarron's story starts four years ago, when he arrived at HPS from Anson County. The owner had abandoned him and his pasture mate on a farmer's property. The owner had said he needed a few days to find a place for his horses, and he never returned. The Anson County Humane Society was called in. They fed the horses for a few

months until they found and convinced the owner to relinquish the horses. HPS was contacted and the horses came to the Sanctuary in August 2004.

When he arrived, Cimarron needed to gain only about 75 pounds. He gained the weight so quickly and so well that he also gained the nickname of *Chunky Monkey*. In September 2005, this beautiful Quarter Horse was placed with a family who had a young girl. Cimarron was in great condition and was a wonderfully sweet horse for a child.

In the past year, Cimarron's young caregiver turned his care over to her mother, who in turn gave him to a boarding stable. Transferring an HPS horse without our consent is a breach of our contract. Sadly, we were not informed of what was going on over the past year with poor Cimarron.

HPS's Equine Placement Review (EPR) team was trying to schedule Cimarron's annual site visit. After several unreturned calls finally someone called us back. She said "He was fine" and did not want us (*cont pg 3*)

*At time of purchase*



## The Old Log Barn is Gone! ~ by Joanie Benson

Over the years, I have watched many old log barns rot down into the ground, and I was hoping we could save ours. We had an engineer look at the barn to help us decide whether to fix it up or plan to have it taken down. It would have cost as much to fix the old log barn as to build the first new stable.

The old log barn went through many changes over the years. Money was scarce, so most of the materials used to make those changes were salvaged from buildings that were being taken down in a variety of locations. The siding on the back and road side (*cont pg 2*)



(*Old barn cont*) came off of an old house in Salisbury. Most of the metal roofing came from a building where the YMCA is housed in China Grove. Wood was salvaged from anywhere we could find it. We even tried to use the shutters on the old barn, and while they worked fine, it was apparent that the design would not last as well as the aluminum frame shutters on the new barns.

After the second barn was completed, I went looking for someone who would be interested in the hand-hewn timbers in exchange for taking the barn down. The construction industry was in decline; it appeared that there were no takers. And then, a family found us. They were very knowledgeable about how to take the building down, and plan to use the timbers in a log house they are going to build.

There are many memories attached to the barn: the many years when there was no electricity; all the work to fix it up, and the hundreds of horses that were stabled in it over the years. Then there were the freezing nights I spent in barn with sick horses – those days will not be missed!

For years I fed square bales that I would go pick up from the field, bring back and stack in the hayloft - -trip after trip. (I do not miss that either.) It was impossible to keep the feed room in the old log barn clean and neat. Navajo figured out how to open the clip on the door and threw several parties until we figured out what he was doing. A few of us still remember feeding horses in the old barns and recall that on freezing cold nights, the lights would go off. (None of us will miss that.)

The horses love their new stables and so do all the folks who work so hard here taking care of the horses. A piece of our history is now gone, but in its place are better facilities for our charges. We are devoted to moving forward, and it is through your devotion to the starved and abused horses that allow us to continue making improvements for the horses. For this we say a grateful Thank You!



**You're Invited!      Yep, You! All Members and Supporters  
A DAY WITH THE HORSES!**

**Where: HPS of Course!**

**When: Sunday, October 18, 2009 : 1pm – 4pm**

**Why: Just Because!**

What a better way to celebrate a fall day!? Come on out and spend some time with the horses you devote your love to. What a great way to meet other volunteers you haven't worked with, spend time with your "favorite" horse, groom or bath a horse – whatever you'd like to do. Your day to enjoy!

If you are interested we will also be holding 2 seminars that day:

2:00pm: Barn 1: How to Body Score a Horse

3:00pm: Barn 2: How to Properly Administer Medications

Light refreshments will be served, feel free to bring a favorite punch or dessert to share.

*Rain Date will be Sunday, October, 25, 2009*

(Wanderer cont) to bother him! "He was the best he had been in 15 years!" She did inform us that she was 'boarding' him. We were very persistent in scheduling an appointment, reminding her that she signed a contract saying that we would make annual visits. Following our conversation with this sponsor, we had a very uneasy feeling since most of our caregivers are eager to show off their horses.

Cimarron's site visit was set but as we were driving to the stable we received a phone call; the sponsor could not make it and would have to reschedule. Since sponsors do not have to be present at the site visit, we continued on our trip.

The owner of the facility was very welcoming and showed us around. He said that Cimarron was being used in his lesson program in trade for board fees. (HPS does not allow our placed horses to be used in lesson programs; another breach of contract.) We stopped at the gate of his pasture and he pointed out Cimarron explaining that he looked better than he did when he first arrived a year ago! There was no hay or grass or shelter in this pasture.

Cimarron has a Henneke Body Scale score of 2 and he has rain rot. The facility owner claimed that his feet and teeth were done recently, but the way he was walking and eating told us otherwise. A horse in this shape should not be ridden at all, let alone 3-4 times a week, and needs good nutrition and field rest. The owner of the facility said that he was lame because of his age and arthritis. Cimarron is only 22 or 23 years old and is weak -- not lame -- due to lack of proper nutrition. Our hearts broke for *Chunky Monkey*, who is in worse shape now than when he first came to HPS in 2004. We knew exactly what needed to be done – Cimarron needed to come back to HPS ASAP!

We picked up Cimarron the next morning, and we're happy to report that he is now safe in the front pasture of HPS with Pawnee and Chico. He is eating all the grass and fresh hay he wants, a good pelleted feed with supplements, and soaked alfalfa cubes. We will have his teeth done once he has gained some weight and strength. Cimarron is now saved and on his road to recovery once again.

It is the objective of HPS to rescue, rehabilitate, and place our horses with educated people in hopes of preventing future abuse. We want to ensure that our horses live a long healthy life with their family. Our horses have experienced more in one lifetime than people can imagine and should not have to suffer again. When we make site visits, we want to find our horses healthy and do not want them to return to the farm, but under certain circumstances it is necessary. One of the purposes of the EPR is to suggest changes that can be made to improve the horses' health and give the sponsors time to implement them. In Cimarron's case, he was too debilitated to leave him in place and try to implement changes. We will never turn away a horse that has been placed if their sponsor's life changes. There is no excuse for allowing a rescue horse to suffer again because the sponsor does not want to return the animal to the sanctuary. HPS is always here for their horses and sponsors.

Please come visit Cimarron and consider becoming his Angel Sponsor! He has a long road to recovery and until once again the nickname *Chunky Monkey* fits him!



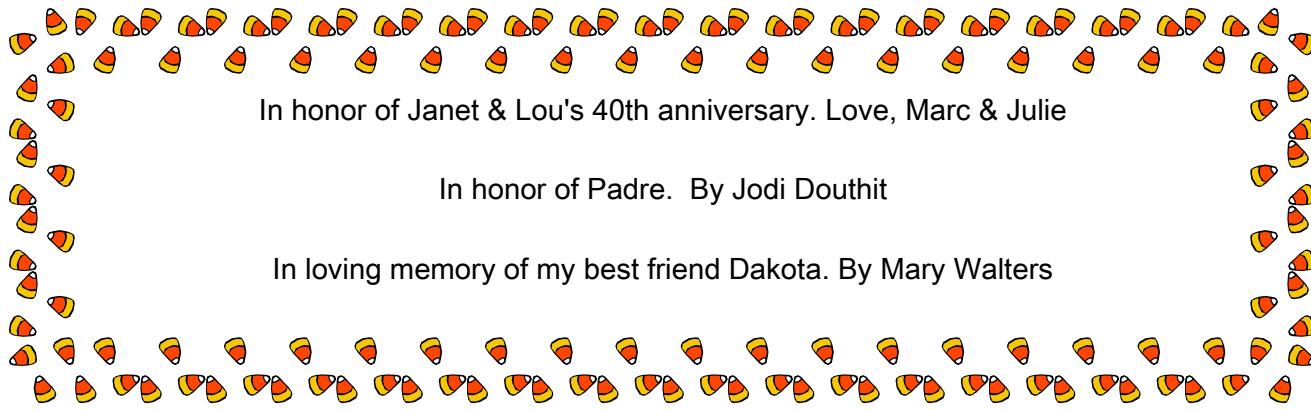
*Popcorn ~ Went to her new home Sept 11th  
Mystery ~ Went to his new home Sept 14th*

#### *Quote of the Month:*

**Horses change lives. They give our young people confidence and self esteem. They provide peace and tranquility to troubled souls- they give us hope!**

*Author Unknown*





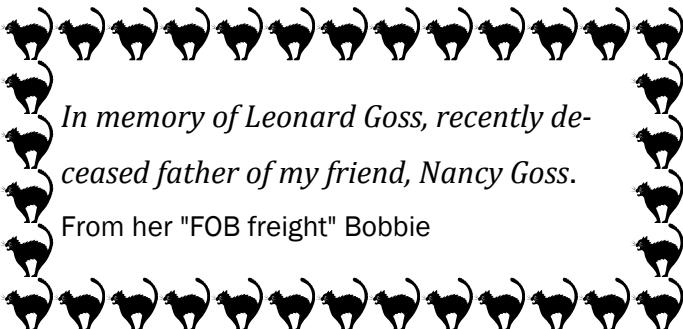
In honor of Janet & Lou's 40th anniversary. Love, Marc & Julie

In honor of Padre. By Jodi Douthit

In loving memory of my best friend Dakota. By Mary Walters

*In loving memory to my sister's chocolate Lab, "Rosie," who died in August. She was such a sweet and wonderful dog that always brought out the best in us! We miss her love and energy.*

By Gail Shinn



*In memory of Leonard Goss, recently deceased father of my friend, Nancy Goss.*

*From her "FOB freight" Bobbie*



Donation From: _____	Phone#_____	Address _____	
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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:  
Horse Protection Society, 2135 Miller Road, China Grove, NC 28023**



## Monthly Donations & Contributors

While I have my head buried in the sweet yummy hay at our wonderful covered hay feeder, I hear lots of conversations. The other horses don't think I am paying any attention; they think I am more concerned with filling my belly. But I hear everything that goes on at HPS. There is the lanky, sleek Cheyenne flirting with handsome big boy Freedom. There is Vaquero desperately trying to get Sahara or any mare's attention. But, the most chatter I have heard lately has been about all the feeders and volunteers that spend numerous hours out here for us.

Navajo told Spirit, "I never swallowed an ounce of that nasty smoking MMS! Those poor young whipper-snappers tried so hard to get me to take it, but I just let them think I swallowed it! They had it all down their shirts! I am ever so grateful that they spent the time with me, because it must have helped. I feel so much better."

Firelight informed Blackfoot, "You need to get over yourself and be nice. People come to HPS to love you and you are not going to get hurt! Even though you have had a terrible life, you are safe and can enjoy yourself! RELAX & keep your ears up. You are a lot prettier with those ears up! I know you don't know what love feels like, but give it a chance! It's great!"

Midnight has shyly spoken how nice it is to have the clean and dry stalls to stand in. Cherub also mentioned that she hasn't missed a meal and they always come at the same time, twice a day, and 7 days a week. Amen to that! Amigo really appreciates the special care taken to wet down his food and give him enough time to eat if before the other horses get let out. Poor guy has no teeth!

I have an "in" with the newsletter editor and I asked her to tell all the feeders, volunteers and supporters 'Thanks'. I know that the hay and feed doesn't just magically appear and the messy barns don't just magically get cleaned. So, on behalf of all the equines, big and small, I want to say THANK YOU! Whether it's your time, hard earned dollars or both that you give to all of us, please know that we truly appreciate every single bit of it. We are deeply moved by your generous and caring acts!

*~~by Gold Rush with assistance from Sandy Daily*

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# HPS OFFICERS

President	Katie Simmons	704-904-7709	KSIM7300@ctc.net
Vice President	Deborah Baker	704-855-1267	de_bakre@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Kari Fingerlow	704-756-7375	karifingerlow@aol.com
Executive Director	Joanie Benson	704-855-2978	hps@horseprotection.org
Newsletter	Sandy Daily	704-213-6400	sdaily@carolina.rr.com
Web Administration	Deborah Baker	704-855-1267	de_bakre@yahoo.com
Web Administration	Stephanie Maleady	704-560-9712	slmaleady@windstream.net
Medical Needs/ Feed Schedule Coordinator	Katie Muir	508-527-4314	kmuir@jrmracing.com
Stallion to Gelding Support	Susie Lurz	336-973-5501	slurz1@aol.com
Pet Finders	Heather & Ian Yarnot	704-779-2908	ian_yarnot@hotmail.com
Historian	Angie Shuping	704-637-6042	shupingangela@yahoo.com
Riding Program Coordinator	Katie Simmons	704-904-7709	KSIM7300@ctc.net
Equine Placement Review	Sandy Daily/Katie Muir	704-213-6400	sdaily@carolina.rr.com

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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.