



OVER HERD

The Persistent Caller

By Joanie Benson

One abuse caller was very persistent in getting HPS to check on a horse in Union County, NC. Animal Control had been there. One Sunday morning, Deborah and I arranged to go see what was going on. We arrived late morning and no one was home. I was able to see the horse; he was in despicable conditions in a dark stall full of manure. As my eyes adjusted, I realized I was looking at an extremely emaciated horse that had no hay or feed. Deborah and I did some investigating and found out the owner had the horse for just a little over a month. As no one was around, we located the closest Wal-Mart and purchased some needed supplies for the sanctuary. Then we got a bite to eat and wandered around until later in the afternoon. Back we went, but no one had returned. The poor horse was still standing hungry in his dark prison. It was 3:30 PM and we had to leave, agreeing to return as soon as possible.

A few days later we were back in Union County and the owner was home. He was a pleasant, very old man who meant well. The owner had the poor gelding out of his dark cell grazing on the little grass on his lot. The hay was very poor quality and moldy. We were wary about whether he would have the resources to pay for the good feed, alfalfa cubes and quality hay the horse was going to require. While he did have feed, it was a very poor quality and he said he had been giving that to the horse twice a day. (Something is better than nothing.) The horse had put on a few pounds since I first saw him. The owner assured us that he would purchase the needed items that day and get the gelding's hooves trimmed right away. I told the owner we would either stop back and see how things were going or have one of our members drop by in about a week.

I made arrangements with Janet Elmo to give the owner the week to improve the horse's situation, remove the spoiled hay, clean out the stall and purchase the feed and good hay that was needed for the horse. Janet is well versed in correct feeding of equines as she sells Progressive Nutrition equine feed, so I knew she could help the owner understand the importance of good nutrition. When Janet went to visit, only the quality of the hay had improved. The same poor quality feed was being fed and no alfalfa cubes had been purchased. The hooves had not been trimmed and were breaking off. After a short visit, the owner asked if HPS would take in the horse. Janet sped home, hooked up her trailer and returned to pick up the horse. She heard him give a high whinny as he saw the trailer pull up. This time there were not issues with the horse getting on the trailer.

I think Janet is concerned that this may become a habit. Remember her adventure of picking up Fancy last month? This sweet, gentle bay gelding arrived safely at the sanctuary in time for the evening feeding. Since he had been getting feed, we did not have to start him with as low an amount as we normally would. The good news is he has already gained a little more weight and is now up to a low 2 on the body condition scoring.

Our new boy is a Quarab (Quarter horse-Arabian cross). He seems to be about 18 years old. He has not picked a name yet, but, hopefully, will soon. He has the cutest ears that look as if they are placed too close together... makes you smile when you meet him.



Thank you for making it possible for us to rescue this friendly starved horse.

Indoor Training Arena

The Horse Protection Society plans each expansion and building project with great care to ensure the benefits to the rescued horses. The Indoor Training Arena is critical to the health and well-being of the recovered starved horses to keep them in the best possible health and to prepare them for new homes. Please help with this important project. HPS has received \$2,540 towards the construction. The total cost is \$68,500 for the ClearSpan arena. Just a \$40 donation, dedicated to the project, by each person on our mailing list will make this project a reality.

From *Basic Conditioning of the Equine Athlete*, by the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture:

“Detraining is the sudden cessation of a conditioning program for reasons such as sickness or injury. During this time the horse experiences a rapid loss of physiological training adaptations. Changes in muscle occur in two to four weeks, followed by cardiovascular and bone changes. Decrease in muscle size and strength occur in the shortest amount of time. Oxygen uptake and ventilation capacity decreases within three weeks of detraining.”

It was with great sadness that we watched the muscling on our horses decrease last winter due to the lack of continuing exercise they needed during the five months of dreadful weather . It was just impossible to keep working with the horses. This spring, it was *start-over with every horse!* We had a tremendous amount of rainy weather and then it turned extremely hot and humid. Once again we are having difficulty finding appropriate weather to work with the horses to build back the lost muscle tone. To properly build muscle, it takes working each horse at least three times a week no more than every other day. We have 10 volunteers working with the 20 horses that need to be worked under saddle. Many Saturday mornings, only half of the horses can be worked with before it becomes too hot.

With the Indoor Training Arena, the horses could continue their training despite the weather. It will have six large fans and great ventilation to keep the horses from over-heating. The horses could also be worked in the evenings after folks get off from work. While outside is just too hot, inside the covered arena would be 10 to 20 degrees cooler. The arena will be equipped with lights for the winter months and will be a great place for the needed exercise regardless of the weather outside.

The work we are doing with the horses is so very important to aid them in finding quality homes. Please help make this possible.

Thank you for caring!

SAVE THE DATE: On November 6th, HPS will have a "Placement Open House" to showcase our "Saddle Pals" in the hopes of helping them find families who want to become their guardians. We have several child-friendly horses who will make great partners with youngsters, as well as horses for more experienced adults. And don't forget our "Pasture Pals" who also deserve loving homes to live out their retirement. More to come...

New Equine Illness in North Carolina??

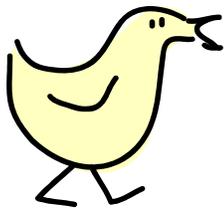
By Joanie Benson



You may have read about the four stables in North Carolina that have been quarantined for Equine Piroplasmosis (EP). This is an illness that is spread by ticks but caused by two different protozoa. Now, before you go screaming and running out to eradicate all the ticks on your property, you'll want to know that North Carolina does not have the type of ticks that will carry the protozoa. The eleven horses found with Equine Piroplasmosis in North Carolina are horses that have done a lot of traveling to other states.

The Gulf States are likely to be where the horses may have picked up the tick-borne illness. The illness seems to have some characteristics similar to Equine *Protozoal*/Myeloencephalitis (EPM). With EPM, the protozoa are passed by opossums. A horse can test positive for Equine Piroplasmosis but may never come down with any of the textbook symptoms. Because EP is carried by ticks, the protozoa cannot be passed from horse to horse. That said, poor stable management of using one needle for more than one horse could pass EP, along with other illnesses, from one horse to another. As needles cost only a few pennies, who would reuse a needle between horses?

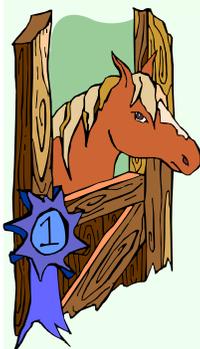
The stables that were quarantined were in four different counties, and eleven horses were found to be infected. None of the horses is symptomatic, and the Equine Piroplasmosis was found by blood tests required to move the horses to certain states. The stables are in Robeson, Harnett, Sampson and Wake counties. It is legal to move horses from place to place with Equine Piroplasmosis in both North and South Carolina.



At HPS, the ticks are kept down to almost zero by free-ranging chickens. I know of only one tick that was removed from a horse this summer. We do not feed the chickens in the summer, and they love to eat ticks and other bugs. There are other tick-borne illnesses in North Carolina, like Lyme disease in horses, dogs and people. They can become chronic and need careful management. There are several other tick-borne illnesses.

HPS has had horses come to us with high tick infestations. In these cases, we have removed the ticks and then dropped them in a small jar with water and dish soap which will kill the ticks.

Thank you to Dr. Ray of the NC Agricultural Department for speaking with me concerning EP.



JEWELRY SALE.. AND SO MUCH MORE

Enclosed in this newsletter (scroll down) is a poster advertising our special Jewelry Sale and So Much More fund-raiser scheduled for **October 2nd and 3rd**. If you have a local tack store or feed store that you frequent, please ask the owners if this poster can be put on their bulletin board. Share with your boarding barn and friends at other barns. Since the items are of general interest - not just for us horsey folks - put it in your company's cafeteria or break-room. This is a terrific opportunity for some wonderful buys for yourself or as gifts - and all proceeds benefit the rescued horses at the sanctuary.

Jewelry Sale & So Much More!

October 2nd & 3rd 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

RAIN or SHINE

Location: 2135 Miller Road, China Grove

Sale of precious & semi-precious stones & pearl jewelry. Silver & gold rings, bracelets, watches & necklaces \$5-\$20.

2,500 pieces – New – Many valued over \$200.

Alexander Kalafano necklaces

Accessories, scarves, leather handbags. Name brands.



Small appliances, everything for the holiday table plus Wii Fit, crystal, cameras, Cuisinart items & much more.

To benefit the Horse Protection Society's 48 rescued horses.

www.horseprotection.org

**Get your Christmas shopping done
in this one stop!**

Honors

Here is a big "Hello" from Jasmine and me, Silver Cloud. As you can see I have learned to type. (Only kidding.) My mom, Sue Ann, did this for Jasmine and me; we told her what to say. We really love it here in Zebulon. Our mom and dad are taking real good care of us. I guess mom told you about the abscess in my hoof. I'm all better now and kicking my heels up and rearing to go. We just wanted to say hello to you and all of our friends and helpers at the Horse Protection Society. We hope all of your babies find great forever homes like Jas and me. Here is a token of our "Thanks" to you all.

By "Jasmine" & "Silver Cloud" Carroll

HPS thanks
the customers
and
Country Ride Saddlery
of Mooresville
for their support.

In Jesus name.
By Sybil Athey

Honors

In celebration of my
friend's 50th birthday.
Happy Birthday,
Jill Siskind.
By Susan Udelson

In honor of our most beloved
"Mr. Kitty."

By Millie & Andrew Norris

.....
In honor of Ruth Long.
By Karen, David & Matthew

In Memorium:

In memory of Sandra Kae Smith.
By Mary Whelan

In loving memory of my beloved "Bodie."
You will always live in my heart.
By Cindy Stroud

In loving memory of Angel - 8/19/2002.
By Roberta McCardle

Monthly Donations & Contributors

The volunteers and the horses at HPS are very grateful for the faithful supporters who keep the sanctuary afloat month after month. The need has never been greater than it is right now, and every contribution, regardless of size, is appreciated more than you can imagine. Thank you for caring for these abused and starved innocent creatures. May you take comfort in knowing the comfort you bring to the horses of the Horse Protection Society.

Sybil P. Athey
Margaret & Joseph Bachofner
Rodney Baker
Barbara & Hal Barnes
Ashley Bethea
Jane B. Billingsley
Judy Blackmon
Teresa Bonk
Grace Bouchoucha
F. Brandon Broadway
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Pam & Steve Carlton
SueAnn & Steve Carroll
Billy & Frances Caudle
Mieke Chalmers
Alan B. Church
Linda Cole, Country Ride Saddle
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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

Food Lion Gift Cards are Helping to Save Horses

For every dollar that you spend in **Food Lion gift cards**, *Food Lion* will donate 5% of your total purchase to *HPS*.

The **Food Lion Gift Cards** work just like cash at any *Food Lion*, *Bloom* or *Bottom Dollar* store. You can purchase cards in any amount from \$5.00 to \$499.00.

Orders need to be sent to the address on the form by the **last Monday of any month and checks will be deposited on 2nd of the following month**. You will receive your gift cards in 7-10 business days along with information about using the cards and a receipt.

You can use your gift cards in conjunction with your *Food Lion* MVP card. **Make sure your MVP card is linked to HPS**, and a percent of your total purchases will be donated to *HPS*! We can raise even more money for the horses. The horses appreciate all your donations. Contact me with any questions ~ 704-224-9929

~ ORDER FORM ~

Please fill out the order form completely

Name: _____

Mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Order: # _____ @ \$ _____ ; # _____ @ \$ _____

Cash, Check or Money Orders Only *(Checks payable to *HPS*)

Mail orders to:

Ashley Bethea
Food Lion Grocery Card Coordinator
125 Front St.
China Grove, NC 28023

Contact me with any questions ~ 704-224-9929

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