



Horse Haven of Tennessee

Equine Advocates, Rescue & Investigations

Our mission is to advocate for, rescue, protect, and defend our God-given equine from abuse and neglect in Tennessee.



Good News- Settling In! We have settled in quite well at our new location. It's hard to believe it has been almost a year. We have done so much to make this a safe place for the animals in our care. There will always be things that need doing, but all the horses seem to enjoy their new digs. Two babies have been born at the new facility and we have cared for 59 equine so far this year, making it our busiest year since 2002.

Good News – Helping Hoof Program a success! Nine horse owners were helped in the first five months of this program when they fell on hard times. Feed and hay was provided for one owner who had lost his job and another while she went through cancer treatments. There were three women whose husband had left them and they didn't need the extra worry of losing their horses along with everything else they had going on. The others just needed a helping hand while they went through a job transition or sickness. Some didn't need the full three months of support while others did. We are always glad to help a responsible horse owner during a time of need as our resources allow.



Good News – “Jeph” was with HHT for an extended period of time while we waited for the right home to come along. Even though he was pronounced sound, the look of his leg made many people shy away. We are pleased to announce he was accepted with open arms at Spit Fire Ranch in New Market for some training and evaluation. While there he paired up with the perfect person who fell in love with him, and after months of paying for his board and care decided to take the next step and make his adoption final. Thank you Jan for giving Jeph the chance he so deeply deserves.

Lawsuit – Twelve more months have come and gone, and still no resolution. With all the good Horse Haven has done over the past ten years, it was sad and frustrating when someone decided to sue us a few years back. It started when we were called on by county officials to provide shelter and care for five horses from a case in McMinn County. The owner was found not guilty by a jury of his peers. Outcomes like this are seldom, but when the District Attorneys office decide its not worth their time to prosecute and show no efforts in court, things like this happen. Even after being found not guilty, we were told by the judge not to return the animals to the owner until she made her final ruling on their future (which happened many months later.) Horse Haven received no compensation for the 15 months of care we provided these animals. Instead, we were sued for allegedly taking the defendant's animals wrongfully and to date, we have accumulated over \$3,000 in legal expenses and hundreds of miles in travel time driving back and forth to depositions and called off court dates. It's such a shame we must defend ourselves for the services we provide, especially when we provide these services for free. It is also a shame that this has gone on for so long with no resolution. Maybe in 2010 we'll finally see an end to this frivolous lawsuit.

Babies, Babies & More Babies - In 2009 HHT had the thrill to have two babies born at our facility. It was a great event for our volunteer's, but also a sad time because it meant two more horses to add to the already overabundance of unwanted horses needing a home. Along with the two that were born onsite, we also took in four others who had babies on their side. Babies mean more mouths to feed and little ones who are always looking for new adventures. Babies seem to think humans are their personal play toys, so our volunteers have learned to take those extra precautions while working around them.

Horse Haven has cared for more than 295 animals since 1999.

The Need for Your Support - Caring for a horse is expensive. Even though we receive some donated or discounted services, we must still pay for farrier care, vet care, medicines, feed, and more for the animals we are responsible for. Gas prices haven't fallen much, so hay and feed prices haven't gotten any cheaper. Our new facility still requires some repairs and mending, along with more upkeep. We need your continued support now, more than ever.

Our plea to you this Holiday Season is to join Horse Haven of Tennessee in making a difference in the lives of horses in need. Your donation, no matter how big or small, will be set to work right away, providing much-needed food, shelter, and love for these magnificent animals. You'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to provide the care that these animals so desperately need and want.

Winter months are the most difficult for horses. Cases of neglect increase and that's why we need your help now so that when horses are in need of rescue, Horse Haven is ready.

Please say **"Neigh"** to horse abuse/neglect by sending your tax-deductible donation today.

Sincerely,

Nina L. Margetson

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Executive Director



***Help us Deck the Stalls at HHT by sending your tax deductible donation today to:
HHT – P.O. Box 22841 – Knoxville – Tennessee - 37933***