
Fall 2001



The Year in Review

Year two has come and gone, with it bringing more sorrow for our equine friends in Tennessee due to lack of changes in the current cruelty laws. But even with all the brick walls, there does come a small ray of light and hope. HHT has brought equine cruelty into the light of the public. Through community awareness we have been able to recruit more volunteers helping in the fight to spread the word. Whether it be cruelty and abuse here in Tennessee or the increase of horse slaughter for shipment overseas for human consumption, we are making a difference.

Educating women on Pre-

marin has been very rewarding, and we are so glad we decided to include this into our public awareness issues. Seeing the expressions on women's faces when they realize the truth about Premarin is an overwhelming experience, but the excitement of knowing they are willing to make the change goes without saying.

Word of our organization has spread to all areas of Tennessee. We have been receiving more calls from our western Tennessee neighbors and surrounding counties. Having no one locally to handle some of these calls we have spent numerous hours handling telephone and internet in-

vestigations and advise.

In the upcoming year we anticipate an increase in media and public awareness of the problems our equine face. We look forward to taking further steps in the direction of getting an Equine Cruelty Bill enacted. Any political help or connections from our readers is greatly appreciated.

Please continue to hold us in your prayers as we continue our fight .

Nina Margetson
President

Horse Haven of Tennessee

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Looking for a few good homes

Horses adopted from HHT cannot be sold, given away or disposed of in any manner without prior written approval from HHT. All males are gelded and mares are not allowed to be bred.

Before a horse can be adopted from HHT, the following procedures must be followed. A completed application must be filled out and pictures of the available shelter and fencing must be provided. If approved, an appointment will be made to check out your facility. If satisfactory, then a potentially suitable horse will be introduced to the adopter and arrangements made for placement.

At the time of adoption, HHT requires a Permanent Adoption Contract signed by the adopter. Payment in full of a nonrefundable adoption fee is based upon each individual horse and set by the sole discretion of HHT. At any time an adopter relocates a horse from the original, approved facility for more than 30 days, HHT must be contacted.

Due to the increase in potential adopters looking to adopt a horse for their children, we are making it mandatory that those wishing to adopt realize the horses that come through our doors ***are not*** grade A riding horses. Many will make fine trail horses, but only after many hours of proper care and personal contact. Personalities of most undernourished horses will change as they begin to improve and regain their strength. The majority of the horses we place are for pasture companions or in need of a good place to retire.

So please..... if you are not serious about taking on a "special needs" equine, do not apply.

Certified Cruelty Investigators

Over the past 12 months, HHT has been overloaded with cases to investigate. Currently HHT has four agents, with training, that work part time on a volunteer bases. Even though we try to investigate all calls, this is not always done in a timely fashion. Cases are investigated by priority levels. In the near future HHT plans to employ an Executive Director who will handle full time investigations and daily operations. A public access barn will also be implemented to better handle the case load and allow outside volunteers to work one on one with the horses coming into our program. Most horses

we receive are needing a lot of personal contact with loving caregivers.

Trained investigators are a very important part of Horse Haven. Agents receive schooling on legal and appropriate handling of all aspects of investigations. Working with The Humane Society of the United States, HHT hopes to be bringing cruelty investigator schooling to the Tennessee area soon. One goal of HHT is to see a trained investigator in every county of Tennessee by the year 2005.

HHT feels that properly trained cruelty investigators should be able to make a legal call concerning abuse

cases in the state of Tennessee under the supervision of local law enforcement. If in favor, please let your voice be heard in Nashville.



Outlaw & Autumn

Case History (space limits report of all cases)

In two years time HHT has investigated hundreds of complaints of equine abuse and neglect. Forty Six (46) horses have been placed into our program. We have worked with local law enforcement in Sevier, Sequatchie, Wilson and numerous other counties. HHT has been actively involved with investigating auction house abuse, riding stable neglect, breeder neglect and over use.

After nine months of working with an owner from Cookeville who could no longer provide proper care for five Arabians, HHT took them in for placement. Three have been adopted and two are still looking for the right home.

A blind, TWH stud was saved from being loaded into a truck heading to slaughter by a compassionate women. His hoofs were so long they had to be sawed off before proper trimming could be done. His coat was so jet black we knew he had to have been stalled up for some time. His good body flesh and calmness gave us the encouragement we needed to except him into our program.

Freckles, an HHT adoption, was sold by his adopter. When adopter would not tell us who he sold him to, we were very upset. Freckles had belonged to one of our board members, Donnie, who had pasted away. We tried to convince the owner to allow us to transfer the adoption contract to the person he sold him to, but he kept putting us off. He kept trying to assure us that the man would give him a good home. After two weeks we didn't think we would ever see Freckles again. But that was when Freckles guardian angel Donnie stepped in. While Nina and two agents were in n Cookeville checking on a case, they found they had some free time. Seeing as none had ever attended the Cookeville Horse Auction they had so many reports on, they decided to check it out. After walking through the arena and seeing what was there, they started walking through the barn. As they entered Tiffany gasped, "There's Freckles!". As they looked to were she was pointing, they couldn't believe their eyes. There he stood, tied in a corral with eight other horses. Ownership paperwork was brought in from Knoxville and they contacted the local sheriff. The local law stated they couldn't do anything and the judge wouldn't be available until the next day. By then Freckles would be gone. After contacting the seller and explained the story he showed Nina his receipt of purchase, HHT ended up having to pay him \$550 to keep Freckles from going to auction. After back tracking his where about HHT found out in the last seven days Freckles had been purchased in Cookeville, shipped to Tupelo, Mississippi. Then sold at Trenton, TN auction and taken to Scott Hill auction the next day. Then..... brought back to Cookeville were HHT found him. Note.. Freckles never pooped from the time he was found at 2:00pm in the afternoon on Tuesday until Wednesday evening. We all know that is one of the first things a horse does to a clean trailer. Who knows how long it had been since he ate last.

Policy Changes

- ◆ HHT must change our policy on owner surrender horses placed into our adoption program. Only horses in good health, up to date on shots, coggins and have the potential to be used for light trail riding will be excepted. Irresponsible owners not wishing to provide proper medical and maintenance care will no longer be able to use HHT as a dumping ground for their conscience.
- ◆ Responsible adopters in our program will receive certificate of ownership after two (2) years.
- ◆ Potential adopters will pay a \$20 application fee starting October 1, 2001. This fee is deducted from their adoption cost. Numerous hours are spent by our agents checking out potential adopters and this fee is to discourage those who are not serious about becoming a part of our program
- ◆ Applicants must provide a picture of their available shelter and pasture area, including any other equine on the property. Only applicants that are ready to adopt will be considered.
- ◆ Out of state adopters will be considered if they have appropriate

references, live within 60 miles of a Tennessee border and have resided at their current location for more than two (2) years.

HHT feels these changes will improve our programs effectiveness.



Requirements are simple. 3 sided shelter, fence in good repair & lots of love.

Horse Traders.....Seller Beware

Responsible equine owners beware! Even though you think you are doing the right thing by selling your horse when you are no longer able to care for it, you may be placing it in harms way. HHT suggests you take the time to inspect the potential buyers facility to insure it is actually being sold to someone wishing to use it for legitimate purposes. HHT has received numerous complaints from sellers who thought they were selling to a good

home, only to find out they sold to a trader and the horse ended up at auction or worse. Some sellers feel if their asking price is large enough then the buyer must be willing to take good care of their investment. Not the case. Traders are willing to invest thousands of dollars into registered studs, only

to keep them stalled in dark stalls and fed minimal amounts to maintain control over them. His offspring will earn the trader his investment triple fold. Seller beware!

"He guaranteed me he would give him a good home"

Fund Raisers

HHT is a non profit organization that receives no government funding. We must rely on the generosity of our supporters to continue helping our equine friends. With our overwhelming case load of investigations we are considering appointing a full time Executive Director to handle the work load. To accomplish this we must increase our operating budget. We invite everyone to join up and become a member of HHT today. HHT welcomes fundraisers put on in our benefit by the public. If you would be interested in holding such an event please contact Nina at (865) 573-8006. Donation canisters are also available to those wishing to place and monitor in local business's.



Smokey Mountain 4-H hold Car Wash to benefit HHT.

Riding and Boarding Stables

HHT feels there is a definite need for humanely run riding stables. Every child should be able to experience the thrill of sitting in the saddle of a horse for an hour. Many times it is more economical to rent a horse for an occasional ride than to own one.

Over the past year HHT has received many calls concerning stables in our area. One such call came from two upset mothers whose daughter's had witnessed a stable hand of a Knox County boarding/riding stable, kicking and cussing at some horses before they started their ride. The daughter of the stable owner was overheard telling one of the girls that the thin, sickly horse in the pasture was that way," because her Mommy didn't like it".

At a riding stable in Sevier County a stable hand was witnessed cutting a piece of plywood and nailing it to a horse's hoof because a shoe had fallen off. This horse was then used for trail riding.

Another riding stable in Sevier County was reportedly using a horse with a broken jaw due to being tied by its reins while waiting to be used.

One riding stable had so many complaints we found ourselves having to actually act as tourist and renting out four horses. After getting out of sight of the barn, we started by removing their tack and taking pictures. As seen in these pictures to the left and below, there was need for concern. It was 97 degrees and 3:00pm in the afternoon when we arrived. All horses were tied in the sun with only a few being able to reach the mucky tub, half filled with water. Stable workers informed us they had been so busy that day they had used all the horses since 8:00am without breaks. After collecting our evidence we contacted local law enforcement. We were informed that they had started their own investigation due to complaints they had received. This case is still pending.



(1) Old underweight horses being used all day long in 90+ degree weather.



(1) Walking on Frog. Hoof wall completely gone.

® Large raw saddle sore on wither.



(above) Raw sores on back from saddle rubbing. 250lb. Weight limit not enforced.

(below) Steep, rocky trails used daily by horses missing shoes and in 90+ degree heat.



Stables located in State Parks are monitored by the County Ag Agents. If you feel there is a problem, please be sure to contact the agent in charge of your county and inform him/her of your concerns. We must take a stand and help those who can not help themselves.

Available for Adoption

Silver: 12 yr old Arabian mare. Good health. High spirited.

\$500 adoption fee

Jazz: 22 yr old Arabian mare. \$250 adoption fee

Juliet: 28 yr old Palomino mare. Good health. Can't eat hay.

\$250 adoption fee

Ebony: 20 yr old TWH. Gelding. Blind, calm. Will ride.

\$250 adoption fee

Rhapsody: 20+ year old, 14.2, mare bay pony. Arthritic in the rear.
Would make good companion. \$100 Adoption fee

Kitty: 11 yr old, 14.2, Appaloosa POA. Light riding.

\$300 adoption fee

Outlaw: 3 1/2 yr old, Gaited, paint, gelding. Started under saddle.

\$500 adoption fee

(no pictures yet available for following equine)

Fancy: 22 year old, Bay, Quarter Horse, mare. Blind for 11 years.
Does ride. Comes with companion pony listed below.

\$300 adoption fee for both

Black Beauty: 7 year old, Black, Welch Pony. Companion to Fancy.

All horses are current on shots, coggins and foot trims



Silver



Jazz



Juliet



Ebony



Kitty



Rhapsody



Outlaw

How you can help us help them.

Join the \$5-A-Month Club. HHT is a non-profit organization chartered with the state of Tennessee. We receive no government funding. Your monthly pledge can help.

Foster a horse till adoption. You can provide individual attention to a special needs equine waiting for placement.

Adopt an equine friend. Adopt a pasture companion for your lonely horse or just as a friend for yourself. Many are available for light/moderate riding

Donate supplies, funds or services. All contributions are tax-deductible. You can purchase extra items at your local CO-OP or Tractor

Supply in our name. Be sure to let us know so we can pick up. **Future** donations are always appreciated. Can't afford now, but would like to in the future? Bequest gifts are always welcome. Remember to name HHT as a benefactor when you are no longer here to help our equine friends personally.

HHT is taking nominations for additions to the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board. If interested in being placed on the ballot, please send qualifications to HHT before November 20th.

The Abused and Neglected Horses of Tennessee need Your help!

Please join the Horse Haven of Tennessee, inc.

\$5.00-A-Month Club

1 Bag of Feed or De-wormer for 1 Horse or

Gasoline for 60 miles worth of travel for Investigations or

2 rolls of film needed for Investigations or Film Developing or

150 Informational Pamphlets on Premarin or Slaughter for Human Consumption

Please Join Today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I wish to join the "\$5.00-A-Month" Club. I choose to make my donation

_____ Monthly _____ Quarterly _____ Yearly

My check is enclosed or please Charge my Credit Card accordingly

_____ VISA _____ Discover _____ MasterCard

Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____

Signature: _____

Mail To: **H.H.T.**

P.O. Box 20392

Knoxville, TN 37940

Have you always wanted a horse but never got one? Now is your time to help one in need.

Memorials

Since operations in 1999, HHT has had the misfortune of having to have five of our charges humanely euthanized. It was Mustang Sally and Snowflake our first year in operation. This past year it was Buddy, Nicole and Princess.

Buddy had come from an abusive home and was very under weight. He lived out his final days with his Belgian buddies and his new owner.

Nicole came to HHT when the owner surrendered her over to us because she had to have her moved immediately from where she had been pastured for the past 6 years. Aged, underweight and in need of proper foot care made her lameness beyond repair.



Buddy, we'll miss you.

How to Report Suspected Abuse

When you call to report a suspected case of abuse, be ready to provide us with as many details as possible:

- 1) Where the horse is— address if possible, if not, we'll need good directions.
- 2) What County?
- 3) Have you contacted the local Animal Control?
- 4) Have you contacted local law enforcement?
If yes to above, we will need names and phone numbers
- 5) What the problem is and how long has the situation existed
- 6) A description of the horse/s
- 7) Contact information for others who have witnessed the problem. (name, phone, address if possible)
- 8) Name and number of a local Equine Veterinarian.



Skeletal remains after a horse trader dragged this dead horse by its rear leg and dumped it into the waters of Norris Lake.

A 10' X 10' make shift stall (r) in a garage, knee deep in manure, is not adequate living conditions for 3 horses.



The bottom line is:

You are the abused horse's first line of communication with someone who can help. Don't let him down.



Hooves long and curled. Bad case of thrush were horse had lived in a filthy stall. This horse was a blind, 18 year old, TWH stud. He was sold to a local trader for slaughter until a compassionate citizen purchased him and contacted HHT.



Sick and terribly malnourished, Abby (1) was saved at a local auction. She now has a great home with her miniature pasture mates.

This malnourished stud was sold one year previously for \$3,700. Seller had no idea it was being used by trader as stud for dozens of mares. He was stalled up and barely fed to keep calm.



Horse Haven of Tennessee

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NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 00356

Phone: 865-573-8006

Helping to protect our God given equine
from abuse and neglect in Tennessee.



Wish List

- Square Baled Hay
- Feed
- Portable Corral Panels
- De-Wormer, Vitamins
- Large Ticket Auction items
- Postage Stamps ,
- Printing Services

BI-LO Booster Program
You can help HHT every time you buy groceries from your local BI-LO. Send us your 12 digit BI-LO card number and your last name and we'll sign you up. It's that easy! Send us your number today!
horsehaventn@hotmail.com
(865) 573-8006



**“If it wasn’t
for HHT who
knows were I’d
be today.”**

Horse Haven of Tennessee can't do it alone. It takes concerned citizens like you to make this program a success. Time, money, faith and dedication play an important part in the everyday operations for HHT. Open your hearts and help us help those who can not speak for themselves.