Horses People Love

Fall 2005 The Horse Protection League Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 3

Rebuilding in 2005...

Earlier this year, we shared with you our reflections on the past decade of equine rescue in Jefferson County. Now, we want to share our short and long-term goals for The Horse Protection League.

As a non-profit organization, we feel a special obligation to let our volunteers and donors know what we are attempting to accomplish. We have spent a considerable amount of time analyzing where we are and where we want to be in one, two, five years and beyond. While you may not see immediate changes, they are surely happening one step at a time.

To date, our accomplishments have been many. In December 2004, we elected six new members to our Board. Together, we are creating a strong, active Board dedicated to improving processes for the horses and the organization. Since January, HPL rescued six horses, adopted four and safe-homed one in a loving, caring environment. We are very proud of the creation and training of an in-depth horse care/volunteer system that really works, as evidenced by the handling of a recent colic episode. We have trained back-ups for our Barn Manager and started a robust coordination system to put volunteers in areas where they work best.

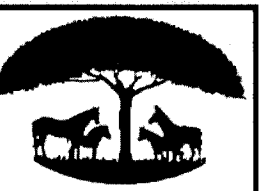
HPL continues to reach out and educate community groups about the abuse and care of equines. We have worked with CCU's Vet Tech Program, Devereux Cleo Wallace, 4H, the Boy & Girl Scouts and elementary school classrooms as well as others through our own Kids' Summer Horse Education Days. We are increasing our exposure in the community through articles in the Arvada Press, Golden Transcript and Arvada Report, attendance at several local trade shows and a new web site. We successfully launched our first Casino Night fundraiser, and our annual Garage and Tack Sales did extremely well. Finally, we have made tremendous progress on the ranch's appearance by bringing organization to the buildings, fixing fences, cleaning up the grounds, fixing and selling vehicles, and even using previously unusable water troughs to grow flowers. Many other plans are waiting in the wings until the City of Arvada finishes their improvements to the historic buildings on the property.

Besides these accomplishments, there are many other changes that can't be seen. We are constantly recording and updating files and records, archiving photographs, increasing volunteer and donor communication, improving financial records and budgets, and many other projects to ensure our organization runs efficiently.

While many of these things may not seem important on the surface, we feel they are necessary for the health of the organization and to make life easier for our volunteers. Looking to the near future, we will have three open Board member positions this December. If you are interested in joining our Board, have ideas on how to continue our improvements or have a skill you'd like us to know about, please drop us a line at **info@cohpl.org**. We look forward to sharing our progress with you and seeing you at our Silent Auction on October 15!

- Jill R. Dopp, President,
The Horse Protection League

In This Issue...



Page	Topic
1	Rebuilding 2005
2	Consider Driving Article
3	Appreciations, Help Wanted & Wish Lists
4	Adoptable Horses
4	Horse Updates
5	Thank You Mike Thys @ Re/Max
5	In Memorium - Jasper
5	Isis Update
5	Ranch Update
6	HPL Upcoming Events
7	Thank You, My Horses Article
7	Calvin & Hobbs for Christmas?
8	Membership Application

Consider Driving... by Pat Lamprey

Your child has outgrown her much-loved pony. You see some subtle lameness in your favorite trail horse and wonder if you should keep riding him. Your two-year-old filly and you are both bored with your current training, but you don't want to ride her yet. You love everything equine, but old age is creeping up and you just don't feel comfortable on a horse anymore. What can you do? Consider driving.

Carriage driving is currently the fastest growing equestrian discipline and offers many opportunities not available through riding to both horse and human. Because the horse carries very little weight (0-30 pounds) when properly harnessed and hitched, horses of any size, including miniatures and small ponies, can carry adult drivers. Young horses can safely be started in harness considerably earlier before they are ready for riding (check with your vet first), and will be more "educated" when finally started under saddle. Older or less-than-sound horses are often comfortable driving even after they are no longer able to carry a rider. Weak or out-of-shape horses can be brought into good condition through driving. Driving can improve many characteristics of riding horses.

Driving can be more sociable than riding. Others can join you as you enjoy your horse, even if they don't know anything about horses or driving. Parents and children can participate together. It's also a discipline where handicapped people can join and even compete on a level field with the able-bodied.

There are many types of driving events and activities available. Downtown carriage rides, the Budweiser horses, or what you see in breed show rings are the most known events. However, endurance and long-distance competitive driving are becoming popular; combined driving (the equivalent of three-day eventing) is enjoyed all over the country and world. In addition, there are pleasure shows, arena trials and games, and many types of recreational driving. (Contact the Colorado Driving Society http://coloradodrivingsociety.org or the Rocky Mountain Carriage Club http://www.rockymountaincarriageclub.org to find out about activities in our local area.)

Board of Directors

President:
Jill R. Dopp (303) 256-9097
Vice President:
Cheryle L. Wise (303) 278-1891
Treasurer:
Sue Bronk (303) 422-5023
Secretary:
Pat Lamprey (303) 429-7525
Other Board Members:
- Jill Gray, Spokesperson (303) 483-2903
- Mary Ann Molnar, Vol Coordinator (303) 467-3259
- Harry Ibergs (303) 237-3020
- "Mac" McWilliams (303) 893-6606
- Gayle Vette (303) 582-3676
- Jelena Woehr (303) 279-6054

Board Meetings

Fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. All Board meetings are open to the public. Check our website for meeting locations. **www.cohpl.org**

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Once you've decided to try driving, don't jump in on your own. Driving can be more dangerous than riding because of the large equipment fastened to your horse. A driving accident isn't as simple as falling off a horse; there's more opportunity for damage to bystanders and property as well as to the horse itself.

Start by spending time looking at vehicles and harnesses for variety and cost. (Locally, go visit the auction at the Adams County Fairgrounds. It's held Sept. 30-Oct.1, then the first weekends in April and July.) You can spend $500 for a good-quality used vehicle and harness or tens of thousands of dollars for the best!

Continued on Page 3 ...

Appreciations:

Sincere thanks to ***Kili & Keaton Crawford and Molly Boyer*** for holding their own fundraiser for HPL! The girls visited retail shops and collected donations, then held an event and handed out prizes. In all, they raised $115 for HPL and presented it to the Barn Manager on Sept. 3. We are so grateful for the generosity and persistence of these young ladies!

Cassandra Liner donated 400 lbs of grain to HPL during the Table Mountain fire. Thank you so much for your donation. Your dedication to equines is amazing!

It seems that in every newsletter we have reason to thank ***Mobile Vet Clinic*** and this issue is no different. Special thanks to Dr. Baird and Dr. Young for supporting us and giving our horses such excellent care.

Thank you to ***Travis Dopp & Dustin Barbee*** for bucking LOTS of hay for HPL this summer.

Special thanks to ***Shiloh Farms and Tracy Horner*** for dragging our arena. It has made such a difference and saved us a lot of time and energy!

Help Wanted:

Event Coordinator: Do you like to organize events? We need someone to work with the Marketing Director on upcoming fundraisers, education days, trade shows, etc. Can be as much or as little time as you have. Call Jill Dopp at (303) 216-0141 x3 or email jill@cohpl.org if interested.

Assistant Horse Care Manager: Must have experience in all aspects of equine care and a strong sense of commitment and responsibility. Looking for one-half to one day of volunteer service per week. Contact Suzi Conrad at (303) 910-5250.x1.

Wish List:

- 3 - 4 horse or stock trailer

Board Members Wanted!

In December, HPL will hold elections to fill three Board member positions. Would you be interested in joining this dynamic group? We're looking for leaders who can commit at least four hours per month (that includes a two-hour monthly Board meeting). If so, please contact Jill Dopp at (303) 256-9097 for more information.

Continued from Page 2 ...

Prepare to do groundwork with your animal before hitching. Many people long-line their horses and ponies; this is the first step in driving training. Make sure your horse is able to stop and STAND. Talk to other drivers - at the auction or through contacts at RMCC and CDS. Find someone to work with you. Visit local driving events to watch and meet people.

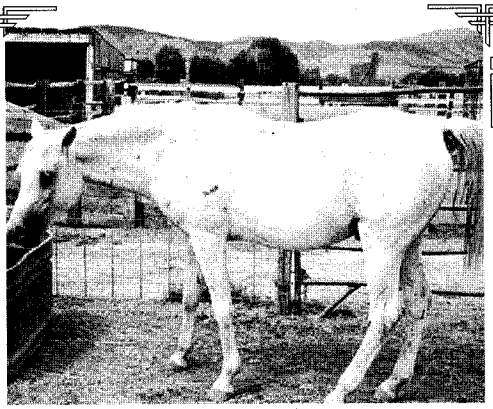
Safety is of paramount concern for most drivers - which has benefits going beyond safety itself! Because most drivers are very safety-conscious and know that they often need help, you'll find that most drivers are very willing to help you, whether to offer advice, help with equipment, or drive with you. The driving community, though small, is very friendly and not concerned about the price of your equipment and horse as long as they're safe.

Consider driving. It can be the perfect way to expand your circle of friends, to keep yourself actively involved with horses though you can't ride, and to keep your horse in shape and active.

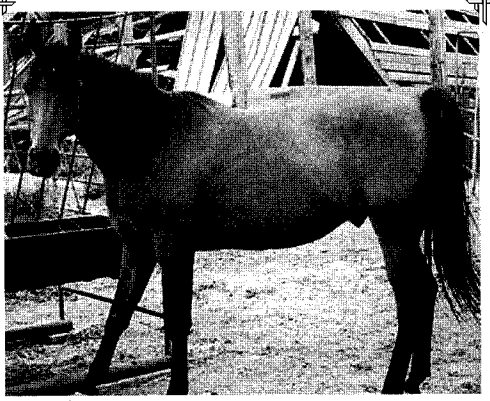
Adoptable Horses

Fall 2005

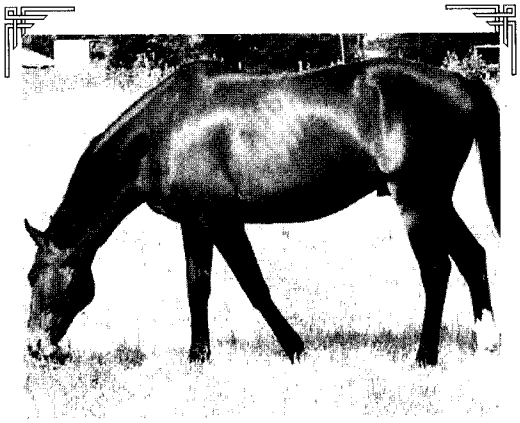
Bobby This 11-year-old thoroughbred stands 16 hh and sports an incredible, powerful trot, beautiful canter and loves long grooming sessions. He's under care for back problems and is now only available for light work. If willing to spend the time you'll be rewarded with a great riding partner.



Romeo is a 14-year-old Arab gelding. He has a great personality and smooth gaits. He can be ridden English or Western. He has some dressage training. He needs an intermediate to advanced rider, as he can get pushy if allowed to do so.



Jet is a pedigreed 14-year-old Arab gelding ready for adoption by an intermediate rider. He's a good mover who's performing well at western pleasure. He is ready to go.



Slim - This 11-year-old is a dark bay thoroughbred gelding. He's healthy and sound; shy at first, but very polite when he warms up to you. He requires an intermediate rider and a very special person who will tolerate his cribbing without putting a collar on him.

Visit our website for a list of our companion horses!!! *www.cohpl.org*

New Arrivals:

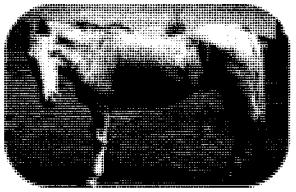
Three new horses came to HPL this summer - Biscuit, Tye & Okie. Biscuit has already found a terrific home! Tye is a 17-year old gray Arabian and quite sound. Okie is a 18-year old registered Quarter Horse. He's a super sweet guy with a soft eye. More information and pictures on our new arrivals to come in the next issue.

Adopted!

Dawn, our lovely 18-year old chestnut National Show Horse mare, was adopted into a wonderful home in September. Congratulations!

Biscuit, our new 18-year old Appaloosa gelding, was quickly evaluated and adopted immediately. He is now enjoying lots of pasture space and will be having fun on lots of trail rides. Thank you for opening up your home to this terrific guy!

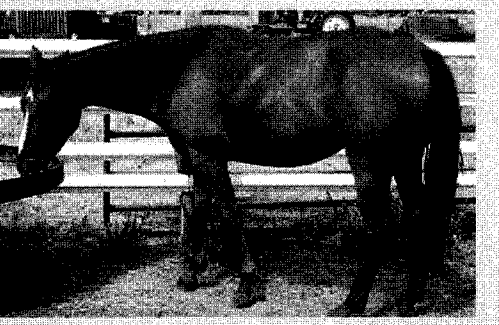
In Memorium:



Jasper - In early September, it was determined that the cancer on Jasper's sheath was growing and his lameness issues were causing him great pain. In accordance with HPL policy, two veterinarians were consulted and determined that it was best to put him out of his pain, so Jasper was euthanized. Many of us got quite attached to Jasper during his short time at HPL. We are thankful that we were able to give him a comfortable passing and grateful for the things he taught us while at HPL.

Isis Fund Update:

Thank you, thank you, thank you to Shiloh Farms for allowing HPL to have a booth at the annual Family Fun Day. In one day, we raised more than $1,000 for Isis' surgery! We are truly amazed at your compassion and giving. In addition, a special thank you goes to Maggie Fuller for donating her allowance to the Isis Fund. We are proud to have a girl like you care so much for our horses. We've currently raised $1,500 toward our goal of $10,000 for Isis' surgery. If you would like to contribute to the Isis Fund, please contact HPL at (303) 216-0141 x3 or email info@cohpl.org.



In Memory of Lex Spanos

A touching Thank You to the Qwest co-workers of Lex Spanos that took up a collection in her memory and donated it to The Horse Protection League.

A trailer accident last June took the life of Lex Spanos, much to the pain of her family and friends. She loved animals, especially horses, and did what she could to support and protect them. She began riding at the age of 8 and spent every possible minute at the barn. In the summers, she worked for free in exchange for riding lessons. Later on, she founded her local Foxtrotters Association. We are grateful for Lex's commitment to equines and for the donation to celebrate an important part of her life.

Would you like to send a donation to recognize a special person or animal? If so, please contact HPL at (303) 216-0141 x3.

THANK YOU, MIKE THYS, OF RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS INC. FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE HORSE PROTECTION LEAGUE. WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

MIKE THYS WITH HIS PAL FLASH
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS, INC.
303-907-8660

HPL MEMBER/CONTRIBUTOR SINCE 1999

Ranch Update:

1) Wow! Have you looked at HPL lately? We now have a new arena with good footing and a separate round-pen. We've been repairing fences all summer and discarded several old wood piles.
2) Wood donations - Princess' stall must be rebuilt before winter and HPL desperately need wood to complete it. Would you consider donating your extra lumber or providing us with a gift certificate to Home Depot, Lowe's, etc.?

HPL Events

Upcoming Events

October:

- **HPL Annual Silent Auction**

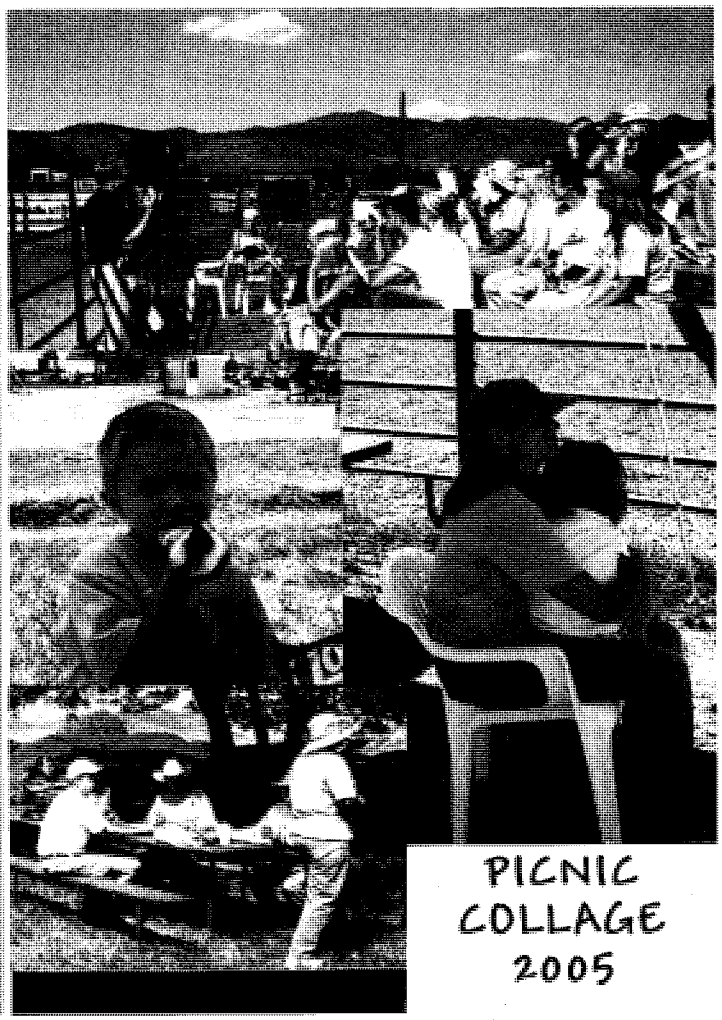
  When: Saturday, October 15
  Time: 6:30 pm
  Place: The Denver Kickers Club
  16776 W. 50th Avenue, Golden
  Cost: $25.00/person

Don't miss this year's event filled with lots of Western fun! We'll have live music and country-Western dancing with a BBQ buffet. Silent auction items include furniture, fine art, jewelry, gift baskets and more. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted. If you did not receive an invitation, call **(303) 216-0141 x1** or visit **www.cohpl.org** to download an RSVP card. Reservations requested by October 1, 2005. All proceeds will provide care and maintenance for The Horse Protection League animals and facilities.

- **HPL Volunteer Training Days**
  Saturday, Oct 8th (12-2pm) - **Beginner**
  Saturday, Oct 22 (12-2pm) - **Advanced**

HPL will once again hold training days for its volunteers. October 8 will be geared towards new volunteers. You will learn how to take a horse's temperature, listen to its heart rate, handle basic wound care, wrap bandages and more. October 22 will address more advanced issues for those that have already taken the basic class. We'll discuss worming, medications, injections, pulling shoes and what changes to look for in the horses over the winter. HPL's Horse Care Chairperson, Suzi Conrad, will lead the classes with a visit from Dr. Baird of Mobile Vet Clinic.

Yee Haw! Our 2005 Annual Celebration Day with Garage and Tack Sales was fantastic! The response for the Garage & Tack Sales was overwhelming. Thank you, everyone, who donated items and came to find their special purchases! Special thanks to **Mike Lee of the City of Arvada** for updating the crowd on the restoration plans for Churches Ranch, and to clinic speakers **Kari Crawford and Kathy Myrick**. And more big thanks to all the volunteers who helped put on this event - your attitudes made this fun weekend even better!



PICNIC COLLAGE 2005

Thank You, My Horses ... By Tina Huston

When I was asked to do an article for this newsletter, I was contemplating discussing some of the usual training issues when the topic of thankfulness and horses hit me like a ton of bricks. The two go together like a hoof in an Easy Boot.

Looking forward to Thanksgiving and reflecting on the things we are thankful for, how many of us can say that the horse has transformed our lives, if not saved our lives just through their friendship? I hear accounts from people on a regular basis about how they are not sure they would be here if it weren't for their horse. Our beloved noble beasts help us through the most trying times in our lives. They quietly listen through our heartbreaks with knowing and sympathy that somehow helps soothe our disappointments. They have a magic that heals devastating illness, giving their owners hope and purpose to persevere and get well again. They bring energy and anticipation to our daily lives as we endure 10-hour days in the salt mines and the monotony of inching our way through T-Rex. As we grow more stressed and befuddled with Wall Street's promise of less work and more leisure time in the "Information Age," we imagine our equine friend in the pasture with his head down exploring and sniffing for the tenderest grasses, oblivious that time exists. Horses melt away stress if you let them. Our horses take us back to a slower, simpler time.

Our horses teach us about success and failure, patience and humility, volatility and tenacity. They keep our horse-crazy daughters too busy to hangout with boys, at least for a while. They charm us into spending our would-be savings on the latest horse gadgets that sit in our tack box and build up a gooey layer of dust. They give handicapped kids four legs to walk with and a sense of empowerment. They helped build this country so well that they put themselves out of jobs, passed those jobs over to Americans, and created a multi-million dollar recreational horse industry.

Which of us isn't awe-struck with their beauty, strength, and wind-like spirit? Which of us hasn't wondered what it would be like to be in their skins and move with such grace and agility? Don't we ride because it's the closest we'll ever be to flowing like the wind? What would our lives be like without our horses?

For all they give us, how can we thank our horses for who they are and the good they bring to our lives? They don't ask for much. Simply good food and water and shelter from the elements. Basic vet care, careful grooming and visits to know they are ours. If we do these things for our horses, they'll do the best they know how for us.

Thank you to The Horse Protection League for all it does to rescue and care for these magnificent animals. And thank you to the volunteers and people who donate to HPL. Your contributions help horses live happier, healthier lives.

-- Tina Huston, professional horse trainer, riding instructor and fine artist, Shiloh Farms, Golden, CO

Calvin & Hobbes for Christmas?

Think Calvin & Hobbes for adorable Christmas presents! These 3-year old Shetland Pony geldings are green-broke, saddle-gentled and ridden in arena by direct rein. They may be driving by Christmas.

Membership Application

I want to be a member and receive your newsletter. (Membership is valid for one year from application date.) Please enroll me at the following membership level:

- ☐ $20 . . . . . .Basic
- ☐ $35 . . . . . .Family
- ☐ $50 . . . . . .Sustaining
- ☐ $75 . . . . . .Associate
- ☐ $100 . . . . . .Corporate
- ☐ $500 or more . . . . . .Lifetime

☐ I want to make an additional tax deductible donation (for example to the Horse Emergency Fund) $ _____
☐ I enclose a check or money order in the amount of $ _____
☐ I would like to receive information about becoming a volunteer.
☐ I would like to help with fundraising or grant proposal writing.
☐ I would like to receive information about sponsoring a horse.
☐ I would like to receive information about adopting a horse.

Name:_____ Date: _____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H)_____ (W)_____ Email Address: _____

This is ☐ a NEW Membership ☐ a RENEWAL Membership

Please detach and mail this completed form with your check or money order to:

The Horse Protection League
PO Box 741089, Arvada CO 80006
(303) 216-0141 - www.cohpl.org

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