



# Newsletter

February 2012

**A YEAR IN REVIEW:** 2011 was a year of transition for the Honey Do Animal Rescue. All of the facilities and equipment leased by the rescue were destroyed late in 2010. That did not stop the work of the rescue. The first three months of the year were devoted to ensuring that the animals had shelter. Thanks to the generous support from four area families, our large animals had warm and safe place to live. While it meant that not all of the animals could be kept together, the large horses were all in one location and the mini horses and donkeys stayed with another family.

The llamas and alpacas were able to stay as a heard. As a breed needing special care, we were very fortunate to have them fostered by a family that raises llamas. The barns and pastures used by all of the animals were donated -- as was the daily care of the llamas and alpacas. We are indebted to the family that donated over 300 bales of hay!

The animals enjoyed it all. The outpouring of financial support allowed us to purchase feed and to quickly pay for needed medical care. We cannot thank our supporter enough!

Honey Do Animal Rescue is a 501(c)(3) public charity committed to the care and protection of the animals entrusted to us. We primarily rescue and find homes for horses, goats, llamas, alpacas, and other hobby farm and barnyard animals.

Our rescue is not owned by any individual. Honey Do Animal Rescue is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in the State of Wisconsin. We have a voluntary governing Board of Directors who set the policies for the rescue.

All of the work of the rescue is done by volunteers who love animals and donate their time to feed, groom, clean, and assist with the professional care provided by farriers and veterinarians.

The volunteers also manage the administrative side of the rescue and engage in educational and fundraising activities. The checks-and-balances in our care-giving practices and funding systems are in place to protect our animals and to promote confidence in the people who donate money, feed & hay, equipment, other in-kind items, and their time. We are committed to our animals and to you -- our supporters.

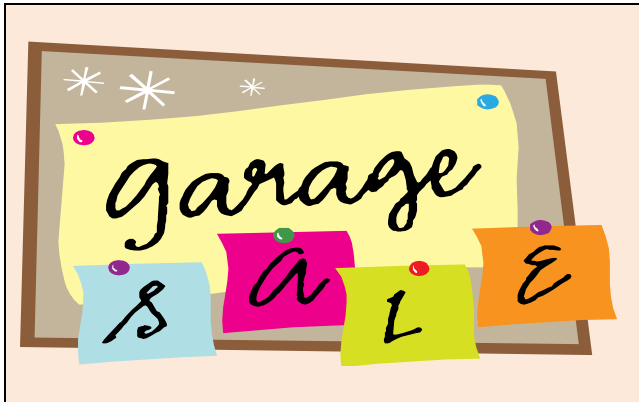
--- HDAR Board and Volunteers

The HDAR volunteers took care of the rest! This included feeding and watering the animals, cleaning stalls, repairing fences, and covering the added insurance costs where needed. Most important of all, was staying in contact with the animals so they didn't feel abandoned again.

In early March, the large horses came home! Even though there was snow on the ground, they frolicked as though it was a warm spring day. More than one tear was shed as they and we celebrated their homecoming. Our joy grew when several days later the mini-horses and Graham and Cracker [the donkeys] came home.

The 'foster parents' for the llamas and alpacas offered to keep them until May so they could be part of their annual sheering program. We accepted their kind offer for the animals' sake but were overjoyed when they too came home.

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### WHEN:

Thursday: March 1 -- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday: March 2 – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday: March 3 – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**WHERE:** [heated indoor facility]

Honey Do Animal Rescue [Exit Q, Hwy 94]  
E1838 640th Ave  
Knapp, WI 54749

All items for the Garage Sale have been donated to HDAR. Donations are still arriving – with the current select items consisting of:

- a variety of general household items,
- clothing,
- furniture - including an antique oak dresser [150 years], an Amish end table, and roll top desk
- Roseville and Van Briggie pottery,
- Collectables from: Cow Parade, Deb Canhan [limited ed./closed], Jon Anderson Fimo Clay art, & Harmony Kingdom [limited/closed mid 1990s to early 2000s],
- Decorative items,
- Books,
- Other items that will be sure to fit into your home!

All proceeds from the Garage Sale will go to support the animals that live at Honey Do Animal Rescue.

[www.HoneyDoRescue.org](http://www.HoneyDoRescue.org)

### **Two Horses in a Field** – Author Unknown

*“Just up the road from home is a field with two horses in it. From a distance, each looks like every other horse. But if one stops the car, or is walking by, one will notice something quite amazing. Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him. This alone is amazing.*

*Listening, one will hear the sound of a bell. Looking around for the source of the sound, one will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field. Attached to her bridle is a small bell. It lets her blind friend know where she is, so he can follow her.*

*As one stands and watches these two friends, one sees how she is always checking on him, and that he will listen for her bell and then slowly walk to where she is trusting that she will not lead him astray.*

*Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need. Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by God and those whom he places in our lives. Other times we are the guide horse, helping other see God [and his work].”*

At Honey Do Animal Rescue, we try to be like these horses. Through our love, feed, shelter, and medical care we create a trusting bond with animals that arrive ill, unwanted, and alone – not knowing why they had to leave their home.

And, at times, we – the volunteers and the rescue itself – are the ones trusting in those that enter our lives. We are not perfect but we are dedicated to enriching the lives of all who join in our journey of dedication to the animals who call us friends.

Thank you for being there when we and they have needed you.

--- Joy Benson, Board President



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During late spring and through the summer, HDAR accepted a colt, two goats, an alpaca, and two potbelly pigs into the 'family.' The colt, who we called Sailor, arrived when he was only 5 days old. His mother had died and his family was unable to give him the around the clock care that was needed so he could thrive. If he could talk, we are sure that he would say thank you to the volunteers who fed him every three hours – on some nights sleeping with him to make sure that he would be ok – buying him toys and giving him love. Sailor was adopted by a horse trainer who will help him grow into the fantastic horse that all of us at HDAR know he will become.

There were also 12 cats and 3 dogs that joined the rescue – with 4 puppies coming to HDAR in early winter. The puppies [about 8 weeks old] had been found in a ditch with three others. HDAR took in four with another rescue taking care of three from the litter. We are happy to say that all four of ours have found their forever homes!

Summer found the volunteers doing clean-up of the grounds, baling hay from donated pastures, purchasing additional small hay bales, and working with our lease holder to design new facilities. The new 'barn' was constructed in October with the inside being completed in November. A lot of the finishing items were donated to the rescue, including: a washer and dryer, office furniture, a computer and printer, metal to finish the ceiling and reconstruct one of the old standing barns, new metal for a large run-in for the big horses, ceramic floor tile, new horse leads and brushes, and tables for educational activities.

The new main building has heated space for small animals and for education/fundraising activities. It also provides shelter for the goats, mini horses, llamas and alpacas. The facility was constructed so the doors could be opened no matter how deep the snow gets and allows for easy access to the outside by all of the animals. There is also space to store hay bales and feed.

On December 10th we held a blessing ceremony. Friends, volunteers, and foster families gathered at the rescue to remember the animals that had been lost in the fire, to celebrate those that were a part of our lives, and to give thanks for our new facilities. The ceremony marked a turning point for all of us. 2011 taught all us at HDAR a lot – we learned that we could be weak and share the pain that the 12/12/10 fire brought, we learned the meaning of true friendship for the rescue, our volunteers overcome anything. We learned that the need for our mission continued and that we could not stop. And, we did not stop. Nine new barnyard animals came to us and, best of all, we found forever homes for: 2 donkeys, 1 llama, 3 alpacas, 1 colt, and 2 ponies. We also assisted in finding homes for 25 kittens and cats along with 15 dogs.



At the start of 2012, we are planning several fundraising and educational events. The first of which will be a garage sale in early March. Invitations have been sent to schools. New volunteers are joining us, volunteers who have been with us for several years are ready to continue our work for the animals, and the Board of Directors remains committed to growing the rescue and living our mission.

Thanks to all of you who have stood with us – your donations of money, time, hay, feed, equipment, supplies, and support have been and will always be deeply valued. A special thanks to Painted Equine Pony and Baldwin Veterinary Center for their care of the animals. We look forward to seeing you at Honey Do Animal Rescue in 2012!



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