



Goals and Objectives of the Minnesota Horse Council

- ♦ Promote and/or support equine educational activities
- ♦ Improve communication in all horse related activities with the general public
- ♦ Gather information of value to equine related activities
- ♦ Distribute gathered information as appropriate
- ♦ Provide expertise, consult and advise
- ♦ Establish, develop and enhance equine trails and other infrastructure and encourage their prudent use

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EXCITING EVENTS AT THIS YEAR'S MN HORSE EXPO

Cowboy Mounted Shooting

It's Cowboys vs Cowgirls in a Cowboy Mounted Shooting showdown at the 2015 Minnesota Horse Expo! Come watch four of the top Minnesota cowboys, led by current and three time CMSA World Champion and multiple world record holder Chad Little, take on four of the top Minnesota cowgirls, led by Minnesota State Champion Cowgirl and Minnesota High Point Cowgirl Rachael Chilson. Special guest appearance by one of our up and coming Minnesota Wranglers, Alison Murrell. Then, after the teams compete, watch a head-to-head run by the top cowboy vs the top cowgirl of the day. After the smoke clears, come see us at booth L807 in the Cattle Barn to find out how you can get involved in this exciting sport!



This demonstration is brought to you by the Minnesota Mounted Shooters Association, the oldest and largest mounted shooting club in the state. We are proud to have always been part of the original national organization, the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA). Check our website at www.mncmsa.com for our current schedule of shoots.

Draft Horse and Farm Equipment Presentations at Expo

Vintage horse drawn machinery, dating from the early 1900s to modern day, used on working farms in rural Minnesota will be on display Friday and Saturday at Expo on the west side of the AgStar Arena. Members of the Northern Minnesota Draft Horse Association and the Minnesota Horse Breeders Association will be hand to explain the machinery facts and history. From 1:30-3:30 pm Friday and Saturday afternoons, teams representing many draft breeds will hitch to the machinery and drive through the AgStar Arena where much information about the horses and equipment will be presented. Don't miss seeing this amazing collection of farm horses, mules and equipment.



Photos by Pam Berthel

AT THE 2015 EXPO PRCA RODEO

John Harrison - Rodeo Entertainer



John Harrison was six when he received his first trick riding lesson after watching a trick rider perform at a nearby rodeo. Since then he has trained and performed with many of the best trick riders in the world. John became a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) in 1999, as a trick and roman rider, and trick roper. He has since diversified and added barrelman to his PRCA card.

John has worked rodeos from coast to coast and has been selected to perform three times at the prestigious Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, NV. In 2012, John picked up the coveted award of Comedy Act of the Year. Blessings have continued as he was voted to work the 2013 Wrangler National Finals Rodeo as the Barrelman. Fresh off the 2014 WNFR and he is bringing home two buckles. The gold buckle that represents his achievement of Coors Man in the Can and the 2014 PRCA Comedy Act of the Year.



EXPO TALKS TO HELP STABLE OWNERS

Surviving Tough Times as a Stable Owner/Manager

Stayin' alive in today's economic climate in ANY business these days is difficult. Factor in horses, family, horses, customers, horses, vendors, horses, weather, and emotions (and horses) and you have your work cut out for you. Join Judy Jensen, Karen Clark and our veteran team for discussion on how to avoid the pitfalls of managing a stable and enjoying the positive rewards of a successful program. The panel represents many disciplines and all types of stables and they are anxious to share their experiences. Whether you have a lesson program, board a few horses or run a large commercial boarding or training stable, or are thinking of starting an equine venture, let us help each other.

Ride Out the Storm: Legal Tools for Stable Owners

Equine attorney Allison Eklund of Eklund Law, PC is back this year with a presentation about the nuts and bolts of using legal tools to solve problems regularly encountered by stable owners. How do you collect unpaid board or evict a troublesome boarder? What's the difference between a feeder's lien and an "abandoned horse" remedy? How do you collect on a judgment or seize property to satisfy a debt? Eklund will offer sample liability waivers and an annual checklist of important tasks to keep your LLC, S-corp, or nonprofit corporation viable. This year's presentation will include a clinic-style discussion addressing answers to questions submitted by stable owners. Stop by the display table for Eklund Law, PC in the Coliseum and talk to Allison before her daily presentations to have your specific questions included in the presentation.

Minnesota vs Wisconsin Polo Match at Expo!

Polo has often been described as "hockey on horseback" so it is little wonder that it has been played in the Twin Cities for over 90 years. Polo got started in Minnesota in the 1920s at Fort Snelling with the U.S. Cavalry. It has also been played at clubs around the Cities since then in Wayzata, Shakopee, and now in Maple Plain and Baldwin, WI. The season for the Twin City Polo Club runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day with practices held three times a week. The St Croix Club in Baldwin plays year round with play in the indoor during the colder months and then moving outdoors in the Spring until late into the Fall.

Both clubs are welcoming to new members or riders wishing to learn more about the Sport. The game is a test of a rider's ability to manage a horse which can reach race track speeds of 35 mph while hitting a baseball sized ball with a mallet about twice as long as a golf club. And if that wasn't enough, there is the opposing team which is trying to keep you off the ball by hooking your mallet or bumping you with their horses. Think about that, a horse is about four times the size of a professional football player moving at the speed of a hockey player while trying to hit a curveball--all in a very sportsman-like manner. It leads to great excitement with the teamwork evident between players and between players and their horses. The sport's largest membership growth has come from women. Because much of the athleticism rests with the horse, it is those that can ride and control the horse that have the advantage. It isn't about strength but about horsemanship.



All types and breeds can and have played. But the horse of choice is the Thoroughbred, very often ex-race horses that are being retrained. The Thoroughbred offers the athletic ability with the endurance and speed needed. But what most players will tell you about their better horses is that it's their horse's heart and competitiveness for the sport that make them special.

Polo is played around the world and the Twin Cities have hosted players from Florida to California, from Canada to Argentina. Come out and watch us play and learn about the sport and see if you have an interest in the Game of Kings!

Shop over 700 Booths • See Horses from Over 50 Breeds/Registries

Minnesota Horse Expo 2015

Sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council

IT'S THE 33rd EXPO!

April 24-25-26
MN State Fairgrounds



Craig Cameron



Pat Parelli



MN vs. WI Polo

FRIDAY APRIL 24 8:30AM-9:30PM

8:35	Cutting Horse Demo	Coliseum
9:00	St. Paul Mounted Police	AgStar Arena
9:45	Craig Cameron	Coliseum
10:00	Clicker Training in Action	AgStar Arena
10:00	Polo Basics Explained	DNR South
10:00	Draft Harnessing	Round Pen
10:55	Pat Parelli	Coliseum
11:00	Movement/Fitness Exercises	AgStar Arena
11:00	Equine Emergencies	DNR South
11:00	Wonderful Donkeys/Mules	Round Pen
11:00	Equine Chiropractic	DNR East
12:00	Parade of Breeds	Coliseum
12:00	Creating a Willing Partner	AgStar Arena
12:00	Rehabilitation Using Horses	DNR South
12:00	Trimming Demo	Round Pen
1:00	MN vs. WI Polo Match!	Coliseum
1:00	Q & A with Craig Cameron	DNR South
1:00	Body Condition Scoring	Round Pen
1:00	Producing Balanced Hooves	DNR East
1:30	Draft Teams & Equipment	AgStar Arena
2:00	Pat Parelli	Coliseum
2:00	Is Your Horse Overweight?	DNR South
2:00	Equine Dentistry Principles	DNR East
3:00	Establishing a Pasture	DNR South
3:00	"Being" with your Horse	Round Pen
3:00	Common Hoof Ailments	DNR East
3:15	Breed Demonstrations	Coliseum
3:30	Craig Cameron	AgStar Arena
4:00	Discover Positive Reinforcement	DNR South
4:00	Equine Chiropractic Adjustments	Round Pen
5:00	Surviving as a Stable Owner	DNR East
5:00	Supremely Supple Horses	AgStar Arena
5:00	Essential Oils	DNR South
6:00	Stallion Presentations	AgStar Arena
6:30-10:30	Dirt Road Dixie Band	Near Coasters
7:00	PRCA Rodeo	Coliseum

SATURDAY APRIL 25 8:30AM-9:30PM

8:35	Cutting Horse Demo	Coliseum
9:00	St. Paul Mounted Police	AgStar Arena
9:30	Well Balanced Horse	AgStar Arena
9:45	Mounted Shooting	Coliseum
10:00	Polo Basics Explained	DNR South
10:00	Draft Harnessing	Round Pen
10:00	Surviving as a Stable Owner	DNR East
10:30	Craig Cameron	AgStar Arena
10:55	Pat Parelli	Coliseum
11:00	Rehabilitation Using Horses	DNR South
11:30	Western Dressage	AgStar Arena
12:00	Parade of Breeds	Coliseum
12:00	Estimating Bodyweight	DNR South
12:00	Producing Balanced Hooves	DNR East
12:00	Equine Chiropractic Adjustments	Round Pen
12:30	Effortless Transitions	AgStar Arena
1:00	MN vs. WI Polo Match!	Coliseum
1:00	Q & A with Craig Cameron	DNR South
1:00	Body Condition Scoring	Round Pen
1:30	Draft Teams & Equipment	AgStar Arena
2:00	Pat Parelli	Coliseum
2:00	Essential Oils	DNR South
2:00	Nokota Horse History	DNR East
3:00	Establishing a Horse Pasture	DNR South
3:00	"Being" with your Horse	Round Pen
3:00	Common Hoof Ailments	DNR East
3:15	Breed Demonstrations	Coliseum
3:30	Craig Cameron	AgStar Arena
4:00	Why Your Horse Does ...	DNR South
4:00	Trimming Demo	Round Pen
4:00	Equine Chiropractic	DNR East
5:00	Schooling vs. Conditioning	AgStar Arena
5:00	Grant & Scholarship Info	DNR East
6:00	Stallion Presentations	AgStar Arena
6:30-10:30	Dirt Road Dixie Band	Near Coasters
7:00	PRCA Rodeo	Coliseum

SUNDAY APRIL 26 8:30AM-5:00PM

8:35-9:45	Cowboy Church	Coliseum
9:30	Stallion Presentations	AgStar Arena
10:00	Mounted Shooting	Coliseum
10:00	Equine Dentistry Principles	DNR South
10:00	St. Paul Mounted Police	Round Pen
10:00	Nokota Horse History	DNR East
11:00	Craig Cameron	Coliseum
11:00	Teach Enjoying Not Tolerating	AgStar Arena
11:00	Polo Basics Explained	DNR South
11:00	Body Condition Scoring	Round Pen
11:00	Surviving as a Stable Owner	DNR East
12:00	Parade of Breeds	Coliseum
12:00	Conditioning During Downtime	AgStar Arena
12:00	Essential Oils for Horse/Human	DNR South
12:00	"Being" with your Horse	Round Pen
1:00	Cutting Horse Demo	Coliseum
1:00	Free Jumping to Build Confidence	AgStar Arena
1:00	Feeding Horses - Keep it Simple	DNR South
1:00	Maintaining Balanced Hooves	DNR East
2:00	Craig Cameron	AgStar Arena
2:00	Rehabilitation Using Horses	DNR South
2:00	Trimming Demo	Round Pen
3:00	PRCA Rodeo	Coliseum
3:00	Cross Training for Dressage	AgStar Arena
3:00	Changing Face of Horse Training	DNR South
3:00	Equine Chiropractic Adjustments	Round Pen
4:00	Parade of Expo Horses down Judson Avenue	

This is a partial schedule and subject to change!
For detailed info & updates:
877-462-8758
www.mnhorseexpo.org



Shawna Karrasch



Mounted Shooting



Draft Teams & Equipment



Hundreds of Vendors



Jec Ballou

Tickets at www.mnhorseexpo.org and at the Expo



3 PRCA RODEOS AT EXPO
ALL SEATS RESERVED!
Friday & Saturday 7:00 PM
Sunday 3:00 PM
\$12 Box Seats
\$8 Sections 1-3, 13-1
\$6 Sections 16-28
\$4 Sections 4-12
Plus Expo Daily Admission

Come listen to **Dirt Road Dixie** near Horse Barn & Coasters after the Rodeo Fri & Sat



John Harrison
Rodeo Entertainer

Volunteer at Expo
By yourself or with a group
For details call Missie at 952-451-9581

Huge Tack & Clothing Consignment Sale
More info at 320-355-2142

Daily Expo Admission
\$10 Ages 13-61
\$6 Seniors
\$6 Ages 6-12
FREE Ages 5 and under
FREE FAIR PARKING

Expo Hours
Friday 8:30am-9:30pm
Sat: 8:30am-9:30pm
Sun: 8:30am-5:00pm
Cattle, Poultry, Sheep Barn,
Dairy and CHS Building
close at 7pm Friday & Saturday

Minnesota Horse Council Announces 2014 Horseperson of the Year Dick Ames

On Saturday, January 17, 2015 the Minnesota Horse Council announced their 2014 Horseperson of the Year recipient. Criteria for the award includes:

- ♦ Long term, serious commitment to equine activity in the Midwest
- ♦ May be professional or amateur.
- ♦ Should have contributed in many areas, i.e., Western shows, English shows, 4-H, Little Britches and High School Rodeo, trails, legislation, clinics and other equine related activities.
- ♦ Usually the individual will have been a horse owner for many years although it certainly is not a requirement. The person could have worked "behind the lines" to great achievement.
- ♦ A mature individual, "long term commitment."
- ♦ The individual should have excellent character.
- ♦ The individual will likely be recognized by members of many horse-related groups and perhaps by the general population.

The Minnesota Horse Council takes great pride in awarding this honor to Dick Ames of Jordan, Minnesota. Ames meets or exceeds the above criteria in many categories and is very deserving of the award. Nomination letters were submitted from multiple organizations and individuals to help solidify the decision. He is one of those individuals that "has given so much of himself for many years without expecting any recognition" as was written in the nomination letter from 2013 HPOY Gary Raak. This seemed to be the consensus among the attendees at the banquet Saturday night when they found out he was being honored.

Dick Ames is a lifelong horseman who carries on a family tradition in Percheron draft horses that began around the turn of the 20th century. It was not until the early 1990s, though, that he started showing his own horses, and now fields one of the few hitches to have lasted more than 15 years in the competitive, labor-intensive industry. "We show, do parades, make appearances at community fundraisers and for charity, and we compete," says Travis Shaw, who manages the program, which requires three full-time employees and averages a dozen shows a year. "Dick is involved; he's very competitive. He drives the amateur fork in competitions and parades, and drives the hitch too." The public is intrigued by the Percherons' size, he adds, but the really important promotional connection between people and horses comes when audiences observe the horses working together as a team, an impressive achievement considering that it involves six or eight live animals, not easily-manipulated machines.

Ames' commitment to draft horses extends well beyond his own operation. He supports shows across the country, but his personal dedication to Minnesota county fairs has raised their profile and attracted more people to the events. "My dad just loves fairs," says daughter Lara Ames. "He's hands on--he drives the water truck, the dirt truck; he doesn't just pay others to do it. He goes out of his way to make everyone feel welcome." Ames has been particularly supportive of the fairs in Dakota County, where he built an arena, and Scott County, where he has been a long-time member of the board of directors. There, he built a second large draft horse barn, moved the pleasure horse arena, and has been instrumental in the care and maintenance of the facilities.



"He was behind expanding the draft horse show to many times what it was, with more hitches, more classes and more accommodations," says Jim Luce, who managed the Scott County Fair from 1996 through 2012. "And he knew how to advertise in the best possible way to get people to come to the show. Over the years, we documented how many people came in, paid to park and just walked over to the ring to where the shows were on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It was always a huge draw and he was the guiding force behind it, no question." One asset to the fair was that Ames committed his top Percheron division employee to running the draft horse show, because the fair didn't have anyone with the experience to do it. The efforts paid off: now a point competition for the North American Classic Series, the show hosts top hitches from as many as three or four provinces of Canada and eight or more U.S. states. The show typically draws 20 to 26 six-horse hitches and has one of the largest eight-horse hitch classes anywhere due primarily to the efforts of Ames.

Ames' *structural* contributions have not been limited to county fairs. In 2012, Ames Construction was the Minnesota State Fair's contracting partner in building the AgStar Arena, a 27,000 square foot facility for horses and livestock. Used during the State Fair by 4-H, FFA and State Fair open class exhibitors, it is also available for extended seasonal use by other groups. "As we selected various materials and design for the building, Dick's horse knowledge, as well as his extended contacts in the horse world, were extremely helpful," says Kay Cady, Executive Director of the Minnesota State Fair Foundation. "From an overall building design and development perspective, partnering with Ames Construction was an excellent choice."

In addition to Percherons, Dick Ames also loves Arabians. For more than 40 years, he, his wife Lollie and daughter Lara have bred the exotic horses at their Cedar Ridge Farm in Jordan and he has been an ardent supporter of that breed and its various organizations as well. Ames was a founding member of the Minnesota Arabian Horse Breeders Association, and in the late 1970s, was also a founding member of its very successful futurity. "He continues to be a tremendous contributor, not just with

HPOY--continued on page 10

MHC Co-Sponsors Small Farm Owner Workshop in Sherburne County

Small farm owners and their animals realize many benefits of proper manure and pasture management (i.e. good land stewardship). For example, a well-managed pasture can produce more forage which results in less trips to the feed store. Additionally, properly managed manure can result in less mud in high use areas and less habitat for breeding flies, bacteria and fungus. What you may not realize is that well managed small farms benefit more than just the people and animals that live there. The properties typically provide valuable natural areas; open areas like pasture, wetlands and wooded areas can provide much needed habitat for wildlife and in many cases can help protect against water pollution by absorbing and filtering rainwater runoff before it enters nearby ditches and streams.

The Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has taken advantage of the multiple benefits of land stewardship (i.e. dual benefit to landowners and water quality) by establishing a targeted Small Farms Program which provides enhanced assistance to farm owners in a select area along the Elk River. The program is made possible by a grant from the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, the SWCD was eligible for the grant because of the impaired water status of the Elk River. The Elk River has high levels of bacteria and nutrients; both levels above what the state says are safe for recreation. There are many small farms scattered across the landscape that drains to the impaired reach of Elk River; as such, they can be a part of the solution.

The Sherburne County Small Farms Program allows the SWCD to offer both technical and financial assistance to implement practices that protect water quality and the health of the farm; it's a win-win situation. Practices that are eligible for assistance cost sharing under this program help to increase forage production (includes pasture seeding and grazing plans), reduce flies and costs associated with manure disposal (manure management planning including use of composting bins), reduce muddiness in paddocks (storm water diversions and infiltration basis) and improve water quality (vegetated filter strips and other infiltration practices).



The funds are also being used to provide educational opportunities to small farm owners. In fact, the SWCD recently partnered with the U of M, Anoka Equine, and the MN Horse Council to host a workshop for small farm owners. The workshop included presentations by Krishona Martinson, Associate Professor and Equine Extension Specialist with the University of MN; Dr. Rick Marion of Anoka Equine; Tiffany Determan, Water Resource Specialist and Bill Bronder, District Technician both SWCD staff persons. In addition, two Sherburne County Landowners shared their experiences with managing manure. The workshop was well attended and well received with representation by over 45 small farm owners from across the state! Based on interest expressed, the SWCD hopes to host additional similar workshops in the future. In fact, the SWCD is already thinking about a future summer workshop on the farm so that attendees can see firsthand some of the land stewardship practices implemented with the grant!

For more information on the Small Farms Program, visit the SWCD website at: www.sherburneswcd.org or call Tiffany Determan: 763-214-1170 x4.

When I Am Old

I will wear soft gray sweatshirts
 And a bandana over my silver hair
 And I will spend my social security checks on wine and my horses
 I will sit on my porch in my well-worn chair
 And watch my horses grazing.
 I will sneak out in the middle of a warm summer night
 And go for a horseback ride, if my old bones will allow
 When people come to call, I will smile and nod
 As I show them my horses
 And talk of them and about them
 The ones so beloved of the past
 And the ones so beloved of today
 I will still work hard cleaning up after them
 Feeding them and whispering their names
 In a soft loving way
 I will wear the gleaming sweat on my brow
 Like a jewel, and I will be an embarrassment to all
 Especially my family
 Who have not yet found the peace in being free

To have your horses as your best friends
 These friends who always wait, at any hour, for your call
 And eagerly run to the fence when they hear your car
 To greet you as if you were God
 With warm eyes full of adoring love and hope
 That you will always stay
 I'll hug their big strong necks
 I'll kiss their dear sweet noses
 And they'll love me in their special way
 I look in the mirror and see I am getting old
 This is the kind of person I am
 And have always been
 Loving horses is easy; they are a part of me
 Please accept me for who I am
 My horses appreciate my presence in their lives
 They love my presence in their lives
 When I am old this will be important to me
 You will understand when you are old
 If you have horses to love too
 ~ Author Unknown ~

AMHA CELEBRATES THE MORGAN BREED IN MINNEAPOLIS



AMHA

Lots of Morgan fun and excitement took place at the 2015 American Morgan Horse Association (AMHA) Awards Gala and Convention. This annual gathering of Morgan members and enthusiasts took place February 27-28 in Minneapolis.

Some of the highlights of the two-day event included farm visits to local Morgan farms, Hardwood Creek Farm and Arcola Farm. Popular seminars included guest speaker, Patti Colbert, who spoke on generational marketing, a panel discussion on connecting with the Amish community, and world-renowned photographer Scott Trees presented a visual chronicle of his lifetime experience with horses.

Equine Photographer Howard Schatzberg was a guest speaker at the Awards Luncheon and talked about his 30 years of photography at the Morgan Grand National.

At the AMHA Annual Meeting of Members, Vicki Bennett was elected to represent Region 6, Mari Sanderson was re-elected to represent Region 7; Carol Fletcher was re-elected to represent Region 8; and C. A. "Tony" Lee was elected to represent Region 4 for the remainder of an unexpired term. Jeff Gove of Seabrook, New Hampshire, was re-elected as AMHA president as well as a Director-At-Large.

More than \$55,000 was earned at the annual AMHA/World Morgan Futurity Stallion Service Auction. The overall top-winning bid went to Dragonsmeade Axios for \$5,100. Net income following expenses from this auction will be distributed to the AMHA Marketing Program, World Morgan Futurity, AMHA regional shows, the AMHA Show Grant Program, and for marketing and promoting the breed.

Longtime Morgan supporters were recognized before the Morgan community on Saturday, February 28 for their dedication to the breed at the annual Awards Banquet. Man and Woman of the Year Awards honor those individuals for their continued support of the breed and this year's honorees were Bill Pettis and Cindy Mugnier. Kelly Kraegel was awarded the Cecil Brown Memorial Sportsmanship Award, which is given to a Morgan exhibitor who has displayed outstanding sportsmanship. Inducted into AMHA's Hall of Fame was Harry Sebring. The Breeders' Hall of Fame honors breeders who have produced Morgans that have had a significant impact on the breed. This year's honorees were Cingate Morgans, SpringMill Morgans, and Statesman Farm. The Golden Reins Award is given to a Morgan professional who has had a 30-year career in training or instruction and this year Diane Conrady was recognized. John and Michelle Wich were selected by their peers as the recipients of the Professional Award. Peaches N' Mae received special recognition for her work with people with disabilities. Tina Porter Rovers was



Awards Gala Committee: Ling Fu Wiley, C A Tony Lee III, Carol Fletcher, Lyle Wick and Erica Richard

selected as the recipient of the Morgan International Award for her Morgan breed promotion in Canada. Merriehill Farm was honored as the AMHA Promoter of the Year for going above and beyond in breed promotion. And finally inducted into the Show Horse Hall of Fame were *Holiday Compadre* and *Kern's Endeavor GCH*.

In 2016, AMHA will be joining forces with the American Hackney Horse Society, American Saddlebred Horse Association, and the United Professional Horsemen's Association to hold a Super Convention, to take place February 9-13 in Boston.

Founded in 1909, the American Morgan Horse Association is a non-profit organization serving more than 50,000 Morgan horse owners, breeders, exhibitors, and enthusiasts throughout the United States. AMHA serves as a parent organization to more than 90 recognized Morgan horse clubs and national service organizations.



Ada Johnson,
Kirsten Johnson
& Tom Bompolis



Coleen, Alyssa
and Lyle Wick



MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES - December 9, 2015

Meeting Location: Nutrena Conference Room - Leatherdale Center, U of MN St Paul

Board Members Present: Jan Schatzlein, Trina Joyce, Jennifer Willey, Mark Ward, Glen Eaton, Missie Schwartz, Tom Tweeten, Kim Otterson, Doug Persian, Kris Kelly, Tim Bonham, Dawn Moore, Dave Fleischhaker, Darrell Mead

Absent: Sue McDonough, Marian Robinson, Tracy Turner, Andrea Dubay (Administrative Assistant)

Members/Visitors: Meg Sax, Barb Fleischhaker, Kari Newman

I. Meeting called to order: 6:30 P.M. by Vice President Tom Tweeten

II. Introduction of Board Members/Visitors

III. Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda

IV. Treasurer's Report for November was presented by Tim Bonham. Net Available Funds \$433,604. Total Assets \$838,659.36 and Total Liabilities of \$405,055.04. Dave Fleischhaker made a motion to approve the November treasurer's report as presented. Dawn Moore seconded, motion carries.

V. Approval of Minutes: Mark Ward motioned to approve the minutes from the November meeting as presented. Jennifer Willey seconded, motion carries.

VI. Secretary's Report: Dawn Moore advised that Andrea is off tonight for medical reasons so please email your reports as always and they will be added to the report for the minutes. We expect Andrea to be back on track within the next week.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Treasurer's Ad Hoc Committee: Barb Fleischhaker presented an update and will have full report at our next meeting. She is confident that the 25 hours will be enough time to sort through this first phase. Barb is working on getting old records and physical copies archived electronically. Everything new is now electronically scanned and backed up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Expo: Glen Eaton advised the planning of the 2015 Minnesota Horse Expo is on schedule with clinicians being booked, PRCA rodeo being brought up to date, vendor Spaces and stalls contracts are arriving but slow this time of year as are ads for the program. Some new items are in the process of being introduced at the Expo such as a used trailer lot. The Expo is in the process of applying for State Sales Tax free status. This is of course will take some time, but if approved, would be a large amount of funds. Anyone can attend an Expo meeting which will be held December 30 at the Hopkins Library and the January 27 meeting will be held at Byerly's in St. Louis Park. The Horse Expo is in the process of an audit of the 2013 books.

B. Direct Funding - Mark Ward: No new applications were received during the last month. Two funding requests have been granted, but not paid out yet. Both organizations, Lac qui Parle County 4H Horse Project and Traverse Co 4H, have received emails from me advising them this week that they have until Dec 15th (their original deadline) to submit their reports and receipts to our treasurer in order to receive funding.

Here are the 2014 applications and committee actions:

1. Northern Lights Versatility Ranch Horse Association: \$500 to cover costs of clinician Lavert Avent at a ranch horse judged schooling show clinic (Aug. 1-3). Approved
2. Pennington Co. Northwest MN 4H horse Project: \$500 to purchase new pole weaving poles and a wireless mic for 4H clinics and other horse shows (May-Aug). Approved
3. Traverse Co 4H: \$500 to cover costs of clinicians for four clinics (June 10, June 24, July 15, & Aug 29). Approved
4. Great Prairie, Inc: \$500 to pay architect's fees to plan a future Pentathlon Park (no date planned). Not Approved
5. Lac qui Parle County 4H Horse Project, \$500 for clinician fees (Litta Hottel) for a 3-day horsemanship clinic, June 25-27, 2014 at the Lac qui

Parle County horse arena. Approved

6. North Country Horsemen: \$500 for a new laptop computer and printer/copier to be used in support of their club functions. Not Approved (The committee considered this a typical operating expense which is specifically excluded from our criteria for funding.)

7. Northern Lakes Region United States Pony Club: \$500 for 4-5 instructors at a pony club camp, June 26-29 2014. Approved (Despite the concern by two committee members that although east Minnesota riders are being served by this group, their rally is being held in River Falls Wisconsin, instead of in Minnesota.)

8. Douglas County 4H: \$500 for helmets and other items for start-up of "I Wish I had a Horse Camp," to be held sometime between July 16 and 27th, 2014. Approved

9. Jennifer Strohl, \$500 for start-up costs for a riding club. This club would help serve to make trail needs known to local parks. Not Approved (needs bylaws with officer's statement of non-profit status).

Our budget started with \$6,000 available, which would equal twelve \$500 direct funding grants. Now we have approved six \$500 grants, leaving \$3000 remaining in our budget.

C. Communications: Missie Schwartz asked if anyone reads our newsletter and was wondering about doing some sort of a find-a-fact in the newsletter and giving a reward or prize for the ones that respond and find it first. Ideas and discussion followed. Mark suggested the board would need to be excluded from the contest and asked for more details.

D. Legislative: Tracy Turner/Tom Tweeten Tom Tweeten advised he has not heard back from Allison Eklund regarding Red Horse and the tax issues as of yet. The Red Horse Ranch does intend to close the show facility due to tax issues. Discussion followed.

E. Grants: Tim Bonham advised recipients are still sending receipts in from 2014 for repayment of funds. Tim Bonham will choose a couple of recipients to speak. Details on each Grant recipient will be in the printed program at the annual meeting.

F. Scholarships: Trina Joyce advised 25 applications have been received and the committee is processing them currently. Trina Joyce will send the details on all recipients to the Administrative Assistant for the program.

G. Horse Person of The Year: Dawn Moore advised the committee has selected Dick Ames as the recipient for the 2014 HPOY. Gary Raak did a great job sending a nomination letter to each board member explaining why Dick is worthy of this honor. Mr. Ames' family is currently working on getting him to the meeting. At this point he is not aware of the award. We expect a good turnout as there are many individuals coming for the presentation.

H. TEEFA: Dave Fleischhaker advised the committee has completed one application we had this year, hay has been paid for, delivered and the recipient is happy. Dave Fleischhaker is trying to get a photo, if possible, for the newsletter. Discussion followed regarding the positive steps the recipient has taken to avoid needing assistance in the future.

I. Promotions: We had a booth at Horse Crazy Market last weekend at the Ramada Bloomington and offered a 2 for 1 special. The MHC signed 23 new or returning members. Not Renewals, but from older than last year. Some new businesses that wanted to take advantage of EXPO discount, too! Darrell Mead spoke to MSHA to have Saddlebreds at the 2015 Expo. Many vendors also donated several silent auction items at the event.

I. NEW BUSINESS

A. Certified Stables Procedures: Sue McDonough - Absent, Tom Tweeten would like to wait until Sue McDonough, committee chair, is present before we discuss. Main additions have to do with the steps to

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MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES - February 17, 2015

Meeting Location: Nutrena Conference Room - Leatherdale Center, U of MN St Paul

Board Members Present: Trina Joyce, Missie Schwartz, Tom Tweeten, Tracy Turner, Tim Bonham, Dave Fleischhaker, Darrell Mead, Dawn Moore, Sue McDonough, Mark Ward, Kris Kelly, Glen Eaton, Kim Otterson, Kari Newman, Barb Anderson-Whiteis, Meg Sax

Absent: Doug Persian

Members/Visitors: Barb Fleischhaker, Allison Eklund

I. Meeting called to order: 6:30 P.M. by President Tracy Turner.

II. Introduction of Board Members/Visitors.

III. Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda.

1. Trina Joyce added Therapeutic Programs to New Business
2. Trina Joyce added Survey to New Business
3. Trina Joyce added Thank You's to New Business
4. Darrell Mead added Trails to Committee Reports
5. Tracy Turner added Legislative to Committee Reports
6. Tracy Turner added Remote Meeting to New Business

** Special Item** Election of Officers

President - Sue McDonough nominated Darrell Mead, Tim Bonham seconded. Mark Ward nominated Tracy Turner, Trina Joyce seconded. A paper ballot revealed the President of the MHC will be Tracy Turner.

1st Vice President - Kim Otterson nominated Kris Kelly, Trina Joyce seconded. Darrell Mead nominated Tom Tweeten, Kris Kelly seconded. Tim Bonham nominated Mark Ward, Kim Otterson seconded. A paper ballot revealed the 1st Vice President will be Tom Tweeten.

2nd Vice President - Glen Eaton nominated Darrell Mead, Kris Kelly seconded. Kim Otterson nominated Kris Kelly, Missie Schwartz seconded. Tim Bonham nominated Mark Ward, Trina Joyce seconded. A paper ballot revealed the 2nd Vice President will be Darrell Mead.

Secretary - Kim Otterson nominated Missie Schwartz, Trina Joyce seconded. Darrell Mead nominated Dawn Moore, Glen Eaton seconded. A paper ballot revealed Dawn Moore will be the secretary.

Treasurer - Darrell Mead nominated Tim Bonham, Sue McDonough seconded. Tim Bonham will be the treasurer. Tim Bonham advised he would like to begin training in a replacement this year.

IV. Treasurer's Report for February was presented by Tim Bonham. Assets total \$769,100.15. Liabilities total \$452,573.16 with a net available funds \$316,526.99. Discussion and review followed. Glen Eaton motioned to approve the December treasurer's report as presented. Mark Ward seconded, motion carries.

V. Approval of Minutes - Minutes from the December meeting were presented to the board electronically prior to the meeting. Glen Eaton motioned to approve the December minutes as presented. No second, motion will be tabled until the March meeting.

VI. Secretary's Report - Dawn Moore asked each director to advise if they are in need of a new name badge as an order will be placed shortly. Dawn Moore advised directors that with the new year, their apparel allowance has reset. Catalogs with available items will be at the meeting in March. A thank you was received from Healing through Horses and Jane Karpe.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Treasurer's Ad Hoc Committee - David Fleischhaker introduced Barb Fleischhaker. Barb introduced herself and offered background on the MHC financial situation to the new board members. Barb advised Quick Books Online was purchased in January and the process of transferring the data has begun. Reports will begin looking differently as the data is transferred and the new system is producing the monthly reports. Barb advised an electronic back up from the past 8 years has been created and is stored in a safe at a separate location. The physical records still need a more permanent storage place. Options are being explored. Backup options to clouds were discussed.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Expo - Glen Eaton reported with 2-1/2 months before Expo the planning of the Expo is full steam ahead with more vendor and stall requests being received. Speakers booked are Craig Cameron, Shawna Karrach and possibly Pat Parelli. Marketing is in full swing with a full page in the *Horse Digest* magazine. Sponsors are coming in as well as ads. New this year is the Draft Horse display consisting of 18 draft horses and equipment used before the tractors came on board. There will also be a Polo competition Friday and Saturday. Also on the Como side of the Dairy Building will be a used trailer lot and a round pen for demos on the west side of the Dairy Building. The first pre-Expo meeting with the State Fair was held February 2 with another meeting set for March 23. We are looking for great weather this year and a great Expo.

B. Direct Funding - Mark Ward advised two new applications were received and have been approved by our committee since my last report. Two Rivers Pony Club: \$500 for jump judges, rental of P.A. system, supplies, and ribbons for a schooling jumper show on Sunday, July 5, 2015. Dakota Wicohan: \$500 for the cost of educators for their May 19, 2015 "Allies of the Horse Nation Fundraiser" and "Sharing of the Dakota Horse Tradition" educational event.

Last year, six \$500 grants were approved. Five of the six grants were paid out, for a total of \$3000. Traverse Co 4H did not submit a request for payment with receipts within the deadline, so that grant will not be paid and it can be removed from our treasury's liabilities. Our budget for 2015 is \$4000. So far we have approved two \$500 grants, so we now have \$3000 remaining.

C. Annual Meeting - Dawn Moore advised there were 186 people who attended in 2015. The silent auction raised almost \$2300 and all proceeds went to Freedom Farm's Healing through Horses program. The 2016 meeting will be January 23rd. The committee is currently searching for another silent auction recipient for 2016. Tom Tweeten has submitted a nomination committee report from the annual meeting election to the newsletter, administrative assistant, and website committee.

D. Promotions - Dawn Moore advised March 7th there will be a small farm day event in Becker that the committee will attend. Dawn Moore advised the MHC Facebook page has been receiving requests to promote and advertise various products, Dawn Moore has been referring those individuals to Expo. Dawn Moore advised help is needed to man the booth at the Expo again this year.

E. Horse Welfare - Tracy Turner advised a castration clinic will be held May 9th. The USDA has opened for public opinion the Horse Protection Act. Tracy Turner advised you can now visit their website and voice your opinion on the Act.

F. Legislative - Allison Eklund advised a new bill in the senate and the house that proposes an Agri-Tourism Immunity statute. While this would seem to be good news, it is proposed as a stand-alone statute that doesn't cross reference to the immunity statute regarding Livestock Activities, 604A.12. The new bill conflicts with the existing one because the new language provides immunity regardless whether the activity is carried on for profit. 604A.12 only applies to NONPROFIT sponsors of livestock activities. I think we should contact the sponsors of this bill and tell them that the new bill is great but it should be amended to ALSO AMEND 604A.12 Discussion followed. Last year a new bill passed regarding the governing of LLC's and there are a lot of changes. Allison Eklund asked that anyone with questions regarding the changes to contact her directly. Tim Bonham asked Allison Eklund to pen an article regarding the changes for the MHC newsletter.

G. Aisle of Breeds - Glen Eaton advised there has been discussion regarding EquiMania with the MN State Fair. Glen Eaton would like to

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become a Certified Stable and make them more generic, not include specific person's name but committee chair, and item 9 listing why they do not get certified, have a process that helps the stable get certified, i.e. an appeal process. Kim Otterson had some concerns about the criteria and wanted to see it addressed. Discussion followed as to what a CS receives once approved and what the CS memberships include. Item 4, clause added about the 501c3 removed and added that it is not for rescues, but instead the MHC has a certified rescue program for those types of facilities. Tom Tweeten suggested we leave some of the details up to the CS committee. Tim Bonham made a motion to approve the procedures as we have them tonight. Darrell Mead seconded. Jennifer Willey felt that we should all see hard copies first before voting. Motion withdrawn. Tom Tweeten said he would see that the corrections are typed up and the Administrative Assistant will distribute to the board prior to the February meeting.

B. Memberships: Meg Sax brought up that she has not received membership renewals, and wants to know when they go out. Discussion followed. Mark suggested we encourage new members to join using the auto-renewal on our website so that they do not forget to renew. She said she received no written notification about her membership renewal.

C. Photos for Annual Meeting: the Annual Meeting Committee is in need of photos or videos for the Annual meeting. Please send to Mark Ward so they may be included in a slide presentation beforehand. Any photos from Expo would be appreciated.

Announcements:

Submission for the newsletter is this Friday, December 12, 2014. Annual Meeting is January 17, 2015.

X. Tom Tweeten adjourned the meeting at 8:37 PM.

NEXT MEETING - February 10, 2015 - 6:30 p.m.
University of MN - Leatherdale Center

Expo Tack Sale

The tack sale is held annually at Minnesota's Horse Expo. Workers of the sale are Minnesota 4-H Horse project members and volunteers. This is a major fund raising event for the Minnesota 4-H Horse project.

**Consignment**

The public is invited to consign items. Consignors establish and price their items, using special tags provided, when items are brought to the sale. If you have 50 or more items, you may get tags from Curt Baumgart prior to the sale.

A 20 percent commission fee is charged on all items sold at the tack sale, 5 percent of that is used to pay Minnesota Horse Expo for rental space. The remainder of the commission supports Minnesota 4-H Horse Project activities and events. Please consider checking out your tack at home and bring it to the sale or visit the sale and find the tack you need.

Contact:

Curt Baumgart 320-355-2142
Al Vandenberghe 218-764-3351

February MHC Minutes--continued from page 8

change the current schedule for the Aisle. Glen Eaton would like to continue his role with booking the horses and taking care of the opening process at 7 am. Glen Eaton would like to see someone assume the role of finding individuals to work the information table. Glen Eaton asked directors who are interested in assuming that role to contact him directly.

H. Coalition of State Horse Councils: Glen Eaton advised there are plans being made with the hotel on room counts, meeting areas, etc. The MHC will host the fall meeting October 30th, 31st and November 1st.

I. Trails: Darrell Mead advised the Trail committee received a permit to use ATV's to help clear non-motorized trails.

J. Storage Facility: Glen Eaton advised the storage facility has been sold to another company and no changes have been noted at this time.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Remote Meeting: Tracy Turner opened a discussion to offer remote meeting access for directors who are unable to attend the meeting. Mark Ward advised the best connection would be approximately \$20 month. Discussion followed. Allison Eklund offered to draft a policy proposal. Tracy Turner charged Allison Eklund with checking the MHC by-laws with regard to electronic attendance and voting.

B. Certified Stables Procedures: Sue McDonough presented the current policies and procedures for the committee. Tim Bonham asked how the MHC addresses rescue operations as well as complaints. Sue McDonough advised the rescues are addressed under number 4 and will be redirected to the certified rescue program. Sue McDonough shared the procedure for complaints is as follows: she will be notified, she calls the stable owner the day before she will do a follow up inspection, a follow up investigation is completed. Kim Otterson asked if there are questions regarding veterinarians and farrier service for the stables. Sue McDonough advised those items are up to each individual stable. Mark Ward motioned to accept the procedures and evaluation form as presented. Kim Otterson seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carries. Tim Bonham advised a book on stable fires was purchased for review by the certified stable committee.

C. Therapeutic Programs: Trina Joyce advised that Sharadise no longer exists. It has been merged into True Strides at Camp Courage. Hold Your Horses is looking for a new location by March 31 (western suburbs). Freedom Farm is having a fundraiser on March 28 at Scarborough Fair in St. Paul. Dakota Wicohan is having a fundraiser/educational event at Gibbs Farm Museum in St. Paul on May 19.

D. Survey: Trina Joyce shared a therapeutic riding survey proposal from an outside entity asking the MHC to sponsor the survey. Trina Joyce motioned to sponsor the survey. Mark Ward seconded, motion carries.

E. Thank You Cards: Trina Joyce advised five thank you cards for scholarships have been received thus far.

F. Membership Renewals: Dawn Moore advised the renewal reminders go out in the annual meeting packet and another reminder for any members who have not paid will be mailed this week.

Announcements:

February 20th is the deadline for submissions for the next newsletter.

X. Tracy Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:41 PM.

NEXT MEETING - March 10, 2015 - 6:30 p.m.
University of MN - Leatherdale Center

HPOY--continued from page 4

financial backing but with direction and enthusiasm," says Greg Brown, MAHBA President. "He's always at the [Fall Festival, home of the futurity] show. We can always count on him to give support where we need it, and obviously it's a generational thing, because he brought Lara in and she remains very vital in the operation of our club. It's fair to say that there wouldn't be a Minnesota Breeders without Dick Ames."

Ames also was one of three founding sponsors of the Arabian Reining Futurity, which took the breed by storm 10 years ago. He and his associates put up the original funds to launch the futurity's prize money system and he has supported it with entries ever since. He even has taken up riding and showing reiners himself, proving to crowds at major shows that anyone, at any age, can enjoy participating in the sport. He still advises the futurity, suggesting improvements as it has matured into a showpiece of the industry.

Ames also tries to grow the horse industry "from the ground up." Cedar Ridge offers an extensive program of activities for young riders, including affordably priced lessons, and contributes to an array of scholarships. "My dad wants the horse industry to grow," says Lara Ames. "Any way that gets young people involved, he's all about it."

"Dick's the kind of guy who's always there for a friend, for the horses and for ideas," LaCroix says. "When I was down and out [with health problems], he called and said, 'Just say the word, and I'll have you in Mayo.' I know he's done that kind of thing for other people." He's so good hearted and always willing to listen to good ideas and help implement them. Dick is one of those people who gets everything on his ever-escalating to-do list done. He starts early, lasts late, and moves so fast that when the time comes, he'll be in heaven for hours before the devil knows he's gone.

There are many ways that Dick Ames has been important to the horse industry in Minnesota, and most who know him would argue that he has made a national impact in two equine breeds. However, while the gregarious Ames is well known in his business, in horses and around his beloved Minnesota county fairs, his contributions to the horse world often fly under the radar. For nearly half a century, he has simply "been there" for numerous causes, organizations and people in the equine community without asking for personal recognition. He has touched so many lives, young and old in this industry and never asks for anything in return. It's because of this that he deserves the honor of being named Minnesota Horseperson of the Year.



APRIL 24, 25, & 26

MEETING SCHEDULE**MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL
BOARD MEETINGS**

www.mnhorsecouncil.org

Leatherdale Equine Center Center ♦ 6:30 pm

1801 Dudley Ave ♦ St. Paul (U of M St. Paul Campus)

MHC Board Meetings are open, MHC members welcome to attend.

April 7, 2015	Oct. 13, 2015	Feb. 9, 2016
May 12, 2015	Nov. 10, 2015	March 8, 2016
June 9, 2015	Dec. 8, 2015	April 12, 2016
July 14, 2015	Jan. 16, 2016 -	May 10, 2016
Sept. 8, 2015	Annual Meeting	June 14, 2016

**MINNESOTA HORSE EXPO
BOARD MEETINGS**

www.mnhorseexpo.org

6:30 pm

Call 952-356-2090 for location.

April 14, 2015	Oct. 27, 2015	Mar. 29, 2016
May 19, 2015	Nov. 24, 2015	Apr. 19, 2016
June 30, 2015	Dec. 29, 2015	May 17, 2016
July 28, 2015	Jan. 26, 2016	June 28, 2016
Sept. 29, 2015	Feb. 23, 2016	July 26, 2016

For Horse's Sake

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Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

Dahl Graphics & Printing
39257 Taray Road ♦ Pine River, MN 56474
E-Mail: fhs-mhc@dahlgraphics.com

Newsletter Deadlines

May 2015	4/17/15	Nov. 2015	10/16/15
June 2015	5/15/15	Dec. 2015	11/13/15
July-Aug 2015	7/17/15	Jan. 2016	1/20/16
Sept. 2015	8/14/15	March 2016	2/12/16
October 2015	9/11/15	April 2016	3/11/16

MINNESOTA HORSEMEN'S DIRECTORY

The Minnesota Horsemen's Directory is a free resource provided by the Minnesota Horse Council to help you find horse-related information and services in and near Minnesota.

- ♦ Find a farrier, trail riding stable, boarding, lessons, tack stores, and much more! Use the Events Calendar to find shows, clinics and other horse-related activities. Use the new Jobs category to find a job or skilled job seeker.
- ♦ Find what you're looking for by choosing a category, or search the directory. Once you are in a category, browse the results alphabetically or by a sub-category or region.
- ♦ Help make this site comprehensive and accurate. Submit a free listing of your Minnesota horse-related business or organization. Once listed, you can edit your listing as often as you wish.
- ♦ Whether you are looking to hire or looking for an equine-related job in or near Minnesota, submit a Help Wanted or Seeking a Job ad here.

www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.com



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

www.mnhorsecouncil.org

- Individual - \$15
- Family - \$20
- Organization - \$25
- Corporation - \$25
- Certified Stable: First Year - \$35
- Certified Stable: Renewal - \$25

Name _____

Farm/Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Alt. Phone _____

E-mail _____

Brief description of your stable/business/involvement with horses:

Would you like to volunteer with MHC? If so, please list any interest you have: _____

I'd like to receive the MN Horse Council newsletter, "For Horse's Sake" by:

- E-mail
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Please complete this form and send with your check to:

Minnesota Horse Council
 PO Box 223 ♦ Plato, MN 55370

or join online at www.mnhorsecouncil.org/membership



Minnesota Horse Council

PO Box 223 ♦ Plato, MN 55370

763-755-7729 ♦ mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net

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Glen Eaton ♦ 952-922-8666 ♦ gleneaton@mnhorsecouncil.org

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Darrell Mead ♦ 763-420-3697 ♦ darrellmead@mnhorsecouncil.org

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Horseperson of the Year

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Horse Welfare

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Legislative

Tracy Turner ♦ 651-351-7206 ♦ tracyturner@mnhorsecouncil.org

Thomas Tweeten ♦ 952-226-4190 ♦ thomastweeten@mnhorsecouncil.org

Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

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Nominations

Thomas Tweeten ♦ 952-226-4190 ♦ thomastweeten@mnhorsecouncil.org

Pioneer Award

Doug Persian ♦ 763-242-5570 ♦ dougpersian@mnhorsecouncil.org

Promotions

Dawn Moore ♦ 952-949-6659 ♦ dawnmoore@mnhorsecouncil.org

Scholarships

Trina Joyce ♦ 612-729-7798 ♦ trinajoyce@mnhorsecouncil.org

Show Facilities

Thomas Tweeten ♦ 952-226-4190 ♦ thomastweeten@mnhorsecouncil.org

State Horse Council

Glen Eaton ♦ 952-922-8666 ♦ gleneaton@mnhorsecouncil.org

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Trail Blazers

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Mark Ward ♦ 651-436-6557 ♦ markward@mnhorsecouncil.org

Administrative Assistant

Andrea Dubay ♦ 763-755-7729 ♦ mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net

Out the Back Door . . .

Help - Climbing on my soap box!

It's one of those four letter words that people tend to avoid. In most cases - they avoid on both sides - asking and giving.

We all need it. Not too many of us can move a couch by ourselves, fix that section of fence or put on the 2015 Minnesota Horse Expo. So here I am asking for help. To be specific - volunteers.

Every single person who owns a horse in the state of Minnesota has benefited from the Minnesota Horse Expo via the Minnesota Horse Council. Every Single One. The profit from the Expo goes back to the Council, which in turn puts it back into the Minnesota horse industry such as high profile help such as sales tax issues and the more quiet direct funding of a 4H group to put on a clinic.

The Expo is run by a board of directors--each and every one of us a volunteer. The meetings are every month, all year round. Most of us have full time jobs, a family and our farms to run. We dedicate ourselves to ensure that equine enthusiasts have the best possible Expo experience we can provide.

We need help--volunteers to hand out programs, assist with wristbands, run the gates, and more. Four hours of your time in trade for a free entry to Expo and a t-shirt. Four hours to give back to the organization that has helped you as a horse owner. For details, please shoot me an e-mail or give me a call. Thank you!

Off my soap box - and out my back door.

Missie.Schwartz@MNHorseCouncil.org

APRIL 24, 25, & 26

Minnesota Horse Expo 2015

Return Service Requested

Plato, MN 55370
PO Box 223

Minnesota Horse Council

