



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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The professional organization that promotes equine-assisted activities and therapies to improve the lives of people with disabilities has a new name: the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH International.) Formerly NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association), PATH International better expresses the scope of the 42-year-old organization whose 6,300 therapy horses and 3,500 instructors serve 42,000 children and adults with physical, mental and psychological challenges at 800+ member centers around the world.

The PATH International board and members chose the term therapeutic horsemanship because it more accurately conveys the organization's numerous disciplines. PATH International centers now offer equine-facilitated psychotherapy and learning, therapeutic carriage driving, interactive vaulting, hippotherapy, competition and programs for leadership, team building and stable management.

Therapeutic horsemanship also encompasses a wider spectrum of disabilities and needs that a skilled therapy horse and certified instructor can address to help clients improve their cognitive, emotional, social and/or behavior skills. In addition to many physical disabilities such as cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, multiple sclerosis, paralysis, stroke and traumatic brain injury, PATH International centers work with those with autism, attention deficit disorder, anxiety and depression and have targeted programs to help at-risk teens, injured veterans and military personnel, seniors with Alzheimer's and victims of domestic and sexual abuse.

By incorporating the terms international and professional in its new name, PATH International

The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International is NARHA's New Name



reflects its global growth, as the association now has members on all continents except Antarctica. Individual and center members in countries from Brazil, Spain and the Netherlands to Israel, the United Arab Emirates, South Korea and China continue to join PATH International for its excellent certification and accreditation programs and reputation for high-quality safety standards.

The professionalism of PATH International programs is matched by the expertise of its 8,000 members, half of whom are certified as PATH International instructors. Some members are also physical, occupational, speech language pathology or mental health therapists; others work closely with health practitioners to benefit their clients. Many centers partner with hospitals, schools, the Veterans Administration and rehabilitation, residential and adult day care centers.

The association's tagline best expresses the work that its centers, staff, volunteers, equines and donors accomplish: Ensuring excellence and changing lives through equine-assisted activities and therapies. For more information or to find a center near you, contact Cher Smith at (800) 369-RIDE (7433); csmith@pathintl.org or go to www.pathintl.org.

The Minnesota Horse Council maintains a list of Minnesota programs, updated annually, that are accredited by (or have instructors that are accredited by) PATH International/NARHA. Find it at www.mnhorsecouncil.org. Programs may list themselves on the Minnesota Horsemen's Directory, www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.com.



MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL NEWS

GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 1

The Minnesota Horse Council (MHC) uses the revenue from the Minnesota Horse Expo to offer grants to charitable/non-profit equine-related organizations in Minnesota. Grants of up to \$7,000 are given as "seed money" to inspire new projects, capital improvements, or expansions of existing projects or services.

Schedule

All applications must be received by October 1. During December, Grants will be chosen by the MHC and all applicants notified. Grant recipients will receive a Letter of Award signed by the MHC Treasurer. At the MHC Annual Meeting in January, the Grants will be formally announced. Monies will be paid only upon actual initiation of the project. This will be arranged between the recipient and the MHC Treasurer. Funds must be used within the year.

Eligible Organizations

- ♦ Equine related
- ♦ Charitable Organizations: Non-profit, Federal 501c3 or State of Minnesota registered charity
- ♦ Non breed specific
- ♦ Non discriminatory practices followed, with equal opportunity for all
- ♦ Must not have received an MHC Grant in the past 3 years
- ♦ Operations congruent with MHC Goals and Objectives:
 - Improve communication with the general public for all horse-related activity.
 - Gather information of value for horse-related activities and disseminate that information to horse owners via printed material, online, or clinics and seminars. Sample equine-related topics: public and private trails, zoning regulation, stable safety, legislation, veterinary health, vehicle safety, legal concerns of horse-owning, humane treatment.
 - Provide expertise, consultation, and advice in horse-related matters.
 - Promote and support equine educational activities

Eligible Proposals

- ♦ Capital expenditures to build or expand facilities on non-profit owned property
 - ♦ New projects or services
 - ♦ Expansion of existing projects or services
 - ♦ Research projects
- Proposals will NOT be accepted for day-to-day operating expenses, normal maintenance and upkeep, year-end or hi-point awards, or improvements to private property.

Applying for a Grant

Please send the information listed below directly to the Grants Committee at following address:

MHC Grants Committee

4309 30th Ave. S. ♦ Minneapolis, MN 55406-3710

612-721-1007 ♦ Email: T-Bonham@scc.net

1. Short cover letter which must include:
 - a. Full name and address of your organization
 - b. Name, address, phone number and email of a contact person within your organization
 - c. Short summary of the organization's history, including a statement of goals and objectives.
 - d. Short description of the organization's current activities including indication that they are equine-related and not breed specific.
 - e. Location of the facilities where activities will be conducted
 - f. Description of facilities, including whether they are owned, or leased (from whom and how long a lease)
 - g. Short summary of the project you are proposing
 - h. Short description of the people served by the project (who and how many)
 - i. Dollar amount of grant requested
2. Additional page with general information about your organization
 - a. Summary copy of your most recent operating budget or financial plan.
 - b. List of officers, directors, and managing employees
 - c. Proof that your organization is non-profit/charitable, such as a copy of IRS 501c tax status, Minnesota Sales Tax exemption approval, or MN Secretary of State Registration for Business Corporations (M-SS1) indicating non-profit charter number. (If not yet received, send a copy of your application.)
 - d. Proof that your activities are available to all people regardless of race, religion, age, gender, disability or sexual orientation, e.g., copy of publicity describing your activities which includes such a non-discrimination statement.
3. Additional pages with detailed information about your proposed project
 - a. Clear and specific description of the project (not more than three pages).
 - b. Proposed schedule for the project
 - c. Detailed budget giving expenditures to start the project
 - d. Description of anticipated operating and maintenance costs for future years, and details of what income you will use to meet these costs.
 - e. Clear statement as to who will own and operate this project.

Please include all this information so we can give your proposal our full consideration. We will attempt to notify you if some required information is missing, but our volunteer time is limited so it is your responsibility to include all requested information. Remember to be brief and succinct. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the grant application.

Further information is also available at
www.MnHorseCouncil.org

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL NEWS



Common Mistakes on Grant Applications

From www.mnhorsecouncil.org

Not saying how much money you are requesting

We can guess, but it's better if you say so specifically.

Pages and pages of information on club history, bylaws, etc., but only two sentences describing the \$6,000 project you are proposing. We are much more interested in details about the specific project than in club history.

Asking for permanent improvements to private property

We can NOT pay for permanent improvements to someone's privately owned property. We will sometimes stretch this if there is a long-term lease arrangement. We can pay for improvements that are movable if you relocate to another property, e.g., we can pay for a PA system, but not for running underground electric wiring to the ring to power the PA system. We can pay for arena fence panels (which can be moved), but not for the in-ground posts that they are attached to. Basically, we want to know that the project we pay for will be available to horse people for some years to come.

A vague description of people served

We want to know (approximate) numbers. How many horse exhibitors are at the county fair? How many riders in this therapeutic riding program? How many volunteers? How many horse shows use this facility each summer, with about how many horses per show? Don't exaggerate your numbers -- we know horse people all over the state who know other horse people, so you'll likely get caught. We don't decide just on the biggest numbers; often the need is greatest in the smaller areas. We do want an idea of how many people will be served by this project.

Asking for normal operating expenses

Our Grants are for funding new projects, or expansions of existing ones. We might help buy another horse for a disabled riding program, but feed, vet and farrier costs are normal upkeep costs, and should be covered in your own budget. We can pay for developing a website, but the annual fee and monthly charges are normal operating expenses you must pay. In the end, we want to see that our Grants have provided new or additional things for Minnesota horse people.

Project benefiting only (or mainly) your own members

We want to provide for all Minnesota horse people, so projects that benefit only or mostly your own members are low priority. For example, if it's an improvement to your own club grounds that are used mostly for your own club shows and only used infrequently for an open horse show, 4-H horse clinics, or other public events, then a project making improvements at the county fairgrounds might get more consideration than your project.

Not talking about the rest of the money needed

Our maximum grant is \$7,000; many projects take much more than that. If you ask us for \$7,000 toward a \$20,000 project, give some indication where the remaining \$13,000 will come from. If you have plans to raise the money elsewhere, mention them. If you will have to split the project into phases and do only part of it this year, explain that. If you have pledges from local people to contribute once the starting funds are raised, state that (and how much). But don't leave off any mention of the remaining money needed. We want to invest in projects that will actually get built. Not mentioning the rest of the money needed makes us nervous.

Asking again too soon

Once an organization gets a Grant, we won't give them one again until 3 years later. If you apply earlier than that, we won't even consider your application.

Finally, don't count too much on our money.

Each year, we get several dozen grant applications, asking for a total of 3-4 times as much money as we have available to give. We have to choose between all these proposals. So each year we have to leave out several worthwhile projects, give projects only part of the money they asked for, or only match the amount of money they can raise locally. So keep that in mind, and make some plans for this situation. What would you do if we can only fund part of the project -- can you do that part alone, or can you raise the rest of the money needed for the whole project? What if we could match up to half the money needed, provided you raised the other half -- could your club do that?

"BUCK"--A Must See Film!

The film "Buck" opened July 1st at a limited number of theaters around the United States. It is a 2011 Sundance Film Festival award winning documentary on horse trainer and clinician, Buck Brannaman. Some may remember that Buck Brannaman was a keynote clinician a number of years ago at the Minnesota Horse Expo. He along with with Curt Pate were advisors to Robert Redford in his film, "The Horse Whisperer."

The film touches on the many aspects of Buck's life as a cowboy, trick roper, trainer, and clinician. The director of the movie, Cindy Meehl, includes some very candid comments made by Buck about his life as a child, being away from his family for long periods of time, and life on the road going from clinic to clinic. The interviews with people attending his clinics are very revealing about themselves, their horses

and the impact of Buck's approach to helping them understand the relationship between themselves and their horse.

The film is currently showing at the Landmark Edina 4 Theatre, 3911 West 50th Street, Edina, MN. You can see the movie trailer at: <http://www.buckthefilm.com>. I highly recommend this movie to anyone who truly enjoys horses and really wants to better understand themselves as well as their relationship with their horse.

Tom Tweeten, PhD, MHC Board of Directors





MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL NEWS

HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 1

The Horseperson of the Year program was started a quarter-century ago as a way to honor some of the outstanding people in the horse industry--those who stand out from the rest for their contributions to equine activity.

Do you know a special person who should be considered for the honor of Horseperson of the Year?

Horseperson of the Year Criteria

- ♦ 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, Rodeo--Little Britches and High School, 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.

Write a letter nominating that special individual. Clearly state reasons why the individual meets the above requirements. Be accurate; facts will be checked. Current members of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Horse Council are not eligible for consideration.

Entries must be postmarked no later than November 1st of the current year. Send your letter to:

Dawn Moore, Chair, Horseperson of the Year Committee
PO Box 1095, Minnetonka, MN 55345-0095
dmoore834@comcast.net

PAST RECIPIENTS OF HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR

| | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1970 | Louie Klugman |
| 1971 | Oscar Danielson |
| 1972 | Win Rockwell |
| 1973 | Keith Bartz |
| 1974 | Lloyd Borg |
| 1975 | Fred Kroger |
| 1976 | Rev. Lloyd Fortin |
| 1977 | Verlin Balfanz |
| 1978 | Fran F. (Dahl) Reker |
| 1979 | Tony Gasser |
| 1980 | Lavarre Hollingsworth |
| 1981 | Dr. Wes Schroeder |
| 1982 | Elmer R. Jones |
| 1983 | Duane A. Chinander |
| 1984 | Edwin J. Anderson |
| 1985 | Judy Jensen |
| 1986 | Everest F. Speltz |
| 1987 | Orville A. Volkmann |
| 1988 | Valera R. Purcell |
| 1989 | Pat Jenson |
| 1990 | Benny Van Cleve |
| 1991 | Ernie Wood |
| 1992 | Bill Walsh |
| 1993 | Vickie Inget |
| 1994 | Mona L. Bonham |
| 1995 | Milton Strand |
| 1996 | "Big Ed" Dauphinais |
| 1997 | Joan & Roger Berg |
| 1998 | Dan Dolan |
| 1999 | Dr. Robert Jordan |
| 2000 | Dan Ramberg |
| 2001 | Ken Bohlman |
| 2002 | Walt Westman |
| 2003 | Dr. William Sweeney |
| 2004 | Roy & Carolyn Shumway |
| 2005 | RaeDell Robbins |
| 2006 | Dale Froyum |
| 2007 | Miriam Tschida |
| 2008 | Guy Warner |
| 2009 | Lloyd Anderson |
| 2010 | Mary Abbott Taylor |

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Horse Transportation Safety Act of 2011

On June 27, 2011, Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) introduced the Horse Transportation Safety Act of 2011 (S.1281). The bill would prohibit the interstate transport of any horse in a double-deck truck.

Background

Senator Kirk has said he was prompted to introduce the bill by accidents involving horses' being transported in double-decker trucks, primarily a 2007 accident in Wadsworth, Illinois involving the overturning of a double-deck cattle truck carrying 59 Belgian draft horses. Eight horses died at the scene and ten were later euthanized. Kirk had previously introduced a similar bill when he was a Member of the House of Representatives.

Several states have passed legislation banning the transport of horses in these trucks, but there is no federal prohibition. However, it is illegal to transport horses to slaughter in such vehicles.

Bill

The bill would prohibit the interstate transport of any horse in a double-deck truck including ones specially designed for horses. The bill would impose civil penalties of \$100 to \$500 for each violation of the proposed probation. A separate violation occurs for each horse transported.

Congressional Action

The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

If you have any questions, please contact the AHC.
www.horsecouncil.org

GAO Releases Horse Welfare Report

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has released its eighteen month report entitled "Horse Welfare: Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences from Cessation of Domestic Slaughter." In 2009, Congress directed GAO to examine horse welfare following the end of domestic slaughter in 2007.

The study was requested by Congress in the 2010 Appropriations bill for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The GAO is an independent federal agency that Congress often turns to for reports and analysis of important issues. GAO evaluates federal programs and policies; and provides analyses, recommendations, and other data to help Congress make informed policy, and funding decisions on issues before it.

Report Findings

The 63 page GAO report made a number of findings.

- ◆ The U.S. slaughter market has changed since domestic slaughter ceased in 2007. Exports to Canada and Mexico have increased with nearly the same number of U.S. horses now processed in those countries (138,000 in 2010), as were in the U.S. before the state bans on slaughter and the restrictions on paying USDA employees involved in the process were put in place.
- ◆ These horses are traveling further to slaughter now and are being slaughtered in facilities not protected by U.S. law and regulations.
- ◆ Many of the state veterinarians contacted for the report said that fewer horse sales have been held and that prices for horses have declined since 2007, especially for the lower-to-medium end of the horse market. This means owners have fewer options for getting rid of horses they no longer want. The number of shippers has also declined dramatically.
- ◆ The GAO analysis indicates that the prices for these horses have declined by 8 to 21 percent, depending on sale price (lower-to-medium end). GAO estimated that the economic downturn reduced prices for all horses by perhaps 4 to 5 percent, which does not account for the entire decline.
- ◆ Horse welfare has also declined; although, the precise extent is unknown. State, local government, and animal welfare organizations reported a rise in investigations for horse neglect, straining their resources. They attribute this to several factors, but primarily the ending of domestic slaughter and the downturn in the economy.
- ◆ Several state veterinarians reported more cases of horses abandoned on private or state parks since 2007. Nearly all reported anecdotes indicated that the number of cases of abandonments has increased.
- ◆ Based on the information these officials provided, the primary drivers for the increase in abandonment and neglect are the cessation of domestic slaughter, causing lower horse prices and difficulty in selling horses, and the economic downturn, affecting horse owners' ability to properly care for their horses.
- ◆ State and local governments, tribes, and animal welfare organizations, especially rescues, are facing growing pressures to care for abandoned and neglected horses at a time of economic recession and tight budgets.



- ◆ Tribes reported increases in abandonments on their land, exacerbating the overpopulation of herds already there.
- ◆ The increase in unwanted horses available for sale or being abandoned on public lands is affecting the federal government's ability to manage the wild horse and burro population and adopt out these animals in government holding facilities.
- ◆ USDA faces three challenges in overseeing the welfare of horses during the transport to processing plants: (1) the current regulations only apply to transport directly to the plant; (2) annual bans by Congress on USDA's use of funds appropriated for inspecting horses impede USDA's ability to improve compliance with, and enforcement of, the current transport regulations; and (3) horses are now traveling significantly greater distances to their final destination where they are not protected by U.S. humane slaughter protections.
- ◆ In particular, GAO found that the Congressional ban on funding for the inspection of horses bound for slaughter had impeded the USDA's efforts to protect horse welfare because it only allows a USDA compliance officer to inspect the owner/shipper certificate, not the actual horses or their condition. Even if a compliance officer suspects a violation of the regulations regarding the physical condition of horses on the way to slaughter they are not allowed to inspect the horses to document potential violations by shippers.
- ◆ Even after the recent economic downturn is taken into account, horse abandonment and neglect cases are reportedly up, and appear to be straining state, local, tribal, and animal rescue resources. GAO found that clearly the cessation of domestic slaughter has had unintended consequences, most importantly, perhaps, the decline in horse welfare in the U.S.

Report Recommendations

The GAO report offered several recommendations to Congress and the USDA.

Matters for Congress

- ◆ In light of the unintended consequences, the report suggests that Congress may wish to reconsider the annual restrictions on USDA's use of appropriated funds to inspect horses being transported to slaughter facilities to allow USDA to better ensure horse welfare and identify violations of the Commercial Transportation of Equines to Slaughter regulations.
- ◆ Congress may wish to consider allowing USDA to use appropriated funds to inspect horses at slaughter facilities under the Federal Meat Inspection Act.
- ◆ Alternatively, Congress may wish to consider an explicit ban on domestic slaughter and shipping horses for slaughter in foreign countries.

Horse Welfare Report--continued on page 8

New Minnesota Law Protects Posse Horses and Riders While On Duty Assisting Law Enforcement

By: Ken Levinson, Carver County Mounted Posse and Counsel to SRRRMN

Effective August 1, 2011, Minnesota's laws will be changed in a way that will provide comfort and protection to a relatively small, unpublicized group of volunteers who give up their personal time, and their own resources, to assist Minnesota law enforcement officers and agencies in a variety of supportive ways.

The Posse Tradition. These unsung people and horses are the sheriff's office mounted patrols or "posses" (as they are sometimes called by the various sheriffs offices). It used to be, way back when Minnesota was a frontier territory starting in 1849, that laws were enforced by sheriffs on horseback. That tradition still continues today, but the rules have changed. Over the years, law enforcement here and elsewhere has become more technologically advanced, structured, and additionally more constrained by budgetary realities.

Many county sheriffs now take advantage of volunteers, such as their mounted patrol or posse members, who donate their time, effort, energies, and experience to assist where and when needed, so as to free up licensed police officers from duties that don't really require using such a valuable, trained asset. These volunteers (and others, such as reserve officers and explorers) often help law enforcement provide security patrols at county fairs, events such as Winstock and Pres. Bush's campaign speech in Chanhassen in 2004, search and rescue assistance, crowd control, city and park patrols, parking direction at various events, levee patrols to check on possible flooding exposures, etc. They also participate in a number of parades and outreach programs at schools representing their respective sheriffs offices and organizations.

The mounted patrol/posse members use their own horses and personal equipment, pay for their own insurance on their horses and trailers, and absorb a variety of costs and time away from work in order to give back to society and perform these civic duties.

Acceptance into sheriffs mounted patrols/posses is subject to strict requirements, including for example extensive written applications, pre-acceptance interviews, background investigations, psychological testing, evaluation of riding skills and experience, etc. Members are subject to continuous training and sensory evaluation on their horses to ensure, to the maximum extent feasible, that the horse and rider combinations are able to handle the wide variety of sensory experiences and crowds to which they may be exposed. If their evaluations indicate that additional experience or training is needed in some areas, the horse/rider combinations may be limited in what they can do for a particular period until they meet the sheriff's eligibility parameters for the various events in question.

The McLeod County Incident. Last summer, an incident occurred with the McLeod County Sheriffs Mounted Posse while conducting normal parking duties. A guest declined initially, and then complied angrily, with a request by a mounted posse member in uniform to park in a different spot to free up a handicapped spot for an entitled patron. The guest backed out and contacted one of the posse horses, though fortunately without

serious injury to the posse horse or rider. The County Attorney considered various charges, but ultimately concluded that he was only able to charge disorderly conduct and cruelty to animals. His analysis determined that a variety of other Minnesota laws that he, and we in the posse community, had assumed protected members and their horses while on duty, did not apply since the posse member was not a licensed police officer (i.e., not a "peace officer") and the horse was not considered a "police horse" under the then-current statutory definitions.

The Legislative Effort. Once news of the McLeod County Incident spread among the posse community, an Ad Hoc Committee formed to address and rectify the situation legislatively. The Committee Co-Chairs were Ken Levinson (of the Carver County Mounted Posse, and Counsel to SRRRMN) and Chuck Jones (of the McLeod County Mounted Posse). Other members included representatives of SRRRMN (Emily Boote), the MN Sheriff's Mounted Posse Association (Jean Fredlund, who also represented the Dakota County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol), the Washington County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol (Kevin Stokes), and the Three Rivers Park Police (Mary Hamilton). In addition, as the process, drafting and testimony before the Minnesota legislature progressed, the Ad Hoc Committee's work was endorsed by, and even had supporting testimony in the Legislature from, the Minnesota Sheriffs Association (Jim Franklin, Executive Director). Lastly, of course the sheriffs under whose auspices these various mounted patrols/posses function were most supportive and encouraging, including particularly Sheriff Scott Rehmann of McLeod County and Sheriff Jim Olson (and the immediate past Sheriff, Bud Olson) of Carver County.

In essence, the Ad Hoc Committee proposed to amend certain definitions already in Minnesota law to make it clear that volunteers (and their horses) who are part of Sheriffs Office mounted patrols/posses and similar law enforcement functions, who are acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of law enforcement, and who are subject to attack or injury while on duty are entitled to the same types of protections and respect from the general public as other law enforcement members.

To accomplish this, the Ad Hoc Committee drafted and proposed changes to the laws relating to Assaulting or Harming a Police Horse, expanding the then-current definition of "Reserve Officer" and adding an additional gross misdemeanor to existing law that would apply to assaulting a Reserve Officer. Originally, the focus by the Ad Hoc Committee was very targeted, just to mounted patrol/posse members and their horses. But, in response to House Members' questions during the first testimony before the House Committee on Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance, the Ad Hoc Committee and sponsors realized that other volunteer members of Sheriffs Offices (such as reserve officers and explorers) who met the

Posse Horses and Riders--continued on page 8

ARKANSAS EXPERIENCING EFFECTS OF FLOODING

Submitted by Marian Robinson, MHC

We all know that the southern states have been getting hit hard with flooding and tornadoes. This story is about an Arkansas group of volunteers from the Arkansas Equine Foundation which is a part of the Arkansas Horse Council—as told to Marian Robinson by the head volunteer Betty Jones.



“Our group has been working rescuing animals since April. We have horses being held in shelters, livestock auctions, rodeo grounds and just about every other place. Lots of neighbors helping neighbors. One of the trailers has two flats because of the horrible road conditions and volunteers had to go pick up some more animals near Berryville that have to be brought to our compound until more fences can be put back up. The floods have taken out fences everywhere and the only thing holding the animals in place is the water surrounding them. When it goes down they will be able to take off and go in all directions. We are getting them out by leading them through the water to trailers nearby and then trucking to wherever they can be held (sometimes we even had to literally make them swim to safety).

Not just horses but all sorts of animals this time. At this time we were loading goats onto trailers and wondering where we were going to put them. We are so glad that most of the animals are in good shape and not injured. More than 50 animals have been rescued and sheltered.

Madison County (NW corner of the state) is where most of us live and volunteer. Having to work around closed interstate highways is a hassle. Joplin, Missouri isn't all that far from us either. Besides the floods to contend with we also have earthquakes. The largest so far has been 4.7! Some of the old river beds are in really bad shape but if you need to get to the animals you go full steam ahead with a little wish and prayer---and I mean praying as we went through areas that are mere gravel beds. We have put on hundreds of miles on our vehicles and working out of our own pockets. We have gotten some wonderful donations from other private individuals and without them I don't know what we would have done. One trip alone was over 200 miles. As far as we are concerned this year's flooding is worse than the Red River flood we had here in 1990 (yes Virginia there is another Red River other than in Minnesota or Texas). Some days we would get 3 inches of rain and other times 8 inches of rain....with a few days of good weather in between. We have been told by county officials that it will take at least 2 years to get our land back to what it was before all this happened. As of June 3rd we are still battling the elements but the animals are safe.”

Monetary donations can be sent to:
The Arkansas Equine Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 251
Kingston, AR 72742

AAEP FOUNDATION FUNDS EFFORTS TO AID HORSES AFFECTED BY SEVERE WEATHER

Relief organizations responding to equine emergencies in the aftermath of a series of destructive storms this spring are eligible for funding from the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) Foundation. In addition, the Foundation welcomes donations for its Equine Disaster Relief Fund to help accommodate the potential needs of equine and veterinary communities impacted by recent storms and natural disasters.



As part of its mission to improve the welfare of horses, the AAEP Foundation accepts year-round funding requests to assist organizations responding to disasters and emergencies affecting the equine community. Organizations working to help horses in areas devastated by recent severe weather or other natural disasters can apply for funding from the Foundation's Emergency Relief Fund at www.aep.org/disaster_reliefund.htm.

After Hurricane Katrina hit the gulf coast in 2005, the AAEP Foundation formed an Emergency Relief Fund to aid horses in the event of a natural disaster. Since the fund was established, the AAEP Foundation has donated emergency funds to support the Mounted Division of the New Orleans Police Department, the Louisiana State Veterinary Medical Association's Equine Committee Foundation, the Mississippi State Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Disaster Relief Fund, hay and feed programs in the gulf region, and support for emergency preparedness programs at the University of Florida and Texas A&M Colleges of Veterinary Medicine, among others.

The AAEP Foundation is currently accepting donations for its Equine Disaster Relief Fund. To make a donation, visit the AAEP Foundation Web site at www.aepfoundation.org.

Silver Spur Saddle Club Gets New Announcer Stand

The Silver Spur Saddle Club received a Minnesota Horse Council grant to help build their new announcer's stand.



Determining the Value of Rained On Hay

By Dan Undersander, PhD, Univ. of WI & UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
 Krishona Martinson, PhD, Univ of MN **EXTENSION**
 Continued from the June issue of "For Horse's Sake"

How does rainfall intensity and forage moisture affect losses?

Research is conclusive on these two points. Given the same amount of total rainfall, a low intensity, longer rainfall event will result in more leaching of soluble compounds than a high intensity, short rainfall. Also, as forage moisture content declines, it is more prone to dry matter loss from rain. In Wisconsin rainfall studies, the maximum loss in dry matter (54%) was a treatment where 2.5 inches of rain fell on hay that was nearly dried.

How does rainfall affect forage quality?

Perhaps nothing is more frustrating than to see excellent quality hay turn into unsuitable feed with each passing rain and subsequent raking. Most rainfall studies are in agreement that wetting of field dried alfalfa has little impact on protein concentration. For rained-on hay, it is common to see relatively high protein values in comparison to fiber concentrations, unless significant leaf loss occurs. With the leaching of water soluble carbohydrates, structural fibers comprise a greater percent of the forage dry matter. Depending on numerous factors, the digestibility of rained-on hay may decline from 6 to 40%. Changes in fiber components are thought to occur by indirect mechanisms. Fiber components are concentrated when the water soluble carbohydrates are leached from rainfall events. Additional fiber is not made during the wetting process, it is merely concentrated.

Conclusions. Rained on hay can be a suitable forage, but quality depends on several factors. Forage quality tends to be retained if rain occurs soon after cutting when the forage has had minimal time to dry; the rainfall was a single event compared to a multiple day or drawn-out event; rainfall intensity was higher versus a longer, lower intensity event; and the forage was not rewetted numerous times.

Rained on hay is actually beneficial for horses prone to laminitis and other metabolic disorders because of its reduced water soluble carbohydrate content. Analyzing forage for nutrient content is recommended, and can be especially useful when determining the quality of rained on hay.

Horse Welfare Report--continued from page 5

Matters for USDA

- ◆ To better protect horses USDA should adopt the amendments proposed several years ago to the transport regulations to more broadly define "equines for slaughter" so that federal oversight is extended to more of the transportation chain for horses going to processing facilities.
- ◆ USDA should use other agency resources to improve the completion, return and evaluation of the owner/shipper paperwork required under the transport regulations.
- ◆ USDA should enter into formal agreements with Canada and Mexico to improve the cooperation and assistance between USDA and the authorities in those countries responsible for processing horses.

Posse Horses and Riders--continued from page 6

same criteria (described below) while on official duty for or on behalf of law enforcement should also have similar protections. The proposed legislation was redrafted accordingly to reach these law enforcement volunteer organizations as well.

As the hearings, testimony and redrafting process developed in the Minnesota House, the Minnesota Senate held off on formal consideration so it could address the same bill and language as would be presented to the full House for passage. After the Ad Hoc Committee's Co-Chairs appeared and testified before the House Committee on Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance, and then an Ad Hoc Committee Co-Chair testified before the House Committee on Judiciary Policy and Finance, the bill was ready for final House action-and for Senate consideration. Once the Senate version was amended to conform to the final House bill, an Ad Hoc Committee Co-Chair appeared and testified before the Senate Committee on Judiciary Policy and Finance, and the bill was voted out unanimously by the Committee. This set up the mechanics ultimately for final passage of the same bill by both legislative chambers (the House on May 20th and the Senate on May 21st), thus avoiding the necessity for a Conference Committee. The bill was approved by Governor Dayton on May 27th.

The Sponsors. Two key legislators agreed to act as Sponsors for the proposed legislation, Rep. Ron Shimanski (R, District 18A) in the Minnesota House, and Sen. Scott Newman (R, District 18) in the Minnesota Senate. Without their commitment, advice and assistance, and that of their staffs, this effort would not have been successful. In addition, as the legislative process and appearances before several legislative committees unfolded, numerous co-sponsors were added.

What the Law Does (Now). In general, the revised laws now provide for criminal sanctions chargeable for injury or harm to reserve officers or posse horses, or both. This is accomplished in three ways:

1. Under the new law, the definition of "Reserve Officer" (in MN Statutes 626.84, Subdivision 1(e)) is expanded to include various volunteer law enforcement organizations and functions not previously specified. Thus, mounted patrols and posses are included (whether acting at the time in a mounted or unmounted situation, since mounted units sometimes are asked to assist law enforcement unmounted or temporarily unmounted), as well as other types of reserve or special deputies, and "all other employees or volunteers" performing reserve officer duties for law enforcement.
2. New provisions are added under the existing statutes addressing Assaulting or Harming a Police Horse" (MN Statutes 609.597) to make it clear that a "police horse" now also includes horses "trained for crowd control and other law enforcement purposes" if they are being used to assist "reserve officers" in the performance of official duties. It was this definitional linkage that was missing in the law prior to the McLeod County Incident. The requirements for an offender to be charged under the expanded penalties in this section are that (a) the horse must

Posse Horses and Riders--continued on page 10

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES - May 10, 2011

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

Board Members Present: Darrell Mead, Missie Schwartz, Jan Schatzlein, Tim Bonham, Tracy Turner, Jennifer Willey, Sue McDonough, Tom Tweeten, Trina Joyce, Marian Robinson, Charlyn Cadwell, Dawn Moore, Carol Dobbelaire, Sue McDonough, Dave Fleischhaker

Absent: Judy Jensen, Glen Eaton, Mark Ward

Members/Visitors: Allison Eklund, Jean Fredlund, Tim Wampfler, Miriam McGurran, Rick Dobbelaire

I. Meeting called to order: 6:34 P.M. by Tracy Turner

II. Introduction of Board Members/Visitors

Tracy Turner introduced the aforementioned guests and had the directors of the MHC introduce themselves to guests.

III. Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda

Jennifer Willey added Membership Form to New Business
Darrell Mead added Trails to Committee Reports
Allison Eklund added a Legislative Announcement to New Business
Dave Fleischhaker added a General Announcement to Old Business

IV. Treasurer's Report for April was distributed by Tim Bonham. Total assets: \$797,336.41 with net available funds of \$423,762.44. Dave Fleischhaker motioned to accept the April treasurer's report as presented. Trina Joyce seconded, motion carries.

V. Approval of Minutes - Jan Schatzlein motioned to approve the April minutes with a year typo correction within the Expo Committee report. Tim Bonham seconded, motion carries.

VI. Secretary's Report - Dawn Moore - the MHC received a thank you card from Dave Fleischhaker. There was one outstanding check remaining from the Annual Meeting that has been resolved.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Announcement - Dave Fleischhaker thanked the MHC board for their thoughts, emails, letters, flowers etc. during his recent illness.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Expo - Glen Eaton reported: There is nothing to report with the short time from the Expo event only that we had a great turn out despite the cold, rain, wind and snow. The Horse Barn was full of horses and most of the vendor booths were rented. Speaker areas were well attended and most everything went very smooth. Will have much more at the next Council meeting. At this time I propose the following be approved for the 2012 Minnesota Board of Directors: Glen G Eaton, Missie Schwartz, Brenda Miller, Del Bauernfeind, Laura Lyseng, Darrell Mead, Jennifer Buskey, Tracy Turner, Janet Schatzlein, Charlene Cadwell, Angela McNally.

Approval of the Expo Board for 2012, Tim Bonham motioned to approve the board as presented. Tom Tweeten seconded, motion carries. Darrell Mead motioned to have Glen Eaton retain his position as Expo President. No other nominations received. Jan Schatzlein motioned to move to white ballot. Missie Schwartz seconded. Glen Eaton elected President of Expo. Darrell Mead motioned to have Brenda Miller retain her position as Expo Treasurer. No other nominations were received. Jan Schatzlein motioned to move to white ballot. Missie Schwartz seconded. Motion carries.

B. Direct Funding - Mark Ward absent, no report.

C. Trails - Darrell Mead reported a new owner has taken over the St Croix trail system and is not going to allow horses on the trails. Darrell Mead will meet with the new owner to discuss the issue.

D. TEEFA - Carol Dobbelaire has reached out to a couple of individuals who were struggling to care for their horses. Thus far, no one has accepted their help as the owner's felt their situations were long term struggles and the monies would not alleviate the issue. Carol Dobbelaire advised that the funds currently available to TEEFA may not cover the costs of operation and therefore may need to request a budget for 2012. Also under consideration is the creation of a hay bank. Carol Dobbelaire asked all board members to promote this committee.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Guidelines for the MHC Newsletter - Dawn Moore led a conversation on the policy of the MHC newsletter not to accept advertising. Discussion followed. Missie Schwartz requested the board submit more articles for the publication.

B. MHC is for MN only - Dawn Moore voiced a reminder that the MHC programs are currently for residents of MN. Discussion followed.

C. MHC Foundation - Allison Eklund discussed the benefits and concerns over the MHC creating a foundation. The cost to create a foundation would be approximately \$370 in filing fees. A separate board would need to be created for a foundation. Discussion followed.

D. Legislative Update - Allison Eklund advised there has been some confusion with the horses are livestock bill and the minimum standards of care required for Equines. Allison Eklund suggested creating a press release for distribution to affected agencies. Dawn Moore motioned to have Allison Eklund create the aforementioned press release. Sue McDonough seconded, motion passed. Tracy Turner advised we are part of the omnibus tax bill instead of the Agriculture Bill.

E. Membership Form - Jennifer Willey advised she is out of membership applications to use in the booths at trade shows. Jennifer Willey passed around a prototype of a membership form she has created. Discussion followed. The board elected to continue with the version available on the website rather than creating a completely new form.

F. Racino - Tracy Turner advised the current Racino legislature is in the jobs committee.

Announcements:

May 13th is the deadline for submissions for the next newsletter.

X. Tracy Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:13PM.

NEXT MEETING ♦ June 14, 2011 ♦ 6:30 p.m.
University of MN ♦ Leatherdale Equine Center

MN Board of Animal Health Update

By: Bethany Hahn, MN Board of Animal Health

An outbreak of Equine Herpesvirus (EHV-1) was traced to horses that attended the National Cutting Horse Association's Western National Championship in Ogden, Utah from April 30 to May 8, 2011. Horses from 29 states, including Minnesota, attended the show. No cases of the disease have been found in Minnesota, and all EHV-1 quarantines on exposed Minnesota horses have been released.

Effective May 24, 2011, all horses entering North Dakota for any length of time will need a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. A negative coggins test within the last 12 months is also still required. Please call the North Dakota Department of Agriculture at (701) 328-2655 or (800) 242-7535 with questions.

Posse Horses and Riders--continued from page 8

be under the control of a reserve officer (as now defined), and (b) the reserve officer must be operating at the time of the offense "at the direction of, under the control of, or on behalf of a peace officer [for example, a licensed police officer] or a law enforcement agency...." Various offenses in this revised section could now be chargeable in the event of varying levels of harm or injury to the mounted patrol/posse horse and to the rider.

3. The amended law provides (in MN Statutes 609.2231, new Section 1, Subdivision 8) for a separate offense chargeable as a gross misdemeanor relating to an assault on a "reserve officer" (as now defined). The amended law provides that reserve officers (such as mounted patrol/posse members, as well as other reserve officers, special deputies, and similar law enforcement employees and volunteers) must be (a) engaged in the performance of "official duties", (b) must be acting "at the direction of, under the control of, or on behalf of a peace officer or supervising law enforcement officer or agency" and (c) the person being charged "should reasonably know that the victim is a reserve officer" so engaged in the performance of such official duties. This last requirement was requested by several House Members to make sure that the public was on notice through appropriate uniform or other similar markings that the reserve officer at the time was in fact an official representative operating under the direction and control of law enforcement.

Summary. The legislative process was effective, efficient and collaboratively participatory by all constituencies. This included not only the hard work and numerous comments and drafting suggestions by members of the Ad Hoc Committee, but also by various legislators and their staffs as well. The comments and questions from the various House and Senate Committees provided insight into other, somewhat broader issues of protection that should also be addressed beyond the relatively narrow and unusual McLeod County Incident involving a posse horse. Committee staffs and the House Counsel's Office were particularly supportive and responsive along the way.

But, in the end, this process really represented democracy in action. Citizens saw a gap in the law that should be rectified, legislators agreed to support the effort, members of the two chambers agreed on what the corrections and sanctions should be to provide the missing protections, and the Legislature and Governor enacted a bill that will help protect the volunteers who serve law enforcement, on their own time and utilizing their own resources, while exposing themselves and their horses to potential danger, attack or injury in the course of their official duties. This process was, truly, a "Win/Win."

A copy of the actual legislation can be found at www.revisor.mn.gov/bin/bldbill.php?bill=S0301.2.html&session=ls87

There is no secret so close as
that between a rider and his horse.

~ ROBERT SMITH SURTEES
MR. SPONGE'S SPORTING TOUR

2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

View www.mnhorsecouncil.org and
www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.org for additional events

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MEETINGS

Leatherdale Equine Center Center ♦ 6:30 pm
1801 Dudley Ave ♦ St. Paul
Located on the U of M St. Paul Campus

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| February 8 | June 14 | October 11 |
| March 8 | July 12 | November 8 |
| April 12 | August - No meeting | December 13 |
| May 10 | September 13 | |
| January 15, 2011 - Annual Meeting - Northland Inn | | |

MINNESOTA HORSE EXPO BOARD MEETINGS

Byerly's Community Room ♦ 6:30 pm
3777 Park Center Drive ♦ St. Louis Park, MN

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
| January 25 | May 24 | September 27 |
| February 22 | June 28 | October 25 |
| March 29 | July 26 | November 29 |
| April 19 | August - No meeting | December 27 |

For Horse's Sake

Editors: Linda Dahl and Missie Schwartz

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For Horse's Sake is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Horse Council (MHC). Statements appearing in *For Horse's Sake* are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the MHC. To reprint any material published in *For Horse's Sake*, please notify MHC of your intentions. Full credit needs to be given to the author. Articles of relevance to the equine industry are earnestly solicited. The Minnesota Horse Council is a non-profit member-supported volunteer organization representing all equine disciplines and breeds in Minnesota's equine livestock industry.

Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

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2011 Newsletter Deadlines

| | | | |
|------------------|---------|-------------|----------|
| January/February | 1/21/11 | July/August | 6/10/11 |
| March | 2/11/11 | September | 8/12/11 |
| April | 3/11/11 | October | 9/16/11 |
| May | 4/15/11 | November | 10/14/11 |
| June | 5/13/11 | December | 11/11/11 |

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 _____

Website _____

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:

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Please complete this form and send with your check to:

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

Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

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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

Temporary Emergency Equine Feed Assistance (TEEFA)

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

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Administrative Assistant

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

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Minnesota Horse Council

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APRIL 27, 28, & 29