



MINNESOTA
HORSE
COUNCIL

QUARTERLY

P.O. Box 30481 St. Paul, Minnesota 55175

A SPONSOR-BODY MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN HORSE COUNCIL

Fall 1981

H A P P Y H O L I D A Y S !

ANNUAL MEETING

The Minnesota Horse Council will be sponsoring an (very) informal beer/wine/cheese party (December 12, 7:00 p.m.) at the home of one of their directors as a "year-end" event for all members. Special invitations should already be in the hands of each member by this date. If you have not received yours, contact Ruby Bartlett at 612/938-8974. This event will include election of directors, year-end reports, presentment of the Horseman of the Year Award for 1981, and a pro and con debate (short but, hopefully, fun and informative) on pari-mutuel. All individual members are invited as are the top four officers of each organization and/or MHC representative.

RESIGNATIONS OF DIRECTORS

Anne Gilcrest, Barbara Ahrens, Barbara Lyman have each determined that they cannot find the necessary time to help promote the growing activities of your MHC and have, therefore, submitted their resignations as directors so that their seats can be refilled at the Annual Meeting. The Board regrets their leaving and thanks them for their efforts to date on behalf of the MHC. (A slate of new directors, submitted by a MHC committee, is proposed to fill the vacant seven slots. These names were included with the invitations to the Annual Meeting sent to all members. If you didn't get yours, please contact Ruby Bartlett (612/938-8974) for further information. Ballots will be accepted for write-in candidates by all members on or before that date.

EXPO '82

It's coming along just great! It looks like most of the major breeds will be exhibiting their horses. Breed or activities organizations will receive preference in obtaining a stall so that we can demonstrate these breeds and activities on an overall basis. The remaining stalls will then be sold to what we call the "commercial" class. Management will not assign any stalls until after all stall requests are in (January 15) so that it can first plan the live-horse exhibition program around those requesting stalls. For those of you who are awaiting the booth and stall reservation packages, a special note. The Mpls. Health Department took longer than expected to review and approve our floor plan. The floor plan has now been finalized and the packages should be mailed in the next few days.

NEW MEMBERS:

The MHC is delighted to add the Hennepin County Park Reserve District as a certified stable. We also welcome Bill Carson and Patricia Pavei (the latter of Wisconsin).

CAMP COURAGE RIDE

October 17-18 -- a wet Saturday and a cold, windy but gorgeous Sunday -- but a successful and well-attended endurance/-competitive ride (sponsored by the MHC) for the benefit of Camp Courage. All contributions have not yet been received but we think we made a few hundred dollars. There were 15 endurance riders and 43 competitive. The ride was run in Lake Rebecca and Baker Parks. The Hennepin County Park Reserve District's mounted patrol really knocked themselves out to be of help to

us. Their paid staff and volunteers helped put up signs, measure distances, served as mounted check points (with walkie talkies) etc. Many thanks are extended to them for their invaluable assistance.

NEW SHOWS

Director Karen Humphrey, as Chairman of the MHC Special Events Committee, has proposed an academy and novice circuit for 1982. More on this as the plans develop.

PARI-MUTUEL

There is a move again to try and bring pari-mutuel into Minnesota. A House subcommittee unanimously passed a bill (H.F. 376) last Wednesday proposing a constitutional amendment to the Minnesota Constitution that would allow for pari-mutuel racing in Minnesota. An amendment was added to include dog racing. The bill now goes to a full House Committee for study. Many individuals see this as another way to get Minnesota out of the red. (Note: It has been determined by the horse people working on the bill that, even if the bill should become law, it would be at least five years before any race track could be operational.) A local brokerage house is presently researching the feasibility of selling public bonds for a publicly-owned race track in the Twin City area. More on this later.

NORTH RIDGE FARMS

There is a "North Ridge Farm" in Minnesota (Saddlebreds), but perhaps you didn't know that M/M Franklin Groves also own another (600 acre) farm by the same name outside of Lexington, Kentucky, for breeding and training of Thoroughbreds. This one was recently recognized by the American Association of Nurserymen for site planning and landscaping. First Lady Nancy Reagan serves as chairman of the awards program for that association and presented an award on September 15th in the East Room of the White House to Mrs. Groves and the landscape designer. Of the 29 projects nationwide receiving an award (out of more than 300 submitted), North Ridge Farm was the only horse farm so honored.

GROVES AGAIN

M/M Franklin Groves of Wayzata had a gelding ("The Bart") lose a photo-finish in the Arlington Million. The horse got to the wire by the shortest of margins, a nose. The Bart's career earnings are \$469,976.

OTHER RACING NEWS

Minnesota: Chosen Victory (owned by John Obowa) won a six furlong race at Winnipeg; Bring to Reason (Chuck Bellingham) has run 12 times with two wins, two seconds and two thirds; Shan's Dander (Dr. David Crandall) has run six times and come home with two wins, one second and two thirds. All of these races were at Winnipeg.

HENNEPIN COUNTY

The June 8, 1981, issue of Forbes had an article about the state of Minnesota. Contained within that article was a statement that Hennepin County was No. 2 only to Los Angeles County in per capita horse population. Your editor has written to the New York consulting firm from whence that statistic was obtained to verify their source. More on this in the next Quarterly.

RED MAPLES

The leaves of this tree can kill horses that eat them. The death rate was 64 percent of those horses which became sick. Apparent-

ly the leaves must be wilted or dried, and they remain toxic for at least 30 days. The exact chemical toxin is not known. The medical term is "methemoglobinemia."

OTHER TOXIC PLANTS

-- include the yew (1/4 lb. can kill an average horse; it stops the heart); white snakeroot (found during dry times as a green plant that attracts horses; give an acetone breath, muscle incoordination); prunings from wild cherry trees (and possibly plum, peach and apricot trees) which contain cyanide. Add also bracken fern, laurels, poison and water hemlocks, horsenettle (night shades), groundsel, rayless goldenrod, St. Johnswort (goatweed or klamath weed), yellow star thistle, yellow jessamine, locoweed and milkweed.

CITRUS FRUITS

Bioflavonoids, which are extracts from citrus pulp, will soon be added to some horses' diets. It is claimed that the substance prevents hemorrhaging in horses' lungs by strengthening the capillaires and accelerating tissue repair.

PROTEIN

Until recently, protein quality was not considered important in horse nutrition. It has been determined, however, that it pays to pay attention to protein quality for fast, economical growth in foals (Frederick Harper, Univ. of Tennessee). High quality protein means that the correct amounts of all the individual amino acids are present. Recent research indicates the importance of individual amino acids in the feeding of young growing foals. Yearlings fed milk by-products as a protein source grew twice as fast as yearlings fed linseed oil meal. When linseed oil meal was supplemented by lysine, an amino acid, the yearlings grew as rapidly as those fed the milk by-product which is a higher quality protein than linseed oil meal. Incidentally, soybean oil meal and/or a milk by-product protein supplement is preferred for young, growing horses over linseed oil. Protein quality is not a concern with mature horses.

MORE PROTEIN

Washington State University tests have so far shown that the National Research Council's recommended protein requirement for horses is too high, and that exercise does not increase a mature horse's need for protein. The NRC recommends an 8.5% protein diets, but Dr. Craig N. Coon says 7% is just as good for maintenance (and 5.5% is too low).

RED RIVER VALLEY

-- apparently is a super place to grow seed stocks of Kentucky bluegrass (according to a Mpls. Star article of 9/15/81). Last year's harvest was less than 1/2 million pounds. This year's crop, helped by 14 inches of rain in late May and June, will be closer to 4.5 million pounds. Kentucky Bluegrass costs \$.50 to \$.60 per pound. Minnesota growers have harvested up to 60,000 acres years on grass (including Timothy).

FALL CHARITY SHOW

A big success! Large crowds were drawn to this event, thanks to the extensive advertising. Riders were competing for possible Olympic standings. (Watch for this event on PM-Magazine.) One incident occurred, however, that could have caused severe injury to horse and rider. The coliseum lights completely went out while a horse and rider were taking jumps. Fortunately the rider had just completed a jump and had time and room to pull her horse to a stop until the lights went back on several minutes later.

BLOODWORMS

According to the Morris Foundation of Englewood, Colorado, the deeper you plow or harrow your pasture, the deeper into the ground you go, the more protection you have against bloodworms. Remember: 90 percent of all cases of colic in horses is caused by bloodworms. However, the researchers point out, the larvae can migrate upwards as much as 11 or 12 inches. Also, the colder the temperatures, the fewer larvae migrate to the surface of the ground.

AHSA

The AHSA convention, according to Keith Bartz, may or will be held in the Twin City area in 1985. Keith states further that AHSA shows have grown from 870 to 1,800 in the last ten years.

IDENTIFICATION

We have received information (from Identification Devices, Inc., Box 810, Broomfield, CO 80020) regarding their soon-to-be-marketed identification system for horses utilizing a tiny injectable microchip. The chip is injected permanently and painlessly in the muscle tissue of the horse. Information stored in the chip is, they say, retrieved with a low cost, digital display reading device.

NEW BOOK

Maynard Speece and his wife, Marigold, have collected about 300 of Maynard's favorite stories and have published them with considerable biographical material in a new book entitled Maynard - Humor Through the Years with Maynard Speece. Maynard retired as WCCO Radio's Farm Service Director in 1978. Shortly thereafter he suffered a stroke which affected his ability to speak and write. He has made a slow but steady recovery. The price for his book is \$7.95 (plus \$.40 cents tax). Write: Maynard, Box 14474, University Station, Mpls. 55414.

WINTER CARNIVAL

The Winter Carnival people are looking for horse-drawn vehicles (equipment and drivers) to carry dignitaries for their January parade in St. Paul. If anyone is interested, and has a horse and carriage appropriately trained for parades, please contact the St. Paul Winter Carnival office at 98 East Seventh Street, St. Paul (Fred Rogers, Transportation Director), at 612/291-0848 or 771-6215 (or George Rice at 612/429-8057 or 429-5060) for additional information. The office is also interested in drill teams with flag bearers or uniformed units. Note: commercial units or advertising is restricted.

PAINT HORSE CHAMPION

Larry Meshikomer (Larry's Western Store, St. Paul) came home from the Paint Horse World Wide Congress at Wichita, (October 30-31) with first place in the reining class with his horse Sunny Dee Bar (a 6 year old stallion). He won first place with two separate judges. Congratulations, Larry.

MORGAN CHAMPIONS

Congratulations also to the following individuals: Jack MacAloon of Hopkins was at the Grand National Morgan Horse Show in Oklahoma City in October with his stallion "Legacy Viking" and won the 4-year-old park harness, 4-year-old park saddle, junior champion park saddle, and reserve harness championships. Bernard Schrantz of Sauk Center won second place with "Olympus on the Way" in the yearling futurity. Darcy Olson of Byron won 13 and

under youth judging class and the reserve champion 13 and under western seat. Annie Omlie of Wayzata won reserve champion 14-17 youth judging. Finally, Arlene and Chuck Berzins of Delano won the second place in the ladies and amateur classes with their mare, "Summit Sweet Cider." There were others, but we don't have room here to list them all.

PURE SPUNK

Kyle Mackay left home in Richfield Springs, New York, last June riding her 4-year-old Morgan gelding and arrived at Carlton College, Northfield, Minnesota, just in time to start her freshman year. Next summer she plans to continue her ride to Oregon.

HEART-MENDER

Dale Frones (Hobby Horse Farm) of Cloquet was listening to Paul Harvey on the radio one day and heard about a heartbroken little girl whose pony was cruelly dragged by some individuals until dead. Dale called Paul Harvey and promised the little girl she could have the next (Tennessee Walker) foal born on his farm.

FACTS & FIGURES - TRAILS

Minnesota has 59 State parks (171,000 acres), 55 State forests (3,003,453 acres), six State recreation areas (4,552 acres) and 11 State waysides (3,285 acres). There are 495 miles of snowmobile trails in these State parks, 1,494 miles of snowmobile trails in the State forests, and 4,200 miles of snowmobile trails under grants-in-aid, plus and additional 433 miles of corridor trails. There are 651 miles of cross-country ski trails, 1,153 miles of hiking trails and 713 miles of horseback trails. Finally, there are 11 million acres of public hunting lands.

COLIC

The Rhulen Agency has indicated that colic was the cause of death for between 31.5 percent and 33.5 percent of all horses insured by them for the past three years. January and February statistics revealed that 28 insured hoses with a combined value in excess of \$750,000 died of colic. At this rate, the projected annual figure will run \$4.5 million.

HOTLINE

The University of Illinois, Veterinarian Medicine, 1101 West Peabody, Urbana, ILL 61801, has this nation's first animal poison control center with an emergency response team. You can call them, if needed, at 217/333-3611 (open 24 hours).

SHIRES

Time and motion studies in England (made by two leading breweries) indicate that horses were more economical than motor transport for short-haul beer deliveries in towns. Today, in Wandsworth, England, Young's Brewery still keeps 2-3 horses, and five pairs go out daily pulling loaded drays and delivering beer to the Company's pubs within a 3/4 mile radius.

BACK TO HORSES?

A North Central Experimental Station agricultural engineer has determined that the horse and mule won't take over again. First of all, it would take about 20 years to increase current stocks of work animals to the approximately 60 million required. Secondly, those 60 millions would require 180 of cropland just to feed them (about 1/2 of the U.S. total). Thirdly, it would require eight times as many farm workers to work the animals and handle all the associated manual labor. Average farm wages would have to more than double to make that possible.

NEW CHEMICAL

Techsearch Co., Inc. (800/423-5139) has developed a new flame retardant which, when applied to wood, impregnates and fills the pores resulting in polycrystallization. This acts as a fire retardant and also hardens, strengthens and increases the pH of wood. The treated wood will not support combustion; it preserves the wood from decay, rot and fungus; it repels destruction by household insects and also horse cribbing. The product is non-toxic (when dry) to animals. Only one coat is needed by spray equipment or brushes (which clean easily with water). The name: Formula 7 Flameslayer.

VINLAND

A trail system at Vinland National Center will be constructed this fall by the Minnesota National Guard, 682nd Engineering Battalion. Vinland is a center being built for activities related to the handicapped and health-sports. They eventually will have horseback riding at the Loretto facility. Additionally, they have a horsepacking trip planned for the Rocky Mountains for the summer of 1982. Contact Healthsports, Inc., 1455 West Lake St., Mpls. 55408 (612/827-3611) or Vinland at 3675 Ihduhapi Road, Box 308, Loretto 55357 (612/479-3555).

MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN BOUNDARY TRAIL

Public meetings are being held by the Dept. of Natural Resources for review of the plan draft and public input on this trail: Dec. 15 Duluth; Dec. 16 Moose Lake; Dec. 17 Hinckley; Dec. 21 Stillwater; and Dec. 22 Taylors Falls (all at 7:00 p.m.). Contact Angela Anderson, Trails Planner, DNR (612/296-6768) for further info.

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL

Member Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check membership desired:
(Dues renewable January 1 of each year)

Send to: **MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL**
P.O. Box 30481
St. Paul, Minnesota 55175

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\$35 first year
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\$25 annually

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