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Where there are rivers,
There are valleys,
There are horses,
And



All Breeds,
All Disciplines,
All the Time!

June/July 2011

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

Your local resource for equestrian events, news and information.

Our American Stars!



PLUS...More Great Reading Inside

Book review: 4-H Guide to Horse Training

GAO report and response from the horse industry
on the effect of the elimination of horse slaughter

Introducing: Horse Tips from KAM Animal

Introducing: Casselton, ND Vet Service article:
EHV-1: What you need to know

Photos by Laurie Errington

SCOOTEMNSHOOTEM PHOTOGRAPHY

Local Where Distributed - Let Us Know What's Going On In Your Valley!



Editor's Note: We love to feature equestrian art in the Valley Equestrian Newspaper. It is especially fun to see new techniques. I particularly enjoyed the movement in this piece contributed by Diana Shea of the northern Red River Valley. With each piece displayed, we will also print the artist's statement. Readers may submit their work for consideration following the editorial guidelines provided on page 4.

The name of this piece is "Splish Splash" and the following is what the artist says about her work and this piece:

Equestrian Fine Art

By Diana Shea

"What young girl hasn't had a love affair with horses at one time or another? As a child, I was no exception.

As an artist, I love their form, their spirit, energy and strength. They are a challenge to draw and paint, but what is the point without the effort?

Since taking up water color as a medium about eight years ago, I have portrayed these majestic animals from time to time and love feeling a connection to their beauty.

Trying different techniques when painting is always fun and can lead to interesting results as can be seen in this rendering of the horse.

Using an Elegant Writer Pen, the distinctive line drawing can then be wet or lightly sprayed with water to get a lovely blossom effect on the paper. Some quick added brush strokes to smooth and define can complete the 'painting' in a matter of minutes. Like the horse, it has a controlled energy to its motion.

I have certainly done other horses with pure water color but finding and using other techniques opens up new doorways to expression.

There will always be other subjects for me to paint or explore but when I feel the 'call', painting horses fulfills a need to be a part of them in any way I can."

Letter to the Editor

Dear Animal Lovers,
Recently, I received an email from a friend in Arizona who lives about an hour from the fires. She reminded me of the large rescue efforts that are going on and efforts to take care of the pets and wild life from these fires. Then today I was reminded about the rescue efforts of places where the tornadoes have hit.

This Sunday, let's remember all these wonderful creatures. So with the healing energy, let us send reassurance that humans love them, confidence, courage, calmness, and bravery energy.

Thank you for all that you do for our animal nation.

Kathy Grimes
Brother Wolf and Friends
www.brotherwolfandfriends.com

URCHA Show Their Stuff

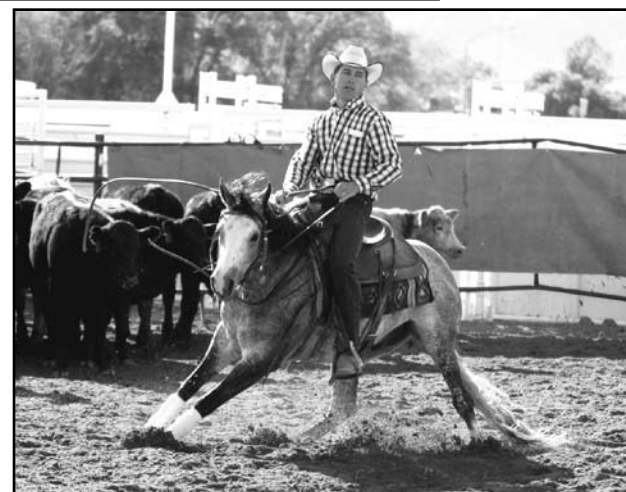


The URCHA show was held in Tremonton, Utah on June 18th, 2011. It was their second show of a series of monthly shows that will end in August. They have herdwork and reining at each show until the year end when they do fencework as well.

Top:
Regina Reid-iesel

Center:
Todd Ritch

Bottom:
Shane Haviland



Photos courtesy of Scooternshooteem Photography



Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer

AUGUST 20th, 2011 - 10 a.m. Rain or Shine
McLeod, N.D.

Cowboy Up Extreme Fun Race @

6:30 p.m. Friday evening entertainment

Saturday

The Trail Ride starts at 10 a.m.

Softball Tournament,

Silent Auction bid till 8 p.m.,

Grilled Burgers & Hot Dogs, lunch

@ half way (sold by the Park Board), Ride one of the People

Movers Tour the McLeod Museum,

Horse Shoe Tournament,

Kids Carnival 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.,

Bernhardt Quarter Horse

foal auction.

Evening Beef Meal served from

4:30-7:30 p.m.

Silverado entertains at The Duner

Primitive camping available on a first come basis.

Sunday—a Cowboy Breakfast. Free will offering

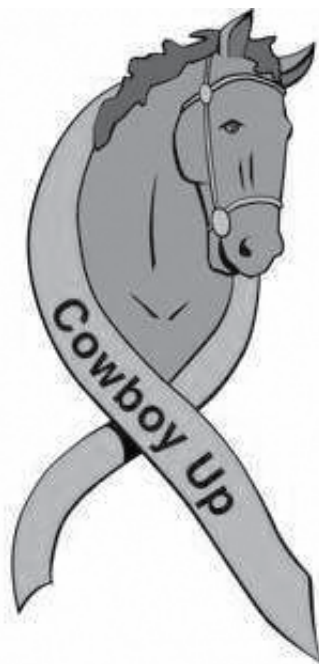
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www.cowboyupride.com



Equine Herpesvirus-1: What you need to know about the neurological form

By Tamara M. Swor, DVM, DACVS, DACVECC
Casselton Veterinary Service, Inc. Casselton, ND

Equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) is found throughout the world in most populations of horses. Outbreaks of the disease occur frequently, with the most common results being mild respiratory disease (rhinopneumonitis) in young horses (less than 2 years of age) or late-term abortion in mares. Although much less common, the virus can also lead to neurological disease, which is termed equine herpes myeloencephalopathy (EHM). Because EHV-1 is everywhere, almost all horses over the age of 2 years have been exposed. Due to the characteristics of this virus, it is able to reside as a latent (silent and persistent) infection in horses, and acts as a reservoir for continual transmission and shedding of the virus.

The neurological form of EHV-1 is not a new virus, but numbers of affected horses appear to be increasing over the last several years. There is some evidence that the strain causing EHM is a mutation of the virus. Several other factors may also influence

whether a horse develops EHM, including age, stress and immune system status. In typical outbreaks of herpesvirus, approximately 10 percent of infected horses develop neurological signs. Unfortunately, EHM has a high fatality rate. Clinical Signs: EHV-1 has an incubation period of 1 to 10 days, with signs usually identified within 1 to 3 days. Horses can be contagious and shed the virus to other horses for up to 28 days. Horses with EHM initially have a fever (over 102 degrees F), followed by ataxia (incoordination, wobbling, not knowing where the legs are) and difficulty walking, lack of tail tone, weakness, lethargy and trouble urinating. Oftentimes, the hind limbs are more severely affected than the front limbs, and in very severe cases the horse may be unable to stand. Neurological disease typically occurs 8 to 12 days after the primary EHV-1 infection, often starting after a second fever spike. Horses may or may not show respiratory signs (coughing, nasal discharge) during the primary infection.

Risk Factors: The amount of risk to horses involves many factors. There must be the pres-

ence of an infected, shedding horse. The disease is spread through respiratory secretions that are aerosolized (horse to horse transmission), by fomites (objects such as buckets, brushes, tack or hands that could have respiratory secretions on them) and by fetal fluids. The majority of EHM outbreaks occur in the spring, late autumn and winter months of the year. Although any age of horse can be affected with the neurological form of EHV-1, it is most common in horses over the age of 3 years. Horses developing high fevers (over 103.5 degrees F) that last for several days are at higher risk of developing EHM. Stressing a horse may predispose them to EHV-1 infection; such stresses may include weaning, commingling, concurrent infection and traveling.

Diagnosis: Herpesvirus should be suspected in horses that demonstrate the previously discussed clinical signs, although there are other neurologic diseases that look similar. Definitive diagnosis requires special testing by a veterinarian. Culture of the virus, virus isolation and identification of EHV-1 from nasopharyngeal or nasal swabs in a horse with con-

current clinical signs is very suggestive of the disease. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of respiratory secretions or blood can also be used to detect the virus. If a horse suspected of EHM dies or is euthanized, necropsy (animal autopsy) is very important and will allow cerebral spinal fluid and central nervous system evaluation to be used for confirmation of the disease. In horses that are not showing clinical signs, the current diagnostic methods are not reliable as screening tests. Treatment: The mainstay of treatment is nursing and supportive care, maintaining hydration and nutrition, and making sure that the horse can urinate and defecate. In addition to intravenous fluids, medications such as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories, steroids and immune system stimulants may be used. Some antiviral medications (acyclovir, valacyclovir) are available for use in horses, although their benefit is debatable and they are quite expensive to use. Some horses will survive EHM with no long-term problems. The prognosis for survival decreases greatly if the horse is unable to stand.

Prevention: While vaccination is often the best way to prevent many diseases, there is currently no evidence that vaccines can prevent EHM. No specific recommendations can be made at this time for prevention of EHM. However, there is preliminary evidence that vaccination with a modified live vaccine

may provide some benefits. These benefits would include decreasing nasopharyngeal shedding of the virus, limiting the spread of infection and reducing the severity of clinical signs in horses infected with herpesvirus. The vaccines for EHV-1 offer relatively short protection, and horses that travel frequently and are coming into contact with unknown horses should receive a booster every 3-4 months. If a horse has been previously vaccinated, but not within the last 3 months, a booster may help in decreasing potential shedding of EHV-1, but does not guarantee protection against EHM. Unvaccinated horses that have no known exposure to EHV-1 should also be vaccinated. It is not recommended to vaccinate horses with known EHV-1 exposure.

Infected horses should be isolated at their barn immediately and diagnostic samples submitted. Other horses on the premises should not be moved to another location, as this will increase stress and facilitate spread of the disease. Exposed horses should have their temperature taken every 12 hours and isolated if they develop fevers (greater than 102 degrees F). Decontamination of facilities with extensive cleaning can be done using products such as phenolic disinfectants (any product where the active ingredient ends in "-ol," like Lysol®). If new horses are arriving at a barn, they should be vaccinated for EHV-1 at least 2 weeks prior to arrival and isolated from

other horses for at least another 2 weeks. Ideally these horses should be at least 30 feet away from resident horses and have separate grooming tools, tack, buckets and stall cleaning equipment.

Other things that help prevent the spread of disease include segregation of pregnant mares from other horses, avoiding transportation and relocation, good nutrition, parasite control, maintaining social/herd structures and avoiding stress to the horses in general. If you must travel, then shared stalls, buckets and grooming items should be disinfected prior to use.

The current situation: The latest reports of EHV-1 and EHM originated from horses competing at the National Cutting Horse Association Western National Championship in Ogden, Utah, held April 29 to May 8, 2011. Horses were exposed to the virus during this event and subsequently traveled to their home states, leading to secondary exposure of horses in these areas. Cases have been reported in 10 states (AZ, CA, CO, ID, NM, NV, OK, OR, UT, WA) with a total of 88 confirmed cases, 55 of which are EHV-1 positive and 33 of which have EHM. Of these 88 cases, 58 horses were at the cutting event in Utah. Twelve horses in this outbreak have died or been euthanized. Outbreaks of EHM occur every year, and by following some of the practices discussed above, you can minimize the risk of your horses developing EHM.

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October 15-16, 2011
Minnesota State Fairgrounds
St. Paul, Minnesota

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Box 64
Sabin, MN 56580
theVENews@gmail.com
(320) 209-8523

Owner/Publisher/Editor
Ley Bouchard
leybou@gmail.com
(701) 361.8648

Regional Sales Manager/
Creative Consultant
Tammy Finney
RR3500@aol.com
(218) 790.6056

Regional Sales Managers
Kari Hagstrom
(320) 766-2620
kari.venews@hotmail.com

Shari Knudson
(218) 385-3835
cowboyleather2@yahoo.com

Tina Tamke-Boury
(218) 779-8736
j_tboury@hughes.net

Richard Lynghaug
(715) 265-4226
lynghaug@centurytel.net

Pia Thurland
(701) 730-0335
Pia@eagletrorsemanship.com

Distribution Directors
Shawn Dietrich, Fargo, N.D.

Copy Editor
Final Touch Proofreading
and Editing, LLC
mann.heidi@gmail.com

Contributing Writers
Orv Alveshere
John Alan Cohen
Tammy Finney
Katherine Thompson
Charles Wilhelm

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The Valley Equestrian
Newspaper

About the Cover

The Utah Youth Reining Association, UYRA, meets once a month in Ogden Utah and they have a finals in August at the county fair. This show was held on June 18. Members participate in peewee events, barrel, poles, breakaway, tie down roping, team roping, ribbon roping, goat tying, calf riding, steer riding, mini bulls and chute doggin. On the cover, Ellie Christiansen proudly holds the USA flag; Hayden Madsen ropes the calf; Rowdy Stone shows his skill at breakaway.

Photography by Laurie Errington, Scootemshootem Photography



Above: The Cowboy Mounted Shooting demonstration brought a crowd out to the Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento, Ca. Below: Horses graze outside Bozeman, Mont.



Editorial Information

The Valley Equestrian, printed monthly, welcomes free-lance articles, cartoons, artwork, poems, photographs, etc. that we might use in the publication. We accept no responsibility for the material while in our hands. Materials will be returned if sent with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Photographs or graphics electronically submitted should be in color and must be at least 170 DPI resolution and four inches wide.

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Errors: The Valley Equestrian newspaper shall be responsible for errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement only to the extent of the space covered by the error.



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Top Right:
Hayden Madsen
carries a USA flag
at dusk at recent
UYRA event.

Right: DeeDee-
Hill at a URCHA
event. More photo-
s and details on
page 2.

Photos by
Laurie
Errington



Charles Wilhelm: Ultimate Foundation Training from Start to Finish

A Word on Hoof Care

Hoof care is an important element in the care of a horse. With a young horse it is important to start foot care early. Handle the feet as soon as a foal will allow it. You can prevent a lot of conformation problems by trimming early. Sometimes a hoof grows upright and boxy instead of at an angle like a normal hoof. This is called a clubfoot. My horse Jaz was out in pasture for a year and apparently nothing was done to her feet during that time. She developed a club foot and she had to have corrective trimming. The feet have come along just fine, however, it would have been easier if her feet had been trimmed earlier and checked to make sure that the hoof angles were correct. If you start correcting this condition while the horse is young, depending on the degree of the problem, by the time you get ready to start riding, you will hardly be able to tell the horse had a clubfoot.

Every horse, including a foal, needs to accept a farrier. For a young horse, it is important for the initial visit to go well. Horses have very good situational memories, so a bad first experi-

ence with the farrier can be hard to overcome. Whether you are getting ready for the first visit or overcoming problems with work done earlier, the foundation steps are the same, the only difference may be the time you have to spend on each lesson.

Your primary goals are straightforward. Your horse needs to accept being touched everywhere and to have that contact made by a stranger. These requirements represent significant pressure, especially to a young horse. These are cornerstones to your horse's training and must be approached with careful planning, patience and consistency. Groom, pet and touch your horse everywhere. Encourage your friends and family members to groom and pet your horse. If your horse is at a facility where the vet and farrier visit regularly, ask them to stop by and briefly visit with your horse. Ask them to stoke, pet and give verbal praise to help get your horse comfortable with them when he is not being worked on.

There are two common mistakes people make when working with

a horse's feet. First, they ask the horse to pick up his feet too high and for too long a time. Second, they rush through this part of the horse's training. Horses are prey animals with strong flight instincts. When they give you their feet, they are giving up their ability to run, and that is asking for a lot of trust. Start by asking for the feet to be up only an inch or so off the ground and only for a few seconds. When you can do that with all four feet, ask for a few seconds longer, still keeping the hoof low. Over time you can bring the foot higher. Try not to release the foot if the horse is resisting. You want to release only when the horse is giving the hoof and is relaxed.

Once the horse is comfortable with having the feet held up higher and longer than a farrier will want, get yourself a rasp and practice moving it across the hoof wall. Run the rasp back and forth to get the horse used to the feel and sound around his feet. In order to get the horse used to the extreme limits of the experience, tap the hooves and make more noise and contact than a farrier would.

I am often also asked about bare feet versus shod feet. I have a couple of horses at the ranch whose feet are like iron. When they are ridden up and down the trail, their feet hold up just great. However, the majority of horses' hooves, in my opinion about 75 percent, don't hold up this well. This may be because of poor conformation of the feet due to breeding or neglect, and those horses need shoes. Bare feet are popular right now and you may want to try this if your horse is at home and not being worked. If your horse is in training or being worked, shoes are a must.

Each breed has certain hoof problems. For example, race-horses have a tendency to grow a lot of toe and have low-slung heels. A lot of Quarter horses used as halter horses in the show world are bred to have small feet. Work with your farrier to determine if your horse requires shoes.

The general rule is to have trimming done every six to eight weeks, with eight weeks being the longest a horse should go between trims. Through experience

I have learned that the bigger the shoe you can put on your horse, the better. Sometimes farriers want to put on a smaller shoe because it is less likely to be pulled off. I call this cowboy shoeing. On a large ranch when a cowboy is out riding, doing ranch work with his horse, he can't afford to have a shoe come off. I have had farriers tell me a larger shoe will not cause a hoof to grow. This is true, a larger shoe won't cause a hoof to grow, but when the hoof grows naturally, a larger shoe will allow the hoof to expand.

It really behooves you to be well informed about hoof care. If you think your horse has hoof problems, I recommend that you check with your vet and see that the farrier does what the vet recommends. The two of them should work together as a team. If the farrier is not communicating with you about what he is seeing with the hooves and what he is doing about it, consider getting a different farrier. You are the boss; the horse belongs to you. You have invested a lot of time and money and you want your horse healthy and sound.

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COWBOY POETRY WITH ORV ALVESHHERE

The Case of the Disappearing Barrels Oops, in Opheim, Montana

Years ago, on July the 4th, the celebration Was Montana Gordy's favorite destination. Gordy saddled and mounted his favorite horse Riding a lone, Montana country gravel road course. He connived and planned, again, a summer rendezvous To meet up with a high school cowboy buddy, or two. In the story's end, I am sure, all of you will find; These mounted cowboys, again, had mischief, on their mind.

LEVITATION LESSONS

They met and rode up to the horse's watering trough; They knew, again, that year that Main Street had been roped off. A wood platform stage was set for a small cowboy band. But that barrier barrel, now had TWO feet of sand. Last year, that old street barrel, just seem to "get around." While searching behind an old outhouse, it had been found. It disappeared, last year, from in front of the bandstand When the city cop had shoveled in - ONE foot of sand.

ONLY SUPERMAN COULD LIFT IT

"This year we intend to catch, that subtle barrel theft!" Boldly announced the Opheim City Council Chief. At 12 noon, off to lunch, went the whole city crew; Now, can you guess, what Gordy and buddies, planned to do? That day, on the other side of the barrel, rode his pal; They're just passing through ... as far as anyone could tell. Inconspicuously, they dropped their lariat ropes; Again in two strong horse's horsepower, they placed their hopes.

THESE COWBOYS HAD PULL/REDEFINING A HORSE 'HIDE'

Back to the vacant lot, using two horses to hide; A barrel of sand, 'came along' for a tricky ride. Inconspicuously, it was dragged to the same vacant lot. And by now, you have figured out, the rest of that plot. They moved an outhouse in its place. The cop didn't care He laughed ... he suspected Superman, had been there. Don't accuse me of spreading some fabricated bull ... I've just proved, Gordy and his pal ... HAD A LOT OF PULL!

© Orv Alveshere, Fargo, ND -- 1957

Book Review of:

"4-H Guide to Training Horses"

By Nathan Bowers and Katie Bowers Reiff

by Fran Lynghaug

The book "4-H Guide to Training Horses" is a practical foundation to handling a horse and getting in tune with it. It has remarkable, yet simple, explanations of how to pick the best horse for purchase, train it for riding and be safe in typical trail-riding conditions. It presents an overall view from start to finish of what the basics of horse training involve. The book is authored by a brother-and-sister team who learned from their father, Steve Bowers, a renowned horseman, and from other trainers from a generation ago who used gentleness

to train horses. In their time, they were considered "out of the box" horsemen, the progenitors of today's trainers. But the knowledge and lessons remain relevant today, offering interesting tidbits and techniques in training. I found the book refreshingly simple, yet insightful, using gentle lessons handed down from qualified professionals. It explained keys to understanding the horse's way of thinking and behavior. For instance, it explains a unique way of picking up the hoof of a horse that is touchy with its feet, as well as

what leading a horse has to do with creating leadership to redirect a stubborn or nervous attitude. I had never heard of some of these lessons and learned something new from each chapter. The book is easy to understand, has lots of full-color photos for each step of each lesson and is filled with commonsense and little-known tips. It is a handy guide every beginning horse owner should have, and I give it two thumbs up! The flexible, hard-bound cover adds to its value for just \$19. (ISBN

We asked Sam to answer these questions:
VEN: Tell us about the Rodeo Queen program?

SS: I think rodeo queen role is maybe a better title of our job. I am a part of the Miss Rodeo North Dakota Pageant Association after I captured the title of Miss

Rodeo Queens Rock

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles learning about the lives of Rodeo Queens. We all know Rodeo Queens represent certain equestrian organizations. Through this series we will also learn what motivates these young women to serve the organizations they represent and how they go about fulfilling their responsibilities. The first in the series is Sam Stanke. Her official biography reads as follows:

Sam Stanke is Miss Rodeo North Dakota 2011. On October 10, 2010, at the Badland's Circuit Finals in Minot, North Dakota, Sam earned the privilege of representing rodeo and the state of North Dakota as Miss Rodeo North Dakota 2011. Her inner determination and hardworking cowgirl spirit paid off when she won the Appearance and Personality categories as well as the Speech and Scrapbook awards.

Sam is a private riding instructor, and the 22-year-old daughter of Greg and Shannan Stanke. She resides with her family in the eastern Red River Valley where they raise horses and hunting dogs. The oldest of three girls, Sam and her sisters spend their summers competing at rodeos and horse shows.

Sam lives by the motto she wrote: "It's not about showing up and demanding what you deserve...it's about showing up and asking how you can serve."

Sam will be appearing at PRCA rodeos in North Dakota all year long, and you can find Sam representing her state at PRCA rodeos nationwide!

She's currently preparing to compete for the coveted title of Miss Rodeo America at the Wrangler National Circuit Finals in Las Vegas this coming December. If you are interested in having Sam appear at an event this year, please contact the Miss Rodeo North Dakota Pageant Association at mrdpa@missrodeond.org.

Rodeo North Dakota last October during the Badland Circuit Finals Rodeo in Minot, North Dakota. My title is a year long and this coming December 3rd-10th I will represent our state at the Miss Rodeo America competition in Las Vegas during the National Finals Rodeo.



Miss Rodeo North Dakota travels not only in the state but also all over the U.S. This year I have traveled to Houston, TX, Denver, Co, Rapid City, SD and plan to attend other events in Colorado Springs, Co in July along with lots of appearances in North Dakota.

My very first rodeo royalty pageant title, the FM Mounted Posse Queen, is what basically got me "hooked." After that title I wondered what other pageants are out there and how I could be involved.

VEN: What are your responsibilities? How much time does it require?

SS: My responsibilities range from attending rodeos, carrying sponsor flags, autograph signing sessions, attending fundraisers and other pageant competitions. When you have a rodeo queen title you are a public relation person for the sport of rodeo, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, your association and our state. At a pageant competition we are required to know as much as we can retain about rodeo, our association we are a part of, the PRCA and current events that occur in our state and the nation.

My parents are VERY involved. Any girl with a rodeo queen title needs the support from her family. It takes a whole team. We call my mom the photographer/secretary/agent! She is so wonderful making sure I am staying on track and always helping any way she can. Not only does it take a family support but I also have a great board that is so helpful. They help me with all of my appearances and are always so encouraging. Friends are always essential in a successful year too, I already have friends of the family that are planning on attending the Miss Rodeo America pageant when I head there to compete this December. I can't express how thankful I am for all of them!

VEN: Tell us about the competitive process? What do you have to do in order to become queen or princess?

SS: The contestants complete a horsemanship pattern that is set usually on a horse that you have never ridden before. We prepare a speech that is on average 2-4 minutes, model, answer impromptu questions and have a private interview with the panel of judges. One of the great things about a rodeo queen pageant is that there is no swim suits! The attire is always western boots, hat, belt and sometimes a leather dress that has long sleeves. Basically anything that is expresses classic cowgirl modesty and lots of glitter!

VEN: Isn't your sister, or wasn't your sister also a rodeo queen? Tell us more about that.

SS: Yes, my sister Camryn was the Ransom County Fair princess and queen. She is now almost 16 and when she was

the princess I was the queen at the same time. So we were the rodeo queen sisters ha. That pageant is held in August in Lisbon, ND. After I gave up the title of Miss Rodeo Ransom County Fair she was crowned. Needless to say my parents had their hands full with a house full of rodeo queens and hair spray for a couple of years.

My parents are VERY involved. Any girl with a rodeo queen title needs the support from her family. It takes a whole team. We call my mom the photographer/secretary/agent! She is so wonderful making sure I am staying on track and always helping any way she can. Not only does it take a family support but I also have a great board that is so helpful. They help me with all of my appearances and are always so encouraging. Friends are always essential in a successful year too, I already have friends of the family that are planning on attending the Miss Rodeo America pageant when I head there to compete this December. I can't express how thankful I am for all of them!

I am 22 right now and the ages to compete for the Miss Rodeo ND title have to have obtained the age of 18 years, but not more than 24 years of age as of December 31st of the year of the state competition.

'All horses deserve, at least once in their lives, to be loved by a little girl.'

~author unknown

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It's Always All About Change

By Katherine Thompson

Some years ago, when I was moving from the lifestyle of the racetrack as a licensed horse trainer, to the diverging and far less traveled path of an energetic healer, I began to receive guidance that I was to market myself in the arena (if you will excuse the pun) of the horse world, most specifically the trade shows known as horse expos.

Under that guidance my attention was directed to work with a colleague on things like brochures, logos, and banners for such shows. I needed a catch phrase for a motto, but I was stumped as to what it should be. One night, tired and frustrated from overthinking the issue, I went to bed in a fog, quickly jotting down something on a piece of paper. To this day I barely remember doing it, nor why. But the following morning, on my way to the kitchen for a cup of coffee, I passed the counter where the paper lay, and read what I had apparently written. It shocked me wide awake!

"To heal the creatures of the earth is to alter the very course of the Universe" is what was penned by my hand. And I knew what my motto was to be. But moreover, I realized that what I had been given was not limited to what I was doing, on a personal level. I may have written it, but the inspiration had come from a much higher perspective that encompassed a universal agenda being implemented by many

other movers and shakers. What it actually meant was something I was only beginning to understand.

Fast forward 15 years and ask me what that motto has come to mean. Do you have a few days for me to try to explain it to you? For it would take that long to recount the diverse experiences that have unfolded to fit within the parameters of that statement. I have been doing energetic clairvoyant healings on people and animals for at least that long, and like the many thousands of other such healers all over the world, have had some amazing results. I actually wrote and published a book about my personal experiences, and the recipient's experiences. But I will try to condense to the best of my ability the observations I have made and where I see things in present time. Your publisher of the VE, Ley Bouchard, and I covered the Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento, California June 10th-13th. Ley drove all the way out to California from Minnesota and stayed out at the ranch with me. She is truly one of the most beautiful and kindest souls on this planet, and I'm blessed to be partnering with her.

This is the largest expo we have covered for the VEN to date. There were a lot of big names there, as there always are. As it turns out, we were just across the aisle from Charles Wilhelm, visiting

daily with Wayne Williams, and not far from the booths of John Lyons, Ken McNab, and many more famous names in the industry.

I began participating in such venues in 1997. There have been a lot of changes in the world at large, to say the least. And it's obvious to most of those reading this issue of the VEN that there have been many changes in the horse world, in the way we approach our relationships with our horses. Change always leads to an altered perspective, even if the transitional phases are uncomfortable. No-one will argue that these are challenging times of adjustment.

What I have become aware of is that, what every individual contributes to in making those changes, does have an impact. So it is with the many practitioners that fit into the category of animal communicators and healers that have stepped up to the plate, and tenuously begun to practice their newly discovered abilities, regardless of the venues they're playing in. In the horse world, they, along with the higher profile clinicians who are more highly recognized, are having an impact on the literal course of the Universe. For, it isn't just our beliefs that are changing. And it isn't just our planet that's changing either. Everything happen-

ing, inside and out of that Universe, is connected, no matter how small a part it seems to be playing.

Because of some of the events that have happened at this year's expos, I recently came to the realization that the time has come to consider a new theme. Not just for myself, but for those who have gone before me, and those who follow; for we are all on the same path, going in a unified direction. I'm not just sure what it is as yet, but stay tuned. I'm sure inspiration will come. One such inspiring statement came from John Lyon's quote of the week, following his presentation at this expo: "To a horse, you represent all mankind." How's that for looking at things from an elevated and altered perspective?

All I can say about what's next is what I often say to people when we are talking about the future, and maybe this should be my new motto, just to keep things light during these challenging times: "Hang on to your shorts, it's going to be a wild ride!"

Katherine Thompson is a professional horsewoman with over 25 years of experience as a trainer, animal intuitive and certified clairvoyant healer. She has been a presenter at many of the major horse expos, is the author of one book, and is writing another. See her website at www.katherinethompson.net, email her at kwingint@isp.com, or call 916-770-9376.



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Results of the Pipestone, Minn., ChuckWagon Cook-Off

Pipestone, Minn. - Saturday, June 25, 2011....The day dawned sunny and clear as four historically accurate chuck wagons set up their camps next to the walls of the Fort Pipestone Gift Shop. Camp Cookies readied their fires and Dutch Ovens in anticipation of the \$2,000 Chuck Wagon Challenge offered by the Gift Shop and Four Winds Association, and many local sponsors.

Coming all the way from Stoddard, WI were Mike and Patty Aspet with their lovely Lazy A that began life as a turn of the century grain wagon, which they stripped down to the running gear, extended the length of the reach by a foot, and then built the wagon bed, sides, and the chuck box. After learning how to Dutch oven cook, they began competing about six years ago.

The Lost Creek Chuck Wagon is owned by JT Hallson of Long Lake, Minn. He cooks with a crew of friends from the Old West Society of MN: Boomer, Miss Tilly and Lady Slipper.

The Wagon is a Webber and spent many years as a hearty farm wagon in Iowa before JT bought

it at auction. Boomer has recreated much of the iron work in his Robbinsdale blacksmith shop; JT did the woodworking. These folks have both been involved with Old West reenactments for over seven years.

Jim and Susan Patrick of Watertown, SD brought their "D T" chuck wagon. This Peter Schutler wagon was originally manufactured in Chicago. It is a restored wagon of the 1880's era. Although tempted to concoct a story of finding this chuck wagon "as-is" in a barn in the Black Hills, James Patrick admits he has done way too much work on this wagon to allow someone else to take the credit. Jim has designed and built the chuck box and did all the blacksmith work, including forge-welding the chains. In 2008, Jim Patrick took his team and the DT Wagon over the entire 250 mile wagon-train journey on the historic Ft. Pierre to

Continued on Page 13



Samantha Johnson

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Contact information:
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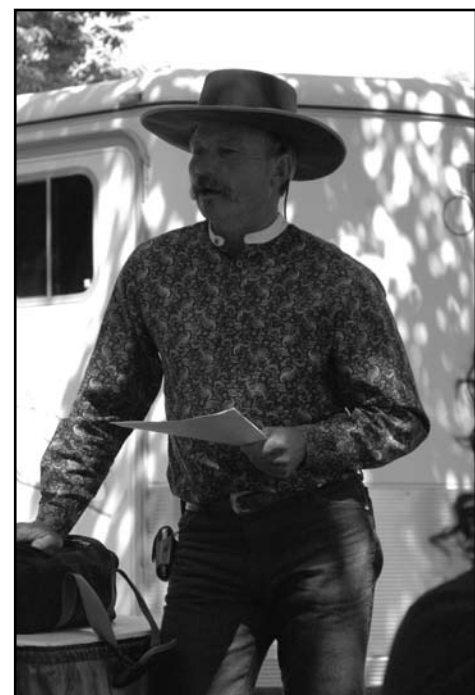
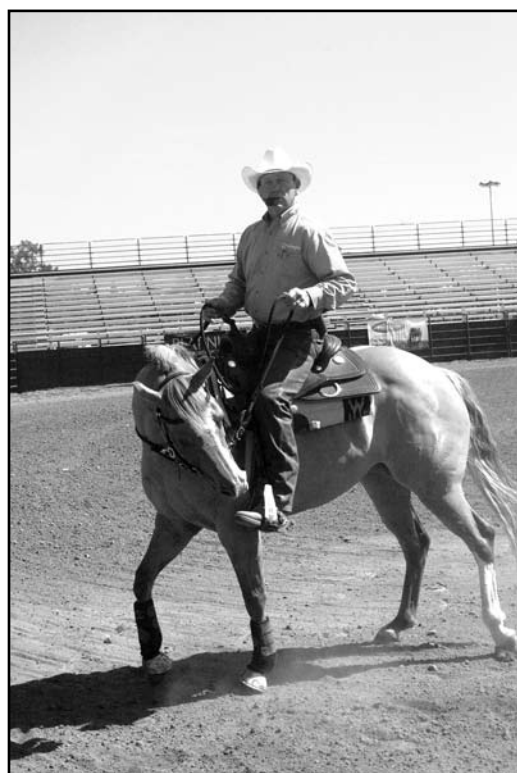
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A PHOTO ESSAY OF THE WESTERN STATES HORSE EXPO



Photographs by Ley Bouchard for The Valley Equestrian News

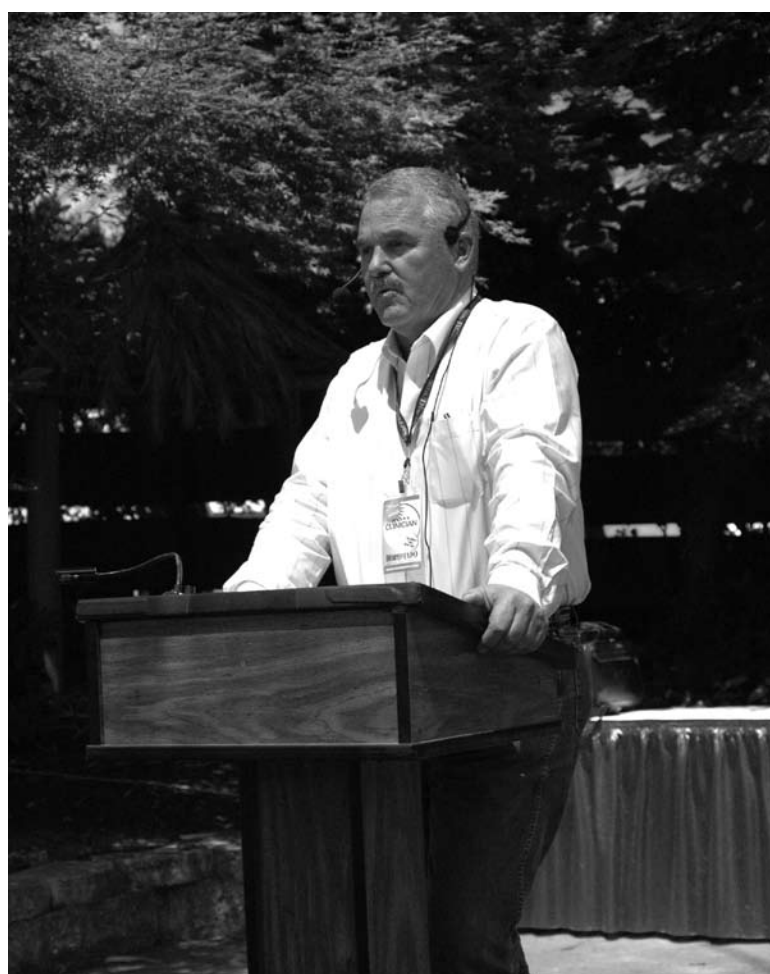
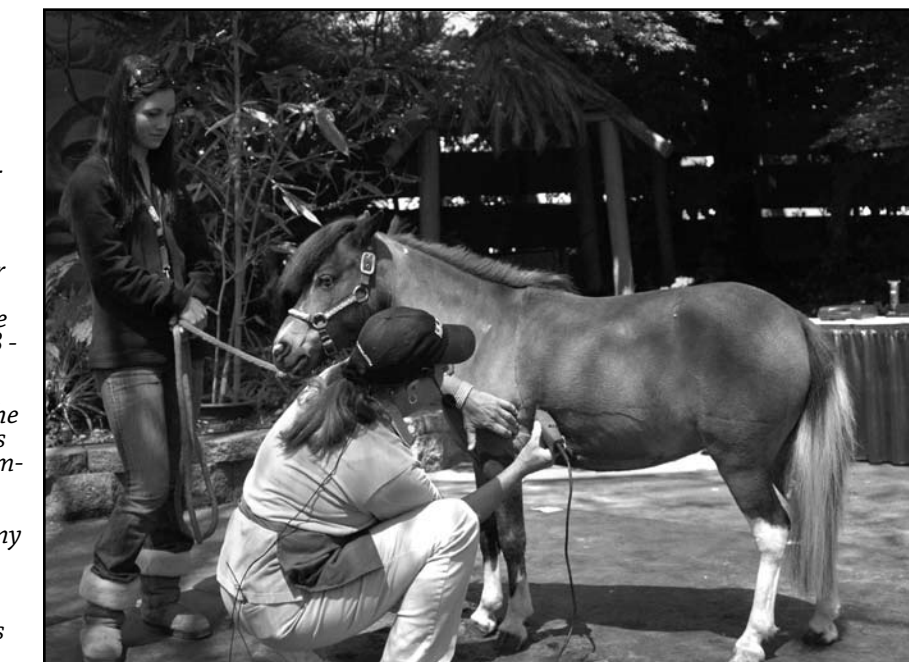
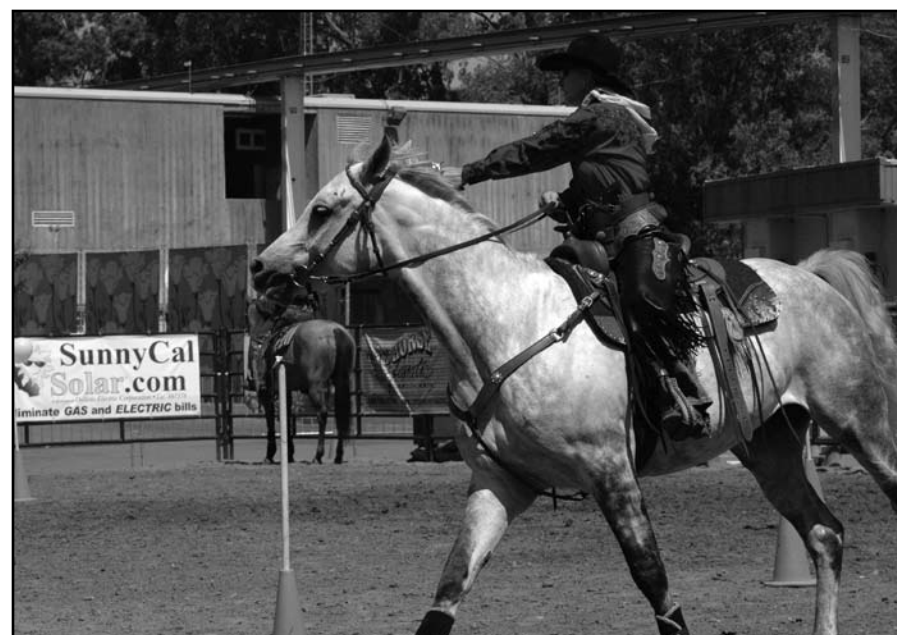


The weather cooperated when sunshine prevailed for the Western States Horse Expo June 8-10 in Sacramento, Ca.

Though the weather was nice, the numbers attending seemed low and many commented that it was due to the EHV-1 virus sweeping through the horse community.

Many big-name presenters provided a wide assortment of clinics including VEN writer, Charles Wilhelm, Mike Major, Mark Bolender, John Lyons, Bob Avila, Jonathan Fields, Richard Winters, Ken McNabb, Charlotte Bredahl and more.

Clockwise from top left: John Lyons demonstrates a large grandstand crowd; top center: an outdoor presentation, "Trail Symposium;" top right: Wayne Williams interviews John Lyons; Dana Boyd demonstrates a trim at the Andis Stage; bottom right: Kent Fowler provides information on the EHV-1 and other diseases; bottom left: Gretchen demonstrates a cowboy mounted shooting; left center: the audience is shown horse ear plugs used during Cowboy Mounted Shooting.



Photography by Ley Bouchard

Written by Holistic Horse

Once the weather turns hot and humid, here come the flies! We all know how much these horrid creatures pester our horses, and us when we are working around them. Try these 10 Natural tips to keep these pests out of our horses' homes so they can live and rest stress free.

1. Organic Fly Baits and Traps Fly baits attract the mature fly via odor. The fly either drowns in the trap or eats the bait. Look for EPA approved and Organic products to protect your livestock, pets and human. Balance™ biopesticide bait is a naturally occurring fungus (beauveria bassiana) and "host specific" pathogen, targeting and killing flies without affecting humans, other animals, or the environment. Balance™ contains no toxins or neurotoxins such as pyrethrins, pyrethroids or neonicotinoids. <http://www.terregena.com/>

(Neurotoxins are toxic agents or substances that inhibit, damage or destroy cells or tissue in the central nervous system. Neurotoxic effects can include behavioral changes, seizures, or death.)

EPPS Fly Trap EPPS Biting Fly Traps safely use soap and water, and trick flies

into approaching, where they hit deflectors and ricochet into the soapy water tray below. The trap is effective against biting flies, including horse, deer, bull and stable flies. See www.horseheal-thusa.com.

2. Fly Predators A biological fly control system using tiny insects that prey on the flies in their larval state, aims to stop the cycle of fly infestation before it begins. Simply releasing the tiny insects into manure piles and other areas in which flies commonly lay their eggs can reduce the number of flies by as much as 80%. The people at Organic Control, a supplier of the tiny creatures, say, "the gnat-sized insects don't bother humans or animals as they are nocturnal, do not bite or sting and are rarely even seen, but when used as directed they can dramatically reduce the fly population."

Fly Predators should be dispersed in the fields, over the composting manure and where water is still. Also against light-colored walls where flies congregate. Avoid spreading in the stalls, we have other methods for

the pests inside! Related Story: It May Be "All Natural" - But Is It Safe?

3. Leg Protection Mesh leg wraps protect the horse's legs without overheating sensitive soft tissue. Use wraps that are durable and will not loosen or slip down the horse's legs, risking more serious injury as they stomp their feet or travel. Remove wraps at night when flies are dormant.

Summer Whinnys™ high tech polyester socks by Sox For Horses, embedded with silver and copper ions, keep legs cool while keeping flies from biting through. Silver and copper ions inhibit bacteria, fungi and mold in the socks, which are easy to put on, durable, and offer inexpensive protection. Natural, non-toxic, protection for the whole horse. See www.whinnywarmers.com.

4. Clean Feed Tubs Daily That yummy feed that attracts your horse also attracts flies. If

feed tubs are attached to a wall, scrub out as conscientiously as your dinner plate. Preferably use only plastic or rubber tubs that can be removed from a stall after each feeding and cleaned.

5. Clean Water Buckets Daily Flies love to hang out "poolside" and will (ugh!) relieve themselves around the rim of your horse buckets. Scrub buckets daily to remove fly feces. If you have automatic waterers, remove old water and swish away fly residue.

6. Screen-in Shady Stalls and Run-in Sheds Closing doors facing South and East reduces sun intensity but increases fly congregation. Use mesh/screened products that allow air circulation but keep flies out.

7. Season Grain With Garlic Garlic may be one of the most researched and talked about herbs in equine and human health fields. Among all the wonderful things garlic can do for us and our animals:

- natural fly repellent
- anti-fungal action
- anti-bacterial and anti-viral properties
- arthritis combatant
- blood thinning capabilities

A main component in garlic is allicin, which is very sensitive to heating, microwaving, steaming or pickling. When purchasing garlic for your animals, look for cold processed and non-irradiated processing. Hand-crushed fresh garlic is not recommended, as it can be harsh to the point of blistering your horse's mouth. Look for a reputable equine manufacturing source as opposed to buying bulk at your discount stores.

Fly Away Garlic is cold processed to ensure that the values remain undamaged. Heat processing or pickling of garlic can damage the highly sensitive, Allicin, deemed as the compound responsible for the benefits of garlic. Contains 100% Cold Processed Garlic powder. <http://www.equilite.com/product-flyawaygarlic.asp>

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NCAA Equestrian for Women is recognized as emerging sport for Divisions I and II

"Equestrian to remain as emerging sport" NCAA News March 2010 Information Related To Adding the Sport

- Varsity Equestrian information: <http://www.varsityequestrian.com/prospectivuniversities.html>
- Level of Participation (high school/college): Twenty-four Division I and II varsity programs are reported in the NCAA and the International Horse Show Association (IHSA) reports over 300 collegiate members.
- Number of Student-Athletes Needed: The number of riders participating in try-outs ranges from 5 to 120 with an average of 40 athletes.
- Estimated Start-Up Costs: Equestrian ranks among the least expensive sports at \$3-7,000 per student athlete. Total operating expenses range from \$100,000-450,000.
- Equipment Needed: Horses: In most cases, programs have met their horse needs through individual donations to the animal science, athletic or university foundation and/or from a pre-existing club team. Some programs choose to lease or borrow horses instead of owning.
- Facilities Necessary: Institutions with existing equine and/or animal science departments will typically already have facilities on campus. However, the minimal requirements for any program are: riding area, jumps, stalls/paddocks for horses, tack (saddle, bridle, etc.) and storage. Generally, facilities will be the largest part of the budget for an equestrian program. Southern Methodist pays one flat fee per year and the facility provides horse, practice facilities, tack, vet

services and feed. Others, such as Kansas State and the University of South Carolina lease a privately owned stable.

- Number of Coaches Needed: Currently, NCAA allows each program to have one head coach and two assistant coaches. Most programs have at least 2 full time coaches.
- Typical Season (dates, duration): The length of an institution's playing season in equestrian shall be limited to a 144-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required off days and official vacation, holiday and final-examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur. Practice cannot begin before September 7 or the first day of classes.
- Remarks: Athletes, coaches and fans enjoy the flexibility of equestrian. Teams compete head to head or in a tournament style format. Each team is required to ride the same horse and judges' scores are compared across horses. The host school provides the horses and tack at each competition, so hauling horses is not required. The format includes hunt seat equitation on the flat and over fences, western horsemanship and reining. A university may choose to offer only English or western based on the student body's interest.
- Key Organizations/Agencies
 - Varsity Equestrian: <http://www.varsityequestrian.com/about.html>
 - International Horse Show Association: <http://www.ihainc.com/>



What's bugging your horse?

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Grand Forks Mother Enjoys Day at Belmont Stakes

Martha Torkelson (pictured below right), Grand Forks, N.D. resident, was pleased to learn her daughter, Karen Ludington (pictured below left), had obtained tickets to the Belmont Stakes June 11. Of course, they had to get new hats for the event! Karen took the photos below with her iPhone. The exciting race was won by long-shot Ruler on Ice who ruled the muddy field in Belmont Park, NY. Derby winner Animal Kingdom, after a bad start, regained some ground but was no competition, and did not get close to Shackelford or Ruler on Ice who ultimately brought 24-1 odds to lucky bettors.

"Karen said, 'I saw the man rolling the cart with the blanket heading down to the

track so I stopped him and asked if I could take a photo. He was more than happy to let us take photos and also told us he was always nervous putting the blanket on the horse. Turns out, he said, that most of the horses are not too interested in having the blanket put on them and he is always afraid of getting kicked. Well, if you saw the race on TV you probably noticed that the horse would not let him put the blanket on. He just kept rearing up and pulling away and we could see the poor man trying to get the blanket on the horse without getting kicked. The horse won the race and the battle with the blanket. The blanket was set over the wall at the winners circle."

Photos by Karen Ludington



Left: Karen Ludington, left, and her mother, Martha Torkelson, enjoy their new hats at the Belmont Stakes, June 11, in Belmont Park, NY. They also enjoyed seeing the long-shot, Ruler on Ice, overcome the favorites, Preakness winner, Shackelford and Derby winner, Animal Kingdom in the muddy field winning by three-quarter lengths over Stay Thirsty.

Left bottom: A winning circle photo of Ruler on Ice. Karen said the white blanket of carnations was not laid over the winning Ruler as he was rearing and refusing it.

Below, Martha stands next to the blanket of carnations which never sat on the winning horse.



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Magnificent Seven Highlights Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento, CA

The program tells the History of the Magnificent Seven.

This open competition is based upon an event called the World Championship All-Around Stock Horse Contest. It was originated in the 1970s by legendary horseman Bobby Ingersoll, and supported by Pro Rodeo Hall of Famers, Cotton Rosser and Walk Rodman. The contest was held periodically until Western States Horse Expo CEO and founder Miki Cohen, and others, resurrected the event and gave it a permanent home in Sacramento each June.

Each year riders convene here for an intense competition that showcases the skill and athletic ability of the all-around stock horse. At the end of two challenging days of herd work, rein work, steer stopping and fence work, a new champion is crowned, adding another chapter to the illustrious history of the Magnificent 7.



Above: Ron Emmons on Olena Oak doing the herd work component of the Magnificent Seven on June 8 at the Western States Horse Expo (WSHE) in Sacramento, CA. Below: The California Girls drill team performs before the Magnificent Seven begins at the WSHE.

Photography by
Ley Bouchard
for the
Valley Equestrian
Newspaper



Les Oswald on MH on a Full Boon completes the rein work at the Magnificent Seven competition Friday, June 10 at the Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento, CA.

Lower left: The full complement of the horsemen being introduced before the competition begins for the Magnificent Seven at the WSHE. Ron Emmons won the Magnificent Seven competition on Olena Oak.

Right: Buckshot, the wagon driver, in Yosemite National Park with his 9-year-old team of Morgans.



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WHEN THE BELLY HURTS, THE WORLD STOPS

Many horses suffer from stress related digestive problems. Studies show over 50% of show and race horses have ulcers in their GI tract. When the proper acid-base balance of a horse's digestive tract is disturbed, gastric and/or intestinal ulcers may develop.

This increased intestinal permeability creates a pro-inflammatory state that may lead to food sensitivities, allergies, sore muscles and joints, impaired immune system function, colic, laminitis, and many other illnesses.

If one considers the hypothesis "you are what you eat," you should understand the principle applies to your horse as well. An unhealthy ulcerated gut sets the stage for equine disease. The digestive tract serves as a "door" to the equine's

body. It is of the utmost importance that the "door" remains selectively functional. When it becomes "stuck open," as with ulcers and dysbiosis, the digestive tract transforms into a highway for toxins and pathogens (bacteria, virus, and yeast) to enter the body and trigger disease, including systemic inflammation and

lameness.

The first and foremost objective for your equine partner's wellness program must be a well-balanced diet. A nutrient specific supplemental program containing pre-biotics, pro-biotics, digestive enzymes, bioactive immunoglobulins, and Saccharomyces Boulardii (a beneficial yeast) will help assure a healthy digestive tract to optimize digestion and absorption.

Once you focus on your horse's digestive health, you will find that most other health and performance concerns will improve all by themselves!

This tip was brought to you by KAM Animal Services, home of KAM's "Equine Learning Circle" FREE webinars, which take place every month. Go to www.kamanimalservices.com to sign up for their next webinar. If you attend when they

are live they are free. If you want to be able to listen to them again or download them the annual fee is \$89 and includes all the webinars. These webinars will conclude with a question and answer session, so be ready with your nutrition questions.



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By Janet Crow, EMST

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In theory, if 1/7th of the blood is going to the brain per minute, then roughly 1/14th is returning each minute via one of the

two jugular veins. Hold the light on the skin over the Jugular for 14 minutes and you have theoretically treated all the blood in the body. As we change the electrical potential of viral coat proteins or tissue cellular membranes, we can affect the viral attachment/penetration of cells.

One of the advantages of this method is that it is very difficult to do anything wrong. As the photons of light energy absorbed, get converted to electrons (negative charges) we cannot make tissue more negative than it should be, as the tissue quickly transfers its electrons to positively charged tissue.

Acu points recommended: LU11, LI20, BL12, BL13, LI11, ST36

Bibliography
Dr. Brian McLaren, Advanced Equine Photonic Therapy Manual, Farmvet Pty. Ltd, 2008

Janet Crow, Equine Photonic Therapist, is the creator of the Touch and Torch Method of Natural Healing and may be reached at: NaturalHorsePower.LLC.com, (970)590-3875 www.NaturalHorsePower.net

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Legal Disputes in Horse Sales

By John Alan Cohan, Attorney at Law

Disputes are commonplace in horse sales, particularly if the buyer discovers that the horse is unsound or not fit for its intended purposes. This is a problem that often can be traced to the buyer's failure to ask questions, or efforts on the seller's part to conceal infirmities, or an inadequate presale veterinary check.

This is why a written sales contract is important. A sales contract not only sets forth the terms of the sale, but provides express warranties if the parties have bargained for that. An express warranty might state that the horse is in a sound state of health, that it has the ability to breed, or that it is fit for athletic abilities such as racing, jumping, driving or to perform tasks such as cutting. Sellers are often reluctant to provide such warranties.

Now a new law in California requires a written bill of sale for horses (or fractional interests or stallion seasons), in an effort to reduce fraud and other improper practices. The law applies to all breeds of horses.

The law provides that the sales contract must set forth the purchase price, and is to be signed by both the buyer and seller or their authorized agents. For sales by auction, the requirement will be satisfied by the issuance of an auction receipt generated by the auction house and signed by the purchaser or an agent whom the purchaser has authorized.

The law also requires that bloodstock agents obtain the written consent by both purchaser and seller for any fee arrangement, and prohibits any person to act as a dual agent (for both buyer

and seller) without the written consent of both parties. The relation of an agent to a principal is of a fiduciary nature, which requires the agent to act in good faith toward the principal, and precludes him from obtaining any advantage over the principal in any transaction had by virtue of his agency. This provision is intended to increase transparency in agency relationships, and ensure full disclosure between agents and their principals.



The law makes it unlawful for a person acting as an agent for either buyer or seller to receive more than \$500 in commission, other than from the agent's principal, unless both the purchaser and seller consent in writing.

The bill provides for treble damages and attorney's fees for any person injured by a violation of its provisions, and allows the California Horse Racing Board to revoke or suspend the license of any person who violates its provisions.

The California law does not require the seller to provide

any warranties or guarantees. However, particularly with the purchase of expensive horses, broodmares or race horses, it is important to have specific terms in the sales contract stating that the seller guarantees the soundness of the animal or the fitness of the horse for its intended purposes.

A veterinarian check of the horse should always be a prerequisite before finalizing the sale of a horse. In many instances disputes have occurred because of undisclosed ailments or defects that a thorough vet check could have detected.

For sales that involve installment payments, it is crucial for the seller to have a security agreement accompanying the sales contract. This is to enable the seller to place a lien on the horse or other assets in case of default in payments.

Attorney Lisa L. Lerch of Yorba Linda, California, says of this new law: "I have seen the ramifications of transactions where buyers and sellers never had full disclosure of the parties involved or the fees paid to the agent and they often ended in litigation. This revision of the code should dramatically reduce fraud in sales transactions, as well as agent conflicts of interest."

John Alan Cohan is a lawyer who has served the horse, livestock and farming industries since 1981. He has clients in all 50 states. He can be reached at: (310) 278-0203, by e-mail at johnalancohan@aol.com, or you can see more at his website: www.JohnAlanCohan.com.

Collegiate Riders Will Experience the Ultimate Catch Ride at the NRHA Derby Show

Oklahoma City, Okla. – June 28, 2011 – Twelve accomplished collegiate riders will experience the ultimate catch ride at the 2010 Collegiate Reining Championships at National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) Derby in Oklahoma City, Okla. Riders in the championship have proven their abilities in the show ring and qualified to compete against their peers at this national competition.

NRHA selects four riders from a pool of collegiate NRHA members. This year a record number of applicants were evaluated on a number of criteria including NRHA points, earnings and show history. The individuals selected to compete on behalf of NRHA are:

Jenna Blumer, Oklahoma State University
Jesse Gentile, The Ohio State University
McKenzie Lantz, University of Georgia
Austin Griffith, The Ohio State University

Four individuals are selected to represent NCAA Varsity Equestrian competitors. The riders are evaluated by a committee of collegiate coaches who recommend the top four reining athletes. The riders selected to compete on behalf of Varsity Equestrian are:

Page Monfore, Auburn University
Rachel Houchin, Oklahoma State University
Kristen Hansen, Auburn University
Becca Haaland, University of Georgia. The Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA)

is represented by the top four placing individuals in Open Reining. This year, the qualifying competition was held in Lexington, Kentucky at the IHSA National Championships. The riders who qualified to compete on behalf of IHSA are:

Rebekah Irish, Black Hawk College
Kaitlin Hoffman, Cazenovia College
Alissa Trucco, Ohio University
Jason Romney, Utah State University

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of the excitement. The success of this competition depends on horses being donated for the collegiate riders. Fourteen horses will be needed, one for each of the 12 competitors plus 2 alternate horses. As a thank you, each donated horse's stall fees will be refunded after the Derby.

"The Collegiate Reining Championship is a showcase for some of the best horses and young riders in the sport of Reining," said Ollie Griffith, IHSA National Steward and NRHA Judge. "This program gives owners and competitors a chance to highlight their skills on a national level."

For more information or if you are interested in helping this great cause or know of someone who is, please contact Shianne Megel at the NRHA office at 405-946-7400.



Results of the Pipestone, Minn. Chuck-Wagon Cook-Off

Continued from page 7

Deadwood trail.

From North Branch, Minn, Bob and Vicki Heavirland hauled in the Flying Star chuck wagon. This John Deere wagon was originally used in the South and belonged to the grandfather of the person Bob bought it from. It is a 42" wide John Deere wagon which was needed to fit the Chuck Box he had already made (it did not fit the standard 36" wagon). Over the last 5 years he has rebuilt the brake system, replaced the reach, added new tongue, double trees and single trees, new neck yoke and repainted the wagon. Bob began his cooking at a chuck wagon cook-off at Spirit of the West. The best thing is that his son and grandson help so it is a three generation bonding time for the family.

The wagon cooks were given the ingredients to cook a five course meal of Meat, Beans, Bread, Potatoes and Dessert as well as cowboy camp coffee. The wagons as well were judged, and the winners were:

Best Wagon:
1st – was a tie: The DT owned by the Patricks and the Lost Creek owned by JT Hallson. Runner up was Aspeslet's Lazy A

The Wagon Judges were Leroy Gorter and Allen Gilmore, both of Pipestone, Minn.

Meat:
1st Patrick's DT Wagon, Watertown, SD

2nd Heavirland's Flying Star Wagon, North Branch, Minn.

Beans:
1st Hallson's Lost Creek

Wagon, Long Lake, Minn.

2nd Aspeslet's Lazy A Wagon, Stoddard Wisc.

Bread:
1st Hallson's Lost Creek Wagon, Long Lake, MN

2nd Patrick's DT Wagon, Watertown, SD

Potato:
1st Patrick's DT Wagon, Watertown, SD

2nd Heavirland's Flying Star Wagon, North Branch, Minn.

Dessert:
1st Patrick's DT Wagon, Watertown, SD

2nd Aspeslet's Lazy A Wagon, Stoddard Wisc.

Sunday morning, the wagons served up a fabulous Dutch oven breakfast of coffee, oj, bacon, sausage, egg bakes and hashbrowns. Then, four youngsters were invited to participate in the American Chuck Wagon Kid's dessert contest.

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Upcoming Events for July

July 24 - July 3: Roughrider Days Rodeo, Expo and Fair, Dickinson, N.D. Neil McCoy headlining; full schedule at www.roughriderdaysfair.com/calendar.php

June 25-26 Williston, ND: : Rocken the Baeken UBRA Barrel Race, Contact Monica Sem, monicalynnjohn@msn.com

July 1 Rapid City, SD: Friday Night Lights – Summer Buckle Series, Rounds Arena, Central States Fairgrounds, Exhibitions 4:30 pm, contact Lana Ireland at (605)431-9480 or lanairreland@hotmail.com, www.liproductions.us

July 1-3 Lincoln, NE: BBR Regional Race \$10,000 Added, Lancaster Event Center, Becky Geidel 405-230-7167, betterbarrelraces@gmail.com, www.betterbarrelraces.com

July 2 Grand Forks, ND: Double Header UBRA Barrel Race, 11 am, Contact Alvina Ebensteiner aebensteiner@ramsavbank.com

July 2-3 Buffalo, WY: Kick'em Up Cans, www.nwbra.com

July 3 & 16 Brookings, SD: Brookings Ridng Club Barrel Racing, Open, Futurity, Youth, PeeWee, Contact Victoria Blatchford, 605-639-4699, ivblatch@itctel.com

July 5 Killdeer, ND: Southwestern ND Traveling Barrel Racing Series, Contact Brenda Rettinger bossmare@ndsupernet.com, www.NDBarrels.com

July 6 & 13 Belle Fourche, SD: Belle Jackpot Association, Belle Fourche Round Up Grounds, 6 pm, Contact Chrissy Peterson 605-347-9166

July 9 & 10: 4-Star Challenge Barrel Race at Simon Horse Sales Arena in Cannon Falls, Minn.

July 8-9 West Fargo, ND: Round-up the Red, Red River Valley Fair, \$500 added, Little Big Town free concert, Contact Erin Welken hultman01@yahoo.com

July 8-10 Waterloo, IA: Big J Barrel Blast 2011, National Cattle Congress Grounds, Contact Lynde Johnson 515-571-4281, bigjbarrelblast@gmail.com, www.bigjbarrelblast.com

July 9 Chadron, NE: Fur Trade Days Rodeo Barrel Race, Contact Jess Wild at 308-430-5041

July 9 & 16 Grand Forks, ND: 3rd Annual Grand Forks Fair Board Summer UBRA Series, Contact Pam Marback pmarback@yahoo.com

July 10: Team Roping Jackpot Series in the Outdoor Arena at Simons Horse Sales in Cannon Falls, Minn

July 12 Granville, ND: McHenry County Saddle Club Series, Contact Karen Kramer, 701-509-3948

July 12 Dodge, ND: Southwestern ND Traveling Barrel Racing Series, Contact Brenda Rettinger bossmare@ndsupernet.com, www.NDBarrels.com

July 12: All Breed Horse & Tack Sale at Simon Horse Sales in Cannon Falls, Minn.

July 15-17 Rapid City, SD: Barrel Bash Double Qualifier, \$5,000 Added, Central State Fairgrounds, Contact Renea Beech Bolling 641-745-5845, ibolling@iowatelecom.net, www.barrelbash.com

July 15-17 Winona, MN: Cowgirl Tuff/Cimarron Sizzler Futurity & Derby, Open Barrel Race, Youth & Poles, Minnesota Equestrian Center, Contact SC Productions, 507-450-6080, casey@kvkradio.com

July 16 & 17: Minnesota Paint Horse Show at the Simon Horse Sale Arena in Cannon Falls, Minn.

July 22-23: WRPM Cowboy Mounted Shooting demo at the PBR Bullride in Thief River Falls, Minn.

July 23-24 Spearfish, SD: Red, White and Run Futurity & Open 4D, \$1,500 added 2D Futurity and \$250 added 4D, Seven Down Arena, Lana Ireland 605-431-9480 or www.liproductions.us

July 29 – 31: Mid Summerfest Saddlebred Show at the Simon Arena in Cannon Falls, Minn. July 23-24 Spearfish, SD: Red, White and Run Futurity & Open 4D, Seven Downs Arena, www.liproductions.us

July 24 Forman, ND: Sargent County Fair UBRA Barrel Race, Contact Betsy Roney betsy_roney@yahoo.com

July 26 Whitney, NE: NHBA Barrel Race, Johnson Arena

July 29 Rapid City, SD: Friday Night Lights – Summer Buckle Series, Rounds Arena, Central States Fairgrounds, Exhibitions 4:30 pm, contact Lana Ireland at (605)431-9480 or lanairreland@hotmail.com, www.liproductions.us

July 29-30 Minot, ND: Cowgirl Tuff Barrel Bash, ND State

Fairgrounds, Renea Bolling 641-745-5845, www.BarrelBash.com

July 30-31: Lynn Hanson Memorial Shoot in Warren, Minn. August 2, 16, & 30 Granville, ND McHenry County Saddle Club Series, Contact Karen Kramer, 701-509-3948

August 3, 10, & 17 Belle Fourche, SD: Belle Jackpot Association, Belle Fourche Round Up Grounds, 6 pm, Contact Chrissy Peterson 605-347-9166

August 5 Rapid City, SD: Friday Night Lights – Summer Buckle Series, Rounds Arena, Central States Fairgrounds, Exhibitions 4:30 pm, contact Lana Ireland at (605)431-9480 or lanairreland@hotmail.com, www.liproductions.us

August 5-7 Fergus Falls, MN: UBRA World Show, Red Horse Ranch Arena, 218-736-3000; www.RedHorseRanchArena.com

Aug. 6-7: N.C. Regional Champ, Kuka's Arena, Maple Plain, Minn. August 9 & 23 Whitney, NE: NHBA Barrel Race, Johnson Arena

August 9: All Breed Horse & Tack Sale at the Simon Arena in Cannon Falls, Minn.

August 12-14 Spearfish, SD Dash & Dance Slot Race and Open 4Ds, Seven Down Arenas, sam.martinez@sevendown.net, www.sevendown.net, 605-578-3518

August 12-14 Spearfish, SD: Dash & Dance Slot Race and Open 4Ds, Seven Down Arenas, sam.martinez@sevendown.net, 605-578-3518

August 13 Brookings, SD: Brookings Riding Club Barrel Racing, Open, Futurity, Youth, PeeWee, Contact Victoria Blatchford, 605-639-4699, ivblatch@itctel.com

August 13 & 27 Grand Forks, ND 3rd Annual Grand Forks Fair Board Summer UBRA Series, Contact Pam Marback pmarback@yahoo.com

August 14 TBA Double Header UBRA Barrel Race, 11 am, Contact Alvina Ebensteiner aebensteiner@ramsavbank.com

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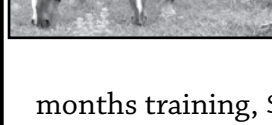
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8-year-old AQHA gelding, sorrel with narrow blaze, 2 months training, \$750



Quarter Horse yearling, sorrel with star 9-year-old AQHA Bay gelding, 2 months training, not ridden recently, gorgeous color, 15H, \$700.



Quarter Horse yearlings, sorrels, filly and cold, starting to fill out nicely, friendly, \$200. Each

Four AQHA mares, 2 chestnuts, 2 sorrels, threw palominos when bred to my foundation palomino stud; some with papers, \$500. Each. May be bred back to palomino stud.

Call Karen @ 218.790.1790



The Outhouse: Life on the Farm with Emily Barrels and Bull

Off to the rodeo was usually an every-other-weekend jaunt for me and my best friend Brandy during the summer months. I would occasionally sneak off to an English horse show and would never hear the end of it from her, as that particular equitation department between us was about as black and white as it gets.

Brandy laughed at my English saddle, saying it was about as thick as the pad underneath her western variety. Once, after loading a hayloft full of hay, though, Brandy had a heck of a time lifting her heavy western saddle onto her horse. I giggled as it only took one arm for me to toss my light-as-a-feather English saddle atop my own horse.

Trusting us more and more, our parents had finally given in and let the two of us spend a Saturday night at the rodeo grounds during a weekend event. We were so blissful and big-headed, we forgot all about cleaning out the tack compartment of the trailer to sleep in. After a long day of barrel racing and goat

tying, Brandy's idea of tossing straw on top of the horse poop in back wasn't too appealing. If either one of us had passed the history final that spring, it would have landed us a pickup to sleep in that night, but the "trust issue" had that luxurious four-wheeled hotel home with my parents for the weekend.

While we were contemplating our sleeping arrangements, the Martin brothers moseyed over for a chat, followed by half the rodeo team. Invited to the Saturday night shindig of a bonfire and barbeques, our heads and attitudes instantly grew to the ten-gallon range.

Brandy advised an early evening as our morning event was "first up" – not much later than sunrise. We agreed to fake a couple of yawns after a while, but those thoughts flew right through the calf pens as a fiddle player joined our group, along with bull riders telling tales of "bull."

Innocent – probably not; naïve – probably so – we sipped "just a little bit," along with the other kids, from the canteen that was passed around.

We finally got our "yawns" in gear, but it turned out they were a little late. Back at the trailer, we slept a few hours but were awakened by some awful loud commotion.

Standing up and hanging onto the back doors of the horse trailer which seemed to be spinning, and with most of our bedding following on our clothes and in our hair, we emerged, immediately pointing fingers to anyone under the "old", age of twenty or so "just in case."

The "who did it's" following our happy-go-lucky night were followed by "he did it's" and "she did it's." Brandy and I had been about the last to wake up to blinding bright sunshine, and were next in a long line of questioning.

The line-up of parents, ending with Mom with her "mean face" on, was not good. But worse was what was displayed directly behind them.

Barrels had been set up in a perfect pattern on the lush green golf course adjoining the rodeo grounds. Uff, someone had practiced the pattern over and over again, on a horse. Over by the

announcer's stand stood two big old draft horses, harnessed to the "rich kid's" dad's convertible. Old Mr. Grumpy was trying his best, but the goat wouldn't budge from the driver's seat. He should have asked one of us kids to get the goat out, as his yelling spooked the giant horses. We all got the giggles. Even a couple parents tried to hide their grins as the convertible was pulled, in park, straight down the fairway. The oldest Martin brother yelled out, "Fore!" but didn't know his dad was standing directly behind him.

Shortly after the convertible hit a sand trap, burying everything but the windshield, a bull wandered by, wearing an English saddle. Uh oh.

Now, the rodeo clowns are just "guys in the crowd" until they put their makeup and funny-looking clothing on, but the pony being chased by a guy in long johns wasn't giving up his parade for anything! Even Old Mr. Grumpy stopped his cussing for a moment as the pony trotted by with a bright red nose and face painted up like an eagle. Some-

one had apparently snugged the tutu he wore around his girth on pretty dang good because when he caught it on a water hydrant, it stayed secure while the hydrant busted in half. It wouldn't have been half bad, but the water was spraying directly into the bucking-horse pen.

Already spooked by the goat, the bull and a pony that looked like he came straight from a little kid's story book, the whole works hightailed it over the fence. The Calgary Stampede has one of those "wild horse round up events," but I think we outdid them by a mile that morning.

With all the entertainment and turmoil settling down, Brandy and I thought the coast was clear as a bell, and we headed to saddle up our horses for the day.

No horses, no saddles, not even a pickup and trailer. Just a note from Mom saying "Rodeo: F. Summer school next"...

Emilysouthouse@aol.com
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Composting Reduces Manure Volume

from the NDSU Extension Service

North Dakota's long, cold winter has led to larger than normal accumulations of manure and bedding, and may delay producers' fertilizer application.

Producers typically apply manure as a fertilizer in the spring before planting and in the fall after harvest. However, many producers may skip the manure application this spring. That could result in manure storage facilities reaching full capacity.

Composting is a possible solution to the manure storage problem, according to Chris Augustin, nutrient management specialist at North Dakota State University's Carrington Research Extension Center.

Composting kills weed seeds and pathogens, and reduces manure volume. Research indicates that composting reduces manure piles by half to two-thirds. Compost also is less dense than raw manure. This reduces hauling

costs because producers have less and lighter material to apply on a field.

"Composting is more than piling manure and letting it sit, though," Augustin says. "Composting is a speedy decomposition process. The bacteria and fungi responsible for composting are indigenous to the pile. It is our job to create a habitable environment for the decomposition organisms."

Manure composting requires 20 to 40 parts of carbon for every part nitrogen. This is equal to about 80 percent cattle manure and 20 percent straw bedding. Manure is the nitrogen source and straw is the carbon source.

The compost pile also must have adequate air and water. Fifty percent of the pore space needs air and the remaining 50 percent needs to be filled with water. The pile should feel like a well-wrung-out rag, Augustin

says. If water drips out of a handful of compost, it is too wet. If it doesn't feel damp to the touch, then it is too dry.

After piling the compost, the pile should heat to more than 130 F in two or three days. If the pile

ture falls, the pile needs to be turned.

Producers can buy implements designed for turning compost, but turners can be expensive. One alternative is to use bucket tractors to turn piles. Also, Soil Conservation Districts in Wells, Stutsman and LaMoure counties offer custom turning services.

Turning the pile introduces oxygen into the compost and will stimulate the microbes in the pile to continue heating.

"The idea is to move materials from the outside of the pile to the inside of the pile and add air to the system," Augustin says.

The duration of subsequent heating cycles will shorten with each turn. After three to five turns, the manure is composted.

Augustin suggests letting the compost sit for a few weeks to allow it to cure. Applying compost that has not cured can cause

phytotoxicity issues. Once the pile has assumed ambient temperatures, it is ready to be used as a fertilizer.

However, compost needs to be sampled for nutrients before it is applied on a field. About 15 percent of the total nitrogen, 30 percent of the total phosphorus and 30 percent of the total potassium in the compost should be available to the crop that's planted.

Producers who would like their manure compost tested for nutrients may contact Augustin at (701) 652-2951 or chris.augustin@ndsu.edu.

This article is courtesy NDSU Extension Office. More content available at www.ag.ndsu.edu/news/newsreleases



does not heat, then one of the four factors (carbon, nitrogen, air and water) is not in the pile in the recommended amount. The temperature should remain above 130 F for a couple of weeks and then decline. Once the tempera-



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Highlights of GAO-11-228, a report to congressional committees June 2011

Editors Note: The material printed below is the summary of the full report published by the General Accounting Office to the congressional committees. This is a long-awaited opinion on the issue of horse meat inspection and its impact on the horse industry. The full report may be read at: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11228.pdf>

HORSE WELFARE
Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences from Cessation of Domestic Slaughter Why GAO Did This Study
Since fiscal year 2006, Congress has annually prohibited the use of federal funds to inspect horses destined for food, effectively prohibiting domestic slaughter. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for overseeing the welfare of horses transported for slaughter. Congress directed GAO to examine horse welfare since cessation of domestic slaughter in 2007. GAO examined (1) the effect on the U.S. horse market, if any, since cessation; (2) any

impact of these market changes on horse welfare and on states, local governments, tribes, and animal welfare organizations; and (3) challenges, if any, to USDA's oversight of the transport and welfare of U.S. horses exported for slaughter. GAO analyzed horse price and shipping data, and interviewed officials from USDA, state and local governments, tribes, the livestock industry, and animal welfare organizations, and reviewed documents they provided. What GAO Recommends
GAO suggests that Congress may wish to reconsider restrictions on the use of federal funds to inspect horses for slaughter or, instead, consider a permanent ban on horse slaughter. GAO recommends that USDA issue a final rule to protect horses through more of the transportation chain to slaughter and consider ways to better leverage resources for compliance activities. USDA agreed with GAO's recommendations and noted specific actions it will take to implement them. What GAO Found
Since domestic horse slaughter ceased in 2007, the slaughter

horse market has shifted to Canada and Mexico. From 2006 through 2010, U.S. horse exports for slaughter increased by 148 and 660 percent to Canada and Mexico, respectively. As a result, nearly the same number of U.S. horses was transported to Canada and Mexico for slaughter in 2010—nearly 138,000—as was slaughtered before domestic slaughter ceased. Available data show that horse prices declined since 2007, mainly for the lower-priced horses that are more likely to be bought for slaughter. GAO analysis of horse sale data estimates that closing domestic horse slaughtering facilities significantly and negatively affected slaughter-to-medium priced horses by 8 to 21 percent; higher-priced horses appear not to have lost value for that reason. Also, GAO estimates the economic downturn reduced prices for all horses by 4 to 5 percent. Comprehensive, national data are lacking, but state, local government, and animal welfare organizations report a rise in investigations for horse neglect and more abandoned horses since 2007. For example, Colo-

rado data showed that investigations for horse neglect and abuse increased more than 60 percent from 975 in 2005 to 1,588 in 2009. Also, California, Texas, and Florida reported more horses abandoned on private or state land since 2007. These changes have strained resources, according to state data and officials that GAO interviewed. State, local, and horse industry officials generally attributed these increases in neglect and abandonment to cessation of domestic slaughter and the economic downturn. Others, including representatives from some animal welfare organizations, questioned the relevance of cessation of slaughter to these problems. USDA faces three broad challenges in overseeing the welfare of horses during transport to slaughter. First, among other management challenges, the current transport regulation only applies to horses transported directly to slaughtering facilities. 2007 proposed rule would more broadly include horses moved first to stockyards, assembly points, and feedlots before be-

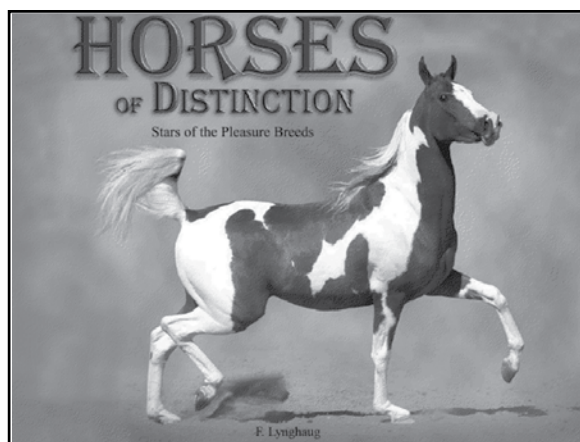
transported to Canada and Mexico, but delays in issuing a final rule have prevented USDA from protecting horses during their transit to slaughter-facilities. In addition, GAO found that many owner/shipper certificates, which document compliance with the regulation, are being returned to USDA with key information, if they are returned at all. Second, annual legislative prohibitions on USDA's use of federal funds for inspections impede USDA's ability to improve compliance with, and enforcement of, the transport regulation. Third, GAO analysis shows that U.S. horses intended for slaughter are now traveling significantly greater distances to reach their final destination where they are not covered by U.S. humane slaughter protections. With cessation of domestic slaughter, USDA lacks staff and resources at the borders and foreign slaughtering facilities that it once had in domestic facilities to help identify problems with shipping paperwork or the condition of horses before they are slaughtered.

Noem: GAO Confirms Problems With Horse Processing Restrictions

WASHINGTON-U.S. Representative Kristi Noem (R-SD) responded to a recently released Government Accountability Office report on horse welfare and slaughter saying that it confirms the fact that there are significant problems with the current restrictions. "This report confirms what most ranchers already know. The ending of horse slaughter and processing here in the United States has increased neglect and abandonment and depressed horse prices," said Noem. The last horse processing facilities in Texas and Illinois closed in 2007, thus ending all processing in the U.S. This was the result of Congress stripping the USDA of funding for food safety inspections at processing plants. The USDA continued to provide inspections on a fee-for-service basis until a federal judge ruled against the arrangement. Since then horses have been transported to Mexico and Canada for processing. The GAO report explains that from 2006 to 2010 the number of horses exported to Mexican pro-

cessing plants rose 660%. The number of horses exported to Canada for processing increased 148% during the same time period. Additionally, the report said, "closing domestic horse slaughtering facilities significantly and negatively affected lower-to-medium priced horses by 8 to 21 percent." The GAO also said that while comprehensive national data was unavailable, state, local government, and animal welfare organizations report a rise in investigations for horse neglect and more abandoned horses since 2007. Noem concluded, "While opponents of

horse slaughter here in the U.S. claim they are acting in the name of humane horse treatment, their policies are in fact adding to the inhumane treatment of horses. I hope this new GAO report makes slaughter opponents reassess their position."



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The U.S. Horse Industry Calls for Action

Based on the findings of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, HORSE WELFARE: Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences from Cessation of Domestic Slaughter, and on input from the horse industry the United Organizations of the Horse (UOH) is calling for decisive action in Congress to restore the equine economy. The GAO report confirms that horses and horse people are suffering unnecessarily as a direct result of the closure of U.S. horse processing facilities in 2007. One complaint from horse people who make any part of their living with horses is that the GAO report did not capture the full scope of the devastation of an entire sector of animal agriculture. The loss of a secondary market for unwanted and otherwise unusable horses has caused the entire horse market to stagnate. Families and businesses have seen the value of their horses and their net worth slashed. The numbers of horses abandoned and neglected have skyrocketed because they cannot be sold or given away. Rescues are full and overwhelmed at exactly the same time as the market is glutted with horses being dumped because so many equine businesses are no longer viable. Without decisive action from Congress the equine industry will continue to collapse. The specific actions that the horse industry is asking for would preserve the private property rights of all horse owners—both those who would like to sell their horses and those who do not want their horses slaughtered. Reasonable regulation and the

ability to participate in a thriving worldwide market would allow states and tribes the opportunity to enhance their agricultural economies creating jobs and much needed revenue. Those concerned about horse welfare would have the opportunity to monitor the industry as opposed to horses being processed either in other countries where the U.S. has no control over how that is accomplished, or in illegitimate black markets which will inevitably expand if all slaughter and transport is banned. Specific Congressional actions that the horse industry needs are:
Remove the restriction against voluntary fee based USDA inspection of horse meat to allow those states who are actively seeking to promote the economic development of horse slaughter facilities to do so.
Would allow the horse industry to pay for inspection with zero impact on the federal budget or any cost to taxpayers. It would immediately create more than a thousand jobs in hard hit state and tribal economies, and allow revenue generating enterprises to once again participate in a worldwide market for horse meat.
State, local, and tribal entities join the horse industry in asking for this opportunity as evidenced by strongly worded policy resolutions passed by the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Association of Counties, and the National Congress of American Indians.

Continued on page 17

From the Horse Industry's Mouth

AEP Statement regarding GAO Report on Horse Welfare

American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) President William Moyer, DVM, issued the following statement June 27, 2011 in response to the recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report examining horse welfare since the end of domestic slaughter in 2007:

The AAEP appreciates Congress requesting the GAO analyze the effect of the closing of processing plants on the nation's horse population. This attention from the federal government further emphasizes the seriousness of this issue to America's horses.

"As doctors of veterinary medicine, we agree with the GAO's conclusions regarding the unintended consequences of the domestic slaughter ban. The reported increase in horse neglect and abandonment, combined with the lack of placement options for horses that can no longer be cared for by their owners, has been and continues to be a significant equine welfare challenge facing the equine industry.

"Regarding the GAO's recommendations, the lack of federal funding for the USDA's transport oversight program cripples the agency's ability to properly protect horses that are shipped to processing facilities. Eliminating the funding for inspecting this population of horses has, as outlined by the GAO report, decreased the welfare of these horses. Our association supports the return of funding to the USDA. The AAEP feels it is equally important that the USDA quickly issues its final rule on transport regulations so the agency's oversight will extend to more of the transportation chain for horses shipped to slaughter.

"If Congress pursues the option of banning the processing of U.S. horses without the appropriate funding and infrastructure in place to appropriately care for these animals, this action may only amplify the negative welfare implications for this highly vulnerable population of horses.

"The AAEP believes that horse processing is not the ideal solution for addressing the large num-

Doug DeMontigny named ND TOBA Owner/Breeder of the Year

North Dakota's 2011 Owner/Breeder of the Year is Doug DeMontigny. He was born in Minot, ND, raised in Rugby, ND and currently resides in Dunseith, ND.

Doug has had a love affair with and handled horses since early childhood. He has been a Thoroughbred Breeder since 1990. In that time he has stood many stallions among which are Itsfloored Lord by Eastern Lord, Storada by Alleged, Speed Calling by Phone Trick, Lush By Mt Livermore and Baseball Card Kid by Vindication.

In addition to raising and racing horses as well as running a herd of livestock, his chosen profession for 38 years is that of a pharmacist. He has served on many Boards including North Dakota's Fair Circuit; The North Dakota Horsemen's Advisory Council to the North Dakota Racing Commission; the Belcourt Rodeo Association; the Outdoor Recreational Development Association

and is a Founding Member of North Dakota TOBA.

One of his most notable achievements was to very successfully manage the Chippewa Downs Horse race track for many years for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians under four different Tribal Chairmen. Chippewa Downs is the oldest continually operating Para-mutual track in North Dakota and currently the only track operating in North Dakota. He is an extraordinary man who gives of himself selflessly and is admired by all.

Doug will be honored at an Awards Dinner in Lexington, Kentucky September 27th, 2011 as well as announced in numerous National Thoroughbred Magazines and publications. Congratulations and thanks a million Doug!

www.northdakotatoba.org
E-mail at northdakotatoba@yahoo.com or phone 701-255-3555.

The U.S. Horse Industry Calls for Action

Continued from page 16

Would require that horses be processed under all applicable Humane Methods of Slaughter laws, and give horse industry and welfare advocates the ability to monitor the humane handling of slaughter horses.
Remove the restriction against USDA/APHIS inspection of horses so that the Slaughter Transport program can be properly regulated and enforced.
A major finding of the GAO Report is that the agency is precluded from directly inspecting horses in transport because of the prohibition against USDA funds being used to inspect live horses prior to slaughter.
The horse industry supports the enhanced regulation of slaughter horse transport so long as that regulation is not expanded to include horses being transported for other purposes.
Expand USDA/APHIS horse welfare oversight to include non-

profit horse rescue and sanctuary operations.

There is no oversight over organizations using public money and tax deductible donations to care for horses, and many known examples of abuse such as fraudulently selling horses contrary to donors intentions, keeping horses in substandard conditions, and accumulating too many horses without the resources to properly care for them.

United Horsemen's nationwide Do Not Slaughter Registry is available to all horse owners, rescues, and sanctuaries who do not want their horses processed. Horses are permanently identified and enrolled in a database. Every horse presented for slaughter will be scanned to ensure they are not stolen or sold against a donor's wishes. Scanners will be available to horse sales and auction markets, USDA/APHIS Slaughter Horse Transport personnel, state livestock agencies, and U.S. border agents. The system allows an annual registration for a horse previously owned, with the option to pay costs and reclaim the horse if ever presented for slaughter after being sold by a subsequent owner.
Require USDA - Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to track and report slaughter horse industry numbers and markets like all other classes of livestock. A major difficulty noted in the GAO report was the lack of data of any sort in regards to the horse industry.

AMS provides current, unbiased price and sales information to assist in the orderly marketing and distribution of farm commodities. Reports include information on prices, volume, quality, condition, and other market data. This would aid slaughter horse producers, processors, consumers, and distributors in the sale and purchase of slaughter horses, horse meat, and related products nationally and internationally.
FAS World Market and Trade reports provide the latest analysis and data outlining the current supply, demand and trade estimates both for the United States and for many major foreign countries, and should include horse meat and related products in their mandate. This data can be used to assess the level of export demand, determine where markets exist, and assess the relative position of horse products to other commodities in those markets.



UNITED ORGANIZATIONS OF THE HORSE

Classes are designed to honor the Native American tribes and families, and the Spanish Colonists who used and bred these horses, sometimes called Indian Pony, Spanish Mustang, Colonial Spanish or Spanish Barb. The show also honors their hybrids and descendants which include BLM mustangs, cross-bred Paints and Appaloosas and so called back-yard horses who are desirable in type.

The show represents the hard work, dedication, indeed the blood, sweat and tears that have gone into the creation and nurturing of the show and both the AIHR and HOA. This takes more than just one or two people with a dream, it takes determination to see things through - it really does take a village, or in this case, tribe would probably be a better term.

For more information on the show, contact AIHR, 9028 State Park Road, Lockhart TX 78644, 512-398-6642, or aihrnanci@gmail.com. The American Indian Horse ~ An Original



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Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame announces 2011 Inductions

The Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame & Western Heritage Center (MCHF&WHC) announced the fourth class of inductions into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame. The inductees were chosen from candidates nominated by the public and Trustees of the MCHF&WHC that made a notable contribution to the history and culture of Montana through 1960, no matter the year of death or closure. Winners were selected by the MCHF&WHC Trustees.

This year marks the first time that the MCHF has included a "Living" category in addition to the Legacy Award category. The Class of 2011 includes at least one inductee from each of 12 districts across the state. This year, 15 inductees were selected as Legacy Award recipients and six inductees were selected in the "Living" category.

- rick; & Horace S. Raty, Great Falls.
- District 5 (Cascade, Glacier, Pondera, Teton, & Toole Counties): Legacy Award – Brother Van – William Van Orsdel, Fort Benton.
- District 6 (Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, & Wheatland Counties): Legacy Award – James "Jimmy" W. Kaaro, Lewistown; Living Award – Mildred "Mickey" Styer, Roy.
- District 7 (Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, & Yellowstone Counties): Legacy Award – Cyrus B. Mendenhall, Springdale; Living Award – Dr. Barney Old Coyote, Jr. – Ti loska sh wi (White Bison Calf), Crow Reservation.
- District 8 (Broadwater, Jefferson, & Lewis and Clark Counties): Legacy Award (two-way tie) – Harland J. Herrin, Wolf Creek; & Brian D. O'Connell, Helena; Living Award – Stephen Woodrow Mosher, Augusta.
- District 9 (Gallatin, Meagher, & Park Counties): Legacy Award – Johnny Flowers, Big Timber.
- District 10 (Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, & Sanders Counties): Living Award – Fay Haynes, Pablo.
- District 11 (Mineral, Missoula, & Ravalli Counties): Legacy Award – Jeannette Rankin, Missoula.
- District 12 (Deer Lodge, Beaverhead, Silver Bow, Granite, Madison, & Powell Counties): Legacy Award (three-way tie) – The Brander Sisters, Violet & Margaret, Avon; Charles Frederick Meine, Dillon; & Theodore "Ted" Henry Parini, Butte; Living Award – Benny Reynolds, Twin Bridges.



The 2011 inductees into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame are:

- District 1 (Daniels, Phillips, Roosevelt, Sheridan, & Valley Counties): Legacy Award – Harrah Brothers, Valley County.
- District 2 (Dawson, Garfield, McCone, Prairie, Richland, & Wibaux Counties): Legacy Award – Montana Bill, Fallon community.
- District 3 (Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Rosebud, & Treasure Counties): Legacy Award – Chandler "Feeke" Tooke; Living Award – Gladys Maria Venable Cain, Miles City (nominated in Living Category but deceased 1/28/11).
- District 4 (Blaine, Choteau, Hill, & Liberty Counties): Legacy Award (two-way tie) – Gregory "Buck" Joseph Henderson, War-

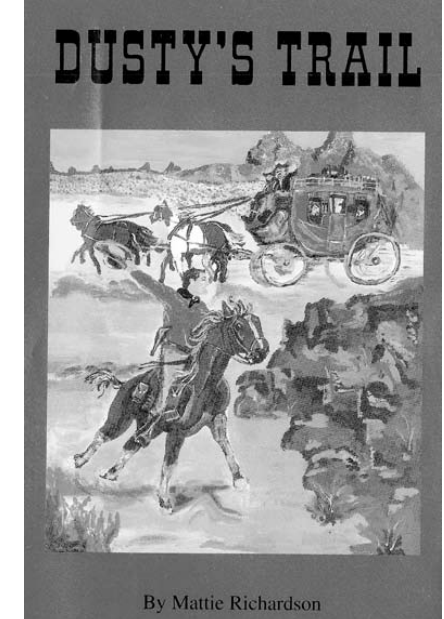
ing Award – Stephen Woodrow Mosher, Augusta.

In addition to the announcement of this fourth round of inductions into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame, the MCHF&WHC is announcing that it will be inviting all communities of Montana to respond to a request for proposals for the purpose of identifying the future building location for the organization's headquarters. This future building site will serve as one of many ways the organization works to honor our cowboy way of life, American Indian cultures and the roots of our Montana Western heritage. The request for proposals invitation will be published on June 1, 2011.

For more information about the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame & Western Heritage Center, or for more details on the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame inductees, please contact Christy Stensland at the MCHF&WHC by calling (406) 653-3800, emailing cmstensland@montanacowboyfame.com, or visiting <http://www.montanacowboyfame.com>.

Dusty's Trail

A story about the Pony Express from the horse's perspective by **Mattie Richardson** author of 'Appaloosy'



Contact Mattie at:
redheadkid7@msn.com
<http://appaloosybook.blogspot.com/>

USEF Names List of Qualified Riders for Youth Reining National Championship

From the USEF Communications Department

Lexington, KY - The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) has announced the list of Youth Reining Riders who have qualified for the USEF Youth Reining National Championships to be held in conjunction with the NRHA Derby in Oklahoma City on July 2, 2011. The USEF will award Youth National Championship titles in three age categories: 13 and under, 14-18 and 19-21 age divisions. The Youth qualified for the USEF Championships by earning points in Qualifying Classes throughout the country in 2010-2011.

More information regarding this event, including the prize list is available here: http://www.usef.org/_IF-frames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/allreining/developingYR.aspx

2011 USEF Youth Reining Championships Qualified Riders:

13 & Under: Stephen Timberlake, Rylee Justus, S. Alexandra Fuller, Olivia Hartman, Nick Taylor, Caroline Gute, Jordan Eddy.

Age 14-18: Layla Choate, Laura Sumrall, Kayla Hillegass, Jonathan Timberlake, Samantha Hillegass, Meloney Morris, Jonathan Stepka, Taylor Kiel, Rhett Peeples,

Hannah Agee, Morgan Burns, Samantha Belcher, Elizabeth Cosper, Kyndall Harper, Mc Kenzie Lantz, Javier Melo, Devin Spencer, Faythe Vest, Emily Winegar.

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