

Free - Please
take one
& pass it
around!

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

*All Breeds,
All Disciplines,
All the Time!*

December 2012

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

Your resource for equestrian news, events and information

Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year

from our valley
to yours!

What's Inside:

- Tucson Fall Classic
- Empire Ranch Roundup
- MN EquiFest Recap
- Horse Industry News

Are you a member?



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

\$15 Individuals ♦ Family \$20 ♦ Organization \$25

Serving the horse community since 1935

- Scholarships ♦ Direct Funding ♦ Horse Welfare
- Trail Blazers ♦ Disaster Relief ♦ Grants
- Certified Stables ♦ Aisle of Breeds
- Horseperson of the Year ♦ Pioneer Award

For information on applying for any of these programs, to find out how to volunteer or to nominate someone for *Horseperson of the Year* or the *Pioneer Award* please go to www.mnhorsecouncil.org or call 763-755-7729

Funding for programs made possible by the Minnesota Horse Expo



PO Box 223, Plato, MN 55370 ♦ 763-755-7729 ♦ mnhorsecouncil@comcast.net

www.mnhorsecouncil.org

Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

- Find a Stable ♦ List a Business
- Find a Trainer ♦ Look for a Job

Connect at www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.com

A FREE website provided by the Minnesota Horse Council

'Putting the Pieces Together' Conference a Big Success

By Ley Bouchard, Editor

"Putting the Pieces Together" was the theme for the Coalition of State Horse Councils' 2012 Fall Symposium and Meeting held Nov. 2-4 in Denver, CO hosted by the Colorado Horse Council.

The conference began with registration Nov. 2 at 11 a.m. The topic of the conference was to "assist equestrian councils and clubs in the areas of marketing, animal welfare, and management ... and will offer sessions of discussions that will assist the start-up of clubs and unite horse councils in common goals and will be extremely valuable to all," according to the coalition's web site at <https://sites.google.com/site/cshcsite/home>.

Speakers at the conference included Diane Leshar, President of Equisure, Inc., Ben Pendergrass from the American Horse Council, Temple Grandin, American doctor of animal science and professor at Colorado State University, bestselling author, and consultant

to the livestock industry on animal behavior; Sue Wallis, Chairman of the International Equine Business Association, Colleen Pace of the American Association of Riding Schools, Tracy Vroom, Christy Landwehr, CEO of Certified Horsemanship Association, Cindy Schonholtz, Jill Montgomery, Wayne G. Hipsley, and Kyle Fenner of the Colorado Horse Park.

Temple Grandin, known internationally for her work in animal behavior and autism, was the subject of the award-winning biographical film named for her. An advocate for autism and animal welfare, she has developed humane livestock handling processes and promotes the improvement of standards in slaughter plants and livestock farms.

Jill Montgomery, CEO of JRAM Enterprises said of Grandin: "Temple is always fun to watch. She incorporates the questions and explains. She talked about her research and the differences between livestock and companion animals; she talked about humane handling, the difference between cattle and horses, she talked about the need to treat animals humanely and their care. She is very forthright and forthcoming. "A number of kids came specifically to see her presentation," said Montgomery. "One 12-year-old boy asked what would be the best animal for him to get. She wasn't going to knock any animals but she said, 'Well, dogs are pretty popular.' That is the kind of rapport she had throughout the talk. A technical answer came as easily as a common sense, practical answer."

Christy Landwehr, CEO of Certified Horsemanship Association, created a Power Point demonstration entitled, "Market-

ing for the Equine Industry," which is available online at the Coalition of State Horse Councils web site under Fall 2012 Meeting in Colorado and within the link, "Speaker Presentations." It is a great source of information for anyone marketing to the horse industry.

Sue Wallis, Chairman of the International Equine Business Association, gave a presentation called, "Building a Better Future for the Horse Industry," about bringing horse processing plants back on line in the United States.

Cindy Schonholtz spoke about "Equine Welfare: Separating Fact from Emotion" and horses as livestock vs. companion animals and the work of animal rights groups. A number of presentations touched on the horse slaughter issue, Montgomery said, and there were a lot of talks about safety in the equine industry.

An electronic survey about the conference was sent to all attendees. "All participants were sent a survey which included questions about the courtesy of the staff, quality of the presenters and their presentations. Presenters were scored real high; 100 percent cited the overall meeting was very good or excellent. In response to the questions: 'What did you like about the fall meeting?' there were many favorable comments, including: "The chance to meet horse people from all over the US. We are all dealing with the same problems. Together we can find direction and solutions to solve them."

Another voice wrote that the conference included a "broad range of applicable topics and speakers." Ninety-two percent responded that the value for their money was a great deal; they felt like they got their money's worth and that the meeting was the right length of time, and 100 percent said that the information presented was extremely or very useful.

Montgomery is the legislative and regulatory committee chair of the Colorado Horse Council. She said, "This fall meeting was an excellent opportunity to work on a national level with other state horse councils."



Temple Grandin (file photo by Ley Bouchard for the Valley Equestrian News)



Sue Wallis (file photo by Ley Bouchard for the Valley Equestrian News)

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

J & S Farmer's Mill
 104 5th Avenue SE
 Barnesville, MN 56514
 218.354.2247
 Toll Free: 1.877.521.0150
 Jim & Sue Heng, Owners



See Jim for all your horse feed!



J & B WESTERN STORE
 PILLAGER, MN
 218-829-8144

CHRISTMAS SALE!

SHOP OUR HUGE CHRISTMAS SALE!

10% to 75% off storewide*

100's of new and used saddles plus 1,000's of boots, tack & gifts. Bring your saddle for trade-in, plus J&B buys used saddles and tack.

Christmas Sale runs Now through December 24th, 2012!

* Does not include special orders, previous sales, wormer, chemicals, Lariats or gift cards.

DECEMBER COUPON SPECIALS GOOD NOW THROUGH DEC. 24, 2012

\$10 OFF any total purchase of \$50 - \$99.
 Savings valid for one time use on a single purchase of \$50 - \$99.
*One coupon per customer must be surrendered at time of purchase. *Does not apply to wormer, chemicals, Lariats, gift cards or prior purchases, or in combination with any other coupon or certificate. Expiration Date: 12-24-12.

\$20 OFF any total purchase of \$51 - \$100.
 Savings valid for one time use on a single purchase of \$51 - \$100.
*One coupon per customer must be surrendered at time of purchase. *Does not apply to wormer, chemicals, Lariats, gift cards or prior purchases, or in combination with any other coupon or certificate. Expiration Date: 12-24-12.

Shop 24/7 on our website
www.jandbwesternstore.com
jbwestern@jandbwesternstore.com

LAYAWAY & MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
 7 MILES WEST OF BRAINERD/BAXTER ON HWY 210, TURN NORTH ONTO SCEARCYVILLE DR.

REGULAR STORE HOURS:
 Mon-Friday 9-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 11-4

J. R. & Betty Sundby Owners
 Toll Free 1-877-207-5588
 Local 1-218-829-8144

*SPECIAL CHRISTMAS HOURS
 Open until 8pm Monday - Friday, December 10 - 14 & Monday - Friday, December 17 - 21

Where Do You Read Your VEN?

Easy to tuck and take, the Valley Equestrian News travels well!

Take your copy with to read the action and info wherever you are.

Take a photo to show us where you read your VEN!

WELCOME TO LAS VEGAS GIFT SHOP

Vol. 6 No. 10
The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

PO 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

Advertising Consultants
 Kari Hagstrom
 (320) 766-2620
 kari.venews@hotmail.com

David Olson
 (701) 566-3704
 Dave.VENews@gmail.com

Cover Art
 Monkey Mind Studios
 monkeymindstudios@gmail.com

Contributing Writers
 Orv Alvshere
 John Alan Cohan
 Dr. Juliet Getty
 Jan Ladendorf
 Charles Wilhelm

The Valley Equestrian News is published monthly January through October and a combined holiday issue in November.

Copyright © 2012
 LeKreations LLC
 All Rights Reserved
 The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

What's in This Issue?

About the Cover

Through the years the Valley Equestrian News Team has covered many events at many times of the year. This holiday season we wanted to celebrate and showcase some of the more wintery events to say Merry Christmas, Feliz Navidad, Happy Holidays, and Happy Hanakkah! Can you find Mark Radtke, Phil Odden, Lippazaners, members of the St. Croix Carriage (MN) Festival, Apache Junction(AZ) Ol' Dutchman's Parade and Waseca (MN) Sleigh & Cutter Parade inside the cover ornaments? If so, email us with your findings to win a 6-month subscription. Come back next year for more photographs of you and the people you know in the 2013 issues of the VEN! Happy Holidays!

- PG.3** "Putting the Pieces Together" State Horse Councils meet
- PG.6** Taxpayers Lose Court Case Cowboy Poetry with Orv
- PG.7** Tucson Fall Classic
- PG.8** MN EquiFest Review
- PG.9** Charles Wilhelm: Dealing With Head Tossing
- PG.10** Empire Ranch Roundup
- PG.13** Why Horses? by Kari Hagstrom
- PG.14** Turnaround Eating by Dr. Juliet Getty
- PG.15** The Horse Tamers by Jan Ladendorf
- PG.16** Industry News
- PG.17** Collegiate News
- PG.19** Dakota 50/50 Results



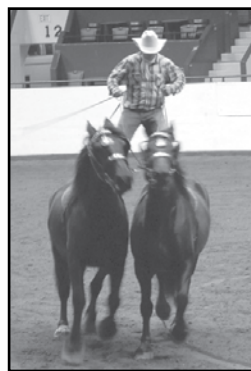
Cattle Handling and Horsemanship with Joel Eliot, Steve Schmitt and Deeana Welch at the Empire Ranch Roundup, Nov. 3 near Soniata, AZ.



PG.12
 A Shifting Perspective: A Horse is More Than a Horse
Right: Anna Twinney with Legend, a Friesian gelding sporthorse



Above: Tom Tweeten demonstrates "Grooming Beyond Pretty" Oct. 13-14 at the MN EquiFest at the State Fairgrounds in St. Paul, Minn.



Right: Shane Jorgenson performs Roman riding during the MN EquiFest in St. Paul, Minn.

More about the MN EquiFest and photos on page 8.

Photos by Ley Bouchard

PG.19:
 The Horse Tamers by Jan Ladendorf

Editorial Information

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper 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 280 DPI resolution and four inches wide.

Copyright Notice: The Valley Equestrian Newspaper (VEN) is copyrighted and protected by federal copyright law. No material may be copied, faxed, electronically transmitted or otherwise used without our express written permission. Requests for reprinting must be submitted in writing to the editor.

Disclaimer: Articles that appear in The Valley Equestrian News do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial staff, officers or employees and publication of any article does not constitute endorsement of the views expressed. Accuracy of all information is the responsibility of the authors.

Advertisements published in The Valley Equestrian do not constitute endorsement or recommendation of such product or service. The VEN does not condone the alteration of horses in any photograph that appears in advertisements in the newspaper and accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the photographs used in the advertisements supplied by others than its own staff. The onus is on the reader to satisfy themselves about the appearance or conformation of a horse before making a financial decision.

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

Find the Valley Equestrian Newspaper now at these NEW locations!

GW Tack Shack
 Audubon, Minn.

Favorite Cowgirl Coffee
 Clearwater, Minn.

Prairie Winds Veterinary
 Fargo, ND

The New Tack Shop
 Nogales, AZ

See the complete VEN distribution list at:
www.theveonline.com

Publisher's Clipboard

Dear Readers,

As we go to press, Thanksgiving is past and the Christmas season is upon us. Black Friday and Cyber Monday are behind us, too, but I have a feeling retailers will be having plenty of sales throughout the season. So we go from being inundated with election commercials right to the holiday bedazzle commercials in all our media.

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper (VEN) relies on advertising to print; we have no other income source. We appreciate that our readers realize and appreciate that fact and patronize our advertisers now and throughout the year. Regular advertising in radio and television media is not really a viable option for most of the horse industry as it is expensive and does not reach us out in the barn while doing chores or spending time with our horses. The VEN you can pack in your back pocket and take it on the trail, in the car while waiting for your kids, or on any number of errands where you end up sitting a while to wait. Read the VEN, see your friends in the VEN, make a note to send us a story or article you've been meaning to write about your old horse or a new one that's caught your heart.

We love to hear and share your stories! Do you have an old photo-

graph, maybe one of your Grandpa plowing with horses? Send it to us so we can share your history and heritage.

Next year we will begin a couple new regular sections. One is a destination page where we will provide readers with fun and affordable travel options which include your horses, if you like. Have you traveled somewhere with your horses you would like to recommend? A hotel and livery stable in Livingston, MT or a place near Sante Fe, NM that you did or did not like? We want to share these experiences with all readers.

The second is an Adopt-A-Horse section. You are familiar with this as it is something the VEN has done on a somewhat regular basis. Part of our mission is to help improve the value of horses which can be done by eliminating the unwanted horse population by finding homes for horses. The VEN will be partnering with accredited horse rescues and feature at least one, but probably two or more horses a month.

We will again be changing our web site to include more monthly updates and interaction with readers.

The VEN website receives more than 10,000 hits a month! We want to make it interesting and informative. What would you like to see when you visit the website? Email or call us to let us know.

Please check out the pages of the December VEN to see your friends from the MN EquiFest (page 8-9), the Dakota 50/50 (page 19), Empire Ranch Roundup (page 10-11), the Anna Twinney clinic near Brainerd, Minn. (page 12-13) or the Tucson Fall Classic (page 7). See what's happening with the BLM roundups through Laura Leigh (page 19).

Follow the action of the National Finals Rodeo on the VEN Facebook page as Tammy Scheffler posts daily photos and news Dec. 6-16 from Las Vegas.

The January issue will include lots of NFR info! Please have a safe and blissfully happy holiday season.

Happy Trails Always!

Ley Bouchard
 Publisher/Editor



HORSES, MULES & DONKEYS WANTED FOR 63rd SLEIGH & CUTTER PARADE

WASECA—Anyone who rides or drives horses, mules or donkeys of any size is invited to be part of the 63rd Annual Waseca Sleigh and Cutter Parade in Waseca, Minn. on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013.

The noon parade winds through the streets of Waseca and will include hundreds of horses representing more than a dozen breeds. The parade will also feature area royalty, the Jesse James Gang of Northfield and the Cannon Old West Society.

Although it is a sleigh and cutter parade, participants can also drive buggies, wagons and carts – or even ride their animals in the parade.

Parade participants are treated to a free hot meal following the parade and each unit will receive a com-

memorative medallion. The parade is just one of the activities taking place during the month-long 63rd Annual Waseca Sleigh and Cutter Festival. The festival hosts hockey, curling, golf, kickball and card tournaments, a medallion hunt, old fashioned ice harvest, snowmobile races, group rides, and much more. The festival is family-friendly and there is no charge for many festival activities.

The event is the longest continuous running sleigh and cutter festival in the United States.

For more information or to register for the parade contact Ken Borgmann at 507-461-3727 or Scott "Hitch" Roemhildt at 507-995-9832. Full information is also available at www.sleighandcutter.org.

Adopt - A - Horse - Gain a Partner for Life



Yukon, named for his Canadian birthplace, was a Premarin foal and is now five at about 15 hands. Showing signs of being possibly part Draft and part Mustang, Yukon is very loving, gentle and loyal even though he was severely abused during attempts to "cowboy/rodeo/break" him. Yukon has received generous love and care since so he could recover. Recently Yukon has responded beautifully to natural horsemanship sessions that revealed he has healed from the past and is outstandingly interested and willing to learn and please his human partner. Throughout the session he became very peaceful and relaxed which brought an uncanny calmness to every being nearby. Yukon has shown himself to be a natural healer for those around him despite and perhaps due to the traumas he has overcome. Yukon has no vices and is an exceptionally easy keeper. With a loving, relaxed and experienced person, Yukon will show true devotion. Yukon is extraordinarily beautiful inside and out and now wants to find his best friend for life. Is that you?

Karen Pomroy, founder of Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary

Meet Yukon at Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary - "A Voice for the Voiceless"

Call for an appointment: P.O. Box 1685, Green Valley, AZ 85622, 520-398-2814 (Phone), 520-398-3221 (Fax)

Prairie Winds VETERINARY CENTER
 Alicia Wisnewski, DVM
 5370 51st Ave. S, Ste. A
 Fargo, ND 58104
 701-356-5600
clientservices@prairiewindsvet.com

GW TACK SHACK INC
 SADDLES, TACK, CLOTHING, JEWELRY & MORE
 218-439-3131

Junction of US Highway 10 and County Road 11
 Audubon, MN
 Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday - Sunday
 On site Farrier:
 Call Koby for appointment: 218.849.5356

Western Saddles:	Halters: Cowboy	New & Used Boots:
• King Youth Series	• Stockman	• Montana West
• Weaver	• Zebra print and more	• Durango
• Double T	• Headstalls	• Twisted X
• The Rider	• Bits	• Tony Lama
• Saddle King	• Clothing	• Ariat
	• Jewelry	• Nocona

www.gwtackshackinc.webs.com

New Tax Court Case Rules Against Taxpayers

By John Alan Cohan, Attorney at Law

Peter and Carolyn Bronson, California residents, lost their Tax Court case on the issue of whether their horse breeding activity was a business rather than a hobby, and their related expense deductions were disallowed.

The case, reported at T.C. Memo 2012-17, involved Welsh ponies for the years 2001 to 2005. The Court held that their persistence in the activity despite mounting losses suggested a lack of profit motive.

Mrs. Bronson devoted substantial time to the horse activity, while Mr. Bronson practiced law full time and was much less involved in the horse activity. Their daughters rode some of their horses recreationally and in shows, while Mr. and Mrs. Bronson themselves did not ride.

They did not [make] a written business plan before starting the activity, but Mrs. Bronson testified that their original plan was to acquire, breed, and train high-quality Welsh ponies and cobs and sell them. Later, they wrote a "Five-Year Plan" and "Mission Statement" that retroactively summarized their goals, but the document was never updated.

The only breeding or training records offered into evidence were two undated "stock summaries" that listed general information about their horses, with a brief description of the discipline in which each horse had been trained.

In 1999, they decided it was necessary to control costs by acquiring their own facility, and they visited horse farms, but did not acquire land for their own facility until 2005. Meanwhile they continued to acquire horses, including two imported from Wales, and they produced three foals.

They had only one sale, a horse that was sold for \$500 to a charitable organization, and they took a \$5,000 charitable contribution deduction, claiming that the horse was worth \$5,500 at the time of sale.

Mrs. Bronson was involved in breeders' organizations and civic groups, and wrote an equine column for a local newspaper. She also sponsored a summer riding clinic for at-risk teenage girls. The Bronsons claimed the purpose of Mrs. Bronson's involvement in these activities was to establish their farm brand and build credibility in the equestrian community.

The Court said that the Bronsons' advertising was inadequate. They placed occasional advertisements in national and regional equine publications, but for 2004, for example, they reported only \$170 in advertising expenses.

The Bronsons' maintained expense records for the horse activity in spreadsheet form, categorizing expenditures for all 5 years at issue. Most expenditures were partly allocated to personal expenses. The full amount of each expenditure and the amount related to the horse activity were recorded. The had no other financial records.

The Court said that the taxpayers lacked a businesslike operation in that they lacked a business plan, and failed to maintain a consistent and concentrated advertising program. The Court said they failed to change operating methods or adopt new techniques with an intent to improve profitability, and that they waited too long before buying their own facility.

The Court discussed various other elements in its lengthy decision. Overall, the Court was also influenced by the fact there never had

been a profit year. The Court also said that their involvement with various horse organizations suggested that the motivation behind the horse activity may have been personal rather than business.

It is hard to predict how a case will turn out in Tax Court. A different judge may well have ruled differently. Surely, had the Bronsons implemented a business plan prior to entering the venture, and if they had evidence of more substantial advertising and promotional efforts coupled with additional horse sales, they would have had a better case. Moreover, it is always recommended to prepare extensive records above and beyond mere spread sheets, to build credibility as to the taxpayers' intentions to be engaged in a business. Also, whenever possible, it is important to present evidence of credentials of professional trainers employed in the activity, as well as evidence of the taxpayers' ongoing efforts to develop their own expertise.

It is always an option to settle cases with IRS Appeals prior to going into Tax Court, but at times taxpayers or their attorneys might not be able to negotiate a satisfactory settlement.

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

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



GiveMN.org Give to the MAX Day was a Huge Success for Riding on Angels' Wings!

ROAW is 501(c)3 non-profit organization from Felton, MN that provides therapeutic horseback riding to children with special needs. ROAW was founded in 2002 and since then has served hundreds of children from the Fargo-Moorhead and surrounding community.

Longtime ROAW supporter, Jim McKay of Fargo, offered to match all donations up to \$5,000 made to ROAW during the 24-hour on-line non-profit giving campaign GiveMN.org.

The match was met and the money raised yesterday will be allocated towards the completion of the interior of the riding arena.

McKay has been active in our community for many years and is passionate about helping the youth of our community with scholarships.

Donations were spurred on in large part by the efforts of parents of our riders, who started an email campaign - spreading the word to their co-workers, friends and family.

This was the 4th year of the "Give to the Max Day" giving event; more than \$16 million dollars was donated by more than 53,000 people to 4,381 non-profits and schools. We are absolutely thrilled to have been a part of such a heartwarming day and incredibly appreciative for the support of the community and Jim McKay.

For more information or to schedule an interview please contact Abby-ROAW@aol.com
5062 120th Ave. North
Felton, MN 56536 www.RidingOnAngelsWings.org
218-359-0007

© Orv Alvshere • All Rights Reserved

COWBOY POETRY WITH ORV

CHRISTMAS TITLE

GREEN SCENE GIVERS

I have Christmas mem'ries where parents gave each, one special gift. Paying for land and livestock, it was a world of tight thrift. A brightly wrapped gift to call my own was truly worth the long wait. We drew fam'ly names. One gift given and received, we did equate. Some crops were bountiful, others were meager and days were lean. Winter was a radiant white, summer crops were a pleasant green. Something about the long wait with one Christmas gift on the shelf Put keepsakes in my mind, since, I could open it by myself.

A YEAR'S TOIL

We enjoyed other gifts, sunshine, rain, and pastures lush and green. The long awaited harvest was like a vast golden scene. Parents and siblings were gifts, also three square meals on our plate. No shortage of Mother's love - it was freely given...and great. Frolicking newborn calves, princely colts, kittens and pups seemed pristine. We picked produce and then preserved it from a garden so green. Our Christmas baking produced some seldom treats for the shelf, And long waits for that one gift, something picked special for myself.

TRAINING: A DOUBLE MEANING

Repetition and hours of horse training ... time for listening and talking. Trail rides were special. Neighbors claimed they never saw us walking. Grain and horses to sell brought income to "AK-N BREAK ACRES". More duties include household chores for the 'home-baked' bread baker. From lamps and lantern days to electric switch, when the last light Was turned off, out in fresh air country, it was a silent night. Siblings shared their toys. To play, we could just take them off the shelf. Christmas giving and joy included opening that one gift by myself.

PINING FOR HOLIDAY SCENTS

Awaiting the big day, school and Sunday school made us recite. We loved winter skiing and skating in a land so bright white. We drove horses and bobsled for caroling for the townfolk. I rode a borrowed horse, "Formerly Known as Prince"! He was well broke. You haven't lived till you have skied behind a galloping horse; A lariat gift was tied to harness hames, then my spirit soars. Soft falling snow, reflective icicles made me lose myself; Parents gifts: "Like what you have, don't wish for more, just be yourself."

GENEROSITY'S RETORT

Generosity prevails. I still donate magazines and books. American Legion 'Open Your Heart', gave me some backward looks. Regifted clothes, toys, chairs plus gifts that were my creations; Two dozen toy dump trucks, mixers and cradles. My donations Came from lumber yards and paint stores. All were pictured in a row. Shop class, assemblers and me, man-made toys to make young hearts glow. I gave gifts to my offspring. They taught me to laugh at myself. One child told her teacher, "Dad made toys, so, he must be an ELF."

Tucson Fall Classic

By Ley Bouchard

The Tucson Fall Classic was held Nov. 7 to 11 at the Pima County Fairgrounds outside Tucson, AZ.

I was fortunate to be in Arizona to enjoy the show and the 86 degree temperatures (even with partially overcast skies) on Nov. 8 for the USHJA Hunter Derby which we watched in ring 2.

There was a default fence height of 36 inches in this course. The pattern was fairly difficult with several jumps.

We enjoyed watching many great riders and gorgeous horses display their skills and talents.



Middle: Winners of the USHJA Hunter Derby at the Tucson Fall Classic. Above: Gretchen Lof, Cave Creek, AZ riding her Warmblood, Dresden, at the USHJA Hunter Derby Classic Nov. 8 at the Pima County Fairgrounds near Tucson, AZ.

Right: Rachel Delay riding Nashira, a warmblood, over jumps Nov. 8 at the USHJA Hunter Derby in Tucson, AZ. Look at the tucked in rear legs in the inset photo!

Blairview Saddle Shop, Inc.

NOW OPEN: Blairview Outpost at the Red Horse Ranch Arena in Fergus Falls, MN. Call (218) 998-4141 for details.

COME SEE US FOR ALL YOUR SADDLE AND TACK NEEDS!

300 NEW AND USED SADDLES PLUS A COMPLETE LINE OF CLOTHING AND BOOTS

Shop Blairview online at: www.blairviewsaddleshop.com

1/2 mile S of I-94 on Hwy. 29, Alexandria, MN 320-762-5664

Monday-Thursday 9 - 6 • Friday 9 - 7:30 Saturday 9 - 5 • Sunday 12-5

Stop in today!



Photos by Ley Bouchard

Do you have an old photo or a story to share?

If so, we'd love to hear from you! Send your old photo (with caption) or news story to us and share it with readers nationwide! If you wish to have your photo returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.



Please mail submissions to:
The Valley Equestrian Newspaper
Box 64 • Sabin, MN • 56580
thevenews@gmail.com

Riding on Angels' Wings is a 501(c)3 non-profit, founded in 2002, that provides Equine Assisted Therapies to children with special needs.

Contact us for more information on tax deductible sponsorships of our equine therapy partners.

5062 120th Ave. N. Felton, MN 56536
218-359-0007 www.RidingOnAngelsWings.org

PROFESSIONAL FARRIER PROGRAM

MINNESOTA SCHOOL OF HORSESHOEING

6250 Riverdale Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

763-427-5850
800-257-5850

www.mnschoolofhorseshoeing.com

Royalty, Roman Riding, Jousting and More at the 6th Annual MN EquiFest

The Minnesota EquiFest was held at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds October 13-14 and offered many excellent clinics, seminars, demonstrations, horses, great shopping and opportunities to connect with friends and make new ones. A first at the EquiFest was a sanctioned Arena Driving Trial including a cones and

obstacle course. There are a growing number of horse owners who are looking to driving to continue or expand their enjoyment with horses. Look for this to be included in next year's show.

Western Dressage and Classical Dressage clinics and schooling shows were organized by Jen Collman, Barb Anderson Whiteside and Karen Lee and were a big hit with horse and rider as well as the attendees.



Occurring for the first time at the EquiFest was a Hunter/Jumper Schooling show with Alisha O'Dell. The young riders stole the hearts of the audience as they went over the jumps with their horses.

Western clinics were conducted by Justin Mundt and Cassie Sprenger, along with Chris Vinson presenting an obstacle clinic. Many other clinics, seminars and demos were presented by experts in their field where attendees could get up close or be involved with their horse. Being able to bring your horse to the



Photos by Ley Bouchard

EquiFest for a workshop with a trainer is a big hit with horse owners. As we plan for next year, check out our website to see who will be there in 2013.

The Saturday Equine Extravaganza was the highlight of the weekend as performers ranged from drill team, jousting, driving, roman riding and presentations of dressage, jumping and liberty horses. If you would like to be part of this event next year or have any suggestions, please give us a call.

The Minnesota EquiFest would like to thank the clinicians, vendors, and horse people involved for making EquiFest 2012 a success. Save the date for next year, October 12-13, 2013.

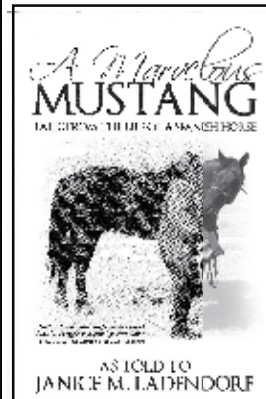
For more information contact Nancy Duggan, 763-421-5750, nancyduggan@rtduggan.com, www.MinnesotaEquiFest.com.



Clockwise from bottom left: Demonstration of desensitizing the horse during a clinic in the St. Paul Fairgrounds Coliseum; Shane Jorgenson demonstrates Roman Riding while ?? directs her horse to lay down; Justin Mundt sits his horse down during his presentation; WSCA Queens and Princesses at the MN EquiFest 2012 (l to r): Caitlyn Gensch, WSCA Queen, from Northwest Saddle Club in North Branch; Rachel Lusk, WSCA Princess, originally from Painted Sunrise Saddle Club; Stephani Bonderson, WSCA Miss Horsemanship, Little Crow Riders Saddle Club, Hutchinson Minn.; Cassandra Rose, Miss Games and Congeniality, Wild River Riders, Shafter, Minn.; members of the Society for Creative Anachronism demonstrate jousting games at the Minnesota EquiFest Oct. 13-14 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul, Minn.

Terrific Horse-Lover Books for Holiday GIVING

by Jan Ladendorf



A Marvellous Mustang is an autobiography.



www.jladendorf.com
Buy them at Amazon.com or BN.com



Heart of a Falcon is an historical novel.

Charles Wilhelm: Ultimate Foundation Training from Start to Finish

Dealing With Head Tossing and Pulling on the Bit

Head tossing and pulling on the bit is a very common problem and one that can be easily solved. Sometimes with this type of problem there can be a physical reason behind the behavior. Before we address changing the behavior through training, I believe firmly in ruling out any possible physical causes. With this particular type of problem, it is valuable to start by having an equine dentist check the horse's teeth. Sometimes a horse has caps off his teeth or his wolf teeth may cause the head tossing. If the teeth check out fine, then it is a good idea to have an equine chiropractor come for a visit. The vertebrae can sometimes be out of alignment, especially the first or second vertebrae, and when contact is made with the bit, it can really bother the horse. If it appears there are no dental or medical issues, then it is time to check the equipment being used.

The first piece of equipment to consider is the bit. Is the bit too severe? Is the horse really ready for a higher level of bit (more leverage)? Bits should not be changed out lightly. There is an appropriate use and level of training for each type of bit. The more leverage on the bit, the more critical it becomes that the horse truly understands giving to the bit, and that the

rider has light hands, is riding with the proper amount of contact, and is releasing consistently at the right time. Alternatively, the bit being used may be appropriate but simply does not fit the horse correctly. If the bit is too tight and resting improperly against the teeth, the horse will feel discomfort. The correct fit for a bit is critical and when in doubt, I always recommend going to a properly fitted snaffle.

If the horse continues to toss his head and pull on the bit, then one of two things is happening. First, it may be that the horse has not been properly trained to accept or give to the bit. If the horse has gone through the right training and understands to give to the bit, then it is clearly a behavioral issue and almost certainly induced by the rider, as it is never the horse's fault. Assuming that this is the case, it comes down to those all critical skills, timing and feel. Timing and feel take time for a rider to develop. Getting it right takes a lot of practice. Very subtle gives by a horse can be especially hard to recognize and reward. As a newer or unfocused rid-

er we can often be concentrating on one part of our body while another part "lets us down" so to speak. How many of us have urged the horse forward while simultaneously pulling back on the reins? Or, ridden with a lot of contact on the reins because we were nervous, without really ever letting up? It is very easy to give a horse a mixed message or to simply train our horse to perform the problem behavior because



the horse was doing the wrong behavior. It's not the horse's fault. Horses seek relief from pressure. If we don't give the release when the horse expects it, he will search for it. When riding, this failure to release timely often translates into tossing the head or pulling at the bit.

When a horse gives, you have to soften every single time. There has to be a consistent reward when the horse is doing it right by giving the horse release from the pressure. Fortunately, there is one very simple and effective exercise to work with a horse on this problem. You can do this with one or two reins and you should be prepared to play with the length, contact and anchor point until you get the feel. When your horse starts tossing his head, pickup one rein,

take out the slack and fasten your hand to the saddle, and I mean really anchor it there. With your hand anchored, the horse will keep bumping up against the contact as it throws its head around. When the horse finally quiets its head, even for a second, immediately release. Once again anchor and repeat the exercise until the horse realizes it is far more comfortable to keep its head quiet. Do the exercise on one side and then switch hands and work the other side the next time the head tossing starts. The real trick to making this exercise work is that we have to educate our hands, otherwise the problem will reoccur. Riding correctly is all about timing and communication with the reins. You have to remain focused at all times on releasing/softening when the head is quiet. Pulling on the bit is the same issue. We firmly anchor our hand so that it does not become a pulling contest --because guess who will win? We let the horse do all the pulling and we simply hold hard to keep the position consistent. When the horse softens or gives, we release immediately. If it is a truly chronic problem with the horse, it may take dozens of repetitions over days or weeks to correct the behavior. This is a very correctable problem with your focus and patience.

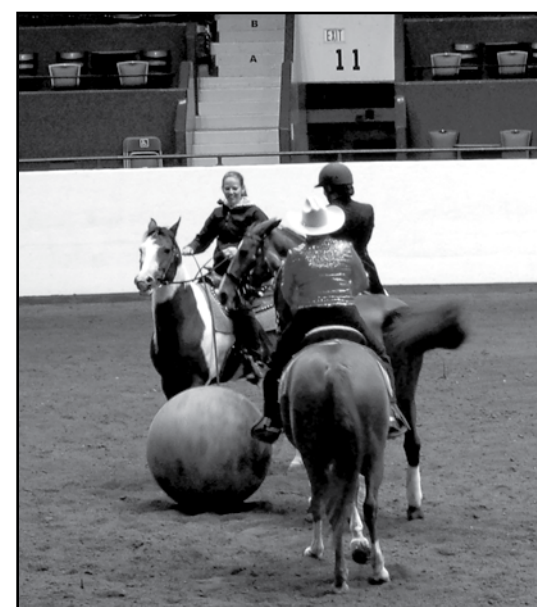
Internationally known and respected horse trainer Charles Wilhelm is the creator of Ultimate Foundation Training which combines the best of traditional, classical and natural horsemanship. This method is applicable to every riding discipline. Charles is one of the few clinicians who is known for his superb skills in communicating with and motivating people as well as horses. His training methods reflect his motto, "It's Never, Ever the Horse's Fault".

Charles' warm and relaxed demeanor has made him a favorite at regional and national clinics and demonstrations. His training center in Castro Valley, California is among the top equine educational facilities in Northern California. Charles offers extensive hands-on learning programs for every level of horsemanship.



Above: Steve Wood kicks up some dirt while demonstrating driving his Morgans in the Coliseum during the Minnesota EquiFest at the Minn. State Fairgrounds; above right: Icelandic horses are ridden during the breed presentations. Below: participants in the Western Dressage demonstration play soccer from horseback in the Warner Coliseum of the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul during the Minnesota EquiFest.

Minnesota EquiFest photos by Ley Bouchard



LEARN WHY IT'S NEVER, EVER THE HORSE'S FAULT

Charles Wilhelm

HORSEMANSHIP, CONFIDENCE, PERFORMANCE

DVD SPECIALS FOR 2012:

- Ground Manners, Leading & Loading
- Colt Starting • Round Pen Logic
- Suppling & Riding Exercises • Trick Training
- Ranch Versatility • Solving Trail Problems
- Snaffles, Bridles & Hackamores: Proper Bit, Proper Fit
- Solving Pullback Problems, Cinchiness, Handling Feet & Legs

Special price - buy any 4 for \$99.95

Charles has joined a stellar line-up on HRTV, Channel 404 on DishTV. His all-new shows air Tuesdays at 5:30 & 10:30 a.m., PST.

Charles Wilhelm Training, in Partnership with:



6496 Crow Canyon Road
Castro Valley, CA 94552
(510) 886-9000

www.charleswilhelm.com

Empire Ranch Foundation Celebrates Heritage

Courtesy Empire Ranch Foundation

A day at Empire Ranch gives one a glimpse into the history and lifestyle of the early western ranch life. Wranglers moving a thousand head of cattle cross country through foothills, washes, around mountains or through mountainous passes to a marketplace where the cattle are cut and moved into railcars to markets across the country to Texas or Chicago.

The Empire Ranch Foundation gives folks a moment in time to learn what that might have been like, to try to conceive of what that might have been like. Through demonstrations and seminars, though not nearly as academic as that might sound, people that lived that era or grew up around the people that experienced the life, tell details about how it was done. For a small parking fee, attendees can savor the sights, sounds, smells, and tactile sensation of what it might have been like to live the life on Empire Ranch or any of the many big and small ranches of days gone by.

November 3, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. gave people that opportunity in an event that the Foundation has hosted for several years. People from that time live to tell the tales.

Steve Boice grew up on the ranch. His folks and three sisters were the last family that owned and operated the ranch. Boice tells his experiences growing up on a ranch larger than the eyes can hold. Boice recalls, "This was my playground," as he points out the window to the vast range as far as they eye can see and beyond. The only rule was he had to be home by dark.

It was a day when each ranch created what they needed. If a rope broke, they made a new one with cordage or fiber they could find on the ranch - it might be agave stems, it might be horse mane or tail, or human hair. Jesús García

(photo top right) demonstrates how an agave plant stem would be burned to expose the fiber which would then be pulverized into strings that would be carded or heaped into a pile and strung into individual braids that would create

one of the several to be coiled into the final product: rope.

Rope: what would a cowboy do without rope on the range? A necessary tool used for

Continued on next page



Jeff Springer
Feed Manager

'Roasted to Perfection' available here

Farmers Elevator
225 E. Hampden Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537
(218) 736-3301

FAVORITE COWGIRL COFFEE

Wake up your Inner Cowgirl!

www.FavoriteCowgirlCoffee.com
Telephone 855-WAKEUP4 (855-925-3874)
Favorite Cowgirl Coffees, Gifts and more!

Reichert Saddlery & Farm Supply

FIRST AVE, PO BOX 94. LEONARD MN 56652

A FULL SERVICE WESTERN STORE

SADDLES & TACK

WESTERN & WORK CLOTHING, HATS & BOOTS FOR MEN, WOMEN & KIDS

FEED FOR ALL YOUR ANIMALS

SADDLE & TACK REPAIR

PHONE: 218-968-2248 • 800-957-2248

Email reichert@gvtel.com • Find us on Facebook



A Day at Empire Ranch

roping a calf to bring it back to its mother, or get it out of a bad situation down a rock cliff or a river bottom.

As a child, Boice and his sisters learned all about the land finding the Indian ruins and mud flats.

They attended a one-room school house on the property. Played with friends who went to a one-room schoolhouse in Vail. After college, he returned to run the ranch. When his father died in an airplane crash in 1973 and the family lost the deed to the ranch.

He tells how you learn to do everything in the ranch.

Ranchers demonstrate the way of life: leather carving, branding, mule packing, roping, horse training, rope-making, horseshoeing, and more while Mariachi and country western singers entertain and people enjoy conversations with cowboys.



Photos by Ley Bouchard



Palma FEED
Formerly Chub Lake Feeds

DRIVE-THRU FEED
651-463-4793
Joe & Marilyn Palma
Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm / Saturday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
26009 Galaxie Avenue • Farmington, MN 55024

2nd Go-Round Tack & Feed

HOLIDAY SPECIAL
10-30% off all new Tack
\$100-\$150 all new Saddles

Classic Equine • Tough 1 • Big Horn
Dale Chavez • Impact Gel Pads • Weaver
Diamond Wool Pads • Montana Silver
Silver Royal • Big D • Dakota • Reinsman
Weatherbeeta • Cashel • Chinks
Genuine Billy Cook

SALE ENDS DEC 31
LAYAWAYS • GIFT CERTIFICATES
VISA/MC ACCEPTED

218-847-7085 • Detroit Lakes, MN

COLLEN ACRES

Gypsy Vanner
Sport Horse • Drum Horse • Friesian
Sales & Breeding

320-760-1907
Find us on Facebook
Evansville, Minnesota

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"
Mary Oliver "The Summer Day"

DISCOVERY HORSE

Equine Facilitated:
Life Coaching
Corporate Team Building
Personal Growth Retreats
Partnering with Horses to assist people in healing and leading more authentic lives!

Upcoming Retreats. Join Us...
Touched by Addiction Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012
Personal Empowerment Sunday, Jan. 27, 2013

Sara Sherman . sara@discoveryhorse.com . 218.232.2495
DiscoveryHorse.com . facebook.com/DiscoveryHorse
Spirit Horse Center . Brainerd, Minnesota

Buy Now - Receive Added Bonus "Blasted Broncs" 7x9 print valued at \$85!

Western Artist Al Shelton
"Cowboy Artist to the Stars"
The Christmas Gift they'll treasure forever

To order please contact:
Artisan StudioWorks
http://www.artisanstudioworks.com/
Toll free (866) 851-8606

"Thinking of You" - the original hung over the fireplace of Jack Palance for 40+ years - stretched canvas signed prints for \$150 (12x16) or \$225 (18x24) plus shipping - signed by artist with signed certificate - Second Bonus: living history audio CD set

Please allow two weeks for shipment

Buy Now - Receive Added Bonus "Blasted Broncs" 7x9 print valued at \$85!

Western Artist Al Shelton
"Cowboy Artist to the Stars"
The Christmas Gift they'll treasure forever

To order please contact:
Artisan StudioWorks
http://www.artisanstudioworks.com/
Toll free (866) 851-8606

"The Old McKeetrick Place" - the original was purchased by a star of "The Office" television series - stretched canvas signed prints for \$150 (12x16) or \$225 (18x24) plus shipping - signed by artist with signed certificate - Second Bonus: living history audio CD set

Please allow two weeks for shipment

Photos by Ley Bouchard

A SHIFTING PERSPECTIVE: A HORSE IS MORE THAN A HORSE, OF COURSE!

By Staci Grattan-Fornshell, Spirit Horse Center

Humans and horses, a partnership, that has been evolving since man first domesticated the horse some four thousand years ago. In an ever changing world, our horses have been transportation, functional beasts of burden, war and hunting partners, and livestock management partners. In recent years we have ridden for pleasure and competition. Is our relationship with the horse changing again? I think yes, in large part due to those who give the horse a voice.

I am the owner of Spirit Horse Center of Brainerd, Minnesota, and recently had the privilege of hosting International Equine Specialist Anna Twinney for a three day clinic. Anna is a Natural Horsemanship Clinician, Animal Communicator, Energy Healer and founder of Reach Out to Horses (ROTH) based in Golden, Colorado.

Day One brought us Anna's Holistic Horse Day. Curriculum included demonstrations, lectures and hands on experience in the areas of herd dynamics and round pen dynamics. Participants were taught the basics of determining personality and character in the round pen as well as what Anna calls "de-mystifying the round pen" in which a partnership is created through telepathics, energetics and body language. Participants were also introduced to an Animal Communication lecture and demonstration by Anna, as well as the basics of Kinesiology (muscle testing) which assists in determining which supplements are beneficial for the horse. Day one was a full day which resulted in participants feeling inspired to take things to the next level with their horses. Commentary from participants included this quote from Kathy M:

"Wow! What can I say?! What an amazing day....Anna's keen awareness and deep understanding of horse communication is simply fascinating. What I love most is Anna's ability to share and teach others how to communicate better with his or her own horse."

Day two introduced Anna's T.L.C. Method - Trust Based Leadership and Compassionate Communication. Participants and their horses were given tools and exercises designed to increase communication and build partnership. The group of participating horses was extremely diverse

in age, breed and discipline which mirrored the diversity of the human's level of horse experience and discipline. All participants gained insight and an increased sense of communication from the exercises as evidenced in the feedback from the group. Laura B said:

"I saw each horse at the clinic for who he or she was. As the horse and handler worked as a team it was amazing to see each horse so strongly show his or her own personality. The connection with the horse's mind and heart and the acknowledgement and appreciation for who they are and what they accomplished was pretty cool. My heart will embrace that feeling of love and understanding forever. Whatever the level, each person learned to connect with new tools."

Day Three brought us "Demystifying the Round Pen". Participants and auditors experienced an engaging lecture on round penning and the "contract" and connection that one makes with the horse when we step into the round pen with him/her. Anna explained the use of energy and visualization to experience a language that goes beyond body gestures and creates a relationship that exceeds the round pen environment.

Day One brought us Anna's Holistic Horse Day. Curriculum included demonstrations, lectures and hands on experience in the areas of herd dynamics and round pen dynamics. Participants were taught the basics of determining personality and character in the round pen as well as what Anna calls "de-mystifying the round pen" in which a partnership is created through telepathics, energetics and body language. Participants were also introduced to an Animal Communication lecture and demonstration by Anna, as well as the basics of Kinesiology (muscle testing) which assists in determining which supplements are beneficial for the horse. Day one was a full day which resulted in participants feeling inspired to take things to the next level with their horses. Commentary from participants included this quote from Kathy M:

After the lecture participants worked one on one with their equine partners in the round pen under the supervision of Anna. Participants learned to forge deeper, more meaningful relationships with clear boundaries, mutual respect and acceptance. We learned that eliminating the need to change, correct or find perfection allowed for a new and effective "conversation" with our horses i.e., "Would you please?" or "Here is my position. Can you accept this and respond appropriately?"

Pam L of Kindred Spirits Farm comments: "I have studied with many world renowned "natural" horsemanship greats over the past three decades, some of whom I have come to know personally and highly respect. The weekend with Anna Twinney was like the grand finale to having all the pieces of a spiritual equine puzzle fall into place. After all these years I felt indescribably inspired and left with a renewed and refreshed sense of awe, wonder, passion, love and admiration in the depths and breadths of my heart and soul for equines. I felt honored and humbled in addition to the inspiration to have had the privilege, grace and gift of a weekend with Anna. I don't think I have felt that inspired by someone for many years, if ever. I am forever grateful and in your debt, as are the horses and humans that my heart, hands, and soul have the gift of coming in contact/connection with."

As I observed others and participated throughout the course of the weekend I was struck by the changes I saw in everyone and experienced with my own horse, Legend. I think many of us were surprised to discover exactly how much our horses love us and how willing they are, if given a way to express themselves and be



understood. This was a group that, by and large, were already deeply connected and committed to their horses. To witness and experience the creation of an even deeper connection was a gift beyond measure.

Watching Anna in action with the participants and horses I came to the conclusion that this workshop was not about "training" horses, rather it was about opening doors in people. The horses were already "there" waiting for us. Anna calls herself a "horse whisperer" and is a highly skilled, observant, strong voice for the horse. She is also much, much more. In her facilitation with the humans to open these doors, she gives the horse a voice, a voice that has been there all along waiting for us.

Not only did this shift in perception help me see beyond who my horses are and what they are trying to tell me, it also gave me a renewed appreciation for all beings, who they are and what they have to offer.



Right: Anna Twinney lectures on the Holistic Horse Day at Spirit Horse Center near Brainerd, Minn.

Above left: Anna demonstrates TLC methodology day two of the clinic at Spirit Horse Center with Haily (hackney Arab mare) as owner Dale L. observes.

Above right: Twinney works with clinic participant Lise Lunde during the kinesiology demo portion of the holistic horse day.

Why Horses? Experiencing Equine Experiential Learning

By Kari E. Hagstrom

You know how a good book sticks with you long after you've finished it? Or the way a particular piece of music or a good movie continued to touch you, and replay in your mind, long after experiencing it? That is how it feels after participating in an Equine Experiential Learning session. It sticks with you because it is an experience.

When you're reading a book, listening to music, watching a movie, the more "in to it" you are, the more you are experiencing it emotionally (you may cry), mentally (you're thinking along with the characters), and physically (you might jump at a startling moment, tense-up, laugh, or again, cry). You respond to the action in the book, music or movie. You are right there "in" the book, "in" the music, "in" the movie.

presented the workshop I attended at Spirit Horse Center in Brainerd, MN. Sherman, who is training with Melissa Pearce of Touched By A Horse, utilizes elements of Pearce's Equine Gestalt Coaching™ Method. Pearce is a psychotherapist, personal coach, and horsewoman, who has developed the Equine Gestalt Coaching™ Method. [See below for resources.] Gestalt is a process based on the idea of a synthesis of thoughts, emotions, and experience, a wholeness of experience. In Equine Gestalt Coaching™ Method, the horse is considered a full partner, a fully aware, sentient being who participates voluntarily in the work at hand. The horse is not considered a tool or a mirror in this work. The human facilitator is a coach in the process, reading the horse's cues and responses, which help to pinpoint areas of



Those thoughts, feelings and physical sensations get stored in your somatic (body) memory as well as in your mind. So addressing any issue in a somatic manner is terrifically effective, because the whole memory is accessed, the whole experience. And it becomes a little harder for your mind to play any tricks on you. You access honesty in somatic work. The mind will say, "No, no, please don't make me look at that," or "No, you can't make me deal with that. Here, let's deal with this bit of surface trivia, instead." The body's stored information gets around all that to the direct experience of what really happened, and what is really happening in the moment. You may have had a trauma in the past, but in the moment, the now, that trauma doesn't exist. Coming into the moment helps to release the trauma.

So why horses? In Equine Experiential Learning, also known variously as Facilitated Experiential Equine Learning, Experiential Equine Learning, and my many other names, the horse is the partner in the process. This work is not to be confused with EAGALA games, therapeutic riding for physically challenged individuals, or therapy. Sara Sherman of Discovery Horse

presented the workshop I attended at Spirit Horse Center in Brainerd, MN. Sherman, who is training with Melissa Pearce of Touched By A Horse, utilizes elements of Pearce's Equine Gestalt Coaching™ Method. Pearce is a psychotherapist, personal coach, and horsewoman, who has developed the Equine Gestalt Coaching™ Method. [See below for resources.] Gestalt is a process based on the idea of a synthesis of thoughts, emotions, and experience, a wholeness of experience. In Equine Gestalt Coaching™ Method, the horse is considered a full partner, a fully aware, sentient being who participates voluntarily in the work at hand. The horse is not considered a tool or a mirror in this work. The human facilitator is a coach in the process, reading the horse's cues and responses, which help to pinpoint areas of

what we are experiencing at the moment. Horses have highly refined radar and b.s. detectors: You might say you love your horse, and indeed you do, but at the moment, you are mad and frustrated (for whatever reason), and your horse knows it, feels, and responds accordingly—usually by moving away, feeling threatened by your aggressive emotions and lack of present-ness. Mentally you're not upset with your horse at all, but emotionally you are upset about something that may have happened earlier in the day. You are not present except in your body, because you are busy reliving that upset. Try going for a ride when you are upset about some issue in your life, and then try going for a ride when you are present and in the moment with your horse. The difference will amaze you, and the ride will be safer for both of you. And please not, we humans do have the capability to consciously and deliberately shift gears and to think, act, and feel differently, to bring ourselves back into the moment. Horses just help to point this out for us; that's their gift to us.

Often when we feel out of control in our lives, or in a certain area(s) of our life, we try to be more controlling toward what we think should be controllable, like our horses, dogs, partners, family, children, etc. The horse senses how we try to transfer those feelings on to him or her, and responds, bringing us back into the moment: "Hey, you're frightening me. I'm not comfortable around you when you are angry/frustrated about (fill in the blank), so I'm going to move over here until you calm down and stop acting like a predator toward me." Horses help us to realize that we need to be responsible for our emotions and our thoughts.

Horses also help to bring us back into the moment. Maybe mentally you are off flying a broom with Harry Potter, or reliving being chewed-out by your boss, or upset with your boyfriend/girlfriend/spouse and thinking about the "talk" you need to have. Your horse senses your "absence" from the moment, because really, you aren't there; your body is, but you aren't. The moment you come back into the stuckness, where we're not in the moment. In the moment is where healing happens, in the now. Horses help to bring us into the moment, or show us where we are not present, stuck in the past.

Horses are extremely sensitive, aware, sentient beings. They live in the now, in the moment, are present. Horses are prey animals; they need to be able to sense what is going on around them right now: emotionally, mentally, physically. Failing to sense quickly what is going on around them may mean life or death for a horse in the wild. Horses are known for their reactivity, their ability to respond quickly to a situation. So when a human comes into close proximity to a horse, a horse pays attention. They are aware of our feelings, often more so than we are, since we often try to cloak our feelings in mental gymnastics and denials. But the horses pay attention and are aware of

moment, it is as though you pop back onto the horse's radar, or it can be like tuning into a radio station: without that attunement to that radio station's frequency, you aren't in the moment (that thin band of frequency). The music, the broadcast, isn't heard by you or the horse;

there's just static. Those magic moments of attunement with a horse that so many talk about is all about being in the same moment with the horse, and the horse with you.



In an Equine Experiential Learning session, you work with and around a horse or horses, horse handlers, and a trained facilitator or coach. At the Discovery Horse workshop, we six participants and Sherman sat in a circle in the middle

Continues on page 15



Country Tack Western Store FOR SALE

After successfully servicing my friends in the western and equine community, it's time to allow another to continue the legacy built on honesty and quality.

- Established Customer Base
- Extensive Inventory
- With/Without Building
- Move To Your Community
- Many Options Available

For an Appointment, call Sue Roberts at 507-377-7943
Country Tack Western Store
119 S Broadway • Albert Lea, MN 56007

Store Hours: Tuesday - Friday / 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Saturday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday - Monday / Closed

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

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

All Breeds, All Disciplines, All the Time!

Your local resource for equestrian events, news and information.

FIND THE VEN IN THESE STATES - DISTRIBUTED TO MORE THAN 300 LOCATIONS NEAR YOU & ONLINE COVER TO COVER - EACH MONTH

WWW.THEVEONLINE.COM
THEVENews@GMAIL.COM

TELL US WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR VALLEY!

Happy Holidays from J & S Farmer's Mill

Quality Feed Pays Off!

See Jim for all Your Horse Feed!

104 5th Avenue SE
Barnesville, MN 56514
218.354.2247
1.877.521.0150
218.493.4574

Jim & Sue Heng, Owners



Turnaround Eating! Change Insulin Resistance to Insulin Sensitivity

By Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D.

Do you have an overweight horse? Chances are he is insulin resistant. Excess body fat leads to elevate insulin, and blood glucose levels are slow to return to normal. Elevated insulin leads to more body fat storage, which leads to greater insulin resistance, and the vicious cycle continues. Even horses of normal weight can be insulin resistant, exhibited by regional fat deposits along the neck, shoulders, tailhead, and back. These horses are labeled as having "Metabolic Syndrome," another term for insulin resistance.

The opposite of insulin resistance is insulin sensitivity

That simply means that the horse's cells respond better to insulin and there is no longer a need for the pancreas to continually pump out high levels of this hormone. Storage of body fat normalizes, as well as blood sugar levels. In attempting to reach this goal, many horse owners will restrict feed – put their horse on a "diet." The problem is that horses are designed to graze. They need to consistently chew to neutralize stomach acid (through saliva production, a natural antacid). Left with an empty stomach, your horse can suffer a variety of health issues, experience a hormonal stress response that increases the blood insulin level, and ironically, remain overweight. This is because excess insulin tells the body to hold on to body fat and refrain from burning it for energy.

Consistently eating forage, on the other hand, matches what a horse would naturally do. It allows cortisol (stress hormone) levels to decline,

making the cells more responsive, more sensitive, to insulin. How eating affects insulin sensitivity was recently evaluated by researchers at Louisiana State University. They determined that hay-deprived mares experienced a greater degree of insulin resistance and less insulin sensitivity than those mares who were fed *ad libitum* (free-choice). These results are consistent with a horse's natural eating pattern. A healthy, insulin sensitive horse is a horse that will not easily gain weight when fed forage free-choice. A healthy horse will burn body fat and not store excessive amounts.

Reduce concentrates but not forage

Calorie reduction, though important, should be accomplished by reducing or even eliminating commercial feeds and cereal grains. But never reduce forage intake. While pasture grazing may not be an option for your overweight, insulin resistant horse during certain times of the day or seasons of the year, you should always offer hay, day and night, 24 hours a day. Be sure to provide a vitamin/mineral supplement to fill in the gaps that exist with hay. To do this effectively, it is best to make sure that your hay is low enough in non-structural carbohydrates (NSC) and calories. Therefore, testing is recommended.** Once you know your hay has a percent NSC level of at most 12%, and no more than .89 Mcals/lb (1.96 Mcals/kg), feed it free-choice. (%NSC = %Starch + %Water Soluble Carbohydrates.)

Allow your horse to self-regulate

When forage is restricted, your horse perceives this as "survival mode." He needs

to hold on to body fat because it is uncertain when food will again be made available. But once he gets the message that hay is always there, that he doesn't run out, not even for 10 minutes, then and only then will your horse understand that he can walk away and the hay will still be there when he returns. He starts to calm down his eating, eating more slowly, and eating less – eating only what his body needs. Insulin sensitivity increases, and body weight begins to normalize. With the help of exercise, your horse's cells will respond to insulin better and no longer store excess body fat. It's amazing to see – it does happen.

Give your horse a chance to be a horse -- to tell you how much forage he needs.

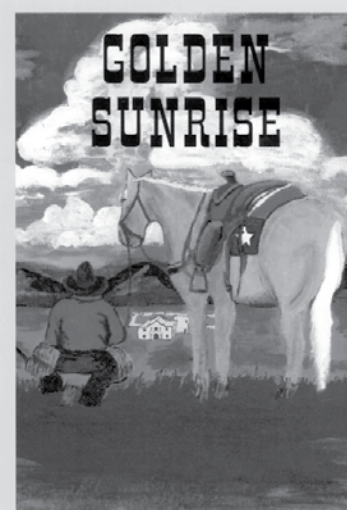
Dr. Juliet Getty is an internationally respected equine nutritionist available for private consultations and speaking engagements. At www.gettyequinenutrition.com, sign up for her informative—and free—monthly newsletter, *Forage for Thought*, read articles, join her nutrition forum, enroll in upcoming teleseminars and purchase previously recorded events. Contact Dr. Getty directly at gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com.

Golden Sunrise

the third novel by
Mattie Richardson
author of *Appaloosy* and
Dusty's Trail

Contact Mattie at:
redheadkid7@msn.com
(701)-680-8855

On Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Appaloosy7



By Mattie Richardson

THE HORSE TAMERS

By Janice M. Ladendorf

With the publication of the book, *A Man Who Listens to Horses*, and the release of the movie, *The Horse Whisperer*, natural horsemanship has become increasingly popular. Clinicians now travel all over the country demonstrating their special techniques and tools for training horses. To explain their methods, they must demonstrate how they can be applied by every horse and rider at each clinic. Unfortunately, clinicians can vary considerably in both their level of expertise and their communication skills. Some of the best known are Buck Brannaman, John Lyons, and Mark Rashid.

Today's natural horsemen may have inherited many of their skills and techniques from the horse tamers that flourished in the nineteenth century. Mark Rashid often refers to the old man who taught him and he in turn had been taught by another expert. John Richard Young has done a fascinating comparison between these horse tamers and old time bronc busters. Like today's clinicians, horse tamers traveled from town to town teaching the average horseman how to start their own horses and showing them how to cure vices in horses that had been badly broken or treated. In their time, horses were cheap and often not handled until maturity. This gave them unlimited material on which to practice their skills. Three of the best known ones left books behind them. They are Capt. Horace Hayes, Dennis Wagner, and John Rarey.

These horse tamers not only had to be highly skilled, but great showmen who could

both entertain and instruct their audience. Their methods were generally based on two basic principles. One is the memorable quality of intense versus routine experiences. The other is showing the horse that he is powerless to resist man. Dennis Wagner actually developed three different types of restraining devices. He could usually select the right one for the individual horse, but sometimes had to use all three. One of his special feats was driving horses without reins.

In 1858, John Rarey became famous after he tamed a horse that belonged to Victoria and the most vicious horse in England, a stallion named Cruiser. Rarey spent three hours locked in a stall with him and brought out a tame horse, who had become gentle as a lamb. John Rarey may have been the first horseman to call himself a horse whisperer.

Capt. Hayes was a British officer who taught clinics all over the British Empire. He had to deal with whalers in India that had come from the Australian ranges and studied what the American horse tamers had learned from our horses. He believed that most horse tamers made three blunders. They assumed that their systems were infallible and asserted that the effects were permanent. They also failed to recognize the importance of establishing the habit of obedience. He states that what trainers need is patience, patience, and more patience.

Many of the ideas, tools, and techniques used in training horses today are thought to be new, but most of them may well be re-inventions. For example, the Romans used round penning. Snaffles, curbs, and biting bridles go back to classical times.

Why Horses?

Continued from page 13

pants and Sherman sat in a circle in the middle of the indoor arena. The three horses were led out by handlers to meet us. The horses, Leo, Titan, and Blue, freely nuzzled those of us they chose to check out, while under supervision of a handler, in case the horse became intrusive, and the person became uncomfortable. Safety for all involved is the first priority, and that includes the safety of the horses. We discussed what we came to work on, and what each of us hoped to get out of the workshop. The day was a balance of talking/discussing, and active interaction with the horses.

Sherman introduced us to the ways in which horses respond and give us feedback: moving away, holding still, lowering a head, lip licking and chewing, etc. If someone was not present or resistant to what was being discussed during a hands-on exercise, the horse would move away, usually just a step, and then move back into contact when the person become honest, authentic, and in the moment. One horse, Leo, started to get a little frisky, so he was put in the round pen (still with/around us, just in a place where he could be safely frisky). During an exercise, one woman approached him, placed her hands on him, and Leo immediately calmed in response to her energy and to the way she was present.

I witnessed amazing transformations: One woman initially expressed that she had become frightened of horses after an accident, even her own horse, and that she wanted to release that fear and other fears. After gentle interaction with the horses, as simple as standing with our hands on a horse we were attracted to work with, being with the horse, or grooming and being present with a horse, we moved to more interactive exercises designed to help build trust: between us and the horse, between each other, and with ourselves. Sherman asked the woman, "Joan," who had become frightened of horses, if she would be willing to participate in being led while sitting on one of the horses, Titan. "Joan" was to be blindfolded.

All exercises are "challenge by choice." "Joan" agreed to the exercise. She was invited to choose two other participants to act as side-walkers; I was one of them. So we two side-walkers provided support, as a handler walked "Joan" and Titan around the arena and through and around various obstacle courses (walking over posts lying on the ground, in a tight circle around a traffic cone, and in a snaking pattern through multiple cones).

Each set of obstacles represented areas of challenge, areas of stuckness in "Joan's" life, with Sherman talking and asking questions throughout each. Going round and round a traffic cone in tight little circles, Sherman asks "Joan," "Is this familiar in your life? This process of going blindly in circles, feeling stuck?" "Joan": "Yeah." Sherman: "How does that feel?" "Joan": "Like it will never end." Sherman: "What would it take to do this differently? How would it feel to stop spinning out of control or feeling stuck?" "Joan": "It would feel good."

During the course of this exercise, I noticed "Joan" began to become more involved with Titan, urging him on with a hand pushing on his withers, and using her legs more. At the end of the exercise, when she took off the blindfold to talk and assess, she seemed more open and confident. She had a radiant, happy glow in her face. She sat straighter, not curled-in and protective, as she had first seemed. Her eye contact was more direct, and her eyes were clear, not clouded in pain or anxiety. She seemed genuinely happy to have participated in the exercise.

In another exercise, we participants were asked to get Titan to walk over a knee-height jump, without talking or using our hands to get him to move. We were told those were the only rules (no talking and no hands), and were asked to determine "consequences" for breaking the rules among ourselves. Some wanted no consequences, or that we should

For The Horse Lover On Your Christmas List



Have a 12-issue subscription to The Valley Equestrian Newspaper delivered to their door for just \$28!

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____

Zipcode _____

Please send a check or money order to:
The Valley Equestrian
Box 64 • Sabin, MN • 56580
theVENews@gmail.com
(320) 209-8523

Castle Books, 2004.

Rarey, John Soloman. *The Modern Art of Taming Wild Horses*. Originally published 1858.

Reprints: Kessinger Publications, 2010. 66 pages and *Horse Taming – Horsemanship – Hunting: A New Illustrated Edition of J. S. Rarey's Art of Taming Horses*. Nabu Press, 2010. 294 pages.

Young, John Richard. "Modern Horse Training versus the 'Good Old Days' and Ways", *The Schooling of the Western Horse*. University of Oklahoma, 1954. pp.3-23.

When Capt. Hayes visited St. Petersburg, he found a vase dated 2500 BC that showed some of the methods he used to tame horses all through the British Empire. Much of what is advocated by today's natural horsemen may have been re-discovered many times by horsemen through the centuries.

References:
Hayes, Capt. M. Horace. *Illustrated Horse Training*. 1st edition, 1889. 3rd edition, Wilshire Books, 1905.

Wagner, Dennis. *Magner's Classic Encyclopedia of the Horse*. Originally published in 1887.

and playfully got involved in the action of the exercise. We weren't even thinking about Blue; we were focused on Titan. We were in the moment, present to the challenge of this exercise, and the horses "tuned-in" and participated as partners with us, with a common goal. We were attuned to each other. I guess Blue broke the touching "rule," but I didn't see him picking up any manure, either.

The key to this work is congruency: being attuned, aligned with the moment, mind, body and spirit. "The horses are actually attracted to our congruency," says Sherman, which invites them into partnership with humans. A horse "provides powerful feedback to help the person pinpoint what they need to work on," says Sherman.

Like that excellent book, this Equine Experiential Learning experience has stayed with me over the intervening weeks. I continue to experience revelations and breakthroughs. I am acting differently in areas where I had been stuck. I wouldn't be writing this article if I hadn't experience this workshop, I'd still be stuck in not-writing. There's a new openness and flow, and I am aware of being in the moment much more often. My horses have noticed the difference, too. All this from a few concentrated, focused hours of being in the moment with some willing equine partners and a skilled coach. If you want to experience positive growth and change in your life, release areas of stuckness in your life, and experience life in a whole new way, I encourage you to explore the world of the horse through Equine Experiential Learning.

I wondered if there was any "rule" saying that we couldn't take the jump to Titan, rather than getting him to move. The goal was to get him to go over it without touching him or talking to him or others. We decided to move the jump. We set it within inches of his front legs. He nosed at it, and bent his head down over it as though he were getting ready to walk over it. Right then, the younger horse, Blue, gave Titan a smart nip on the back of his thigh, and Titan walked right over the jump. I experienced Blue as a very playful, happy horse, youthful and exuberant—I felt exuberant and playful whenever I was near him. In this exercise, I feel that Blue had picked up on our intentions and "played" into the action, by "encouraging" Titan to get a move on. I want to note that these two horses were at liberty in the arena the whole time during this exercise: they chose to participate. Nobody said, "Blue, come" ere. We want you to help with this." Blue voluntarily, appropriately,

Resources: Melisa Pearce, *Touched By A Horse*, www.touchedbyahorse.com
Sara Sherman, *Discovery Horse*, www.discoveryhorse.com
Spirit Horse Center, www.spirithorsecenter-inc.com
To find practitioners in your area, please Google "Equine Experiential Learning."

Classified Advertising

Classified ads

Black and White Only
\$10 for up to 50 words
\$20 for a photo classified ad

Color Classified Ad
\$30 for a color photo classified ad

To place a classified ad call:
701.361.8648
 or send a check to:
PO Box 64, Sabin, MN 56580
 along with your ad copy.

Delightfully Entertaining for ALL ages!

WHOA MAKES A GREAT GIFT!

71 Hilarious Short Stories

From "Honey, I Need a Pull" to "Honey I shrunk the Barn" It will keep you laughing until the cows come home.

\$14 Includes Shipping & Handling

ORDER HERE

www.emilysouthousebook.com

Herd Reduction Foundation Quarter Horse Mares for Sale

(Doc Bar, Three Bars, King, Leo and Poco Bueno)

mostly used as brood mares, price negotiable



218-790-1790

Join the VEN on Facebook for news during the month!

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Advertiser	Page No.
2nd Go Round Tack	11
Al Shelton: Artist to the Stars	10 & 11
Blairview Saddle Shop & Outpost	7
Cannon Falls Trailer Sales	20
Charles Wilhelm Ultimate Training	9
Country Tack Western Store	12
Cowboy Leather	16
Cullen Acres	11
Discovery Horse	10
Farmer's Elevator	10
Favorite Cowgirl Coffee	10
Golden Sunrise Book	18
GW Tack Shack	5
Jan Ladendorf Books	8
J&B Western Store	3
J&S Farmer's Mill	2 & 13
MN Horse Council	2
Minnesota School of Horseshoeing	7
Palma Feed	11
Prairie Winds Veterinary Center	5
Reichert Saddlery	10
Riding on Angels' Wings	6
Vilie Carriage	18

1910 Antique Velie 2-seat Carriage

Single or double end hitch, original wooden wheels, leather-tufted seats.

~~\$2500.~~
 Call Karen at:
(218)790-1790
 Price slashed to \$1500.

Hay for Sale

Clean grass hay, large square and rounds, 750-900 pound bales, no rain, \$45 per bale.

(218) 790-1790

Horse Boarding

3 Gems Tack & Stables
 1175 85th Ave NW, Moorhead, MN

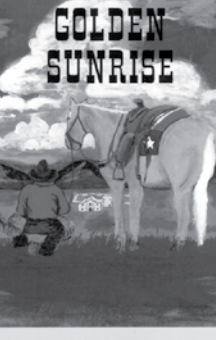
text/call
701-306-4478
3GT@3GemsTack.com
www.3GemsTack.com

Offering indoor/outdoor boarding, lessons, indoor/outdoor arenas, round pen, trails, 4-H club and more.

Golden Sunrise

the third novel by Mattie Richardson author of *Appaloosy* and *Dusty's Trail*

Contact Mattie at:
redheadkid7@msn.com
 (701)-680-8855
 On Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Appaloosy7



My Old(er) Horse



I am the proud owner of an Appaloosa mare who was born April 8, 1978. That makes her thirty-four years young! I have owned Navajos Sundancer (Sunny) for the past twenty-six years. She was my very first horse, which was a dream come true for a horse crazy girl. She became my best friend and we spent many hours riding the trails together. Now she lives in my back yard, always happy to see me with a big bucket of senior feed, soaked beet pulp, and oil. Because she does not have many teeth left her tongue often hangs out of her mouth. I just chuckle and remind her it isn't polite to stick her tongue out. I hope you enjoy my old horse story.

Thank you,
 Becky Clancy

New Roundup ... Just Like the Old Roundup

By Marta Williams, WHE Media Contact

Laura Leigh, the principal investigator and photojournalist for Wild Horse Education (WHE), is out on the range again. In the last year and a half Leigh has witnessed more roundups than any person, including government personnel, and her travels have taken her to six different states to view wild herds. She is currently in Winnemucca Nevada, documenting the treatment of the horses at the Owyhee Roundup. The first day of the roundup seemed hopeful, like the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) might finally have learned something from the

flood of outrage from the public over their treatment of wild horses and burros, or perhaps been sensitive to the issues at stake in two law suits currently leveled at them by WHE for denying access to journalists and for inhumane treatment of the horses and burros. On the second day 116 horses were removed of the target 847, all with a body condition of 4 or 5, (Henneke scale), which contradicts, yet again, the BLM assertion that the horses are declining and nullifies BLM's justification for ripping them away from their lives in the wild and placing them to languish and die in feed lots in the Midwest. The

first run horses came in sweaty and slightly steaming. In the winter of 2010/2011 there were a high number of deaths from respiratory illness. Temperatures then were below 20 degrees, temperatures for this roundup began at 19 degrees. The last run horses were pressured and confused. During the process of loading, horses showed less pressure than observed in the past. Two injuries were noted: a grey with a limp and a young buckskin that appears to have gone through, or into, barbed wire fencing, during the last run of the day. The horses are being driven through barbed wire gates as the trap is located on private property. Two horses escaped the trap: one young mare vaulted the panel, one horse (stallion?) evaded the jute. Both horses were not pursued. Observation at temporary holding was practically non-existent. BLM said they would post photographs of the injured mare on their site.



On Day Three of the roundup, Leigh again found herself photographing horse hell:

BLM contractors running horses into the barbed wire fence gates leading into the trap, the horses flipping onto their heads and then mangling their bodies. Baby horses wrenched away from their mothers and then, rather than hauled away with other babies for safety as BLM says it does, some of these babies were loaded in a trailer with adults from an unfamiliar herd. Journalist access was yet again restricted.

In the past forty years BLM, the agency tasked with managing wild horses and burros, has failed to implement any humane treatment standard for their care and handling. BLM persists in inappropriate treatment and inadequate protection and management of these animals. This ongoing crisis is what forced the non-profit, Wild Horse Education (WHE), to file against BLM in Federal court.

"We will not stop our effort on these cases until a reasonable standard of humane handling and penalties for violations are outlined" stated Leigh "It is well past time that our wild horses and burros are protected from abuse as

was the original intention of Congress in 1971." Many interests covet our public land for their own use. Wild horses and burros have



no money and therefore no voice. Consequently, they have been captured and removed from their homes. There are now approximately 47,000 wild horses and burros in government feed lots, and every year thousands of horses are injured and die under the mismanagement of the BLM, the very agency charged with their protection and preservation by Congress. Most of our wild horses and burros are held in facilities that are closed to the public and we do not have any idea of their condition. WHE filed suit to remedy this situation and provide the public access to our wild horses and burros.

Wild Horse Education (WHE) was founded by Laura

Leigh in April 2011, and is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of our wild horses and burros, by empowering American's with the truth and holding our government accountable to equitable and humane management. Laura Leigh has contributed to publications such as Horseback Magazine and True Cowboy. Her video footage has been used on CNN, and I-team reports of George Knapp as well as many documentary films and news broadcasts. WHE is the only organization consistently gathering data on the roundups and using that data to hold the government accountable. To support their work visit their website at <http://wildhorseeducation.org/>

Links of interest: Video of the horse hit by a helicopter: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ObXBOWq3nRE>

History of the legal battle for humane care: <http://wildhorseeducation.org/the-humane-care-suit/short-history-of-the-humane-care-suit/>

Dakota 50/50 Futurity and Maturity Winners

The annual Dakota 50/50 Sale, Futurity and Maturity was held Nov. 1-3 at the NDSU Equine Center in Fargo, N.D. The three-day event is managed by all the membership and includes a judged horse show, the Main Event, which is the Saturday night social event organized by Janine Gustafson, the sale, futurity, and a maturity which was added to this year's line-up of events.

Nikki Medalen said, "The 2012 Dakota 50/50 went off without a hitch! The first maturity had 16 entries and was a great addition, adding another level of competition for the horses and riders and also an opportunity to show the versatility and abilities of the horses. The Futurity had 33 entrants. Each year I am surprised at how this event gets more competitive and the quality of the horses keeps rising to meet the challenge. The sale was a little down from years past - a bit of surprise to us, but we are extremely pleased with the number of repeat buyers who bring stabilization to the event and how those regular buyers encourage new people to become involved. It's great to see our customers sharing their satisfaction about their horses and

their excitement about this event with their friends and fellow exhibitors." The maturity, Medalen explained in the October issue of the Valley Equestrian News, is a "new event added to include horses that are older than two. The competition is based on ranch horse versatility, with more skills and a higher level of education which involves cattle work for horses 4 years and older."

First place in the Maturity was KNM Golden Boy owned and ridden by Kimberly Kraft and bred by Keith and Nikki Medalen. Taking second place was OC Gypsy Lark Too owned and ridden by Shelley Johnsen; the breeder was Shelby Stewart. Third place winner was KNM Deacon Darby, owned and bred by Keith and Nikki Medalen, ridden by John Hovde.

First place in the Futurity was Willy Be A Cruiser owned and ridden by Nichole Mathiason and bred by Kelly and Ruby Stuart. Second place was SH Puttinontheritz owned by Laurel Rohrer, ridden by Darrel Buckles and bred by Gene Van-

deberg. Third place was DC Miss Bueno Lena owned and ridden by Jess Dyck and bred by Dan Mullin. High seller was Zips Main Four Fame owned by Kelly and Ruby Stuart of Eriksdale, MB who sold for \$4500. The average overall sale price was \$775, the average on

stud colts was \$1,093., and the average of fillies was \$505. The Futurity Purse for 2014 is \$16,546

Right: 1st Place in the Maturity is KNM Golden Boy owned and ridden by Kimberly Kraft and bred by Keith and Nikki Medalen. Bottom left: High seller was Zips Main Four Fame owned by Kelly and Ruby Stuart of Eriksdale, MB who sold for \$4500. Bottom right: First place in the Futurity was Willy Be A Cruiser owned and ridden by Nichole Mathiason and bred by Kelly and Ruby Stuart.



**Elite Trailers.
The Name Says It All.**



EACH AND EVERY ELITE TRAILER IS CRAFTED WELL BEYOND INDUSTRY STANDARDS WITH EMPHASIS ON RELIABILITY, DETAIL, SAFETY AND COMFORT.



Experience the ELITE Difference



2008 Exiss GN Event XT314 3H w/14' Sierra Big Sky LQ, 10' Slide Out w/Sofa Slpr & Lg Dble Hanging Cist, Ducted AC & Furnace, Dble Alum Sinks w/Upgraded Faucet, 2 Burner Stove, Microw, Flip Dwn TV, 6 cu Refg, XM Stereo Radio & CD Player w/Smld Spkrs, Soft Touch Walls & Ceiling, Halogen Lghts, Western Hardware Pkg & Cmfrtr, Overhd Cbntr in GN, Pckt Dr, Porcelain Stool, Marble Colored Shwr w/Upgraded Faucets & Glass Door. **Sale Price: \$58,500.00**



2009 Sundowner GN Horizon 3H w/11' LQ, Sofa-Slpr, 6 cu Refg., 2 Bmr Stove, Microw, AM/FM/CD, TV, AC, Ducted Furnace, Upgraded Faucets & Knobs, Soft Touch Walls & Ceilings, Lg Bthrm w/Walk-in Cists, Lg Shwr w/Glass Dr, Porcelain Toilet, Elect. Jack, Walk-Thru Dr, Escape Dr, Drp Dwn Fd Drs w/Low Mount Latches, 2 Mangers w/2 Access Drs, Stud Dvdr w/Rubber/Both Sides, Padded Slam Latch Dvdrs, Rr Tck. **Sale Price: \$39,500.00**



1998 Featherlite GN 3H w/9' LQ, AC, Ducted Furnace, Microw, 3.5 cu Refg, Radio, Sofa-Sleeper, Overhead Cabinets, Vanity w/Sink, Shwr, Separate Stool, Walk-Thru Door, Escape Door 1st Horse, Stud Divider 1st Stall, 2 Mangers, Carpeted Rear Tack w/3 Saddle Racks, Bridle Hooks & Brush Tray, Padded Dividers. Everything Works & Serviced Out. **Sale Price: \$22,000.00**



2006 Cherokee GN Tomahawk 3H w/8' Solid Oak LQ, Sofa-Sleeper, Sm Refg., Microw, Flat Scrn TV w/DVD Player, Shower, Sep. Stool, AC, Owen Gnrtr, Walk-Thru Dr, Escape Dr w/Drp Dwn Fd Drs w/Fld Dwn Brs, Std Dvdr 1st Still, Padded Dvdrs, Collap. Rr Tck w/3 Post Saddle Rck, Bridle Hks & Bush Tray, Blink Br, 3 Rf Vnts. **Sale Price: \$29,500.00**



1998 Sundowner GN 8'X27'X7' Sunlite 4 Horse All Alum w/9' LQ, Sofa Sleeper, 6 cu Refg., AC, Furnace, 2 Burner Stove, Microw, Stereo, Awning, Shower, Sep. Stool, Walk-Thru, Mangers, Like New 235R16 14 Ply Radials. Very Clean Trailer. Great Condition **Sale Price: \$24,500.00**



1993 Featherlite GN 8'X27'X7' 3H w/12' LQ 2' to 6' Mid Tack, Dinette, Ck Top, Refg., Micro, AM/FM/CD Stereo, Stainless Steel Sink, Vanity Sink & Cabinet, Sep. Stool, Shwr, Walk-Thru Dr To Mid-Tck w/Shelves, Hat Rck & Cloth Bar, Lined & Insulated Rf & Side Walls Horse Area, Padded Dvdrs, Rr Tck, Generator, Drp Dwn Fd Drs, 10' Hay Rck, Dual Jacks. **Sale Price: \$19,900.00**



1997 Featherlite 3H w/6' to 10' Finished Dress Rm, AC, Dinette, Boot Bench, Dinette Window, Cabinets Overhead, Microw, Camper Dr w/Scrn, Escape Dr, Drp Dwn Fd Drs, Rump Wall Windows, Dble Rear Drs w/Wndws, Collaps. Rear Tack, 3 Post Swing Out Saddle Rack, 2 Brush Trays, Bridle Hks, Slam Latch Dvdrs, Full Lined & Rubber Sidewalls, 16" 10 Ply Radials, Spare, Brakes - Bearings Serviced & Ready To Go. **Sale Priced: \$14,500.00**



2001 Sundowner GN Valuelite 4H, 4' to 8' Dress Rm, Carpet GN-Drop & Floor, Camper Vent, Lg GN Wndws, Bridle Hks, Blanket Bar, Escape Dr w/Drop Dwn Feed Dr, Wndw Bars, Dble Rear Drs w/Wndws, Collaps. Rear Tack, 4 Post Swing Out Saddle Rack, Bridle Hks, Padded Spring Loaded Dividers w/Slam Latch, All Lined & Ruber Side Walls, 4 Flush Mounted Roof Vents, Rump Wall Windows. **Sale Price: \$13,900.00**



2005 Exiss GN 7'X18'X7' Event XT300 3 Horse 4' to 8' Dress Rm, Drop Dwn Feed Doors w/Low Mount Latches, Fold Dwn Bars, Slam Latch Dividers, Collaps. Rear Tack. Clean Trailer. **Sale Price \$12,500.00**

CANNON FALLS TRAILER SALES

1 Mile East of Hwy. 52 & Cty. 86 • Chuck Erdahl, Owner/Manager - Dan Erdahl, Sales/Service
888-263-7212 • www.cannonfallstrailers.com