



Goals and Objectives of the Minnesota Horse Council

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

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Experience Equine Diversity at the Minnesota Horse Expo April 23-25

Experience the equine diversity displayed by 300 horses from over 50 breeds and registries April 23-25 at the 28th Minnesota Horse Expo sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. See Friesians, Peruvians, Arabians, Clydesdales, Tennessee Walkers, Nokotas, Haflingers, Gypsy Vanners, Norwegian Fjords, Miniatures, Mustangs and many more horses perform during the daily Parade of Breeds, Stallion Presentations and Breed demonstrations. Follow up with conversations in the Horse Barn at the stalls with the owners/trainers. Horse Expo is the place to share information and ideas about horse owning, care, training and use and get answers that work for you.

Julie Goodnight, Lynn Palm, Andy Marcoux, Nicole Carswell and Jay Henson headline with topics and demonstrations unique to their experience and backgrounds. RFD-TV's Julie Goodnight will concentrate in part on despooning and riding scary trail obstacles, doing an all-discipline, all-breed analysis of horse/rider suitability, tack, equipment, analyzing rider position and improving balance, slowing down speed demons, and cueing correctly. Lynn Palm riding Rugged Painted Lark will perform a bridless musical ride each day and explain the fun and benefits of riding bridless and how to put together a routine to music, demonstrate the similarities of training with dressage principles for both Western and English riding, improve your hunter training, collection and more. Andy Marcoux will provide insight into the training and outfitting for the sports of carriage driving with demonstrations of carriage driving 101, driven dressage, and arena driving trials. Nicole Carswell will address gaited horse topics from gait improvement to the correct seat for gaited horse riders. Jay Henson and riders from the NVRHA Northern Lights affiliate will explain and demonstrate National Versatility Ranch Horse Association's five events: Ranch

Conformation, Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Working Ranch, and Ranch Cutting. In addition to the arena demonstrations in the Coliseum and the Nutrena Judging Arena, many topics from trail riding to nutrition to buying horse properties will be presented in the speaker areas. For all the schedule info visit www.mnhorseexpo.org

Glen Eaton, long standing exhibit director for the Minnesota Horse Expo, has put together a most diverse list of equine related vendors. With more than 600 booths in five different State Fair buildings and more lining the streets, the Minnesota Horse Expo makes shopping for equipment, products and services an efficient, money saving experience. Although some Expo buildings are full, call Glen (1-877-462-8758) for information about remaining booth vendor opportunities at this year's Expo or to get info for next year.

Three PRCA rodeos, the Priefert Percheron Hitch, the huge consignment used tack and clothing sale managed by the Minnesota 4-H Horse Association in the Dairy Building, the free horse, pony and carriage rides, Friday and Saturday tours of the University of Minnesota Equine Center combine to create an atmosphere of diverse equine experience for all who come. Last year close to 50,000 experienced the MN Horse Expo and what it had to offer. Money raised by the event is used by the Minnesota Horse Council in a variety of ways to benefit the state's equine industry. For more info, visit www.mnhorsecouncil.org

Expo daily admission is \$9 for ages 13-61, \$6 for ages 6-12 and seniors 62 and over, no charge for children 5 and under. Rodeo admission is in addition to Expo admission and ranges from \$4-\$10 for reserved seats. Parking in the MN State Fair lots is free. For directions or any additional info, call toll free at 877-462-8758 or visit the constantly updated www.mnhorseexpo.org.

Shop over 600 Booths • See Horses from over 50 Breeds/Registries

Minnesota Horse



Expo 2010

IT'S THE 28th EXPO!

April

23 • 24 • 25

Sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council

Minnesota State Fairgrounds
1265 Snelling Avenue North, St. Paul MN

FRIDAY APRIL 23 8:30AM-9:30PM

9:00	Jay Henson Cutting	Coliseum
9:15-11:00	Stallion Presentations	Judging Arena
9:00	The Gelding Project	DNR Building
10:00	Lynn Palm-Bridleless Riding	Coliseum
10:00	Animal Chiropractic	DNR Building
10:00	Vaccines for Equines	Ramberg Bldg.
10:00	12:00 2:00 4:00 Farrier Demos	Tent Nelson St.
11:00	Julie Goodnight-Despooking	Coliseum
11:00	Nicole Carswell - Gaited	Judging Arena
11:00	Performance Horse Nutrition	DNR Building
11:00	Careers in Equine Industry	Ramberg Bldg.
12:00	Parade of Breeds	Coliseum
12:00	Bits and Biting - Dale Myler	DNR Building
1:00	Horseperson of the Year	Coliseum
1:00	Jay Henson - Conformation	Judging Arena
1:00	Nicole Carswell-Gaited Video	DNR Building
1:00	HomeBuyer 101	Ramberg Bldg.
1:05	Priefert Percheron Hitch	Coliseum
1:20	Lynn Palm Musical Ride	Coliseum
2:00	Andy Marcoux-Carriage Driving	Coliseum
2:00	Julie Goodnight-Riding Right	Judging Arena
2:00	Acupuncture	Horse Barn Ring
2:00	Trail Riding-Backyard to Badlands	DNR Building
3:00-6:00	Breed Demonstrations	Coliseum
3:00	Lynn Palm-Western Dressage	Judging Arena
3:00	Nutrients or ingredients?	DNR Building
3:00	Taxes, Zoning and Rights	Ramberg Bldg.
4:00	Nicole Carswell Gait Improvement	Judging Arena
4:00	Julie Goodnight	DNR Building
4:00	ADS, CAA & Local Driving	Ramberg Bldg.
5:00	Andy Marcoux-Driving 101	Judging Arena
5:00	Lynn Palm-Be Positive!	DNR Building
7:00	PRCA Dodge Rodeo	Coliseum

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

9:00	Julie Goodnight-Whoa Nellie!	Coliseum
9:00-11:00	Stallion Presentations	Judging Arena
9:00	Bits and Biting - Dale Myler	DNR Building
9:00	Careers in Equine Industry	Ramberg Bldg.
10:00	Lynn Palm-Collection	Coliseum
10:00	Basic Equine Nutrition	DNR Building
10:00	12:00 2:00 4:00 Farrier Demos	Tent Nelson St.
11:00	Andy Marcoux - Arena Driving	Coliseum
11:00	Nicole Carswell - Gaited Riding	Judging Arena
11:00	Animal Chiropractic	DNR Building
11:00	HomeBuyer 101	Ramberg Bldg.
12:00	Parade of Breeds	Coliseum
12:00	Jay Henson - Ranch Riding	Judging Arena
12:00	Trail Riding-Backyard to Badlands	DNR Building
1:00	Horseperson of the Year	Coliseum
1:00	Andy Marcoux - Carriage Driving	Judging Arena
1:00	Are Supplements Necessary?	DNR Building
1:00	Unwanted Horse Behaviors	Ramberg Bldg.
1:05	Priefert Percheron Hitch	Coliseum
1:20	Lynn Palm Musical Ride	Coliseum
2:00	Jay Henson-Ranch Horse	Judging Arena
2:00	Acupuncture	Horse Barn Ring
2:00	ADS, CAA & Local Driving	DNR Building
2:00	Equine Dentistry	Ramberg Bldg.
3:00-6:00	Breed Demonstrations	Coliseum
3:00	Lynn Palm-Straightness/Bending	Judging Arena
3:00	Andy Marcoux - Driving Competition	DNR Bldg.
3:00	Taxes, Zoning and Rights	Ramberg Bldg.
4:00	Julie Goodnight - Riding Right	Judging Arena
4:00	Nicole Carswell - Correct Seat	DNR Building
4:00	Colic - No Guts, No Glory	Ramberg Bldg.
5:00	Jay Henson Ranch Trail	Judging Arena
5:00	Lynn Palm - The Mental Edge	DNR Bldg.
5:00	Foaling	Ramberg Bldg.
7:00	PRCA Dodge Rodeo	Coliseum
7:00	All Buildings but Horse Barn & Coliseum Close	

SUNDAY APRIL 25 8:30AM-5:00PM

8:45	Cowboy Church	Coliseum
10:00	Julie Goodnight Correct Canter	Coliseum
10:00-11:30	Stallion Presentations	Judging Arena
10:00	12:00 2:00 Farrier Demos	Tent Nelson St.
11:00	Lynn Palm - Hunter Training	Coliseum
11:00	Bits & Biting Dale Myler	DNR Building
11:00	Facilities Management	Ramberg Bldg.
12:00	Parade of Breeds	Coliseum
12:00	Nicole Carswell Finished Horse	Judging Arena
12:00	Animal Chiropractic	DNR Building
12:00	Taxes, Zoning and Rights	Ramberg Bldg.
1:00	Horseperson of the Year	Coliseum
1:00	Andy Marcoux-Driven Dressage	Judging Arena
1:00	Trail Riding-Backyard to Badlands	DNR Building
1:00	Rehabilitating Unwanted Horse	Ramberg Bldg.
1:05	Priefert Percheron Hitch	Coliseum
1:20	Lynn Palm Musical Ride	Coliseum
2:00	Julie Goodnight-Riding Right	Judging Arena
2:00	Acupuncture	Horse Barn Ring
2:00	Nicole Carswell Walking Seat Equitation	DNR
2:00	ADS, CAA and Local Driving	Ramberg Bldg.
3:00	PRCA Dodge Rodeo	Coliseum
3:00	Lynn Palm	Judging Arena
3:00	Andy Marcoux-Proactive Driving™	Ramberg Bldg.
4:00	Horses at Expo Parade	Judson Avenue
5:00	Minnesota Horse Expo 2010 Ends	

**3 PRCA RODEOS AT EXPO
ALL SEATS ARE RESERVED!**



Friday 7:00 PM
Saturday 7:00 PM
Sunday 3:00 PM

\$10 Box Seats
\$8 Sections 1-3, 13-15
\$6 Sections 16-28
\$4 Sections 4-12
Plus Expo Daily Admission
Advance ticket form:
www.mnhorseexpo.org

Rodeo Tickets sold at Coliseum during Expo
Expo information 877-462-8758

Daily Expo Admission

\$9 Ages 13-61
\$6 Seniors
\$6 Ages 6-12
FREE Ages 5 and under
FREE FAIR PARKING

Hours

Friday 8:30 am—9:30 pm
Sat: 8:30 am—9:30 pm
Sun: 8:30 am—5:00 pm
Cattle, Poultry, Sheep Barn,
Dairy and CHS Building
Close at 7pm Fri & Sat

Volunteer with a group or as an individual.
For details call Missie at 952-451-9581

Lynn Palm is a pioneer among women in the horse industry. For more than 30 years, Lynn Palm has championed the partnership of horse and rider, bringing her unique perspective to hundreds of thousands of horse enthusiasts around the world. Lynn's demos and all Expo presenters are included in daily Expo admission.



Julie Goodnight teaches riders how to be their horse's leader and to excel in whichever equestrian sport they choose. Julie is now best known for her award-winning television show airing weekly on RFD-TV- Horse Master with Julie Goodnight. Catch Julie's demos all three days and visit her at her booth.



Andy Marcoux has been professionally training and driving carriage horses of all breeds and descriptions for over 15 years, is a recognized judge for The American Driving Society for the sport of Combined Driving and an evaluator for the CAA Carriage Driver Proficiency Program.



Jay Henson's interest in coaching ranch horse versatility competitors and helping train their horses is a perfect fit for him because it combines all the aspects of what he expects a good horse to be: well rounded. Watch as Jay demonstrates the horsemanship skills that can make every horse and rider more versatile.



Nicole Carswell's goal is to help the "at home and alone" riders of Gaited horses succeed in their pursuit of finding and maintaining gait. Nicole is author of "A Matter Of Pride", the video, "Equitation and Showing Presentation", and the new book/DVD Teach Your Horse To Park.



Priefert Percherons at Expo & Rodeo

- Used Tack and Clothing Consignment Sale Info at 320-355-2142
- U of M Equine Center tours Friday & Saturday
- Visit Priefert Percheron tent on Judson & Nelson
- Free craft projects for the kids in Sheep Barn
- Free horse, pony, and carriage rides



This schedule is partial and subject to change!
Visit www.mnhorseexpo.org for more detail/updates.

The Gelding Project: Helping the Unwanted Horse One Stallion at a Time

The Minnesota Horse Council launched The Gelding Project last year at the Minnesota Horse Expo. This program is designed as a key step to reduce the number of unwanted horses in Minnesota. The first aspect of the project, Education Earns Stallions to Geldings, encourages horse owners to make stallions into geldings through education and financial incentives. An interested horse owner who enrolls in the program will be eligible for a voucher to cover the cost of castration surgery by a participating veterinarian, once the owner attends eight horse health management educational sessions.

Here's how the program works:

1. Get an official voucher at the MN Horse Expo, from participating veterinarians, the Minnesota Horse Council or members of the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition (more information listed on www.mnhorsecouncil.org). Vouchers cost \$5.
2. Attend eight horse health educational sessions, including:
 - a. General Horse Care
 - b. Reproduction
 - c. Nutrition
 - d. Facilities/Manure Management
 - e. Equine Dentistry
 - f. Vaccinations and/or De-worming
 - g. Horse Behavior
 - h. Lecture on the Unwanted Horse or volunteer 2 hours at a horse rescue
3. Contact a participating veterinarian to arrange castration of the stallion
 - a. The stallion must be halter broke
 - b. The stallion must have two descended testicles
 - c. Farm calls are not covered by the voucher
4. The voucher covers the cost of castration, anesthesia, post operative antibiotic and tetanus vaccination or anti-toxin.
5. Complete The Gelding Project evaluation before you leave the clinic.
6. You must be at least 18 years old and a Minnesota resident to participate.



This year at the Minnesota Horse Expo, April 23-25 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, you can fulfill all the requirements. The program starts at 9 am Friday April 23 with a seminar on the *The Gelding Project: Minnesota's Approach to the Unwanted Horse* in the DNR building. Plan to attend the 2010 Horse Expo (www.mnhorseexpo.org) and earn a free castration for your horse. Vouchers will be available during Expo at the Horse Council Booth and at the Friday, April 23, 9 am seminar on the Gelding Project.

Expo Schedule of Horse Health Educational Sessions

- General Horse Care** - Saturday 4 pm: *Colic*
Reproduction - Saturday 5 pm: *Foaling*
Nutrition - Friday 11 am; Friday 3 pm; Saturday 10 am; Saturday 1pm
Facilities/Manure Management - Sunday 11 am: *Facilities Management*
Equine Dentistry - Saturday 2 pm
Vaccinations and/or De-worming - Friday 10 am
Horse Behavior - Friday 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm; Saturday 5 pm
Lecture on the Unwanted Horse - Friday 9 am; Sunday 1 pm

Volunteer at the Expo

When you volunteer as an individual (must be 16 or older) for a shift of 4 or more hours, you will receive free admission to the Horse Expo on the day you work UNLESS you work on Thursday, the set-up day, in which case you will get a pass for another day at Expo.

Earn Money for your Club!

If a group (can be a horse-related group but doesn't need to be) comprised of 10 people (must be 16 or older) agrees to work a minimum of 40 hours during Expo, that group will earn \$10 per 4 hour shift for their group. Hours must be verified as worked by Expo Staff prior to payment. Check will be mailed after hours are verified.

Here's How:

Call Missie Schwartz, MN Horse Expo Volunteer Coordinator, at 952-451-9581 or e-mail her at bmschwartz@msn.com for available jobs and shifts. Volunteers should enter through the North Gate after getting their hand stamped for free admission at the Will Call Booth located just outside the North Gate. Volunteers' names must be on the Will Call volunteer list to qualify for free admission. Paid entry through another Expo gate will not be reimbursed. All volunteers must go to the Expo Office (Northwest end of Coliseum) to get their instructions, volunteer T-shirt and to sign in. Children ages 6 and older may accompany adult volunteers whose job is handing out programs but must pay admission.

Tack and Clothing Sale at MN Horse Expo 2010

The Tack Sale at Minnesota's Horse Expo is held annually at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. The sale is managed by Minnesota 4-H Horse Association and is their major fund raising event.



Consignment

The public is invited to consign items. All items are tagged using special tags provided to the consignors. Tags may be obtained from Curt Baumgart (320-355-2142) prior to the sale. Prices are established by the seller. A 20% commission fee is charged on all items sold at the Tack Sale, 5% of that is used to pay MN Horse Expo for rental space. The remaining 15% of the commission is used to support MN 4-H Horse Project Activities and expenses of the Minnesota 4-H Horse Association. Consider checking out your tack at home and bring it to the sale or visit the sale and find just the item you are looking for.

Check-In Time: Thursday, Noon - 10 pm; Friday, 8 am - Noon; Saturday, 8 am - Noon

Check-Out Time: Sunday only, 5:15-7 pm

Check in at the Underwood St. Dairy Barn entrance only

Volunteers

This sale getting bigger every year they need volunteers to help. Volunteers have fun working the sale. If you would like to help with this big event, email Laurie Arco at rides2bits@msn.com.



MN Stable Owners Association Formed

By: Allison Eklund, MN Stable Owners Assoc

The Minnesota Stable Owners Association (MSOA) is a Minnesota nonprofit corporation and a tax exempt business organized exclusively for purposes of education, advocacy, and promotion of equine businesses.

The mission of MSOA is to improve conditions for equine businesses in Minnesota and to educate about equine public policy and the importance of horses in agriculture.

MSOA has three categories of membership: Regular (\$50), Associate (\$25), and Sponsoring (\$75). Regular Members are stable owners. They are entitled to vote in elections of the association and are the organization's core constituency. Associate Members are individual supporters of the organization's mission. They have all the rights of Regular Members except the right to vote. They are important to the organization because, as boarders and horse enthusiasts, they may come from urban or other areas that do not have many stables. They can tell their elected representatives about the importance of horses in agriculture and have a persuasive impact on legislators who might not otherwise believe our issues matter. Sponsoring Members are businesses that support the organization's mission. They have all the rights of Regular Members except the right to vote, plus they are entitled to be identified as Sponsoring Members in any of the organization's educational and promotional literature. This is intended to mutually benefit stable owners and other agricultural or related businesses by demonstrating the integration and interdependency of equine businesses in the agricultural economy.

MSOA will provide grassroots information and policy concerns to the Minnesota Horse Council for representation of equine business interests at the Capitol and in other government rela-

tions. MSOA will also allow Regular Members to form local chapters of the association for more effective advocacy with counties and other local government on issues specific to each community, to provide reports to the association on issues of local concern, and to strengthen the social fabric of local equine business communities.

MSOA will strive to improve communication and familiarity among equine and other agricultural businesses statewide as well as in local communities, and to improve business conditions by facilitating greater awareness of business opportunities amid rapidly changing market and government regulatory conditions.

Send a membership application and appropriate membership fee to: Minnesota Stable Owners Association, P.O. Box 24, Stillwater, MN 55082. Visit www.mnsoa.org for more information.

NEW MHC Trails Brochure

Pick up the new Minnesota Horse Council trails brochure in the MHC booth at the Minnesota Horse Expo.



Minnesota Horse Council News

President's Report, March 2010

By Mark Ward, President of the Minnesota Horse Council

The Minnesota Horse Council Board of Directors will be working hard this year to help grow the horse industry. We believe that horses contribute so much to our lives as human beings and that the Council's efforts will be well repaid if we do aid the business of horses.

During 2010, with all our member's help, we will lead the Minnesota Horse Council along these lines:

- ♦ We will be prepared to once again be a leader in helping feed horses in danger of starving in case the predicted spring floods cause the same problems they did last year.
- ♦ We will continue to help alleviate the problem of unwanted horses by supporting and leading the Gelding Project, a program that requires attending educational seminars in exchange for the free gelding of stallions.
- ♦ We will work to expand our certification program for horse rescues and horse retirement facilities.
- ♦ We will remain involved in the promotion of an Arden Hills site for the development of an Olympic equestrian facility.
- ♦ We are committed to spend up to \$25,000 to increase the premiums paid out to Minnesota State Fair Horse Show winners in order to attract more competitors.
- ♦ We will keep our two websites up to date with information about our activities, plans and an ever-growing Minnesota Horsemen's directory of information for horse businesses and horse enthusiasts throughout the state. We will also be promoting the new JOBS section of the directory, with free job listings, which we hope will become an important resource for Minnesota business owners and job seekers.
- ♦ We will continue to bring the voice of the owners of Minnesota's 90,000 equines to the Minnesota State Legislature and to the Department of Revenue. We have been very successful in our work to see positive changes in new state guidelines for county property tax assessors and their classification of horse properties. We are now sponsoring legislative bills to help simplify and keep agricultural classification for horse-business properties. We are attending hearings and responding to legislators' inquiries to promote our bills. More details about our bills can be seen on page 5. In 2010, we will also be emailing to our members a Legislative Update newsletter which will make it easy to follow the course of our bills and add your support for them by contacting your legislators with phone calls, letters, and email messages.
- ♦ On April 23-25, we will put on one of the nation's largest horse expos at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. The Minnesota Horse Expo will again bring nationally-known and local experts to educate and entertain about 50,000 Minnesotans. We'll show off over 300 horses from 50 different breeds, and feature over 600 vendors selling and demonstrating everything horse-imaginable.

President's Report--continued on page 10

Horse Boarding Amendment Bill Going Through Minnesota Senate

As directed by the Minnesota State Legislature in 2009, the Department of Revenue (MDOR) hosted several meetings this past fall to review and formulate recommendations on assessment and classification practices for real property used for horse breeding and horse boarding activities within the State of Minnesota. Representatives from the Departments of Revenue and Agriculture along with members from the Minnesota Horse Council participated in the discussions. A report was prepared and presented to the Minnesota State Legislature on February 1 and is posted on the MHC website (www.mnhorsecouncil.org). This report provides a summary of classification practices of property used for horse breeding and horse boarding activities within the State of Minnesota as well as recommendations to improve the uniformity of classifications of these types of properties.

MHC legal representative, Allison Eklund, and Dan Ramberg worked with John Hagen, Department of Revenue, to write a bill that was first approved by the Minnesota Horse Council, the Minnesota Stable Owners Association, and the Minnesota Department of Revenue. It has been submitted and appears as Senate File 2685 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bin/bldbill.php?bill=S2685.0.html&session=ls86>).

The bill would amend the list of agricultural products in the agricultural property classification law, Minn. Stat. 273.13 Subd. 23(i)(3) as follows:

- (3) the commercial boarding of horses, which may include related horse training
- 4.2 and riding instruction, if the boarding is done ~~in conjunction with~~ on property that is also
- 4.3 used for raising pasture to graze horses or raising or cultivating other agricultural products
- 4.4 as defined in clause (1);

EDIT NOTES: Underscore - added language

~~Dashed~~ - language removed

Ms. Eklund reports that the language that was carefully worked out with Department of Revenue so that we could all be assured that statewide uniformity can be achieved. The MDOR has been very helpful to us by reassuring legislators that we are unifying case law and MDOR policy with statutes, nothing more. As a result of this cooperative effort, the Chair of the Senate Property Tax subcommittee, Sen. Rod Skoe (DFL), has agreed to co-author the bill with Sen. Ray Vandever (R). We also have Senators Olseen (DFL), Koch (R), and Fobbe (DFL) giving us strong bipartisan support!

Ms. Eklund encourages us to keep an eye on the progress of this legislation. Ironically, bipartisan, consensus legislation that everyone agrees is good policy can be vulnerable to change by

Horse Boarding Amendment Bill--continued on page 10



2009 Pioneer Award Winner is Norm Strohfus

The Minnesota Horse Council announces the 2009 Pioneer Horseman Award. The Award is designed to honor those individuals from the past years whose expertise and contributions made long-lasting positive changes in the equine industry.

The 2009 Recipient is Norm Strohfus of Hastings, MN. Norm grew up on a cattle operation in South Dakota. As the youngest of five when it came time to make a career decision, his older siblings had the farm under good management and Norm decided to head to the city and get a college education. As a farm kid, he knew that you started mucking stalls if you wanted to learn about the critters, so he followed his farm training, and after college he began driving route trucks for the Coca-Cola Company learning about customers and their needs. When Norm retired at age 57, he was Vice-President of Operational Development for the Coca-Cola Enterprises. Norm traveled the world facilitating technology transfer and optimizing many operations within Coca-Cola. Obviously, his willingness to start at the bottom and learn the basics paid off well in his career with Coca-Cola.

Norm was involved in showing Quarter Horses for 35 years. He participated in the local show circuit, county fair and in the Quarter Horse show circuit. He bought good horses, showed them and generally sold them locally. Many of his neighbors went on to win on Norm's good horses.

One of Norm's last horses was purchased by a young lady from Oklahoma. She went on to win big time in the Palomino Show Circuit. A few months before his death, Norm attended the World Palomino Show in Oklahoma City. He hauled his pleasure horse down even though he was too sick to show, but he received great pleasure in watching the young lady show his former champion and another good friend showed his current

champion. He loved good horses. He loved good people but it took real effort to work side by side with Norm. He had a work ethic that was second to none.

He is so well remembered in the Trail Riders Saddle Club, that at their show this past July 4th, they held a Norm Strohfus Tribute Class – judged as a Pleasure horse and Western Horsemanship class. There were not just 17 entries but 17 Yellow Palomino entries! Norm loved his Palomino horses. The Trail Riders Saddle Club raised over \$3600 this summer for the Kidney Cancer Association in honor of Norm Strohfus.

There are few people in the American Quarter Horse and American Saddlebred world that weren't acquainted with Norm Strohfus. He was one of the nicest men you could have ever have hoped to know.

For many of us, Norm was a fixture on the rail at the Saddlebred shows cheering on his wife, Mary. He was a familiar face behind the lines of his draft horse team, Dixie and Dolly at the Washington County Fair and other horse events, giving wagon rides and introducing new comers to horses.

Norm could be found at the Washington County Fair each year in early August giving carriage rides to the judges at the beginning of each show for their introduction. He was committed to each exhibitor and barn and made every effort to ensure that everyone had an enjoyable time showing their horses. No request was too small, from surveying ring footing to making sure a garbage can was emptied. His dedication to the MN Horse industry and to people's individual horse experiences were evident in the projects and causes he campaigned.

Norm left behind a family and many, many friends who cherish the time spent with him. Norm passed away December 2008 after a 3-1/2 year battle with kidney cancer. His wife, Mary Strohfus, still operates Strohfus Stock Farm in Hastings, MN in much the same way Norm would have done it if he were here today.

A Report on the Minnesota Horse Council's Websites

By Mark Ward

Our year-old redesigned website (www.MnHorseCouncil.org) keeps our members and the public up to date on the plans and activities of the Minnesota Horse Council. It includes a description of our programs, a calendar of MHC events, meeting agendas and minutes, current and past newsletters, contact information for directors, a membership application, publications on horse care, links to important educational and organizational websites, and more. In 2009 our site was busy; it received over 600,000 hits with over 210,000 pages viewed. Each month an average of 2,000 unique visitors went to the site. In 2010, we will keep our information current and expect even greater usage.

The Minnesota Horsemen's Directory (www.MnHD.org), launched a year ago, provides free listings for horse organizations and businesses and presents them to the public in a well-organized and easily searchable manner. The Directory's listings

now include 79 lesson programs, 68 boarding stables, 64 trainers, 43 clinics and seminars, 29 associations and clubs, 25 arena rental facilities, and numerous other listings in over 30 categories. In 2010, the Minnesota Horsemen's Directory will continue to grow. If our 2009 figures are duplicated, it will receive over one million hits with hundreds of thousands of pages viewed with an average of more than 1,000 unique viewers accessing the site each month.

We have just launched a new section of the Directory for free jobs listings, which should become an important resource for Minnesota business owners and job seekers. In 2010, we will increase our promotion of the Directory to encourage more listings and increased use of the site. If you know of anyone looking for a job, or looking for workers, please let them know about the JOBS section at www.MNHD.org.



AMERICAN HORSE COUNCIL
Your Unified Voice In Washington

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USDA ANNOUNCES NEW FRAMEWORK FOR ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will revise its proposed National Animal Identification System (NAIS), in effect starting over in the planning process. This announcement follows the USDA's national listening tour which prompted USDA to offer this new approach.

USDA appears to be scaling back its approach, but the Department is just at the beginning of the new process. Rather than attempting to identify every animal, every premise and every animal movement to achieve traceback within 48 hours of a disease outbreak, the new USDA approach appears to be aimed at designing a simpler program to achieve basic traceability with simpler identification means, including branding, to respond to a disease outbreak.

The NAIS was not fully embraced by the livestock community (the USDA spent \$120 million on NAIS with only 36% of producer participation) and generated numerous concerns surrounding confidentiality, liability, cost, privacy, and religion. In response to these concerns, the new USDA program will narrow its approach. The USDA stated the new animal disease traceability program will:

- ♦ Only apply to animals involved in interstate commerce
- ♦ Be administered by the States and Tribal Nations, with Federal support, to provide more flexibility;
- ♦ Allow for maximum flexibility for States, Tribal Nations, and producers to find identification solutions that meet their needs
- ♦ Encourage the use of lower-cost technology
- ♦ Ensure traceability data is owned and maintained by the States and Tribal Nations
- ♦ Be implemented through federal regulations and the full rulemaking process.

In response to the suggestions and criticisms voiced by many in the livestock community, the USDA will modify the prior animal identification program to achieve animal disease traceback.

First, the USDA will convene a forum with animal health leaders from States, Tribal Nations, and producer groups to discuss how best to achieve a coordinated approach to animal disease traceability. The USDA has scheduled an initial meeting with State and Tribal animal health officials next month (March 18-19) in Kansas City, MO. Also, the USDA has directed the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health to concentrate on specific issues, such as confidentiality and liability.

USDA indicated it will share the costs of the new program with States. The Department expects to publish a new animal disease traceability section in its regulations in about one year.

Please see the following sites for additional information on the USDA Framework for Animal Disease Traceability and Questions & Answers regarding the new framework. More information will be provided once it becomes available.

NEW FRAMEWORK FOR ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY: www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS: NEW ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY FRAMEWORK:
www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/faq_traceability.pdf

AHC RELEASES REPORT ON EQUESTRIAN ACCESS

On March 9, the American Horse Council released its 2009 Report on Equestrian Access on Federal Land. The 2009 report is intended to provide a brief overview of the responses the AHC received from equestrians to its ongoing access survey in 2009. The report can be viewed and downloaded [here](#).

In July of 2009, the American Horse Council launched an effort to collect information regarding equestrian access issues on federal lands. This effort was prompted by a growing concern among recreational riders around the country that they were seeing a reduction in the number of trails and trail heads open to equestrians on federal land.

The center piece of this effort has been an AHC online form riders can use to report their personal experiences regarding trails on federal lands that have been closed to them or other access issues.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans use horses and pack stock to enjoy America's great outdoors each year. However, it is an

experience that cannot be enjoyed without access to public land, trail systems, and trailheads.

"The AHC will use this report to illustrate some of the challenges facing recreational riders," said AHC President Jay Hickey. "Our federal land managers work hard to provide recreational opportunities and we need to make sure they have adequate resources and equestrians need to work with them at all levels. However, sometimes there are issues and conflicts that need to be documented and brought to their attention. This report is just one part of our efforts to ensure equestrians continue to have recreational opportunities on federal land."

The AHC asks all recreational riders to visit the AHC website and continue to report any access issues they have had using the electronic form that can be found at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=C0gYMQHQm3cy41xAkOitw_3d_3d.

Feeding The Overweight Horse

By Marcia Hathaway, PhD, University of Minn & Ron Genrick, Assurance Feeds

We are continually reminded that too many of us are overweight. We are told that we need to alter our diets and get on an exercise program. The same can be said about many of our horses. In their natural environment, horses searched for grass 14 to 18 hours each day. When domesticated, they worked hard as beasts of burden. Today, many of our horses are allowed to graze in pastures, offered hay free choice, or energy rich grain while not "working".

How do you know if your horse is too fat? One good way is to use the Henneke Body Condition Scoring System. The system utilizes body condition scores (BCS) ranging from 1 to 9. A BCS of 5 is in the middle and most desirable. The system points out 9 areas of emphasis, with a description for each of the 9 BCS. This chart is available on many websites using the keywords "henneke body condition scoring system."

One way to bring about weight loss is to reduce caloric intake. Another is to "burn" it off by increasing the workload. Neither alone is as effective as a combination of the two. If caloric reduction is used to drop weight, the horse's metabolism will respond by becoming more efficient and use calories that would otherwise not be utilized. As with humans, once the desired weight loss is attained and the horse receives normal maintenance calories, it will continue to be more efficient and may start to put the weight back on. The same is true of increasing the workload; when the weight is "burned off" and the horse returns to the former workload, the pounds may return.

The long-lasting and more effective weight loss program is to reduce the caloric intake and add light work. The caloric intake can be reduced by limiting grazing time with a grazing muzzle or dry lot, and eliminating or reducing grain. Changing from

alfalfa to grass hay or to a more mature hay will also reduce calories. Light work might be described as "visible sweat" 3 to 5 days per week for ½ to 1 hour per day. A 7 day light exercise program "burns" almost 6 times more calories each day than 7 days of no exercise. This is similar to the calories in 4 to 5 pounds of grass hay or 2 to 2.5 pounds of grain. If the overweight horse was at maintenance, this combination of exercise and calorie reduction will result in a weight loss of 0.5 to 0.75 pounds each day, a healthy weight loss. Weigh tapes are available to help track weight loss. These tapes are not always reliable, but will give an indication of the loss.

Withholding calories from the overweight horse may result in an inadequate intake of trace minerals and vitamins; therefore, supplementation of these nutrients may be necessary. Consultation with your equine nutritionist is advised.

Feed reduction and exercise should be increased slowly. The horse's digestive tract needs time to adjust to diet changes (especially forage), and the muscles need time to adjust to the new work load. At least two weeks should be allowed for the change in diet, and a similar time for the increased work.

Broodmares require special consideration; weight reduction should not be attempted after 150 days into gestation through 90 days of lactation. Be sure your horse is healthy enough for the diet and exercise change. Consult with your veterinarian about issues, such as laminitis, that might interfere with the increased exercise. Some diseases and health issues, such as equine metabolic syndrome and Cushing's disease may be the cause of obesity; each of these conditions requires a special diet and weight loss program.

Taken from the March 2010 U of M Horse Newsletter



Research Update: Feeding Concentrates and Cribbing

Cribbing in horses is an undesired behavior that causes property damage and has the potential to harm the horse's health. It is known that the frequency with which a horse engages in cribbing increases during the times that concentrate feeds are fed. A recent study indicated that providing horses free access to concentrate feeds resulted in a decrease in cribbing behavior, but allowing free access to concentrate feeds can create a myriad of health problems.

Because of this, researchers at Auburn University and Tuskegee University set out to determine whether feeding small measured amounts of feed on an hourly basis also resulted in less cribbing.

Each of the ten horses in the study received the same total amount of feed per day, but different amounts at individual

feedings; either in two larger feedings or 24 smaller feedings. The researchers found that providing the horses with small meals each hour did not reduce cribbing behavior. This was because the frequently fed horses spent more time at the feeder, resulting in more cribbing when compared with the horses that only went to the feeder two times per day.

Combining this data with the information from the previous study, the researchers concluded that it is likely the amount of concentrates that a horse consumes rather than how often they eat that affects the frequency with which they crib.

Reference: McCall, C., P. Tyler, W. McElhenney, and T. Fenn. 2009. Effect of hourly concentrate feed delivery on crib/biting in horses. Abstract. Journal of Equine Veterinary Science. 29:5 427-428.

This research was summarized by Kristen Cleary, Univ. of Minn. Undergraduate Equine Intern

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES
February 9, 2010

Meeting Location:

Nutrena Conference Room - Leatherdale Center U of MN St Paul

Board Members Present: Darrell Mead, Missie Schwartz, Mark Ward, Jan Schatzlein, Tim Bonham, Christie Ward, Tracy Turner, Marian Robinson, Tom Tweeten, Dawn Moore, Trina Joyce, Carol Dobbelaire, Glen Eaton, Lynn Wasson

Absent: Sue McDonough, Judy Jensen, Teresa Hanson

Members/Visitors: Miriam McGurran, Katie Flemming, Allison Eklund, Doug Persian

I. Meeting called to order: 6:30 p.m. by Mark Ward

II. Introduction of Board Members/Visitors

Mark Ward introduced the aforementioned guests.

III. Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda

1. **Election of Officers** opened by Darrell Mead:

President - Marian Robinson nominated Mark Ward, Carol Dobbelaire nominated Darrell Mead. Darrell Mead declined the nomination and withdrew. Mark Ward elected President of the MN Horse Council by unanimous vote of the board.

First Vice President - Glen Eaton nominated Darrell Mead. Darrell Mead elected as Second Vice President by unanimous vote of the board.

Second Vice President - Glen Eaton nominated Tracy Turner, Carol Dobbelaire nominated Tom Tweeten. Directors cast their vote via paper ballot; resulting in the election of Tracy Turner to the position of Second Vice President.

Treasurer - Mark Ward nominated Tim Bonham for the position. Tim Bonham elected to the position of Treasurer by unanimous vote of the board.

Secretary - Mark Ward nominated Dawn Moore. Dawn Moore elected to the position of secretary by unanimous vote of the board.

2. **Additions to agenda:** Mark Ward added mileage rates under new business. Darrell Mead added Trails under committee reports.

IV. Treasurer's Reports for Year End and January were distributed by Tim Bonham. Tracy Turner motioned to accept the year end treasurer's report with the stipulation the Direct Funding report will be revised, Darrell Mead seconded, motion passed. Carol Dobbelaire requested TEEFA be used instead of the Silverado notation currently used in the Treasurer's report.

V. Approval of Minutes - Tracy Turner moved to accept the November minutes with one correction. Tim Bonham seconded, motion passed.

VI. Secretary's Report - Dawn Moore, reported a letter was received from a member who has an interest in being updated on the situation regarding the slaughter issue. Message was passed to the Legislative Committee for response. Dawn Moore also stated the renewal reminders will be going out this month. Reminded the directors to be certain their 2010 dues are current.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Follow up on MHC Director Insurance - Mark Ward reported the MHC is covered currently under the Expo's policy.

B. Trademark - Mark Ward reported he has spoken with a trademark attorney who will donate her time to assist in obtaining a federal trademark. Application has been submitted. Approximately three months will pass before notification will be received.

C. Written Conflict of Interest and Gift Policy - Mark Ward passed around the policy with two changes suggested by members of the board. Each director would need to complete the conflict of interest statement and it would need to be updated as needed. Jan Schatzlein motioned to

accept the written Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Gift Statement. Glen Eaton seconded. Carol Dobbelaire requested to add a friendly amendment to have the motion state, also making this statement available online as a PDF able to be completed online. Both Jan and Glen accepted the amendment. Motion passed. Mark Ward requested that the policy be completed and turned in by the March meeting.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EXPO - Glen Eaton, presented the proposed by-laws for the MN Horse Expo. Tim Bonham motioned to approve the by-laws as presented. Carol Dobbelaire seconded, motion passed. With the 28th Annual Minnesota Horse Expo being only about 2 ½ months away the planning is in great shape. International Clinicians are booked namely, Lynn Palm, Julie Goodnight, Andy Marcoux (Driving), Jay Henson and Nicole Carswell as well as other local Clinicians. Program ads are coming in but slow because of the economy. 306 completed contracts for booths and stalls have been received and many more have been sent out and should be returned. The Coliseum is full of Vendors and the Livestock (Cattle) Barn is just about full. Over 50 breeds of horses are booked. The web site is updated just about daily and we are getting many compliments on it. Set up will start on Tuesday April 20 with the first Vendors arriving on Wednesday, April 21. Horses start to arrive on Thursday, April 22. All is well with the Expo. The next Expo meeting is February 23 at the Community room at Byerly's in Sr. Louis Park.

B. Direct Funding - Christie Ward reported the following:

Proposals to be considered today:

1. **Riders-In-Cahoots Saddle Club**, Bobbie Kleffman, President
 This 50+-member organization is requesting \$500 to support development of a new website. Total costs associated with website design and construction are estimated at \$1200. The current website may be seen at: www.ridersincahoots.com. Club members are active in a range of equestrian disciplines, and the club hosts a large Sleigh Rally each winter, with participants drawn from MN, WI, ND, and Canada. of event is scheduled for May 9, 2009 at the Martin County Fairgrounds in Fairmont, MN.

2. **Victory Riders, Inc.**, Shelly DeRosier, Director
 This therapeutic riding organization is requesting \$500 to support installation of an ADA-compliant bathroom in the barn they operate within. The riders and volunteers currently use an outdoor porta-potty, which is particularly challenging for those who use wheelchairs. Some of the supplies have already been purchased (toilet, sidebars, and sink), totaling \$423. The remaining funds will be used to purchase a small cabinet and mirror.
 Total Direct Funding approved for 2010: \$0 to date

C. Annual Meeting - Dawn Moore reported 150 plates were used. 165 were paid for. Bill was \$10,292.69 plus expenses for Uline and flowers.

D. Unwanted Horse - Tracy Turner reported there have been more Equine practitioners given gelding project tablets. The programs available to complete the required education for the Gelding Project at Expo will be designated in some form. Tracy Turner also stated Montana is in the process of working on establishing a horse processing facility.

E. SHCAC - Glen Eaton reported the following: budget is currently being drafted for the meeting in Washington DC. SHCAC is looking to clarify the income and expenses.

F. Promotions - Teresa Hanson absent, no report. Mark Ward reported it was suggested that magnets and/or small cards for the MHC and the new websites be printed and given out at Expo.

G. Trails - Darrell Mead reported grant for trail maps (\$6,000) was approved. 20,000 will be printed and the DNR will retain 5,000 of them.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Next Step for Property Tax Legislation - MHC has incurred a cost of \$10,500 thus far. The next step to take will be to address the law with regard to training, lessons and other Equine endeavors aside from breeding and selling. Allison Eklund presented a proposed bill that has been

drafted. Tom Tweeten motioned to accept the spirit of the bill. Glen Eaton seconded, discussion followed. Motion passed. Tracy Turner motioned to have the MHC create a resolution in support of this bill as soon as it is assigned a number. Carol Dobbelaire seconded, motion passed. Discussion followed on the classification of horses as livestock. Allison Eklund will continue to investigate the matter and report back to the MHC board of directors. Carol Dobbelaire motioned to have the MHC support revised House File 835, Immunity from Liability. Glen Eaton seconded, motion passed.

B. New MN License Plates - Krishona Martinson has requested the opportunity to speak on this topic next month. Mark Ward has added her presentation to the agenda for March.

C. Racino - Former Senator Dick Day and Mr. Olson presented a brief update on the Racino project. 18 Casinos in the state of MN bring in approx. 800 million dollars without paying taxes. Senate and House bills will be prepared within the next several weeks. A percentage of the revenue generated from the potential taxes on a Racino would be returned to the Equine industry in MN. Senator Day asked to have those interested to contact your legislators. He also will do a 20 minute presentation to Equine clubs and associations interested in Racino. MHC will consider a resolution to support the revised Racino bill.

D. Report on KY's Proposed Legislation for Equestrian Use of Public Land - Mark Ward tabled item until next meeting.

E. Mileage Rates - Mark Ward reported the IRS mileage rates are \$0.50 per mile for the year 2010.

X. Mark Ward adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING - March 9, 2010 ♦ 6:30 p.m.
University of MN ♦ Leatherdale Equine Center

Horse Boarding Amendment Bill--continued from page 5

other interests who hope to jump on the fast track with us. She is making it clear to legislators that this is very specific language that cannot be changed because it was worked out so carefully with Department of Revenue.

We don't want other controversial bills (i.e., anything to do with Green Acres) attached to our bill with the hope that they can piggyback as any controversy could derail our bill. Please help by contacting your Senator to voice your support. You can find your legislators at the Legislature's "district finder" web page: <http://www.gis.leg.mn/mapserver/districts/>. A companion bill will soon be introduced in the House of Representatives.

Minnesota Horse Council Legislative Committee:
Allison Eklund, Mark Ward, Tracy Turner, Tom Tweeten

President's Report--continued from page 5

- ♦ Finally, we will again this year save most of the money generated from the Expo to award about \$200,000 to deserving groups, individuals, fairs, and parks. We will give grants to non-profit horse-related organizations, scholarships to students showing an interest in horse-related careers, provide smaller awards to non-profit horse-related projects, and contribute major funding to develop horse trails in state parks and state forests.

Thank you for being part of our efforts.

2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

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

Minnesota Horse Council Board Meetings

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

February 9	June 8	October 12
March 9	July 13	November 9
April 13	August - No meeting	December 14
May 11	September 14	
January 15, 2011 - Annual Meeting - Northland Inn		

Minnesota Horse Expo Board Meetings

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

January 26	May 25	September 28
February 23	June 29	October 26
March 30	July 27	November 30
April 13	August - No meeting	December 28

For Horse's Sake

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

Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

Dahl Graphic Design

39257 Taray Road ♦ Pine River, MN 56474

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2010 Article Submission Deadlines

January/February	1/22/10	July/August	6/11/10
March	2/12/10	September	8/13/10
April	3/12/10	October	9/17/10
May	4/16/10	November	10/15/10
June	5/14/10	December	11/12/10

Bill Introduced for Special "Equine Enthusiast" License Plates

Research dollars to support and advance the equine industry in MN are critically needed. In order to raise research and Extension funds in Minnesota for equine issues, Krishona Martinson, PhD, Equine Extension Specialist, University of Minnesota, helped author a bill that Senators Amy Koch, Steve Dille, and Julie Rosen introduced to the MN Senate; SF 2411 - Equine Enthusiast License Plate.

Horse enthusiasts would have the OPTION (this is voluntary) to support equine research and Extension in Minnesota through purchasing a special license plate that depicts a horse or horse and rider. Funds from the equine enthusiast license plate would then be available to University of Minnesota equine faculty through a competitive grants process.

You can also follow the bill's progress on the MN Senate website, www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/.



www.mnhorsecouncil.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Name _____

Farm/Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Alt. Phone _____

E-mail _____

Website _____

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

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

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

- E-mail (saves on postage and paper)
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Please complete this form and send with your check to:

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PO Box 223 ♦ Plato, MN 55370

Minnesota Horse Council



PO Box 223
Plato, MN 55370
763-755-7729
mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net
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Annual Meeting

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Legislative

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Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

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Nominations

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Pioneer Award

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Scholarships

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Minnesota Horse Council

PO Box 223
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Return Service Requested

Minnesota Horse **APRIL**
Expo **23 ♦ 24 ♦ 25**

**Advance sale Expo and Rodeo
ticket sales end on April 6th**