



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

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President

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- David Fleishhaker.....651-402-5512
 Trina Joyce.....612-729-7798
 Kris Kelly.....612-919-5146
 Sue McDonough.....651-699-8117
 Kim Otterson.....320-412-6389
 Doug Persian.....763-242-5570
 Marian Robinson.....763-588-0297
 Jan Schatzlein.....612-825-2459
 Missie Schwartz.....612-868-6041
 Mark Ward.....651-436-6557
 Jennifer Willey.....612-669-7564

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

January 17, 2015 ♦ Marriott Minneapolis West

9960 Wayzata Blvd ♦ St. Louis Park, MN ♦ 952-544-4400

Once a year the Minnesota Horse Council plans a dinner meeting to gather the current members and recruit new ones. At this event we socialize with our peers in the horse industry, learning as we have fun. Please join us!!

This is the time of year when the announcements are made regarding grant recipients, Horseperson of the Year, scholarship recipients and trail funding plans. Displays of the past year's accomplishments and reports from the various committees are all part of this meeting. The election of MHC Directors will occur at the annual meeting. Please see Candidates for MHC Board article on page 2 for all the details.

There will also be a Silent Auction benefiting Freedom Farm. Support MHC's third annual Silent Auction for Charity by donating an item. For more information email: mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net or call 763-755-7729 or 612-819-1708.

If space is required for displays, printed material or both, please call 763-755-7729 to reserve, as space is limited.

MHC ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2015
 Time: 5:30 Reception, 6:30 Dinner, 7:30 Meeting
 Cost: \$30 per person (Cash Bar available)

How to Make Reservations

Mail your check (payable to MN Horse Council) along with the form below to: MHC Annual Meeting, PO Box 223, Plato, MN 55370, Phone: 763-755-7729, Email: mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of tickets @ \$30 _____

Make Checks Payable to MN Horse Council

ANNUAL MEETING Menu

APPETIZERS

Jumbo Prawns Grilled with Lime and Cilantro Marinade

Caprese Skewers

NY Strip Loin with Wrapped Asparagus with Wasabi Aioli

Buffet

Field Green Salad with French & Ranch Dressing

Amish Blue and Candied Walnut Salad with Citrus Vinaigrette

Seasonal Fruits

Slow Roasted Prime Rib Served with Creamy Horseradish Sauce with Au jus Sauce and Creamy Horseradish Sauce

Red Currant Chicken

Wild Rice & Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes

Butternut Squash Ravioli

Squash & Beets

Haricot Vert

Assorted Buns with Creamy Butter or Margarine

Desserts

Various

Menu subject to change

**Candidates for the
MHC Board of Directors
MHC Annual Meeting
January 17, 2015**

Each year the Minnesota Horse Council (MHC) membership has an opportunity to elect members to fulfill a 3-year term on the Board of Directors. That means that about one-third of the board positions open for election. This year five board positions are up for consideration. Current board members whose terms expire on December 31, 2014 include: Doug Persian, Marian Robinson, Jan Schatzlein, Missie Schwartz, and Jennifer Willey. As of October 1, the Nominations Committee has received written notice that Marian Robinson, Jan Schatzlein and Jennifer Willey do not intend to run for re-election. Five MHC members who have not previously served on the Board of Directors have submitted their names as candidates for election to the Board. They include: Barb Anderson-Whiteits, Leda Mox, Kari Newman, Candi Phillips, and Meg Sax.



Bios of the candidates will be sent with the MHC Annual Meeting materials. The candidate bios are also posted on the MHC website (www.mnhorsecouncil.org). A ballot and ballot envelope will also be mailed with the Annual Meeting materials. Please follow the voting instructions carefully if you choose to vote by mail, especially if you will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting on January 17th. Ballots will also be available when you register at the Annual Meeting.

Each year, our by-laws allow for nominations from the floor as part of the meeting voting procedure. At our January Annual Meeting, we will ask for nominations from the floor early in the agenda. If we indeed get a nomination(s), the Nominations Committee Chairperson, Tom Tweeten, will ask those nominees from the floor to meet individually with him to review the MHC By-laws and current MHC Committees. After they have a chance to also ask questions, they will then be asked if they are prepared to fulfill the duties of being a MHC Board of Director. Any floor nominee who does not feel they are prepared to be a board member can then withdraw their name at the time the Annual Meeting Chairperson calls for the election vote. All nominees will be introduced before there is a call for a vote.

Four MHC members are designated to serve as election judges to review and count ballots. They are: Andrea Dubay, David Fleischaker, Darrell Mead and Tom Tweeten. Anyone is welcome to watch as ballots are reviewed and counted. Andrea, as the MHC Administrative Assistant, will record the final results of the election.

Thomas Tweeten, MHC 1st Vice-President
Nominations Committee Chairperson



**AHC Opposes Proposed
Clean Water Act Rule**

On November 14, 2014, the American Horse Council (AHC) submitted comments opposing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) proposed rule to redefine "Waters of the U.S." under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

Earlier this year, the EPA and Corps published a new proposed rule to define "Waters of the U.S." under the CWA. The CWA regulates discharges of pollutants into the Waters of the United States. The proposed rule appears to redefine "Waters of the U.S.," in a manner that would significantly expand the waters subject to the requirements of the CWA.

The CWA does include exemptions for agriculture, however the AHC and other agricultural groups have serious concerns regarding the proposed rule. The AHC believes the proposed rule uses vague and unclear terms and definitions that will create new confusion regarding what waters are subject to CWA requirements. Furthermore, the AHC has concerns regarding the intended meaning of terms used in the proposed rule and how they will be interpreted in the field.

Additionally, the AHC believes the proposed definition of "Waters of the United States" could include many types of waters such as ditches, ponds, wetlands, and seasonal streams that have never before been considered under the jurisdiction of the CWA. In fact, the proposed definition is so expansive that it could potentially place almost all surface waters under the jurisdiction of the CWA contrary to the clear intent of Congress and the limits established by several federal court decisions.

In its comments, the AHC noted that "the proposed rule greatly expands the waters under the jurisdiction of the CWA beyond the scope of the law or the regulatory authority of the EPA and Corps, creates uncertainty regarding requirements under the CWA, and imposes a new unnecessary regulatory burden on the horse industry. The proposed rule would negatively impact horse farms, ranches and racetracks in all parts of the country. The AHC urges the EPA and Corps to withdrawal the proposed rule in its entirety."

The AHC has also co-signed comprehensive comments with other agricultural groups that oppose the rule.

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL GRANTS

True Strides Therapeutic Horseback Program

True Strides, the therapeutic horseback riding program that True Friends operates at Camp Courage, has taken great strides forward thanks to donations that funded the construction of the new Sanner Indoor Riding arena and Dudley Equine Center. A grant from the Minnesota Horse Council helped fund the arena which was completed in early summer and formally dedicated in September.

The new arena boasts a full set of bleachers for parents or caregivers to watch their riders take lessons as well as overhead heating, sprinkler and sound systems for year-round use. There are four oversized stalls and a wash station to house the equine staff as well as a fully equipped tack room. The facility also has a classroom and lounge for horsemanship lessons and arts and crafts for riders.

Over the summer, 55 individuals with physical and/or developmental disabilities participated in therapeutic riding activities during summer camp, benefiting from the new facilities. Several hundred more benefited from meeting and grooming horses and participating in horsemanship activities. This fall, we're offering 32 individual weekly riding therapy and lessons.

With this new facility, True Strides expects to continue to build our programming, adding new and additional classes and providing therapeutic riding to new populations; in addition to those with physical and developmental disabilities, we hope to also serve veterans and individuals with mental illness, addiction and other challenges.

<http://truefriends.org/true-strides/>



Guests Enjoy True Strides Open House

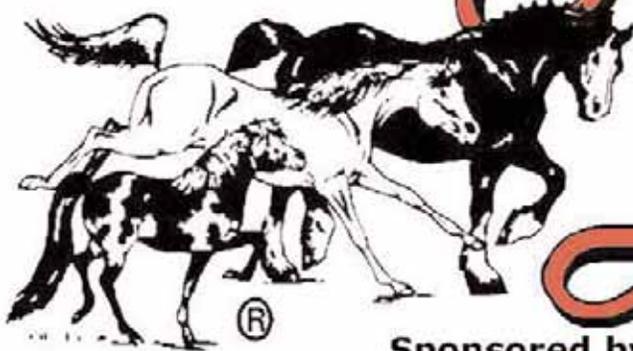
The Open House event on September 20, celebrating the opening of True Friends therapeutic riding program was a huge success! We were proud to announce the new Dudley Equine Center and Sanner Arena to a crowd of about 200 people.

Guests enjoyed tours of the new facility, hay rides, games, prizes and therapy horse demonstrations to showcase what an amazing program True Strides is.

“ Oh my goodness, Saturday was a day to never forget. It did my heart good to be there - and to actually see a demo of the therapy horses in action - a picture is worth a thousand words. It is so important to actually BE at camp and see all the great work being done! To see the young girls riding the therapy horses - and the joy on their faces! Joy is such a good word isn't it? It's a fresh reminder as to why I support True Friends. ”
~ A friend from Courage Kenny



Minnesota Horse Expo



Sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council

SAVE the DATE

April 24–26, 2015

Minnesota State Fairgrounds

Clinicians

Demonstrations

700 + Exhibitor booths

Latest equine products, trends and information

FREE HORSE, PONY and WAGON RIDES

Consignment Sale for horse tack, equipment & clothing

PRCA Rodeos

33rd YEAR

Breeds 50+ Horse

MnHorseExpo.org

877-462-8758



The Minnesota Horse Expo is for all who enjoy horses.
April 24-26, 2015 Minnesota State Fairgrounds
www.MnHorseExpo.org 952-356-2029 for more info.



Minnesota Horse Expo

Event Hours: Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25: 8:30am-9:30pm
 Sunday, April 26: 8:30am-5:00pm

Daily Expo Admission: FREE for ages 5 and under; \$10 Adults (13-61);
 \$6 Seniors (62+) and Youth (6-12)

PRCA Rodeo Admission from \$4 to \$12 depending on seating section
 plus daily Horse Expo Admission.

PRCA Rodeo Friday and Saturday at 7:00pm; Sunday at 3:00pm.
Free Parking in State Fair lots.



Ventilation Systems for Horse Barns

Larry Jacobson, PhD and Chuck Clanton, PhD, University of Minnesota



Ventilation or air exchange is needed in horse barns or buildings to control and remove moisture, prevent condensation on surfaces and maintain acceptable air quality by removing carbon dioxide, ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, dust, airborne pathogens and fumes during cold weather and to remove heat and hold down excessively high temperatures preventing heat stress in warm/hot conditions.

This exchange of air or ventilation can be accomplished with a natural (non-mechanical) system that is driven by buoyancy (hot air rises) and wind forces or by a mechanical ventilation system that uses electrical exhaust fans along with planned designed inlet openings.

Natural Ventilation Systems. The simplest system is an open front shed, pointing to the south. This allows the horse to get in out of the wind and/or rain and snow. This is adequate for the horse as long as they are well fed and acclimated to the current weather conditions.

An enclosed naturally ventilated barn must have sidewall vents or eave openings (inlet) and a ridge or roof chimney openings (outlet). Conditions inside these enclosed facilities are typically at or slightly above outside temperatures, year round, but are generally draft-free and when combined with dry bedding can provide a comfortable environment for mature and healthy horses. The advantage of natural systems is economics, but control of airflow and air distribution is not as good. These barns should have heated water lines and tanks to prevent them from freezing during cold conditions.

Mechanical Systems. A mechanically ventilated barn is design for year around conditions. During cold weather, minimal ventilation is needed to remove moisture generated from respiration and evaporation of spilled drinking water and urine and feces.

This cold weather ventilation rate should be 25 cubic feet of air per minute (cfm) per 1,000 lbs of horse. This cold air exchange rate is best provided by a continuously running sidewall exhaust fan. During mild weather, a second fan(s) that delivers an additional 100 cfm/ 1,000 lbs (total of 125 cfm/1,000 lbs of horse) with an indoor temperature controller (thermostat) set at about 50 F. During warm/hot temperatures another exhaust fan(s) sized at an additional 200 cfm/1,000 lbs (total of 325 cfm/1,000 lbs of horse) needs to be added to hold down excessive temperature rises in barns with a separate (or a single multi-stage) temperature controller set to activate at about 60 F. A mechanically ventilated barn needs designed inlets or someplace for air to enter the building. The inlets should be sized to provide 1 square foot of inlet area for every 600 cfm of exhaust fan capacity which should be evenly spaced throughout the barn to provide good air distribution.

Supplemental Heat. During winter conditions, indoor temperatures may drop below acceptable levels and water lines could freeze. For these situations, a small gas-fired or electric space heater is need to maintain the minimum desired temperature. The heater should be sized at roughly 4,000 BTU/hour (gas) or 1 kW (electric) per horse. It should be noted that these space heaters are the number one cause of fires, so safety precaution need to be taken.

Insulation. All housing needs to be well constructed (as air tight as possible for mechanical ventilation systems) and have insulated walls and ceiling. The insulation will keep the building cooler in the summer and prevent moisture condensation as well as keeping the building warmer in winter. For open sided and enclosed naturally ventilated barns, roof insulation with an R-value of 2 to 4 is strongly suggested to prevent condensation from forming on the underside of the roof in winter plus reduced heat load in summer. For mechanically ventilated barns, a minimum R-value in the mid-teens (15) is needed in the walls and mid-twenties (25) in the ceiling. A vapor barrier or retarder (sheet of plastic) needs to be place on the warm side of the insulation in both the walls and ceiling to keep moisture from moving through the interior surfaces into the cavity which could deteriorate the building material.

Summer Management. For mechanically ventilated barns in the summer it is best to keep the barn closed up and the exhaust fans and inlets operating to limit temperature rise inside the barn. Internal circulation fans can be used to increase airflow over horses but these do not exchange air in the building like the sidewall exhaust fans and should only be used to provide additional animal cooling. Under some special conditions, evaporative cooling systems, such as direct animal sprinklers or air inlet evaporative pads in the walls, have been installed in horse buildings. If a mechanical ventilation barn was only designed for the fall, winter, or spring periods (equal or less than 125 cfm/1,000 lbs of horse), then during the summer, open up the building and use natural ventilation. As soon as large doors and/or windows are opened up, exhaust fans are no longer of any benefit and should be turned off. If circulation or mixing fans are in the barn, they should be used to help move air over animals but keep in mind that air exchange will be dependent completely on wind forces for these types of barns.

Air Inlet(s) Location. Contrary to popular belief, the way to eliminate dead air spaces in a mechanically ventilated barn is to place well distributed air inlets throughout the barn, not exhaust fans. Exhaust fan(s) location has little to no impact on the barn's air distribution. In a properly designed and operating mechanically ventilated barn, there will be a slight negative pressure and fresh air will enter the barn through any inlets and will provide fresh air to animals. To obtain good air quality in a box stall setting, make sure there is one or more air inlets located near the box stall.

Blanketing 101

Marcia Hathaway, PhD, University of Minnesota



A horse's winter coat can be an excellent insulator, but its insulating value is lost if it gets wet. If the hair is wet or full of mud, air is excluded, reducing its insulating value and increasing heat loss. As little as 0.1 inch of rain can cause cold stress by matting the hair and reducing its insulating value. It is important to keep the horse dry and sheltered from moisture. As expected, a horse with a thicker hair coat can retain more heat. Research has been conducted on the benefits of blanketing a horse to reduce the effects of cold weather.

Most horses are blanketed for various reasons (show schedules) or due to personal beliefs of the horse's owner. However, blanketing a horse is necessary to reduce the effects of cold or inclement weather when:

- ♦ There is no shelter available during turnout periods and the temperatures drop below 5° F, or the wind chill is below 5° F
- ♦ There is a chance the horse will become wet (not usually a problem with snow, but much more of a problem with rain, ice, and/or freezing rain)
- ♦ The horse has had its winter coat clipped
- ♦ The horse is very young or very old
- ♦ The horse has not been acclimated to the cold (i.e. recently relocated from a southern climate)
- ♦ The horse has a body condition score of 3 or less

It is equally important that the blanket fits the horse. Horses can develop rub marks or sores where the straps secure the blanket if it fits improperly. If the horse is blanketed continuously, the blanket should be removed daily, inspected for damages, and repositioned. Make sure blankets are kept dry and do not put a blanket on a wet horse; wait until the horse is dry before blanketing.

Keep in mind a horse will continue to develop a natural winter coat until December 22, while days are becoming shorter. Horses begin to lose their winter coat, and start forming their summer coat, as the days begin to get longer on December 23. Blanketing before December 22 will decrease a horse's natural winter coat and may result in the need for winter-long blanketing.

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Winter Feeding Strategies for Horses

Marcia Hathaway, PhD, University of Minnesota

A horse's nutritional requirements change when the temperature dips low during the winter. The ideal situation is to have a horse entering the winter acclimated to the cold with a thick hair coat and fat cover. It has been estimated that a horse with a healthy winter coat and kept dry will be comfortable at temperatures down to 18° F. If the horse has access to a shelter it can tolerate temperatures as low as -40° F.

As the temperature decreases with the onset of winter, the horse requires additional dietary energy in order to maintain its body temperature and condition. For every degree below 18° F the horse requires an additional 1% energy in their diet. The question then becomes, what is the best source of additional dietary energy during the cold winter months? A horse manages to utilize the dietary energy in the winter to keep warm in a couple of different ways. First, there is the heat given off as a byproduct of normal metabolic processes. Secondly, there is the heat generated from microbial fermentation of forages that occurs in the hindgut during digestion.

Many people believe that feeding more concentrates or grains (because they are energy dense), will help keep the horse warmer. However, there isn't as much heat produced as a byproduct of digestion, absorption and utilization of concentrates and grains as there is from the microbial fermentation of forages. Consequently, increasing the amount of forage in the diet will help meet the increasing energy needs and will result in an increase in microbial fermentation which will help keep the horse warm.

For example, if a 1,000 lb horse needed 16 lbs of good-quality hay each day when the temperature was 18° F, its requirement could be expected to increase by approximately 2 to 2.5 lbs to 18 to 18.5 lbs if the temperature dropped to 0° F. The increased dietary energy requirement would be even greater if the horse didn't have access to shelter.

An additional very important point to consider is the need to provide access to clean, "warm" (45° to 64° F) water. A horse will require more water when eating dried feedstuffs like hay, compared to horses grazing on lush, moisture dense pasture. If the water is ice cold, the horse will not drink as much. The goal should always be to maximize water consumption to help prevent the possibility of dehydration and colic.

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MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES - October 14, 2014

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

Board Members Present: Trina Joyce, Glen Eaton, Missie Schwartz, Tom Tweeten, Kim Otterson, Tracy Turner, Tim Bonham, Dave Fleischhaker, Darrell Mead, Jan Schatzlein, Dawn Moore, Marian Robinson, Jennifer Willey, Doug Persian

Absent: Mark Ward, Sue McDonough, Kris Kelly

Members/Visitors: Kari Newman, Greg Heck

I. Meeting called to order: 6:31 P.M. by President Tracy Turner.

II. Introduction of Board Members/Visitors

III. Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda

1. Dave Fleischhaker added TEEFA update to Committee Reports.

IV. Treasurer's Report for October was presented by Tim Bonham. Assets total \$742,810.70. Liabilities total \$310,073.20 with a net available funds \$432,737.50. Discussion and review followed. Tim Bonham advised a check for \$100,000 was received by the MN Horse Council from the MN Horse Expo after September 30th and is not included in this report.

V. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the September meeting were presented to the board electronically prior to the meeting and in hard copy at the October meeting. Glen Eaton motioned to approve the September minutes as presented. Dawn Moore seconded, motion carries.

VI. Secretary's Report: Dawn Moore advised two new members have joined since the September meeting. Dawn Moore reminded all committee chairs to submit their report and photos by November 1st for inclusion in the annual meeting newsletter.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Treasurer's Ad Hoc Committee: David Fleischhaker advised progress has been made on compiling all information for submission to an accountant. Tim Bonham and Barb Fleischhaker have been exchanging information and working together to provide a complete financial picture. Allison Eklund introduced Greg Heck CPA and he presented options available for audit, compilation of information, review and reformatting of the current reports, etc. Greg Heck CPA suggested having our current accountant present the review on an annual basis to the board of directors. Allison Eklund has been investigating the responsibility of the MHC within the state of MN and the Attorney General's Office. Tim Bonham advised those responsibilities are being met on an annual basis and the paperwork is prepared and provided by the current MHC accountant. Discussion followed on available and recommended accounting software. Tracy Turner charged the Ad Hoc Committee with providing an accurate and up to date balance sheet and committee budget reports that are also accurate and up to date at the November meeting of the MHC board of directors.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Expo: Glen Eaton advised the planning of the 2015 Minnesota Horse Expo is on schedule with contracts for Vendor and Horse Stalls being received. A reminder has been sent to all of the ones not received from 2014 Expo before contract packages are sent to new requests for contracts. Clinicians and Demonstrators are being interviewed by Kathy and we should have some signed shortly. The rodeo is in order and requests for sponsorships and program ads are being received. Next Expo meeting is October 28th at Perkins on Hwy 394.

B. Direct Funding: Mark Ward advised. We received and denied funding for one application in September. The applicant, Jennifer Strohl, requested \$500 for start-up costs for a riding club. This club would help serve to make trail needs known to local parks. It looks like a good prospect, but the group failed to meet our requirement to have a bylaws and an officer who can make a statement that they are non-profit. To

receive our funding, a group must be organized at least to that extent. I advised Jennifer Strohl that she should create a bylaws and sent her a Secretary of State site link that is helpful for starting non-profits (that Tim Bonham sent me) and told her to have an officer of her new organization write a sentence to us about their non-profit status. That would show a little more organization and meet one of our basic requirements. Hopefully Jennifer Strohl will take my advice and re-apply for funding soon. Here are the 2014 applications and committee actions.

1. Northern Lights Versatility Ranch Horse Association: \$500 to cover costs of clinician Lavert Aventura at a ranch horse judged schooling show clinic (Aug. 1-3). Approved
2. Pennington Co. Northwest MN 4H Horse Project: \$500 to purchase new pole weaving poles and a wireless mic for 4H clinics and other horse shows (May-Aug). Approved
3. Traverse Co 4H: \$500 to cover costs of clinicians for four clinics (June 10, June 24, July 15, & Aug 29). Approved
4. Great Prairie, Inc: \$500 to pay architect's fees to plan a future Pentathlon Park (no date planned). Not Approved
5. Lac qui Parle County 4H Horse Project, \$500 for clinician fees (Litta Hottel) for a 3-day horsemanship clinic, June 25-27, 2014 at the Lac qui Parle County horse arena. Approved
6. North Country Horsemen: \$500 for a new laptop computer and printer/copier to be used in support of their club functions. Not Approved (The committee considered this a "typical operating expense" which is specifically excluded from our criteria for funding.)
7. Northern Lakes Region United States Pony Club: \$500 for 4-5 instructors at a pony club "D Camp" June 26-29 2014. Approved (Despite the concern by two committee members that although east Minnesota riders are being served by this group, their rally is being held in River Falls, Wisconsin, instead of in Minnesota.)
8. Douglas County 4H: \$500 for helmets and other items for start-up of "I Wish I Had a Horse Camp" to be held sometime between July 16 and 27th, 2014. Approved
9. Jennifer Strohl, \$500 for start-up costs for a riding club. This club would help serve to make trail needs known to local parks. Not Approved (needs bylaws with officer's statement of non-profit status). Our budget started with \$6,000 available, which would equal twelve \$500 direct funding grants. Now we have approved six \$500 grants, leaving \$3000 remaining in our budget.

C. Disaster: Marian Robinson reported the spring was very rough for quite a few counties. Flooding every other day and storms going through. Rock County was the hardest hit in the southwest, and as time went on, more and more counties in every direction were needing help. For weeks there were conference calls that different agencies were on waiting for the call to be able to come into whatever county needed help. Emergency managers of the devastated counties would be top speakers telling us what they needed. As far as animals went, only dairy farmers were asking for help. I stepped in to see where they could get hay, as they were getting dangerously low. I contacted a few people and they were willing to help as soon as the emergency managers could arrange drop offs and the farmers would pay for the hay. I emailed a few cattle associations in MN asking for their help. I never got an answer, but I have a few suspicions that some of those people from those groups I contacted were on conference calls a few days later as the topic turned to getting hay for animals. I was personally thanked by the Rock County Emergency Manager for being so helpful. As it turned out, I heard that the farmers arranged to get hay sent to them at a cost agreed to over the phone and yet after the hay was delivered, the price had skyrocketed. As far as horses or household pets go, I didn't hear a word about what was going on with them. I assumed that things were going fine with them. No major fires were reported and who knows what this winter will bring us.

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MHC October Minutes--continued from page 8

D. Budget: Tracy Turner led a discussion regarding the budget for 2015. The general consensus of the board was there will be a need to tap into the reserve funds in 2015. Tracy Turner charged all committee chairs with submitting a proposed budget by October 31. Any committee chair who has not submitted a budget within thirty days, will not be allocated funds in 2015.

E. Education: Jennifer Willey reported the education page on the website contains many links to websites that provide information for MN horse people such as the MN DOT trailering regulations, MN Statutes regarding equines, sources for hay and links to useful business ownership and marketing information. Jennifer Willey asked directors for other websites that answer common inquiries of horse people. Jennifer Willey asked directors to advise her of any potential items that could be listed on this page.

F. Certified Stables: Sue McDonough reported the following electronically: The Certified Stable Program currently has 68 stables in the program. Welcome to the Certified Stable Program Leslie and Ken, True Balance Farm LLC, Little Falls, MN. It was a pleasure to meet Leslie with their beautiful Friesians and their two Boxer therapy dogs. The CS Program has an extended variety of facilities and interests that are welcomed into this viable program. Re-inspections will continue throughout the summer months. The CS Program continues to grow and promote "Pride in Ownership"

G. Aisle of Breeds: Glen Eaton advised there is no report at this time. A full report will be presented in November.

H. Coalition of State Horse Councils: Glen Eaton advised Darrell Mead and Tom Tweeten will be traveling to Illinois for the next meeting and will have a report on their return. Committee meetings are held monthly for the 2015 fall Coalition meeting to be held in Minnesota.

I. TEEFA: Dave Fleischhaker advised one application has been received and is in the process of being evaluated by the committee.

J. Website/Directory: Mark Ward advised Our Horse Council website and the Horsemen's Directory site continue to be frequently updated with new information and are visited by users from all over the world. Our Minnesota Horsemen's Directory continually updates its information with the help of committee members who search through the listings to confirm correct categorization and current information. If you find anything erroneous on the site, please contact me. MarkWard@MNHorseCouncil.org. We recently received a message from a Directory site user who pointed out that we have some stables listed for boarding that were no longer doing boarding and some that were closed for business. It made me think that we have to create a better method for performing the critical job of keeping our database filled with only the most current information. I am proposing to my committee that we develop a plan and have our programmer develop a simple system for emailing our directory listing users to poll them for

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Barn Fire Safety

By B. Wieland, University of Minnesota and
J. Shutske, PhD, University of Wisconsin

As winter approaches and horse owners begin to close up barns, fire safety should be reviewed. Fire is caused when any type of "fuel" meets an "ignition" source. Hay and bedding material are common examples of fuel. Smoking, faulty

electrical wiring, and improperly cured hay are common sources of ignition. The key is to minimize the potential for fuel and ignition sources to come together. Often, this is a matter of basic housekeeping. Here are some tips to help reduce your chance of a barn fire.

Identify all potential ignition sources, and take steps to eliminate them. For example, smoking should never be allowed on a property with horses. Electrical wiring must be done by a qualified electrician and inspected by a local building inspector. Lightning protection systems must be installed to code and maintained. Do not use extension cords except for shortterm uses such as powering a tool or heating a water tank. Make sure heating systems are properly installed and maintained. Store/buy hay only at the correct moisture (<17% moisture) and check its condition frequently. Hay over 25% moisture poses the threat of combustion. Commercially available hay temperature probes can be used to check the internal temperature of hay bales (the internal temperatures should be below 130° F).

Take a close look at all potential ignition and fuel sources and how they might come together to start a fire. Take specific actions to separate these hazards. An example is a heat lamp located over bedding materials or any type of flammable surface. Liquid fuels should be stored in protected locations.

Look for immediate steps you can take. Things like "No Smoking" signs posted in barns and hay storage areas are not expensive and are effective if enforced.

Check wiring for obvious problems. Make sure no bare wires are exposed. Look for marks on the wire that indicate heating or arcing. DO NOT overload circuits. If you blow breakers or fuses, investigate and correct the problem. Do not use extension cords to replace or fix electrical wiring. Extension cords are a major fire hazard and can lead to an electrocuted animal or person. Make sure electrical motors on ventilation fans, heaters, and other equipment are well-maintained. Separate hay and bedding from the livestock. Most insurance companies will only allow a small amount of hay to be stored in the same building as animals or require the installation of a firewall between where horses are housed and forage storage areas. Make sure that the areas around barns and other outbuildings are kept clear of brush, shrubs, woodpiles, and other materials that could feed a fire.

Install and frequently inspect fire extinguishers. Your insurer can advise you on the best type of portable fire extinguishers or fire sprinkling systems to install. Fires in hay or in wood structures will require large amounts of water.

Develop an emergency plan and post it in the barn. Everyone must know how and when to evacuate the barn, how the animals will be removed, and who does what. Go over this plan with everyone including family members, employees, and boarders. All buildings must have multiple unblocked exits that people and animals can get out of quickly.

Check local building codes and fire safety regulations. For more information contact your local city hall and visit with a city/township building inspector who can provide additional resources.

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MHC October Minutes--continued from page 9

changes in their status or listing information. We have the funds to make this addition to our system and I am hoping to have this project well under way by the end of the year.

K. Grants: Tim Bonham distributed all the Grant requests for review by the committee. Tim Bonham set a meeting of the Grant Committee at the Leatherdale Center on October 30th at 6:30PM.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Nomination and Election Procedures: Tom Tweeten advised three current directors have elected not to run for re-election in this election cycle. Those directors are Marian Robinson, Jan Schatzlein and Jennifer Willey. Tom Tweeten presented both in electronic form and hard copy, the proposed procedures for the Nominations Committee and the proposed nominations procedure timeline. Kim Otterson moved to accept both documents as presented. Darrell Mead seconded, motion carries. All persons wanting to run for a position as a director for the MHC need to submit that intent to Tom Tweeten by November 1st to be included in official mailings and have their name on the ballot.

B. Certified Stables Procedures: Sue McDonough absent. Discussion followed on the current policies and procedures. Trina Joyce asked to go on the record as stating she sees no reason why a 501(c)3, specifically therapeutic riding facilities, cannot be certified. Tracy Turner asked that all questions regarding the current procedures be directed to Sue McDonough directly.

C. Greg Heck CPA was again introduced by Allison Eklund. Greg Heck offered to answer any questions regarding the MHC financials, accounting, audits, etc, that the directors of the MHC may have. Greg Heck advised an audit costs roughly \$3500-\$4000. Greg Heck offered his assistance to Tim Bonham in providing the treasurer's report in an easy to read format.

Announcements:

October 17th is the deadline for submissions for the next newsletter.

X. Tracy Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:41 PM.

NEXT MEETING ♦ November 11, 2014 ♦ 6:30 p.m.
University of MN ♦ Leatherdale Center



APRIL 24, 25, & 26

For information on exhibiting at the Minnesota Horse Expo, please contact Glen Eaton, glen@mnhorseexpo.org, 952-356-2090.

For information on advertising in the Official Program, please contact Linda Dahl at Linda@dahlgraphics.com, 651-353-8188.

For information on sponsorships, please contact Kathy Juhl, juhl5305@aol.com, 952-356-2029.

For information on volunteering, please contact Missie Schwartz, bmschwartz@msn.com.

MEETING SCHEDULE

www.mnhorsecouncil.org and
www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.org

**MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL
BOARD MEETINGS**

Leatherdale Equine Center ♦ 6:30 pm
1801 Dudley Ave ♦ St. Paul (U of M St. Paul Campus)
MHC Board Meetings are open, MHC members welcome to attend.

Dec. 9, 2014	April 14, 2015	Oct. 13, 2015
Jan. 17, 2015 - Annual Meeting	May 12, 2015 June 9, 2015	Nov. 10, 2015 Dec. 8, 2015
Feb. 10, 2015	July 14, 2015	Jan. 16, 2016 - Annual Meeting
March 10, 2015	Sept. 8, 2015	

**MINNESOTA HORSE EXPO
BOARD MEETINGS**

6:30 pm
Call 952-356-2090 for location.

Dec. 30, 2014	May 19, 2015	Nov. 24, 2015
Jan. 27, 2015	June 30, 2015	Dec. 29, 2015
Feb. 24, 2015	July 28, 2015	Jan. 26, 2016
Mar. 31, 2015	Sept. 29, 2015	Feb. 23, 2016
April 21, 2015	Oct. 27, 2015	Mar. 29, 2016

For Horse's Sake

Editors: Linda Dahl and Missie Schwartz

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Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

Dahl Graphics & Printing
39257 Taray Road ♦ Pine River, MN 56474
E-Mail: fhs-mhc@dahlgraphics.com

Newsletter Deadlines

Jan-Feb 2015	1/23/15	July-Aug 2015	7/17/15
March 2015	2/13/15	Sept. 2015	8/14/15
April 2015	3/13/15	October 2015	9/11/15
May 2015	4/17/15	Nov. 2015	10/16/15
June 2015	5/15/15	Dec. 2015	11/13/15

MINNESOTA HORSEMEN'S DIRECTORY

The Minnesota Horsemen's Directory is a free resource provided by the Minnesota Horse Council to help you find horse-related information and services in and near Minnesota.

♦ Find a farrier, trail riding stable, boarding, lessons, tack stores, and much more! Use the Events Calendar to find shows, clinics and other horse-related activities. Use the new Jobs category to find a job or skilled job seeker.

♦ Find what you're looking for by choosing a category, or search the directory. Once you are in a category, browse the results alphabetically or by a sub-category or region.

♦ Help make this site comprehensive and accurate. Submit a free listing of your Minnesota horse-related business or organization. Once listed, you can edit your listing as often as you wish.

♦ Whether you are looking to hire or looking for an equine-related job in or near Minnesota, submit a Help Wanted or Seeking a Job ad here.

www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.com



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

www.mnhorsecouncil.org

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

Name _____

Farm/Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Alt. Phone _____

E-mail _____

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 United States Postal Service - B&W

Please complete this form and send with your check to:

Minnesota Horse Council
 PO Box 223 ♦ Plato, MN 55370

or join online at www.mnhorsecouncil.org/membership



Minnesota Horse Council

PO Box 223 ♦ Plato, MN 55370

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

www.MnHorseCouncil.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Aisle of Breeds

Glen Eaton ♦ 952-922-8666 ♦ gleneaton@minnesotahorsecouncil.org

Annual Meeting

Dawn Moore ♦ 952-949-6659 ♦ dawnmoore@mnhorsecouncil.org

Budget

Tracy Turner ♦ 651-351-7206 ♦ tracyturner@mnhorsecouncil.org

Certified Stables

Sue McDonough ♦ 651-699-8117 ♦ suemcdonough@mnhorsecouncil.org

Communications

Missie Schwartz ♦ 612-868-6041 ♦ missieschwartz@mnhorsecouncil.org

Direct Funding

Mark Ward ♦ 651-436-6557 ♦ markward@mnhorsecouncil.org

Disaster Response

Marian Robinson ♦ 763-588-0297 ♦ marianrobinson@mnhorsecouncil.org
 David Fleishhaker ♦ 651-450-6710 ♦ davidfleishhaker@mnhorsecouncil.org

Education

Jennifer Willey ♦ 612-669-7564 ♦ jenniferwilley@mnhorsecouncil.org

Expo

Glen Eaton ♦ 952-922-8666 ♦ gleneaton@mnhorsecouncil.org

Expo Budget Review

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

Grants

Tim Bonham ♦ 612-721-1007 ♦ timbonham@mnhorsecouncil.org

Horseperson of the Year

Dawn Moore ♦ 952-949-6659 ♦ dawnmoore@mnhorsecouncil.org

Horse Welfare

Tracy Turner ♦ 651-351-7206 ♦ tracyturner@mnhorsecouncil.org

Inventory/Storage

Glen Eaton ♦ 952-922-8666 ♦ gleneaton@mnhorsecouncil.org

Legislative

Tracy Turner ♦ 651-351-7206 ♦ tracyturner@mnhorsecouncil.org
 Thomas Tweeten ♦ 952-226-4190 ♦ thomastweeten@mnhorsecouncil.org

Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

Mark Ward ♦ 651-436-6557 ♦ markward@mnhorsecouncil.org

Nominations

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

Pioneer Award

Doug Persian ♦ 763-242-5570 ♦ dougpersian@mnhorsecouncil.org

Promotions

Dawn Moore ♦ 952-949-6659 ♦ dawnmoore@mnhorsecouncil.org

Scholarships

Trina Joyce ♦ 612-729-7798 ♦ trinajoyce@mnhorsecouncil.org

Show Facilities

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

State Horse Council

Glen Eaton ♦ 952-922-8666 ♦ gleneaton@mnhorsecouncil.org

Temporary Emergency Equine Feed Assistance (TEEFA)

David Fleishhaker ♦ 651-450-6710 ♦ davidfleishhaker@mnhorsecouncil.org

Trail Blazers

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

Website

Mark Ward ♦ 651-436-6557 ♦ markward@mnhorsecouncil.org

Administrative Assistant

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

Out the Back Door . . .

Love Hate Relationships

We all have them. No - I am not talking about people. I am referring to inanimate objects.

Right now at the top of the list is polar fleece. I truly love it and truly hate it. Soft, warm and comfy. However, ANY loose hair, shavings or hay in a 100 yard radius is magically transported onto it.

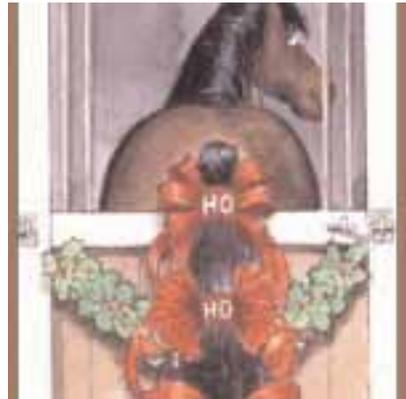
Thermal coffee cups. My coffee maintains a decent temperature to sip all the way through morning chores. Another cup while I am getting ready for work. And another cup while I am at work. Why is this computer screen jumping around?

Cell phones. I am one of those that does not carry it with me every second of every day. I figure I am not that important that I need to be reached at a moment's notice. Yet when I leave it in the truck or at work, I worry about the calls or texts I may be missing.

Windows. They allow you to see how nice it is outside. When you are stuck inside. Or not.

Pulling on my polar fleece now and heading out the back door . . .

Missie.Schwartz@MNHorseCouncil.org



APRIL 24, 25, & 26

Minnesota Horse Expo 2015

Return Service Requested

Plato, MN 55370

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Minnesota Horse Council

