



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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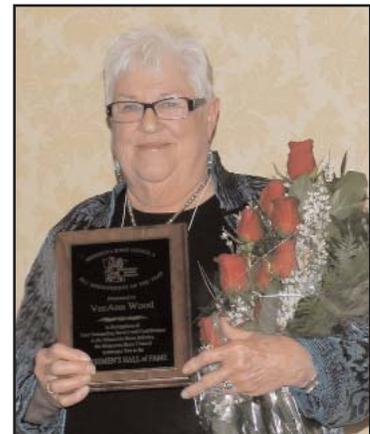
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**MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES
2011 HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR**

VeeAnn Wood



On Saturday January 21, 2011, VeeAnn Wood was surprised and honored when she was awarded the 2011 MN Horseperson of the Year at the MHC Annual Meeting. Wood had been nominated by Darla Falk, a long-time friend and classmate who is not a horseperson. Darla had been keeping track of many of the accomplishments and involvement with horses that VeeAnn had been part of over their 50+ year friendship. VeeAnn's son Jay and his wife Jean as well as their son Colin were on hand for the presentation, with Jay even stepping up to the microphone to help with the award.

Some of the highlights mentioned go back to when VeeAnn's parents purchased the Minne-haha Park Pony Concession. She worked there for \$1/day to help pay for her college education. The ponies were stabled at a farm on 86th and Cedar, which today is the site of the Mall of America. The Pony Concessions continued in operation through VeeAnn's college years until it was sold in 1968.

Her next job was as a trail guide at the Minneapolis Park Stables, then located on Park Avenue and Lake Street where the trail rides wound around Lake of the Isles. While still in high school, she was so anxious to immerse herself in ownership, she rented a horse from Shady Valley Stables and kept it in her garage for a whole week on Nicollet Avenue inside the city of Minneapolis. Her folks had told her that if she ever wanted to actually own a horse, she had better go to school and get a good job. She followed their advice and went to the University of Minnesota, receiving her Bachelors in Physical Education and later completing her Masters in Education.

Eventually, her dream of owning a horse of her own came true as she spent her hard-earned money for a half-Morgan gelding named *Black Shadow*, followed shortly by her purchase of a nice grey quarter horse mare named *Jewel*. Both horses were very well trained and introduced VeeAnn to the wonderful world of horse shows. For many years her method of getting to the barn was via the Richfield bus company and that particular bus route happened to have a handsome bus driver who took a fancy to VeeAnn. They got to talking about her horses and a true friendship was born. The driver soon realized that if he was going to capture the heart of this special young lady, he had better become a horseman himself. That bus driver, Ernie Wood Sr, would eventually learn to love horses and share many years with VeeAnn and her love for horses. Ernie became a graduate of Michigan State University Horseshoeing School and the two were married in 1960.

VeeAnn's two horses were kept in a pasture on a farm, owned by Dave and Marianne Naas. One morning she went to the farm to ride her horses only to find both of them had been struck and killed by lightning. She was devastated and in spite of yearning for ownership for so many years was ready to give up on horses. Luckily, the Naas family had a black Morgan show mare, who had just had her first colt, a beautiful black stallion named Congodon that they insisted that she purchase. The rest is history. Congodon won over 400 trophies and blue ribbons in his long career. VeeAnn was the first customer of her neighbor down the road, Judy Jensen (1985 Horseperson of the Year). It wasn't long until VeeAnn was showing him in Saddle Seat and was just as successful in that division as they had been in the western and driving divisions. To this day, VeeAnn still says Congodon is one of her "hands down favorite horses."

In 1968, VeeAnn's family sold the pony business and she and Ernie landed in Plato, Minnesota where Westwood Farm was born and still stands today. VeeAnn and Ernie had two boys, Jay and Westin, and both were exposed to horses at a very early age, making their leadline debuts well before they were a year old. The Woods soon built an indoor arena, started training, giving lessons and introduced many new people to the joys of both riding and driving horses. Many of these people are still enjoying this great sport even today.

HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR

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2011 MHC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Minnesota Horse Council (MHC) Tony Gasser Memorial Scholarships have their beginnings in a bequest from the late Tony Gasser to the MHC more than 25 years ago to support equine education. MHC adds 5% of the gross profits from the Minnesota Horse Expo each year to the scholarship fund. Eventually it will be a self-sustaining fund. Since 1986, MHC has awarded 147 scholarships for a total of \$357,000. Every July/August, press releases are sent to tack shops, schools with equine programs, breed associations, event associations, equine publications, etc. The scholarships are for Minnesota residents and the hope is that even if the recipients go to out-of-state schools, they will return to Minnesota to become part of the horse industry.

After reviewing the 19 applications received this year, the MHC awarded 11 scholarships of \$3,000 each. This year's recipients are:

Lacey Carlson

Lacey Carlson is a high school senior. Throughout high school, she's been involved in rodeo, track, tennis, speech, and FFA, for which she currently serves as president. She's a member of the National Honor Society, has a perfect attendance record, and received a Citizenship Award three times. She also participated in many community service projects. She's been accepted at the University of Minnesota-Crookston. When she was about 8 years old, Lacey became a member of the Little Britches Rodeo Association and started competing. By 6th grade, she started in the National High School Rodeo Association and has been competing ever since. She has her own horse training business and sells custom tack. Lacey wrote that her goal is to become an equine veterinarian because it's always been so hard to find one where she lives. Her most meaningful horse-related experience so far was qualifying for the 2008 National Wrangler High School Finals in Gallup, NM. Although she didn't win, she felt a real sense of teamwork with her horse. Lacey's recommendation letters mentioned that she has a tremendous drive to achieve, leadership skills, is a positive role model, and is excelling in post-secondary courses at Minnesota State at Fergus Falls.

Laura Dunlavy

Laura Dunlavy is a sophomore at South Dakota State University and competes on their Western Equestrian team. She began showing at WSCA and Appaloosa shows at age 2 and has been competing ever since. During her 14 years in 4-H, she was a member of the Horse Knowledge Bowl, horse training program, horse judging, and hippology and competed at the regional, state, and national levels. She held many leadership positions in 4-H. She coordinated a "Wish I Had a Horse" camp for kids as well as "Special Needs Day with Horses" for people with disabilities. In 2010, Laura received the Minnesota Dan Patch Leadership Award. She gives riding lessons to youth in her area and volunteers at the Brookings Humane Society and the Children's Museum. Laura has found that she loves horses, kids, and teaching, so she's majoring in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation and minoring in Equine Studies. Along with teaching, she plans to train horses and give lessons. Her recommendation letters mention her strong work ethic, leadership ability, determination, inspiring her teammates and looking to take on new challenges and learning from those experiences.

Angie Esselman

Angie Esselman is a freshman at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls. She received her first horse at age 9 and didn't know much about horses. She became a 4-H member and started learning. Joining the 4-H drill team enabled her to meet new people and learn how to ride as part of a team and she's now the captain and choreographer. She also shows in WSCA and enjoys coaching less experienced riders. She was president of her 4-H club, FFA club, National Honor Society and PEERS and has been a 4-H team camp counselor. At River Falls she's in the Horseman's and Pre-Vet clubs and rides on the Intercollegiate Show Horse Western team. One of her greatest challenges was training her first horse, a 4-month-old Paint filly. She was inexperienced and the horse was very stubborn. The horse bucked her off into a wheelbarrow the first time Angie got on her. Through the struggles and challenges,



Left to right: Trina Joyce, MHC Scholarship Chair, Danielle Gunder, Angie Esselman, Natasha Spiczka, Philip Kieffer, Kelly Sobczak, Hannah Rivard, Laura Dunlavy, Kami Vickerman, Lacey Carlson, Chris Wiberg accepting for Michelle Wiberg, & Amanda Guimont
Photo by Phil Bonham

they became a solid team. Angie's mother is and her deceased father was a veterinarian. This is Angie's goal as well. Her recommendation letters describe her as an excellent role model and leader in 4-H, able to ride any discipline that she's asked, and having good problem-solving skills.

Amanda Guimont

Amanda Guimont is a senior at Anoka High School and taking college classes through the University of Minnesota. She was in third grade when she joined the Minnesota 4-H Horseless Horse Project. Since then she has leased and worked with various breeds of horses, but has never had one of her own. This meant that she had to be very knowledgeable, flexible, and adaptable. She earned multiple trips to the Minnesota 4-H State Show, including a training trip. She's been president of her 4-H club for 4 years and a 4-H horse camp instructor. She is a National Honor Society member, received the Anoka Youth Citizenship Award in 2011 to recognize her volunteer community work, and participates in Concert Band and Concert Orchestra playing the flute. Amanda also had a tough first horse to train and after an accident she decided to train on the horse's schedule rather than her own which worked much better. She's currently managing a stable. Amanda's plans are to get an Equine Science degree at North Dakota State University, focusing on training and breeding and then work with various trainers. Eventually she wants to have her own stable doing training, showing, and breeding and especially helping other kids who don't have horses.

Danielle Gunder

Danielle Gunder is a sophomore at the University of Minnesota majoring in Equine Science and following the Large Animal Pre-Vet track. She bought her first horse when she was 11. She's been a volunteer at the Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue and adopted a 2-year-old horse from them when she was 13. The previous year she discovered 4-H. The horse taught her patience, persistence, commitment, trust and the meaning of respect. Danielle also learned the truth of that old adage, "It's not about the ribbon, it's about the ride." She participated in hippology, won her first state ribbon the first year and in the second year she earned seven ribbons. She was also involved in the Horse Knowledge Bowl, Horse Project Development, and was a Horse Bowl team coach. She worked with the 4-H Challenge Riders program, a program for riders who have disabilities. She also participated in dog, goat, swine, rabbit, llama and dairy projects through 4-H. She also participated in FFA. Danielle started her own business in 2006 breeding, showing, and selling Nigerian Dwarf goats which has given her good business skills. She's never had professional lessons! Last spring, she was one of 12 provisionally admitted to the University of Minnesota's Vet School's VetFAST program. If you complete their prerequisites, you don't have to go through the process of applying for admission to the Vet School.

2011 MHC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

It's clear from her application and recommendation letters that Danielle has excelled in leadership in 4-H and FFA, has been a great role model and mentor, and has great ambitions. For these reasons, and probably many more, was awarded the Sherburn County Horse Sportsmanship Award in 2011.

Philip Kieffer

Philip Kieffer started riding lessons at age 4 and has been riding ever since. He was a polo and show groom, played polo in high school and played 4 years of collegiate polo at Colorado State University. He's a fourth-year veterinary student and has completed externships at Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital in Kentucky, Ocala Equine Hospital in Florida, Piedmont Equine Practice in Virginia, New England Equine Surgical & Medical Center in New Hampshire, and Southern Equine Services in South Carolina. He's taken advanced courses in equine dentistry, lameness and podiatry and has plans for advanced work in sports medicine and reproduction. Phil is one of two class representatives for the class of 2012 and for the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medicine Association. He learned about the legislative aspect of the horse industry when he was selected to go to the American Veterinary Medicine Association's Student Legislative Fly-In Day in Washington, DC. There he met with federal lawmakers and their staff to lobby for veterinary issues. He's volunteered for the Gelding Project and at the Minnesota YMCA camp horse evaluations. He's even had research published already! Phil said that his most important equine experience has been reinforcement of his beliefs that horses are a universal constant and the bond that can happen between human and horse. Horses provide continual amazement to him with their ability to affect emotion, how their success inspires us and their loss devastates us, how we care for them beyond our means and then lament that we couldn't do more. In return, we receive friendship, healing, and a wonderful bond.

Hannah Rivard

Hannah Rivard says of herself, "The theme of my life has been to blaze my own path." She took lessons and showed for 11 years in Saddleseat, Western, and English on horses of various breeds. In 4-H, she was involved in speech, livestock, dogs, and performing arts. She was in horse bowl, project government, and held multiple leadership positions. She taught free beginner riding lessons for 4-H youth and volunteered at community events. Hannah seems to have done just about everything possible, in school and out of school, to teach herself about horses and training. She was a working student at several barns, audited and participated in dozens of horsemanship clinics and seminars, and has been a training apprentice. She's developed her own method of training called Canbria that relies on release alone. Her other passion is the film and performance world. She'd like to ride/train for Cavalia and to train horses for movies, photo shoots, and performance events. She designed her own college degree, entrepreneurial business, to achieve her goals. She's a senior in the Honors program at Northwestern College. Her recommendation letters mention her high energy and problem-solving skills, and her ability to maintain focus and to keep balance in her life.

Kelly Sobczak

Kelly Sobczak is a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls majoring in Animal Sciences with equine emphasis, Pre-Counseling, Psychology, and Spanish. She joined 4-H when she was 9 and was very involved in the Horseless Horse program. When she was 15, she wrote the winning essay and won a Paint colt through the 4-H "Win a Paint Horse" competition. She's the only winner of the competition who hadn't had experience of already owning a horse. She served as president of two different 4-H clubs for six consecutive years. She was also active in her middle and high school Student Councils and president of the Junior High Student Council. Kelly was a member of

the National Honor Society and took college courses in high school. Her horse, Dream and Believe, has taught her trust, patience, perseverance and that anything worth having will take a lot of hard work. She continues to volunteer in 4-H giving presentations and mentoring younger members. Kelly's plan is to use her love of horses in Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy after getting her Doctorate of Psychology. She has a desire to give back to others to encourage and help them achieve their dreams and aspirations.

Natasha Spiczka

Natasha Spiczka has been riding since she was five. She participated in 4-H for 8 years competing at county and state levels and volunteered and raised funds for Western Heritage demonstrations. She's still involved in her club. In high school, she was a soccer captain, wrestling manager, and track captain. She was a member of FFA, DECA and National Honor Society, on the honor roll all 4 years, and took part in many other volunteer activities. She took college classes in high school. Natasha is a freshman at the University of Minnesota Animal Science program planning to become a veterinarian. She's currently in the Pre-Vet club. Her most memorable horse experience was when she arranged for a class of Special Education students to visit the family farm as a field trip. She was able to share her passion and the kids really enjoyed her games demonstrations and interacting with the horses and other animals. Natasha's recommendation letters mention her strong work ethic and her ability to balance hard work with the right amount of outside activities.

Kami Vickerman

Kami Vickerman is a second year vet student at the University of Minnesota. She has experience with many equine disciplines including western, gaming, trail, jumping, dressage, and quadrille. Through her undergrad and graduate years, she's been employed by the United States Equestrian Foundation to assist a vet in the detention barn during drug testing. For the past 2 years, she's been at Canterbury Park. Kami currently works at the Equine Center and Large Animal Hospital as a student technician and is involved in research on Seasonal Pasture Myopathy with Dr. Stephanie Valberg. She's the Co-Coordinator of the Horses' Angels Program and oversees all team leaders and members who give extra attention to the school's research and teaching horses, which has improved their care. Kami's on the Executive Board and Co-Chair of the Inventory Committee of a student group called Student Initiative for Reservation Veterinary Services, maintaining a large inventory of everything needed for a mobile clinic. Kami is the Class of 2014 student representative at the vet school and volunteers as a Student Ambassador to promote the school. One of the horses she had in high school developed chemical burns on both front legs and it was caring for that horse, changing bandages, and bonding with her that prompted Kami's desire to be an equine vet. Kami's recommendations mention that she's highly organized and self-directed in her work, has great people skills, is completely reliable, compassionate, and is always willing to teach and educate others.

Michelle Wiberg

Michelle Wiberg wasn't able to attend the annual meeting because she's on an externship in Morocco treating donkeys and mules at the American Fondouk Hospital. She's a fourth year vet student at the University of Minnesota. Michelle started working with horses at age 10 and joined 4-H. When she was 13, she entered a 4-H essay contest and won a yearling Arabian filly. She trained and took the horse through all six levels of the 4-H training program. She won three state 4-H

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS - continued on page 10

MHC AWARDS \$56,455 IN GRANTS

The Minnesota Horse Council uses the revenue from the Minnesota Horse Expo to offer "seed money grants" for new projects & capital improvements by Minnesota equine groups. At the Annual Meeting held January 21, 2012 in St. Louis Park, MN, the Minnesota Horse Council announced that \$56,455 in grants had been awarded to the following non-profit projects in 2012:

Cass County Fair ♦ Pillager ♦ \$5,000

This County Fairgrounds has an increasing number of horses & horse events at their fairgrounds. Using a horse barn with the original 1938 electrical wiring, which is neither safe nor sufficient for current users. This grant will help fund a complete rewiring of the barn with a 200 amp service, adding safe lights in all the stalls, fluorescent aisle lighting, additional outlets, and powered ventilation fans.

Douglas County 4-H ♦ Alexandria ♦ \$7,000

4-H and other horse activities at this county fairgrounds are growing, but they are plagued by some poor conditions in their horse barn: poor soil conditions in their floor leaves it rough, unlevel & filled with holes each year, and the barn has solid side walls with no possible cross ventilation. This grant will help them fund a complete rehab of the floor with graded, packed footing, and will purchase materials for cross ventilation hatches in the barn walls. Materials only; club members will do the installation.

Minnesota Pinto Horse Assn ♦ Plymouth ♦ \$1,455

This grant will fund a Spring horse clinic at the University Equine Center in St. Paul, offering classroom sessions on sports psychology & competition, and practical sessions on showmanship, trails, and other subjects. This will keep the cost low (\$10), allowing more horse people to participate.

Morrison County 4-H ♦ Little Falls ♦ \$5,000

Horse activity is growing in their 4-H club, and come County Fair time, there are not enough stalls at the fairgrounds for all the horses. They are reduced to borrowing stall panels wherever they can, or sending some 4-H horses home from the fair. This grant will purchase the extra panels needed for portable stalls in the county fairgrounds horse barn. Materials only; the club members will do the construction work.

RideAbility ♦ Pine Island ♦ \$5,000

This therapeutic riding program has several people who would like to ride, but they need a saddle with sturdy back support. This grant helps them purchase a special Independence Saddle so these people can participate in their riding program.

Riding on Angels Wings ♦ Felton ♦ \$4,000

This therapeutic horseback riding program would like equipment to improve the care & comfort of their trained horses. This grant will help purchase rubber mats for their concrete-floored stalls; and trail course poles/pylons.

River Valley Riders ♦ Bayport ♦ \$6,000

This program of therapeutic riding and carriage driving has recently purchased their own site, built a driveway, an outdoor arena & nearby parking lot. But the property has no electrical service, limiting the riding times to daylight hours. This grant will help to install lighting at their outdoor arena & parking lot, so they can extend their hours into the evening time which is more convenient for working parents.

Sibley County Sheriff's Posse ♦ Gaylord ♦ \$7,000

This county fairgrounds is used by many horse clubs and the sheriff's posse, but the outdoor show arena is in need of repair & updating. This grant will purchase materials for a tower building, with announcer's area upstairs and concessions & office space below, and help with replacing arena fencing. The grant is for materials only; the posse & 4-H club members will donate the labor to build this.

St. Louis County Fair ♦ Hibbing ♦ \$5,000

Since their move to a new grounds 13 years ago, this northern Minnesota fairgrounds has built an equine area that is heavily used for the county fair, horse shows, clinics, and a horse expo. This grant would help them fill a need for horse owners by adding electrical hookups at the campgrounds in the equine area.

Sunktanka Program ♦ Morton ♦ \$500

This program aims to nurture Native youth through the Dakota horse tradition. This grant will help them purchase additional helmets & safety equipment to allow more youth to participate.

UM Morris Saddle Club ♦ Morris ♦ \$3,500

This club allows college students to continue to include their horses in their life at school. Horses are boarded on University pasture land, but it is lacking any appropriate run-in shelter, so during bad weather the horses must be kept inside the barn all the time. This grant funds construction of a shelter building for horses in the north pasture, allowing them more access to grazing & exercise, especially important at times during the academic schedule when students have little free time to let horses in and out.

Wadena County Fair ♦ Wadena ♦ \$7,000

This county fairgrounds was devastated by an F4 tornado a few weeks before the Fair in 2010. They were able to get things cleaned up enough to hold their county fair, with many things improvised. Such as announcing the horse show from a tent canopy set on top of a hay wagon parked alongside the ring. This grant provides funds for a 2-story addition to the horse barn next to the show ring, with an upstairs announcer's area and concessions/office space downstairs. Materials only, labor will be donated (well, not actually voluntary - provided by the county jail sentenced-to-serve project.)

Total Grants \$56,455

Photos of grant recipients will be included in the March issue.

Over the past 20 years, the Minnesota Horse Council has awarded \$873,992 in grants to equestrian projects in Minnesota. This is in addition to other charitable donations by the Horse Council, such as the Direct Funding awards, the Tony Gasser educational scholarships, and the Trails funding program. The major portion of the Horse Council budget goes back into the Minnesota horse industry.

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL 2011 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Minnesota Horse Council Board of Directors has worked hard over the past year to help Minnesota horse owners, horse enthusiasts and the horse industry in general. During 2011, the Minnesota Horse Council has accomplished the following:

- ♦ We continue to bring the voice of the equine industry to the Minnesota Legislature. This past year we were involved in two areas, (1) to have horses officially described as livestock--this has implications toward research funding, Department of Agricultural funds for education as well as property tax implications. (2) We were involved with hearings on the racino bills at the state house. Although neither of these endeavors was successful this year, the Minnesota Horse Council has established itself as a voice for the horse industry in Minnesota. We are adding a Legislative Action Center to the website where pertinent issues will be posted and you will be able to contact your legislators.
- ♦ We used the \$225,000 generated by the Minnesota Horse Expo to help the horse industry of Minnesota by funding grants for large projects, gave direct funds for educational needs and helping small projects, and we gave 11 \$3000 scholarships to deserving students. We funded research at the University of Minnesota for a round bale feeder trial.
- ♦ We donated \$100,000 toward the Minnesota State Fair for the new Judging Arena. The Arena will be ready by Expo
- ♦ We started a new inspection program, the Certification of Equine Expositions. This certification is to insure traveling expositions are adequately caring for their horses and that the facilities are safe for horses. So far we have inspected one exposition, Cavalia, which was a major success here in the Twin Cities. You may have seen our MHC signs in the stabling area.
- ♦ In addition, we changed the name and scope of the Unwanted Horse Committee. It became clear throughout the year that the MHC needs to become more active in the Minnesota Horse Welfare movement. This became evident as several newspaper stories had misleading information. As a result, the MHC is determined to be the educational voice for Equine Welfare in Minnesota.

We continue to support our other programs, the Certified Stable Program, Gelding Project, Certified Rescue Program, as well as staying active with the Department of Natural Resources and the Equine Trails. We also give the Horseperson of the Year and Pioneer Awards and we promote all breeds through the Aisle of Breeds at the Minnesota State Fair. We have funds for disaster relief as well as emergency feed needs. We continue to support the MHC website and the Horseman's Directory.

We will continue to support the Minnesota horse industry in many ways through all these programs plus we put on one of the best Horse Expositions in the country, the Minnesota Horse Expo.

~ Tracy Turner, President, Minnesota Horse Council ~



2011 Horseperson of the Year, VeeAnn Wood with son Jay, Jay's wife Jean, and grandson Colin Photo by Phil Bonham

HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR--continued from page 1

Just a few of VeeAnn's major accomplishments include:

- ♦ Good friend, Art Perry, invited her to ride in the American Morgan Horse Unit of the 1982 Rose Bowl Parade.
- ♦ WSCA judge for almost 40 years and was recently honored by WSCA recently for her many years of service
- ♦ Board member of We Can Ride, Inc., Therapeutic Riding program where she also serves as chair of the Equine Management Committee focusing on the care, training, and acquisition of the therapeutic horses used in the program
- ♦ Received the Lois Shultz Award for her commitment to We Can Ride and her outstanding volunteer work of helping people with disabilities enjoy the wonderful world of horses
- ♦ Served on the MN Horse Council Scholarship Committee for nearly a dozen years
- ♦ Tri-State Horseman's Board of Directors for many years, receiving their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006
- ♦ Charter member of North Central Morgan Association and served several terms as board member and executive officer
- ♦ Co-chairman of Northstar Morgan Americana Horse Show on more than one occasion
- ♦ 4-H judge since 1973, serving as advisor for the McLeod County Judging Team
- ♦ Served on the 4-H Judges Advisory Committee
- ♦ Involved with charity functions such as Charity Night for Children's Hospital. For several years she would take a horse to the Children's Hospital where she would let the sick kids have an opportunity to pet and feed carrots to the horse.
- ♦ Sponsor and promote a dedicated night at the Northstar Morgan Americana Horse show to benefit the Children's Hospital

For many years, VeeAnn has been exhibiting horses at the MN State Fairgrounds where the prior recipients of this award are on display. Her late husband, Ernie Wood was honored as the 1991 Horseperson of the Year and she often smiles as she sees his photo on this Wall of Fame.

VeeAnn continues to dedicate her life to the promotion of the horse and the horse world in spite of several personal setbacks including losing her husband Ernie in 1990, having her son Westen be involved in a major automobile accident 6 months later which left him incapacitated until 1998 when he joined Ernie.

Recent health problems including an extended hospitalization requiring treatments for a number of complications followed by eye surgery and knee replacements have not slowed this woman. These seem to be mere bumps in the road and she bounces back like the energizer bunny. She is already looking forward to the 2012 show season and is ready to show and of course to continue her many judging assignments.

VeeAnn has been a true ambassador of the horse world and is well respected by her peers as an owner, trainer, judge, exhibitor and volunteer and most of all a friend to all, for over 50 years.



State's Largest Equine Trade Show and Breed Exhibition

Minnesota Horse Expo 2012

April 27-29th at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds

Sponsored by the
Minnesota Horse Council

With over 800 trade show booths, 300 horses from over 50 breeds and registries, nationally recognized clinicians and speakers and daily PRCA rodeos, the 30th Minnesota Horse Expo promises shopping, education, entertainment and more April 27 through the 29th at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

Since Horse Expo 1991, the Minnesota Horse Exposition has presented the Minnesota Horse Council with over \$3,400,000. These funds have gone back into the equine industry in various ways. This year, a contribution of \$100,000 has been made by the Minnesota Horse Council to the State Fairgrounds with funds generated from the Minnesota Horse Expo to help build the Ag Star Arena. The new Arena will be ready by Expo and will be a much improved venue for speakers and spectators.

Featured at Minnesota Horse Expo 2012 will be **Julie Goodnight**, the Horse Master on her award-winning RFD-TV television show; **Jane Savoie**, internationally known dressage competitor, coach, instructor, clinician, speaker and author; **Larry Whitesell and Jennifer Bauer**, presenting gaited horse clinics using classical training; and **Jerry Wayne Olson**, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) specialty act of the year and feature act at the Calgary Stampede Rodeo. Visit www.mnhorseexpo.org for the latest information concerning these and additional speakers and presentations. Schedules will be available in March.

Vendors interested in exhibit space should contact Glen Eaton, Horse Expo President and Exhibit Director, for remaining booth availability (952-356-2090 or glen@mnhorseexpo.org). Information, equipment and products for horses and humans fill

five buildings and line the streets during the Expo creating an easy access marketplace for anyone wanting to compare brands, prices and features.

Horse organizations and breed groups offer information about activities and membership from both trade show booths and Horse Barn stalls. Horse owners, trainers and breeders are eager to share their expertise with interested Expo-goers and showcase their horses during the Parade of Breeds daily at noon, the Breed Demonstrations and Stallion Presentations at the Expo.

The Minnesota Horse Expo Tack and Clothing Sale in the Dairy Building is open to the public to consign any and all things horse related prior to and during the Expo. The sale is managed by the Minnesota 4-H Horse Association and is this group's major fund raising event with proceeds going to help pay for the State 4-H Horse Show, Winter Roundup and all the other 4-H Horse Project events. A 20% commission fee is charged on all items sold at the Tack Sale. All items are tagged using special tags provided to the consignors. Consignors may get tags from Curt Baumgart prior to the sale by calling 320.355.2142. In 2011 over 1200 items were consigned by more than 300 individuals. Please look over your tack at home and bring it to the sale or visit the sale and find the tack you need.

PRCA Rodeos fill the Coliseum on Friday and Saturday evenings at 7 pm with the Sunday matinee at 3 pm. Rodeo admission ranges from \$4-\$10 and is in addition to Expo admission. Daily Expo admission is \$9 for ages 13-61; \$6 for ages 6-12 and 62 and over. Expo gates open at 8:30 am with ticket booths opening at 8:00 am.

KID'S HORSE CAMP FUNDED BY MHC DIRECT FUNDING GRANT

By Trina Joyce, Director, Minnesota Horse Council

In mid-October there was a unique first time event at the Washington County Fairgrounds. The St. Paul Mounted Police partnered with the Washington Mounted Posse and the fairgrounds and received a direct funding grant from the Minnesota Horse Council to put on a one-day horse camp for kids from the IMPACT program at the YWCA in St. Paul. The main goal was to leave the kids with the impression that the police aren't the *bad guys* but instead are there to help them, be friends and be a role model. There were three learning stations plus riding all staffed by volunteers.

Chris Tilley, CJF taught the kids the importance of hoof care and trimming.

Dr Donna Rued, DVM taught about horse health. She had on display freeze dried horse legs, a horse skull and the worst example of an untrimmed horse hoof I've ever seen (more than 360 degrees). I think the kids most enjoyed hearing the horse's heart through a stethoscope. There was the expected concern about stepping in horse poop and getting slobbered on, but there were some telling questions as well, e.g., "can a horse get in a coma"? and "how do you tell a boy horse from a girl horse?" (definitely handled by Dr. Rued). When Dr. Rued showed them her truck and how part of it is refrigerated to keep the drugs fresh, I heard "bad drugs?"

There was another station for grooming and tacking. The kids really liked brushing the horses, especially the Belgian police horses, King and Chase.

The favorite part of the course was riding the horses that were provided by the police, sheriff's posse, and Hardwood Creek Farm (Lyle and Colleen Wick and their daughter Alyssa - a former MHC scholarship winner). Helmets were provided and there was a leader with each horse. Lyle and Colleen went over the basics of mounting, moving forward, steering and stopping. Most of the kids got to trot and one or two got the hang of posting! That's when we got to see the biggest grins on their faces.

Most of the kids wanted to ride every horse so there was a lot of trading and I didn't see anyone who wasn't having a great time. Bravado did become humility more than once and there was lots of giggling but all of the volunteers were encouraging and helped provide a safe and fun experience.

Lunch and dinner were provided and at the end of the day Bill Walton provided horse-drawn wagon rides with his team of Fjords. There was also a group photo and all of the kids got certificates. It's hoped this will become an annual event.

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Equine Grain-Associated Disorders

by Judith A. Reynolds, Ph.D., P.A.S., Dipl. A.C.A.N., Equine Nutritionist, Equine Product & Technical Manager
ADM Alliance Nutrition, Inc.

In human medicine, several similar clusters of metabolic symptoms have been given names like Syndrome X, The Metabolic Syndrome X, The Metabolic Syndrome (of risk factors for type 2 diabetes or hypercholesterolemia and coronary heart disease), The Dyslipidemic Syndrome and The Insulin-Resistance Syndrome¹. Similar syndromes have been reported and named in horses. Unfortunately, most of these terms do not clearly describe the disorders or offer clues to possible management strategies. Dr. Kronfeld and Dr. Harris coined the term EGA for Equine Grain-Associated Disorders in a 2003 article in the Compendium of Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian². In a Journal of Equine Veterinary Science article, Dr. Kronfeld explained the history and etiology of the various syndromes, offered EGAD as a less confusing name and provided some management suggestions to reduce these problems in horses¹. Following is a summary of his findings.

In 1988, endocrinologist Gerald Reaven suggested that a high-(soluble) carbohydrate diet aggravated or exacerbated insulin resistance leading to obesity, type 2 diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and coronary heart disease in people. His suggestion opposed the then-current America Heart Association's recommendation for a low-fat (high-carbohydrate) diet to reduce heart disease. Syndrome X factors were identified as: insulin resistance, hyperglycemia, elevated plasma VLDL triglyceride level, low plasma HDL cholesterol level, and hypertension. In 2001, Dr. Kronfeld used the term Equine Syndrome X for equine disorders associated with long-term consumption of grains and molasses, which involved insulin resistance. Meals of grains and molasses set up an unnatural feeding-fasting cycle of plasma glucose, insulin, and counter-regulatory hormones in horses. As an alternative, he reported that meals of fat and fiber do not produce these feeding-fasting cycles. Fat and fiber meals also reduce episodes of tying-up in horses with Recurrent Exertional Rhabdomyolysis (RER) and Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy (PSSM)¹.

The term Equine Grain-Associated Disorders is used to describe both digestive and metabolic disorders in horses. The digestive disturbances involve rapid carbohydrate fermentation and insulin resistance, including some forms of colic, typhilitis, colitis, diarrhea, gastric ulcers, and laminitis. The metabolic conditions include some forms of gastric ulcers, laminitis, exertional rhabdomyolysis, osteochondrosis, growth rate fluctuations, flexure deformities, hyperlipidemia, oxidative stress, aging, obesity, and, possibly, abortion. Some of these risk factors might be nonessential, but contributing factors to the disorders¹.

Dietary recommendations for horses include:

- ♦ Avoiding high glycemic feeds such as "sweet feed" and oats, which produce increased blood sugar after meals.
- ♦ Avoiding unprocessed corn and high-fructan pasture grasses, which provide highly fermentable carbohydrates to the large intestine¹.

Colic is still the number one killer of horses, and laminitis is one of the top three most feared by horse owners. Tying-up, gastric ulcers, developmental orthopedic disease, cribbing, and other

disorders listed above have all been associated with repeated feeding of excessive starches and sugars to horses. To address these concerns, ADM Alliance Nutrition is the leader in the production of feeds and supplements formulated with low starch and sugar and utilizing added fat and digestible fiber (Table 1). These feeds provide sufficient nutrients for maximum performance, growth and lactation, while reducing the risks of EGAD. For comparison, corn, barley, molasses, and oats contain about 71, 65, 63, and 53% non-structural carbohydrate (starch and sugars), respectively. For more information and feeding recommendations call ADM Alliance Nutrition's Equine HELPLINE at 800-680-8254 or visit www.grostrong.com.

¹Kronfeld DS. Equine Syndrome X, The Metabolic Disease, and Equine Grain-Associated Disorders: Nomenclature and Dietetics. J. Equine Vet. Sci. 23(12):567-569.

²Kronfeld DS, Harris PA. Equine Grain-Associated Disorders (EGA). Compend. Contin. Edu. Pract. Vet. In press 2003.

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Table 1: FORAGE FIRST® Low-Starch Horse Feeds and Supplements

Feed	Protein (%)	Fat (%)	Crude Fiber (%)	Estimated Starch and Sugar*	Approx. Feeding Rate (lb/hd/day)
Concentrates:					
JUNIORGLO™ #80955	19	6	20	12	6
PRIMEGLO™ #81578	14	8	20	12	2-4
SENIORGLO® #10130	14	8	20	12	6
GROSTRONG® Ultra-Fiber™ #558	13	6	20	13	6
Patriot® 16P Junior #80022	16	6	14	16	6
Patriot 14P #80021	14	6	14	16	6
Patriot Senior #80029	14	7	20	16	16-20
Supplements:					
MOORGLO® #11083	14	18	14	18	1-2
HEALTHY GLO™ Nuggets #81064	13	20	8	18	1-2
HEALTHY GLO Meal #81086	15	25	8	16	1-2

*Estimated starch and sugar content.

EQUINE NUTRITION IN THE 21st CENTURY

With Dr. Judy Reynolds

February 28 - Courtyard by Marriott, Moorhead, MN

February 29 - St. Cloud Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN

March 1 - Canterbury Inn, Shakopee, MN

SCHEDULE

9:30 am - Registration

RSVP before February 8 to receive a free vest
RSVP with vest size to receive your complimentary FORAGE FIRST® vest for attending.

*MN and ND veterinarians can receive 5 hours of CEU Credits

Contact: Erin Ring, Equine Specialist

ADM Alliance Nutrition, Inc.

612-554-6513 (cell) ♦ Erin.Ring@adm.com

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES - November 8, 2011

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

Board Members Present: Darrell Mead, Missie Schwartz, Tim Bonham, Tracy Turner, Marian Robinson, Charlyn Cadwell, Dawn Moore, Glen Eaton, Trina Joyce, Jan Schatzlein, Carol Dobbelaire, Judy Jensen

Absent: Mark Ward, Tom Tweeten, Sue McDonough, Jennifer Willey, Dave Fleischhaker

Members/Visitors: Allison Eklund, Dave Jensen

I. Meeting called to order: 6:30 P.M. by Tracy Turner

II. Introduction of Board Members/Visitors

Tracy Turner introduced the aforementioned guest and had the directors of the MHC introduce themselves.

III. Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda

A. Tim Bonham requested an addition of Grants Committee to Committee Reports

B. Tracy Turner requested an addition of Welfare Committee to Committee Reports

IV. Treasurer's Report for November was distributed by Tim Bonham. This report reflected the total assets of \$927,507.26 with total liabilities of \$482,675.34. Discussion followed on the AgStar Building project and a request was made to add it as a liability on the next month's report. Carol Dobbelaire motioned to accept the October report as presented. Glen Eaton seconded, motion carries.

V. Approval of Minutes - Carol Dobbelaire motioned to approve the September minutes as presented. Mark Ward seconded, motion carries. The October minutes will be presented along with the November minutes at the December meeting.

VI. Secretary's Report - Dawn Moore requested when the administrative assistant is unavailable to take minutes that the director who steps in to take the minutes gets that information to the administrative assistant in a timely manner.

VII. OLD BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Expo - Glen Eaton reported: The completed contracts for vendor booths and stalls are coming in at a good rate. We are about 3 weeks ahead of the last 2 years of receiving contracts at this time. Contract and info packages were sent to new requests on October 29th and more requests are coming in at a good pace. On November 15th the contract information will be on the website. Clinicians are being interviewed and many requests from clinicians are being received to be a part of the 2012 Expo.

B. Direct Funding - Mark Ward reported. No applications have been received this month. I have so far received only two votes from my committee on the last application, the Laurentian Vaulting Team's request for \$500 start-up costs. So far the consensus is to reject the current application with an invitation to re-apply when they have a better established organization and non-profit status.

In 2011 we have made the following awards:

Midwest Western Dressage \$500.00 for a clinic

MN 4-H Horse Association Library \$267.90 for a storage center

Anoka 4-H Horse Committee \$500 for a sound system for 4-H shows.

Pipestone County 4-H \$500 for a calf-roping clinic

Whips & Wheels Driving Society \$500 for a driving clinic

St. Paul Police Mounted Foundation \$500 for a horse education day for underprivileged, inner-city kids

We have spent \$2,267.90, have \$500 in current liability, and \$3,282.10 remaining unused in our 2011 budget of \$6,050.00. There are outstanding (unpaid) direct funding grants from 2010 in the amount of \$1,312. I plan to send a letter to these groups and inform them that their 6 month period to use the funds has lapsed and invite them to re-apply.

C. Annual Meeting - Dawn Moore advised a new technique may be used to announce the HPY. The venue change will be announced again in the newsletter as well as in the annual meeting mailing packet.

D. Facilities - Tom Tweeten absent, no report.

E. Horse Welfare - Tracy Turner distributed the first draft of policies and procedures for this new committee. The policies and procedures were discussed amongst the directors. Mark Ward motioned to accept these policies and procedures for the Horse Welfare Committee. Tim Bonham seconded, motion carries. These policies and procedures will be made available to all directors on the secure storage area on the MHC website.

F. Grants - Tim Bonham distributed the grant applications received this year. Tim Bonham requested the committee members meet to determine the recipients. It was decided the committee would meet December 6 at the Leatherdale Center at the University of MN.

H. Budget - Tracy Turner led the directors through an overview of the 2012 budget.

I. Nominations - Darrell Mead reported he has received one nomination thus far. Darrell Mead has contacted individuals regarding the election.

J. Scholarships - Trina Joyce reported the committee met on November 6th. Attending: Trina Joyce, Joan Schultz, Karen Clark and Carol Dobbelaire. The application and the committee policies and procedures were reviewed and some changes were made to make everything clearer. The changes will be effective next year. Carol Dobbelaire has recused herself from participating in ratings this year, as has VeeAnn Wood. The committee also discussed the rating process and how to make it more consistent. Some suggestions were made that will be included in the instructions to the committee members. It was a very productive meeting and as necessary, we'll have future meetings. Rating these applications is not an easy job, with committee members putting in 24-30 hours. Twenty one applications were received for eleven available scholarships. I have also updated the Philanthropy Coordinator position and will get those changes to the board. Discussion followed on the selection of committee members and the chairs ability to determine the members of their committee. Mark Ward volunteered to write up a policy for committee selection.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Federated - Marian Robinson reported some CS owners have called the CS chair and advised some Federated officials have gone on their property. Discussion followed on the authority of these officials.

B. Announcements:

November 11th is the deadline for submissions for the next newsletter.

X. Tracy Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:06 PM.

NEXT MEETING - December 13th, 2011 - 6:30 PM.
University of MN - Leatherdale Equine Center

Minnesota Horse

Expo 2012
APRIL 27, 28, & 29

MHC ANNUAL MEETING NEWS



Ice sculpture on display at the MHC Annual Meeting

Photos by
Phil Bonham

At the MHC Annual Meeting on January 21, 2012 MHC President Tracy Turner (right) presented a plaque to Darrell Mead (left) for 20 years of service on the MHC Board.

MHC BOARD ELECTION HELD

As part of the Minnesota Horse Council's Annual Meeting, January 21, 2012, at the Marriott Minneapolis West, St. Louis Park, an election was held to fill five open MHC Board positions. The MHC is guided by up to 17 directors who each serve a three-year term. The following people were reelected to serve as MHC Directors:

CAROL DOBBELAIRE
MARIAN ROBINSON
JAN SCHATZLEIN
MISSIE SCHWARTZ
JENNIFER WILLEY

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - continued from page 3

Horse Show trips and first place in training level 5. She showed in Class A Arabian, WSCA, and open Arabian shows. Meanwhile she founded the Blaine High School Spanish Club and was elected president for 3 years. Michelle attended the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and was captain of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's western team for a year, as well as being chosen as assistant coach. Riders are judged on horsemanship and their ability to handle an unfamiliar horse. Through AQHA and the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, she had the opportunity to travel and teach horsemanship to Quarter Horse owners in Norway, Denmark, and Sweden for a week each. She also took the Colts in Training class at River Falls. She was accepted into vet school after only 3 years of undergraduate studies. Since Michelle has been in vet school, she's been in the Equine Club and has a part-time job as a student technician at the new Equine Center. Through the Equine Club, she's been able to participate in a variety of hands-on wet labs, the Gelding Project, and an annual horse evaluation clinic for horses used by YMCA camps. Last summer she organized a group of vet students to help teach at the Isanti County 4-H Horse Camp. She's also completed externships locally and at practices in Kentucky, Texas, and Arizona. Her recommendation letters were awesome!

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MEETINGS

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

February 14, 2012	June 12, 2012	November 13, 2012
March 13, 2012	July 10, 2012	December 11, 2012
April 20, 2012	September 11, 2012	January 19, 2013 - Annual Meeting
May 8, 2012	October 9, 2012	February 12, 2013

MINNESOTA HORSE EXPO BOARD MEETINGS

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

January 31, 2012	May 29, 2012	October 30, 2012
February 28, 2012	June 26, 2012	November 27, 2012
March 27, 2012	July 31, 2012	December 18, 2012
April 17, 2012	September 25, 2012	January 29, 2013

For Horse's Sake

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Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

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Newsletter Deadlines

January/February	1/27/12	July/August	6/29/12
March	2/17/12	September	8/10/12
April	3/16/12	October	9/14/12
May	4/13/12	November	10/12/12
June	5/11/12	December	11/16/12

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 _____

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:

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Please complete this form and send with your check to:

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Aisle of Breeds

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

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

Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

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Pioneer Award

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Promotions

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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)

Carol Dobbelaire ♦ 763-684-0709 ♦ caroldobbelaire@mnhorsecouncil.org

Trail Blazers

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

Horse Welfare

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

Website

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