



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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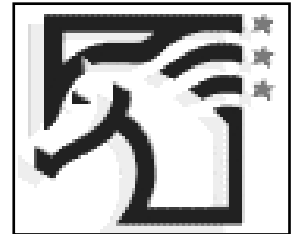
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AHC Announces New Grassroots Program



The American Horse Council and member organizations are initiating "The Congressional Cavalry Program" a new direct grassroots effort, to better represent and serve the horse industry in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the program is to identify at least one member of participating organizations in each Congressional District across America who will agree to contact his/her Representative/Senator or other federal officials when asked.

"If we can involve just one member in these organizations in each Congressional district across the country in the grassroots effort, think of the potential effect that could have when contacting Representatives and Senators about issues important to the industry," said AHC President Jay Hickey.

Horse owners, breeders, veterinarians, trainers, competitors, recreational riders, shows, stables and others who desire to be involved in grassroots efforts in Washington are encouraged to join the Congressional Cavalry Program.

"We are hoping to include individuals from as many AHC member organizations as possible to get a cross-section of the horse industry identified in each district to represent themselves, their organization and the horse industry when called upon," said Hickey.

Member organizations already signed onto the Congressional Cavalry include the American Association of Equine Practitioners, the American Paint Horse Association, the American Quarter Horse Association, the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, the U.S. Equestrian Federation and the U.S. Trotting Association.

"We are encouraged by the early response to the program and look forward to activating our enthusiastic supporters in the 100th Congress," said Kevin McColaugh, AHC's director of recreation and legislation.

Individuals will be mobilized when there is a need for grassroots lobbying. The AHC will provide participants with whatever information is necessary.

"Other Congressional Cavalry activities may include visits with members of Congress in Washington or back in their home district and invitations to Members of Congress to visit your facility, event or activity," according to Hickey.



When Can Mom Go Back to Work?

By Ben Espy, DVM

When is it OK to start riding my mare after foaling?

My initial response is the same as a human obstetrician's answer would be to a patient who asks how soon she can run a marathon after having a baby: "It depends." What was her condition before the pregnancy? Were there any foaling complications? Like the professional human athlete who returns to world-class competition 60 days after having a baby, a fit, healthy mare can bounce back from a pregnancy fairly quickly. And, similar to those human mothers who are bedridden for months after a birth, mares who entered motherhood unfit or unsound may be incapacitated afterward for an extended period of time.

Unlike human mothers' bodies, which take several months to return to their pre-pregnancy shapes, broodmares' bodies are fairly resilient. Their abdomens shrink back to normal within a few weeks. Pregnancy-related side effects tend to be more circulatory than muscular. The huge amount of blood and fluid that a pregnant mare's body circulates to support her fetus is nothing short of a feat of nature. It sometimes results in edema (fluid accumulation) in the lower legs and belly. This, too, usually resolves within a few weeks of the birth. The rare cases I see of post-foaling complications usually occur in stalled mares. Allowing a mare to move around in the open as nature intended in the days following the birth seems to be the best way to alleviate swelling, help expel fluids, and promote healing.

A mare that has a normal, complication-free birth (and the large majority of mares do) usually experiences some vaginal bruising, minor tears and abrasions, which heal within about a week. Any more serious foaling complications--bleeding, breeches of the vaginal canal or rectum, ruptured internal organs, etc.--should be treated immediately by a veterinarian who can then advise appropriate follow-up care.

In any case, for the first few weeks after foaling, mares are at higher risk of colic caused by colon torsion (a twist in the colon section of the intestines). During the pregnancy, the growing baby pushes the mare's intestines out of its way, squeezing them into a small space. Excessive movement after the birth can jostle these cramped intestines back into the huge void left by the baby, potentially twisting them as they fall into the space. This danger is gradually reduced as the mare's abdomen shrinks back to normal in the weeks following the birth.

From a medical standpoint, there's no reason why a mare can't start exercising six to eight weeks after a complication-free foaling. Whether or not she's ready fitness- and soundness-wise is a different story. In the ideal scenario, your mare should be "fit to foal" (in good physical shape and at an ideal weight) before

being bred. This not only makes her pregnancy and foaling easier (just like humans, fitter mares have an easier time carrying and delivering babies), it also gives her a much better foundation for starting back to work. Unfortunately, a large percentage of broodmares in our country are overweight when they're bred, and still overweight after they foal. These mares take much longer getting back into shape.

Many mares become broodmares after their performance careers end due to some sort of injury. If you don't know your mare's history prior to her pregnancy, make an effort to research it. Any pre-baby soundness issues should be re-assessed before she goes back to work.

Whatever your mare's history, I recommend asking your veterinarian to evaluate her physical condition and soundness about five or six weeks after the foaling. If she is overweight, I also recommend consulting your local agricultural extension agent for nutritional guidance. It's diet time!



Once all of these issues have been addressed, you still have one major concern to contend with, the baby! Especially within the first two months of the foal's life, it will be extremely attached to Mom, and will be frantic--sometimes to the point of risking injury--if she is taken out of sight. The mare, too, can be so distracted with worry about her offspring that riding her may be no fun at all. Allowing the foal to run alongside her while you ride is perfectly fine, so long as you're in a safe, enclosed area. If you must separate them, try to find a companion to keep the foal company in the mare's absence. Some geldings and broodmares make very good babysitters, but because the occasional horse can be aggressive with foals, monitor any new introductions carefully.

To make the first ride as stress-free as possible, try to prepare the mare and foal for the separation in the weeks leading up to it. Give the baby time to bond with its babysitter and try separating it from the mare for gradually longer and longer periods of time. Another option is to wean the foal early. It's usually safe to wean foals by the time they are three or four months old or even earlier, if you provide proper nutritional supplementation. One final consideration to make when you start your mare back into work is if she is nursing the foal, beware of dehydration. Lactating mares require as much as 10 gallons of water per day more than other horses. Adding in water losses from a strenuous workout and hot, summer weather can raise your mare's overall fluid needs to 20 to 30 gallons per day. So be sure to keep a constant supply of clean water available, as well as a salt block.

American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) ♦ www.aaep.org



Minnesota Horse Council Grant Recipients



Dear Minnesota Horse Council,

It is our pleasure to thank the Minnesota Horse Council for the \$7000.00 grant. These funds were used to buy insulation for the Victory Riders Indoor Riding Arena. The Project to obtain and install heaters and to properly insulate both the Barn and Indoor Riding Arena has now been completed. We are grateful to now have heat available for use during cold weather.

Victory Riders, inc., is a certified NARHA Program. This Program is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 charitable organization. We are able to provide our services based on the generosity of people like you.

NARHA stands for North American Riding for the Handicapped Association. As a member, we are part of over 700 NARHA programs across the US and Canada whose goal is to enhance lives by providing safe and effective therapeutic equine assisted activities for physically and/or emotionally challenged riders.

Victory Riders is looking forward to 2007 and our 12th season of Therapeutic/Recreational horseback Riding for special needs riders. Victory Riders strives to offer a quality, safe riding program. One of our goals is to keep expenses affordable for the families in the special needs program.

Your financial generosity is an important key to the growth and success of Victory Riders. We appreciate your generous help in providing this very unique service to this area.

There are not enough words to tell you how much we appreciate your prayers and support.

Sincerely,

Shelly DeRosier
Victory Riders, Inc.
Rogers, MN
763-428-7799



WILTON RIVER ARENA

The Wilton River Arena has been in existence for nearly 40 years. It was built with used telephone poles and recycled woven wire. Needless to say it was in real need of some major overhaul. The arena is home to four local saddle clubs, local 4-H groups, and Waseca County Sheriff's Posse and anyone needing a place to ride. There has only been one stipulation over the years-"Close the gate when you are done."

Last spring, the Wilton River Riders Saddle Club gathered to tear down the old arena and clean up the grounds. Three strings of tile were put in to improve the base. Through some fund raising efforts by the Wilton River Riders Saddle Club, the tiling was paid for and poles were acquired to put up the perimeter of the new arena. With the gracious help of the Minnesota Horse Council, through a grant, metal arena gates and panels will be purchased to complete the project. Without the help of the Minnesota Horse Council, this project would not have been conceivable. Now all the afore mentioned horse groups can be proud of a new facility constructed for all to enjoy in a safe riding environment.

Gary Meurer
President, 2006, of Saddle Club

What to Expect When Owning a Horse

By American Association of Equine Practitioners

So you have decided that you want to take the leap and join millions of others who own a horse? Much like any large animal, horses rank high in the category of responsibility. With improvements in nutrition and health care, horses are living longer, productive lives. It's not uncommon to find horses living well into their 20s and 30s. With this in mind, are you prepared to offer a life-long commitment to this horse or ensure that it is responsibly cared for should you no longer be able to financially provide for it?

Besides the most important question of responsible horse ownership, there are many questions that you must first ask yourself when it comes to choosing the right horse for you or your child:

- ♦ What type of horse will best fit your needs?
- ♦ Where should I purchase a horse?
- ♦ How are the daily needs of the horse going to be met?
- ♦ What supplies/equipment will I need to get started?
- ♦ What are the expected costs of owning a horse?

The cost of owning a horse can certainly add up quickly. The expense of shelter, feed, veterinary care, hoof care and riding equipment are just some of the things that should be considered before purchasing.

Before purchasing a horse for their children, parents should assess their child's commitment. It would be wise to arrange with a local stable for riding lessons or the opportunity to participate in supervised care of a horse for a period of time to determine whether the child will be diligent with the routine care for the animal. Leasing a horse and participating in 4-H, Future Farmers of America (FFA) or the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (USPC) are additional ways to accomplish this.

Selecting the Right Horse for the Job

Whether you choose to travel to horse shows or just trail ride for pleasure, consider the type of riding that you intend to do. There are several styles of riding, which include English or Western disciplines. Once this factor has been determined, it is important to select a horse that has already been "schooled" or trained for that type of riding. Also, select a horse that has had the right level of training depending on your riding experience. Once you understand your own riding experience and limitations, you will be in a better position to choose a horse with a temperament that will best suit you. For example, an older horse that already has



the skills you desire is typically a better purchase for a first-time horse owner or younger rider. Also consider that a horse's value is usually a combination of its pedigree, build or "conformation," and its ability to complete desired tasks.



Pedigree indicates selective breeding for desired traits. Strong genetic lines for a desired trait or performance increase horse value, so expect to pay more for the horse if the trait is important to you or the seller. Likewise, certain physical traits are important for show and use. As a result, you can expect to pay more for horses with conformation desirable for an intended purpose. A horse's ability to perform desired tasks (its training and behavior) usually affects its value more than its pedigree or conformation. Expect to pay more for a horse already trained to complete a task than one that will require time and expense to reach that point.

Where to Look for the Perfect Horse

There are many different options for finding a horse to purchase. Two ways to purchase a horse are through a private contract and at public auction. Each has its advantages and disadvantages. Whatever way you choose to purchase your horse, a first-time buyer should be accompanied by a knowledgeable horse person. Together, you can evaluate the horse in various actions such as standing in the pasture, loading, grooming and riding. There will be at least three parties involved in the sale of a horse. The primary parties involved include the buyer, the seller and the horse. However, in some cases there will be secondary parties involved which can include, but are not limited to, an agent for the buyer, an agent for the seller, a trainer, insurance agencies or other advisors. There are many resources available for finding a horse most suitable for your intentions. A primary resource is through the stable where you plan to board or ride. Many times, riding instructors can act as agents in locating a horse most suited for your riding style and ability. Breeders are another resource since they want to see their animals placed in good environments. Almost every breed of horse has a registration association that can direct you to a breeder in your area. You can also check newspapers or the bulletin board at your local tack store, which can also be a handy resource for locating horses for sale. However, here you have little knowledge of the seller and little recourse should the purchase prove unsatisfactory. While horses also are offered for sale over the Internet, it is not possible to see the quality of a horse or to actually handle the horse. Avoid purchasing any horse sight unseen. A video does NOT substitute for direct contact.

What to Expect When Owning a Horse - continued on page 5

What to Expect When Owning a Horse - continued from page 4

Don't Skip the Pre-Purchase Examination

Owning a horse can be a big investment in time, money and emotion. Unfortunately, horses seldom come with a money-back guarantee. This is why it is important to investigate the horse's overall health and condition through a purchase examination conducted by an equine veterinarian. Purchase examinations may vary, depending upon the intended use of the horse and the veterinarian who is doing the examination. The following guidelines from the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) will help ensure a custom-tailored exam:

- ♦ Choose a veterinarian who is familiar with the breed, sport or use for which the horse is being purchased.
- ♦ Choose a veterinarian who does not have a prior relationship with the owner or the horse in question.
- ♦ Explain to your veterinarian your expectations and primary uses for the horse, including short and long-term goals (i.e., showing, then breeding).
- ♦ Ask your veterinarian to outline the procedures that he/she feels should be included in the exam and why.
- ♦ Establish the costs for these procedures.
- ♦ Be present during the purchase exam. The seller or agent should also be present.
- ♦ Discuss with your veterinarian his/her findings in private.
- ♦ Don't be afraid to ask questions or request further information about your veterinarian's findings in private.

The veterinarian's job is neither to pass nor fail an animal. Rather, it is to provide you with information regarding any existing medical problems, and to discuss those problems with you so that you can make an informed purchase decision. Many individuals that are looking to purchase a horse hear the words "guaranteed sound" or "I'll buy him back if you don't like him" or "money back guaranteed." If comments like these are made, you should ask the seller if they are amenable to a 30-day grace period until the sale becomes final. This will often eliminate the question regarding whether the horse has been given a sedative or pain relieving agent during the pre-purchase examination to help the sale go through. For more information about purchase examinations, ask your equine veterinarian for "Purchase Exams: A Sound Economic Investment," a brochure provided by the AAEP. Additional information can be found on the AAEP Web site, www.aaep.org.

How Will My Horse's Needs Be Met?

When owning a horse, many different management styles exist when it comes to care and housing. As a prospective horse owner, one of the first decisions that must be made is where to house the horse. Many individuals have the ability to provide housing for their horse on their property. On-site housing has many advantages related to convenience of daily horse care and use. On the other hand, the responsibility of feeding and daily maintenance of the horse is much higher when the horse is housed on your property. This must be taken into consideration,

versus boarding the horse at a local stable or boarding facility where it can be fed and watched on a daily basis by barn personnel. Also, be sure to check with local zoning officials before planning to keep your horse at home. You also can look into housing your horse in a stable facility, which can provide a variety of services to aid in daily horse care. These facilities also offer the advantage of increased interaction with other horse owners and organized activities for those boarding horses.

What Will I Need to Get Started?

How and where the horse is housed and cared for will affect the equipment needed. This will also affect daily operation costs, which can include feed, veterinary care and farrier services.

Costs to Consider When Owning a Horse

Potential horse owners should be aware of the associated costs that accompany ownership before purchasing a horse. These types of costs will vary due to the diversity of the use of the horse and the way that it is managed. Some expected costs to consider include:

- ♦ Grain/feed
- ♦ Hay/forage
- ♦ Pasture/turnout
- ♦ Salts/minerals or other supplements
- ♦ Farrier service (required every 6-8 weeks)
- ♦ Veterinary care
- ♦ Utilities
- ♦ Tack & supplies
- ♦ Bedding
- ♦ Insurance
- ♦ Riding lessons
- ♦ Truck/trailer purchase or availability



Depending on whether you house the horse on your own property, boarding costs may also be factored into the added expense of horse ownership. Also, if you plan to travel with the horse to various horse shows, trail rides, etc. these fees should also be considered along with any breeding costs if you plan to use the horse as a breeding animal at some point during your ownership.

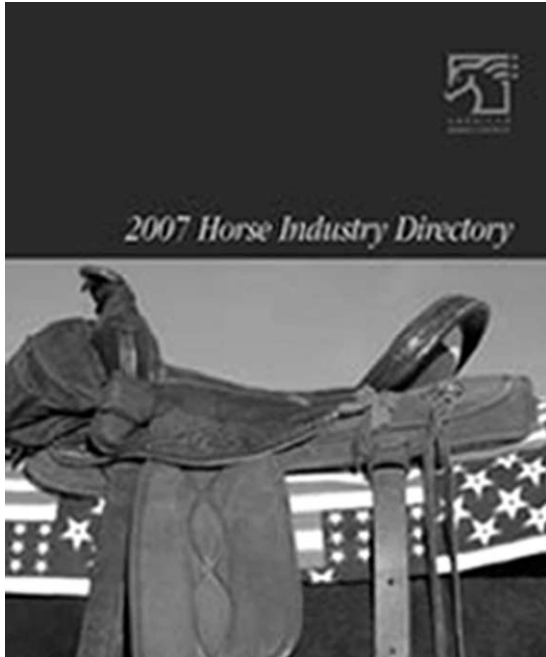
Enjoy the Ride

Most individuals own horses for hobby interests related to family and youth development or the enhancement of the quality of their life or entertainment. Advancements in the equine health field have helped to increase the life of the horse to well into their 30s, but often well beyond their athletic usefulness. Prepare to be a responsible horse owner and plan ahead for your horse's retirement years and beyond. As a horse owner, you should also plan to set aside an emergency fund for the unexpected but all too common injuries or illnesses that may occur in horse ownership. One final point for all horse owners to remember: the horse is a living being whose life and welfare are in your hands.

For more horse health information, visit the AAEP Web site at www.aaep.org.



2007 Horse Industry Directory Now Available



The most comprehensive national directory of breed and sport organizations, equine publications, state resources and racing and gaming organizations is now available for purchase.

The American Horse Council's 2007 Horse Industry Directory is a yearly effort to bring to you a definitive source that puts the equine industry at your fingertips.

This year's Horse Industry Directory has a staggering 1,000 listings including, among others, 714 equine publications, 345 state agricultural resources, 166 breed registries and associations and 78 show and sport organizations.

No other publication provides the depth of national horse industry resources found in the Horse Industry Directory.

For just \$25, you can have the ultimate horse industry resource available. The 2007 Directory is also a member benefit at certain levels of membership with the AHC. You can order the 2007 Horse Industry Directory by visiting their website at www.horsecouncil.org or by phone at 202-296-4031. AHC members at the Congressional level and up will receive their copies shortly.

This is the fourteenth year that the American Live Stock Insurance Company has shown its commitment to the horse industry by sponsoring the Horse Industry Directory. American Live Stock Insurance Company has served to protect the investments of the horse industry by providing mortality and related coverages for five decades. They enjoy an A+ (Superior) rating from the A.M. Best Company and are an admitted insurance carrier in all 50 states.

American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act Re-Introduced

Legislation identical to that introduced in the last few Congresses to prohibit the slaughter of horses for human consumption was re-introduced in January.

The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act would amend the Horse Protection Act (HPA), which was enacted in 1970 to prohibit the showing, transport or sale of horses that have been subjected to any painful process to accentuate their gate.

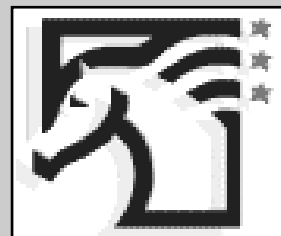
Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), along with Representatives Ed Whitfield (R-KY), Nick Rahal (D-WV), John Spratt (D-SC) and 58 co-sponsors reintroduced federal legislation (H.R. 503) in the House. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and 12 other Senators introduced similar legislation (S. 311) in the Senate.

The bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the House Committee on Agriculture. The Senate bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

The bill would prohibit the shipping, transporting, or sale of horses for slaughter for human consumption.

Such activities would be a violation of the HPA and subject any person who knowingly violates the Act to penalties of up to \$3,000 and/or one year in jail for the first offense and up to \$5,000 and/or two years in jail for a second offense. An offender may also be subject to civil penalties of \$2,000 for each violation. The bill authorizes \$5 million for enforcement.

The Hosue version passed last year but the Senate version was never considered.



Learn more about all pending legislation affecting the horse industry on the AHC website:

www.horsecouncil.org/legislation.html

UHC Unveils Website and Awareness Brochure

Encourages Horse Owners to "Own Responsibly"

The Unwanted Horse Council (UHC) announced today the launch of its website and the release of an awareness brochure.

Both the website and brochure explain the UHC and its mission, which is to reduce the number of unwanted horses and to improve their welfare. It will do that through educational outreach and the efforts of various organizations committed to the health, safety, and responsible care and disposition of unwanted horses.



The UHC was created following the Unwanted Horse Summit that was organized by the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) and held in conjunction with the American Horse Council's annual meeting in April 2005. In June 2006, the group was folded into the American Horse Council and now operates under its auspices.

In addition to information about the UHC, the website provides resources and links for retiring and rescuing horses, methods for handling the loss of a horse, and suggestions to help people "Own Responsibly," which is the motto of the UHC.

The website will be updated regularly with news releases and publications describing the progress of the UHC and the plight of the unwanted horse. Both the website and the brochure provide information on how to become a member of the UHC and how to contribute to the UHC.

The UHC asks your organizations to provide a link to the new website at www.unwantedhorsecoalition.org on your websites.

To learn more about the UHC, visit the website at www.unwantedhorsecoalition.org or contact Katy Carter, coordinator, Unwanted Horse Coalition, at (202) 296-4031 for a printed copy of the awareness brochure.

"If a car passes me when I'm on a horse, I always think if I were in that car and saw me, I would wish I was me. Wistful children's faces, staring out of the back window, agree."

~ Monica Dickens

Uses for Baling Twine

Sometimes it seems that the barn is being over-run with baling twine. Every time you open another bale of hay, two more lengths of twine end up on the floor! In addition to the ubiquitous orange baling twine, you can also get hay baled with blue or black nylon, as well as natural twine.

Here's a selection of uses for baling twine ranging from the utilitarian to the wildly creative!

In an emergency, baling twine can be used to:

- ◆ make a makeshift halter
- ◆ make a makeshift lead rope
- ◆ temporarily fix fence boards and gates
- ◆ replace broken blanket straps
- ◆ make a makeshift martingale
- ◆ make a grab strap for beginner lesson riders
- ◆ make anti-grazing reins
- ◆ temporarily tie a gate closed when the latch breaks
- ◆ temporarily fix broken halters, bridles and reins
- ◆ as a temporary replacement for broken boot laces
- ◆ create an emergency fly fringe
- ◆ cinch your jeans up
- ◆ tie the feed buckets to the stall walls
- ◆ tie fans up in the stall rafters
- ◆ tie a jollyball to the rafters
- ◆ tie up stall guards
- ◆ use as breakaway ties on hitching posts
- ◆ create a pull for the loft stairs
- ◆ make pulls for light switches
- ◆ make a hay net
- ◆ make handles for the ends of electric fencing
- ◆ cordon off sections of muddy pasture in spring
- ◆ tie down the office pen
- ◆ tie a big orange loop on the scissors and hoofpick so they don't get lost in the bedding
- ◆ tether things down in the pickup
- ◆ tie down tarpaulins
- ◆ make a grooming wisp
- ◆ braid it into tail strings for blankets
- ◆ make a hammock
- ◆ knit it into a pot scouring pad
- ◆ make macrame plant hangers
- ◆ use it as saddle strings on western saddles
- ◆ use it to fasten latigos on western saddles
- ◆ braid it into a sparse tail as an emergency fly swatter (separate strands first)

**MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2007**

Meeting Location: Maple Grove Community Center

Board Members: Tim Bonham, Dan Dolan, Glen Eaton, Teresa Hanson, Sue McDonough, Darrell Mead, Dawn Moore, Marian Robinson, Missie Schwartz, Laurie Slater, Miriam Tschida, Tracy Turner, Tom Tweeten

Absent: Trina Joyce, Jesse Vouk, Christie Ward

Members/Visitors: Cherie McKenzie, Irene McMillen, Cindi Nitz-Urlic, Keith Payden

I. Meeting called to order: 6:35 p.m.

II. Introductions

III. Additions and Changes (Additions to Old & New Business)

IV. Treasurer's Report - Dan Dolan

Motion by Glen Eaton, seconded by Tracy Turner, to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Motion carried. Dan passed out a copy of the March Treasurer's Report to be reviewed before next meeting. All Board members in attendance received a report. Additional reports will be sent out to Trina Joyce, Christie Ward and Jesse Vouk.

Last meeting there was a discussion on grants from 2004 and 2005 that have not been used. Freedom Reins Majestic Hills is going ahead with their project and will send in their receipts by June.

East Bethel project from 2004 (requested an extension) is still waiting to start. Motion by Miriam Tschida, seconded by Tim Bonham, that grant monies be spent normally within the year, with a letter of request each year for an extension up to an additional four years. Motion carried.

Motion by Glen Eaton, seconded by Dan Dolan, that Direct Funding be used within one year from the time awarded. Motion carried.

The 1099 form was given to the administrative assistant. IRS forms for annual tax returns are due May 15.

V. Approval of Minutes - February

Motion by Tim Bonham, seconded by Glen Eaton to approve minutes for February with corrections. The corrected copy can be found on the website. (mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net)

VI. Secretary's Report - Mary Payden

The MHC received a letter from Carol Hermel, Highview Ranch & Stable, LLC concerned about stable information on the website. The problem has been corrected and a copy of the letter has been sent to the Certified Stable chairperson.

We have also received an email from Linda Bair, member (Certified Stable):

Message: Good Morning! I received my packet for the Board of Directors election and went ahead and voted, but I really think with all the issues facing us, it would be very helpful to not only have bios on these candidates but also some statements of where they stand on some of the issues facing our organization and industry. Being far away from the meetings, I cannot attend. I noticed in the last issue of Horse'n Around that the Wisconsin Horse Council has decided to go regional, which gives the outlying horse enthusiast a chance to participate - give it some thought!! Thank you, Linda

The Board discussed the ideas suggested by Linda and agreed that it may be a good idea, definitely something to think about. There will be a group from the Board (Tracy Turner, Missie Schwartz and Glen Eaton) that will work on this subject. Some ideas mentioned were: possibly having a questionnaire in MHC Expo Booth; solicit horse groups and explore changes. Committees should report back at next meeting.

VII. Old Business

A. Grants - Tim Bonham

Covered under Treasurer's Report.

B. Travel Reimbursement Procedure - Tom Tweeten

Motion by Glen Eaton, seconded by Dan Dolan, to adopt the Vehicle Mileage Reimbursement for MHC Business with changes. Motion to table until next meeting to review changes made. Motion carried. New updated procedure will be handed out at the next meeting.

C. Membership Procedure - Dawn Moore

The chairperson requested to table this topic until the April meeting. The committee will meet with Tom Tweeten. They will return with recommendations - solutions not questions.

D. Nominations & Voting Committee Procedures

Board is requested to review procedure and send any updates by email to Tom Tweeten. Tabled until April meeting. Tim to email (mail) copies to all.

E. Audits - Tom Tweeten

Motion by Tom Tweeten and tabled to March meeting.

I move that the Minnesota Horse Council (MHC) Board prepare for and receive a reviewal audit by a third party to include:

1. The MHC treasury for the past 2 years including 2005 & 2006.
2. The MHC by-laws, MHC Operating Procedures and MHC Committee Procedures to insure they are in compliance with Minnesota State Statutes and Federal Statutes pertaining to Non-profit Corporations. As part of that audit we will ask for recommendations for changes and additions to existing MHC by-laws and procedures.

A list of third party auditor(s) should be presented by the MHC Attorney to the Board for selection by the Board as we have

done with the special election process. This should be done as soon as feasibly possible so that the 2007 MHC Board can begin the orderly process of implementing recommendations from the respective auditors. Motion not carried.

Motion by Dawn Moore, seconded by Tracy Turner, to approve the reviewal of the MHC treasury for the years of 2005 and 2006 with a different firm. Motion carried.

Motion by Miriam Tschida, seconded by Dan Dolan, to approve the second (2.) point, with the addition - to be reviewed by an independent legal organization; By-laws, Articles of Incorporation and Council procedures for compliance with Minnesota State Statutes and Federal Statutes - that is familiar with non-profits. Motion carried.

Dan Dolan suggested that each topic should have a three member committee. Adhoc Committees: Treasury: Dan Dolan, Dawn Moore and Darrell Mead. By-laws: Miriam Tschida, Marian Robinson and Sue McDonough. Update report by next meeting.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. EXPO - Glen Eaton

Everything for the 2007 Minnesota Horse Expo is coming together with seven weeks yet to go. The Schedule of Events is on the website and the website is up to date. We have a great web site. Promotion is in the final stages with ads in many publications. Speakers are pretty much booked with Charmayne James, Curt Pate, Richard Shrake, Dr. Temple Grandin, Scot Hansen, Rick Lamb, Brenda Imus, Ron Postleb as the Keynote Speakers. The Priefert Hitch from Texas (Texas Thunder) and the Minnesota Mounted Shooters will be present. Also new this year will be Square Dancing and a Dodge Display trailer in the Sheep Barn. The Horse Barn is full and the Coliseum, CHS Building, Cattle Barn and the ET Trailer lot are full of vendors. The Poultry Barn and the Empire Commons Buildings are close to being full. We still have some outside space available. The Expo Staff will start working at the State Fairgrounds on Monday, April 23rd with marking outside vendor booths and Tuesday we will pull everything out from the Storage Locker. Also Tuesday the Expo, Event Office will be set up. Wednesday we start in earnest to set everything up. Vendors will be setting up on Wednesday and Thursday and horses will come in on Thursday and Friday early morning.

B. Direct Funding -

Received a request from Seeds of Hope Dude Ranch for \$500.

C. Trail Blazers - Darrell Mead

Hay Creek - Dan Colins

In order to do the campgrounds at Hay Creek the trails have to be brought up to date. We have \$30,000 set aside and there is \$30,000 of matching funds from the Federal government. The estimate is \$80,000 and \$15,000 for roads. Darrell will be attending the MRTUA upcoming meeting.

D. Certified Stables - Sue McDonough

There are 42 stables that have paid their 2007 dues, 10 who have

not and 2 new applications for membership. The chairperson will be calling to remind the stables. It was suggested by Cherie McKenzie that it might be helpful to compose a list of stables by location (city) for the Expo.

E. Communications - Missie Schwartz

Newsletter is going well. They welcome any information/news from all.

F. Disaster Response - Marian Robinson

The chairperson is attending a Homeland Security Seminar at the Northland Inn. Lisa Wiersma, Polk City Sheriff's Office Mounted Patrol, is our new area coordinator for Polk County.

G. Legislative

The Horse Slaughter Act is coming up nationally.

Wording change -Slaughter of horses is inhumane to Slaughter of all animals is inhumane

EPA - Manure as hazardous waste

Information can be found on the American Horse Council website. Olympics X-Games for 2013 - Minnesota has bid for it. If all goes well when they come here we have a good chance. (DNR armory site)

Veterinarian Practice Act - House file 1633

The Institute for Justice group wants changes made to the bill.

There will be an open discussion on Monday, March 19 at 6:30 pm at the University of Minnesota. The State Board would like a representative from the MHC to attend. Motion by Tim Bonham, seconded by Glen Eaton, to have Tracy Turner and Tom Tweeten attend the meeting. Motion carried.

H. Budget Review/Expo

The committee is made up of three Council members and three Expo members. They are to review expenditures over \$3,000. Linda Dahl signed a two year contract for printing Expo Books. Kathy Juhl's contract has been extended for one year.

I. Promotions - Teresa Hanson

Teresa will not be able to go to the Hennepin Co-Op exhibit coming up. She will be attending the St. Cloud Winter Horse Fest, March 31st and April 1st. Next couple of meetings there will be the sign up sheet for MHC booth coverage during the EXPO. We will be handing out free Trail Pass holders this year.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Copyright Issue -

Information from the MHC website has been copied and put on another website. Darrell Mead talked to the organization and it has since been removed from the internet.

X. ADJOURN

AAEP Task Force Issues Guidelines for Equine Infectious Disease Outbreaks

The Infectious Disease Task Force of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) has developed guidelines for the control of contagious infectious disease within the horse population.

Recommendations are provided for the control of suspected cases of infectious respiratory, neurologic, diarrheal, and vesicular disease. The symptom-based guidelines provide a detailed action plan to veterinarians as they address a possible infectious disease outbreak. From the point at which a case of infectious disease is suspected, the guidelines offer measures to control the spread of infection, diagnostic testing options, and communication considerations.

Highlights of "Equine Infectious Disease Outbreak: AAEP Control Guidelines" include:

- ♦ Biosecurity instructions in English and Spanish for grooms and other horse caretakers
- ♦ Recommendations for the implementation of a management plan before an outbreak occurs
- ♦ Guidelines for specific diseases, such as Equine Herpesvirus and *strep. equi* infection, which can be employed after a diagnosis has been made.

The Task Force stresses that the veterinarian on scene is the most qualified person to initiate the outbreak control plan and is critical to effective outbreak management. Each infectious disease outbreak is unique, and an existing plan may require modification for specific situations.

"When a large group of horses gather, be it at a racetrack or a horse show, all those involved in the horses' care should be vigilant about monitoring the health of the animals. It is key that the presence of contagious disease be quickly identified and responsibly addressed," said Mary C. Scollay, DVM, chair of the AAEP Infectious Disease Task Force. "Our expectation is that the AAEP guidelines will assist veterinarians and equine caretakers in minimizing the impact of infectious disease in a given horse population."

The guidelines are available to veterinarians and can be accessed through the members-only area of the AAEP website, www.aaep.org.

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

The following are the results of the election to fill the open spots for the 2007 Minnesota Horse Council Board of Directors:

Glen Eaton – 117	Trina Joyce – 62
Judy Jensen – 101	Cherie McKenzie – 60
Miriam Tschida – 96	Carol Dobbelaire – 53
Mark Ward – 87	Brenda Miller – 51
Laurie Slater – 87	Richard Dobbelaire – 21
Tom Tweeten – 68	

127 ballots were received. The top seven will fill the seven seats available.

2007 UPCOMING EVENTS

View www.mnhorsecouncil.org for additional events

Minnesota Horse Council Board Meetings

Maple Grove Community Center ♦ 6:30 pm
12951 Weaver Lake Road ♦ Maple Grove
Located at the intersection of Weaver Lake Road
and Pineview Lane, ½ mile east of I94 on the
Weaver Lake Road exit.

February 13	June 12	October 9
March 13	July 10	November 13
April 10	August - No meeting	December 11
May 8	September 11	
January 19, 2008 - Annual Meeting - Northland Inn		

Minnesota Horse Expo Board Meetings

Pearson's Restaurant ♦ 6:30 pm
3808 W. 50th St. ♦ Edina

If you wish to order dinner, please be there by 6:00 pm.

January 30	May 22	September 25
February 27	June 26	October 30
March 27	July 31	November 27
April 17	August - No meeting	December 18

For Horse's Sake

Editors: Linda Dahl and Missie Schwartz

Publisher: Dahl Graphic Design

888-403-2060 ♦ www.dahlgraphics.com

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

Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

Dahl Graphic Design

39257 Taray Road ♦ Pine River, MN 56474

E-Mail: fhs-mhc@dahlgraphics.com

2007 Article Submission Deadlines

February	1/11/07	July/August	6/14/07
March	2/15/07	September	8/16/07
April	3/15/07	October	9/13/07
May	4/12/07	November	10/11/07
June	5/10/07	December/January	11/15/07

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Individual - \$15
- Family - \$20
- Organization - \$25
- Corporation - \$25
- Certified Stable -
\$35 first year, \$25 annually

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



Please complete this form and
send with your check to:

Minnesota Horse Council
13055 Riverdale Drive
Box 202 ♦ Suite 500
Coon Rapids, MN 55448



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www.MnHorseCouncil.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Horseperson of the Year - Miriam Tschida
651-773-8991 ♦ MITschida@horses-mn.org

Pioneer Award - Miriam Tschida
651-773-8991 ♦ MITschida@horses-mn.org

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763-420-3697 ♦ darrellmead@comcast.net

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952-226-4190 ♦ tnt@integraonline.com

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651-699-8117

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763-434-2799 ♦ trhanson2@hotmail.com

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612-729-7798

Legislative - Tracy Turner
651-351-7206 ♦ turner@anokaequine.com

Expo/State Fair/Aisle of Breeds - Glen Eaton
952-922-8666 ♦ MnHoseExpo@horses-mn.org

Website - Keith Payden
763-754-2470 ♦ keith.payden@comcast.net



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