



New Mexico Horse Council
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“As we topped the sand hill, there was a snake in the trail. But then, it seems there is always a snake in the trail, or next to it, right where the trail tops over into Sawmill Canyon. It’s a really snaky place. Several years later, one afternoon when I wasn’t paying attention, the horse I was riding stepped on a rattler at just that same spot and came close to dumping me on top of the snake. It didn’t do the snake any good either. But I knew about the rattlesnakes of the sand hill, so I stopped Brownie and let him blow some snot at the snake, and in a minute the snake went about his slithering business and we went on up the canyon.”
Sweetgrass Mornings, Slim Randles, University of New Mexico Press, 2010.

Calendar

- May 2: New Mexico Horse Council Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 PM, 1501 Los Arboles Ave. NW, Albuquerque.** Invited speaker: Dave Fly, DVM, NM Livestock Board.
- May 9:** NMHC Foundation scholarship awarded.
- June 6: New Mexico Horse Council Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 PM, HQH Farms, 6655 Coors Road SW, Albuquerque.**
- June 7: Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Election for three director positions.** Early voting begins May 23; polls open June 7, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. www.mrgcd.com. Keep our trails open and our hay growing!
- June 19 – 22: American Horse Council Annual Meeting and National Issues Forum, including Coalition of State Horse Councils Meeting, Washington, D.C.**
- June 25: 10 AM to 3 PM, NM Horse Council Horse Emporium, Cherry Tree Farm, 2315 Cherry Tree Lane SW, Albuquerque.** Booths, Tack Swap, Silent Auction, more.
- July: No Horse Council Board Meeting.**
- August 1: New Mexico Horse Council Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 PM, Place TBA.**
- September 9 – 25: New Mexico State Fair (closed Mondays and Tuesdays).** NMHC outreach at state fair stall and booth in front of Horse Arena daily.
- September 25: winning ticket drawn at State Fair for Quickstall.**
- November 4 – 6: Coalition of State Horse Councils Fall Conference, Madison, WI.**

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EHV 1 – EHM Update

Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) infection in horses can cause respiratory disease, abortion in mares, neonatal foal death, and/or **neurologic disease**. The neurologic form of EHV-1 is called **Equine Herpes Virus Myeloencephalopathy (EHM)**. The first symptom of EHM is often a high rectal temperature in excess of 102°F. Other symptoms are: nasal discharge, incoordination, hind end weakness, recumbency (lying down) for longer than normal periods, lethargy, urine dribbling and diminished tail tone.

Several horses recently competing in the National Cutting Horse Association Western National



Championship in Ogden, Utah, held April 29 – May 8, have been diagnosed with EHV-1 or EHM. Reports of affected horses have been received from multiple states (AZ, CA, CO, ID, NM, OR, TX, UT, WA) and Canada.

One central New Mexico horse that attended the Ogden show has died after acute paralytic onset of neurological disease. A stablemate that also attended has been febrile but clinically normal. A horse in the Hobbs area that attended the show was also found to be exhibiting neurological disease. This horse is reported to be improving after treatment; the ranch is under quarantine.

In fact, all known participants in the Ogden show are under quarantine, either official or self imposed. However, a number of the horses at the show were not officially entered. Also, secondary exposures at shows immediately following the Ogden event are known to have occurred.

The American Horse Council and the American Association of Equine Practitioners issued a press release May 19 stating that exposed horses will now be monitored through a national case reporting system. Said Jay Hickey, President of the American Horse Council: “The USDA can play a critical and timely role in collecting, verifying, and disseminating accurate information to state animal health officials and industry partners. These efforts are essential to mitigating the health and economic implications of this current EHV-1 situation. Misinformation can often be an epidemic in and of itself.”

Current best information in NM can be obtained from the New Mexico Livestock Board “What’s Hot” section, although currently it is on the front page as well. Go to www.nmlbonline.com, Tel. 505-841-6161. For the national updates, see <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/>

Recommendation from Dr. Dave Fly, State Veterinarian:

1. Reschedule all major equine events (gathering of large numbers of horses) for at least the next 7 – 10 days (through the end of May).
2. The only way to prevent the spread of EHV-1 is to stop the movement and commingling of horses.
3. Horse owners who suspect their horse may have been exposed to EHV-1 should contact their veterinarian immediately.

4. The neurological form of EHV-1 (EHM) is a reportable disease in New Mexico; hence, suspect horses should be reported immediately to the NM Livestock Board.

If no new cases appear, this outbreak may be under control. Humans cannot contract EHV-1.

New Mexico Fire Danger

It is no secret that several states would love to send us some water – in many cases, lots and lots of water. However, New Mexico is extremely dry and several forests and other public lands are operating under restrictions, including a ban on trail riding. Currently, restrictions or closures are in place for the Mountainair Ranger District in Cibola National Forest, the Lincoln National Forest, the Gila National Forest west of NM 15, and the Santa Fe National Forest. Check ahead of your trail ride at www.nmfireinfo.com or call 1-877-864-6985. Use extreme caution; of 54 fires to date, 7 are lightning caused, 13 are under investigation, and the remainder are human caused.

Bernalillo County Revised Animal Control Ordinance

Late in January, alert NMHC member Jackie Bouker noticed an item in the legal notices: Bernalillo County was ready to present a revision of its 2008 Animal Control Ordinance for public review and passage by the County Commission. That drove a flurry of activity, with Board members attempting to discover when the revisions were created, and why (since they cover livestock) no livestock groups were contacted for input. Meanwhile, the process went on.

The group PAW (People for Animal Welfare) claimed support for the revision from thousands of members. An Animal Ordinance Review Committee was announced, with very limited livestock expertise among its members. (This hardly matters, since the ordinance was passed on April 12 and no meetings of the committee have been scheduled.) In spite of the fact that horse owners, led by Board member Dick Hensleigh, repeatedly attempted to mitigate the phrases that make criminals of horse owners on small parcels, we were unable to coordinate meetings to involve other willing livestock groups, and were told that it was simply too late to make changes.





Our final effort attempted to split the ordinance into “companion animals”, a section we fully supported, and “livestock”, needing further work. (Imagine a rule that states horse pens must be “free of feces”.) Many livestock people spoke before the Commission, including horse owners, trainers, instructors, 4-H kids, breeders – to no avail. The ordinance passed unanimously. We may have lost in Bernalillo County (although Dick Hensleigh has demanded notice of meetings of the Animal Ordinance Review Committee – having been told by Commissioners that we may, after all, amend the regulations). After the passage of the Ordinance, however, the PAW group sent emails thanking friends of animals and stating that Bernalillo County was only a first step – that other counties would come soon. In fact, Las Cruces and Dona Ana County are now in the process of revising their ordinances. Take a look at the Bernalillo County final form at www.bernco.gov to see what they might be looking at. We thank Dick Hensleigh and others for their heroic efforts in spite of the late start.

Back Country Horsemen of America has an editorial in their spring 2011 newsletter that reads, in part, *“Many of the issues, planning processes, trail plans, and other initiatives in which we get involved are a lot like horse races. The outfit that shows up early, works hard, and maintains their focus usually finishes first....in cases where the results are highly successful, the folks brought the horse, ran the race and they WON. It wasn’t easy, and it certainly wasn’t fun, but they stayed the course....on the other hand, if you show up to a race that’s half over, with or without a horse, you may have a spectacular failure....If you want to win a horse race, bring a horse, better yet, bring all your friends and have them bring all their horses.”* Members of NMHC and our clubs, please be alert to this movement bubbling in other New Mexico counties, and cities, and horn in on the early planning. Animal control officers and the Livestock Board state that, although many abuse complaints are justified, others are due to neighbor vendettas. Don’t let governments pass and use a poorly written ordinance - although some updating and protections may be required. You might be able to ensure that requirements concerning livestock (involve other livestock groups) are workable, as we all want our horses to be comfortable and well treated.

NMSU/NMHC Equine Summit

Jenna Lowry attended this Summit, held at the Curry County Events Center in Clovis, NM on March 26. As a member representing the Arabian Horse Association of New Mexico, and as a Certified Senior Equine Appraiser, she is uniquely qualified to assess the seminar from the point of view of an association member and a business owner – and someone who was not involved in planning the event. She has written a two part report for the AHANM newsletter Jibbah Jabber, and has kindly allowed me to excerpt it for the Council. Look for the entire report at www.nmarab.com.

“The first New Mexico Equine Industry Summit (NMEIS) was organized by Dr. Jason Turner, associate professor and extension horse specialist at NMSU, and a member of the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Horse Council. It was sponsored by NM Horse Council, the Cooperative Extension Service, Bluebonnet Feeds, Hi-Pro Equine, Purina Mills, the Curry County Events Center, the NM State Border Food Safety & Defense Center and the Ethel-Jane W. Bunting Foundation, in conjunction with NM State University. Over 70 attendees representing 30 different equine groups and companies were present. The format included a talk by each speaker, followed by a short workshop/discussion at each table of six to eight people, before another speaker was presented.

The goals announced by Dr. Turner and Wendy Wilkins, Provost of NMSU, included:

- Finding Common Ground
- Identifying Areas of Concern
- Shaping the Future
- Successful Achievements

“The first speaker, **Leman Wall, AQHA director of corporate and affiliated partnerships**, discussed horse registration trends, and exploration of global marketing. The AQHA has developed alliances with other groups to keep entries up at AQHA shows. AQHA racing handles and purses have decreased somewhat, but number of starts are constant.

“The second speaker, **Dr. Mike Yoder of the North Carolina Horse Council and NC State University**, first covered promoting horses to the general public, then focused on a state study of





trends in their equine industry. The NC programs are supported by a 5¢ per bag surcharge on equine feed, which is fully supported by their horse industry. This has enabled not only the construction of facilities, but also a paid staff, a lobbyist, and trail consultants to members of the legislature for the NC Horse Council. His third topic, ‘incorporating horses into the community’, stressed the need for a good economic impact study. It not only shows the importance of horses, but promotes alliances among different horse groups and collaboration with other livestock associations for mutual benefit.

“The final presentation of the morning, **Equine Transportation Issues in an era of ‘real time’ Disease Surveillance**, was presented by **Dr. John Wenzel, DVM, NMSU Southwest Border Food Safety and Defense Center**. He covered the importance of vaccination against, and testing for, communicable diseases when considering movement of horses. He discussed agencies (federal and state) involved in monitoring movement of all livestock. Illegal movement of animals, he stressed, can quickly destroy an industry.

“After a catered BBQ lunch, the afternoon session began with a second presentation by **Mr. Leman Wall of AQHA**. “**The importance of ‘alliances’ in the equine industry – lessons from AQHA**” first defined an ‘alliance’, then outlined the purpose, the advantages, the keys to success, and successful examples. There are several types of alliances: breed groups with disciplines using those breeds; agricultural agencies with youth oriented groups such as 4-H; corporate sponsors with promotional programs; and personal connections among friends, co-workers or associations.

“The final presentation was titled ‘**Current Regulatory Issues facing Animal Agriculture in New Mexico, and What It Means for the Equine Industry**’. **Myles Culbertson** of the New Mexico Livestock Board, **Caren Cowan** of the NM Cattle Growers, and **Beverly Idsinga** of the Dairy Producers of NM were the presenters. The livestock industry contributes some \$6 billion annually to the New Mexico economy. Other livestock groups have aligned to hire a lobbyist to encourage useful legislation each year in Santa



Fe; currently the horse industry has no voice. There is strength in numbers!

“The summit concluded with an expert panel consisting of the presenters from the morning and afternoon, and also Dick Hensleigh (Horse Council), Dr. Leonard Blach (owner of Mine That Bird), Anna Fay Davis (NM Horse Breeders). Many felt that the NM Horse Council should focus more energy on improving the horse shows at the NM State Fair by increasing the entries. An experienced livestock event manager for Expo New Mexico is very badly needed. The panel members also encouraged the equine industry to align itself with the Farm Bureau whenever possible.

“Dr. Jason Turner gave concluding remarks and distributed a survey to attendees. The summit was videotaped and will be archived, along with the results of the survey.”

- Jenna Lowry

Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Election of Board Members

Three directors will be elected on June 7 – one director-at-large, one for Bernalillo County, and one for Valencia County. You are eligible to vote in this election if you are a landowner paying taxes to the Conservancy District. Check your property tax bill for “*Middle Rio Grande Conservancy*” listed under agencies. Early voting starts May 23, and polling places are listed on the web site, www.mrgcd.com. On June 7, you may vote at any polling location.

If you missed the candidate forums (the Board addresses the primary purposes of irrigation and flood control, with irrigation the main issue in these drought years), you may have missed a chance to ask candidates how they feel about recreational use of the ditch trails. Many of us near the river absolutely depend on these ditches, for trail riding, especially in the more urban areas.

Here’s who is running (by ballot position): **At large:** John Avila, William Turner and Eugene Abeita. NMHC members report that *John Avila* supports their views, but please make up your own minds. **Bernalillo County:** Augusta Meyers, John Kelly, Andrew Lopez, Lawrence Rodriguez, Elaine Hebard, Claudio Gonzales. *John Kelly* has contacted NMHC to voice his support for rider use of the ditch trails. His wife, Susan Kelly, was





formerly the Trails Coordinator for the City of Albuquerque and liaison to the Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee. **Valencia County:** Janet Jarratt, Johnny Paiz. Janet Jarratt is the incumbent and our Valencia County members think she has done a good job. But again, look at the issues, form your own opinions, and *vote!*

Your Horse as Taxable Property

Some horse owners have reported their equines appeared on the property tax rolls after they purchased a “hauling permit” (Form 1-H, the permanent equine hauling card). We checked this out with Dr. Fly, state veterinarian, and with Manuel Silva of the Bernalillo County Assessor’s Office.

Horses and other livestock are, and have been for many years, required to be valued for property taxation purposes (NMSA §§ 7-36-21). Livestock is seriously underreported. The \$6 million budget of the Livestock Board is 80% supported by mill levies and inspection fees. Some counties assign part of their mill levy to NMLB, some do not. (Bernalillo County does.) Inspectors are required to file their reports with the state, and counties may access these reports. Only a tiny portion of the budget comes from the horse industry; in Bernalillo County, reporting is at this time wholly voluntary. NMLB resources must be allocated to horse disease, even though taxing other livestock results in much more revenue.

Other counties may have a different procedure, but in Bernalillo County horse owners may download a reporting form from the assessor’s office (www.bermco.gov). ‘horses’ are listed after ‘bulls’ and before ‘ratites’. Owners list quantity and whether registered or non-registered, and declared value, then send it in. Mr. Silva says an unregistered gelding would increase the owner’s tax bill by about \$5 per year, and a portion of the revenue is turned over to the Livestock Board. Current horse values are obtained from livestock auctions once or twice a year, so the economic conditions affecting declarations and sale prices are reflected. (Dr. Fly commented that his team of mules moves around, and is listed on the tax rolls in two counties.) And in Bernalillo County a livestock owners report is absolutely required to accompany a greenbelt (agricultural) valuation.

Horse Emporium

A flyer is included with this newsletter. John and DJ Collins have offered their gorgeous arena at Cherry Tree Farm to host this event, which was “way fun” and earned a darned good amount for Council projects last year. We will have vendor tables, a silent auction, liability signs for sale (shipping them is expensive, and no fun!), kid stuff, and lots more. Here’s what we need:

- **Your donations** for the silent auction or the Horse Council vendor table. Everyone has something that would shine somewhere else! As Melanie Scholer famously said, “sell your old stuff and get some *new* old stuff!” (We already have some tack, some furniture, some art, some books, jewelry....services would also be welcome. Donors may direct the items to the Horse Council [501 (c) 4] or the Horse Council Foundation [501 (c) 3]. Raffle tickets for the Quickstall will be available as well.)
- **People to run the silent auction.** I committed elsewhere before the H.E. changed its date to June 25. Many of us can collect donations and get them to Cherry Tree Farm, but setting up and minding the tables is open – and fun!
- **A “minder” to promote the Horse Council** and memberships.
- **“Kids Corral”** helpers.
- **Vendors.** Tables and chairs are provided, at least to the first reservations, for that tiny little \$10 fee. Promote your club, sell your stuff, or both! Remember this event is in the shade.
- **Town criers.** Tell everyone. We’ll have more signage to get people down to Cherry Tree Farm, which is in a beautiful area and easily reached – if you know the way. We’ll also have more advertising.
- **Come hungry.** You can bring your own food, but a great BBQ lunch will be available for purchase.
- **Email the horse council**, mmhc@swcp.com, or call us at (505) 345-8959 and leave a message to reserve a booth.

Quickstall Fundraiser

This is your chance to own a beautiful, stout stall – just like the one in front of the Horse Arena at last year’s New Mexico State Fair – for just \$20 per chance (maximum number of tickets sold will be 300), and it includes delivery anywhere in New





Mexico. The raffle stall will be on display at the 2011 State Fair and the winning ticket will be drawn on the final day. Tickets can be obtained from NMHC, or we will be selling them at various horse events. Charlie and Mary Ann Poore and Quickstalls have been supporters of the Council for many years and we do thank them for this stall “deal” – buy your ticket! Or tickets!

Expo New Mexico

Although NMHC sent information to Governor-elect Martinez last year, and an impassioned plea for a professional livestock event manager (this is a top issue with our membership), a permanent manager has not been appointed and the interim manager, Dan Mourning, appears not to have extensive experience with livestock events.

Also, several members of the NM State Fair Commission resigned after the 2010 election; only Chairman David “Hossie” Sanchez of Belen and members Ruth Grant Bitsui of Sandoval and Benny Roybal of Espanola remain on the Expo website. This means no quorum, and no Commission meetings (the Commission is directed to make policy decisions for the facility and the State Fair) have been held this year, although somehow State Fair dates have been set (September 9-25, closed Mondays and Tuesdays). NMHC has suggested names to the new administration – a certain number of Commissioners by statute should have livestock experience.

Renovations on the Horse Arena and the north end of the Fairgrounds are proceeding, and the new lighting, insulation, walls, climate control, and renovated bathrooms are much appreciated. The Horse Arena PA system has been upgraded, and although barn paging is “off and on” due to the construction, it should be working reliably soon. Parking fees have been raised to \$5 per car.

Two “people” notes: Alison Haxton, Expo equestrian manager, recently had surgery and we wish her a full and speedy recovery. And mentioning a different state commission, NMHC lifetime member Gayla Drake McCulloch has been appointed to the **NM Racing Commission**.

New Mexico Indian Livestock Days

The NMSU Cooperative Extension Service hosted this annual event on May 10 and 11, at Route 66 Casino Hotel and in the field. One interesting

panel discussed ‘feral horses’, a “huge problem on Navajo lands and somewhat of a problem on the Laguna and Acoma reservations”, according to Kathy Landers, the NMSU McKinley County Extension agriculture agent.

She allowed me to observe the panel discussion without registering for the conference – thank you, Kathy! It was very informative, with the tribes expressing concern that the feral horses are not only destroying forage but fouling the water supplies used by reservation residents. The horses reproduce at a level the range can’t support, and must be removed. Although New Mexico owns a portable slaughter plant, it cannot be used until and unless the federal law banning horse slaughter is changed. The Navajo panel member repeatedly mentioned the cultural significance of the horses and their use in Navajo history. They are not worshipped, but are respected.

Sadly, the tribes have decided they must gather excess horses for removal. The cost is high. After the roundup, the horses must be branded and have blood drawn for a Coggins test before the hauling permit is purchased. Stallions must be gelded and be fed and watered while they recover. Crews are paid and they and their horses are fed; liability insurance must be obtained; and the price received for the horses does not begin to cover the cost of catching them. However, the range and the water sources can begin to recover. It seems that the unwanted horse problem is as intractable for the tribes as for the rest of us.

American Horse Council Annual Meeting and National Issues Forum

The theme for the General Session on Tuesday, June 21 in Washington, DC is “*Congress on a Diet: What it means for the Horse Industry*”.

The meeting begins with a reception on Sunday, June 19, sponsored by the Coalition of State Horse Councils. On Monday, June 20, the standing committees of the American Horse Council (Animal Welfare, Horse Show, Recreation, Health and Regulatory, and Racing Advisory) all meet. The Coalition of State Horse Councils also meets all day, and a Breed Round Table will be held in the afternoon. The day ends with the Opening Reception.

On Tuesday, the two parts of the General Session are separated by the Awards Luncheon, and the





day ends with the Congressional Reception in the evening.

On May 16, the American Horse Council submitted comments on behalf of horse owners and recreational users to the Forest Service, concerning the proposed planning rule. The adopted rule, last revised in 1982, will provide guidance for individual forests in setting policies for the next 15 to 20 years.

The AHC continued to stress the importance of recreation, and particularly equine recreation, in the National Forest System.

Specifically, the AHC recommended adding a requirement that the Forest Service reach out to national organizations when new revisions are undertaken to make sure equestrians are involved in the process. Also, they requested that the Forest Service include the four goals identified in its own "Framework for Sustainable Recreation" in the planning rule.

The AHC also commented that the horse has played a distinctive role in the history and culture of America, and reminded the Forest Service that they are directed to take into consideration culture and heritage resources.

Coalition of State Horse Councils

The renamed and rebranded State Horse Councils Advisory Committee will have the first June meeting with its new structure and bylaws in Washington. In this troubled economy, it is difficult for state horse councils to send delegates or contributions to the Washington meeting (many delegates pay all or part of their expenses, but feel that the networking and the visits to senators and representatives are worth the outlay). Other goals are to reach out to state councils that are not current members of AHC, increase communication through the CSHC newsletter and the proposed website, and to form partnerships with and solicit sponsorships from members of the equine industry.

Drug Use in Horse Racing

On May 4, bipartisan legislation was introduced in the Senate by Tom Udall (D) New Mexico and in the House by Ed Whitfield (R) Kentucky, to regulate the use of performance-enhancing drugs in horse racing. The legislation would add new provisions to the Interstate Horseracing Act of



1978, which allowed for simulcast wagering across state lines. Last year, such wagering accounted for 90% of the \$11.4 billion brought into the sport by betting.

Under the companion bills, drugs including Lasix would be banned, and additional testing required. Those working on the legislation cite harm to horses, increased fragility of thoroughbreds and shortened racing careers, safety concerns for jockeys and horses, and loss of faith by the spectators and betting public. At this stage, the additional policing and testing requirements are unfunded.

New Mexico Bicycle, Pedestrian and Equestrian Committee

This quarter's meeting was held in Santa Fe, following February's meeting in Carlsbad. The committee members met the new secretary of the Department of Transportation, Alvin Dominguez, and Kathy Kretz Bender, the Deputy Secretary for Transportation Programs in Infrastructure. I have been the civilian member supporting equestrians (all other states have bicycle & pedestrian committees; NM has an equestrian component) and my term is ending. We have been searching for a horse person to take my place and may have found two likely possibilities. At the public meeting the next day, NMHC member Eldon Reyer presented Santa Fe area equestrian issues and concerns.

BPE members supported one particular bill during the 2011 legislative session. It allowed the DOT to become involved in trails planning even if the proposed trail did not cross or run alongside a state highway. (This project saved road miles for non-motorized users by developing a shortcut.) The bill actually made it through all the House committees and passed the House, and passed all the Senate committees – before time ran out.

Later BPE meetings in 2011 will be held in Bloomfield (August) and Silver City (November). Check out the BPE pages on the NM DOT website under the 'multi-modal' picture of the RailRunner bird. www.nmshtd.state.nm.us.

NM Horse Council Foundation

The Foundation Board created a science fair prize for a project relating to horses, but in spite of expanding the parameters found no qualified entries. Next year the prize will be publicized.





The Foundation also selected its 2011 scholarship winner, **George Michael Zane Sullivan** of Albuquerque. The selection process was moved earlier in the year so the award could be made at the winner's high school graduation or awards ceremony. A Foundation Board member presented the certificate at the Hope Christian School awards ceremony on May 9; the actual funds are transferred to the college after the student matriculates. All candidates were wonderfully qualified. The Board has open positions, and a task to rebuild the endowment and decide the Foundation's direction. This may include partnering in grants. Contact Chairman Laura Burton (burtonranch@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

NMHC Board

On the individual member sheet included here, the names of the directors are underlined. (Their contact information is on the website.) We do not have a full complement of directors, so if you are interested, please attend a Board meeting. If you are *truly* interested, ask for an appointment to one of the unfilled positions. The Council's interests (with member input) are furthered by the Board, which elects NMHC officers annually. 2011 officers are: President, Rusty Cook; Vice-President, John Collins; Secretary-Treasurer, (these offices are usually separate) Val Cole.

NMHC Annual Meeting and Awards

Back in January, the Horse Council held its annual meeting, dinner and awards evening at the Ropers Restaurant in Albuquerque. Minutes were taken by Winona Kennedy, and will be presented for approval at next year's Annual Meeting. Summarized,

- The financial state of the Council was presented and discussed. Other discussions followed on these subjects:
- Bernalillo County's proposed revisions for care and shelter of livestock.
- The Unwanted Horse issue. Will USDA again allow horse slaughter? Since New Mexico is a border state, many horses are transported through on their way to slaughter facilities in Mexico.
- Certification of Equine Rescues in New Mexico.
- The Equine Summit in March 2011.

- Response from Governor-elect Susana Martinez about our support for a livestock event professional as State Fair Manager. (Minimal.)
- Trails report from Jackie Bouker and Karri Sauve.
- Raffle tickets for the Quickstall.
- Horse Council Foundation scholarship award.
- Review of other NMHC activities.

Elections: Ron Morris of Belen and Kayce Patterson of Carrizozo were elected to the Board of Directors.

Awards: First, Richard Hensleigh and Eldon Reyer, co-winners of the Horse Person of the Year in 2009, were acknowledged. Then, 2010 **Certificates of Appreciation** were given to:

Winona Kennedy, for again bringing the popular miniature horses to the State Fair Booth, for bringing a unicorn to the Horse Emporium, and for staffing the NMHC booth at the Joint Stockmen's Convention.

Quickstalls and owners Charlie and Mary Ann Poore, for again providing a beautiful "Ultimate" stall at the New Mexico State Fair to house the equines for the NMHC educational experience, "How horses enrich our lives."

Jason Turner for promoting and providing software for remote Board meetings, organizing and scheduling the State Fair booth, and promoting closer ties with other livestock groups.

D. J. Collins, for hosting the NMHC Horse Emporium, and many other clinics, shows and events benefiting the horse community, at Cherry Tree Farm in 2010.

Rusty Cook, for managing the NMHC web site and presiding over every meeting of the Board of Directors, while leaving the state very frequently to serve as USEF steward or USDF Technical Delegate.

Phil Reppert, for serving on the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Horse Council, and particularly in 2010 for his concern and attention to the detrimental effects of early and strenuous training of young horses.

Maura Lewiecki, for serving two terms on the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Horse Council, and in particular for her expertise and





attention to trails and land use affecting the horse community.

Tom Trowbridge, for preserving and encouraging the “equestrian” component of the Governor’s Bicycle, Pedestrian and Equestrian Committee, including creation of a new “Equestrian Awareness” brochure by the NM Department of Transportation in 2010.

Kristin Darnell, for managing the “kid’s corner” at the Horse Emporium with her young crew, and for promoting higher standards in riding and horse management in 2010.

Catherine Logan-Carrillo, for writing, editing and producing the Horsemen’s Voice magazine, benefiting the horse community in innumerable ways.

Susan Seligman, for presenting in her newspaper and magazine articles the enjoyment of horses and riding, particularly for mature riders or those returning after an absence. Also, for participating in, and writing about, equine experiences in faraway places.

NMHC Horse Person of the Year

This award was created to reward volunteer effort and dedication to improving aspects of the horse world. Past winners include: Karen Reyer, Melanie Scholer, Elsie Shollenbarger, Suzanne Norton Jones, Blair Darnell, Val Cole, Carolyn Bader, Dick Hensleigh and Eldon Reyer. This year’s winner spent much of his youth at his grandfather’s farm caring for, training and riding horses. After spending thirty years away from the horse world, he married a woman who rode jumpers and dressage horses. He resumed riding, specializing in competitive and endurance riding.

Together, he and his wife built Cherry Tree Farm and began hosting clinics, shows and other activities. He is particularly interested in aiding young and beginning riders. He is a member and tireless worker in many horse groups, including his election to the Presidency of the New Mexico Dressage Federation. After retiring, he has purchased a new horse and intends to be an active competitor. The John and DJ hosted the Horse Emporium in 2010 and were involved in every aspect of the event. He also has organized almost every aspect of the NMHC Annual Meeting for the past two years, and served as a director and



officer of the club. NMHC is proud to award the 2010 **Horse Person of the Year** to **John Collins**.

NMHC Member News Snippets

Habanero Polocrosse invites the public to try this combination of polo and lacrosse. Any level of horse and rider skill is welcome; they may even have a horse that you can try. For details, see habanero.polo@yahoo.com

Melanie Scholer and **Dan’s Boots and Saddles** presented another successful *Ditch Pony Promenade* at the Corrales Topform Arena. Some classes were huge; costume had 20 entries and “moldy oldies” (adult leadline) 22. Congressman Ben Ray Lujan and state senator John Sapien were there to present ribbons. Melanie and Dan’s Boots find sponsors for all awards, and design cute and crazy ribbons. Officials all volunteer. The Village of Corrales also sponsors the event, so entry is free. Many participants ride the network of irrigation ditches to get there. Everybody had fun!

The **Foundation for the Pure Spanish Horse** sent a beautiful, bilingual newsletter in May. It is a national organization with newly rebuilt offices in Albuquerque, which they opened with a gala celebration and dinner last month. See the site (www.prehorse.org) for sheer equine beauty.

Enchantment Driving Society reports that Bernalillo County does require liability insurance for equine events held at *Vista Sandia Equestrian Park* in North Albuquerque Acres. To schedule your event, contact Rick Espinoza at 314-0423 or 681-2603. Individuals may use the facility without a reservation. **EDS** also wishes to place an outdoor message board at the park, and has priced a suitable sign. They have some funds collected, but those wishing to donate towards the cost may contact Jan Tichy at tjtichy@gmail.com.

Listening Horse Therapeutic Riding and its Horses for Heroes of Northern New Mexico provided a “first show experience” for its military veterans in the program. Lifetime NMHC members (and both winners of the NMHC Horse Person of the Year Award) **Eldon and Karen Reyer** helped by providing a horse, trolling for award sponsors, and “announcing and picking on people”. The Reyers celebrated their 50th anniversary summers ago, but we notice little slowdown.



New Mexico Horse Council

P.O. Box 10206 – Albuquerque, New Mexico 87184 – (505)345-8959

Individual and Lifetime Members – to May 15, 2011

Ralph Abeyta ★
Heidi Anderson
Rob Atchley ★
Carolyn Bader
Jeff R. Bader
Mern Bedsworth
Jennifer
 Bedsworth ★
Susan Blakely ★
Jackie Bouker
Kari Bovée
Ben Carrillo
Patty Carroll ★
Cathy Chapel ★
Randy Cole ★
Valerie Cole ★
D.J. Collins ★
John Collins ★
Hilary Compton
Rusty Cook ★
Martin Cook ★
David Copher ★
Laura Cunico
Doug Davidson
Carol Ditmanson
Sharon Eastman
Kathy Falter
Dianne Fay ★
Winnie Fitch
Winston French
Bob Frost
Regina
 Guest-Rupert ★

Jan Henfling
Richard Hensleigh
Chris Hoden
Paula Holmes
Michael Housholder
Paula Howe
Richard B. Hulett
Bob James
Suzanne Norton
 Jones
Winona Kennedy
Jan Koltonuk
Judy Larson
Gayla Drake
 McCulloch ★
Sally McGrath
Nance McManus ★
Toni Miller
Elaine Morrell
Ron Morris
Jene Moseley ★
Beth Nance
Jim Nance
Paul Noble
Ethel Ortenburger
Ron Parker
Kayce Patterson
Matt Paxton
Philip Reppert
Eldon Reyer ★
Karen Reyer ★
P Riley
Jim Roberts

Alpha Russell
Melanie Scholer
Susan Seligman
Elsie
 Shollenbarger ★
Mike Sullivan
Barbara Tellier
Jan Tichy
Barbara Treseder
Jason Turner ★
Mary Tyler
Peggy Vensel
Mary Jo Wallen ★
Ann Mulhern
 Waller ★
Carla Ward
Lisa Welter
Lee Wharton
Janis White ★
Cathleen Wilde
Julie Wilson
Mariah Wilson
Linda Yiannakis

Board Members are
underlined.

Individual Lifetime
Members = ★.

As always, we
appreciate your
support – some for
many years!



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THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PURE SPANISH HORSE

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NEW MEXICO APPALOOSA HORSE CLUB

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New Mexico Horse Council Presents

THE HORSE EMPORIUM

June 25, Saturday, 10 AM to 3 PM



At Cherry Tree Farm

2315 Cherry Tree Ln, SW
Albuquerque, NM

(take I-25 south to exit 213, Isleta Blvd.

Then 1.8 miles north see Cherry Tree Ln. on west side.

Follow the signs). Plenty of Free Parking!



- Silent auction, tons of items (but additional donations welcome).
- Tack and other horsey things for sale.
- Kid's Stuff.
- Arts and crafts.
- Equine liability signs for sale (buy here & save shipping)!
- BBQ lunch available for purchase.
- Seller Spaces Available at \$10 each.

All vendors will be inside the covered arena. Some tables available to those renting early. Get club members together or rent your own. Commercial vendors welcome. Move fast, we expect this to be popular!

To reserve a booth: Call and leave message at Horse Council telephone, 505-345-8959 or email the Horse Council, nmhc@swcp.com.

Watch the Horse Council Web Site, www.nmhorsecouncil.org, for more information. Pictures of some silent auction items going up soon!

