

SOUND ADVOCATE

July/August 2017

FOSH is a member of the American Horse Council

Volume 2 issue 4

This issue looks to the West. Check out our western saddle stories.

Forget the horse; losing their saddles was what real cowboys feared.

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The Time has come to sell. What should you do to protect the horse?

Not every horse has a forever home. Making sure his next place is the right place is an owner's obligation.

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"...If we see cruelty or wrong that we have the power to stop and do nothing, we make ourselves sharers in the guilt."

Anna Sewell in Black Beauty



In Big Sky Country, Roso, a rescued Foxtrotter, and Janet Rose, his adoptive mom, pass time together.

Lights, Camera, Action---Montana

Former NYC Reporter Starts Rescue and Creates Pioneering Film Festival

Janet Rose no longer needs to worry whether or not an address is uptown or downtown. In fact, the former resident of Manhattan no longer has to worry at all about catching a cab or the pace of city life. She now lives in a small rural town in Montana, so small, that it is easier, she says, to "just say Missoula", a name that people recognize.

The story of how a big city girl grew up to be a small town woman with big ideas, including establishing a horse rescue and a film festival called the **EQUUS INTERNATIONAL Film Festival (EIFF)**, is reminiscent of the spirit that brought restless Americans to what would become Montana, continued **page 8**

This Issue

The FOSH Mission Statement

To promote all “sound”, naturally gaited horses, with a specific emphasis on Tennessee Walking Horses. (In this context, sound means not “sored”.)

Importance is placed on education, regarding the humane care for the emotional, mental and physical well-being, training, and treatment of all gaited horses.

FOSH will only support flat shod or barefoot horses, and will never endorse any event that uses stacks and/or chains as action devices, or any mechanical, chemical, or artificial means to modify the natural gaits of the horse.

FOSH focuses on three areas for gaited horses:

- 1). educating people about sound horse training principles
- 2). supporting sound shows, events and activities
- 3). working to end soring.

FOSH is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Your donation to support the FOSH mission is needed to advance the goals set forth by FOSH in conjunction with its formal mission statement.

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Sound Advocate Magazine

Friends of Sound Horses, Inc.
6614 Clayton Rd. #105, St. Louis, MO 63117
800-651-7993 * info@fosh.info * www.fosh.info

Board of Directors

President

Teresa Bippen
St. Louis, MO
Tbippen1957@yahoo.com

VP Education

Cris Van Horn
Knoxville, TN
twocloudsdancing@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Alece Ellis
Greenback, TN
treasurer@fosh.info

Director at Large

Bill Coon
Harriman, UT
wbotis@gmail.com

VP IJA Program

Dianne Little
Calgary, Alberta
ddlittle@telus.net

VP Programs

Gaited Sport Horse

Dianne Little
Calgary, Alberta
ddlittle@telus.net

Director At Large

Membership

Anita Dunham
Hamilton, MO
dunhamanita@gmail.com

Director At Large

Executive Advisory Committee

Keith Dane
Clarksburg, MD
djuj@aol.com

Kirsten Kuzmanic
AZ

Lisa Harris
Jefferson City, TN

Maggie MacAllister
Staunton, VA
breezewood@mgwnet.com

Patti Potts
MO

Pauline Stotsenberg
Murrieta, CA
ps@yesteryearfarms.net

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Subscribers: The Sound Advocate is a benefit of membership. To ensure that you receive your issues, be sure that your e-mail address is current. To change an e-mail address contact dunhamanita@gmail.com

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Since 1998, FOSH is the only national organization dedicated to the promotion of the sound gaited horse, emotionally, mentally, and physically; to fair competition; to humane treatment, training, and education, regardless of gaited breed or discipline.

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Articles published by FOSH reflect the views and opinions of the writers and do not reflect, necessarily, those of FOSH.



From Your President

Dear FOSH Friends,

As we head into the long day season, I hope you are enjoying your riding hours. I have been lucky to start riding very early two workdays each week with a later work start, and I am enjoying my extra time with Shiloh. Time in the saddle before heading off to work is a perfect starter for me as I am not fond of the Midwest heat and humidity facing me if I ride after work. Riding in the evening also means there will be deer visiting the pasture where I ride and the possibility of a serious spook so riding at dawn is a welcome solution.

We are quite pleased to provide information on two amazing sound riding events later this summer. The [Missouri State Fair Society Horse Show in Sedalia, MO](#) provides classes for [Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horses and Open Gaited Breeds on August 1 & 2](#). The show uses the Missouri Horse Show Association rules, which are modeled on the FOSH-IJA Rulebook, and FOSH IJA judge, Rick Evans, will judge. [What is exceptional about this show is that the total combined prize money is over \\$9,500, which may make it the largest payout for a flat shod show anywhere in the U.S. We would love to see a spectacular turnout of flat shod horses from the Midwest and beyond.](#) The payout makes it worthwhile to hit the road to come to the Show Me state, and we hope to see you there.

Also in August, FOSH is partnering with North American Western Dressage to offer the [Festival for the Horse on August 9-13 at the historic Van Holten Ranch in Mora, Missouri](#). There are a wide variety of events, classes, clinics and speakers no matter your discipline plus trail riding and entertainment. We want learning to be fun, and this is the place to enjoy your horse and learning at the same time. The event is also a Western Dressage show, and IJA judge Alece Ellis will be judging. This is a perfect venue to learn more about Western and Gaited Dressage and visit with experts on a wide variety of disciplines such as long reining, six feet on the ground, ranch horse, trail obstacle and much more. All equines are welcome, including mules and we hope you pass the word on this unique event. To learn more, www.festivalforthehorse.com

Although a little farther ahead, [September 23 marks the first time that FOSH will be involved in the "Time to Ride"® program sponsored by the American Horse Council. Several organizations are sponsors in addition to FOSH including GaitWay Horse Association and the St. Louis National Charity Horse Show.](#) Time to Ride®, is a FREE event open to children ages 3-14 years who are allowed to ride horses / ponies at a walk while being led by an experienced handler at the National Equestrian Center in Lake St. Louis. The purpose of the event is to introduce children to the joy of equestrian sports by giving them a riding experience. Additional activities will include a horse breed demonstration held twice during the day and a petting area with horses, donkeys, and ponies. Representatives of local barns and equine programs will be available to discuss riding lessons, horse leasing, horse ownership, and answer any questions that children or adults may have about the wonderful world of horses and ponies and the various horse and pony breeds.

Enjoy your Summer and I hope to see you soon at a FOSH event!

Teresa

Member News continues on page 6

Equine Longevity Award Honors AERC Competitors

In a sport with a motto that declares, "To finish is to win," the American Endurance Ride Conference has produced a lot of winners.

The nonprofit organization has recently launched a new award program for horses that have competed for 10 or more years, completing at least 50 miles of AERC competitions each year. The award is a complement to the highly coveted AERC Decade Team Award, given for horses-and-rider teams who have completed endurance rides (50 miles or longer) for 10 or more years.

"There should be more recognition of our members whose equines compete year after year at any distance, while maintaining the well-being and health of their equines," said Terry Woolley Howe, of Southern California, the organizer of the award program.

"This program recognizes the equine regardless of who was the rider so long as the owner is an AERC member, the equine was entered in AERC's mileage program, and the equine completed at least 50 miles a year at any AERC-sanctioned event," said Howe.

To date, owners of nearly 800 equines have received 10-year pins. Five horses have been honored with 20-year pins, including AERC Hall of Fame equines Ramegwa Drubin, Remington and Robin Hood. Another 70 equines have earned 15-year pins.

"The Equine Longevity and Decade Team awards are unique to AERC," said the organization's executive director, Kathleen Henkel. "Many new members say that AERC's emphasis on long-term goals are a key reason for choosing to join." Members and their equines can accumulate lifetime mileage achievement awards, starting at 250 rider miles, and also compete for annual awards in a variety of categories.

Interested in pursuing a 10-year Equine Longevity Award for your horse? The trail to that recognition will start with a single 25- or 50-mile AERC ride.

For information about AERC or to request a Discover Endurance Riding booklet, visit aerc.org/New_Members_Page.

Fun in the Sun Member Photo

Not everyone has the Pacific Ocean available to teach horses how to be comfortable when crossing water, but if you have it, use it! Pauline Stotsenberg of California goes wave walking and watching with her favorite trail horse, Mystir.



Instagram Distance Rules

This contest is for individuals riding gaited horses in rides sanctioned by North American Trail Riding Convention (NATRC), American Endurance Riding Conference (AERC) and Competitive Trail Rides (with a veterinarian in attendance).

To enter, riders post a photo of themselves with their horse at each ride they attend in 2017 with the:

- Required hashtag #FOSHDistanceContest
- Required hashtag #RideName (individualized for each ride)
- Optional hashtag #Horsebreed (your horse's breed)

Only one entry from each ride will be counted, and photos must be posted no later than 11:59 p.m., December 31, 2017.

Everyone entering is strongly encouraged to also post their photo to the Facebook page: FOSH Gaited Distance Riders.

The rider with the most Instagram photos posted in 2017 wins \$100, second most photos is \$75 and third most posted photos is \$50.

All winners receive a one-year, complimentary membership in FOSH and its Gaited Distance recognition program in 2018.

Anyone who posts 3 or more photos will receive a FOSH logo ball cap. NATRC and AERC gaited riders may join FOSH in 2017 and waive their FOSH 2017 Gaited Distance Program entry fee. ##

Member News continues on page 33

FOSH Partners with NAWD for First Festival for the Horse

Friends of Sound Horses (FOSH) announce and invite all gaited horse fans to join together at the Festival for the Horse taking place August 9-13 in Mora, Missouri.

“Having fun while learning” is the theme of the event being held in partnership with North American Western Dressage (NAWD). No matter your interest, learning sessions, trail riding, watching demonstrations, socializing with like-minded friends and participating or watching a Western Dressage show for both gaited and trotting horses and mules, there will be something for every horse and mule and every rider.

Join FOSH and NAWD for a unique gathering that celebrates the spirit of learning together for the good of all of our equine partners. Full details are atnawdhorse.org.

The event kicks off Wednesday, August 9, with a slate of demonstrations from NAWD professionals and featured clinician Dan James of Double Dan Horsemanship. Learning sessions for August 9 and 10 include:

Dan James - Cantering

Dan James - Is your horse ready for bareback/bridleless riding?

Dan James - Leads and Lead Changes

Double Lane Horsemanship - Six Feet on the Ground & Long Reining Fix-A-Test sessions

Double Lane Horsemanship - Create your own freestyle

Julie Slater - Ranch Horse exercises for success

Alece Ellis - Dressage for the gaited equine

Brandy Von Holten - Obstacles and Trail

Festival for the horse attendees are invited to apply for riding spots in these demonstrations. Space is limited and participants will be selected on a first come, first-served basis with consideration for individual qualifications. The full schedule is available online. Instructors will also offer lessons on Wednesday and Thursday for an additional fee.

Included with your Festival for the Horse participant fee of \$250 is access to all demonstrations, opportunities for obstacle course and trail riding, along with dinner and campfire treats on Wednesday and Thursday. Von Holten Ranch will host a Friday night banquet, featuring dinner, a DJ, photo booth and prizes; tickets are \$20.

The Festival for the Horse Show takes place August 11-13; this fun, friendly competition lets you put your skills to the test for great feedback and prizes. Entries are \$35 per test, and a \$20 office fee. Tests include Western Dressage, Ranch Horse, Six Feet on the Ground, Long Reining, Trail and Freestyle.

Registration for the Festival for the Horse is now open. Full information, including the event schedule, is available at www.nawdhorse.org/event/festival ##

Bill Harlin Passes Away

NASHVILLE, Tenn.- William “Bill” Wirt Harlin Jr., 92, the well-known operator of Harlinsdale Farm, once the premier breeding facility for walking horses in the United States, passed away quietly in his sleep on June 13th, according to sources. His wife Barbara predeceased him. His brother Thomas Clay Harlin, 89, his co-partner in the business, passed away in 2015 after a lengthy illness. The farm is now a passive park in Williamson County, after being sold by the family.

Mr. Harlin attended both the United States Naval Academy and Vanderbilt University. He came from a family with a long and varied history within the Walking Horse world. He was there in 1935 when the breed registry began and served twice as the president of TWHBEA. While he owned performance horses during his lifetime, he was one of the first horsemen in middle Tennessee to advertise in the pioneering Steppin’ Out newspaper that addressed the issue of soring and as well as the less than savory issues within the industry and at TWHBEA. His son, Clay, while still a TWHBEA director, took a public stand against the sore horse and was shunned by the industry for his outspoken position.

In 2009 Harlin relocated Harlinsdale Farm to a farm he owned in College Grove, TN, where it continues to operate. In recent years, Mr. Harlin had endorsed the PAST Act and said, publically, he would like to see the walking horse returned to its natural state, as a matter of survival for the breed. He made his feelings known in a plain speaking article that ran in The Tennessean.

Mr. Harlin was a decent man, worthy of respect. He will be missed. Funeral services were conducted on June 17th, with private burial services following the public service. ##

Although June 21st may have been the official start of summer, for me summer begins the first day the temperature passes 85. When I stand in the arena at 0830 and I'm sweating, I say it's summer no matter what the calendar says.

Thus, on the first official heat with humidity day this year, I was in the arena with a rider, sweating, straining, and close to swearing. Either I had lost the ability to clearly communicate from the ground what was required from the rider, or the rider had lost the ability to execute the plan from the saddle.

The horse, requiring consistency as the first mainstay of training, was caught (as horses too often are) in the middle. Directions from the saddle came from left, right, and center, but never from the same point twice. Directions from the ground came quicker and quicker. Soon, our partner the horse, broke out in a sweat, too; his was from frustration not from the temperature.

The root cause of the problem was a hole in the fundamentals of the rider's position. Trying to correct the incorrect habits of many years, while retraining a mature body, is a challenge that can try the patience of any coach and rider. Yet, in order to go forward, the difficult things must be done.

The rider, discouraged, moaned that she felt she was going backwards. I grit my teeth and pressed on. Finally we achieved enough improvement to be able to call it quits and the horse was relieved that he finally understood what the rider wanted. The three of us have had some great days (as well as real stinkers) together; the important thing is not to give up. ***Plan, execute, analyze, execute again: Those are the words that cannot be forgotten in training.***

Riding is a lot like that other summertime amusement, taking a roller coaster ride; sometimes you're climbing upward happily and then, without seeing it coming, you plunge dizzyingly down. It can happen so fast you don't have time to scream. For coach and for rider highs and lows in riding are part of the journey we take together and the horse makes that trip with us. Screaming is, therefore, never an option.

Realistically we know that in order to go forward, we must, sometimes, intentionally go back and sometimes it happens that we go neither forward nor backward, we simply have a lousy day. Yet, we know for certain as we improve in the work and become more consistent in our understanding of the training process, that forward will overtake those plunging moments that feel like despair, just as when

Just an Opinion

Riding Isn't Always Fun in the Shade

By Cherie Beatty



we were kids we knew that we would return, safe and sound, frequently exhilarated, to the base station on the roller coaster ride ready to go again.

A lyric from a rock and roll song, popular one summer when I was in my teens, swore that there "ain't no cure for the summer-time blues". Dressed in a soggy tee shirt with my hair in wet strings, I came close to believing that at the close of this particular, discouraging, lesson. What's important is that I didn't believe it when we started again the next day, fresh and crisp, ready to build on the difficult day that was yesterday.

In the process of trying to be the best riders and coaches we can be, we may get discouraged. Enter Gustave Flaubert, the author of *Madame Bovary*, to remind us "The most glorious moments in your life are not the so-called days of success, but rather those days when out of dejection and despair you feel rise in you a challenge to life, and the promise of further accomplishments."

Or, as Master Karl Mikolka puts it, "***We might have good days and bad days, so can horses. We should never get angry and frustrated about that. My teacher, Mr. [Alfred] Cerha, always said, "Forgive and forget; move on." The road to becoming a rider is steep and stony, filled with obstacles that have to be overcome. The road to becoming a well-trained horse is equally challenging.***"

Rider or a coach, to succeed you have to be a hard-working optimist with a plan, able to work through the ups and downs that come to all who persist in this way of life. (A willingness to sweat never hurts either, so how lucky we are that summer has now come, officially, to give us that opportunity to succeed. ##

Lights, Camera continued from page 1

a glorious piece of North America already inhabited by indigenous people who had a reverence for the spirit of the horse.

Rose readily concedes that she is not a lifelong horseperson, although her grandfather was. Weekends and summers would find her in upstate New York, also scenic and rural, spending time with her grandparents, where she was also able to ride, occasionally, strictly for recreation. Back home in the city, her mother took her to the society horse shows at the fabled Madison Square Garden that enthralled her. Yet, it's hard to be a "horse girl" in Manhattan. Rose had to settle for being an "animal girl", a person who fell in love with everything that had four legs and needed a home.

Being a "horse girl", however, can be as much a matter of genes as it is of location. The inclination once there is always there, all it needs is opportunity to blossom. Rose's grandfather, who grew up in Europe and had both farmed and ranched, owned, rode and knew horses inside out, she remembers. It turns out he also had more than a passing connection to the cinema. In his later years he shared ownership of a small herd of horses with Burgess Meredith, well known for his film and TV roles, including a turn in the Batman series.

Rose remembers, "My lasting image of my grandfather is of this handsome, rugged, kind and gentle man with a shock of white hair, riding on his big, white, horse. It was mesmerizing and the image has always stayed with me. He had a big impact on my life. He was the kindest, gentlest man I ever met and he was always introducing me to something wildlife related. He shared his love of wildlife and domestic animals with me, but he spent quite a lot of his time on horseback and he rode like the wind was moving him. It's one of those images that become part of you. That is

is how I always remember him."

Fast-forward to 2017 and Rose can now say she has been involved in an ongoing, consistent way with horses for about 14 years. The move to Montana was the opportunity she needed to become more deeply immersed in all things equine. Her youngest daughter participated in 4-H so "Mom" had to get involved, but once again it was a white horse that led the way. "A wonderful, older white pony came into our lives just before my daughter got involved in 4-H. It was almost magical, in a mythical way," said Rose, adding, "and that was the beginning of my serious love of horses." (Perhaps, like a story in the movies, that white pony was actually a gift sent from a watchful grandfather who thought that starting smaller than his own large white horse would be just the ticket for his granddaughter and his great granddaughter.)

In 2007 Rose established **Horse Haven Montana**, incorporated as a nonprofit in 2010. Horse Haven is devoted to the rescue and adoption of living and breathing horses and to a lesser extent, their longer-eared brethren, mules. Over the past 10 years, Rose earned the title "horse woman", yet, and for all her outward-reaching activities, she says the thing that would surprise most people about her is that, "In my work and in my personal life, I am inherently a very shy person. I seem and act very outgoing and I do genuinely enjoy people and feel very comfortable getting up in front of a large audience and speaking about something that I think is important or that I believe in. But my husband may be the only one who knows how basically shy I am – I have simply moved over or beyond that in order to communicate about things that I think are important. "

From the beginning, Rose's life has been as wide open and varied as the Montana sky she now can see every day. She studied journalism and psychology, earning a BA from NYU, and later pursued a Master's in zoology. At one time she thought she might study veterinary medicine, but the call of social issues related to youth, poverty, human, and animal welfare all competed for her attention; she tried to fold them all into her studies. In doing so, she realized, while in college, that media was a powerful tool of change. That's how she got into journalism.

She began her professional career doing the news and developed into an investigative reporter. She worked on wildlife and animal stories, including investigative reports on dog and horse racing, the Navy's controversial dolphin program, the illegal wildlife trade, and animals used in entertainment.



Horse Haven Montana is, says Rose, the work that makes her heart sing.

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Sumer Storms Can Spell Disaster on the Trails

Chances of being hit by lightning? 1 in 500,000. Being within 10 miles of the epicenter of a storm? Chances greatly elevated. A trio of riders in Colorado learned one chance is a chance too many. In May, a 37-year-old woman, and the horse she was riding, was killed by a lightning strike. A 15-year-old girl, also mounted, was struck and seriously injured. A third rider was uninjured. Riding on a marked trail, they were caught between two storm fronts, trying to find the “sweet spot” between the storms, said a deputy. *This tragedy should motivate riders to review what to do should they find themselves on the trail and part of a fast moving weather event.*

- First, immediately get off your horse
- Second, seek adequate shelter; if there is no obvious shelter consider taking shelter in a thicket of bushes, which may also protect you from the hail, which often accompanies weather that includes high winds, and lightning.
- Third, tie your horse to a bush, never to a tree. People should stay low to the ground and away from the horses to decrease the chances of being struck.
- Stay out of riverbeds and off hills. Seek the lower slope portion of a hill if no other shelter is available.
- Fourth, assume a squat/crouch position. Squat on your haunches, feet tightly together, with your arms wrapped around your knees and your body curled down. If you feel any tingling of your skin, or the sensation of your hair “standing on end”, do not leave this position until those feelings pass. Wait until the bad weather passes completely before leaving your sheltered area. Do not mount your horse until there is weather all clear. NEVER try to outrun a storm system; chances are you'll lose. The moral? **Soaking wet is always better than dead.**

Lights continued from p. 10

“ My goal, “ she says thinking back, “ was always to work to make the world a better place. I know that sounds naïve, but that’s just the way I looked at the world. Journalism, I thought and still think, is and can be a powerful educational tool. It can inspire, raise awareness. and be a tool to create change. But, like all things, journalism began to change. “

Rose said when she saw her profession turning from real reporting towards “fluff and happy talk”, she made a change, too, moving towards wildlife conservation work. She was offered a position as head of Conservation Communications for the International Field Division of the Wildlife Conservation Society. From there, wanting to get even further into living the lifestyle of the great outdoors, a move to Montana felt right.

She and her husband packed up their two daughters, one of whom was an infant, and headed west. Remotely, she worked with the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium as Senior Director of Development & Conservation Initiatives and currently works as Director of Development & Communications for a national non-profit called Save the Chimps. It is the largest chimpanzee sanctuary in the world.

In Montana she also found work as the executive director for a wilderness organization. For the past 22 years, since she moved to the Big Sky state, she has worked in non-profits in Executive Director roles and that’s how the film world came calling. For 13 years Rose was the Executive Director of the first International Wildlife Film Festival; that opportunity helped to plant the seed that became, in 2011, the EIFF.

Busy life, busy wife-- Rose says her entire family has been

both understanding and supportive of her many activities and her passions, which include personal dedication to horses and mules. Describing herself as old enough to vote and on the other side of 50, she notes she’s married to a wonderful man who helps to facilitate her love of horses.

“My husband has his own interests and pursuits but he’s always been interested and supportive of my work with horses. From time to time he “enables” with pasture maintenance and things related to rescue and adoption efforts. He’s always willing to help on an as-needed basis,” she adds, “ and my family is supportive.”

The couple’s two daughters have long since outgrown 4-H. The older daughter is an attorney working in the health field, while the younger daughter is a working actress and singer/songwriter, pursuing a career in musical theater and vocal performance. “ Although both of them grew up with horses and they rode, horses are not their passion, the way they are for me, “ Rose admits cheerfully.

Rose has other interests, too. She lists hiking, photography, video production and spending as much time as possible outdoors with horses, dogs and nature, as ways she likes to spend her time. The EIFF, which she founded, as well as her horse rescue and adoption program, are both time- consuming and logical outgrowths of her professional life in combination with the things she’s loved from girlhood. She also admits to creating jewelry, using natural stones and materials, and has tried her hand at pottery. Creativity is part of her makeup.

“ I believe it’s important to follow your own path and to determine ‘what makes your heart sing’, as I describe it. In my case, my work and my life and my passions and interests are kind of merged into one—there isn’t a strong delineation between them. My approach is to love what I do and to do what I love. I also believe very strongly that we are here on earth to give back, to do what we can do to make the world a better place. I want to make a difference if I can, so I try to do as much as possible in the ways that seem most right to me. I work much of the time, but for me it isn’t work, it’s doing what I think is important and can, hopefully, improve the lives of others, “ Rose explains. **Continued on page 15**

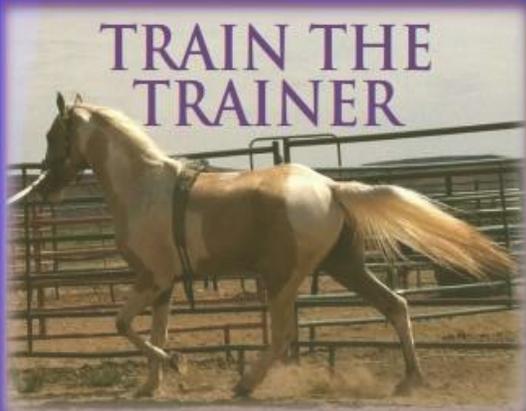
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TRAIN THE TRAINER

The *Train the Trainer* program was designed to assist individuals from different disciplines who may not be familiar with the gaited breeds. The program will assist trainers, owners, and riders to recognize and/or achieve gait in both American and Spanish gaited breeds.

Our clinics, lessons, and horse training are tailored to each situation, location, and/or group. Individuals can bring horses to the ranch in Idaho, or plans can be made to travel to the local area.

For more information contact:
Nya Bates 208.559.2755
Website: www.batesgaitedhorses.com

NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE 

PHILOSOPHIES ALIGN WITH FOSH
NO Drugs, NO Devices, NO Exception
The Welfare of our Equines Comes FIRST

A SPORT FOR ALL BREEDS
In our 54-year history, several gaited horses have been the year's highest scoring horse in the nation!

Come Ride with Us!

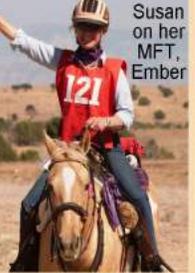
Sharyl on her TWH, Aussie  Susan on her MFT, Ember 

Photo by Gary Walls

You'll have the time of your life and learn something to boot! www.natrc.org
303-688-1677 

Horse Lover's Cruise Booking Information

Michelle from MEI-Travel is handling all the group reservations, Michelle has been an agent with MEI-Travel since 2006 and is handling the reservations for HRN and this cruise group - you can reach her at michelle@mei-travel.com or 855-444-0710.

A Personal Note: A Friend of FOSH has used Michelle to handle multiple trips to Disneyworld, booking meals, hotels, special events, tickets, and all the things needed to make a Disney trip magic rather than miserable. She is a **FIRST CLASS** booker and organizer. You can safely put yourself and your trip in her hands and concentrate on enjoying the cruise.



Preserving the Past to ensure the Future

Come and join us!!!
www.ihwha.com



Time to Ride's Fourth Annual National Meet a Horse Day Set for July 22nd

Another year of celebrating the horse-human relationship and growing the equine community

GEORGETOWN, Texas - Across the United States, Time to Ride Challenge hosts are creating beginner-friendly events specifically for **National Meet a Horse Day, July 22, 2017**. Horse professionals nationwide will unite with the singular goal of helping new enthusiasts meet a horse for the very first time. Each event, with its own unique themes and activities, is created to attract anybody and everybody interested in discovering the joy of horses!

“Time to Ride wanted to create one exciting day that focuses entirely on the importance of introducing new people to horses,” says Christie Schulte, Marketing Manager for the American Horse Council. “The mission of the Challenge is to increase accessibility to the horse industry. National Meet a Horse Day is a celebration of the amazing hosts nationwide who are working hard to grow their local horse communities, and we invite all stables, events, and groups to join us! What better way to share our love of horses?”

For the last four years, National Meet a Horse Day has been a benchmark date for the Time to Ride Challenge, as the single day when the greatest number of new people are introduced to horses. Summer break, favorable weather, and proximity to back-to-school make the date the perfect time for families to connect with stables, and plan to add horse activities to their schedules. This year will be no different, and hosts nationwide are gearing up for a wave of aspiring horse enthusiasts to come participate in their beginner-friendly horse events.

Time to Ride encourages all horse professionals, groups, and businesses to consider joining National Meet a Horse Day by planning an outreach event. Each host who holds an event will receive a Time to Ride t-shirt.

Since 2014, the Challenge alone has introduced over 98,000 newcomers to the benefits and joys of horses. To learn more about becoming a Challenge host or plan a National Meet a Horse Day event, please visit <https://www.timetoride.com/time-to-ride-challenge/>. The Challenge runs through September 30th, and registration is free and open throughout. To learn more visit the website or contact info@timetoride.com. ##

Horse Radio Network Announces Horse-lovers Cruise to the Caribbean

OCALA, FL – The Horse Radio Network (HRN) has announced the first *HRN Horseslovers Cruise to the Caribbean*. Horse people spend a lot of time getting dirty and worrying about their equine beasties, so the team at Horse Radio Network has planned the ultimate vacation getaway for horse lovers – a cruise to the Caribbean aboard the delightful Royal Caribbean Enchantment of the Seas.

Scheduled to depart on February 12, 2018, the cruise includes five days and four nights of complete fun! According to HRN President Glenn the Geek, “This is not a learning cruise filled with boring lectures. This is vacationing with old and new friends who have a shared passion for horses.”

This cruise schedule is great for horse owners because it's often challenging to find suitable horse sitters for any length of time. For folks who know their way around a barn better than a ship, a short, first-time cruise is a great way to experience something new without being overwhelmed.

In the spirit of HRN's mission of bringing the horse community together, **the Horseslovers Cruise is open to all horse enthusiasts. Interested travelers can find out more at www.HorsesloversCruise.com**

For Reservation information go to page 11 of this issue.

More News from the World of Horses and Riders

Report from a Now That's a Walking Horse Reward Recipient

Spirit of Heaven is Up, Up, and Away

When Cyndi Heiner sent an application to the HSUS for an NTAWH reward for her daughter Leah and Spirit of Heaven she knew the family had a mare that could make people jump up and shout; having the funds to get the extra training she needed for cross country eventing would go a long way towards making the pair the best they could be. In 2016, the Heiners and Spirit of Heaven



got the good news that a reward from the HSUS sponsored program was headed their way.

Heiner recently reported about what the family's walking horses are up to (although the photo above says it all, as their mare, neatly tucked and scopey makes the spread without over-jumping the obstacle.) One thing is certain, this walking horse can fly.

"I wanted to update you on what she has been doing. We are saving the \$500 for WOW camp- an Eventing camp put on by the New Jersey Pony club at New Jersey horse park. It is \$550 and runs from July 3rd-July 6th. We just put our deposit in and I have booked a hotel, which is separate for my daughter and husband (chaperone). The horse's trainer, Chris Donovan, will be working with the group as well as other trainers.

Currently she has done two horse trials, a clean round Beginner Novice March 26th at Loch Moy and moved up to Novice at Full Moon Farm on April 9th. She had one refusal cross -country but went back the second time and cleared it.

We are also working with dressage trainer Claudia Kleinsmith who knows gaited horses and has been working with my son and his TWH gelding. He just started riding 6 months ago and is already a D2 in pony club HM.

On a side note, my son took our green Buckskin TWH and has placed 2nd and 4th at the same shows my daughter has been running, but obviously he is MUCH lower level than she is running. Show jumping for Pony club is under way and once again Leah is trying to qualify for Nationals this year, again at the Developing horse and rider level (3').

Heaven LOVES to jump. I have never had a horse, or seen a horse, that just eats a jump course up with such a passion. The picture is of our cross-country schooling on April 14th, 2017, at Full Moon Farm. She schools the Training level jumps in practice."

HSUS hopes that more walking horse riders will jump at the chance to take advantage of the [Now, That's a Walking Horse! \(NTAWH\)](#) program in 2017. You can't be rewarded, however, if you don't apply.

NTAWH's grants and rewards are limited to amateur riders and to IRS approved non-profit organizations. For complete information about how to apply go to the HSUS website at www.HSUS.org.

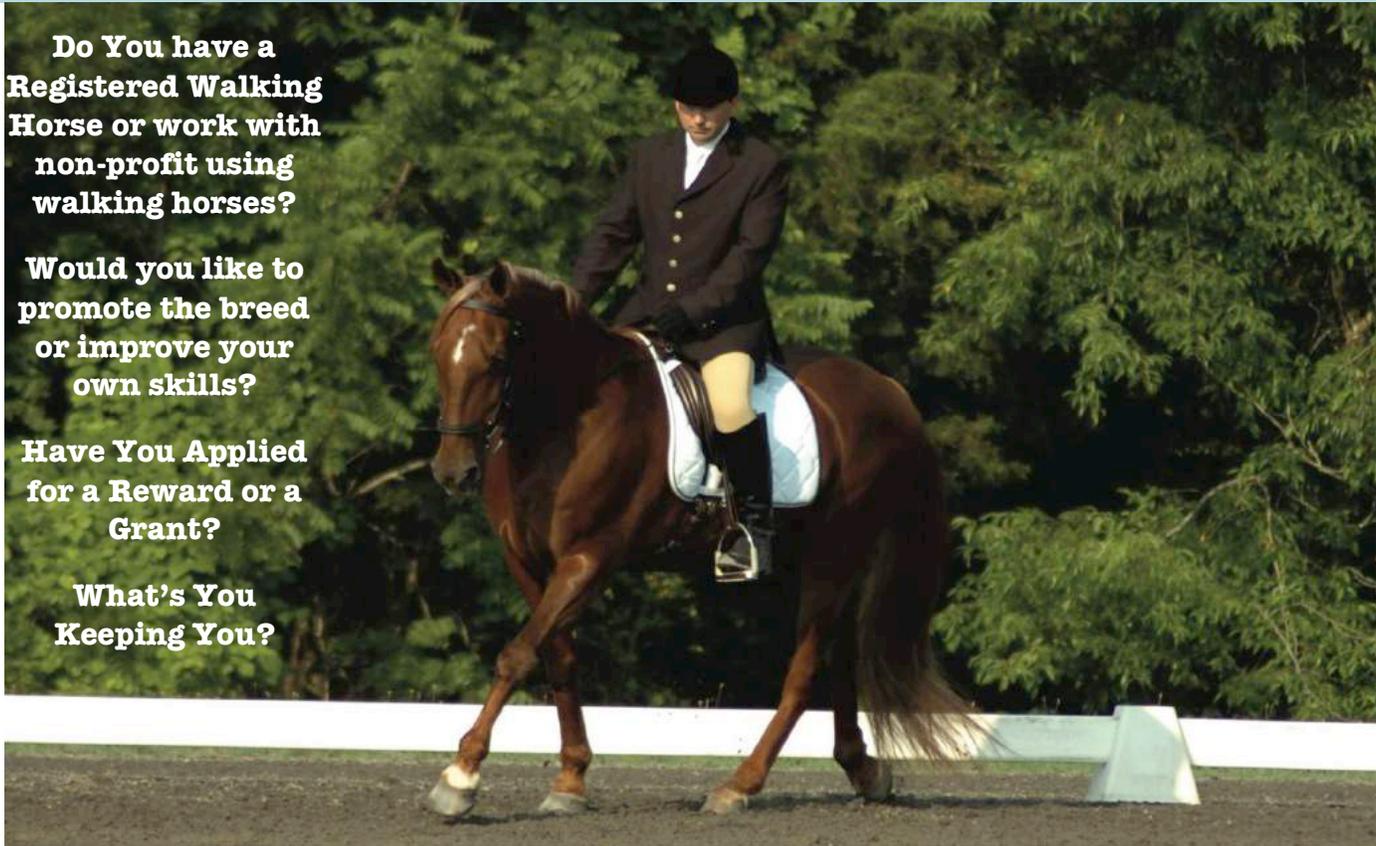
Humanesociety.org/walkinghorseawards or contact Bryant Taylor at btaylor@hsus.org

Do You have a Registered Walking Horse or work with non-profit using walking horses?

Would you like to promote the breed or improve your own skills?

Have You Applied for a Reward or a Grant?

What's You Keeping You?



Now, *That's* a Walking Horse!

The Humane Society of the United States looks forward to a sound and versatile future for Tennessee Walking Horses. The HSUS has a new program that recognizes and assists amateur owners and riders who promote this amazing, versatile, and athletic breed in exciting non-traditional venues. Each applicant can receive up to \$1,000 to support their non-traditional use of Tennessee Walking Horses in various disciplines, as part of humane horsemanship or therapeutic horsemanship programs, or to boost their efforts to promote the diverse talents of the breed.

Do you and your walking horse participate in...

- Dressage, including Western or Cowboy?
- Gymkhana events like barrel racing and pole bending?
- Driving?
- Competitive Trail Riding?
- Natural Horsemanship Competitions?
- Vaulting?
- Jumping?
- Reining?
- Endurance Riding?
- Trail Obstacle Competitions?
- Cowboy Mounted Shooting?
- Agility Training/Competition?

Or do you...

- Host natural horsemanship clinics?
- Use Tennessee Walking Horses in a registered non-profit therapeutic horsemanship program?
- Promote sound, versatile Tennessee Walking Horses in another way?

If your answer to any of these questions is **yes**, visit humanesociety.org/walkinghorseawards to apply for the *Now, That's a Walking Horse* program! Find out more details about the program online, by calling 301-258-1533, or by writing to:

The Humane Society of the United States
Attn: Walking Horse Grant and Recognition Program
700 Professional Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20879



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

humanesociety.org

Lights, continued from p. 10

Like all high-energy achievers, sometimes the pace of accomplishment can wear on a person and here where being a bit of a closet introvert comes into play. Rose says that's when she knows she needs to slow down, that there is nothing better than spending time with the horses, brushing, grooming, going for a walk, literally hand-walking, because she simply puts a halter on her walking companion and down the road they go. The exercise and the companionship, she says, are good for them and "good for me".

In rescue work it's easy to get compassion fatigue and Rose is realistic about that. Although she likes to accomplish things and solve problems, she's says, "I know you can't solve every problem, especially in equine rescue. You can't fix everything, but I like to try."

She calls this character trait pragmatic idealism. To her this means setting realistic expectations and trying to work at being a good person, trying to make the world a better place. For Rose, idealism encompasses making a safe place for animals, describing them as a "magnificent part of our world".

"They are part of what makes life both unique and beautiful and special and we need to honor and treasure them," said Rose. "Not everyone may feel that way, but that's my point of view. Animals are simply part of my heart and soul."

Rose's creation of the EIFF was a logical outgrowth of combining heart, soul, professional training and idealism. She said she knew from having organized the home grown in Montana wildlife film festival first organized by a bear biologist, that more equine films

were being made but that there was obviously a very small outlet for them. She knew this because people kept submitting those documentaries to the Wildlife Film Festival (where they really weren't eligible except if they concerned wild horses) in the hope that they might have a chance at being shown.

"This new equine film genre was starting to surge; something was clearly happening, and it occurred to me that it would be beneficial to have an equine film festival that promoted rescue adoption and brought other important issues about equines to public awareness and into the public arena," Rose explains.

"To the best of my knowledge we were one of the first all equine film festivals in the world. Although this festival is in its nascent stages, I feel a palpable energy and interest building around it and that means I'll be putting more time and energy into it. Initially to start, I thought it would be just a nice screening event, but I can see and feel and hear it becoming so much more—a voice of and for the equine world in a variety of ways."

The festival does more than screen films. It also provides a platform for public discussion about many important equine issues. Rose says that's the part of the festival she loves most. Celebrating the filmmakers and the equine world is wonderful but bringing important issues to the public realm for discussion and analysis fits right in with her lifelong commitment, where and when she can, to bring about positive change in the world. This year, as an example, HSUS' Gillian Lyons, senior wildlife fertility control policy manager, will present a panel on wild horses while HSUS will co-sponsor the Welcome Event.

The EIFF operates as an outreach and education project of Horse Haven Montana. "It is," explains Rose, "a labor of love, meant to be an educational tool, a resource. It would be great if we had more funding to do many more things with it as a film festival, but however large or small it is, as long as it is reaching people and inspiring people to think about equine issues, I'm happy with what we are

trying to accomplish."

Producing the festival takes almost a full year start to finish. Before one festival is complete, the advisory board and Rose are already starting to think about ideas and talking to filmmakers, equestrians, and others about the plan for the next year. The festival is, at present, all-volunteer and operates, says Rose, on a shoestring. The theme of the 2017 Festival, however, doesn't reflect that behind the scenes shoestring budget. "**Icon of the American West, the Global Impact of the Horse**", was the theme conceived while Rose was visiting a beautiful western art gallery.

"The horse has had international and global reach and impact, helping us to build cities, to fight wars, to build nations and it has a close identification with the American west. You see it in films, in photos, in art, in literature, in all culture," explained Rose. "When I thought about what would best represent the horse and the film festival for this year, this theme just came to mind."

How do you get on the screen at EIFF? Each year the Festival sends out a call for entries. The process starts when filmmakers, film students, or just people who have produced some sort of programming about equines submit their films for consideration. (And yes, like all film festivals, awards are given.)

"We get films from around the world," explained Rose, "hence the word International. We are the EQUUS INTERNATIONAL Film Festival and we want to be sure that people NEVER confuse us with any other film festival. Participation is open to all and I do mean all. Continued on p. 16"

Lights, continued from page 15

“As we progress, we will reach wider audiences because the field of equine activity and its subjects are so diverse. Although I hope that we can be an equine film festival for all kinds of groups and people, first and foremost we are for people who are about equine welfare, who want to learn, to be inspired and to join us in celebrating the horse. You don’t have to own a horse to enjoy EIFF but you do have to love horses.”

Although the Festival is a homegrown and home-based activity, screenings of some films are already scheduled in other cities once the EIFF in Missoula has ended this September. There has been talk about a virtual film festival, but at present, if you want to participate, you need to make the trek to Montana, in the fall, before the snow of winter flies.

In 2015, the festival saw several hundred people attend. In 2016 EIFF took a hiatus. In 2017, Rose says they’re expecting quite a turnout. She adds that incredible speakers and magnificent films will help to draw people to Missoula. “We want to let them know that this is an event to attend and to be a part of. The program this year includes the Native American Humane Society, the ECIR, the Humane Society of the United States, the Paws Up Foundation and many other representatives of horse related organizations,” Rose reveals, “plus a few surprises yet to be announced.”

“What’s really thrilling, “ she continues, “ is that we have some of the most beautiful and inspiring documentaries; we have films about wild horses and films and programs related to unique training and health. We have films about youth and horses, the racing industry, and hopefully, an interview with one of the leading veterinarians working in racing. We have films with great stories of inspiration and hope. We have a strong emphasis on the therapeutic role of horses. One of the wonderful cultural films we have this year is about horses in the cultural life of Nepal. We even have a fantastic film that delves into the great scientific and biological origins of the horse. Our films are as diverse as our theme implies.”

Although there is another well-known equine film festival that takes place in Rose’s original hometown, Rose says that her approach for EIFF is not city lights but slow and quiet focus. Promotion is not about promoting the festival itself, she explains, but about being the best festival it can be within the mission and philosophy of Horse Haven Montana. Rose adds she never intended EIFF to be a major commercial, heavily funded, international event, even as she concedes that having sufficient financial support to do more things would be positive and productive. But, in keeping with her worldview, principle has to come before money.

“The foundation of EIFF has to be great films about relevant and significant issues and topics. The films themselves should drive the event. If I didn’t have the funding to do an event, unless I took funding from an organization or entity that ran counter to my organization’s mission, it would be time to shut the door or just make

do. It might have to be smaller, but we have to do what we believe in, what we believe is right, and what we believe represents and supports our mission.”

Addressing the controversy that surrounded the Equus Festival in New York in 2016 because of its acceptance of Protect the Harvest sponsorship, Rose is forthright but non-judgmental about how others fund their events.

“It was disturbing when some people in the anti-slaughter movement (and we are against the slaughter of equines) thought we were another film festival that took funding from an allegedly pro-slaughter group. We did do our best to clarify that we are the EQUUS INTERNATIONAL Film Festival and do not take funding of that kind. As to the negative story and controversy and anger, I want to keep us as far from that as we can. Run your own race—don’t look to the left or to the right; look straight ahead and keep your focus on trying to do what you do as best you can, honestly and with integrity.

“I need to be really straight about this,” said Rose, firmly. “We launched EIFF to promote equine welfare and everything related to that. That includes the concept that we promote equine rescue and adoption as an alternative to slaughter. We want to see more equines being better cared for and promote responsible equine ownership. We have a strong focus on mission. It’s central to everything we do.

“We’re in Montana, rather than somewhere else, because when you come for EIFF you are also coming to one of the horse capitals of the world. You are coming to one of the most beautiful places on earth, where you can really experience the equine environment in a special way. EIFF takes place in horse country, where the horse is as much a part of the culture as the air we breathe or the sky above. We are not aiming to be a major commercial event. We exist for the horse and the people who want to tell their stories or discuss critical equine.

Rose adds that while Montana is not New York nor is New York, Montana, she believes that to compare the two locations is foolish since the experience of a film festival held in either location will be different, as they should be. What’s important is conveying the majesty of the horse through the magic of the movies.

Continued on page 20

Advocacy in Action continues on page 18

Funding for programs under the purview of various federal agencies is always hotly contested at budget time. That is especially true as funding requirements change under a new administration. Support for funding programs related to animal welfare continued to garner bi-partisan support. As seen in the following letter's excerpts, with emphasis added, 184 members of the House went on record in April to support funding, transparency, and enforcement. It's encouraging to know that animal welfare is still strongly supported in Congress. If your representative is on this list or signed this letter, please let him or her know that you value support for these programs. If your representative is not on the list, it's time to ask why he or she is missing in action. Note: at deadline, HPA funding did not increase but did not decrease.

Addressed to the Rural Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, & Related Agencies Development, FDA, & Related Agencies

Dear Chairman [Robert] Aderholt and Ranking Member [Sanford] Bishop:

As you meet to consider Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 appropriations, we are writing to thank you for your outstanding past support for enforcement of key U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) animal welfare laws and to urge you to sustain this effort in FY 2018. Your leadership is making a difference in helping to protect the welfare of millions of animals across the country. As you know, better enforcement also benefits people by decreasing: 1) sale of unhealthy pets by commercial breeders, commonly referred to as "puppy mills;" 2) laboratory conditions that may impair the scientific integrity of animal based research; 3) risks of disease transmission from, and dangerous encounters with, wild animals in public exhibition; 4) injuries and deaths of pets on commercial airline flights due to mishandling and exposure to adverse environmental conditions; 5) food safety risks to consumers from sick animals who can transmit illness; 6) injuries to

slaughterhouse workers from suffering animals; and 7) orchestrated dogfights and cockfights that often involve illegal gambling, drug trafficking, and human violence, and can contribute to the spread of costly illnesses such as bird flu. In order to continue the important work made possible by the Committee's prior support, we request the following for FY 2018: ...

APHIS / Horse Protection Act (HPA) Enforcement

We request that you support funding of \$705,000 for strengthened enforcement of the HPA. Congress enacted the HPA in 1970 to make illegal the abusive practice of "soring," in which unscrupulous trainers deliberately inflict pain on Tennessee Walking Horses' hooves and legs to create an artificially exaggerated, high-stepping gait and gain unfair competitive advantage at horse shows. Some examples of soring include applying caustic chemicals, using plastic wrap and tight bandages to "cook" those chemicals deep into the horse's flesh for days, attaching



heavy chains to strike against the sore legs and heavy, stacked horseshoes that force the horse's legs into unnatural angles, jamming hard objects into the sensitive areas of the feet, cutting the hooves down to expose the live tissue, and using salicylic acid or other painful substances to slough off scarred tissue or numbing agents in an attempt to disguise the sores areas. An October 2010 OIG report documents significant problems with the industry self-monitoring system on which the APHIS inspection program currently relies, and calls for funding to enable the agency to more adequately oversee the law. Several horse show industry groups, animal protection groups, the AVMA and the key organization of equine veterinarians have also called for funding to enable USDA to do a better job enforcing this law. **With the current level of funding, Animal Care has been able to attend less than 30% of the**

approximately 300 Tennessee Walking Horse shows held annually. Now that the program is finally beginning to address the need for additional inspectors, training, security, and advanced detection equipment, sustained support from the Committee is essential to ensure that this program doesn't lose ground. We also urge you to refrain from including any bill or report language that could in any way restrict or deter USDA from vigorous enforcement of the Horse Protection Act, including interfering with USDA's continued use of current inspection techniques that are widely recognized as objective and legitimate by veterinarians, or granting individuals associated with HPA violations a larger voice in determining inspection protocols. We further urge you to call on USDA to publish the final rule that received more than 100,000 public comments in support, including letters signed by 182 Representatives and 42 Senators, as it was displayed in advance public notice in the Federal Register on January 19, 2017 (https://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/federal_register/hpa-rule.pdf), to strengthen the HPA regulations that have undermined enforcement of this law for decades.

APHIS / Online Access to HPA and AWA Records

We request that you direct APHIS to immediately restore comprehensive online, searchable access to all inspection reports, annual reports, and other documents regarding enforcement of the HPA and the AWA. We strongly disagree with APHIS' abrupt removal from its website of thousands of pages of these essential records and its searchable database, developed at taxpayer expense to allow analysis and comparison of data by the agency and the public. **We should be increasing government transparency, not diminishing it and shielding those cited for violations of these key animal welfare laws. The taxpaying public that finances USDA inspections has a right to know when regulated entities are cited for subjecting animals in their care to abuse or otherwise failing to meet basic welfare standards. Public access to this information can guide consumer decision-making and plays an important role in deterring regulated entities from violating the law.** It underpins state and local laws meant to protect animals and consumers, such as the laws in seven states prohibiting sale of dogs from breeding operations with a history of serious AWA violations. It is also in the interest of responsible industry stakeholders. As noted by Speaking of Research, a pro-animal research organization opposing the USDA purge, "[w]hen information is hidden, particularly where it was once available...the public wonders what is being hidden and why, and researchers must devote even more resources to combatting the public perception that they are not transparent." Posting these records is akin to police departments posting arrest reports, food safety agencies posting code violations, and professional licensing boards posting alleged violations of professional misconduct. In addition, existing APHIS processes already guarantee a right to review and challenge inspection reports before they are posted online, but not to keep verified citations under wraps. As such, we request inclusion of the following bill language: "*Provided further*, That the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall promptly restore all earlier records removed and resume posting on the USDA website, in an online searchable database that allows analysis and comparison of data, all inspection reports, annual reports, and other documents, in their entirety, related to enforcement of the Horse Protection Act and the Animal Welfare Act." ...

Christopher Smith

Earl Blumenauer

Gene Green
Louise M. Slaughter
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Jackie Speier
Dina Titus
Paul D. Tanko
Elliot L. Engel
Brian Higgins
Mike Quigley
Theodore D. Deutch
John Sarbanes
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Johnson Jr.
Gregory W. Meeks
Nydia M. Velazquez
Marc Veasey
Vincente Gonzalez
Elijah E. Cummings,
Cheri Bustos
Jim Costa
Jim Himes
Continued on P. 19

**Signers of Appropriation
Letter in the House
continued from p.18**

Diana DeGette
Brad Sherman
Elizabeth H. Esty
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Josh Gotthumer
Salud O. Carbajal
Joyce Beatty
Donald M. Payne Jr.
John Yarmuth
Eric Swallwere
Tom O'Halleron
Alan Lowenthal
Mark DeSaulnier
Elise <. Stefanik
Ro Khanna
Beto O'Rourke
Pramila Jayapal
Michael R. Turner
Jamie Roshin
Karen Bass
Claudia Tenney
Krysten Sinema
Ami Bera
J. Luis Correa
Frederica S. Wilson
Nanette Diaz Barragan
Andre Carson
Dennis A. Ross
Tulsi Gabbard
Ben Ray Lujan
Sheila Jackson Lee
Danny K. Davis
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Peter De Fazio
Jerrold Nadler
David Price
Lucille Rayball Allard
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Yvette D. Clark
Kathy Caster
Vern Buchanan
Robert A. Bradley
Jared Polis
Netie Tsongas
Norma J. Torres
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John Katko
Grace F. Napolitano
Hakeem Jeffries
Juan Vargas
Daniel M. Donovan Jr.
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Donald Norcross

Carol Shea- Porter
David Loeb sack
Raul M. Grijalva
Tony Cardenas
Kathleen Reis
Mark Takano
Jacky Resen
John Lewis
Peter T. King
Ryan A. Costello
A, Donald McEachin
Reuben J. Kihuen
Mike Doyle
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Frank Pallone Jr.
Bill Foster
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Ruben Gallego
Susan A. Davis
Brenda L. Lawrence
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Brendan F. Boyce
Scott H. Peters
Donald S, Beyer Jr
Debbie Wasserman-Schulz
Lois Frankel
Joseph Crowley
Sean Patrick Maloney
Julia Brownley
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Anthony Brown
Bradley S. Schneider
Mark Pocan
Michael E. Capuano
Seth Moulton
Raul Ruiz
Stephanie Murphy
Sander M. Levin
Jared Huffman
Carlos Curbelo
Zoe Lofgren
Ted W. Lieu
Barbara Comstock
Jimmy Panetta
Thomas R. Suozzi
Alma S. Adams
Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Suzanne Bonamici
Martha McSally
Tom MacArthur
James P. McGovern
Fllemon Vela
Charlie Crist
Denny Heck
Colleen Hanabusa

**Our Forever Friends
FOSH Lifetime Members**

Jo Anne Behling, Wauwatosa, WI
Ester Bell
Pamela Brand, Carlisle, PA
Sarah Bushong-Weeks, Denver. CO
Julie Church, Pagosa Springs, CO
Mary & William Church, Pagosa Springs,
CO Luella DeBono, Eden Prairie, MN
Beverly Foster, St. Augustine, FL
Nancy Gillespie, Pullman, WA
Cristine Holt, Dubuque, IA
Jane Howlett, Pocatello, ID
Marty Irby, Semmes, AL
Sue De Laurentis, Dripping Springs, TX
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Debbie Locke, Mack, CO
Ann Loveless St. Robert, MO
Patricia Mayer, East Aurora, NY
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Janelle T. McCoy, Prague, OK
Frank Neal, Nashville, TN
Lori Northrup, Ellicottville, NY
Anne Northrup, Ellicottville, NY
Shellie Pacovsky, Bienville, MT
Denise Parsons
Anita Rau, Catlett, VA
Debbie Rash, Chico, CA
Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club ID
Bucky & Nancy Sparks, Cortez, CO
Marcy Wadington, Canon City, CO
Leslie Weiler, Pagosa Springs, CO
Laura Wyant, Chesire, OR
An Anonymous Donor
Yankee Walkers of New England

Lights, continued from page 16

While an idealist, Rose remains a pragmatist; she says she no longer thinks about what an event should be in five years or 10, her focus is more immediate (perhaps a function of being older herself).

“What matters is today, the horses and mules in need, today; the films that are being made about horses, today; the children, teens and adults who want to learn about horses, get involved with horses and are touched by horses, today. In my view, we all need to be much more in the here and now, what I call the “be here now” philosophy.

Unlike the New York Broadway standard, *Annie*, with its trademark song entitled “The Sun Will Come Out, Tomorrow”, the sound track in Montana for EIFF, is decidedly all about today. “We’re going to keep doing what we do, as best we can with the resources we have, and do it as long as it seems valuable and worthwhile. That’s a good place to start from, and that’s where we are,” says Rose.

Rose’s voice, her purpose, and her vision is clear. “One of the biggest things for me is how horses heal us – they can help to heal damaged souls, they can help children and adults with dis-abilities to move and feel things physically they might otherwise never be able to. They can take us places many of us could not go. And the film festival I hope is an extension of all of this. The future is hard to predict but I hope that with the support of many who share our views and embrace our mission, we can turn it into an important annual event that gives a voice and a platform to all of those creative and wonderful minds and hearts that care about equine welfare.”

Rose says she does keep herself moderately abreast of issues like the PAST Act, the SAFE Act, the current Racing bill up for consideration and other issues that have an impact on America’s horses and she does try to share important articles and initiatives through Horse Haven’s various social media outlets. She hopes soon to create a digital newsletter where more of this information and news updates can be shared.

Working through Horse Haven Montana, Rose views herself as an animal advocate rather than an activist, making the distinction that, although she will speak up, work, and stand up for animal welfare, her time is focused on her own rescues and efforts to improve the lives of those with whom she comes in personal contact. Being an activist, she says, is important but requires devoting yourself and your time to the wider universe, actively fighting for and speaking out loudly for something you believe in.

“For me,” Rose said in conclusion, “I prefer to work on the ground, quietly, with a more limited universe, so to speak, doing what I can in the day to day with those in need. I guess you would call it grassroots. I’m not focused on trying to change other people’s minds but more about solving problems as they arise, horse-to-horse, mule-to-mule, person-to-person. There was a time when I would speak more loudly about things, but today, now, I want to put my personal energy into solving immediate problems.

“**The EQUUS INTERNATIONAL Film Festival** connected to Horse Haven Montana is an extension of that quieter voice of advocacy. I’m happy to put forth an activist point of view, such as in a film or television program, but I choose only to be an advocate. I have never ever believed in hitting someone over the head, figuratively speaking, that they had to agree with me or come to my way of thinking. But I am not afraid to share a viewpoint or provide someone with information about an issue, to encourage them to make a decision for themselves with accurate information.” ##

About Roso, Our Cover Horse, and New Beginnings

Horse Rescue and Adoption is always at the forefront of Janet Rose’s consciousness. It never occurred to her that it might be difficult, or too time consuming, or frustrating and that’s because Rose started out with the most necessary thing, a plan as well as a dream.

“In a very practical way, sometimes I will have a horse that needs a home and the situation with that horse is so challenging and finding a home seems an almost insurmountable task. Then I think to myself, “How will I ever find a home for this horse.” And so often, very often, almost magically, just the right person, at just the right time, seems to come out of thin air and is perfect for that horse. It is these situations and these people whom I call “horse angels” and that is really what they seem to be.”

Part of Rose’s rescue dream is a new program that she would like to launch called “New Beginnings”. “We give horses new beginnings through rescue and adoption efforts and I think for many young people and young adults, we can give them new beginnings in their lives as well, hopefully through a relationship with horses. I’ve worked informally and casually with children and youth of all ages who come from challenged backgrounds. Some might be called “youth at-risk.” Life has been especially difficult for them. When we have put these young people together with horses however, we have seen relationships and bonds forming that were special and so unlike anything I could have imagined – positive and valuable and wonderful. **Continued p. 22**

From the Inside Out

Senior Horse, Special Vaccination Needs?

Kevin Hankins, DVM, explains why senior horses are in a category of their own for vaccinations and care.

QUESTION

Does my senior horse have special vaccination needs?

ANSWER

Horses age, just like humans do. And with age, their bodies change (again, just like humans, but who wants to face that brazen thought?).

One significant change in senior horses, or those horses over 15 years of age, is their immune system, explains Dr. Kevin Hankins, DVM, MBA, senior technical services veterinarian for Zoetis. Senior horses can be more susceptible to disease because of their immune system's inability to work as well as it did earlier in life. This makes vaccinations an even higher priority to help prevent disease and keep them healthy.

It's a common misconception that senior horses, having received vaccinations for years, are already protected and haven't the need for annual vaccinations. However, horse owners need to help ensure all their horses are well protected under a customized vaccination program, including the ones enjoying retirement in the pasture, but especially for those being transported, which is one of the largest stressors and immune suppressors.

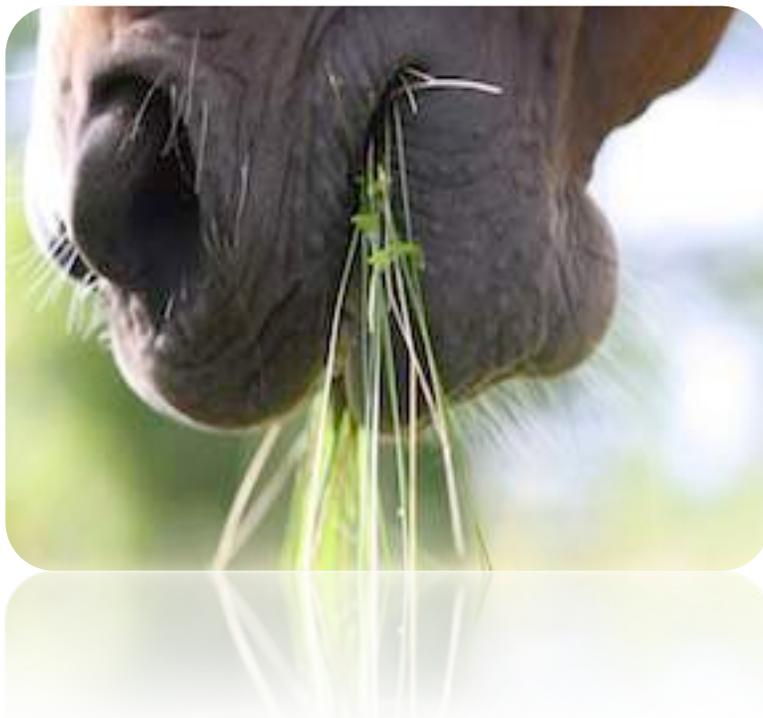
All horses should receive annual vaccinations for core equine diseases, which include Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis, rabies, tetanus and West Nile. Based on your senior horse's lifestyle, discuss with your veterinarian whether he needs additional risk-based vaccinations, such as equine influenza, equine herpesvirus or strangles.

As your horse ages, special needs outside of vaccinations may be essential, such as:

- Pain-relieving medication or supplementation for the arthritic senior horse
- A quality senior diet developed based on the needs of their immune and digestive systems
- Routine dental care to help properly process feed and prevent colic

Horse owners need to work with their veterinarian to have an excellent plan in place to help ensure the health of their aging horse, both nutritionally and physically. Senior horses are in a special category of their own. ##

The broad portfolio of core and risk-based equine vaccines from Zoetis is one you can rely on. WEST NILE-INNOVATOR® and FLUVAC INNOVATOR® are the veterinarian's and horse owner's first choice for West Nile and equine influenza disease.



When the time has come to say good-bye

Thoughts on Safely Selling Your Horse

Article courtesy of Stolen Horse Network & Net Posse International through the AHP network



Jill (not her real name) is one of the nicest people you would ever hope to meet. A lifelong horse person and stay-at-home mom dealing with health issues, she enjoys horses through the eyes of her daughter who likes to ride and compete. Together they owned a sweet, talented horse that developed hoof issues, possibly brought on by poor farriery, and was on layup.

Facing serious surgery soon herself and dealing with a dying parent, Jill's thought was to give the horse a year off to heal and regrow the hoof. It would take some of the pressure off of everyone.

However, their trainer, who makes the bulk of her living from the income she receives when her students are competing, wanted the family to purchase another horse so the daughter could return to competition, and she wanted it done soon. Every time they were at the barn, she constantly applied more and more pressure on them to get another horse. Boarding two horses was out of the question. **Continued on page 24**

New Beginnings continued from p. 20

So, I am developing this program called "New Beginnings," to pair or partner young people from difficult or challenged backgrounds (abuse, neglect, learning difficulties, autism, etc.) with horses that come into our program and may often have similarly challenged backgrounds.

Right now, I'm in the process of becoming certified in equine experiential education, which in some circles is called equine assisted learning. New Beginnings will take funding, which I don't have in place fully yet, and it will take resources, but I think, hope and believe it can be done. I have the background and experience and we already have volunteers who are ready and willing to help. If someone is out there reading this who can help to make this happen, the dream is possible. We are a certified, registered not for profit organization. "

Officially, Rose says she has four personal horses, three geldings and a mare. Two are Rocky Mountain horses, one is a Walker and one is a Foxtrotter mixed with a Venezuela Criollo and Quarter Horse. "Honest, that's what the genetic test said," Rose explains. When Rose adopted the Foxtrotter on our cover into her life, she said in many ways the decision was both inexplicable and yet entirely typical.

"A woman called me, as many do and told me about this horse that she had recently taken out of a very bad situation. She said she had too many horses and really couldn't keep him. She sent me a photo of him and something in me reacted in a way that I still find somewhat indescribable. I knew she was still taking care of him and it was during the winter so I told her I would try to come and see him very soon, when the roads were a little safer to drive," Rose said.

"A few months later, I agreed to take him --- he just seemed so soft and kind and almost like a lost soul. He is so small and delicate looking. I thought I would work with him very slowly and see where that led and hopefully ride him but it turned out he was much older than they initially said and had far more health issues than they said. We are working on those issues with him and he remains the gentlest, sweetest, kindest horse I have ever met. You can tell he's had a hard, scary life and so we will just make it as nice for him as long as we can.

"Because of his past, I felt he really needed a new name for this new chapter in his life. We don't usually change horse's names but I felt in his case, he needed a clean slate. So I named him after my parents who in many ways helped to facilitate the birth of the rescue organization. I combined each of their names and that is how we came to Roso. He's apprehensive about many things yet also curious. He has almost no teeth and seems to have a lot of tension still in his neck and back so we are working on all of those issues. But he seems to be in minimal if any pain and is quite the talker - he loves his senior feed and seems very content with his pasture mates so he will be with us for as long as his quality of life is good. "

New Beginnings, it seems, can come to both old and the young, human and equine, at least if you are lucky enough to live in Montana and fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of Janet Rose. ##



When You and Your Horse Go Adventuring, Ride in Comfort in Kerrits' **New Tech Trail Pant**

Bingen, WA—From trails to rails, riding pants that offer all the comfort, durability and clever pockets of your favorite hiking pants.

“Our Tech Trail Pant is a lightweight, airy stretch woven that’s easy to wear and sturdy as a workhorse,” said Kerri Kent, owner and designer for Kerrits Performance Equestrian Apparel. “A great add to your riding wardrobe, since it’s different from anything else you might have. It’s a comfy fit that’s more trouser than tight, not as formal as a breech, yet more technical than a jean. The best of technology, woven into a functional companion for your ride.”

This pant boasts multiple zip pockets for secure storage: two front cargo pockets, another on your left thigh and one in back. Each has mesh backing to provide breathability and venting. The front fly zips and has a snap closure at the waistband. Extended Gripstretch Suede™ knee-patches free you to find adventure without half chaps and offer stretch for easy on and off with your boots.

The affordable Tech Trail Pant is the perfect choice for those days when the mood strikes to get out of the barn, jump on your horse, and go exploring.

Tech Trail Pant

Colors: Palomino, Bluestone, Black

Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL

MSRP: \$99

Wash cold; tumble dry low

Ride On! About Kerrits Performance Equestrian Apparel:

Home-grown performance that sprouted in 1986, Kerrits Performance Equestrian Apparel thrives on creating innovative, functional and stylish performance apparel uniquely designed for women who ride and love horses.

The Tech Trail Pant may be ordered directly from the Kerrits website or from retailers carrying the Kerrits line.



Selling Your Horse Safely, continued from page 22

With all of the pressure coming at them from the outside and surgery a few short weeks away, Jill discussed selling the horse with her daughter. The daughter said that she liked competing, and that if a good home could be found for the horse where they could visit it and keep an eye on it, they could move it to a new home.



Too ill to come to the barn, Jill arranged for the trainer to show the horse while she remained in charge of the sale. Soon, what appeared to be the perfect owner arrived: a very nice, charming gentleman who was a volunteer first responder, respected and liked throughout the community. He said he was searching for a trail horse for a girl friend and would keep it on his beautiful farm down the road from the stable. He rode the horse a couple of times and they seemed comfortable with each other. He felt the horse could become a trail horse, said he would give the horse time off to allow the hooves to heal, and treated Jill's daughter warmly, offering to allow her to visit the horse whenever he was at the farm and ride the trails there whenever she liked.

To all outward appearances, they had found the right home.

Jill agreed to give him the horse for free. Her barn owner wanted her to sign a form stating that they no longer cared for the horse, which, unbeknownst to Jill, would be regarded as a bill of sale in her state. She signed it, and the transaction was complete. Upon loading, this horse that had always loaded like a dream and never protested became panicked, and after loading began screaming non-stop down the driveway and all the way down the road. In hindsight, Jill feels this was her first sign that something was wrong.

She called and called but the man never had time to be at the farm. Then he stopped answering her calls. Her daughter went away for the summer. Time slid by. In September, while conversing with a relative of the buyer, Jill learned that he supplemented his income by selling horses on the side, usually selling lame injured horses like hers through auctions that were populated by kill buyers. Using a proxy phone, she called him

and he answered, but said he could not remember where the horse was. Then the story changed and he recalled he had sold it to a girl in town, but that lead ran cold.

Then the story changed again and the horse had been sold to another family in another town--again another cold lead. A good in-state equine attorney revealed to her that this sad story was not at all unusual, and told her that even if she did find the horse she couldn't get it back because she didn't have a contract.

Jill does not blame the trainer for what happened. She knows that this is her own fault and feels terribly guilty. She feels she let her horse down, set a bad example of horse ownership for her daughter, and has been searching for this horse every day, to no avail.

Sad Stories in the horse business

Sad stories like this occur every day in this country. People misrepresent themselves, sales go wrong, horses go missing. Within 24 hours a missing or stolen horse can disappear from US soil. Some are sold privately while many others are often sold at auctions to kill buyers for fast money. Then they are either loaded onto trailers for live transport across our nation's borders, or loaded live onto ships in our ports and sent overseas, all bound for slaughterhouses. It is the dark seam that permeates every facet of horse ownership across the industry, affecting horses in every riding discipline, layup, and retirement. The volunteers at **Stolen Horses International (netposse.com)** would like to help you safeguard the sale of your horse so it ends up in a safe secure home, being cared for as you would care for it yourself. Here are tips for selling your horse safely.

1). Take Clear Photos for Identification

This is one place where you can accomplish two things in the time it takes to complete one! Groom your horse and get it sparkling clean so all distinguishing colors, marks, brands, and scars are clearly visible, right down to the striped hooves. Set the horse against an uncluttered neutral background in good light so there are no shadows on the legs and the edges of the horse pop out crisply in the photo. **Continued on page 26**

FOSH Directory

Gaited Clubs

Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club

www.gaitedhorseclub.com

Southern Comfort promotes activities highlighting the smooth ride and versatility of all gaited breeds. Pursuits include trail riding, competitions, shows, exhibitions, clinics and many other equine activities. The club promotes horse safety and friendship for all that are interested in horses. Owning a horse is not a requirement.

SCGHC is based in southwestern Idaho and is a flat shod exclusive club with members contributing and supporting various interests using sound, natural horses.

Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse Club

The Chesapeake Club is celebrating 26 years of promoting the versatile, naturally gaited, horse. As a member of the Maryland Horse Council, we have been the voice of the gaited community and through demonstrations, clinics and guest speakers, a resource for other disciplines to learn about the gaited breeds in our region. Members enjoy monthly trail rides, newsletters, parades, clinics, social gatherings, and friendly help. We welcome all breeds, riding styles, and experience levels from beginners to professionals. cpwhclub.wordpress.com or jacquiecowan@comcast.net

Breeders

Summerwind Marchadors and Future Foal Breeders

<http://futurefoal.net> or call Lynn @ **602-999-3915**

Plan for your next lifetime partner! Come breed with us! Offering frozen semen (12 stallions in 2017) or reservations for Future Foals "do Summerwind" The Marchador is Brazil's national horse, harking from Iberia, but bred there for 200 years. *Expect to be impressed!*

Missouri Morgans

Easy gaited in color. Rare gaited Morgans located in the Heart of America near beautiful Lake of the Ozarks, www.missourimorgans.com for photos, videos and available horses. Talk to Jim or Vali Suddarth at **417-286-1954** or e-mail vali@dam.net

Trainers

Bates Gaited Horses

(FOSH 2010 Trainer & Breeder of the Year)

Nya Bates, Melba, Idaho 83641 Phone: **208-559-2755**

www.batesgaitedhorses.com Training and gait repair of all flat shod gaited breeds for pleasure, trail, hunting, and field trial uses. Will travel to do clinics, lessons and individual education/work and train horses. Sales of well-bred young stock and gaited, educated, willing mounts.

CCABLAC Advocacy Group Prevails in Federal Court

COLUMBIA, Tenn.—Striking a blow for First Amendment protections, Concerned Citizens against Big Lick Animal Cruelty (CCABLAC), the loosely organized, volunteer grass roots advocacy group supported by a popular digital website and social media platform, BillyGoBoy.com, had its day in court and came out with a favorable preliminary injunction, just prior to the opening of the three day annual horse show held in Columbia each June. The injunction guaranteed their right to take still and video images during the horse show, held at a public park. In 2016, the local sheriff, Bucky Rowland, threatened site operator and reporter Clant Seay, as well as CCABLAC volunteers, with potential civil and criminal penalties if they continued to shoot video after being warned that they were in violation of the "law" if they continued to do so.

The Columbia horse show is sponsored by the Maury County Horseman's Association, comprised of eight people, one of whom works with the Sheriff's Department. This is the same show where a walking horse trainer, Jamie Lawrence, was convicted of assault for attempting to hit a protestor, FOSH president Teresa Bippen, as he drove his truck onto the grounds. In 2016, horse show organizers, furious over what they saw as negative publicity about the horse show in 2015, tried to prevent Seay and the group from reporting on the show and posting images to the internet.

Organizers concocted an "agreement" with a private entity, the producer of "What A Horse", a program serving the performance horse fancy on cable television, prohibiting anyone from taking or releasing "commercial" photographs of the show. Rowland then attempted to enforce this agreement at the public park. The 2017 show bill also included a statement that commercial photography was prohibited at the park because of an agreement with Jerry Harris, who supposedly had purchased all rights to the show.

Seay, acting as his own attorney, promptly took the sheriff, the horseman's association, and Harris to court, asking, first, for a preliminary injunction based on first amendment protections and prevailed. The suit, which has not yet been heard, asks for \$100,000 punitive damages. There were no incidents reported at the horse show. Law enforcement was out in force, however. Observers reported it felt like there was more deputies than horse show fans on the grounds. ##

Safely Sell continued from page 24

Make sure the horse's conformation is clearly recognizable for the discipline(s) you are targeting its market for and take your photos. For the purpose of finding your horse if something does go wrong, add in a front photo, one from the rear, and one from each side clearly showing everything. Shoot videos against neutral backgrounds in good light, clearly showing the horse doing its best work in its discipline. After assembling your sales ad, place these in a safe place for long-term storage.

WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

This also carries a two-for-one bonus! Write the description targeting the audience you want to view your horse. Be honest. Describe the horse's breeding, age, height, training, show results, and behavior. Be honest if there are training, behavior, or health issues that the next owner will need to address. **Make sure to add in the next four words: Protective Contract in Place.** This will help to discourage disreputable dealers from showing up at your sale. Price your horse fairly in the competitive market place.

Price those you were thinking of giving away and low-priced horses above the slaughter price per pound to keep them out of the kill buyers hands. This can be found by calling horse rescues and auction yards. Then place your ad in good media outlets. These include breed registries, breed magazines and sales books, riding organizations and clubs, 4-H, and Facebook horse groups. Avoid posting the sale at auction yards or on Craigslist. Notate the weight of the horse and microchip/registry number on the description and keep a copy of this on file, as well. Gather together all registration, show and breeding records, etc. for prospective buyers to view.

INTERVIEW

Regardless of whether the horse is set for a fast sale or a slow careful sale, the responsibility falls on the owner to screen and approve the horse's next home. Buyers will arrive with many questions and may come back to view the horse multiple times. This is where you take the time to observe and interview each buyer carefully to evaluate for the proper fit between buyer and horse, checking to ensure this will be a safe home. Find out the purpose they have in mind for the horse. Watch the interaction between the buyer and the horse as they saddle, tack and ride the horse, and make sure you are comfortable with what you see and hear.

Get the name, current address and cell phone number of the buyer. Find out who their veterinarian is, who their trainer and farrier are, and where they are going to board the horse. Get the names and contact numbers for the veterinarian, farrier, and barn owner, along with any additional references they can provide from friends and relatives for you to assess their level of horsekeeping and horsemanship.

Then, regardless of how well everything appears to be lining up or any subtle pressure the buyer tries to apply by showing up with an empty trailer and a wallet filled with cash, hold the horse until you have thoroughly checked each and every one of the buyer's references and have run a Google/social media check on their names. Check everything. Leave no stone unturned no matter how well you think you know the buyer or the references involved.

HAVE A LEGALLY BINDING CONTRACT

The contract is the legal document verifying the sale between the buyer and the seller. This is your detailed bill of sale that spells out the expectations of both the buyer and the seller in the sale, and it could very well be the only document that can help you in a court of law. The best course of action would be to consult with an equine attorney in your state and have one drawn up specifically for your sale. If that is not possible, there are many equine contracts available online to fit your sale. Some are free, others are available for a low price, and many can be previewed online. Contracts can be very simple or heavily detailed. There are contracts available for copying, downloading, downloading and editing, and electronic contracts for internet sales using electronic signatures. Get a contract that is legal in your state and use it in your sale.

Continued on page 27

CALENDAR OF 2017 EVENTS

July

1-31 Diane Sept Private Lessons Valley, WA

Contact Diane Sept 509-937-2970
dianesept@aol.com

1-2 & 4-5 Larry Whitesell Clinic

Mason, NH
Contact: Jody, 978-948-3494,
J43gallop@verizon.net

2 Edgehill Schooling Series

Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA 23009

8 Gaitway Summer HOT Flash Show

Lone Wolf Ranch Arena, Cleveland, MO
Show Manager: Lucy Rangel, 816-674-7475

Email: fgslr@usa.net

7-9 Larry Whitesell Clinic

Exeter, RI
Contact: Darlene, 401-742-3970,
contactdarlene@gmail.com

14-23 Midsummer Celebration Virtual Dressage Show

www.nawdhorse.org

15-16 Open Gaited Horse Show FOSH Sanctioned

Lone Hickory Arena, Yadkinville, NC
Contact: Milda Minter, 336-225-0214, pasofinotrainer@gmail.com

16 International Equestrian Organization 2017 Series

Diamond 7 Ranch, Dillsburg, PA 17019
www.ieodressage.org

16 Dressage at the Glen

Emerald-Glen,
Stephentown, NY 12302
www.emerald-glen.com

August

1-2 MO State Fair Society Horse Show

Sedalia, MO
<http://www.mostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/premium-guide/society.pdf>

4-5 Gary Lane Clinic
Little Trails, Martinsville, IN
Contact: Stacy Howe, 317-529-3020

5-7 Connected Riding Instructor Training with Diane Sept

Whitefish, MT

Contact: Laura, 406-270-0267
Laurafaber.morris@gmail.com

7-9 Larry Whitesell Clinic

New Columbia, PA
Contact: Brenda, 570-568-8222,
info@FeatherHills.com

9-13 Festival of the Horse

Mora, MO
Contact atnawdhorse.org

11-13 Larry Whitesell Clinic

Augusta, ME
Contact: Teresa, 207-557-0476,
teresa@whisperingwoodsstables.com

18-27 2017 Dogie Days Virtual Ranch & Trail Show

www.northamericanwesterndressage.org

18-20 Larry Whitesell Clinic

St Croix Falls, WI
Contact: Patti, 715-483-9292,
patti@rnrranchandtack.com

18-19 Diane Sept Connected Riding Clinic

Creswell, OR
Contact: Ramona McCoy, 541-913-5741, ramonamccoy@me.com

26-27 Gary Lane Clinic

Pure Country Campground, New
Bergin, NY
Contact: Jim Weidman, 607-373-5510

September

1-3 Larry Whitesell Clinic

Augusta, ME
Contact: Teresa, 207-557-0476
teresa@whisperingwoodsstables.com

8-10 & 11-12 Larry Whitesell Clinic

Milford, MI
Contact: Karia, 413-281-2407
Karia0429@yahoo.com

Selling Safely

 continued from p. 26

The basic information you want to include is: the date, the seller and buyer's names, addresses and current telephone numbers, the state that you both agree the sale takes place in, where the horse will be stabled, the name of the barn owner and the contact information. Require the buyer to update their address and contact information whenever it changes, and state that they will be in breach of contract should they fail to do so. Also listed should be the horse's registered name and registry number, its call name, breed, gender, color, size, the purpose it is being sold for, if it is being sold as is, the purchase price, what form of payment is being used, and if there are any loans or liens involved.

State that you have the right to visit and check on the horse to make sure it's being cared for, and add in a Right of First Refusal coupled with a penalty clause that includes a dollar amount should the buyer in any way breach this right. The Right of First Refusal says that you have the first right to buy back the horse should it go up for sale again. Include the length of time the buyer has to inform you of the sale, and the length of time you have to respond for Right of First Refusal. The penalty clause, known as liquidation of damages, is the only way the courts have of enforcing your Right of First Refusal and helping you extract monetary damages from the buyer should the horse go missing, even if you never find it again. Set the damage amount high enough to cover damages and give the court something to work with. Add in an area for signatures and dates.

PAYMENT & RELEASE

Hold the horse until the buyer clears the reference and background checks, and the full payment has cleared the bank. This can take up to 7-10 days.

Continued on page 28

Selling Safely continued from page 27

Electronic transfers can take up to 7 business days to clear, plus added time for weekends and holidays; personal checks and online payments can be stopped or reversed by the buyer before they clear. Certified bank checks and money orders are prepaid. Some buyers like to pay in cash. No matter how they pay, **Do not release the horse until the full payment has been received.**

ALL EQUINE ID REGISTRY PROTECTS HORSES AND RECORDS

Stolen Horse International™, also known as NetPosse™, says there is help for horse owners. Most of the suggestions you have read about in this article are outlined in the nonprofit organization's ID registry because Stolen Horse International works in the field, experiencing first hand the problems face by victims.

Launched in 2002, [The NetPosse Identification Program. \(NIP\)](#), is the cornerstone of Stolen Horse International's horse ID registry with the most advanced equine identification database in the world. All horses and equine identifications can be registered, aiding in establishing ownership in cases of theft, mistaken identity, disaster recovery, herd identification and civil matters.

You can store all of your records online on NetPosse.com in the only all-equine ID registry which "thinks ahead" of the disasters that happen to horse owners.

This equine protection network works for the victims in case their horse ends up missing naturally or through the hands of someone you thought you could trust.

Should the worst happen, Stolen Horse International gives the victim a webpage, a flyer, and sends out the only equine alert dating back to 1997, the NetPosse Alert.

The NIP registry helps you protect your horse with confidence. In other words, this is not just an equine AVID microchip database for your horse! It is a full recording keep system aimed at proving ownership when it counts the most.

Should the time come to say good-bye to your friend, sell your horse with peace of mind by selling him safely. It's the last good deed you'll do for him and one that he deserves. ##

Editor's note: Please be aware that this article is not intended to be used as legal advice but as a guideline in selling a horse. All contract documents and an attorney familiar with equine law should review other arrangements regarding selling your horse, as necessary.



Don't even THINK of missing
FESTIVAL FOR THE HORSE!

August 9-13, Mora, Missouri

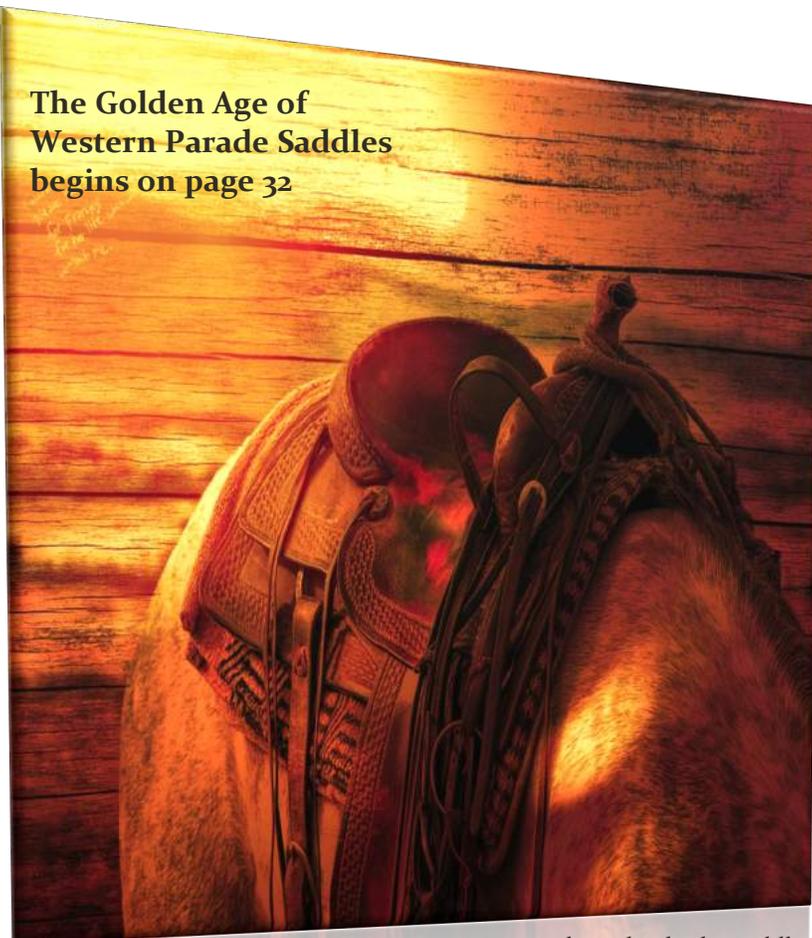
Gaited Dressage - Alece Ellis
Cantering, Leads - Dan James
Long Reining, Freestyle, 6 Feet on
The Ground
Ranch Horse, Exercises for
Success, Trail Obstacles

All equines WELCOME!

Ride, Try and Have FUN with your equine
friend!

Sponsored by FOSH, North American Western Dressage and
Von Holten Ranch

The Golden Age of Western Parade Saddles begins on page 32



Cowboys described a well-broken in saddle as having a rocking chair fit, meaning that they had spent enough time in their saddles that the seat had conformed to their bodies and their style of riding. This made the hours they spent on horseback much more comfortable. Where did these saddles get their start?

The history of the saddle is the stuff of legends. It is believed that the Romans between 200-250 AD created the first version of a saddle that we would recognize today, a saddle that had a solid tree. Although the saddle did not have stirrups, the solid tree gave the horse more comfort and the rider more security, essential for working cavalry.

In 350-375 AD the Sarmations, who used horses not only in battle but as sacrifices to their gods, added the breastplate and the girth to their saddletrees. Some say this tribe also used the stirrup, while others maintain that the stirrup came from India or northern China. We do know that metal stirrups arrived in Europe via the Huns, invading from Central Asia. Europeans adapted quickly to saddle innovations and by the time of knights on

horseback, the saddle had evolved to have a wooden tree and both a higher pommel and cantle, stuffed with wool or horsehair and covered in leather. Some saddles were highly decorated as befitted the rank of the knights who rode on them.

The credit for the development of the American Stock Saddle goes to the war saddles of the Spanish conquistadores. Later, Mexican vaqueros adapted this style of saddle with its rigid tree, high fork and cantle, deep seat and short stirrups, by adding a leather skirt and making a few other changes.

In the late 1700s the Mexican California style saddle, with a round fixed skirt and substantial cinching, caught the eye of what would become the Texas cowboys who made their own modifications. They shortened the horn, covered it in leather, changed the round skirt to a square, made the stirrups out of steamed bent wood for strength and added a second back cinch for stability.

What do you know about

The Saddle That Made the West, the Western, (and the Rose Parade) Famous

You can't have a cowboy without a horse, at least in the movies, but in real life back when the West was more than an image on a screen, although a cowboy might not own his own horse he had to have a saddle. Without a saddle, getting hired on was close to impossible; with a saddle, a good hand could find work with almost any string that needed cattle pushed. In the 1870s, an average working western saddle cost \$30 to \$50. The average cowboy made a little less than a dollar a day. A well-made saddle could last a cowboy 20 years and in bad times was the last barrier before financial disaster because it could always be sold for cash money. Buying a saddle was more than a huge cost for a ranch hand; it was an investment in his life.

Around 1870, the wooden horn was replaced with a metal version for strength, useful in tying off a rope, as wooden horns tended to break under the pressure exerted by wild cattle.

As people continued to migrate west, they brought their own saddle styles with them. Many of these features were incorporated into saddles as makers became more creative and focused on utility combined with looks. As an example, the so-called **Cheyenne** saddle was known for its fancy rolled cantle while the **Montana** saddle had large square skirts with wide fenders and exposed stirrup leathers.

All of the designs shared one thing in common: they were meant to work for a living.

Continued on page 30

Western Saddle continued from page 29

Popular designs of the time were developed in various geographic locations. Gallup and Frazier made the Pueblo saddle in Pueblo, Colorado. It had skirts up to 32 inches and wide fenders. Because the skirts were so large the leather could be ornamented through tooling. The Pueblo had a metal horn of polished brass or nickel. This fancy horn looked good but wasn't meant for serious cowboys because the horn was not practical for roping.

Another working saddle was known by its rigging. Called the **Sam Stagg**, this working saddle had its front rigging leather looped around the horn, extending down each side of the slick fork to the cinch ring. The rigging was made of a single piece of strong leather. The rear cinch was riveted to the rear jockey while the front cinch was also connected with Sam Stagg rigging.

The **Texas** saddle had a low horn made of wood, slick forks, square skirts, and the capacity for double rigging. Saddle maker S. D. Myers specialized in this style of saddle and made variations of it for clients like Pancho Villa, as well as the President of Mexico. This was a saddle designed for hard use and was strong enough to take a beating while working difficult cattle.

The **California** saddle is the saddle that we think of today when we see western saddles. By the late 1880s it was the considered to be the classic saddle. This style had a strong Spanish/Mexican influence and was intended for general riding. The saddles were tooled and often ornamented with some silver. People who owned a California saddle took great pride in that ownership.

The **Oregon** style saddle did not have the decoration of the California saddle and was designed to work cattle. It featured the innovation of the swelled fork, invented around 1904 by Victor Mardin. Before the swelled fork, cowboys wrapped material of some sort around the pommel when riding mountain trails in order to have more security. The swelled fork innovation allowed the rider to tuck his knees under the pommel and to hold on. Eventually, these rolls became larger and were called Bucking Rolls, designed to help keep a cowboy in the seat when the trail got rough or his horse got broncy.

One final piece of equipment is found on many western saddles, though it is often ignored. Called the **Night Latch**, the latch is actually a safety strap that allows the rider to grab leather, when needed, to hang on: 'never a horse that couldn't be rode and never the cowboy that couldn't be thrown'.

In the West, stealing a horse was a crime punishable by death but stealing a saddle was considered just as heinous. Saddle theft was prosecuted and thieves were tracked down, as this article from 1915, published in an Oklahoma paper (at right), shows clearly. That's why in the movies you see so many cowboys on foot, hauling their saddles, and why there's so much dialogue where a sheriff approaches the man who just rode into town and says, "Isn't that Lefty Wayne's saddle?" It's a sure-fire way in tell the audience that something bad has happened to a cowboy. ##



MUSKOGEE TIMES-DEMOCRAT
JUNE 30, 1915

HOMER WILSON IS NOW SOUGHT

**Roping Expert With the Mulhall
Outfit is Accused of Taking
Saddle Worth \$40.**

Homer Wilson, one of the world's greatest ropers, broncho "busters," and wild west showman, and who was here during the Southern Commercial congress with the Lucille Mulhall outfit, is being sought by the Muskogee county officers on a charge of grand larceny. Wilson is accused of stealing from J. F. Seller, a saddle valued at \$40. Wilson is now said to be in Chicago with the Mulhall shows. He is the right hand man of Lucille Mulhall, the world's greatest horsewoman.

Wilson is known all over Oklahoma, where he took part in roping and riding contests. Several years ago he promoted a number of these contests in the state. He is said to be one of the fastest men in the country in roping and tying a wild steer.



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We'd be proud as peacocks not only to renew your membership but to sign up some new Friends, too.

FOSH works only because its members are devoted to Sound Principles and support the organization. You're the most important letters in Friends. To continue to lead the effort for sound, gaited horses, we depend on you to show up and renew your membership.

FOSH Membership Application and Order Form

(All annual memberships include a digital, bi-monthly issue of the Sound Advocate and educational packets)

Type of Membership (check one)

**Annual: Single ___\$30 Annual Family ___\$50 Annual Youth <18 ___\$20 Lifetime___\$600
Organization Membership (for your gaited horse club or association) ___ \$50**

Please print neatly

Name: _____ **Address** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Breed of Horse(s) _____

Additional donations ___\$20 ___\$30 ___\$40 ___\$50 ___Other \$_____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ **How did you hear about FOSH?** _____

Although there were other famous west coast saddle makers like The Keystone Brothers, John and William, from San Francisco, Ted Flowers, and Ellis and Hollywood Saddlery, Bohlin saddles and gear stand out from all the rest. Here are some examples of his craft.



Above: John Wayne's custom made sterling silver Bohlin spurs sold for \$23,000 after the Duke's death. Wayne was arguably Hollywood's most famous cowboy star.



1947, Roy Rogers and Trigger, a walking horse, were at the Rose Parade. Trigger wore Bohlin's Diamond Special, not quite a full parade saddle but a true Hollywood movie western saddle.



Ultimate parade horses, the Scripps Saddlebreds, 1972, wearing original Bohlin parade saddles.



Matinee idol handsome, Edward H. Bohlin, above, (1895-1980) was the saddle maker to the stars. He didn't begin in the west; like a Hollywood movie, the man who made stunning silver saddles started out in Scandinavia.

The Golden Age of Western Parade Saddles was Pure Hollywood

If you want to purchase a genuine Bohlin parade saddle today, be prepared to spend upwards of \$100,000, and that's only if you can find someone who is willing to part with what John Carney, of Custom Creations and Restorations, says when he describes Bohlin saddles, as "the highest standard of western art and craftsmanship the world has ever known".

It all started in his home country of Sweden where Bohlin dreamed of being a cowboy. At 15, he ran away from home, jumped a four-masted schooner, and headed to America, intent on getting a job with Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show.

He became a working cowboy, riding cattle drives in Montana and Wyoming, and learned the saddle-maker's trade. He opened his first shop in Cody, Wyoming, doing rope tricks out front to bring in business.

Bohlin's life changed again when he met cowboy star Tom Mix at the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood where he was performing. Mix persuaded Bohlin to stay in California and to open in 1920 what would become a high-end saddle shop. He operated his saddlery until his death in 1980. Over his long career Bohlin made more than 12,000 saddles, as well as custom spurs, chaps, holsters, and other western related items.

A perfectionist, as the business grew, he hired other artisans, but in his shop there was only one way to do something-- his way-- a former employee remembered.

His clients, like his saddles were legendary and varied, including stars like Mae West, Hopalong Cassidy, Roy Rogers, Clayton Moore, The Lone Ranger, and Larry Hagman of Dallas fame, as well as politicians like Lyndon Baines Johnson.

His saddles were also prominent features in Pasadena's annual Rose Parade. There, saddles like the Murrietta, one of his most brilliant designs, decorated with Indians and tepees and hills done in three shades of 14kt gold, captured the imagination.

Bohlin also designed bits that matched the headstalls and breast collars of parade outfits. He used in production the highest grade of sterling silver, 14kt and 18kt gold in four colors, and mounted precious stones like rubies on his pieces.

While parade saddles weren't working saddles, people who worked for a living in the movies purchased them. At his death, Bohlin, 85, had made good on his childhood dream. He became a real cowboy and had a star-filled career in Hollywood's version of the West. ##

Member News continued from page 6

Gaited Division of Missouri State Fair Horse Show Looks to FOSH for Judge and DQP

When walking, spotted saddle, and other gaited horses turn out for this year's Missouri State Fair, they will find a USDA trained FOSH DQP in the inspection area and IJA judge Rick Evans in center ring. The so-called "Society Horseshow" runs from August 1-2, although the State Fair runs from August 10-20. Exhibitors' concerns over safety issues during the fair itself mean that fair horse shows now take place before the actual event.

The fair offers over \$9,000 in prize money in the gaited division, with classes exclusively for pleasure horses. Missourians hope for a good turnout, as they believe it is essential to keeping the gaited division on the program at the fair in Sedalia, Missouri. ##

Things to Remember from the Cowboy's Creed:

Never ride another man's horse without permission; always help someone in need; never put on another man's hat; don't wave at a man on a horse, a simple nod will do. Always say HOWDY!



THEO Fans! L-R, Lisa Collette, Noel Silverstein, trainer and eventer, and Danielle Struna share the excitement of the Rolex three-day event held in Kentucky. Photo Candace Wade

TWH "Theo" Had Surprising Name Recognition at the Rolex 3 Day Event

"Do you know about Theo? Wait, are you . . .?" Lisa Collette quizzed the writer (Candace Wade) of the "[Saving Theo](#)" series in *Horse Nation* as they marched through wet grass on the cross-country course at the Rolex Three Day Event in Lexington, Kentucky, April 29, 2017.

Lisa Collette, Danielle Struna, and Noell Silverstein, eventer and trainer, had all traveled from Ohio to see the eventing greats. Zara Tindall had just sailed over a jump when Rolex first-timer Ms. Wade commented on the glaring differences between the big lick Tennessee Walking Horse shows and the performances of the horses she observed at the Rolex.

She noted the grace of natural movement; the partnership between horse and rider, that horses are much more mature when they begin training, and the maturity of the horses competing in all disciplines at the Three Day. "In the big lick 16 and 18 month old horses in performance training packages may carry an adult male," she told her companions.

Lisa chimed in with what disturbed her about the "performance" TWHs. She added that she had been following a rehabilitating TWH named Theo. That's when she put Ms. Wade together with Theo. She asked how Theo was coming along and told the others that she, "Loved reading about his progress." Out in a field in Lexington, Kentucky, Theo's welfare mattered to a young woman from Ohio who was not a walking horse person but a horse person.

A Tennessee Walking Horse was also showcased in a demonstration on Thursday and Friday afternoon in the Walnut Ring at the Rolex. "Repeat the Beat", the newest Breyer model horse, demonstrated his flat work and jumping ability. The 17-year-old gelding is an ex-big lick horse that competes as both an eventer and hunter in all breed competition. The demonstration at Rolex showed both the versatility and "the other side" of the Tennessee Walking Horse. ##

In Conclusion: *What Exactly are the Dog Days of Summer?*

An Indian saying from British colonial days observed that only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the noonday sun. While it is commonly but wrongly believed that the “dog days of summer” refers to the tendency for dogs, which experience heat more intensely than do humans, to run mad in the summer months, the true explanation of the phrase has a classical heritage that does include a dog and heat, at least at some latitudes.

Ancient Greeks and Romans, just like modern folks, looked up at the skies and towards the stars. In the skies, they saw patterns, which we know as constellations; in order to identify the patterns, they gave them names associated with real life or mythical creatures or items. To the Greeks, the constellation known as Canis Major (the second brightest star in the sky is Sirius, which can be seen with the naked eye. Canis Major translates from Latin to Big Dog). The constellation looked like a dog chasing Lepus, the hare. Sirius, the dog star, is the dog’s nose. The dog days of summer actually refer to the position of Sirius in the heavens.

Dog days occurred when Sirius appeared to rise just before the sun. In the northern hemisphere this happened in late July, which, because of the tilt of the earth during its rotation, produced the hottest days of the year in the northern hemisphere.



The old Greeks and Romans, saw portents of events in the heavens, thought that the dog days brought both fever and catastrophe. Homer, in *The Iliad*, calls Sirius Orion’s dog rising, referring to the mythical hunter Orion whose constellation borders Canis Major. The poet describes the dog star as being associated with both war and disaster.

While summer heat can feel disastrous, the celestial dog days themselves don’t correspond neatly with the heat because the stars in the sky shift independently of the calendar, moving according to the wobble of the earth’s rotation. What the Greeks and Romans saw as the dog days of summer are not the same as we see today. In fact, in several millennia, roughly 13,000 years from now, the dog days won’t take place in the summer in the Northern Hemisphere but in mid-winter. Today, though, the dog day period is between July 3 and August 11th. While we try to stay cool, it might be a great idea to go to Google Sky, print out a sky map, and spend a summer evening among the stars, like the ancients, searching for Sirius basking in the cooling night air after surviving the heat of the day. ##

And so it came to be
That the children of
Albion lay
Burnt to a cinder in
the shade
Hiding now from the
sun
That only yesterday
they so much adored
And absorbed.
Peeling skins and
aging grins.
Mad dogs and
Englishmen.

[David Lacey](#)



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