



Natural Horsemanship Association Of Northern Nevada

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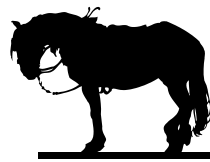
Cynthia Brown and Samantha DiMuzio

Mail membership dues to NHANN c/o

Nancy Horvath, 10220 Pathfinder Way,
Reno, NV 89508

Annual dues:

\$25.00 individual; \$35.00 family



August 2011

Meeting Highlights:

The general meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. with a welcome from the Club's President, Samantha DiMuzio. Samantha requested that everyone present introduce themselves and identify what was their favorite horse movie (see the list of movies on page 7).

- Rebbekka Rhodes made a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes as written. Meredith Mayeroff seconded the motion which passed without opposition.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The current balance as reported by Debbie Young is \$1,285.02, reflecting income of \$110.00 from membership dues and tee shirt sales, and expenses of \$12.95 for the website fee.

- Nancy Horvath reports that there are currently forty six members with Babbs & Roger Clough being our newest members.
- Cynthia explained the library rules and reminded members to look online prior to each meeting to identify materials that they would like to check out. Email or call Cynthia prior to the monthly meetings and she will bring your desired library materials to the meeting.
- Debbie Taylor discussed the for sale items.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Samantha said that the Lemmon Valley trail ride was a success.
- Samantha informed members that a "wish list" for future library purchases is being generated – please contact her to make additions to the list.
- Marianne reminded members that she would appreciate their noteworthy stories for the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Babbs Clough requested horse savvy volunteers to help with her rescue horses. The horses would benefit from ground work and simple human interaction.

Horsin' Around with the President

By Sam DiMuzio



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone!

Wow! Who can believe summer's just about over? Didn't it just start? The night sky is sticking around longer and coming sooner and there's been a bit of a chill in the air lately. The good news is that there are still 2 NHANN group rides left to take part in for this year. The first one is at Bird Springs on Saturday, September 10th and then there'll be the October 15th ride in Chilcoat.

The Euer Valley horse camping trip was a lot of fun with lots of different terrain to experience. The Friday and Saturday night campfires were a hoot as new drink concoctions were invented and stories were told. Marshmallows aren't just for s'mores as we found out. We had the perfect group spot in Lower Lodgepole that kept us away from the main camping areas (with their moving cars, people, and dust, though I'm sure the mosquitos were terrors everywhere).

I hope to see you on our last two outings as we begin to bring 2011 to a close! In the meantime, please join us for our quarterly Member Share meeting this Thursday, September 8th at 6pm.

Happy Trails!!

Sam

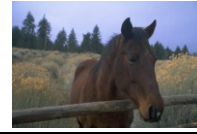
Bird Springs Trail Ride

Let's meet at the BLM corrals at 9:30 and be ready to ride by 10:00. The BLM corrals access road is about 1.5 miles north of Bedell Rd.. (Google map shows Bedell Rd.) It is a narrow dirt road but there is a huge turn-around area at the corrals that will accommodate anyone and everyone. It is about 15 miles North of Highway 395 on exit 78 Red Rock Rd. So directions: Take Highway 395 to exit 78 Red Rock Road. Go north on Red Rock Rd about 15 miles to the BLM corrals access road (about 1.5 miles past Bedell Road.) We will go out early and signpost the access road.

The ride is suitable for all - open range land with some hills and juniper trees. We may see some cows. We will aim for being out a couple of hours – though if anyone wanted to make it longer, they could roam farther afield without getting lost and make it 3 or 4 or 5 hours long.

Thanks,

Nancy Horvath, Membership Chair

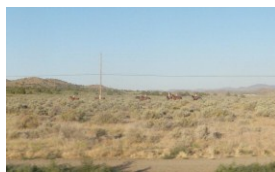


September 8th NHANN Meeting – Member Share!

Are you interested in helping other horse owners and their horses? Then come to the September NHANN meeting to watch a horse related video, and to participate in a question and answer session for you and other members to share information regarding you and your horse's health and welfare! Find out more details regarding the next club trail ride to Bird Springs, scheduled for September 11th. We'll find out where it is, how to get there, what to bring, and what kind of trails we'll have to choose from for our ride out of Bird Springs!

General Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. at Round Table Pizza, 4007 So. Virginia Street, Reno.

Report on the August 12-14th NHANN Horse Camping in Euer Valley



Euer Valley, located just outside of Tahoe Donner, Truckee, CA presented a wonderful opportunity to escape the local Reno heat of summer and get up to the high country of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Our president Sam DiMuzio, her Mom Denise, and her two horses, Carla Case, her guest Carol and their two horses, Louise Smith-Egstrom, her guest Mike and three horses, Louise Fernandes, Harry and Johnna Wilson and their three horses, Roger and Marianne Merriam and their two horses came up on Friday the 12th. There was a trail ride Friday evening, Sat. morning, Sat. evening and again Sunday morning. The trails were varied from dirt roads to single track through pine trees and shrubs, starting at +-6,500' and up to +-7,500' Elevation. The views were amazing out over the Carpenter Valley and the Euer Valley. Horse camping accommodations were terrific w/ pipe corrals, water and hoses, fire pits, picnic tables and outhouses. The full moon and natural beauty of the region was the icing on the cake! It was a truly memorable weekend!

NHANN LOGO-WEAR LONG SLEEVED T-SHIRTS ARE IN!!

ONLY \$15 EACH, QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED!

S-10/ M-13/ L-12/ XL-10/ XXL-5

(Sam is wearing a Small)



Place your orders in time to wear on your next trail ride!

Orders can be picked up at the July 14th Meeting. E-mail Sam DiMuzio to reserve yours now!
NHANN Decals for your car, truck & trailer are now available – buy several while supplies last!



August Meeting Highlights

In Recent months the club members have been discussing questionable training and handling practices that are noted in the horse world today. The questions members are asking revolve around how to make a difference by promoting positive changes to improve the lives of horses.

Rebekka Rhodes voiced concerns that many of our role models tend to be the popular clinicians found in today's limelight. As students of the horse and these clinicians we often find ourselves following what we are being taught without giving any forethought regarding the impact on the horse.

The August presentation followed up some of these thoughts and concerns with the showing of a movie, "*If Horses Could Speak*" by Dr. Gerd Heuschmann.

Classical riding is the art of riding in harmony with, rather than against the horse. Competitive dressage, reining and Western rail events in comparison, are trending toward incorrect training and riding shortcuts, or quick fixes, which make the horse appear to be correct but are not. These quick fix training shortcuts are biomechanically incompatible with correct movement, are painful to the horse, and cause long term physical damage. The process of correctly developing and training a horse to be an athlete capable of carrying the weight of a rider takes a minimum of two years.

The back muscles of horses were not meant to carry the weight of a human. As such, these muscles, and the horse's body overall, must be strengthened to carry our weight. The long back muscle of the horse is not a weight carrying muscle - it is instead for the purpose of locomotion. The carriage of the horse's head and neck must be kept in a neutral position for the horse to bear a rider's weight correctly. Hyper-flexion and inversely hyper-extension of the horse's neck reduces their ability to carry weight, and affects their gait adversely as well.

The walk is the gait that is most prone to disturbances caused from the rider's rein aids. Rider interference of the horse can produce undesired gaits, such as a pace in the walk and a four beat canter.

In the dressage ring today, the winners appear to be the horses with the most "spectacular" yet incorrect frames. Tension is held in their bodies, and can be seen in their backs when they "wring" their tails and do not swing naturally as a pendulum. Negative tension in any way equates to wear and tear on the horse's body. In a study done in the Netherlands, seventeen percent of sport horses had to be euthanized by the time they were eight years old due to poor training and riding practices.

As advocates for the horse, we need to walk out of events that do not condemn practices that endanger horses' mental, physical and emotional wellbeing. We can actively voice our concerns in letters to associations, and try to ban events promoting "spectacular" yet incorrect presentations of horses.

Member's Corner

First Born

By Nancy Horvath

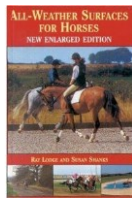
So many new adventures have come along since we decided to expand our horse family and start breeding Morgans. Just two months after our foundation broodmare, Ringbrook Renaissance ("Crystal"), joined us, she produced our first foal, Renaissance Champagne ("Crystalina").

What a beautiful little filly she was! Totally cream-colored, healthy and strong, straight-legged and energetic, able to walk across the paddock and stand happily next to her mother for her first picture at dawn just hours after her birth.



*Renaissance Champagne
("Crystalina")*

Continued on Page 5



All Weather Surfaces for Horses
by Ray Lodge and Susan Shanks

Northern Nevada is known for drastic weather changes. With Fall so close and Winter following, this book gives readers all the information needed for constructing the perfect arena footing for all types of weather. Spring was very cruel this year in Reno, a lot of arenas resembled swamps and/or slippery slides. Most horse owners couldn't ride until early June due to all of the excess water. An all-weather surface would have been perfect for dealing with all of the rain and melting snow. Unfortunately most horse owners use only what is in their backyard or at their boarding facility. Is your arena a swamp or a nice and dry surface in Winter/Spring? If it is a swamp would you like to know how to make it not?

Ray Lodge and Susan Shanks wrote this book to give people the research necessary for designing their own all-weather surfaced arena. Most of their information comes from racetracks and arenas found in England, one of the wettest countries in the world. England has spent many years experimenting with different bases and materials to create the perfect surface for horses that will withstand even the harshest weather.

The book includes chapters on drainage, bases, materials, general construction, and photos of different all-weather surfaces. For anyone looking for a great book on arena footing this is it. Please be sure to request it through the NHANN website before Wednesday to receive it at the next meeting.

NHANN FOR SALE ITEMS:

- Long Sleeved T-shirts: \$15
 - Short Sleeved T-shirts: \$12
 - Trail Kits (bandana, hoof pick, lip balm, strip of leather): \$10
 - Equine First Aid Kit: \$25
 - Really great hoof pick!: \$15
 - 9x12 Decals: \$7.50 each; 5x7 Decals: \$5 each
-

Member's
Corner ~

Cont'd from page 4

I had so looked forward to being present at the foaling, having attended a vet clinic presentation and read the assigned handouts and numerous other references which warned of the difficulties to be on the watch for. But the foaling went uneventfully unattended - Crystal was a pro at this, and apparently didn't expect or need any assistance from us neophytes in the business, thank you. She kept her signs of imminent foaling to herself, and just smiled contently at our surprise in the morning when we arrived to feed, and found little Crystalina there nursing already.

As Crystalina grew, she changed colors several times, from pale beige to dark chocolate and back again, even showing dapples at some stages. What color should we call her on her registration papers?



Nancy and Crystalina

Continued on Page 6

UP-COMING EVENTS

- Every Saturday after the NHANN Monthly Meeting
NHANN Monthly Activity
Stay tuned for *trail rides, clinics and other fun things* to participate in with your horses! Activities announced monthly.
- September 8th, 2011-Thursday
September NHANN Meeting!
Time: 5:15 Board Meeting; 6:00 PM General Meeting.
- September 10th, 2011- Saturday
September NHANN Activity! Bird Springs Trail Ride!
Time: Be there at 9:30am, ride at 10:00am.
- September 8th, 2011-Thursday
Truckee Donner Horsemen Combined Horse Show
Western Clinic w/ Ginger & Ron DeGrange, Contact Stephanie Buranzon via email at: stephburanzon@yahoo.com
- September 10th, 2011-Saturday
Truckee Donner Horsemen Combined Horse Show
English Clinic w/ Jenny Heckendorn. Time: TBA Contact Stephanie Buranzon via email at: stephburanzon@yahoo.com
- Sept. 19th-Oct. 2nd, 2011
NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity and Trade Show*

*At the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center
<http://www.visitrenotahoe.com/meetings-conventions/facilities/reno-livestock-events-center/calendar>

Check out the Natural Horsemanship of Northern Nevada's website for future club related events and for the list of Library materials at:

www.naturalhorsenevada.com



Welcome New Members:

Babbs & Roger Clough!

Member's Corner

-cont'd from page 5

Turns out this is a common occurrence among palomino Morgans, and the name for this dark version is "chocolate palomino." The coloring is considered stunning and desirable.

So we found a local show to enter Crystalina in halter class. I trained her to lead at a walk and trot, stopping smoothly and standing attentively. The participants were mostly novices practicing their showmanship skills and getting their horses used to the standards and commotion of showing. Lina performed very self-confidently and calmly, though it was her first time out amongst an unfamiliar group of people and horses. We were both thrilled to be awarded a red ribbon for second place out of a class of five. It gave us a fine first experience, and a challenge to come back again to do even better.

Though I don't have the time or ambition (or money!) to spend going on the professional show circuit with our registered Morgans, participating in smaller local shows can be a treat and another goal for training and playing with our equine friends. Perhaps others would also enjoy presenting their young horses in halter at a club show?

p.s. Lina and her siblings have gone to green pastures in Oregon to be trained as performance horses!

Member's Favorite Movies

Far Lap, Justin Morgan Had a Horse, Cowboys & Aliens, Hidalgo, Black Stallion, Man From Snowy River, Secretariat, Spirit Stallion of the Cimarron, Bite the Bullet, Open Range, Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken, Dances With Wolves, War Horse (coming soon), and Buck.

Horse Rescue Haven

Horse Rescue Haven needs volunteers! Anyone who loves horses is welcome! We have all types and personalities. Please call and let us know if you want to share board or volunteer to buddy with one of our Regal Creatures.

They will make all your worldly cares go away – thus a great stress reliever. Call us at 775-425-1156. We are in Spanish Springs. It is worth the trip and time for you and them!

Yours in Love with Horses,
Roger and Babbs Clough

...the Horse is a Chaos Machine

*-excerpt from What Horses Reveal
by Klaus Ferdinand Hempfling*

...Rule 1: Being with horses means summoning the courage to endure chaos, and finding the power and the wisdom to overcome chaos, over and over again....

...Rule 2: He who is not conscious of the fact that in all eras and in all cultures the horse stood, and stands, for chaos and raw instinct (the devil has a horse's hoof), will find himself in a burning house only to be amazed that it can sometimes be very dangerous, and that he might in fact burn up – both internally and externally...

...So what is it horses teach us? What can they do that hardly any other beings in the world can do as well? It is the recognition of chaos and harmony and the path from one to the other. Now, chaos in interaction with horses is anything but beautiful, but it is not necessarily extremely oppressive. Chaos in life, however, can be dangerous, suffocating and deadly. The horse, so to speak, is a classroom for us, the 'practice session' so that we can recognize the nature of chaos and harmony and apply what we have learned to life. This is the path from rider to knighthood.

Why is it the horse in particular that has this task? Why do we feel so drawn to the horse, despite all the difficulties that arise? What exactly is harmony from the horse's point of view? How can we create, and how can we apply, that in our lives?

CLASSIFIED ADS

HORSE FRIENDLY PRODUCTS:

Timberline Saddle Company Custom Saddles: Western, Dressage, English, Trail and Endurance models. Custom saddle pads, girths and cinches, bridles and accessories available. Tacky-Tack™ Saddle Pads – extreme comfort and non-slip security; washable and breathable. Skidmore's Leather Care products. Contact: Mark Rhodes 775-972-9025 or email centaurgenie@mindspring.com.

NATURAL HOOF CARE

by Debbie Tayler:

Correct trimming for balance and performance with an emphasis on treating the whole horse. Contact Debbie at (775) 846-8918 kirk.debbie.tayler@gmail.com to schedule an appointment.

SAFE START HORSEMANSHIP:

Beginning horsemanship: riding instruction, with emphasis on safety, communication, and learning all aspects of horse care; ages five thru adult. Please call or email for more information. South Reno. Contact: Jann Hehn 775-852-7261 or Email safestarthorse@sbcglobal.net

TRUCK FOR SALE:

2005 Ford F-150 pickup with reversible ball hitch for goose-neck trailer. Strong engine in excellent condition, easily pulls three-horse trailer. Contact Nancy Horvath or Bruce Nething @ 775- 972-7702

HORSES 4 LEASE OR LESSONS:

MFT gelding. Cruise is an incredibly smooth trail horse, rides English or western; Lessons are \$30, leasing is \$150 per month. For more information contact Donna Artz at 775-232-2427. swsranch@charter.net

NHANN 2011 Tentative Meeting & Activity Schedule

Month	Scheduled Speaker	Topic	Activity
September	Member Share Meeting	To be decided by the Members in attendance	Bird Springs Trail Ride* Sept. 10 th #
October	Dr. Kirk+	Lameness Diagnosis	Chilcoot Ride + 15 th #
November	Dr. Meeghan Gray*	Wild Horse Research	
December	Club Christmas Party*	(No meeting at Round Table)	All library books, cd's, dvd's due back to Librarian for annual audit Party Dec. 10 th * #
Jan. 2012	First Meeting of the Year	TBA#	TBA#

*confirmed +tentative-waiting on confirmation #details to come

Horsemanship is the one art for which it seems one needs only practice. However, practice without true principles is nothing other than routine, the fruit of which is a strained and unsure execution, a false diamond which dazzles semi-connoisseurs often more impressed by the accomplishments of the horse than the merit of the horseman.

~Francois Robichon de la Guerinere

A horse 'held in shape' by his rider is only posturing in a seemingly correct form, usually for the benefit of inexperienced observers.

~Charles de Kunffy



CALLING ALL MEMBERS !



Members are **enthusiastically encouraged** to submit "Member's Corner" articles for publication to the NHANN Secretary via e-mail (MarianneMerriam@gmail.com) regarding real-life learning experiences, interesting or unusual stories concerning you and your horses.