



Happy St. Patrick's Day

High Desert Horsemen
P.O. Box 2263
Dayton, NV 89403
www.hdhorsemen.org

HD Hoof Prints

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Mar 12: HDH Board and General Membership Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Round Table Pizza, Dayton. Contact: Anne, 775-246-4247.

Mar 14: Basic Ground Manners Clinic, 10:00 a.m., Hamilton's Arena, 11225 Silver Lane, Stagecoach. Open to the public. Limit—20 participants. \$15/members and \$20/nonmembers. Conducted by Kelli Lyon. This clinic is designed for people who have not participated in a Ground Manners Clinic previously. Also, there will be a brief session on showing your horse at halter. Contact: Anne, 246-4247

Mar 22: Lahontan Ride, 10:30 a.m. from home of Nancie & Dennis Cucato, 49 E. 5th Street, Silver Springs. This is a HTAP ride. HDH members only, please. Potluck lunch following ride. Hot dogs and chili will be provided. Bring a dish to share. Ride Fee—Cranberry Sauce. Contact: Nancie, 775-721-6941.

Mar 27: Vaccination Clinic, conducted by Great Basin Equine, Dr. Brady Little. This clinic is fairly full at this time and is by reservation only. Contact Linda at 775-629-0817 to see if there are any spots available.

Mar 28: Mini-work Session, 9:00 a.m., Hamilton's Arena, 11225 Silver Lane, Stagecoach. \$5 fee. Come out and work out problems/issues with your horse by trading ideas/suggestions with others. Contact: Kelli 629-0865.

April 17—19: Colt-Starting Clinic, 9:00 a.m. each day. Hamilton's, 11225 Silver Lane, Stagecoach. Clinician Tony Sumner will work with a 3 year old horse that has never been ridden. Clinician Kelli Lyon will work with a 3 year old horse that has been started and under saddle for approx. one month. Open to the public. Fee: \$5 will get you in for all 3 days. Contact: Kelli 775-629-0865.

April 17-19: Tack Sale—HDH members—bring your unwanted, unused, sitting around tack out and sell it. No charge to set up a table (bring your own). You are responsible for your own items. Contact: Linda 775-629-0817.

Please check the website regularly for time and date changes. Sometimes things change and we have to reschedule or cancel. www.hdhorsemen.org or call the contact number listed for the event

Classifieds

Classified Ads are free for all High Desert Horsemen members. To submit an ad, email:

llmulkey@yahoo.com



March Happy Birthday

- March 1—Tony Sumner
- March 8—Holly Buettner
- March 10—Melinda Johnson
- March 13—Katy Durst

Western Seat Basics

From the Certified Horsemanship Association Composite Horsemanship Manual. CHA, an AQHA alliance partner, certifies instructors and trail guides, accredits equestrian facilities, publishes educational manuals and hosts interactive conferences.

Compiled by Hailey Harroun

Instructors from the Certified Horsemanship Association explain the correct positioning needed for a balanced seat:

- **Hands and Arms:** Elbows are relaxed and close to the sides. Traditionally, reins are held in the left hand, with the rein hand above and just in front of the pommel. The right hand is loose on the right thigh or across your midsection.
- **Head:** The head is level, eyes looking ahead.
- **Shoulders:** Both shoulders are square, relaxed and even. Be careful that the left shoulder doesn't move higher than the right or twist forward as a result of holding the reins in the left hand.
- **Back:** The upper back should be flat, sitting tall in the saddle. The lower back should be relaxed and flexing with the horse's movements.
- **Lower Body:** Sit deep in the center of the seat of the saddle, not back on the cantle. Keep your hip in line with your shoulder and the back of your heel.
- **Legs and Feet:** Stirrup length is important. When standing up in the stirrups with your heels lower than your toes and your knees slightly bent, there should be a space about 2 1/2 to 3 inches (a hand's width) between the buttocks and the saddle. The knees and thighs are rolled in so that the flat part of the knee is against the saddle. There is light contact with the horse on the inside of the calves. Ankles are flexed so the heels are lower than the toes. Only the balls of the feet are in the stirrups.

News Briefs

Harold Miller was picked as one of the six finalists in a poetry contest in Reno called Rhythm and Rawhide. The 3 poets who get the best score on March 5th will get invited to the Show they have in May. They will perform their poems and the winner gets a silver buckle, accolades, and some cash. The contest is for charity. The contest was open to anyone who in Northern California or Northern Nevada who writes cowboy poetry.

There will be a cowboy poetry show at Dayton Nursery on Saturday, March 7th. Free admission.

Margy Hamilton is still collecting coats, jackets, blankets and anything else you might want to contribute to people in need. She wants to thank those of you who have already been very generous.

Dr. Brady Little from Great Basin Equine gave a very informative talk on Horse First Aid on February 5th. If you would like a copy of his presentation, please e-mail Linda Mulkey at llmulkey@yahoo.com and she will e-mail a copy to you.

There is an addition to the HDH Calendar. Cathy Davis will be conducting a driving clinic on July 25th, 9:00 a.m. at Hamilton's Arena, 11225 Silver Lane, Stagecoach. Some of the things she will cover beginning basics, correct harnessing, proper attire and carts. Cost \$15. HDH members only. Contact: Margy 230-2335.

Thank you to Jim Mulkey for his trailer safety inspection presentation after the mini work session on February 21st. It was very informative and useful.



To have a horse in your life is a gift. In the matter of a few short years, a horse can teach a young girl courage, if she chooses to grab mane and hang on for dear life. Even the smallest of ponies is mightier than the tallest of girls. To conquer the fear of falling off, having one's toes crushed, or being publicly humiliated at a horse show is an admirable feat for any child. For that, we can be grateful.

Horses teach us responsibility. Unlike a bicycle or a computer, a horse needs regular care and most of it requires that you get dirty and smelly and up off the couch. Choosing to leave your cozy kitchen to break the crust of ice off the water buckets is to choose responsibility. When our horses dip their noses and drink heartily; we know we've made the right choice.

Learning to care for a horse is both an art and a science. Some are easy keepers, requiring little more than regular turn-out, a flake of hay, and a trough of clean water. Others will test you - you'll struggle to keep them from being too fat or too thin. You'll have their feet shod regularly only to find shoes gone missing. Some are so accident-prone you'll swear they're intentionally finding new ways to injure themselves.

If you weren't raised with horses, you can't know that they have unique personalities. You'd expect this from dogs, but horses? Indeed, there are clever horses, grumpy horses, and even horses with a sense of humor. Those prone to humor will test you by finding new ways to escape from the barn when you least expect it.

Horses can be timid or brave, lazy or athletic, obstinate or willing. You will hit it off with some horses and others will elude you altogether. There are as many "types" of horses as there are people - which makes the whole partnership thing all the more interesting.

If you've never ridden a horse, you probably assume it's a simple thing you can learn in a weekend. You can, in fact, learn the basics on a Sunday, but to truly ride well takes a lifetime. Working with a living being is far more complex than turning a key in the ignition and putting the car or tractor in "drive." In addition to listening to your instructor, your horse will have a few things to say to you as well. On a good day, he'll be happy to go along with the program and tolerate your mistakes; on a bad day, you'll swear he's trying to kill you. Perhaps he's naughty or perhaps he's fed up with how slowly you're learning his language.

Regardless, the horse will have an opinion. He may choose to challenge you (which can ultimately make

a better rider) or he may carefully carry you over fences - if it suits him. It all depends on the partnership - and partnership is what it's all about.

If you face your fears, swallow your pride, and are willing to work at it, you'll learn lessons in courage, commitment, and compassion in addition to basic survival skills. You'll discover just how hard you're willing to work toward a goal, how little you know, and how much you have to learn.

And, while some people think the horse "does all the work", you'll be challenged physically as well as mentally. Your horse may humble you completely. Or, you may find that sitting on his back is the closest you'll get to heaven.

You can choose to intimidate your horse, but do you really want to? The results may come more quickly, but will your work ever be as graceful as that gained through trust? The best partners choose to listen, as well as to tell. When it works, we experience a sweet sense of accomplishment brought about by smarts, hard work, and mutual understanding between horse and rider. These are the days when you know with absolute certainty that your horse is enjoying his work.

If we make it to adulthood with horses still in our lives, most of us have to squeeze riding into our over saturated schedules; balancing our need for things equine with those of our households and employers. There is never enough time to ride, or to ride as well as we'd like. Hours in the barn are stolen pleasures.

If it is in your blood to love horses, you share your life with them. Our horses know our secrets; we braid our tears into their manes and whisper our hopes into their ears. A barn is a sanctuary in an unsettled world, a sheltered place where life's true priorities are clear: a warm place to sleep, someone who loves us, and the luxury of regular meals. Some of us need these reminders. When you step back, it's not just about horses - it's about love, life, and learning. On any given day, a friend is celebrating the birth of a foal, a blue ribbon, or recovery from an illness. That same day, there is also loss: a broken limb, a case of colic, a decision to sustain a life or end it gently. As horse people, we share the accelerated life cycle of horses: the hurried rush of life, love, loss, and death that caring for these animals brings us. When our partners pass, it is more than a moment of sorrow.

We mark our loss with words of gratitude for the ways our lives have been blessed. Our memories are of joy, awe, and wonder. Absolute union. We honor our horses for their brave hearts, courage, and willingness to give.

A Horse in Your Life continued on page 4

A Horse in Your Life
continued from page 3

To those outside our circle, it must seem strange. To see us in our muddy boots, who would guess such poetry lives in our hearts? We celebrate our companions with praise worthy of heroes. Indeed, horses have the hearts of warriors and often carry us into and out of fields of battle. Listen to stories of that once-in-a-lifetime horse; of journeys made and challenges met. The best of horses rise to the challenges we set before them, asking little in return.

Those who know them understand how fully a horse can hold a human heart. Together, we share the pain of sudden loss and the lingering taste of long-term illness. We shoulder the burden of deciding when or whether to end the life of a true companion.

In the end, we're not certain if God entrusts us to our horses-or our horses to us. Does it matter? We're grateful God loaned us the horse in the first place.

Submitted by Janet Freeland

You Know You're a Horseperson if You...

Reprinted from EquiSearch

Horse people see the world differently than everyone else, and you know you're a horse person if you do these things.

You know you're a horseperson if you...

- Believe in the 11th Commandment: Inside leg to outside rein.
- Know that all topical medications come in either indelible blue or neon yellow.
- Think nothing of eating a sandwich after mucking out stables.
- Know why a thermometer has a yard of yarn attached to one end of it.
- Are banned from Laundromats.
- Fail to associate whips, chains and leather with sexual deviancy.
- Can magically lower your voice five octaves to bellow at a pawing horse.
- Have a language all your own. "If he pops his shoulder, I have to close that hand and keep pushing with my seat in case he sucks back."
- End relationships over your hobby.
- Cluck to your car to help it up hills.
- Insure your horse for more than your car.
- Will give someone 20 names and reasons for that bump on your horse.
- Know more about your horse's nutrition than your own.
- Have neatsfoot oil stains on the carpet right next to the TV
- Have a vocabulary that can make a sailor blush.
- Have fewer clothes than your horse.
- Engage in a hobby that is more work than your day job.
- Think mucking stalls is better than Zolofit any day.
- Think mucking stalls with Zolofit is heaven.

Submitted by Trish Clark

Soda Lake Ride 2/28/09



Marsha Arthur



Bobbie Brown, Trish Clark, Marsha Arthur, Jim & Barbara Davies, Regina Cruz Davies, Bonnie Repogle, Kelli Lyon, Linda Mulkey

Soda Lake Ride 2/28/09



Tony Sumner, Bobbie Brown, Sheila Aerick

The Soda Lake Ride was a lot of fun. The company was good and the weather was great.

Riders:
 Anne Martins
 Kelli Lyon
 Bobbie Brown
 Jim Davies
 Barbara Davies
 Regina Davies
 Bonne Replogle
 Sheila Aerick
 Ken Buettner
 Holly Buettner
 Aimeé Sumner
 Tony Sumner
 Trish Clark
 Marsha Arthur
 Linda Mulkey



Sheila Aerick, Bonnie Replogle, Ken & Holly Buettner



Regina Cruz Davies



Holly & Ken Buettner, Sheila Aerick



Holly Buettner, Aimeé Sumner, Anne Martins



Bobbie Brown, Trish Clark, Marsha Arthur, Jim & Barbara Davies, Regina Cruz Davies, Tony Sumner





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Homemade Fly Spray Recipes

These home made fly spray recipes are gathered from around the web. Please research and use your own judgment and always check with your vet when in doubt.

Special note: Whenever a fly spray recipe calls for citronella, you should use 100 percent pure citronella oil. It is a plant based product. You should not use citronella oil that is sold for an outdoor torch. That type of oil is petroleum based with a citronella smell.

I used a variation of the fly sprays:

6 caps full of Skin so Soft
1 cup white vinegar
just a good squirt of Ivory liquid soap
filled a 32 oz Bronco Spray bottle with water
Sprayed it on the horses legs, Flies fell DEAD !!!

1 cup vinegar
1 cup baby oil
1/4 cup original pinesol
1 tbs dish soap
1 tbs skin so soft
1 cup water

4 oz Skin So Soft
1 oz citronella oil
12 oz vinegar
12 oz water

U.S. Forest Service Bug Spray Recipe

1 cup water
1 cup Avon Skin So Soft Bath Oil
2 cups vinegar
1 tbs. Eucalyptus oil (found in health food stores)
Optional: few tablespoons of citronella oil.

Shake spray bottle well before spraying on horse, human or dog!

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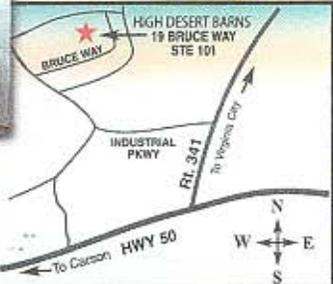
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February 12, 2009

HIGH DESERT HORSEMEN
P.O. Box 2263
Dayton, NV 89403

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous donation of \$250.00 on January 9, 2009 to our organization. With your assistance we will continue to improve our operation and hopefully be able to accommodate all the students who request our help. I hope you will come out to visit us and see, first hand, the smile on the faces of the people you have helped.

Your support in the mission of the Kids & horses program is greatly appreciated.

We are a nonprofit organization under section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code and your contribution is tax deductible. This letter serves as an official receipt for a donation of \$250.00 for which no goods or services were received by the HIGH DESERT HORSEMEN. Our Federal Tax Identification is # 88-0419196.

Sincerely,

Curt Wegener
Finance Director

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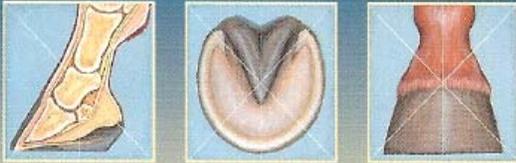
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Happy St. Patrick's Day



**5th Annual
 Hairy Horse Schooling Show
 April 25th, 2009
 Judge: Vernee Barnett
 9:00 a.m. Sharp (Rain or Shine)**

High Desert Horsemen
 Location: Hamilton's Arena
 11225 Silver Lane
 Highway 50 E. & Blackhawk Rd
 - to Silver Lane, Stagecoach, NV

*****Do **separate** entry form for **EACH** equine & rider/driver combination*****

Entrant's Name _____ Phone # () _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

Age _____ Birth Date: _____ If under 18 - Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Horse's Name _____ Breed _____ Sex: Mare _____ Gelding _____ Stallion _____

Circle #s of classes being entered:

1. Halter - Hairiest Equine
2. Halter - Geldings / Stallions
3. Halter - Mares
4. Color Halter *does not count toward hi-pt*
5. Showmanship at Halter 17 & Under
6. Showmanship at Halter 18 & over
7. Driving Turnout
8. Driving Pleasure
9. Driving Reimanship
10. Driving Obstacles
11. Driving Utility
12. In-Hand Trail (Lead your horse)
13. Trail
14. Costume
15. Walk/Trot English Pleasure 17 & under
16. Walk/Trot English Pleasure 18 & over
17. English Pleasure 17 & under
18. English Pleasure 18 & over
19. English Equitation 17 & under
20. English Equitation 18 & over
21. Walk/Trot Western Pleasure 17 & under
22. Walk/Trot Western Pleasure 18 & over
23. Western Pleasure 17 & under
24. Western Pleasure 18 & over
25. Western Equitation 17 & under
26. Western Equitation 18 & over

Speed Classes, Patterns will be posted at shows

27. Speed Barrels
28. Flag Race
29. Cloverleaf Barrels
30. Speed Ball
31. Poles
32. Single Pole

*****Lunch Break*****
 Classes below do not count toward hi-pt

- Fun Classes
33. Musical Stalls
 34. Pantyhose Race
 35. Egg Squash

Entry Fees: (Entries must be received no later than 4/24/09 - may enter via e-mail.)

No payment required until day of show. If you prepay, your entry will be refunded if you are unable to show

\$5.00 per class or \$35 all day (age 17 yrs. and under)
 \$5.00 per class or \$40 all day (age 18 yrs and over)

Entry Fees: (Day of Show)

\$7.00 per class or \$45 all day (age 17 yrs. and under)
 \$7.00 per class or \$50 all day (age 18 yrs and over)

Make checks payable to High Desert Horsemen. Send check/money order and signed Waiver form to:
 High Desert Horsemen, P.O. Box 2263, Dayton, NV 89403 or email mustanmommy@sbcglobal.net