



Merry
Christmas!

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

HD Hoof prints

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Upcoming Events

Dec 9—Christmas Party, 2:00 p.m. White elephant gift exchange (no more than \$10). Cost is \$18.95 adults. Send in your form (below) by December 5th or call Kelli at 629-0865.

- The HDH Christmas Party will be held at Q's BBQ, 230 Fairview Drive, Carson City (corner of Hwy. 395 & Fairview Drive) on Sunday, December 9th at 2:00 p.m. There will be a white elephant gift exchange (\$10 limit).
 - Please mail your check and your choice of meal to HDH, P.O. Box 2263, Dayton, NV 89403. Cost of meal: \$18.95, includes nonalcoholic drink, tax, & tip.

Name: _____ How many people? _____

(Children can order off children's menu day of party.)

 1. Tri-tip and Chicken Platter _____
 2. 1/2 rack pork ribs _____
 3. Flat iron steak _____

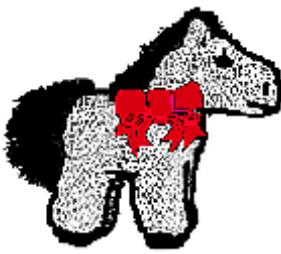
How do you want your steak cooked?

Jan 1—Breakfast Ride/Drive, 11225 Silver Lane, Hamilton's, Stagecoach. Breakfast 9:30 a.m. and Ride/Drive out at 10:30 a.m. This is a Happy Trails Award Program sanctioned ride/drive. RSVP to Margy no later than Sunday, December 29th so she knows how many will be eating breakfast. 230-2335.

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.

2008 Officers and Board Members

President: Tony Sumner Vice President: Vince Pirozzi
Secretary: Anne Martins Treasurer: Margy Hamilton
Board Members: Kelli Lyon, Kelly Knapp, Mandy Brinnand,
Bonnie Replogle, Linda Mulkey



HDH Accomplishments 2007



2007 was a great year for HDH, due in no small part to the great membership we have.

- We balanced the books, and are on good financial footing entering 2008
- Membership increased from just over 30 members in January to over 110.
- We started 2 recognition programs, HTAP and Equine Citizenship.
- We handed out 36 Thanksgiving baskets to needy folks.
- There were so many sponsored rides that there was a trail for everyone.
- We put on over half a dozen Horsemanship Improvement Sessions including clinics, de-spoakings, demos, classes, and brand inspections.
- The great Spring and Fall Schooling Shows.

We hope everyone found something that was useful to their equine habit.

And 2008 is looking even better with:

- More advanced horsemanship clinics with levels up to and including beginning reining.
- More advanced de-spoaking and formation riding clinics.
- An exciting trail trial competition at Boys Scout Camp.
- 3 Day colt starting demonstration.
- Problem horse demonstrations.
- New classes in the Shows, promoting the versatile horse.
- More challenging and exciting trail rides.
- Levels II and III Equine Citizenship testing.

So come on down to HDH and enjoy the equine fun.

Tony



Classifieds

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

FOR SALE: Eight Christmas puppies for sale. \$25.00 each. They are Border Collie and Saint Bernard mix. Will be very large and loving dogs—great around kids and other animals. Will be ready the week before Christmas. Email us @ shirl89406@yahoo.com or home phone 775- 867-4907, evening - leave message. We live in Fallon will be happy to deliver them. They are all black and white like the border collie. Four males and four females

GIVE AWAY: I am trying to help out my son. He has two male chocolate labs - They are free! One is about 2 years old and has not been fixed, the other is about I think 7 years old and has been fixed. They are father and son and are fighting, and the youngest is thin due to Dad is eating all the food. Not a real tuff problem to figure out I know, but as you probably know you can't tell your kids that. If you know anyone who could give these great dogs loving homes, please let me know. They can call me (April) at 691-4019 or e-mail me @ qifts01@yahoo.com

HORSES AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

High Desert Equine Rescue (HDER) currently has 3 horses available for adoption and 1 available for sponsorship. Please check our site or email for more information.

<http://highdesertequinerescue.rescuegroups.org/>

E-mail: highdesertequinerescue@msn.com

AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:



Appaloosa/Mustang gelding—18 months old. Red Cloud halters, leads, loads. Is good for vet and farrier. UTD on shots and worming. Adoption fee negotiable.

Call Margy @ 230-2335.

WANTED: A companion horse for our 7-year old Mustang gelding, Romeo. We recently had to put down Romeo's barn buddy, Socrates, so we are looking for a new friend for Romeo and us. We are looking for a gentle, good tempered mustang. Bob and I will be riding him/her so, we are looking for an older, gentle, good tempered mustang who is already saddle trained. We know how much work a green horse can be and know we do not have the time and energy to train a newbie If anyone has or knows of such a horse that for some reason needs a good home, please call 882-4383 or email us at: jen.bob@sbcglobal.net. Bob & Jennifer Lappin and Emily Steel

RAFFLE Tickets on Sale

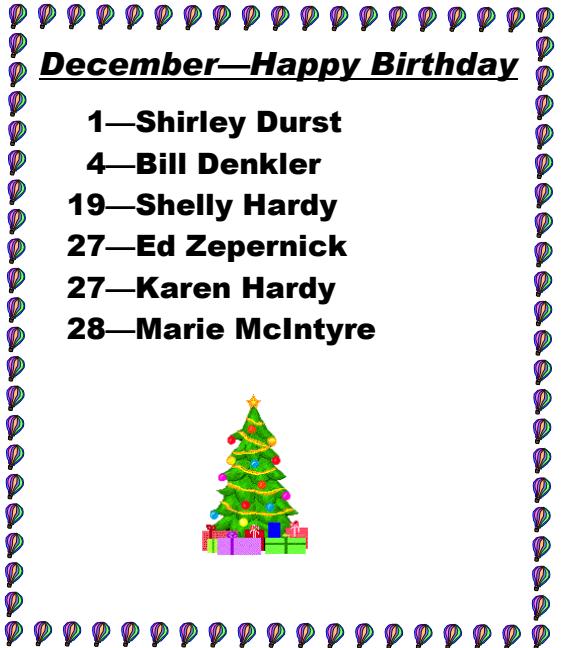
RAFFLE TICKETS are currently on sale for:

1. 50-50 Raffle
2. Handcrafted Breast Collar
3. \$25 Gift Certificate from Horses Galore or a \$20 Gift Certificate from KV Vet Supply

Purchase tickets at any HDH function. **Final chance to purchase** will be the day of the Christmas party (December 9th), when the drawing will take place.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.





December—Happy Birthday

- 1—**Shirley Durst**
- 4—**Bill Denkler**
- 19—**Shelly Hardy**
- 27—**Ed Zepernick**
- 27—**Karen Hardy**
- 28—**Marie McIntyre**



High Desert Horsemen receives a 5% credit every time you order from Country Supply and give them our care code: "hdhorsemen". To date we have received two checks for \$50. Thank you to those of you who remember to give our code to them.

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Poetry

Summer Versus Winter

Harold Roy Miller

Feeding horse in the wintertime is a sure fired bummer
If I had my druthers I would just feed in summer.

The absence of heat is an undesirable hardship
As winter clings to the landscape with its icy grip

I have to walk careful when going out to the barnyard
because, the ground can be icy and frozen hard.

I have to wear gloves a beanie and all sorts of winter apparel
To suffer removing the ice from the horses water barrel.

In the hot months it's a pleasure to feed at sunrise.

Its usually one of my daily spiritual highs
But when I work in the cold every thing seems to go south,
Because I can't seem to feel my nose or my mouth.

The horses are usually mud crusted standing in their pens
As I put their forage into their feeding bins

But by the time I have fed them all their hay and grain

My hands and my toes both are stinging with pain.

It can be really horrific if it's drizzling raining or snowing
Or if a northern artic wind is relentlessly blowing

My poor eyes water as I breathe the frigid air
It's just about enough to make a preacher swear.

When I finally get finished with this frigid bout
I go back into the house where it takes an hour to thaw out.
Now it's mostly a joy to feed before the cold weather hits,
But feeding horses in wintertime can be the absolute pits.



Thanksgiving Baskets

- ★ Thank-You to everyone who donated to the Thanksgiving Baskets. A special thank you to Stevan Lyon and Waddell & Reed for their donation of 15 turkeys.
- ★ We collected enough food and cash to make 36 complete baskets. The families who received them were very grateful and expressed many thanks to everyone.
- ★ HDH members are the best! So thanks again.



De-Spoaking 102—November 10, 2007



Bonnie Replogle



Sonia Scott

De-Spoaking 102 was the final clinic in 2007 for HDH. This was a great way to finish out the year.

This clinic is always a true indication of how far we have come through the year. It is a great way (and a lot of fun) to test both the rider and horse on some tough obstacles. Once again, our clinician, Vince Pirozzi outdid himself. It was a great clinic. Thank you, Vince.



Kelli Lyon, Ken Buettner, Linda Mulkey



Anne Martins



Janet Freeland

Mares: A Matter of Respect

Contributed by a devoted mare owner (Aimee Sumner)

From www.horse-journal.com

Mares: A Matter Of Respect

Mares get an undeserved bad rap about a lot of things, but it is true that a mare with a sour or sluggish attitude can be a challenging and vexing training problem. That's primarily because mares tend to be more opinionated or herd-oriented than geldings.

But, if you can earn the respect and trust of a mare, she'll almost always become an absolutely trusted partner. We've seen or ridden many who seemed ready to leap through fire or off cliffs for their riders.

If you have a mare who won't go forward from your leg aids, spooks at everything, or (worst of all) runs backward or rears, you need to get training help. Period. It means you have a serious problem, and if you don't solve the problem, at best riding will be no fun and at worst you could be seriously injured.

If you watch mares together, you'll see there's always a lead mare, a queen, who's stronger and tougher than everyone else. That must be you, and you get to be there by being mentally strong and confident, by setting the rules of interaction, on the ground and in the saddle. The key is that you absolutely must earn the mare's respect to become lead mare.

Most mares don't react to correction or punishment from their backs the same way most geldings do. With most geldings, a crack of the whip snaps them to attention. Mares tend to just get mad at the injustice. So you have to be patient and use a lot of repetition, until they figure out that you're just going to keep asking until they do what you want-until they accept that having a fit isn't going to help.

For instance, if your mare is anxious and tense when you bring her to the ring and then spooks and balks, the best solution is to keep yourself from getting flustered or mad at her. Try to ride her as if nothing is wrong, asking her to work with a variety of figures and transitions. You're trying to convince her that you won't accept her behavior and that she's only making things harder on herself by acting foolishly.

Working in this way is how you earn your mare's respect and trust and how you convince her to come along with you for the ride, no matter where you're going.

De-Spoaking 102 (continued)



Jill Ann Stevenson



Clinician Vince Pirozzi demonstrating use of an air compressor as an obstacle



Ken Buettner



Winter weather can be responsible for stresses that can compromise your horse's health. The good news is that you can prevent some of that stress through proper feeding management. Most horses have some "down time" in winter, where adverse weather will not permit much riding or showing activity. It is during these times that it is easy to neglect your horse's nutrition program.

A reduction in your horse's activity level usually means a reduced need for calories, and requirements for grain or concentrate feeding can be lowered. In cold weather the horse's caloric requirements will be greater as the horse attempts to generate enough heat to maintain normal body temperature. But caloric needs are only slightly increased, 10% to 20% over maintenance needs for all but the most extreme conditions.

Old-time horsemen thought if they fed corn during the winter months, it would generate more body heat and help alleviate cold weather stress. In reality, the horse's body generates more heat from the fermentation process

in the hindgut as a result of eating forage (hay and pasture). So feeding more hay and less grain will allow the horse to more easily maintain its body temperature. Substitute two pounds of hay for every pound of grain you decrease in the horse's daily ration.

With the onset of cold weather there is also a greater incidence of impaction colic in horses. This is mainly due to the horse becoming dehydrated because he will consume less water due to cooler temperatures (no sweating), less water availability (frozen ponds, cold water, etc.), and a diet of hay (containing 10% water) instead of pasture (containing 80% water). When horses drink cold water during the winter, their bodies must expend additional calories to warm their tissues back up from the heat loss that is incurred, so they instinctively drink less. Warming water or using insulated or heated buckets or automatic waterers that keep water temperature above freezing will allow the horse to consume more water. This will keep the fiber in the horse's lower digestive system more hydrated, allowing it to be broken down more quickly by intestinal bacteria and to be more flexible, and less likely to "ball up" and cause a blockage in the large intestine.

Monitoring your horse's body condition can be difficult in the winter if you do not clip your horse's hair coat. Trying to see if your horse is a little "ribby" is hard to do when he has a winter coat. Instead use a weight tape or weigh him on a scale, if you have one available, and check how he is maintaining his weight every 30 to 60 days. Then you can adjust his feeding program and get him back on the right track before warmer weather comes. It is no fun to clip your horse in the spring and realize he is a "bag of bones" and you will need to bring him back up to proper weight before beginning your riding activity.

Winter is also the time when the barn may be "closed up" in an effort to make the environment warmer and less drafty for the horse. Good ventilation is more important than providing a little more warmth, so be sure to provide good air flow in your barn even in winter time. Due to decreased ventilation, it is also important to be careful about hay feeding. Research has shown that horses fed hay in hay nets placed above their heads will have an increased incidence of respiratory problems. Feed hay off the ground or position the hay net below the horse's head so that continuous drainage of the respiratory tract can occur.

Summary of Tips for Winter Feeding

Feed more hay and less grain, substitute two pounds of hay for every pound of grain you decrease in the horse's daily ration to keep your horse warmer

Encourage water consumption by offering warm water, or use insulated/heated buckets or automatic waterers to keep water at a higher temperature, to reduce incidence of impaction colic

Add salt, mineral supplement, or electrolytes to the feed to increase water consumption and reduce impaction colic risk

Turn the horse out as much as possible, or provide adequate exercise to aid gut motility and prevent colic

Feed hay off the ground or position the hay net below the horse's head to aid in drainage and lessen incidence of respiratory problems

Assess body condition in unclipped horses by weighing on a scale or using a weight tape every 30-60 days

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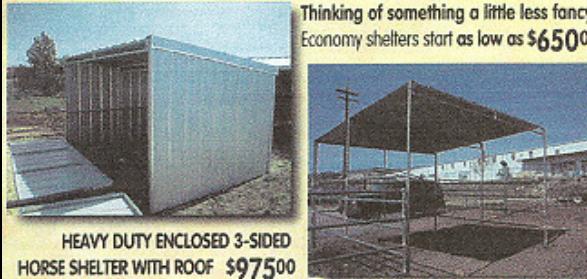
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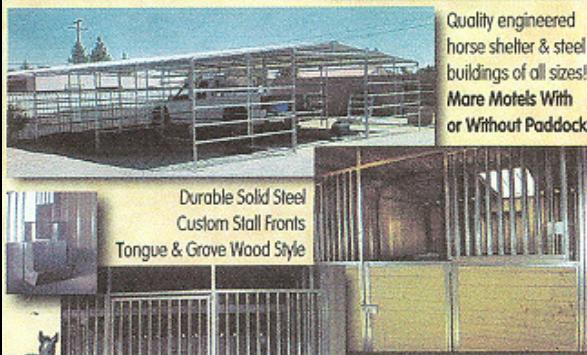
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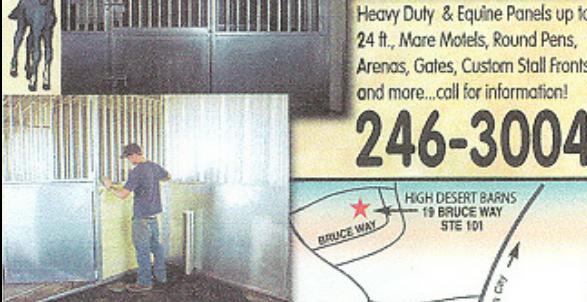
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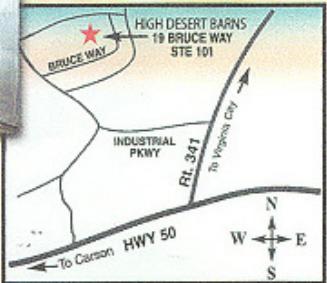


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