



Tennessee Walking Horse Association of Oklahoma, Inc.

www.twhao.org



Walking This Way

*Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season
and a Walking Good New Year*

Christmas in The Barn

It's the night before Christmas, we're out in the barn. Blanketing horses to keep them all warm. They're eating their dinners, tucked in cozy stalls. Not aware that it's Christmas, or any special day at all. They can dream of spring pastures from their pine-scented beds. No visions of sugarplums dance in their heads. But we people are thinking of merry parties and such, maybe feeling a little sad at missing so much. This season is special but the horses don't know, we've got work to do before we can go. We finish the chores and head on inside, to get ready for dinner and our own yuletide.

It's nearly midnight, the carols are sung. I remember a story I was told when I was young. How at midnight on Christmas Eve, the creatures of the barnyard can speak to us with ease. I am called to the barn. I wade through the snow. I just can't explain, but I know I must go. I slide open the door, pause for a while, then slowly walk down the dimly lit aisle.

A nicker from Feldspar, a wink from Teme, sleepy old Lumina waking to see, Min rustling her bedding, a snort soft and light, each horse gave a greeting as I walked through the night. I thought about parties bright lit and warm, the ones we don't go to 'cause we have the barn. And vacations and holidays that we don't get, when we're working long hours for bills to be met. Walking all the way to the end of the aisle, I stop to stroke Lonnie, it brings me a smile. She snuffles my face, hot breath on my skin, it starts me to thinking about my horses, my kin. I could be at parties with laughter and mirth, but where I am right now is the best place on Earth. Author unknown

From the President

Looking back on the year 2007, I would say we did quite well! We had our clinic in April, though lightly attended due to record cold temperatures. The Spring TWHAO Show was quite successful. We attracted 69 horses shown by 62 exhibitors. At the clinic and the show, we continued our partnership with the Right Path Riding Academy, and were pleased to provide a monetary contribution to their program. Trail rides included a spring trail ride at the Thompson ranch, a September ride at Sportsman's Lake in Seminole, the Hooves for the Cure in October and the Fall TWHBEA Host A Ride in November, both at the Thompson Ranch, and each of these rides drew over 50 riders! The Hooves for the cure ride generated a nice donation for breast cancer research.

As we begin a new year, we face some new challenges. Our regular show crew has grown weary of the effort it takes to put on our spring show. We will be exploring all options in January, including partnering with the Green Country Fox Trotting Horse Association and the possibility of not having a show. As always, the issue is too few people doing way too much. We continue to solicit committed volunteer help. On the positive side, we will soon be putting together the activities for the year. Cris has in mind some interesting clinics that will benefit us all. It is anticipated that we will be scheduling more trail rides as this is something the membership seems to enjoy and support. We continue with our quarterly newsletter, we are updating our membership roster, and are looking for new membership opportunities by developing an advertising flyer to recruit more gaited horse enthusiasts. And we continue to explore partnering with other local clubs which will mutually benefit all involved by providing additional opportunities while spreading out the work effort.

We will be publishing our calendar of activities after the first of the year. Visit the website for current information. We are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding year. Come along and enjoy the ride!

Mark Wolf

2008 Officers

President

Mark Wolf
rmwolf@olp.net
918-366-3039

Vice President

Tonya Ridley (2005 - 2007)
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Secretary

Raydene Walker
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Treasurer

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Cathy Fellers (2008 - 2010)
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Vacant

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Mary Ben Marshall (Honorary)
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405-303-2005

Josh Stretch (2007 - 2009)
Laurel Stretch (2007 - 2009)
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Ann Kuykendall, TWHBEA State
Representative
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SHOW COMMITTEE
Ann Kuykendall
Becky Wolf

ACTIVITIES/HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE
Dyane Naiman
Cathy Fellers

TRAIL RIDE COMMITTEE
Laurel Stretch
Josh Stretch

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
Cris Van Horn

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Polly Aulton

WEBPAGE
Cris Van Horn





BULLETINS FROM THE BOARD

TWHAO ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 08, 2007

1. **Call to Order/Attendance** – Mark Wolf
President Mark Wolf called the meeting to order at 6:45.
Those attending were:
Mark Wolf – President
Cris VanHorn – Vice President
Bob Kuykendall – Treasurer
Raydene Walker – Secretary
Ann Kuykendall – TWHBEA Representative
Tonya Ridley – Board member
Cathy Fellers – Board member
Bob Landrum – Member
William Moore – Member
Quorum established.
2. **Approval of Minutes** of Sept. 13, 2007 meeting – Raydene Walker
Motion was made to approve the minutes of Sept. 13, 2007, with corrections by Bob Kuykendall seconded by Cathy Fellers. Motion carried.
3. **Reports of Officers and Committees**
 - a. **Treasurer's Report** – Bob Kuykendall
\$9191.67 balance Outstanding bill for Kinkos of 193.16. 14 paid memberships including 3 lifetime. Cathy Fellers made a motion to approve the treasurer's report seconded by Tonya Ridley. Motion carried.
 - b. **TWHBEA Report** - Ann Kuykendall
TWHBEA revenues are down and the total organization is down sizing. The By- Law changes failed and things are not going well for the sound horse people. The next meeting in December will be very interesting and should give us more information.
 - c. **Trail Ride Committee** – Laurel and Josh Stretch
Laurel and Josh were an able to attend. The Hoofs for a Cure trail ride at the Last Hurrah Ranch was a great success as reported by those who attended (Mark and Becky Wolf, Bob & Ann Kuykendall). There were about 58 horses and the day was beautiful. The next ride will be Nov. 17th at the Last Hurrah Ranch. This will be a Host-a-Ride in conjunction with TWHBEA. We have had 20 pre-register.
 - d. **Activities/Hospitality Committee** – Tonya Ridley
Looking toward next year – Cris Van Horn discussed the Larry Whitesell clinic. Larry will be in Oklahoma 4 times this next year. Becky Wolf suggested the TWHAO co-sponsor at least 2 of his clinics. Larry Whitesell charges \$1000.00 per day plus expenses. Discussion of places to handle clinics and/or shows; Creek County Fairgrounds is building a stall barn. At present the cost is \$300.00 per day. They are not sure how much the cost will be once the barn area is completed. A question of overnight accommodations was brought up. No plans were made at this time.
 - e. **Membership/Webpage/Newsletter Committee** – Cris Van Horn/Polly Aulton
Webpage is doing ok. No problems. If changes are needed, contact Cris Van Horn. A comment was made that the calendar was a neat thing and gave a lot of very good information. Cris Van Horn stated that she thought Polly would continue to do the newsletter. There was a discussion on what we needed to provide for Polly.
 - f. **Show Committee** – Ann Kuykendall and Becky Wolf
Mark Wolf had spoken with Jack Arnold of GCFTHA and they are interested in doing a combined show. A discussion of a smaller place and alternatives transpired. It was suggested that we continue to look at all the options.
4. **Election of Officers**
Nominations were opened for:
President – Mark Wolf was nominated by Cris Van Horn and seconded by Ann Kuykendall. Ann Kuykendall moved to approve by acclamation seconded by Bob Kuykendall. Motion carried.
Vice President – Tonya Ridley was nominated by Cris Van Horn and seconded by Becky Wolf. Motion carried.
Secretary – Raydene Walker was nominated by Cris Van Horn and seconded by Ann Kuykendall. Motion carried.
Treasurer – Raydene Walker was nominated by Bob Kuykendall seconded by Cris Van Horn. Discussion followed about one person doing both job. It was stated that this had been done in the past. Motion carried.
Board Members – Three positions are open.
Jim Van Sickle was nominated by Cris Van Horn seconded by Becky Wolf
Joyce Holloway was nominated by Cris Van Horn and seconded by Becky Wolf
Cathy Fellers was nominated by Becky Wolf and seconded by Cris Van Horn
Motions carried. Cathy Fellers accepted the nomination. Cris Van Horn will contact Jim Van Sickle and Ann Kuykendall will contact Joyce Holloway to see if they will accept the nominations.
5. **Old Business** – None
6. **New Business**
Cris Van Horn reported on freeze branding. She brought a picture of the brand she had purchased. She asked about having a freeze brand clinic. This will be added to the ideas on clinics.
7. **Adjournment**
Motion to adjourn was made by Ann Kuykendall and seconded by Bob Kuykendall. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully Submitted

Raydene Walker

Addendum: Jim Van Sickle declined the nomination for Board of Directors. Cris nominated Dyane Naiman, who graciously accepted.





TRAINING ANYONE?

Larry Whitesell Gaited Horsemanship

Larry Whitesell, renowned gaited horseman since 1980, was very successful in the show ring, winning regional, national and grand national championships. Not satisfied with training horses just to win ribbons, Larry began studying classical dressage in the early 1990's to learn correctness and lightness. Larry continues his education each year from classical dressage instructors and natural horsemen to constantly improve his skills. He travels the U.S. and Canada doing clinics and equine expositions.

Horses need to be brought into a more classical frame to gait. The use of force (large bits and equipment designed to produce gait) results in stiffness or braces. Larry teaches you how to teach your horse to relax so you can teach a correct response instead of putting a piece of equipment on your horse to forcibly persuade him. He will teach you how to teach your horse to respond to subtle cues to get your horse to the right place, at the right time, with the least amount of effort.

Clinics provide a shot in the arm for your riding program. Larry Whitesell offers very intense instruction to all levels of riders on their own horses that will instill an eagerness that you will carry home with you so you can further your relationship with your horse at home.

You will learn:

- ❖ What makes your horse gait
- ❖ How to improve gait without devices
- ❖ Lightness—how to develop the horse gymnastically to facilitate relaxation, create flexibility and balance
- ❖ How to school the horse in hand and under saddle
- ❖ How to build engagement to improve gait without building resistance
- ❖ How you ride affects your horse's balance and gait
- ❖ Balanced, light stops
- ❖ Collection

Comments from Participants at the November 2007 Clinic:

"I have been looking for a trainer like Larry for the last ten years." "I cannot believe how much I have learned and how much my horse has learned." "Larry's method of training sets the standard against which we should judge all other trainers. We need to arrange two refresher clinics a year."

November 2007 Larry Whitesell Clinic A Success At The Right Path Riding Academy

Cris Van Horn's organizing skills were once again put to the test in early November when she managed to snag the famous Larry Whitesell for a two day event held at the Right Path Riding Academy. Thirteen riders paid a nominal fee (once again Cris presented us with a bargain!) to teach their horse softness, making collection easier along with gaiting. For those who have never attended a Larry Whitesell event he essentially teaches you how to collect your horse from both ground and saddle. This method only involves a few exercises you can perform as you walk your horse from the field to the saddling area.

Polly Aulton took a horse she would have sworn had "zero" in the "whoa" department and required a lot of steel in his mouth.

By noon of the first day he would whoa by voice command. Absolutely amazing! Along with the horse training we also experienced a lot of rider training as well. Polly wonders if she will ever learn to always look where she wants to go!! It really does make a difference. The facility was very nice. The food was great as always. Many thanks to Becky Wolf, Cris Van Horn and Raydene Walker for doing such a great job! Where would our club activities be without them?

Here are a few notes from Cris Van Horn: Head set has nothing to do with gait--it's rear end engagement. You must teach everything from both sides otherwise you are teaching the horse to brace. Put the foundation on the horse before working on gait. It could take as long as a year to teach your horse to get round. Teach collection by teaching the hind quarters to engage. Soft in the bridle means that the horse listens to the rider. Train young horses with a lateral tool. Shanks are vertical tools.

Upcoming 2008 Larry Whitesell Clinic

Cris Van Horn is working with the TWHAO, the Green Country Fox Trotting Horse Association (GCFTHA) and the Pure Pleasure Gaited Horse Association (PPGHA) to host another Larry Whitesell Gaited Horsemanship Clinic. Details are not yet finalized but potentially this will be at the end of March at the Creek County Fairgrounds. Be on the lookout for more information from Cris. Also, Cris will be organizing "practice sessions" once a month for those who want to practice what they learned at the Whitesell gaited Horsemanship clinics. If interested in participating, please contact Cris at 918-688-1898.

SPOTLIGHT ON SHOWS

Spring Jubilee Charity Gaited Horse Show, Tulsa, OK

For the 2008 show, the TWHAO and the Green Country Fox Trotting Horse Association (GCFTHA) are discussing the possibility of hosting a joint two day show. The particulars have not been ironed out. Any suggestions can be forwarded to the Show Committee Co-Chairwomen, Ann Kuykendall at windyhillba@yahoo.com or Becky Wolf at becky@darrylbaskin.com

OUT OF THE ORDINARY

Rules For Being Human

When you were born, you didn't come with an owner's manual. The following guidelines make life work better. **1.** You will receive a body. You may like it or hate it, but it's the only thing you are sure to keep for the rest of your life. **2.** You will learn lessons. You are enrolled in a full time informal school called "Life on Planet Earth." Every person or incident is the Universal Teacher. **3.** There are no mistakes, only lessons. Growth is a process of experimentation. Failures are as much a part of the process as success. **4.** A lesson is repeated until learned. It is presented to you in various forms until you learn it. Then you can go on to the next lesson. **5.** If you don't learn the easy lessons, they get harder. External problems are a precise reflection of your internal state. When you clear inner obstructions, your outside world changes. Pain is how the universe gets your attention. **6.** You will know you have learned





a lesson when your actions change. Wisdom is practice. A little of something is better than a lot of nothing. **7.** "There" is no better than "here." When your "there" becomes a "here" you will simply obtain another "there" that again looks better than "here." **8.** Others are only mirrors of you. You cannot love or hate something about another unless it reflects something you love or hate in yourself. **9.** Your life is up to you. Life provides the canvas; you do the painting. Take charge of your life or someone else will. **10.** You always get what you want. Your subconscious rightfully determines what energies, experiences and people you attract. Therefore, the only foolproof way to know what you want is to see what you have. There are no victims, only students. **11.** Many times there is no right or wrong answer to a situation, but there are always consequences. Moralizing doesn't help. Judgments only hold the patterns in place. Just do your best. **12.** Your answers lie inside you. Children need guidance from others. As we mature, we trust our hearts, where the answers are written. You know more than you have heard or read or been told. All you need to do is look, listen, and trust. **13.** You will forget all of this. **14.** You can remember any time you wish. Anonymous.

Horse Soccer

Check it out at www.horsesoccer.com. It is a blast!!!! If you are interested in trying your horse at horse soccer, send an e-mail to Barb Graham of the Pure Pleasure Gaited Horse Association at bsgpaso@sbcglobal.net and join the fun. Better yet, create your own team and compete in some friendly tournaments. Well.....I don't know how friendly the tournaments will be—Barb admits she is competitive!!!!!!

Equine Massage and Energy Work

The Natural Horse Magazine often features articles about the benefits of energy work with equines. Luckily for Oklahoma, Cindy Kraft, Equine Energy Worker and Massage Therapist, lives in Okmulgee and can be reached at 918-758-0433. Give Cindy a call!! Jennie Jin is also a certified equine massage therapist and can be reached at 918-231-0939 or augusttwice@yahoo.com.

Go Shopping and Help TWHAO

Help TWHAO by Shopping at Country Supply on-line. At the end of your order when it asks for a coupon code, insert **TWHAO** and earn money for TWHAO. This will help us offer more member benefits and enable us to offer more support to our favorite charities.

WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE COUNTRY CARE PROGRAM



Shop at the Country Supply website:
www.countrysupply.com

and they will donate a percentage of your purchases! Simply enter our Care Code when you complete your order.

Our Care Code: **TWHAO**



RIDING BUDDIES

2008 Membership Drive

To date, TWHAO has ~ 35 paid memberships! This is GREAT!! Keep up the good work!! A membership roster will be sent out in January 2008 together with the By Laws. Membership applications can be downloaded from www.twhao.org. **If you don't see your name here, this will be your last Newsletter. Don't Delay!! Renew Today!!**

New Members & Renewals

Aldridge, Harold	Aulton, Polly
Arnold, Jack	Bounds, Bob & Nancy
Braly, Mac & Sharon	Clewieen, Ed & Barbara
Evensen, Jana	Fellers, Cathy
George, Terri	Graham, Dawna
Grimsley, Norma	Jones, Joey
King, Jim & Linda	Kuykendall, Bob & Ann
Landrum, Bob	Marshall, Mary Ben
McLaughlin, Kelly	Moore, Bill
Neal, Nancy & Winston	Plumlee, Jerry & Dawn Anita
Reagan, Keith	Reid, Robert & Edith
Ridley, Tonya	Rhodes, Robert
Snyder, Melissa	Stretch, Josh & Laurel
Strickland, Jeanette	Swicegood, Wes & Jackie
Tate, Betty & Rusty	Thompson, Carl & Nancy
Van Evera, Donna	Van Horn, Cris
Van Sickle, Jim & Melinda	Walker, Eddie & Raydene
Wolf, Mark & Becky	

TRAIL BLAZIN'

We hope 2008 will be very busy for trail riding enthusiasts—just look at the Calendar of Events at www.twhao.org to keep up to date. TWHAO will determine its schedule of events in January 2008 and post them to the website. Stay tuned!! We are always looking for people to help with the rides. If you can lend a hand, please contact Laurel Stretch at Laurelstretch@yahoo.com or 918-463-3744.

Hooves for a Cure

For those of you who do not receive a copy of The Voice, you may not know that on October 6, 2007, The Last Hurrah Ranch once again sponsored a trail ride. This time it wasn't just for fun but for a really good cause. It was open to any and all who wished to pay the ten dollar fee and ride the Ranch. To everyone's surprise 58 riders and horses showed up. Everyone dressed in pink; received pink ribbons to wear and dressed their horses in pink as well. In addition to the Tennessee Walker contingent there were Missouri Fox Trotters; Rocky Mountains, Paso Finos, Norwegian Fjords, a host of Quarter Horses and a few more I'm sure I missed. As always Laurel and Josh Stretch and the rest of their family were gracious hosts and we can't thank them enough for hosting this ride.

There were so many people attending and we got so caught up in checking Coggins that we forget about the items to be auctioned off! We'll make it up by selling chances throughout 2008 to find a home for these forgotten donations. Mark your calendars for October 4th, 2008 when once again we're invited to Thompson's Last Hurrah Ranch to Ride for a cure. We will be selling chances next year and all donated items will go to new homes. If anyone wishes to post a flyer at your local feed or western store for this event please contact Polly Aulton and she will send an e-mail copy. We all believe so strongly in this that we'd even mail you several copies for posting. Polly





hopes to see you next October when the ride will be even bigger and better! Right Laurel?

WEAR YOUR CLUB

TWHAO is taking orders for short sleeve T-shirts with the TWHAO logo on it so you can showcase TWHAO and your love of Tennessee Walking Horses. The T-shirts are heather grey, cost only \$12 each and have the TWHAO logo on the pocket area of the shirt. Please place your order with Raydene Walker at 918-224-9932, Rwalker389@aol.com.

SHOP 'TILL YOU DROP!!

Now you can advertise your horses, stud services, training services, therapeutic services, boarding services, tack sales, etc. Members get 5 lines free in each newsletter. Free is a good thing!! Please submit your advertisements to Polly Aulton at ault@intellex.com.

FOR SALE: Ann Kuykendall has two gorgeous geldings available. Polly Aulton has ridden with one of them and can attest that he doesn't spook at anything. Gentle as a lamb. The only thing the pair need is a loving riding home. If you are interested contact Ann at windyhillba@yahoo.com or 918-682-7128.

FOR SALE: Nancy Mullins has a super gentle big boy still available. She says he's 17 hands but I think he's only 15.3! This bay beauty can be had for peanuts at Skyline Ranch. Contact Nancy and Burns at skylineranch@lrec.org or 918-483-5026.

FOR SALE: Cathy Fellers has a two-fer going. She has a lovely older bay tobiano mare with a black and white colt by her side available. You can contact Cathy at little_squaw_baby@yahoo.com or 918-638-5115.

FOR SALE: Raydene Walker has a coming 3 YO, black filly out of Pride's Genius lines that will mature 16 HH and a liver chestnut stud colt out of foundation TWH lines. Contact Raydene at Rwalker389@aol.com or 918-224-9932.

FOR SALE: Jim and Linda King have 7 yearling TWHS; a 3 YO filly broke to ride out of a Marauder mare and Gold Power Jackson Blue; a 2 YO filly broke to ride from Hard Cash & Gen's Major General lines; a 2 YO filly broke to ride from Gen's Armed & Dangerous line; a 2 YO filly broke to ride out of Marauder and Gold Power lines; and several weanlings. All are trail and show prospects. Contact Jim at 918-485-8292.

FOR SALE: Polly Aulton has 2 fillies --a black grand daughter of Coins Hard Cash and a sorrel daughter of Walking Proud's Mystic Valentine; a stallion prospect with the cream gene, a smoky black sabino colt coming yearling. He's a "heartbreaker" with a full line to Last Chance and is out of a Prowler's Gold Delight mare. She also has a sorrel 2 1/2 year old filly she purchased from Stacy Avery that comes with a free breeding to a buckskin tobiano son of Spotted Alen Again and a yearling palomino grandson of Gen's Armed and Dangerous that's a possible show as well as trail prospect. Contact Polly Aulton at ault@intellex.com or 918-458-0960.

WANTED: Gaited Buckskin Geldings broke to ride. Contact Polly Aulton at ault@intellex.com or 918-458-0960.

AT STUD: Reg. TWHs. (1) Gold Powered Jackson Blue by Gold Power (sire of many outstanding pleasure horses, standing at Harlinsdale Farm, Franklin, TN). This stallion is jet

black, excellent disposition, conformation & ability. Fee \$350. (2) Senor Pusher by Senor Generator (World Champion Plantation Horse) out of Lady's Doin' Time (Pusher breeding). Black roan sabino, lit up, eligible for Spotted Saddle registry. This horse has great a disposition, easy to handle, nice long stride. Fee \$350. Call Ann Kuykendall at 918-682-7128.

THE WORLD AROUND US

Right To Ride on Public Lands

Senate Bill No. 2283 would **preserve the use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on public land** administered by the National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service on which there is a historical tradition of the use of pack and saddle stock animals. Please **VOTE ON THIS BILL TO HELP OUT ALL WHO DO ENJOY THE TRAILS**. Here's your opportunity to show support for the new bill that will go through the Senate and will replace the Right to Ride. Vote **YES** to preserve our right to ride, pack, etc., on government lands (public). Just click on the website. http://www.washingtonwatch.com/bills/show/110_SN_2283.html#toc3 When it comes up, the voting box will be on the right of your screen.

Boy Scouts Need Horses

John Hurt, Camp Director for the Last Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of America, in Oklahoma City, is looking for horses. The local Boy Scout camp, Slippery Falls Scout Ranch has not had a horse program for the past 8 years and Mr. Hurt wants to offer this program for the 2008 summer camp. They are asking horse associations and others for help in obtaining horses through a gift in kind program. They are a 501-3C organization and donations of horses and tack is fully tax deductible. The camp on average will bring 2000 boys yearly for a one week camp and they really need help in putting their horsemanship program back in place. If you can help in any way please contact: John Hurt, Camp Director, Last Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of America, 405-203-3307 or IPMAJOHN@aol.com

WHAT'S NEXT?

This is YOUR newsletter. Please share your thoughts with your fellow members by submitting articles of interest to the Editor, Polly Aulton at ault@intellex.com. Polly wants to hear from you!!!

Next Newsletter Issue—Special Breeding Section

We would like our next issue to focus on the upcoming breeding season. In addition to our usual grouping of items we would like to feature Oklahoma Stallions. If you are currently standing a stallion, please send his information to the editor for publication in late January/early February. Bred in Oklahoma should become synonymous with the term super dispositional gaited horse! Let's see what we can do to make that happen.

Website Update to Include Ads for Member Services

Cris Van Horn wants to help TWHAO members get their names out into the public domain through the TWHAO website. She is going to add a section to the website that will list





member services and provide links to TWHAO member websites to increase marketability. Please send Cris your pertinent information—the services you offer, what you have for sale and your website address if you have one. Contact Cris at 918-688-1898.

Upcoming Events

Cris Van Horn is working with TWHAO, GCFTHA and PPGHA to see if there is interest in an equine Freeze Branding Day and a Day of Equine Chiropractic.

What is Chiropractic Care for horses?

Chiropractic care is a holistic approach to many of the health and performance problems of the horse. Chiropractic does not replace traditional veterinary medicine and surgery, but provides an alternative method of care. Chiropractic adjustments have proven to be invaluable in detecting and treating gait abnormalities and other performance-robbing problems in the athletic horse. It has also been shown to alleviate pain in the back and neck of the horse. Some nerve damage, such as pressure on the sciatic nerve, has responded well to chiropractic adjustments.

How do I know if my horse needs Chiropractic Care?

- ❖ Loss or decrease in level of performance.
- ❖ Problems or difficulty executing desired movements.
- ❖ Behavioral changes (i.e. refusals, cinchy, bucking).
- ❖ Short striding.
- ❖ Diagnosed conditions, such as degenerative arthritis.
- ❖ Muscle imbalance, spasms, or atrophy.
- ❖ Gait problems, such as cross-canter, loss of collection, refusal to pick-up lead.
- ❖ Injuries resulting from falls, training, or other activities.
- ❖ Stressful situations, such as conformation of the horse, various riding and training equipment, performance level and ability of the rider, shoeing.

There are numerous, common stressful or traumatic situations, such as the birth process, conformation of the horse, training and riding equipment, ability of the rider, shoeing trailers, or direct trauma, that can cause abnormal or restricted movement to occur in the spine. This change in proper movement of the spine is what chiropractors call a "subluxation". When a subluxation occurs, the horse's spine loses its normal flexibility. This results in stiffness which further leads to resistance and decreased performance. The most common symptom associated with spinal subluxations is pain, which can manifest changes itself in a variety of ways. Horses in pain will show compensatory changes in posture and gait. These changes can cause stress in other joints and muscles.

Symptoms such as lameness, stiffness, lack of impulsion or power, difficulty in obtaining or maintaining collection, poor attitude, gait abnormalities, being cold-backed or cinchy, or the presence of muscle atrophy are commonly associated with spinal misalignments.

Subluxations may also cause changes in muscle coordination and flexibility that affects the performance ability of the horse. These symptoms may be lack of coordination in gaits, unusual, perhaps indefinable gait abnormalities which vary from limb to limb and change depending on gait, stiffness in lateral movements of neck or back, rope walking, shortened stride in one or two limbs, inability to engage rear quarters, difficulty flexing at the poll, or on line or pulling on one rein.

Common complaints from horse owners include resistance or stiffness when moving to one direction, irritability, decreased performance, and sensitivity to touch, such as when being groomed.

How does a Chiropractor adjust an animal as large as a horse?

To answer this, it is important to remember that the chiropractor is not adjusting the entire horse, but rather a specific joint in the spine. Initially, a complete chiropractic examination is performed. This typically includes a case history, including any previous veterinary work performed, posture analysis, gait analysis, static and motion palpation of the spine and its joints, muscle palpation, and checking for any changes in temperature over the spine.

Once the initial examination has been completed, the animal chiropractor will perform an adjustment on the area of the spine affected, so as to return the joints to normal motion, and to alleviate any muscle spasms and pain. A chiropractic adjustment is a very specific, high velocity, low force, controlled thrust by a hand, which is directed in a specific direction on a specific joint.

How many treatments will my horse need?

Several factors determine the number and frequency of adjustments required to correct a problem. The horse's age and physical condition are important; young healthy horses will generally require fewer adjustments than older horses or those with serious health problems. The severity of the problem is another major factor; if permanent damage has occurred, a return to full flexibility may not be possible, and multiple adjustments may be necessary to achieve the most flexibility possible. The length of time though problem has been present is also a factor; longstanding, or chronic problems frequently require more adjustments to correct than do acute problems.

The Veterinarian/Chiropractor Team

Chiropractic can also offer valuable assistance to veterinarians dealing with lameness. The goal here is to find the primary source of pain, rather than treating what might be a secondary source. In equine practice, back problems and leg injuries are often inter-related. An example of this might be an acute lower limb injury causing the horse to later his gait and carry the affected leg abnormally.

The abnormal weight bearing and altered gait can subsequently overwork or injure associated back muscles. Back injuries can result in increased forces to the joints, resulting lameness, or gait alterations in the feet and legs, as the horse tries to protect its sore back. Unless the primary cause of the back pain is identified and treated, most horses will have recurring back pain when returned to work after a period of medication and/or rest.

Chiropractic provides expertise in the evaluation of back and joint problems that can provide the veterinarian additional means of diagnosis and early treatment options in certain lameness problems; especially conservative treatment of bio-mechanically-related musculoskeletal disorders.

It should be stressed that chiropractic, in no way, should be thought of as a replacement for conventional veterinary medicine, but rather as a valid, concurrent, complimentary treatment procedure for many back and lameness problems. And as with any health related problems or conditions that your horse may experience, it is important that your veterinarian be contacted initially so that he or she can assess your horse for any underlying medical condition that could be causing similar symptoms. Copyright 1998 – Infinity, Dr. Jim Ennis. All rights reserved on content.

Please let Cris know if you are interested in equine chiropractic by contacting her at 918-688-1898.





Tennessee Walking Horse Association of Oklahoma, Inc. (www.twhao.org)



Membership Application

Dues follow Calendar Year _____ (January 1 – December 31)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____

E-Mail _____

The purpose of the TWHAO is to promote the owning, breeding, selling, enjoying and exhibiting of sound, naturally gaited, registered and non-registered Tennessee Walking Horses; to provide fellowship, social and educational activities for owners and admirers of the sound Tennessee Walking Horse; and to present a positive image of the naturally gaited Tennessee Walking Horse to the community and the public at large through Association activities.

~~~~~I N T E R E S T S~~~~~

Breeding & Raising _____ Trail Riding _____ Training _____ Clinics _____

4H Activities _____ Showing _____ Parades _____ Club Officer _____

Activities & Hospitality Committee _____ Show Committee _____

Membership/Webpage Committee _____ Trail Ride Committee _____

Newsletter Editor _____ # Horses Owned _____

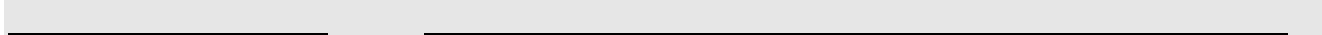
How did you hear about TWHAO? _____

Release of Liability

I do hereby release the Tennessee Walking Horse Association of Oklahoma from any liability due to accidents, death, illness, or injury, to myself, my guest(s) or horse(s). Additionally, I authorize the Tennessee Walking Horse Association of Oklahoma to call for medical services and/or veterinarian services in case of emergency without incurring financial liability.

Confidentiality Clause

Members will not, without the express permission of the TWHAO Board of Directors: (1) Disclose membership information; (2) Represent TWHAO in outside business; or (3) Use information concerning members for their own personal use or benefit. Blatant disregard of the TWHAO Confidentiality Clause is cause for termination / denial of membership with TWHAO.



Date

Signature of Member

Individual Dues (1 Vote):

\$20

New _____

Renewal _____

Family Dues (1 Vote)

\$25

New _____

Renewal _____

Youth (Under 18) Dues (No Vote)

\$10

New _____

Renewal _____

Mail Application and Check or Money Order (made payable to TWHAO) to:

Raydene Walker
16902 W. 91st Str. South
Sapulpa, OK 74066

Home: 918-224-9932 E-mail: rwalker389@aol.com





Support Your Clubs!!!! What's Happening Around Oklahoma

Most clubs are in the process of scheduling their respective calendars of events. As this information becomes known, the calendar will be updated at www.twhao.org. Please check the website often.

- January 12 & 13, 2008 AERC Convention, Speakers and Trade Show with tack vendors, Holidome Inn, Henryetta, OK. Contact Louise Burton at fiaredancefarms@prodigy.net.
- March 30 – 31, 2008 **Larry Whitesell Gaited Horsemanship Clinic, Potentially Sponsored by TWHAO, GCFTHA & PPGHA.** Creek County Fairgrounds, Kellyville, OK Contact Cris Van Horn at 918-688-1898.
- April 26, 2008 PPGHA Gaited Horse Fun Show, Creek County Fairgrounds, Kellyville, OK. Contact Mike Chancellor at mike@dlmfg.com or 918-241-4123
- October 4, 2008 **Hooves For a Cure**, The Last Hurrah Ranch, Warner Oklahoma. Contact Polly Aulton or Laurel Stretch.

FREEZE BRANDING

"The only visible return address for lost or stolen livestock."

FACT: An estimated 30,000 - 40,000 horses and ponies are stolen annually in the United States. Identification of your horse is an important factor in preventing theft and is also crucial to reclaiming your horse if it's recovered. Most stolen horses have no form of ID.

MAKE YOUR MARK ... Secure the ownership of your horse with a unique brand. There are ear tags. There are tattoos. In the brave new world of electronics, there are even microchips embedded under the hide. But to help lost or stolen livestock get back to their rightful owners, there's nothing quite as effective as the good, old-fashioned brand. Freeze Branding is the process of using a super cold branding iron to alter the color pigment producing cells. The result is that white or colorless hair, instead of colored hair, grows at the brand site. Brands are used to identify horses and cattle in Farm Management and as Theft Deterrents. Freeze Branding is quick, painless and permanent identification. Branded horses are less likely to be stolen since Law Enforcement can trace them easily. Also, specific identification of horses discourages fraudulent practices with registration papers. Ranch Brands are used to increase marketability of horses based on the ranch's reputation. Many ranches or owners simply want to personalize horses they've bred, owned, or those of which they are extremely proud. In the past few years, Freeze (cryogenic) Branding has become very popular because it is safe, economical and easy to do. Freeze Branding can be done on horses of any age, however when done on a colt who is still growing, the brand should be smaller as it will grow with the colt as he matures. Freeze Brands are legible, permanent and difficult to alter.

Year brands can also be applied to a horse in order to give a quick visual reminder as well as verification of the age of the horse. Year brands usually consist of one digit representing the last number in the horses' birth year. A single digit year brand in conjunction with other physical signs of age are usually enough to correctly identify the horses year of birth.

Don't be fooled by Mother Nature: Be Prepared! Mother Nature can dish out some of the most terrifying weather and natural disasters... **ARE YOU PREPARED?** Finding and claiming your animals, should the worst happen, can be another traumatic event unless you can positively identify yourself as the owner of the animal. Prepare ahead by Freeze Branding your horses!

Equine Registry: In addition to branding your horse, membership in a law enforcement based association is the key to making sure your horse is recoverable, as these associations have the knowledge and resources to recover missing horses. Texas Cattle Raiser's Horse Identification Program (HIP) consists of dozens of trained, certified peace officers that help recover stolen horses. Their extensive, central database records and maintains information on individual horses, which is their best chance of being recovered if they are stolen. They can get immediate help all over the U.S., Canada and Mexico, and can immediately get the word out to slaughter plants or wherever else needed. This program enables the horse owner to make one call for help. It may be your horse's only chance of being recovered. For more information on TSCRA's HIP program or The Branded Horse Registry, check out the following Internet sites:

Texas Cattle Raisers Association <http://www.texascattleraisers.org>

The Branded Horse Registry <http://brandedhorseregistry.com>

Please contact you local or state law enforcement or brand registry officials for information on Brand Laws and requirements for registering your brand in the state in which you reside. **In Oklahoma, brands are registered through the Oklahoma Cattleman's Association.**

Cris Van Horn is working with the TWHAO, GCFTHA and the PPGHA to host a branding day if there is enough interest. A minimum of ten horses is required to get the brander to come to a specific location. The brander will bring brands with him—letters, symbols, etc. He will have a pan of sand so you can try putting different symbols together to create your brand. You will be able to see what it looks like before it is permanently on your horse. If you want a special design, you can order your own brand (> \$100) from L & H Branding Irons at www.lhbrandingirons.com. Or Cris Van Horn has agreed to let anyone use the brand she had created. See the emblem. **Please let Cris know if you are interested in having your horses freeze branded by contacting her at 918-688-1898.**

DON'T DELAY!!!! RENEW TODAY!!!!!



