



THE NATIONAL  
WALKING HORSE  
ASSOCIATION

September 8, 2006

P.O. Box 13236  
Lexington KY 40583-3236

Dear NWAHA members:

The NWAHA Board of Directors invites you to join us as our organization begins a new leg in its journey toward ensuring that the Walking Horse takes its place among the world's great breeds. Our goal is to see that Walking Horses are recognized for their unique and beautiful natural gaits as we work to eliminate the inhumane training practices that have plagued the breed for decades.

The NWAHA Board would like to take this opportunity, with the help of our members, to take the pulse of our organization and make some additional changes. We propose the following:

- 1) Continued commitment to our mission of eliminating sore horses from our breed and promoting sound, natural Walking Horses through a variety of programs including sound horse shows, trail rides, and clinics. This is the backbone of our organization, the reason we were formed, the reason we exist and the reason we continue to explore new avenues for achieving our mission;
- 2) Better and more frequent communication with all NWAHA members including more posts on the website and the NATIONAL NEWS about discussions at Board and Annual meetings and other events; exploring more opportunities for feedback from our members to the Board. Members are encouraged to call or write Board members at anytime, of course, and we will continue to look for opportunities for feedback and exchange with all members. We want to hear from you - the good and the bad - and we pledge to consider all opinions and points of view and make the best decisions we can based on all the information we can gather. (If you haven't visited our website lately, it is worth a look: [www.nwha.com](http://www.nwha.com)).
- 3) Exploration of new opportunities for sound Walking Horses within the national and international horse world. The NWAHA Office is now located in Lexington, KY which is living up to its reputation of being the Horse Capitol of the World. The Board is working with the Kentucky Horse Park, the U.S. Equestrian Federation and other horse groups to establish relationships and promote our wonderful horse. This is a truly exciting time and we hope to have more developments on this front over the next year or so.

Promoting  
the Naturally  
Gaited  
Walking Horse

The Natural Way

- 4) Excellent member and customer service. Please welcome our new Interim Executive Director Patricia Donohue. Our new office is up and running, and Patricia is running with it. She has a strong background in the equine industry having worked as the Executive Director for the American Holsteiner Horse Association, the registrar for the American Hanoverian Association registry, and for other equine industry groups such as the Thoroughbred Horse Racing Association. You can call Patricia at (859) 252-NWHA (or 252-6942) or e-mail her at [nwha@nwha.com](mailto:nwha@nwha.com) or look for her at the National Show.
- 5) Capital Campaign. The Development Committee is launching a new capital campaign to raise money to assist with the promotion of the Walking Horse from our new office in Lexington, in the National News, and in other national equine publications, at trade shows and similar venues. You can help us create a better future for Walking Horses by contributing to the Campaign.
- 6) National Show – from the buzz we are hearing, we anticipate many new exhibitors, sponsors and friends of sound horses to attend the National Show in Murfreesboro, TN on Sept. 20-23. Our two show managers, Connie Holbrook and Val Delana, are getting offers of help and support from all over the country. We hope you can join us to show, volunteer or just come to experience the superb competition where our horses are having as much fun as the people.

In conclusion, the NWHA Board of Directors thanks all the NWHA members for your passionate support of the sound horse! We want to hear from you about these ideas. With your help we have come a long way, but we know we have many challenges ahead. Please, saddle up and ride with us. We all have a lot of work to do, and we will do it better if you are on the trail with us!

Sincerely,

NWHA Officers and Board of Directors

Chris Carlough  
Dr. Martha Day  
Val Delana  
Sue Fanelli  
Connie Fenner  
Juana Grover  
Roger Hand  
Lynn Henschell

Margaret Hershberger  
Lisa Hite  
Dr. Gordon Lawler  
Dr. John Lewis  
Dr. Pam Reband  
Betty Rugman  
Lori Snyder-Lowe