



# Paddock Paper

Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association

October 2019

## Changing Seasons: Fall Check-ups and Colic Prevention

General membership meeting, October 30

Pecos Trail Café

6 p.m. for dinner; meeting begins at 7 p.m.



*Photo courtesy of Kathy Olshefsky*

Most of us know that with the approach of winter weather our equines may require extra care. Our speaker Dr. Doug Thal, D.V.M. will outline measures for preventing winter problems for the monthly meeting of Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association. Our October meeting will also include voting for 2020 board members.

As always, the meeting and program is open to the public so please invite your friends. *If you plan to come, please RSVP to [carlotta\\_burra101@icloud.com](mailto:carlotta_burra101@icloud.com) so we can let our restaurant hosts be prepared.* Hope to see you there!

## Save the Date:

### Christmas Party, Friday, Dec. 6

Although we don't have other details confirmed just yet, please plan on spending happy hour with other club members at the beginning of December. Our party takes the place of the regular monthly meeting.

## Minutes from the September 25 General Members Meeting

[Ed. note: Thanks go to Betsy Walker and Tina Ossorgin for taking notes. All errors are my own.]

About two dozen people attended the most recent general meeting. Announcements included upcoming non-NNMHA clinics (Rudy Lara Jr, Oct. 5-6; and Margaret Henkels' Soft Horses/Soft Riders clinic Oct 19-20. The latter will be held at the NNMHA Grounds and information is on our website.) and an event: a donkey appreciation walk at Cerrillos Hills State Park on October 12.

Nominations were made for next year's board positions. The current board nominated themselves with no resistance to that. Lisa Gordon offered to be the "at large" member. The board is actively seeking someone to be the club's trail advocate to interact with county and other groups that plan trails and interface with the board.

There was a discussion about the sale of the property. David Marks explained that the



county had first expressed interest about a year and a half ago but after progressing through several inspections and committees, recently withdrew their pursuit. So the board is proposing that the sale move forward using a broker and good attorney for advisement. The property has been appraised for its market value, which is high. David talked about how the property no longer pays for itself. We only make about \$2000 yearly and that's nowhere near enough to cover maintenance costs. Shelly Bachicha spoke up and explained that just one time of mowing the property can take 15+ hours.

Lisa Gordon expressed that we try to find a way to have an arena available to riders, whether we keep access to this one or identify another arena locally that NNMHA members would be welcome to use.

David said that the email he sent out to members recently was just a straw poll and that actual voting would occur early next year. A member quorum is required for this voting. He does plan to have a meeting that would be devoted to discussing just this matter, perhaps in January. Betsy Walker pointed out that January and February are renewal months. So a quorum could not truly be achieved until late February or March.

Next year we will likely still own the property, so the board is hoping to still offer mini clinics and other events. NNMHA still wants to embrace the mission of educating people about horses.

### **Evening program: Dressage for the Rest of Us**

Trainer Katrin Silva was the speaker for the evening. She first talked about her personal background and learning experiences in Germany, Italy and finally New Mexico. Then she spoke in detail about why dressage is so important and also why it is so misunderstood by many folks. Why do dressage? That's the first question western trail riders have and Katrin acknowledged that right off the bat. She talked a lot about how dressage skills and principles really apply to any style of riding because it's about movement. It's about keeping your horse more physically balanced and builds muscles over the top line which enables them to carry a rider. It makes them "supple and even," meaning they feel the same way whether they're going to the right or left. Done properly, it's a system of exercises with a specific progression that horses understand and enjoy. Add those things up and it actually helps the horse live a longer, healthier life. Her recent book, Dressage for the Rest of Us, is available from her and on Amazon. She was very entertaining and the group seemed to appreciate and enjoy her talk.

#### 2019 Officers and Board

President	David Marks	david.marks.sf@gmail.com	505-466-0306
VP	Howard Gershon	howard@reach-newheights.com	505-690-8433
Treasurer	Helen Newton	sfcolores@sprynet.com	505-470-1396
Secretary	Joyce Davis	carlotta_burra101@icloud.com	505-490-5390
At-large	John Pearson	johnz.pearson@comcast.net	650-863-2491

#### Adjunct/Committees

Grounds manager	Open
Ridge Riders	Open
Programs/speakers	Joyce Davis carlotta_burra101@icloud.com 505-490-5390
Newsletter/Membership	Karen Denison redmule@kdt.net 505-469-2698
Facebook page manager	Open
Website manager	Betsy Walker betwalk@cybermesa.com 505-466-1643
Website	<a href="http://www.NNMHA.net">http://www.NNMHA.net</a>

Remember, you may contact any Board member with questions or comments about activities. Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, usually at the NNMHA office. Members are welcome to attend; please contact a Board member to confirm the time and place.





## RESCHEDULED

### Soft Riders, Soft Horses Clinic\*

October 19, 2019, 9:00 am – October 20, 2019, 5:00 pm  
NNMHA Arena

Learn the body balance principles of Centered Riding and Conformation Balancing's fascia manipulation skills to help your horse in a single two-day clinic lead by certified Centered Riding instructor Dorothy Crosby and Margaret Henkels, author of Conformational Balancing.

Private and group rides may be scheduled with Dorothy.

Per day: riders \$130; Auditor \$30  
Contact: Margret Henkels  
505-501-2290

\*Public event, all invited,  
not only NNMHA.

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### We need some help on specific tasks—can you help?

**Trail advocate:** There are meetings around town where the future of trails (both existing and planned) is discussed by land managers. It would be very helpful to the club and the equestrian community in general if someone could help represent riders at those meetings and report back to NNMHA about issues. This is NOT a position requiring attendance at board meetings though that would be welcome. Contact any board member with questions.

**Newsletter/communications:** While I hope that resurrecting a member newsletter and posting regular emails has been helpful to members and the club as a whole for the past four years, I am finding it increasingly difficult to maintain these duties well, particularly during the four months I am out of state. I'm requesting help to continue so that I may fulfill some other club functions, like keeping up with our membership list. Job-sharing is easily possible. Please contact Karen Denison [redmule@kdt.net](mailto:redmule@kdt.net) if you can help.

**Meeting Programer:** Do you have ideas for speakers we might have at meetings? Pitch in to help arrange good presentations. Contact Joyce Davis [carlotta\\_burra101@icloud.com](mailto:carlotta_burra101@icloud.com) for more information.

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### Elections—Please Vote

As per our by-laws, elections for board positions happen at the October meeting. Vote at the meeting or in advance by mail, if you cannot attend the meeting. Instructions and the ballot are on our website at <http://nnmha.weebly.com/etc.html> for download and should be mailed back in time to arrive at the club postal box before the meeting, October 30. A separate emailing will be sent shortly to highlight the ballot.



## Grounds Update: Email sent to members October 9, 2019

Dear NNMHA Member,

Many thanks to all of you who voted in the straw poll on the Board's guidance to sell the Rodeo Road property. Some 90% of voters agreed with the conclusion that the association would be better able to fulfill its vision if the property were sold and the proceeds invested.

Since conducting the email poll, we have learned more about our legal obligations as a non-profit considering a property sale under New Mexico State law. We have also been very happy to receive guidance and comments from association members.

It is now clear that the initial poll is just the first of several steps that will be needed as we move through the listing/sales process. Our draft timeline is set out below. We shall need the participation of all of you as we move forward.

October 2019 to February 2020 The NNMHA Board will work on the following – all of which will be put to the membership for approval:

- o Interview commercial real estate agents who could act for NNMHA;
- o Assess the current market pricing for commercial property in Santa Fe to confirm the valuation previously done by the County;
- o Identify specialized legal counsel to ensure that any transaction does not affect our operations and tax status, and that we are in full compliance with New Mexico State law.
- o Draft a new vision statement for the Association in the event of a sale of the property.

March 2020 As required by State law, the Association will convene a Special Meeting to decide whether to go ahead with listing and selling the property:

- o We shall need a quorum of members to be present, and at least 60% of those voting must approve moving forward on the propose sale. Voting will be in person or by paper ballot, which will be mailed to members a few weeks before the meeting. The question on the ballot paper will include the full text of the proposed property listing and the board's sales-price expectations.
- o All mailed in paper ballots will be counted but we will be encouraging all members to participate in person.

Late March 2020, forward: The Board will implement the decision of the Special Meeting. Any offers received for the property will be put back to the membership at further Special Meetings for approval.

As you can see, this is a major undertaking for a small association. Thank you in advance for your help and participation.

Best regards,

David Marks  
President



## Classifieds

Do you have something equine-related to sell? Short classified ads may be placed by any member in good standing. Please send an email to Karen Denison, [redmule@kdt.net](mailto:redmule@kdt.net)

### TERRY BERG, TRAINER

Lessons, training and show coaching. Specialty: Ranch Riding, Reining and Ranch Trail.  
[sfcolores@sprynet.com](mailto:sfcolores@sprynet.com) 505-473-4147

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THE TRINITY RANCH- Santa Fe's Premier Horse Facility: Boarding, Training, Lessons. Indoor arena, 150 x 300 jump course, 20 x 60m dressage court. Absolutely beautiful facility, exceptional staff, positive atmosphere.

<https://www.santafehorse.com/>

### NORTHSIDE BOARDING AVAILABLE:

Ride out on miles of trails, 5 minutes from NM599/La Tierra Rd., reasonable rates and relaxed atmosphere. Prices from \$300-375 for pens 12' x 60' and larger. Arena, round pen, 3 tack rooms, wash rack and trailer parking. Horses fed grass mix or alfalfa twice daily. Owners provide extras, we feed. Owner lives on premises. Contact Carolyn, Centaurus Ranch, 474-0821.

### THE GIFT SHOP

... featuring items for discriminating animal lovers and their friends  
Sales benefit animal rescue organizations  
505.231.4240                      Jean VanCamp

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*The boy who rode on, slightly before him, sat a horse not only as if he'd been born to it—which he was—but as if, were he begot by malice or mischance into some queer land where horses never were, he would have found them anyway: would have known there was something missing for the world to be right, or he right in it, and would have set forth to wander wherever it was needed for as long as it took until he came upon one, and he would have known that that was what he sought, and it would have been.*

—Cormac McCarthy, *All the Pretty Horses*

