



# Paddock Paper

Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association

April 2020



## No Meeting This Month

In keeping with state guidelines, all in-person meetings are postponed until further notice. The Board is experimenting with meeting via Zoom, and if we can offer any programs through that online platform. Got some tech savvy? We'd like to hear from you.

In addition, Joyce Davis is lining up a trailer inspection day for members as soon as the stay-at-home order is lifted.

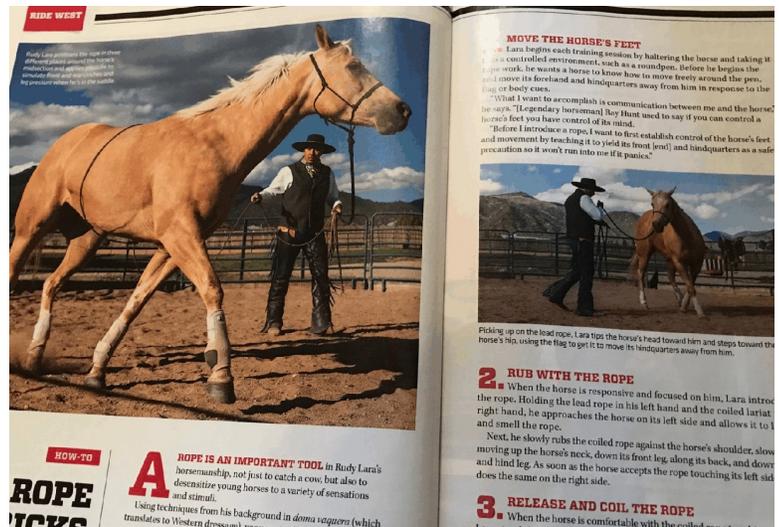
## Voting Results and Grounds Sale

Thank you, everyone, who participated in the voting process last month. Between ballots and proxies, we recorded an 81% voter turnout with clear approval of the Board's resolution to proceed with sale of the Grounds to the County. In response, the Board promptly signed paperwork with the County acknowledging our desire to move forward and applying for 501c-3 status. However, we received a communication from Santa Fe County on April 6 stating that due to the Covid-19 crisis, all non-essential expenditures by the County would be deferred to allow them to concentrate on essential services. The County expressed their continuing desire to purchase but offered no guarantees nor time line. Despite repeated consultations, our current tax situation has not changed; we face a mounting tax burden.

## Rudy Lara and Rope Training Sandee Smith

Another local makes the national press! Rudy and his Rudy Lara's Horsemanship program are based in Taos. He has started and trained horses for many years and conducts clinics throughout the United States. He is a member of the Northern NM Horseman's Association and has previously offered mini-clinics for our membership.

Progressive rope drills are key to preparing a young horse for saddling, according to Northern New Mexico's Rudy Lara. This how-to article, *Rope Tricks*, is in the March edition of "Western Horseman" magazine. It shows step-by-step ways to use a rope to move a horse's feet and simulate cinching, among other techniques.



## Suggestions for Home-Bound Activities



In this strange time with shows, clinics and group events canceled, travel discouraged, and pleasant weather upon us, what's a horse person to do? Since there's always something dirty or broken around the barn or trailer, repairs and cleaning can be on the list. Clean that saddle, check for worn leather, get fly masks ready (you know the bugs aren't far away), examine and update your veterinary supplies, wash and put away winter blankets, and fix fences or gates. But what about some things that might seem a little more rewarding?

There's a lot of folks that have been posting educational videos to the internet. Here are two folks who might have escaped your notice.

Robert Eversole runs clinics and a website devoted to safe, fun trail riding and horse camping under the name *TrailMeister*. He's a sensible guy, has some great tips, and a deserved national following. For the next couple of weeks, he'll be posting daily a new at-home video clinic addressing some element of those activities following the letters of the alphabet as the title (remember "Sesame Street"?). See the series here:

<https://www.trailmeister.com/at-home-clinics/?cat=8&fbclid=IwAR1b7rzyhHt9oD9XhMzpcu1HjIID5jJaO9NbkyYbI6IQoZ-0ljfq4hnBFSM>

Ty Evans is a young man who is nonetheless very well known in the mule world as an excellent natural-horsemanship trainer and clinician. He grew up training horses with his father using old-school methods, rodeoed through college, and learned gentler methods from some of the first-generation proponents. Though he now specializes in mules, his methods work exceedingly well for horses or donkeys, too. He's been posting each week a new video training "challenge", a short exercise to do with your animal, which builds upon the previous exercises to develop lightness or solve problems you may be having. (My suggestion is to watch the first 3-4 videos for a fair example of the series.) See the series here: <https://tsmules.com/weekly-challenge-videos>

What are you doing with your time? Please share at [redmule@kdt.net](mailto:redmule@kdt.net).

### 2020 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 first Monday of each month, usually at the NNMHA office. Members are welcome to attend; please contact a Board member to confirm the time and place.



Recent advisory from NMLB regarding rescues and boarding barns, both types of places where groups might gather.

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NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK BOARD



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Ralph Zimmerman, DVM  
State Veterinarian

April 1, 2020

Dear New Mexico Horse Society,

The New Mexico Livestock Board hereby issues this guidance on compliance with the Governor's order to close all non-essential businesses to the public effective 8:00 AM Tuesday March 24, 2020. The complete guidance can be found at <https://cv.nmhealth.org/>.

In addition to the guidelines outlined in the State of New Mexico Governor's instructions, the State Veterinarian's office advises all Horse Rescues and Boarding Facilities to cease all unnecessary operations and activities, engage in horse care activities (to include exercising) only, and close their facilities to all but essential staff. If a facility has clients that engage in self-care for their horses these individuals are allowed to come to the facility for horse care activities only. Moving forward, the facility owner or manager should take control of developing a schedule in which clients are assigned a time to visit the facility to care for their horse(s). This will minimize the number of individuals at the facility at any given time. If a client has a horse on full or partial care (whose needs are being met by staff), those individuals are asked to refrain from visiting the facility. In addition, if it is possible to decrease the amount of staff at a facility, in order to minimize the number of individuals coming and going, an employer is asked to do so.

Please note that these are the directives as of Wednesday, April 1, 2020 and it is possible they will change in the coming days and weeks. We will continue to update you as the situation develops and more information is obtained from both the Offices of the Governor, the NM Livestock Board and State Veterinarian. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns and we will do our best to address them! You may also visit The New Mexico Department of Agriculture's website for updated information <https://aces.nmsu.edu/covid19/>.

Thank You

*Belinda Garland*  
Executive Director  
NM Livestock Board

*Ralph Zimmerman*  
State Veterinarian  
NM Livestock Board

YOUR BRAND IS YOUR COAT OF  
ARMS. BUT IT IS OF LITTLE USE  
UNLESS IT IS RECORDED.

Equal Opportunity in Employment and Service

BY THE RECORDED BRANDS UPON  
THEM, WE SHALL KNOW THEIR  
OWNERS.



## Support Local Business

Everyone recognizes that this is a tough time for many local businesses. For those who can, please consider offering your support financially or in whatever creative way you're able. Place pick up/take out orders at restaurants and feed stores, or buy gift cards for use later. Some folks are buying restaurant meals to donate to first responders and other essential workers. And some local restaurants and breweries are also helping by selling grocery items (like flour or hand sanitizer) which have become in short supply at the big chain stores. Like the old, old Yellow Pages advertisement, "let your fingers do the walking" and call to place orders. For those who might struggle over the next couple of months to keep critters fed, contact Animal Protection of New Mexico to either donate to or apply to receive from the emergency feed assistance program. Read more about it here: [FEED ASSISTANCE](#)

Because they've been our reliable hosts for the past few years, please try to include **Pecos Trail Café** in your support efforts. Owner Jorge Antuna and his crew have been helpful to us. They can be reached at (505) 982-9444.

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## Tips for Staying Healthy and Reasonably Sane

**Karen Denison & Sandee Smith**

Who knew this would be on our minds constantly? Whether mucking stalls or feeding our critters, we are often thinking about keeping ourselves, family members and friends safe and well. Here are some suggestions, especially for equine lovers, regarding the coronavirus/Covid-19.

Of course, in many cases, it's not just a nice thing to do, but what medical and health experts strongly advise or governmental agencies require. A lot of us in NNMHA are in the high-risk categories (older or have underlying health issues), so it's important we are careful.

First, per a New Mexico Livestock Board advisory, if your horse is cared for in a full-service barn OR you do self-care in a boarding barn, then coordinate with the barn owner on visiting policy. Owners are trying to keep their barn staff healthy, so they can continue to work. Owners may suggest times of day to reduce overlap with other boarders or try to organize a single visit for multiple horses by a farrier, etc.

If you have a barn helper outside your household come to your own barn, be sure to have them follow all the proper procedures to keep them and you safe.

Second, treat all common-use tools and locations as suspect. The doorknob to the feed or tack room, wheelbarrows, bathroom or gates could all pose some amount of risk, as this virus seems to persist on hard surfaces for some time. There is anecdotal evidence that sunlight over a lengthy period (hours) may help inactivate the virus, and we have no shortage of that in NM, but it's no guarantee.

Wipe down common-touch surfaces with disinfectant, wear gloves, or avoid those surfaces altogether. Wash your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer, and don't touch your face with your hands. Cough



or sneeze into the crook of your elbow. Keep surfaces clean for others, and ask barn staff and helpers to practice the same precautions.

Third, if you are with other people, maintain a six-foot minimum distance. This assumes no air movement; new modeling finds that outdoors a breeze or slipstream from walking should be taken into account, so more distance is better. The vigilance required to do all this is exhausting, but we're disciplined horse people and we can adapt.

Fourth, equines need their exercise and so do we. If you can stay on-property, that's great. But if you're going to ride off-property or trailer, keep it very local. We're under stay-at-home guidelines and longer travel introduces some additional risk to you, your horse or others with whom you may come in contact (at gas stations or trail heads). If you encounter people at these locations or ride with others, stay at least six feet apart.

For now, avoid the temptation to explore a backcountry trail or break a fresh colt; search and rescue volunteers, first responders and urgent care professionals need to focus on people who are sick.

Finally, what happens if you're quarantined? Generally speaking, if you have a fever but are not short of breath, stay home. If you are short of breath or your condition worsens, contact your doctor or proper governmental agencies. They can determine if other steps are needed such as testing for the virus; or, you may simply have the flu.

If you are tested and have the virus, you and your household members are required to self-quarantine for a lengthy time. See the guidelines here: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/public/>. So, make a plan now and network with other horse people. Have enough hay, feed and regular medications on hand for at least two weeks or more. Have a good veterinary first aid kit and think about fresh supplies, if needed.

Deputize a couple of handy people outside your household who are willing to help, if you or a household member can't go to the barn. Be sure they have clear, WRITTEN instructions, keys or combination lock codes and names to call if there's an emergency, especially your vet and farrier.

These are strange, stressful times but we feel fortunate to have family, critters, good horse friends and to live in New Mexico where there is plenty of elbow room rather than a crowded urban area. Though it will take time and effort, we'll get through this. We wish everyone well until we meet again.



### Scheduling Vets and Farriers

It appears veterinarians and farriers in our area are trying to minimize face-to-face contact in response to risks associated with the coronavirus/COVID-19. Generally, they are trying to postpone routine or elective work, and using phone/text/email.

If you have a farm call, talk with your vet ahead of time. Have your equines up where your vet and farrier can safely get to them. Get help, if needed, ahead of time--don't expect your vet or farrier to catch your horses.

If something is urgent or an emergency, vets are typically taking care of those calls without question. It's a good idea to have a backup vet to call, if your regular vet is not available.

In all, the best prevention is to maintain high standards of sanitation in all equine facilities and restrict exposure of your critters. Plus, plenty of fresh air is always a good idea.



**The annual club directory will be out soon. Look for it directly by email within a week.**

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### **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)

STUART H. GARBER, DC, PhD, AVCA, Animal Chiropractor

39 years experience. Certified in animal chiropractic by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association. Equines and canines but also happy to treat any critter with a spine. By appointment - 505.913.7493

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

LYNN CLIFFORD

The Ride of Your Life Horsemanship Instruction & The Inner Equestrian Life Coaching/Counseling  
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505-231-5353

#### *Two Clinics:*

James Shaw, Ride from Within Clinic August 22-23 Hosted at Nizhoni Ranch, Cerrillos

James Shaw teaches a body-centered approach which emphasizes a natural, dynamic seat for riders resulting in fluid, effortless movement for the horse.

Centered Riding with Lucile Bump Clinic Nov. 7-8; private lessons Nov. 6

Hosted at Nizhoni Ranch, Cerrillos

Lucile Bump is one of the first generation of Centered Riding founder Sally Swift's mentees.

Much more information on either clinic can be found here: <http://lynnclifford.com/events/>

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.

