



Paddock Paper

Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association Newsletter

September 2020

Club is 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization, Property Closing Set for This Month

After many months of hard work, planning and maneuvering legal channels, Board members have secured status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and scheduled the sale of the Club property for later this month. As you may recall, an earlier closing was planned. However, it is to the Club's advantage to be a nonprofit upon closing. The buyer has been very helpful in agreeing to necessary delays.

Many thanks to all who helped get it to this point, as well as those who managed the dispersal sale of property on the grounds. The Club as a nonprofit with the property closing soon puts our organization on solid footing.

On to the future! See following article regarding Board nominations. Please consider becoming a Board member, so you can play a role in planning our Club's events and activities.

Note: The Board members plan to host a celebration of the sale when it's possible to sponsor a small gathering.



Board Nominations are Now

Be a part of an exciting future for our Club – help decide on what plans, programs and events best serve our members. We have a lot to look forward to, so please consider serving on next year’s Board.

Nominations take place **now, and elections are just a few weeks away.** We need to fill several anticipated vacancies on the Board. Next year’s Board members can look forward to focusing on the future, as a 501(c)(3) organization. That’s great news for everyone.

Current Board member names and phone numbers appear elsewhere in this newsletter, so give one of them a call to ask questions or discuss serving as a Board member. We need **YOU!**

Wed., Sept. 16 - Our Monthly Meeting

Learn more about safety on trails at our September monthly meeting – **Wednesday, September 16, 6 pm.** It will be a live webinar presentation via Zoom. Our speaker is Dierdre Monroe and she will talk about a popular topic to all of us – “Trail Safety.”

She is a long-term trail rider, trails advocate and endurance rider. Since 1995, when she moved to Santa Fe, she has explored many trails, particularly in the Caja del Rio and San Pedro Parks Wilderness.



She is best known for her 2014 Caja del Rio trail map (*Caja del Rio Plateau Hiking, Biking and Riding Trails*) and is also the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) New Mexico State Trails Advocate. Her trail safety topics include preparedness or “getting started,” “before you leave” and “what to do if you need a rescue.”

If you haven’t used Zoom yet, let us know. It’s easy to use, and we’re glad to help you get started. Until

we can meet again in person, we will use this technology, so please plan to join the meeting. Plus, we need to support our speakers with good turnouts.

Here are the directions for joining the meeting:

Step 1 - To join the Zoom meeting, click on this link or paste it into your browser

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85020888896?pwd=bmlZMEVheTMvdUJMeXo3dk9XeTZLQT09>

Step 2 - When prompted, use Meeting ID: 850 2088 8896 and Passcode: 019501

If you have any questions (including how to use Zoom technology), please contact Board member Helen Newton, sfcolores@sprynet.com, 505 470-1396. She also welcomes ideas for future monthly meeting topics.

What Are You Doing These Days...

It's great to read what others are thinking and doing, especially these days. So, tell us about what you and your critters are up to during these stay-at-home days.



Where are you riding? Are you at home repairing fencing or cleaning out sheds? Send photos! We also welcome "notes from your pasture" (you may have to write notes for your critters, but we'll publish them).

Contact co-editors Karen Denison or Sandra Smith with your news and "notes"...email addresses and phone numbers appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Member News – HIPICO

In these challenging times, HIPICO owners are being creative. They are hosting socially distanced live concerts on the polo field at HIPICO, an equestrian center near the Santa Fe airport. According to an article in the August 30 edition of the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, there are live concerts most weekends, scheduled at least through the end of this month.

Concertgoers park their vehicles in socially distanced parking spaces. The capacity is 262 cars, and tickets are available for purchase online.

Right-of-Way Etiquette on Multi-use Trails and Open Spaces

According to the U.S. National Park Service website (www.nps.gov), trail etiquette dictates that bicyclists yield to hikers and horses where there are multi-use trails. Bikers should come to a full stop and step to the side to yield the right of way.

Further, according to an article in the *REI Co-op Journal*, there are general guidelines for *how* to share trail space with others. “As the largest, slowest-to-maneuver and (usually) least-predictable creatures on the trail, horses get the right of way from both hikers and mountain bikers.

If you’re sharing the trail with equestrians,” the article states, “give them as wide a berth as possible and make sure not to make abrupt movements as they pass.” Also, they should speak up in a calm tone of voice when approaching to avoid startling the horse(s).

Be on the Look-out

Since mountain bikes are considered more maneuverable than hikers or horses, bikers are generally expected to yield to others on trails. In any case, however, mountain bikers move faster, so we should be on the look-out for them at all times.



Conscientious mountain bikers will call out as they approach you from any direction, stop and ask you what they should do. They should also let you know if there are other bikers following them.

The article advises bikers that if they are on a narrow trail and horses (and mules) are passing, bikers should get off the trail on the downhill side. Bikers (and hikers) should stand still as the horse riders pass by. Horses are more likely to run uphill than downhill when spooked, and bikers (smart ones, that is) definitely don’t want to be in the path of a startled horse.

Greet Others on Trails

For us equine folks, the burden remains on us to be vigilant, look for others in the area (sometimes our horses sense others before we do) and manage the situation calmly. Some bikers and hikers either don’t know or don’t care (or both) what is safe trail

etiquette for them and us. So, it's always an educational opportunity to help others help us...and themselves. Speak up, as soon as you see or hear others nearby with a short greeting that alerts them to your presence.

Of course, local conditions and regulations may dictate what to do in these circumstances, so be aware of any trail rules wherever you ride.

(Co-editor's note: Another equestrian once told me that hikers and bikers must think horse people are the friendliest people around, because we always call out with a "hello" or "hi, horses here." Yes, it's helpful to everyone to be friendly when sharing open space.)

Do You Know...

What causes cribbing? Also called wind sucking, cribbing is a repetitive, compulsive activity when a horse places upper teeth firmly on a hard object (fence, stall door, whatever) pulls back, arches the neck and gulps air into the upper part of the esophagus, making a distinctive roaring sound.

The truth is, we don't know exactly what causes cribbing. It poses some health risks – horses who crib can be at a higher risk for some types of colic, and prolonged cribbing can wear down a horse's upper incisors and create neck muscle problems.

Today, owners often strive to reduce the behavior, rather than "stop it at all costs," according to *Equus* magazine. While the cause is unclear, it may be linked to heredity, diet, stress, gastric discomfort or other factors. There are ways to curb cribbing, such as a change in diet and the use of slow feeders. Talk with your vet, if you have a cribber on your hands.

Classifieds

Do you have something equine-related to sell or services to provide? Short classified ads may be placed by any member in good standing. Please send an email with exact wording for your ad to: Sandra, smithcom@goldengate.net, or Karen, redmule@kdtt.net.

STUART H. GARBER, DC, PhD, AVCA

Animal chiropractor with 39 years of 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 offers lessons, training, show coaching. Specialty: ranch riding, reining and ranch trail. Contact: sfcolores@sprynet.com, 505 473-4147.

LYNN CLIFFORD

The Ride of Your Life Horsemanship instruction and The Inner Equestrian Life coaching/counseling, Santa Fe. By arrangement: www.lynnclifford.com, 505 231-5353.

LUCILLE BUMP

Centered Riding Clinic, Nov. 7-8, private lessons, Nov. 6, Nizhoni Ranch, Cerrillos. She is one of the first generation of Centered Riding founder Sally Swift's mentees. More info: www.lynnclifford.com.

THE TRINITY RANCH

Santa Fe's premier horse facility. Boarding, training, lessons, indoor arena, 150x300 jump course, 20x60 dressage court. Absolutely beautiful facility, exceptional staff, positive atmosphere. More info: www.santafehorse.com.

NORTHSIDE BOARDING

Ride out on miles of trails, five minutes from NM599/La Tierra Rd. Reasonable rates, relaxed atmosphere. Prices from \$300-\$375 for pens 12x60 and larger. Arena, round pen, three tack rooms, wash rack, trailer parking. Horses fed grass mix or alfalfa twice daily. Boarders provide extras, we feed. Owner lives on premises. Contact: Carolyn, Centaurus Ranch, 505 474-0821.

Board and Committees

2020 Officers of the Board

President	David Marks	david.marks.sf@gmail.com	505 466-0306
VP	Howard Gershom	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
Facebook Manager	Open		
Website Manager	Betsy Walker	betwalk@cybermesa.com	505 466-1643
Newsletter/ membership	Karen Denison	redmule@kdt.net	505 469-2698
	Sandra Smith	smithcom@goldengate.net	505 983-0144

Website <http://www.NNMHA.net>

You are welcome to contact any board member with questions or comments about association plans or activities. Board meetings are held each month, usually at the NNMHA office. Members are also invited to attend board meetings. Please contact a Board member to confirm meeting times and locations.

A Thought for the Times: What We Look Like to our Four-legged Pals

Have you been wondering lately what our face masks must look like to our equines and other pets? Do masks look like muzzles? What do our equines think about our being around them more often, especially when we're just hanging out and enjoying the fresh air? Do they notice that we are staying six feet away from other humans? Do they know about stay-at-home rules?

It might look like a herd mentality sort of thing to them...you know, stay at home for the safety of the herd. Maybe they wonder what happened to the shows and clinics this year. Perhaps, they see us cleaning our tack, again, and ponder with amusement, "Didn't our humans just do that?"



Author unknown