



# Paddock Paper

Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association Newsletter

April 2021

## “Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico” is Topic for Our April Meeting, April 14, Wednesday, 6 pm

We are delighted to have a well-respected state researcher presenting one of her favorite topics at our monthly meeting this month. **Joy L. Poole** is Deputy State Librarian for the New Mexico State Library, author and cofounder of the Santa Fe Trail Association. The topic of her presentation is “Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico.”



We are still in the pandemic mode, so directions for accessing the online meeting will be provided in an email soon to come. The meeting is open to the public, so refer anyone else to Karen Denison, [redmule@kdt.net](mailto:redmule@kdt.net), for the link to the presentation.

This topic is something that should interest all of us, and our presenter is widely recognized as an engaging, well-informed speaker who makes history come alive! And, equines will surely figure into Trail travails!

### **Few Knew About New Mexico**

In Poole's words: Few Americans knew much about New Mexico when Dr. Rowland Willard (1794-1884) set out on his journey from St. Charles, Missouri, where he had

recently completed a medical apprenticeship. The growing commerce in the Southwest presented opportunities for the ambitious doctor. Thankfully, he took notes along the way, and they became chronicles of an important period in our history.

On his first day traveling the plains of the Santa Fe Trail, he met the mountain man Hugh Glass, who regaled Willard with stories of his wilderness experiences. Conducting a physical examination of Glass, Dr. Willard provided the only eye-witness medical account of Glass's deformities resulting from a grizzly bear attack.

Willard referred to the mountain man as "Father Glass," a testimony to his age. He practiced medicine in Taos, visited Santa Fe, then traveled south to Chihuahua, arriving during a measles epidemic. Willard treated patients in Mexico for two years before returning to Missouri in 1828.

### **Narrative Challenges Beliefs about Routes**

Willard's narrative challenges long-accepted assumptions about the exact routes taken by pack trains on the Santa Fe Trail. It also provides thrilling glimpses of a landscape densely populated with wildlife. The doctor describes "a great theater of nature," with droves of elk and buffalo and "wolf and antelope skipping in every direction."

With his traveling companions, he hunted buffalo by crawling after them on all fours, afterward making jerky out of bison meat and boots out of their hides. Willard also details his medical practice, offering a revealing view of physicians' operating practices in a time when sanitation and anesthesia were rare.

The Santa Fe Trail and the Camino Real Trail (between Santa Fe and Mexico) took Willard on the journey of a lifetime. This account recalls the early days of the Santa Fe Trail trade and westward American migration, when a doctor from Missouri could cross paths with mountain men, traders, Mexican clergymen and government officials on their way to new opportunities.

### **About our Presenter**

**Joy L. Poole** is Deputy State Librarian for the New Mexico State Library, former Director of the El Camino Real International Heritage Center, Museum of New Mexico, and former museum administrator for the Colorado Historical Society. She also was cofounder of the Santa Fe Trail Association and author of *Great Plains Cattle Empire: The Thatcher Brothers, 1875-1945* (Texas Tech University Press, 2000).

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# Board Schedules Meeting with Speaker; Discusses Outreach, Other Topics

Board members proactively tackled several topics, including scheduling our next monthly meeting with a speaker and finalizing member outreach to include phone calls and an online survey. Make a note now that the monthly meeting is Wednesday, April 14, 6 pm. See separate article in this newsletter for details.

## **Outreach Efforts include Phone Calls to Members, Online Survey**

Board members also finalized their plans to reach out to members via an online survey and phone calls. The purpose for these efforts is to gain feedback regarding future programs, events and initiatives that dovetail with our organization's new nonprofit charity status. "We want to hear from members what they think our priorities should be," explains President Howard Gershon.

"We want to be strategic and thoughtful in how we utilize our financial and volunteer resources for the greatest good, for both members and the greater horse community, in keeping with our mission and vision. We can't do that well, without input from others." Board members are expected to begin calling members soon, with an online survey to follow.

## **Steps to Reflect Our Nonprofit Charity Status**

On other matters, the Board discussed establishing an annual budget, based on decisions to come regarding specific programs and events. Board meeting minutes will be posted on our organization's website and the website itself will become more robust and user friendly with several modest upgrades. Steps are also being taken to safely preserve NNMHA Board minutes, bylaws and other noteworthy documents, typical of other nonprofit charities.

While NNMHA, as a 501(c)(3), is not required to fund raise, best practices among similar nonprofit charities strongly suggest that healthy organizations should have various sources of income. That may include member dues, interest earned on the sale of the Grounds and income from programs and events, among others. In any case, we will always need volunteers to plan and actively participate in association initiatives. So, be thinking about what interests you the most!

The next Board meeting is Tuesday, April 20, 5 pm. They are usually the third Tuesday of each month. Feel free to attend or share your ideas by contacting any Board member.

# Member News - Meet Your Board

*We continue our brief interviews with Board members in this newsletter. They share their thoughts about our plans and future activities... and how they spend their "horsing-around" spare time.*

## Piar Marks



*Congratulations as a re-elected or newly elected Board member. What originally interested you in NNMHA?*

Thank you. I am looking forward to serving NNMHA and working with this exciting new Board. I joined NNMHA to meet fellow horse lovers and to help our equestrian community. As president of Santa Fe Horse Coalition and active member of NNMHA, I have advocated for equestrians with state, county and private lands to keep horses on our trails and create multi-use horse friendly trails. I believe northern New Mexico's horse culture is vital to our economy and a key part of our multicultural heritage.

*Looking forward, what are one or two things you'd like NNMHA to accomplish in the next year or so?*

My goal is to create and implement NNMHA programs to grow and sustain our horse community: trail rides, horse encounters, riding clinics and lesson series.

*How do you see the Club, as a 501(c)(3), serving both members and the larger equine community?*

The 501(c)(3) status allows NNMHA to serve our membership and greater Santa Fe horse community as we secure our legacy as northern New Mexico's foundation equestrian organization. Protecting our assets is vital to keep NNMHA strong and ensure a bright future for horses and riders as we move into a new normal.

*We have new mission and vision statements and identifying key issues and opportunities will further help determine specific Club programs and events. Will there be a written plan? What is the role for member input?*

Member input is essential. We plan to form committees to help us create programs and events, and to assist with fundraising. To guide the Board in what best suits our members and the larger equine community, I'm currently drafting an events and programs survey which will be sent out soon.

*What hobbies and activities do you enjoy, or what interesting life experiences have you had?*

I'm a photographer and have shot many horse events in New Mexico, including NNMHA programs. I enjoy travel, usually involving horseback riding. I've ridden in Nepal, Peru, Argentina, Uruguay, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Colorado, Arizona and California. Next stop: Mongolia.

*What is your favorite equine activity?*

The big question. I participate in several disciplines, but my favorites are trail riding, garrocha and cow work. See you on the range!

## **Howard Gershon**



*Congratulations, as a re-elected or newly elected Board member. What originally interested you in NNMHA?*

My wife and I joined NNMHA when we became first-time horse owners and were looking to learn more about caring for our equines and meeting other folks who had similar interests.

*Looking forward, what are one or two things you'd like NNMHA to accomplish in the next year or so?*

Now that we are no longer saddled with the responsibility of maintaining our grounds and have a firm financial footing, NNMHA is in a state of transition. Our biggest challenge for the next several months is "re-visioning" what we want to do as an organization. We have started that process with our recently updated Mission and Vision statements that give us a broad description of our purpose and aspirations, so now we have to figure out what we actually do to achieve those.

*How do you see the Club, as a 501(c)(3), serving both members and the larger equine community?*

We have always been a member driven organization, and I don't really see that changing. If we serve our members well, we will grow our membership and participation of others. And as we grow our membership, we will better serve the greater equine community in northern New Mexico.

*We have new mission and vision statements and identifying key issues and opportunities will further help determine specific Club programs and events. Will there be a written plan? What is the role for member input?*

We have a few Board members who have been meeting to address this issue, and we are planning to survey our members for input in the near future. Ultimately, this should result in a written plan.

*The proceeds of the Grounds sale are managed conservatively. How do you see the role of fund raising, such as member fees, donor contributions, program fees or other ways to fund our activities?*

Thanks to our former Board leaders, we were very fortunate to sell our grounds for a significant amount of money. Although we have invested those funds conservatively, they will yield an appreciable amount of interest income for us. Fund raising will be considered to augment our income, but clearly we won't be dependent on that.

*Are you considering committees to help the Board with planning, fund raising or other specific areas?*

I would like to see us establish several committees, both as a means of spreading our work around and as a way to further engage our membership and others. Programs, events and partnerships are three areas where committees could be helpful. If any member who is reading this has interest in one or more of those areas, I would encourage you to contact a Board member.

*What is your favorite equine activity?*

We are so fortunate to have such beautiful country to ride here in northern New Mexico, that I can't think of a better day than a trail ride with a couple of friends.



**Welcome to  
Springtime!**

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## Yes, Springtime Means Vaccinations

The “core” vaccines – those recommended for every equine annually – protects against the following diseases: EWT (Eastern/Western Equine Encephalomyelitis),

Rabies, Tetanus and West Nile Encephalitis. Dental work, sheath cleaning and fecal egg count/worming are also good measures, either spring or fall, or both.

There are number of other optional vaccines that are called for, depending on the health, lifestyle and location of equines. They include: Equine Influenza, Rhinopneumonitis and Strangles, among others.

We may be traveling more this year, hopefully. In that case, a busier social schedule for your horses may result in greater exposure to other equines at clinics, trail rides and shows, not to mention neighbors who travel. Also, an increased level of activity may put your horse under new stress, so time vaccinations accordingly.

Remember, even if companions don't travel themselves, horses can be exposed to pathogens carried home by those who do.

*Equus magazine, Spring 2020, "Vaccinations Refresher."*

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## HIPICO Cancels Summer Series; Other Events, Shows are on Tap

With great disappointment, HIPICO recently announced that the 2021 Santa Fe Summer Series will not take place, due to the long-standing COVID-19 uncertainty. However, other shows and events are scheduled, starting this month through October.

There are numerous events, and they include the Land of Enchantment Miniature Horse Club's Rio Grande Classic, May 1-2, and the 2021 New Mexico Hunter Jumper Association's three shows in May, June and October. For more information, go to [www.hipicosantafe.com](http://www.hipicosantafe.com) or call 505 474-0999.

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## Sign Designates "No Electric Bikes"

In some parks and trail areas, you may see this sign. It clearly shows that electric bikes are not allowed. The sign doesn't guarantee electric bike riders will always follow the rules. But, it is helpful to know there are restrictions, especially as electric bike usage becomes more prevalent.



If you see or hear more about electric bike usage, and you want to alert others, please feel free to let us know. We'd like to keep on top of this issue. By the way, this sign is posted at La Tierra Trails, specifically the Frijoles Trailhead.

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# Do You Know...

What causes **Chronic Progressive Lymphedema** (CPL)? CPL can be a debilitating condition caused by an abnormal function of the lymphatic system, causing a buildup of lymph fluid in equine lower legs. In turn, this results in progressive swelling with associated skin folds, nodules and ulcerations. It has been described in Shires, Clydesdales, Belgians, Gypsy Vanners, English Cobs, Friesians and Percherons, among other draft-type horses.

Typically, the disease starts at an early age and progresses through life, often resulting in disfigurement and lameness. It is a systemic disease of the lymphatic system in which skin lesions on the lower limbs occur secondarily, due to poor lymphatic drainage and tissue perfusion. Unfortunately, the cause of CPL is unknown.

**What are the clinical signs of chronic progressive lymphedema?** The earliest lesions are characterized by mild thickening of the lower legs, which in most instances is not identified under the heavy feathering of many of these draft breeds. After clipping the feathers, it becomes evident that the legs have a cone- or nodule-shaped appearance rather than very distinct dry cannon bone areas and pasterns.

Decreased lymph flow together with the insulation of the heavy feathering sets the perfect stage for bacterial and mange-like infections. The subsequent skin lesions have features of pastern dermatitis (also referred to as “scratches”); however, treatments of these infections do not resolve the underlying lymphedema. The swelling becomes firm due to skin folds and skin nodules that develop. Groups of nodules can resemble a small handful of grapes.

Over time, the lesions can extend up the leg and affect the skin as high as the knees or hocks. Skin biopsies may show changes in the underlying elastin fiber network, but other imaging technologies may be needed to determine the degree of impaired lymph drainage.



**How is chronic progressive lymphedema treated?** There is currently no successful permanent treatment for CPL. Careful management and supportive therapy, including antibiotics to treat secondary infections, can improve the quality of life of affected horses. Clipping the feathers short (see photo), daily exercise, routine foot, ergot and chestnut trimming, daily hoof cleaning and manual lymph drainage massage may be recommended. Horses should be kept in dry environments.

These treatments may be labor-intensive and must be maintained to minimize discomfort, slow the progress of the

disease and avoid recurrent infections. In most cases, surgical removal of skin nodules is not recommended, as it can potentially further damage lymphatic tissue.

**What is the prognosis for chronic progressive lymphedema?** With diligent management, affected horses can have a reasonable quality of life. Researchers hypothesize that CPL is multi-factorial and has an underlying genetic component. It is usually diagnosed after early breeding years, so genetic predispositions are often passed on to further generations.

*Adapted from UC Davis Veterinary Medicine,  
ceh.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/health-topics;  
Photo from [www.veteriankey.com](http://www.veteriankey.com)*

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## 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](mailto:smithcom@goldengate.net), or Karen, [redmule@kdtt.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.lynnclifford.com), 505 231-5353.

### 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](http://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 YOUR HORSE

At the “Happy Horse” place, RANCHO MARIPOSA. Horses fed quality hay three times a day, grain twice a day. Turned out regularly in large pasture and ring, blanketing. Every stall and shed has a paddock and shavings. Indoor arena, sand riding area, dressage ring, round pen, trails available. Caretakers live on site. Lessons and training available. Manager has 40 years professional horse experience and cares for your horse the same way she does her own. Please come and visit us! We’re located on “Ranch Road” off of 285, just SE of Eldorado. Call Barbara at 505 466-1005.

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## Correction

In the March edition, a Board member was incorrectly identified as Kristina Martin. Of course, she is Kristina Flanagan!

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## Board and Committees

### **Officers of the Board**

President	Howard Gershon	<a href="mailto:howard@reach-newheights.com">howard@reach-newheights.com</a>	505 690-8433
VP	Kristina Flanagan	<a href="mailto:omdurga108@gmail.com">omdurga108@gmail.com</a>	415 271-8560
Treasurer	Helen Newton	<a href="mailto:sfcolores@sprynet.com">sfcolores@sprynet.com</a>	505 470-1396
Secretary	Joyce Davis	<a href="mailto:bjmrkitty@gmail.com">bjmrkitty@gmail.com</a>	505 490-5390
At-large	Gary Clendenen	<a href="mailto:gclendenen@yahoo.com">gclendenen@yahoo.com</a>	518 225-9935
	David Marks	<a href="mailto:david.marks.sf@gmail.com">david.marks.sf@gmail.com</a>	505 466-0306
	Piar Marks	<a href="mailto:prsantafe@gmail.com">prsantafe@gmail.com</a>	505 466-3306

### **Committees**

Ridge Riders	Open		
Programs/speakers	Joyce Davis	<a href="mailto:bjmrkitty@gmail.com">bjmrkitty@gmail.com</a>	505 490-5390
Facebook Manager	Open		
Website Manager	Betsy Walker	<a href="mailto:betwalk@cybermesa.com">betwalk@cybermesa.com</a>	505 466-1643
Newsletter/ membership	Karen Denison	<a href="mailto:redmule@kdt.net">redmule@kdt.net</a>	505 469-2698
	Sandra Smith	<a href="mailto:smithcom@goldengate.net">smithcom@goldengate.net</a>	505 983-0144

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

*You are welcome to contact any Board member with questions or comments about our plans or activities. Board meetings are held each month, and members are invited to participate in Board meetings. Due to the pandemic, meetings are online. Please contact any Board member for more information.*

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***No winter lasts forever;  
no spring skips its turn.***  
*Hal Borland*