



CouncilLetter

January / February 2021



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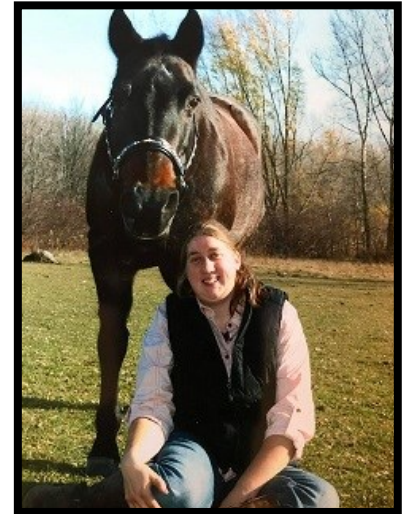
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WHC District 3 Equine of the Year Winner for 2021

The Wisconsin Horse Council and the Wisconsin Horse Council District 3 would like to congratulate Lacey as its WHC District 3 Horse of the Year winner for 2021! Lacey is owned by Kallie Larson of Watertown, Wisconsin.



"Lacey is a one of a kind companion, partner, and equine. She has spent her life teaching, inspiring, and sharing her strong heart. Lacey taught me how to ride, how to win, and that sometimes you need to lose to grow. She is the kind of horse that I can compete on and on the same day someone who hasn't ridden in a while can jump on for her to carry them to victory, then a six-year old can get on and she is gentle enough to keep them safe. She is an all-around mount that has successfully competed in pleasure, reining, trail classes and her favorite gymkhana events. She even helped me win a buckle during the 2019 show season at the age of 21. About six years ago she suffered what I feared was a life-ending injury. Her willing heart gave her the strength she needed to make it through the recovery process and back to doing what she loves. I have two other horses that she is helping me train, but she has always been my go-to horse and my best friend. She has been at my side, and many times my leader, as I further my horsemanship and teach others new skills. She has been a role model to 4-H and FFA youth growing in their projects at clinics that I have put on. There isn't a day that goes by where I don't learn something new from her. Now I share her wisdom with others and let others learn from her directly. She is a treasure and deserves to be honored." - Kallie Larson

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WHC Mission Statement

- * To represent and foster a unified equine industry in Wisconsin.
- * To promote the horse through leadership, education, service and communication.
- * To take a proactive role in the future growth and development of the equine industry.

ATTENTION!

**Tear out page 25/26 to fold as a
handy brochure to keep or to share!
This month's featured brochure is:
"Making A Difference for Equine
Owners - \$1 million Equine Excess
Personal Liability Insurance".**

*Membership in the Wisconsin Horse Council is open to individuals, associations, businesses, societies, or other entities whose interests are in line with the WHC's purpose and Mission Statement. Our membership year follows the calendar year. Members will receive a free e-newsletter and the option to purchase a printed newsletter where **FREE** classified ads can be placed and business card, 1/4, 1/2 and full page ads can be purchased as well. The newsletter reaches 500+ horse enthusiasts. The WHC currently sends out six issues per year.*

The WHC employs a professional lobbyist who works with us on pending legislation as needed for the equine industry. We continue to work on adding new benefits for our members. Please feel free to contact us with your comments or suggestions. Thank you!

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to ensure the equine voice
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Welcome to the Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation

The bond between an equestrian and their equine is an experience worth cherishing; we are dedicated to strengthening this bond and enriching the equestrian experience in Wisconsin through education, research, charity, and scholarship.

Visit our website www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org – Go to the WSHCEF tab at the top of the page

What is the mission statement of the WSHC Equine Foundation?

The Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation was created to better serve Wisconsin's growing equestrian community and to help that community realize its fullest potential. The Foundation is a tax exempt, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization and as such allows individuals to make tax-deductible contributions to support Wisconsin equine projects.

The mission of the Equine Foundation is to support Wisconsin's expanding equestrian community by funding:

-Educational Initiatives
-Equine Research
-Trail Development
-Youth Scholarship and Participation

What is our relationship with the Wisconsin State Horse Council?

The Wisconsin State Horse Council is our parent organization and the sole member of the WSHC Equine Foundation. WSHC Board of Directors are elected to serve on the WSHC Equine Foundation Board of Directors, along with non-WSHC individuals. The WSHC was incorporated in 1972 as an advocate for the equine owners and industry in the State of Wisconsin. It has grown to become the focus of the equine industry in Wisconsin.

The Mission Statement of the Wisconsin Horse Council is: To represent and foster a unified equine industry in Wisconsin. To promote the horse through leadership, education, service and communications, and to take a proactive role in the future growth and development of the equine industry in the State of Wisconsin.

WSHC Equine Foundation is a federally approved 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to the advancement of equine activities and the equine industry in general.

The Foundation's main objectives are to promote education, research and development, charity, and scholarship opportunities for equestrians in Wisconsin.

WSHCEF Officers, Board Members & Volunteer Committee Members

Officers

President: James Harris
Vice President: Gail Seasor
Secretary/Treasurer: Diane Sackett
Board Member: Lori Helmer

Volunteer Committee Members

Gary Jackson	Karen Meekma	Dave Kluge
Sharon Hookstead	Rich Ernsberger	Linda Ernsberger
Margo Miller	Roxanne Cromheecke-Kluge	Jan Pieper
Floyd Finney - WSHC Exec BOD Rep.		Wayne Osterhaus
Katie Bachhuber		

A 'Little Ray of Sunshine':

Eau Claire mini horse in training to become therapy animal

By Sarah Seifert Leader-Telegram staff & The Country Today / thecountrytoday.com



Photo by Dan Reiland

Rose Vincent of Eau Claire exercises miniature horse Jack on Monday, Nov. 30, at Boyd Park in Eau Claire. Vincent is training Jack to become a therapy horse, similar to therapy dogs who traditionally visit hospitals and nursing homes to comfort and socialize with patients.

Violin and Guitar Studio in downtown Eau Claire with her husband John — had her left leg paralyzed in a horse-related accident about 12 years ago.

Her long, arduous road toward walking again took about 10 years of rehabilitation, she said.

“You have to learn how to move again,” Vincent remembered. “You tell your foot to move, and it doesn’t move. It’s the most heartbreaking and terrifying thing ... I’ve stayed away from horses, because I wasn’t sure if I could safely do it.”

But after getting on a horse again for the first time in 12 years this September, Vincent realized how much she missed them

A couple weeks later, Vincent met Jack, who was living with friends and was working as a children’s pony. As the kids grew too tall to ride him, Jack was spending more time alone, Vincent said.

“It’s very traumatic, being paralyzed at 27, so coming out of that and beginning to explore horses again ... we met Jack at the early stages and he was just wonderful,” Vincent said. “I just fell for him.”

EAU CLAIRE — Rose Vincent of Eau Claire and her miniature horse Jack are getting used to a warm welcome on their morning runs, even from people they don’t know.

Some drivers will roll down their car windows to yell “Hi, Jack!”

Kids will run out of their houses to greet the stocky little horse, who’s always delighted to see them, Vincent said.

“You have a funny-looking dog,” passersby have quipped to Vincent when they meet the duo on their morning outings.

Though Jack is actually a 6-year-old miniature horse, he does have something in common with his canine friends: Vincent is training him to become a therapy animal, similar to therapy dogs who visit hospitals or nursing homes.

One day Jack may work with children or even visit hospital or care facilities to socialize with patients himself.

But in the six weeks since he joined Vincent’s family, the horse has offered a helping hand to Vincent herself.

No stranger to horses, Vincent — who co-owns Offbeats

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A 'Little Ray of Sunshine': Eau Claire mini horse in training to become therapy animal

As Vincent began exercising and training with Jack, who's much shorter than other horses, she was able to gain mobility in certain damaged muscles because he's easier to mount and dismount, she said.

"He's got a great heart for carrying people, and we thought, why keep him to myself?" Vincent said. "He's learning to be a proper therapy horse so he can help other people too. But he's done a lot for me already."

Training for the future

Jack and Vincent might be a familiar sight to morning pedestrians in downtown Eau Claire.

Ever since Jack joined Vincent's family in October, the duo bundles up every morning for a run.

Jack is a taller, stocky fellow for a mini horse — he falls into the breed's larger classification, between 34 and 38 inches tall at the shoulder — with a gray-brown coat and a black dorsal stripe down his spine.

Despite his size, Jack has a good sense of where his body is at all times, Vincent says. It's encouraging for his prospects as a therapy horse who could visit hospitals or nursing homes one day.

"I've been working on taking him really odd places, so he doesn't get nervous anywhere," Vincent said. "He has very good manners. He wants to please, and he hates to fail."

But Jack loves being around children most of all, Vincent said, and he may be best-suited to working with children with physical, mental or emotional challenges.

"We put my nephew on him, and the child wasn't balanced very well," Vincent remembered. "Every time he lost his balance, Jack would stop dead and make sure he could settle again. He was thinking for this kid. We were so struck by that."

For now, Jack is training for future situations by exploring the nooks and crannies of Eau Claire.

He's learning how to walk calmly in public spaces, dealing with the sound of trains and cars and navigating downtown streets.

"He's a really good running buddy," Vincent noted.

Some mornings the two visit Boyd Park so Jack can learn commands and practice performing tricks.

"Some days we'll go walk in the neighborhoods to try and meet all kinds of people," Vincent said. "Small people, big people, dogs, cars, garbage cans, manhole covers. It's as many things as we can find in a day."

Jack will take the training at his own pace — but Vincent is optimistic that he'll make great strides in the next six months to a year.

Therapy animals aren't federally protected by the Americans With Disabilities Act, like service dogs are, and there is no universal registry in the U.S. for therapy animals.

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A 'Little Ray of Sunshine': Eau Claire mini horse in training to become therapy animal

But privately-owned therapy animals often visit hospitals, assisted living or rehabilitation facilities and even universities to socialize and comfort people.

Animal therapy can reduce pain, anxiety, stress, depression and fatigue in people with a range of health problems, according to Mayo Clinic.

Therapy animal hospital programs aren't uncommon in the Chippewa Valley area, though all are geared toward dogs.

Mayo Clinic Health System hospitals in Eau Claire and Menomonie host Paws Force, a therapy dog program. As of late 2019, there were 17 dogs participating in a Marshfield Clinic Health System animal therapy program at Eau Claire, Rice Lake and Marshfield hospitals. HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire also began a therapy dog program in 2015.

Vincent encouraged people to say hello if they see her and Jack working or walking in a park or neighborhood.

She's inspired by how much Jack has done for her in the last six weeks and hopes he'll one day do the same for the Eau Claire community, Vincent added.

"He makes everybody grin. He's such a little ray of sunshine," Vincent said Monday afternoon. "The trauma of that accident is wiped away by this tender, careful little friend of mine."



Jefferson County Draft Horse Association Update

By Jackie Schuster, JCDHA Secretary

It has been a crazy 2020...hopefully 2021 will be better. The Jefferson County Draft Horse Association decided to extend the term of their officers through

2021. We are hoping to get a sleigh ride in at one of our member's places, but we will have to see what restrictions are in place in 2021. Everything for 2021 hinges on what the government decides. If the state allows Old World Wisconsin to open this spring, we will be back in May for plowing, July for hay making and September for plowing. We hope that the county fairs will be able to get back to normal as well.

Included are some pictures of what the members have been doing.

The JCDHA would like to thank the Wisconsin Horse Council for their support in past years.





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UW-Madison Researchers Study DSLD

By Pat McKnight, Correspondent for The Country Today / thecountrytoday.com

Using Desiderius Erasmus' adage, "prevention is better than cure" as its guide, a team at UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine is researching degenerative suspensory ligament desmitis in horses to determine whether there's a genetic basis for the disorder. The disease causes leg ligaments to develop abnormal angles in the hocks, fetlocks and pasterns.

Sabrina Brounts DVM, equine surgeon and sports medicine specialist at UWMVM, is a member of the team looking for a DNA marker for the debilitating condition. If they can identify the marker, they'll then be able to advise horse owners against using the animals with the DNA for breeding, preventing the disease from being passed on to the next generation.

"This disorder has no cure right now and once a horse is diagnosed, you know that the horse will generally get worse over time," said Brounts. "It is hard to see these horses in the end stage of the disorder and how hard it is for owners to say goodbye to their horses. If there is anything I can do to help these horses and their owners, I am willing to try."

The condition tends to be most evident in the hind legs, but can also be seen in the front legs or in all four legs. In the hind legs, the disorder is exhibited by straightened hocks, generally referred to as post-legged. This straightness then results in the fetlocks dropping to the point the pastern is nearly horizontal. In addition to lameness, the disorder can cause heat or swelling in the fetlocks, enlarged fetlocks, windpuffs, arthritis and other secondary conditions. The limbs of horses with DSLD generally worsen as they age.

Before coming to Madison, Brounts received a DVM degree from the University of Utrecht in The Netherlands in Europe. After graduating from the school, she traveled to the United States to continue her surgery training and earn her post-doctoral degree, working at UWMVM for 14 years.

Her special interest in tendon injuries and rehabilitation and the influence of a client led the researcher to get involved in DSLD research.

"This client was a human orthopedic surgeon, who had horses that had DSLD," said Brounts. "He was interested in finding out why horses got the disease and maybe if we could do something to influence it, slow it down, or maybe even in the end, cure it. So knowing that I was interested in tendon diseases, he contacted me and asked if I was willing to help him in his research. Since we shared a common interest, I said yes. We became friends and that was about eight years ago."



Photo by Pat McKnight

A young Arabian mare's hind legs have developed straightened hocks, an indicator it has degenerative suspensory ligament desmitis. Researchers at UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine are trying to find the DNA marker in order to identify horses carrying the trait.

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UW-Madison Researchers Study DSLD

Since starting the study, Brounts' friend passed away, but the researcher continues the research in his memory.

Brounts has seen the disorder in horses of various breeds but some breeds seem to have a greater tendency to contract the condition. To conduct the study, the researchers are contacting certain breed association/clubs, breeders and horse owners as well as veterinarians to help them find horses affected with DSLD.

Collecting either hair samples or blood samples of horse affected with DSLD of all breeds has been the first step in identifying the DNA for the disorder. They are first concentrating on the Peruvian Paso since the condition seems to be somewhat prevalent in the breed.

"In the Peruvian Paso horse, we are also collecting DNA samples from horses that are control horses and never have had any tendon injuries in their life," said Brounts. "These horses have to be over a certain age to become a control horse. Horses are diagnosed with a clinical exam, lameness exam and an ultrasound exam to see where they fall as either an affected case or a control horse."

Currently the study is concentrating on creating a test to predict which horses are at high risk of getting the disorder.

"That way, breeders could make an informed decision on their breeding practices," said Brounts. "Social media can be very helpful with this as well. More and more people know we are conducting this research by word of mouth as well, since they have had a horse with DSLD or know of a person that had a horse with DSLD."

At this time, DSLD can only be definitively diagnosed after the horse has died and tissue taken for examination. The DNA of the affected horses will be compared with that taken from control horses and checked for differences between the samples.

Preliminary data is indicating certain genes are worth noting, but more horses need to be analyzed. After looking at the Peruvian Paso, the study will include other breeds and compare those results with that found in that breed.

"Our ultimate goal is to develop a blood test that we can say your horse is at low-risk, medium risk or high risk of development of the disorder since they carry a certain gene or genes," said Brounts.

In addition to searching for the DNA marker, the team is also looking at the study horses' pedigrees. The higher the hereditary factor is the more likely the disorder is passed from the dam or sire. Environmental influences are also being considered.

"If there is an environmental factor part that contributes to the development of the disorder, maybe we can look at that a little closer as well," said Brounts. "Finally if we know more about the DNA of this disorder and the environment impact, maybe there is a way we can influence the disease by slowing it down or maybe even curing it. That, however, is still a long way from now though."

Any owners wanting to participate in the study may contact the UWMVM genetics lab by email at genetics@vetmed.wisc.edu.



2021 WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

These Awards are sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, Inc. in cooperation with the Midwest Horse Fair®. Nominations may be submitted by clubs, associations, or individuals.

Horseperson of The Year Award is based on contributions to Wisconsin's equine industry as a whole, or in any specific area such as: youth activities, education, research, industry promotion, related legislation and regulation, trails, other equine events, or activities.

- ✦ Any person 18 years old or older can be nominated.
- ✦ Nominees must be a Wisconsin resident.
- ✦ Nominees need not be a member of the WHC.
- ✦ Include a paragraph explaining why your nominee should receive this award. Nominations received without an appropriate write up will not be accepted.

Special Achievement Award is based on a major accomplishment in the equine industry.

- ✦ Any person 18 years old or older can be nominated.
- ✦ Nominees must be a Wisconsin resident.
- ✦ Nominees need not be a member of the WHC.
- ✦ Include a paragraph explaining why your nominee should receive this award. Nominations received without an appropriate write up will not be accepted.

Lifetime Achievement Award is based on a lifetime of service to the equine industry.

- ✦ Preference given to any person who has devoted at least 25 years to the equine industry.
- ✦ Nominees must be a Wisconsin resident.
- ✦ Nominees need not be a member of the WHC.
- ✦ Include a paragraph explaining why your nominee should receive this award. Nominations received without an appropriate write up will not be accepted.

Show Judge of the Year is based on the integrity, diversity of knowledge, sportsmanship, willingness to accept and continually strive for greater knowledge of various breeds and disciplines at open shows.

Equine of the Year is to recognize the horses, ponies, donkeys, mules or any equine who have enriched the life of one or more humans or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines and is awarded to the owner of the horse and is based on merit and voted on by District members. Once each District has chosen their winner, the WHC Board of Directors decides the state Equine of the Year.

- ✦ Nominated equine must be a living resident of Wisconsin.
- ✦ Owner must be a resident of Wisconsin and live in the District in which they are nominated.
- ✦ A completed District Equine of the Year Award Nomination Form, one (1) clear, color photo of the nominated equine (5x7 or 8x10), and an essay containing 250 words or less describing how the nominated equine has enriched the life of one or more people through outstanding training, contributions or accomplishments or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines must be received on or before December 1, 2020.

Awards will be presented to the winners at the Wisconsin Horse Council Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 18, 2021 during the Midwest Horse Fair®.

Nomination forms can be accessed at www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org under "Programs" & then "Annual Awards" or by contacting the WHC Office at info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org.

All Nominations are due by January 10, 2021 with the exception of Equine of the Year which is due to the appropriate District President by December 1, 2020.

Triple R Horse Club Uses WHC Grant Money to Install New Gates

The Triple R Horse Club in Antigo, Wisconsin is proud to announce the completion of a successful 2020 riding season at the Crocker Hills Horseback Riding Trail.

For those of you not familiar with our area, the Crocker Hills Horseback Riding Trail is approximately 20 miles in length of varying terrains in Langlade County, east of Antigo off Fraley Road, just north of Highway 64 in Elton, Wisconsin and is managed by the Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Department with help from many local volunteers.



During the 2020 season Crocker Hills trail head had a constant flow from week to week of both riders enjoying the trails for a day and riders that enjoyed camping and riding for multiple days throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons.



This year the Triple R Horse Club volunteers, in cooperation with the Langlade County Forestry Department, were able to use grant money made available by the Wisconsin State Horse Council, and monetary donations from day riders and campers that utilized the horse trail area, to complete a spring project of installing new gates on four road trail crossings that had been damaged from illegal motorized vehicles and the severe storms in 2019.

The Triple R Horse Club is excited for the 2021 riding season and beyond, as the trail committee is already planning other improvements to make the horse riding experience an even better one at the Crocker Hills Horseback Riding Trail.

To stay up to date with The Triple R Horse Club follow us on Facebook.





The History of the Wisconsin Horse Council

Part 4 of 8

Carol Alm was instrumental in forming the REINS Therapeutic Riding Program at Lakeshore Technical Institute. Gail Brown has organized the Wisconsin Therapeutic Riding Association.

Dwight Teel and Skip Lemanski attended hearings on the proposed use of abandoned railroad right-of-ways for trails in Cottage Grove. The bikers eventually got it.

Summer of 1985 became a stormy time. The bridal tag proposal, Bill AB215, supposedly was ready for a Assembly-Senate vote when it met strong opposition. Some commercial stable owners and trail riders vociferously objected.

We presented the High School Rodeo finalists \$200 to help pay their expenses to the Nationals in South Dakota. Carol and Brian Alm attended the AHC Convention in Washington D.C.

November of 1985 the WSHC hosted the Council of State Councils of the AHC at the American Club in Kohler. Emphasis was on horse fairs. Council members from about 12 states attended.

Dwight Teel, Gay Jean Bower and Caroline Gfroer attend the Parks and Recreation Convention at Lake Geneva.

1986 ...Dave Petrie is elected president. Alex Irvine, vice president; Carolyn Gfroer, treasurer and Esther Schwartz, secretary. The year begins the treasury balance of \$18,500.

In February we donated \$200 to the Wisconsin Therapeutic Riding Association (WIRA). This group was formed on March 9, 1985 to assist in developing therapeutic riding classes throughout the state.

The WSHC continues to promote Pari-Mutuel. AJ45 is approved by the Senate in February and on March 25 it is approved without amendments, After 40 years of trying, horse racing fans in Wisconsin are full of hope. First, they must get this legislation through another session of the legislature and then gain approval through referendum.

Dave and Joan Petrie relate their experiences about their travels in California in March. They toured the site where "Trails for Today and Tomorrow" was filmed. It's the birthplace of the "open concept".... where greenways are created to enable the development of recreational multi-use trails.

The Bridle Tag Bill is actively supported by the Council. Mechanics of the program would be implemented by the DNR using a tag system. AB215 passes the Joint Finance Committee in February. The Assembly passes the bill on March 18 but the Senate adjourns before it can act on it. This means the bill is dead and will have to be started all over again next year.

The WSHC takes an active interest in many trails statewide. They include Templeau Wildlife Area, Harrington Beach State Park in Ozaukee County and the Bugline Trail in Waukesha County. The abandoned railway between Juneau and Fond du Lac Counties demands attention.

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The History of the Wisconsin Horse Council - Part 4 of 8

The Judges Seminar is held March 15-1. Guest speaker is Marsha Shepard and the emphasis is on saddleseat. One hundred attended.

Nancy Kissel and Josie Piper represent the WSHC at the Michigan Horse Fair. The American Youth Horse Council holds it's annual meeting in conjunction. Representatives attend both.

Horsewoman of the Year is Esther Schwartz and Horseman of the Year is Ray Antoniewicz. A \$500 scholarship is awarded to Tammi Trapp. The Scholarship committee consists of Gay Jeanne Bower, Nancy Boehman, Carol Alm, Andrea Fenner, Richard Lee and Nancy Kissel.

The 7th Annual Midwest Horse Fair, held April 12-13 at the Madison Coliseum is a huge success, with over 14,000 attending. There are lectures by Pat Fitzgerald, Barb Waltenberry, High School Rodeo, Steve Quade and 4H demonstrations. Eight UW Veterinarians also lectured.

The WSHC donates \$1000 to the UWVM. The money is put towards a blood plasma cell separator.

The High School Rodeo receives a donation of \$200 to help finance competing at the Nationals in Rapid City, SD.

Dave Petrie expresses the need for an executive secretary to help the WSHC keep up with mailings and communications. A committee is formed to study this.

Carol Alm and Dave Petrie attend the AHC Convention in Arlington, VA on June 9-11. Racing, tax laws and organization are topics of discussion.

The need for liability insurance is expressed by Dave Petrie. He investigates different possibilities. Ray Feldman is our guest at our September meeting and he advocates that we join the recreational industry in our insurance efforts.

In September, the WSHC donates \$200 to the EIN Program. The 4H Standardbred Project is given \$100 for them to attend camp in KY. A \$500 donation is given to the 4H members attending the Regional competition in Detroit and the Nationals in Louisville.

A Budget Committee is named in September. The financial records will be audited for the WSHC and the Midwest Horse Fair.

After many years of being the WSHC representative to the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Assoc., Dwight Teel resigns. Carol Yohn, Gail Brown and Lorrie Renker take over the job. The WPRA Fall Conference is November 5-7 in Green Bay. The WSHC has a booth that is tended by Carolyn an Bill Gfrorer, Joan and Dave Petrie and Wayne Schutte.

The first Fall conference is held November 11 at the Heritage House in Madison. The theme is "The Economics of the Horse World". Accountant Mike Elsworth and insurance specialist, Darwin Olson conduct seminars.

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The History of the Wisconsin Horse Council - Part 4 of 8

The Council of the State Horse Councils meet in November in Chicago. Joan and Dave Petrie and Carol Yohn attend. Topics are liability insurance, trails and land use.

1987... Dave Petrie is elected President; Carol Yohn, Vice President; Esther Schwartz, Secretary and Carol Yohn, treasurer. The year begins with a treasury balance of \$17,200. New directors this year are Sandy Dulin and Wayne Shutte.

In January, \$1,000 is budgeted to the Wisconsin Horse Foundation (WHF) which is organizing strategy to get Pari-mutuel passed. In February, another \$1,000 is donated to WHF. The rest of the year is spent working on getting the bill through the legislature a second time. Gary Goyke is hired as WSHC lobbyist.

The Trails Committee of the WSHC is actively working approval for equine use of trails throughout the state. Wes Elford shows "Trails for Today and Tomorrow" to the "Friends of the Trail". A group working to convert the abandoned railroad from Clyman Junction to Fond du Lac to a multi-use trail.

Carol Yohn and Wayne Schutte represent the WSHC at the Wisconsin Tourism Conference February 11-13 at the Concourse. Wisconsin has recently started promoting agriculture as tourism.

This is part 4 in a series of the history of our Wisconsin Horse Council. Watch for the remainder in the next several issues.



WHC Horsemen's Calendar of Upcoming Events



January 2021

January 1	New Years Day - HAPPY NEW YEAR!
January 9	Ready for the Ring Open Show, Heartland Equestrian Center, 7510 Deer Rd., Custer, WI, 9 am, Contact Nicole Mientke 715-570-5577, events@heartlanded.com
January 10	WHC Annual Awards Nomination Submission Deadline
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 21	WHC District 1 Monthly Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm, if interested in joining please contact Renee Hendrickson at reenehendrickson34@gmail.com or 715-603-5458
January 27	WHC BOD Monthly Meeting, 7 pm, 121 S. Ludington Street, Columbus, WI 53925, in person, via Zoom and via FreeConference.com

February 2021

February 2	Groundhog Day
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 15	Presidents Day
February 17	Ash Wednesday
February 18	WHC District 1 Monthly Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm, if interested in joining please contact Renee Hendrickson at reenehendrickson34@gmail.com or 715-603-5458
February 24	WHC BOD Monthly Meeting, 7 pm, 121 S. Ludington Street, Columbus, WI 53925, in person, via Zoom and via FreeConference.com

* **FOR MORE EQUINE RELATED UPCOMING EVENTS, click on this link to be redirected to WalkTrotGo.com.**

AHC Participates in Federal Research on E-bikes

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American Horse Council is pleased to be participating in a new Federal research project examining the use of e-bikes on public lands. The project, led by the Federal Highway Administration Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFL) and the U.S. DOT Volpe Center (Volpe), aims to identify existing and potential social, natural, and safety impacts and opportunities related to e-bike use on public lands. The project also aims to enhance coordination and cooperation regarding management of e-bikes among federal land management agencies, and transportation and recreation agencies at the federal, tribal, state, regional, and local level.

To help accomplish this, the project team will convene a series of stakeholder workshops to ensure this study's approach, findings, and deliverables consider not only the concerns, questions, and research needs of land managers, but also consider those of public land users. The group took feedback on the study's initial framing of the issues and opportunities related to the social, natural, and safety considerations.

The AHC continues to push back on this administration's declassification of electric bikes from motorized to non-motorized, and their presence on non-motorized equestrian trails. Both the Department of Interior and the Department of Transportation have been made aware of the horse industry's concerns, and with the support of member organizations and state horse councils we will continue to elevate those concerns among the oncoming administration as well.

If you have a personal story or evidence of dangerous e-bike/horse interactions, or any other questions on the topic, please contact Cliff Williamson at cwilliamson@horsecouncil.org.

NOTES OF THANKS...

Dear Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation & Wisconsin Horse Council District 3:

Thank you for your gift of \$170 for the Northwoods Obstacle Trail Challenge held on August 8th, 2020, at Black Hawk Hill Horse Park in Antigo. The young riders that attended enjoyed the competition and learning experiences and are looking forward to more events. Your check was appreciated and together we can help our youth continue equine activities. Thank you!



Sincerely,

Shaughn Novy

Black Hawk Hill, Antigo, WI

CLASSIFIED ADS

EXCLUSIVELY for WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY!

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS in OUR NEWSLETTER!

Ads will be posted for 3 consecutive newsletters. Subject to editing to fill space.

Ads must be personal for your horse and equine related items. Not for commercial/business advertising.

FOR SALE:

"Saving the best for last" dispersal sale consisting of one 17 year-old grey gelding (14.3HH) and one 12 year-old mare (14.2 HH). Both have very good ground manners and show records including halter, leadline, sport horse in hand, hunt seat pleasure and dressage. These horses are kind and aim to please. They truly deserve kind and competent riders. Private treaty - Contact (920) 894-7239 and leave a message please.

FOR SALE:

Retired show horses, geldings, one registered paint and palomino, shown color and halter, trail ridden-16.2 Two AQHA geldings, aged but many years left to enjoy: trail, showmanship, western dressage. Both top pleasure breeding. We have stopped showing due to our age and distance to shows. No bad habits, easy to clip, shoe and handle. No reasonable offer refused. mccoy.susan73@yahoo.com

WANTED:

Looking to purchase a driving cart and harness for a 34 inch mini horse. Please contact Jan Pieper at (920) 689-2364

Just a Friendly Reminder..

Please remember to continue supporting your local businesses, like tack shops, etc., if you can during these difficult times.

Take the time to check if your local businesses are open and accepting customers so that we can all do our part to keep them going.

Thank you!





WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**All Memberships run from January 1st through December 31st **

Office Use Only:

Payment Type: _____

Check #: _____

Amount: _____

LEVEL I MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Individual Name: _____

Youth Name(s): _____ Age(s): _____

Family Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

County: _____ District #: _____ Number of Horses: _____

LEVEL I MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS (Please check type of Membership & choice of newsletter.)

- Individual Membership (no insurance) \$ 20
- Individual Membership PLUS (includes \$1 Million personal liability insurance) \$ 40
- Family Membership (no insurance) \$ 30
- Family Membership PLUS (includes \$1 Million personal liability insurance) \$ 70
- Youth (age 17 & under = free with paid Level I adult membership) \$ 0
- Individual Lifetime Membership (*one-time fee which includes the printed newsletter annually and the 1st year of liability insurance*)..... \$250
- Annual fee on Lifetime Membership for \$1 Million personal liability insurance..... \$ 20
- Printed Newsletter mailed to the address above..... \$ 10
- Free E-newsletter sent to the e-mail listed above..... \$ 0

Description:

Level I membership class is available to any individual/family whose interests are similar to those of the Council and is for individuals/families only. Level I and Level II members elect Directors to the WHC Board to represent their District. Family membership is for a family of 2 or more living at the same residence and has 1 vote in the elections and business of their District. Membership must be current to vote at District meetings.

- Programs such as the Certified Judges and Ride Wisconsin require a Level I membership - even if you are a Director or a contact person for a Level II or III organization, you will need to be a Level I member yourself to participate in programs.
- Youth (17 & under) are free with a paid Level I adult membership.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP is an individual Level I membership with a one-time fee, giving the individual a paid-up membership for his/her lifetime. If LIFETIME MEMBERS wish to retain the \$1 Million personal liability insurance after their first year, they must purchase it on an annual basis. The printed newsletter is included with this membership annually at no additional cost.

Wisconsin Horse Council does not sell or distribute our membership list. Information is kept private for use only by our organization for WHC business.

Membership dues, payments and gifts to Wisconsin Horse Council are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Such payments may be deductible under the Internal Revenue Code as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

Return application and payment to: Wisconsin Horse Council
P.O. Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925
Phone: 920-623-0393 Fax: 920-623-0583
www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

American Horse Council - Your Unified Voice in Washington

AHCnews

AHC Marketing Alliance/Time To Ride Looking Forward to 2021

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Everyone is ready to put 2020 in the rearview and look ahead to the coming year. For the AHC Marketing Alliance and its Time To Ride program, that includes setting a number of goals for 2021 to guide TTR's development and growth.

Increasing the number of lesson facilities participating in Time To Ride tops the list, with a goal of 125 approved Time To Ride Program Facilities by the end of 2021. Significant efforts are planned – with some already underway – to promote Time To Ride to potential applicants.

Also high on the list is developing a new strategic plan for the Marketing Alliance. It's been several years since the previous strategic plan was developed and many factors have changed significantly. Work on this will begin in the first quarter and is expected to be complete by the end of the second quarter.

Attracting new Marketing Alliance members is always a priority. The equine companies and organizations that belong to the Marketing Alliance provide both financial support and leadership for the Time To Ride program. The more varied the input the Marketing Alliance has, the more the program grows and reflects all aspects of the horse industry.

These and other 2021 goals all lead to the Marketing Alliance's objective, which is helping to sustain and grow the horse industry. Time To Ride is the Marketing Alliance's current primary program. The purpose of Time To Ride is to sustain and grow the equine industry by creating the next generation of knowledgeable, dedicated horse enthusiasts and owners while also teaching children valuable life lessons.

Contact ttr@horsecouncil.org for more information.





Wisconsin Horse Council District 1 Rides Again!

The WHC is thrilled to announce that WHC District 1 is once again up and running! If you reside in any of the counties included in District 1, and would like to become more involved, please contact any of the officers that are listed below.

Please visit the District 1 page of the WHC website for a list of upcoming meeting dates and times and to review meeting minutes from previous meetings. WHC District 1 has also created their own Facebook page!

The Wisconsin Horse Council has a wide variety of committees and projects, some within each district and others that are statewide. We encourage you to find one or more to become involved in!

District 1 counties include; Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Iron, Pepin, Peirce, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, St. Croix, Taylor and Washburn.

District Officers

District President: Renee Hendrickson, 715-603-5458

District Vice President: Amanda Schultz, 715-410-7001

District Secretary: LA Cook, 651-347-5017

District & Executive Board Representative: Renee Hendrickson, 715-603-5458

District Representative: Dennis Baljo, 715-373-5848

WHC District 2 News

The WHC District 2 mounting block project that started in 2019 was completed this summer benefitting equine organizations within the district. This project was made possible with WHC District 2 funds and the help of WHC District 2 members.

These durable, well made mounting blocks were designed and crafted by WHC District 2 members Donna Lee-Ryan, owner of Rocky Run in Gleason and Marilyn Krueger. Donna and Marilyn brought the idea to the attention of the members in hopes of bringing awareness to, and developing additional goodwill for the district. We believe it has achieved the goal and will be helpful in years to come. In addition, the Wisconsin Horse Council logo was added to each one of the five mounting blocks. Wausau Boot & Saddle Club, Triple R Riding Club, Langlade County Horse & Pony Project, Forest County Horse & Pony Project, and Underdown Horse Club were the recipients.





Wisconsin Horse Council

ATTENTION !

FREE....Upcoming Events section on Website.

We have created a section on our website for your upcoming events...FREE..... You can send (email) us any EQUINE related event (shows, tack sale, clinic, meetings, events etc.- 2 line maximum) and we will put it on our website free of charge. All you need to do is send us a copy of your event with a contact phone number and we will list it for all to see.

Questions-call 920-623-0393/email info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

I would like this event posted on the Wisconsin Horse Council website.

Date: _____

Event: _____

Location: _____

Phone: _____

Please limit information to 2 lines and include a contact phone number.

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

920-623-0393/920-623-0583F

121 S. Ludington St. Columbus, WI 53925

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days 2021

News Release shared with permission from The Country Today / thecountrytoday.com

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days 2021, now scheduled for July 20-22, 2021, will take place at Huntsinger Farms, the largest grower and processor of horseradish in the United States. Originally scheduled for July 2020, the Eau Claire show moved to 2021 given safety protocols required because of COVID-19.

The Executive Committee and its sub-committees have been meeting virtually since late summer 2020 and are moving forward with extensive planning for a safe and successful show in July 2021. 295 exhibitors from across the Midwest and Canada have already committed to the 2021 show, and based on inquiries, attendee anticipation is high for next year's show.

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days has more than a 65-year history of bringing producers and service providers together to share what is new and innovative in agriculture.

"We are optimistic and excited about the 2021 show," said Mike Gintner, Executive Chair Wisconsin Farm Technology Days, Eau Claire. "We are grateful to the Rygg family for their generosity in hosting the show on their Huntsinger Farm Eau Claire property, which has taken important acreage out of commission for an extra year.

"The Committee is excited to produce an outstanding show for exhibitors, sponsors and attendees alike," added Gintner. "Everyone has doubled-down on their commitments, extending their volunteer service by an extra year, and working to improve on our already-exciting plans."

The show has launched a new, robust website at www.wifarmtechdays.org.

REMINDER! FOR DISEASE OUTBREAK UPDATES & INFO CHECK WITH THE EDCC!

The EDCC stands for the Equine Disease Communication Center. They have a Facebook page where you can get the most up-to-date information on equine disease outbreaks in the United States and beyond. Their Facebook page address is:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/EquineDiseaseCC/services/>

On that page, you will also find a box containing the message below, which provides instructions on how to receive an email blast with the latest alerts as well.



Outbreak Alerts

Free

The EDCC maintains an outbreak alert email blast list which notifies subscribers when a new alert has been posted. To sign up for EDCC outbreak alert email updates go to <http://eepurl.com/b0dK9z>

The Wisconsin Horse Council Facebook page tries to share all of the EDCC Facebook posts AND there is a link on the WHC website to the EDCC page. Simply go to www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org, go to the "News & Resources" tab, click on the "Health Updates and Information" dropdown tab. There you will find a link to the EDCC Facebook page as well as many links others to keep you informed on all things equine.

American Horse Council - Your Unified Voice in Washington

AHCnews

2021– CALL FOR HORSE INDUSTRY DIRECTORY LISTINGS

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The 2021 Horse Industry Directory (HID) will have thousands of listings including equine publications, federal and state sources of information, breed registries and associations, show and sport organizations, racing and gaming organizations, and service providers. The HID also includes handy facts and figures about the industry, including breed registration numbers and trends, a guide to interstate health requirements, industry meetings and conference dates/locations and a synopsis of important legislative and regulatory happenings.

Of course, all AHC business and organization members receive a free listing!

Great advertising opportunities are also available. If you would like to advertise in the HID, please contact Julie Broadway at jbroadway@horsecouncil.org for a rate card.

Submissions for 2021 and updates to 2020 listings are due by January 31st, 2021.

Contact info@horsecouncil.org if you have questions or would like to submit a new entry.

Did You Know?

The American Horse Council has an excellent COVID-19 resource section on their website.

Simply go to <https://www.horsecouncil.org/5311-2/> to find Coronavirus Resources for Horse Owners. There you will find many links to information under the following categories:



- * *As It Pertains To Humans*
- * *As It pertains to Equines*
- * *Safety Net Programs for Owners*
- * *Biosecurity and Disinfection Protocols*
- * *Financial Relief Options*
- * *Coronavirus Resources for Equine Industry Employees*
- * *Keeping Busy at Home*
- * *Event Cancellations*
- * *Coronavirus Resources for Non-Profits*
- * *Coronavirus Resources for Equine Businesses*
- * *Planning*

We have also provided a link to this information on the home page of the WHC website.



RIDE WISCONSIN

**Award Program
for Trail Riders/Drivers**



**Get out and enjoy the trails
with your equine partner and earn rewards
for your hours riding/driving the trails!**



SHARE THE TRAILS

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org





Wisconsin Horse Council

*Council*Letter

Advertising Order Form

Advertiser: _____

Ad Agency (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip + 4: _____

Contact Person (please print): _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

- I am a current WHC member
 I am not a current WHC member
 I'm joining WHC today

Member Advertising Rates	
\$75.00	Full Page
\$37.50	1/2 Page
\$18.75	1/4 Page
\$10.00	Business Card

Non Member Advertising Rates	
\$100.00	Full Page
\$60.00	1/2 Page
\$35.00	1/4 Page
\$15.00	Business Card

WSHC Annual Memberships	
\$20.00	Level I
\$45.00	Level II
\$100.00	Level III

Run my ad in the following editions:

January/February	May/June	September/October
March/April	July/August	November/December

Total Cost:

Ad cost: ____ month(s) at \$_____/Month	\$
Membership: (optional)	\$
Total Enclosed:	\$

Order, payment, and ad copy should be mailed to:

Wisconsin Horse Council, Inc.
 PO Box 72
 Columbus, WI 53925
 Phone: 920-623-0393 Fax: 920-623-0583
info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

This \$1,000,000 policy is an optional member benefit.

Become an individual member of WHC and choose this valuable protection.

*The value of this benefit is tremendous! Cost of equine liability insurance is estimated to range from **\$300-\$400** per year to the average horse owner... if purchased individually.*

Wisconsin Horse Council Individual Membership Cost w/ Excess Liability Insurance: only \$40 per year.

In addition to \$1,000,000 equine excess personal liability insurance protection, your membership in Wisconsin Horse Council helps to:

- ◆ Foster a unified equine industry in Wisconsin
- ◆ Promote the value of our industry, protect the welfare of our horses and preserve our chosen way of life
- ◆ Promote improved health and well-being of Wisconsin horses
- ◆ Honor those who have invested their time and money in growing and developing our industry
- ◆ Promote responsible horse ownership, equestrian safety and youth programs



121 S. Ludington St.
P.O. Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925
Phone: (920) 623-0393

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org



Making A Difference for Equine Owners

\$1,000,000

Equine Excess Personal Liability Insurance



Coverage Highlights *

- ◆ Legal liability which may result from an accident or occurrence involving a WHC Member's horse or horse-drawn vehicle. Protection is provided for the negligence arising out of the use, or ownership, which may cause accidental bodily injury or property damage, including damage to another horse.
- ◆ Protection is provided if you are performing or competing in horse shows, clinics or demonstrations.
- ◆ Damages caused by a horse while grazing, stabled, or where the horse is not in the control of the Member.
- ◆ Defense and legal costs affiliated or in connection with any claim.
- ◆ Coverage is included for the Member giving permission to any person to use his horse or horse-drawn vehicle.
- ◆ Protection is considered "excess" over any valid and/or collectable insurance (i.e. farm, home, etc.) For Members without primary policies the excess liability will be considered "primary".
- ◆ Children under 18 years of age are covered under a parent's policy.
- ◆ Any horse, pony or mule is considered eligible under the terms and condition of the policy.
- ◆ You do not have to be a Wisconsin resident to become a WHC individual member and get this protection.
- ◆ Business and professional pursuits, rodeo, and racing exposures are excluded.
- ◆ Coverage is provided through Equisure, Inc., one of the nation's leading equine insurance specialists, and underwritten at Lloyd's, London.

If an owner's horse hurts someone or damages someone's property, the rider and owner can be held responsible for the damages. Even if proven not liable, you could incur considerable legal defense costs.

Seldom is equine liability insurance extended from homeowners policies.

\$1,000,000 Equine Excess Personal Liability Insurance is available with an Individual or Family membership with the Wisconsin Horse Council.



WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
**All Memberships run from January 1st through December 31st*

LEVEL I MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Individual Name: _____
 Youth Name(s): _____
 Age(s): _____
Family Name(s): _____
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone #: _____
 E-mail: _____
 County: _____

Please write legibly, especially e-mail

LEVEL I MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS - (Please circle type of Membership)

FREE e-newsletter with any paid membership; sent to your e-mail.

OR

Printed newsletter mailed to you _____ + \$10

Individual (no insurance) \$ 20

Individual **PLUS** \$ 40

incl. \$1 million personal liability insurance

Family (no insurance) \$ 30

Family **PLUS** \$ 70

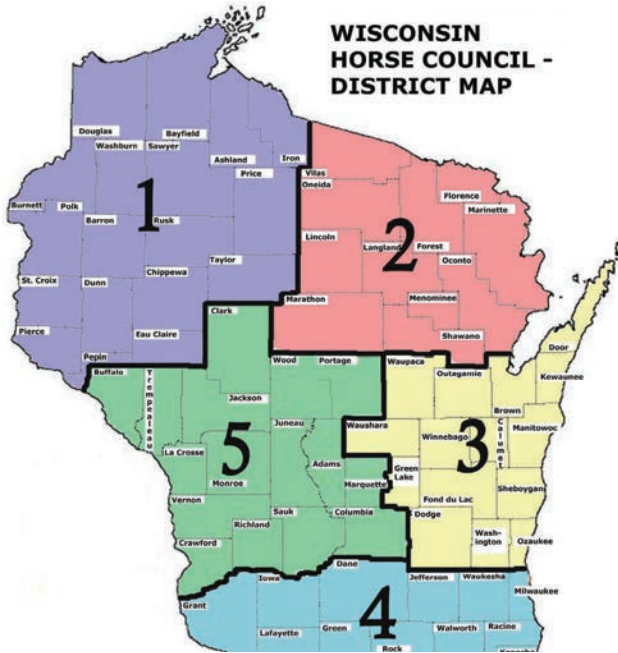
incl. \$1 million personal liability insurance

Youth (age 17 & under = free (with paid Level I adult membership) \$ 0

Individual Lifetime Membership (one-time fee & includes 1st year of liability insurance) \$ 250

Annual fee on Lifetime Membership for \$1 million personal liability insurance \$ 20

NEW RENEW



WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL - DISTRICT MAP

District 1 includes the counties of: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Iron, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, St. Croix, Taylor and Washburn

District 2 includes the counties of: Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Shawano, and Vilas

District 3 includes the counties of: Brown, Calumet, Dodge, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Washington, Waupaca, Waushara, and Winnebago

District 4 includes the counties of: Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Kenosha, Lafayette, Milwaukee, Racine, Rock, Walworth, and Waukesha

District 5 includes the counties of: Adams, Buffalo, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Marquette, Monroe, Portage, Richland, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vernon, and Wood

WHC District 1:

Contact - Renee Hendrickson
715-603-5458
renehendrickson34@gmail.com

WHC District 2:

Contact - Shaughn Novy
715-610-1065
slnovy20@gmail.com

WHC District 3:

Contact - Lee Sackett
920-210-3848
lee@sackettranch.com

WHC District 4:

Contact - Karen Kroll
608-795-2321
mkroll@chorus.net

WHC District 5:

Contact - Mike McGowan
715-284-9112
mcgowan@centurytel.net

Council Letter Deadline

The deadline for articles, upcoming events and advertisements for the WHC Council Letter is:

**March / April Issue:
February 15th at noon**

*Articles must be equine related, may not be for commercial benefit and must be sent to us in a timely fashion. The Editor reserves the right to revise or refuse articles.
Ads and articles are best sent in electronic format (prefer MS Word or Adobe Acrobat) to:*

info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

Office hours: Monday-Friday - 8am-4pm



Join us on Facebook and become a friend. You will receive the most up-to-date information and connect with fellow horse people.

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org



Important Dates to Remember

January 1	Happy New Year!
January 10	WHC Annual Awards Nomination Deadline
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 21	WHC District 1 Monthly Meeting
January 27	WHC BOD Monthly Meeting

*** Please check out our Calendar of Upcoming Events, which is included in each issue of the CouncilLetter, as well as posted on the WHC website, for shows, fundraisers, clinics, tack sales and more! At this time, please check with the event coordinators to ensure the events listed are still going to be held in light of the Coronavirus situation. THANK YOU!**



Join us on Facebook and become a friend. You will receive the most up-to-date information and connect with fellow horse people.

