

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



Ride Calendar!

May 14-15 – AHDRA I My Backyard – Wyanet, IL
May 21-22 – Run for the Border – Wolf Creek, WI
May 28-29 – Grand Island – Rapid River, MI
June 4-5 – Maplewood – Pelican Rapids, MN
June 4-5 – ApDRA – Palmyra, WI
June 11-12 – White River Summer - Hesperia, MI
June 17-19 – SE Minnesota – Forestville, MN
June 25-26 – Prairie Smoke – Bismark, ND
June 25-26 – Hopkins Creek – Manton, MI
June 25-26 – Dead Dog Creek – Kilmundy, IL
July 1-3 – Big Valley – Avoca, WI
July 8-10 – AHDRA II Endure for the Cure – Washington, IL
July 9-10 – Mosquito Run – Rogers, MN
July 9-10 – AHAM – Augusta, MI
July 23-24 – AHDRA 1.5 Zumbro Bottoms Boogie –
Wabasha, MN
July 29-31 – Fort Meade Remount Pioneer – Sturgis, SD
July 29-31 – Wildcat – Neilsville, WI
Aug 7 – Warm Up – Oscoda, MI
Aug 8-12 – Shore to Shore – Lake Huron to Lake
Michigan
Aug 13 – Cool Down – Empire, MI
Aug 13-14 – Louise Reidel Memorial – Arkdale, MI
Aug 20-21 – Thistle Down – Frazee, MN
Aug 20-21 – Rock River Charity – Utica, IL
Aug 27-28 – Northern Highland – Florence, WI
Sept 3-5 – White River Fall Labor Day – Hesperia, MI
Sept 10-11 – Charity Cup – Pillager, MN
Sept 10-11 – Keweenaw – Lake Linden, MI
Sept 10-11 – Lincoln Trails – Kinmundy, IL
Sept 17-18 – Colorama Classic – New Prospect, WI
Sept 17-18 – Tin Cup Springs – Luther, MI
Sept 24-25 – Run for the Ridge – Fairfax, MN
Sept 29-Oct 2 – Drawarama – Palmyra, WI
Oct 1-2 – Pine Martin Run – Nahma Junction, MI
Oct 7-8 – Brighton Competitive Trail Fall – Howell, MI
Oct 21-23 – Point Chaser – Hinckley, MN
Oct 21-23 – Oak Leaf Run – Hamilton, MI
Oct 29-30 – AHDRA III Big River – Keithsburg, IL

Ride Season is HERE!

I hope everyone is enjoying the start of the ride season as much as I am!

Rick Nelson



**Sponsors of the UMECRA
Novice Division**

PROMOTING THE SPORT OF DISTANCE RIDING

Recently, at the Minnesota Horse, MnDRA tried something new to get the word out about Distance Riding and what we have to offer as a sport!

Over the course of the 3 day event, they held 3 well attended 30 minute seminars to give people an overview of Competitive, Limited Distance and Endurance rides. Joan Elbert put together a great slide show and presented to a full house of interested horse enthusiasts.



ATTN: Riders

Please review the list of nominated 1000 mile horses.

If you see a horse currently listed who has been retired from distance riding, please notify the points keeper Robin Schadt.

Thanks for your help!

The response was overwhelmingly positive with people following Joan back to the MnDRA booth to ask more questions because they ran out of time during the seminar!

In addition to the seminar, there was a mock Endurance/Comp ride complete with narrated Vet inspections done by our very own Dr Dean Peterson. He had a lot of help with many MnDRA volunteers to staff all the positions needed to conduct a ride.



In addition to hosting the seminars and the mock ride, MnDRA gave away coupons for free Novice rides, some MnDRA memberships and gift certificates from local tack shops!

All in all – it was a very successful Expo with a number of potential new riders who are planning to attend rides and learn more about our sport!

Advertising in the UMECRA Newsletter

Rates depend on the size of your ad and how many times you wish to run it:

Ad Rates for Newsletter	1 time	2-3 times	4-8 times	9-10 times	the year
Classified 10 lines * \$.60 extra per line	\$6.00				
Business Cards	\$8.50	\$6.80 ea.	\$5.95 ea.	\$5.50 ea.	\$51.00
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Half Page	\$25.00	\$20.00 ea.	\$17.50 ea.	\$16.25 ea.	\$150.00
Full Page	\$45.00	\$36.00 ea.	\$31.50 ea.	\$29.25 ea.	\$270.00
*Line = (65 Characters per line including spaces)					

Please send your ad to UMECRAnews@gmail.com. We can handle most common formats, such as Word, .pdf, or .jpg. The deadline for each issue is the last day of the previous month – newsletters are generally mailed by the 15th.

Please send payment for your ad to:

Jill Feller, UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer
N9280 Cty Hwy TW
Mayville, WI 53050

Checks should be made payable to UMECRA.

Congratulations to Tanya Meyer

Tanya Meyer of Cedar, Minnesota and long-time junior competitive trail rider is the winner of a \$750 Arabian Horse Foundation Scholarship. Tanya will be attending Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and majoring in Biology. Thanks to Van Jacobson for informing the Meyer family of this scholarship opportunity a few years ago.

LONG TOES IN HORSES: A PAIN IN THE BUTT?

by: Erica Larson, News Editor, TheHorse.com
May 03 2011, Article # 18195

Your equine athlete's performance hasn't been blue ribbon-worthy as of late. Or maybe your broodmare's gaits are looking a little off kilter. Could long toes on the hind feet be to blame? According to the results of a recent study, the answer in some cases is yes and sometimes the solution can be very simple.

"The hind limb stance (in horses with long toes) is one in which the load-bearing surface of the hoof appears to be too far forward in relation to the coronary band and to the fetlock and cannon bone," said Richard A. Mansmann, VMD, PhD, hon. Dipl. ACVIM, professor emeritus at North Carolina State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, where this study was completed, and owner of the Equine Podiatry and Rehabilitation Practice in Chapel Hill. "These horses tend to 'stand under themselves' with their hind feet, meaning that at rest the foot is placed further forward than normal in relation to the vertical axis of the limb and the main mass of the hind quarter, giving the horse a sickle-hocked appearance."

Armed with that information, the research team set out to determine if long toes could be a cause of gluteal (the muscles that run along the back of a horse's hindquarters on either side of the tail) pain in horses, and if corrective trimming and/or shoeing could correct the problem and eliminate the pain.

A radiograph illustrating breakover distance (the horizontal distance between the red arrow and red line).

Mansmann noted that the term "long toe" is too subjective to use in a research study because of varying opinions on exactly what constitutes long. Thus, the team determined the hooves' breakover distance as an objective measure in the study. They did this by measuring the horizontal distance between the tip of the horse's coffin bone and the dorsal-most point at which the hoof wall or shoe came in contact with the ground, as seen on lateral radiographs. He added that for the average-sized horse, the ideal breakover distance is likely between 0 and 20 mm.

The researchers evaluated 77 client-owned horses that were either examined by a team member in the field or were presented to the private practice from April 2006 to December 2007. The horses were either low- to medium- level performance horses or nonpregnant broodmares of various breeds, ranging in age from 4 to 24 years old. All of the horses had at least one set of lateral radiographs taken of their hind feet and on the same day Mansmann palpated their gluteal muscles.

The team split the horses into two groups: 67 shod horses and 10 barefoot horses.

In the group of shod horses, 50 out of 67 tested positive for pain (i.e., displayed an exaggerated response to palpation that consisted of one or more of the following: buckling of the hind limbs, pinning the ears back, threatening to kick the examiner, or kicking at the examiner) and 17 horses tested negative (did not react to palpation).

The average breakover distance for horses that displayed a positive response to palpation was 24.2 mm, while the average breakover distance for negative horses was 18.8 mm. The researchers noted that "although small, the difference in mean breakover distance between positive and negative horses was statistically significant."

In the group of barefoot nonpregnant broodmares (all housed in the same environment and not being ridden) all 10 displayed positive reactions to palpation. The average breakover distance for this group of horses was 25.6 mm.

To evaluate whether corrective trimming or shoeing could resolve the gluteal pain, the team reduced the breakover distance in all the painful horses' hind limbs and reevaluated the animals:

Only 24 shod horses (of the 50 that had been found painful) were available for a follow-up evaluation four to six weeks after corrective trimming or shoeing; however, all of those horses showed reduced gluteal pain. Twenty of the horses were negative for a reaction to palpation and the remaining four were only mildly positive (the researchers noted that all four of those were negative to palpation after another four to six weeks and a second corrective trim). The new average breakover distance for these horses was 10.9 mm.

All of the barefoot broodmares received follow-up evaluations one week after corrective trimming. Eight of the 10 were negative for reaction to palpation and two were mildly positive. The average breakover distance for these horses after corrective trimming also was 10.9 mm.

"Excessive toe length in the hind feet might be accompanied by pain in the gluteal region," Mansmann wrote in the study. "Shortening the toe can alleviate this pain within days or weeks."

The team added that "in cases where the toe length or gluteal pain was adversely affecting the horse's comfort or function, one could also expect an improvement in the horse's gait and performance after remedial trimming or shoeing."

So how can you tell if your horse's feet are causing him gluteal pain or if they might require evaluation?

Mansmann explained that most horses in need of a hind end evaluation will display behavioral problems including not performing as expected, not being willing to move off the leg, or stopping at jumps. He also noted that these horses might display signs of a sore back. Additionally, "any horse where their hind foot coronet is slanted such that an extended line (following the coronary band line) hits them behind the elbows should be evaluated," he said.

He added that most farriers, with the aid of the veterinarian and hind foot radiographs, can evaluate and adjust the breakover for a particular horse if needed.

The study, "Long Toes in the Hind Feet in the Gluteal Region: An Observational Study of 77 Horses," was published in the December 2010 Journal of Equine Veterinary Science. The abstract is available online.

THANK YOU FROM DARLENE

I would like to say thank you to the MnDRA/UMECRA member who sent wine and roses to my trailer at MnDRA 1. It was so good to be back riding. It has been a slow start to the season for me. It was so good to be back.

Thank you to all of you for your support over the past several months. It has brought new meaning to the word PERSERVERE!

Darlene Molitor

DO HORSES RECOGNIZE THEIR PEOPLE?

by: Nancy Zacks, TheHorse.com
May 02 2011, Article # 18191

Does a horse respond differently to "his person" as opposed to a stranger? The results of a recent French study indicate that horses use auditory and visual information to recognize specific people, and that they expect certain behaviors from those people based on previous experience.

"We wanted to understand how horses perceive humans and which of our characteristics and behaviors are relevant to them," said Carol Sankey, MSc, PhD (ethology) and lead author on the study.

As part of the study, Sankey and her colleagues at the Laboratoire d'ethologie Animale et Humaine at the Université de Rennes in Paimpont, France, raised 16 horses from birth, restricting the animals' human interaction to feeding time. When the horses were 2 years old, Sankey trained them to stand immobile for 60 seconds at the command "Resté!" (the French word for "stay"). Sankey was the only person who handled the horses, and she used the same routine each time she worked with a horse: She entered the stall, placed a halter and lead rope on the horse, looked at the animal, and gave the command.

After five days of twice-daily training, the horses responded well to Sankey and were familiar with her. The team then designed a test to observe whether the

horses responded differently to a person they recognized than to a person they'd never met before. Sankey and an individual who had not previously been introduced to the horses showed each horse varying levels of attention (facing and looking at the horse, facing the horse with closed eyes, facing the horse and looking at the ceiling, and standing with back turned to the horse) after giving the "stay" command. An observer monitored and recorded the horses' behavior and reactions to each test by observing changes in foot and head movement as indications of the horse's attention.

According to the researchers, the horses behaved quite differently when reacting to the known trainer (Sankey) versus the stranger (a male researcher on the study). Horses did not actively monitor Sankey, suggesting that the horses were likely at ease with her. Most of the horses maintained immobility when Sankey looked at them (nine of 16) and when she turned her back to them (eight of 16); however, the researchers noted that when Sankey closed her eyes, a behavior that was not part of her normal routine, the horses tended to move more frequently (six of 16 remained standing) and turn their heads toward Sankey, displaying monitoring behavior.

The horses showed much greater monitoring behavior with the stranger (i.e., they kept more of their attention on the unfamiliar individual), turning their heads toward the individual when he appeared to be distracted, closed his eyes, or faced away from the horse. While most of the horses (10 of 16) remained still when the stranger looked at them, only three and four remained still when the stranger looked at the ceiling and had his back turned, respectively.

"This tells us that what we expected," says Sankey. "Horses have an expectation of certain behaviors from (certain people) in certain situations. In humans we call this a 'concept of person'."

The researchers also noted that they "observed disturbances in the horses' response when the experimenters' eyes were not visible (closed)." They added that "if horses do have a representation of a person based on experience, this is not very surprising, as they are bound to have seen the experimenter with her back turned ... at some point during the training session, while seeing her with her eyes closed was something completely new."

Although owners might already recognize this behavior in their horses, Sankey's team suggests there

is a specific recognition coupled with the expectation of behavior that can be called a "relationship."

The study, "Do Horses Have a Concept of Person?" was published in the open access Public Library of Science journal, PLoS ONE, and is available online.

Lynda Zimmerman - Published Writer and Poet

Hi all,

We're off - riding season has begun! Below are updates from the last two weekends: the MN Horse Expo and our first competition at Sand Dunes State Forest. All the photos are available at <http://picasaweb.google.com/kaleidobob>

In other (EXCITING) news - I wrote an article about my 2010 Rookie year in Competitive Trail Class which was just published in the Paso Fino Horse World magazine, May issue! This magazine is mailed to all Paso Fino Horse Assn. members across the U.S. and Canada. The article is available on the PFHA website for anyone to view. You can click this link <http://www.pfha.org/content/pfha/magazine.aspx> to take you to the magazine page, and then click the link below the right side image to view the pages. My article is on pages 42-43 of the printed version; you can page to it easiest by starting at the back of the magazine.

I'm so thrilled about this; it's my first publication, a memoir about me and my beautiful Zia!

In addition to the magazine article I wrote a Haiku for National Poetry Month:

Into the wind, ride
My Paso Fino mare and I;
Down the trail we glide!

Lynda Zimmerman, Zia and Bob



Ride Results!

Brighton Spring 4/16 - 35 Mile Comp - HW			
Carl	Dosmann	J Dalmaar Sharri+/ LW Raajsreflection	1
Ken	Wright	Occident Al Skky	2
Sandra	Wright	Lu-Nor Nykawin	3
Stacey	Cooper		4
Brighton Spring 4/16 - 35 Mile Comp - LW			
Laura	Husser	CDWD Margarita	1
Katie	Baxter	Foxfire	2
Brighton Spring 4/16 - 25 Mile Comp - HW			
Robin	Schadt	RA Ibn Maruf	1
Jeanne	Aslakson	Cinbob Go Chief	2
Deb	Searle	WOA Ravens Premier+	3
Terri	Phalen	Ace	4
Diane	Maxey	BKA Tiffany	5
Janette	Stevens	GM Judas Forgiven	6
Brighton Spring 4/16 - 25 Mile Comp - Jr			
Whitney	Meinders	Honey	1
Rachael	Meinders	MS Disani	2
Rachel	Clark	Ahmdu Allah	3
Brighton Spring 4/16 - 25 Mile Comp - LW			
Diane	Meinders	Lacey's Game	1
Barb	Kurti	Tryllerika	2
Roseanna	Clark	Emalika	3
Katy	Byrne	CEA Aaron Halim	4
Janet	Day	Odessa Dee	5
Brighton Spring 4/16 - 15 Mile Novice			
Beverly	London	Aramor Northern Castcade	MO
Sarah	George	Diego	1st
Lisa	Germann	Justkiddingaround+/ Josie	MO
Fred	Fischmeister	DWA Special Agent	2nd
Jennifer	Sigety		3rd
Brighton Spring 4/17 - 25 Mile Comp - HW			
Cameron	Wood	Khomytt	1
Carl	Dosmann	J Dalmaar Sharri+/ Wineglass Debonair	2
Chris	Power	RA Ibn Maruf	3
Robin	Schadt	BKA Tiffany	4
Diane	Maxey	WOA Ravens Premier+	5
Deb	Searle	Ace	6
Terri	Phalen		
Ken	Wright	LW Raajsreflection	
Sandra	Wright	ELD Jetta Bee	
Stacey	Cooper	FA Eldevado	
Brighton Spring 4/17 - 25 Mile Comp - Jr			
Rachel	Clark	Ahmdu Allah	1
Rachael	Meinders	MS Disani	2
Whitney	Meinders	Honey	3
Brighton Spring 4/17 - 25 Mile Comp - LW			
Laura	Husser	CDWD Margarita	1
Diane	Meinders	Lacey's Game	2
Roseanna	Clark	Emalika	3
Barb	Kurti	Tryllerika	4
Marty	Power	SA Te Jat	5
Brighton Spring 4/17 - 15 Mile Novice			
Sarah	George	Diego	1st
Zachary	Cieplechanowicz	Adonis Silver Storm	2nd
Beverly	London	Aramor Northern Castcade	MO
Kristen	Verhey	SW Encore Express	3rd
Leslie	Cieplechanowicz	Copper	4th

White River Spring 5/7 - 50 Mile Endurance - HW			
Carl	Dosmann	J. Dalmaar Sharri +/	1
Neal	Shaffer	Rush Creek Rogan	2
Rodne	Lecoutenr	Bahara Son	3
Gene	Dake	CSA Zafirah	4
Stacey	Cooper	Ly-Nor Nykawin	Pull
Joe	Mattingly	Dan Gerzeme kpa	Pull
Deborah	McBride	Back In A Flash	Pull
White River Spring 5/7 - 50 Mile Endurance - LW			
Deb	Shaffer	Bahma	1
Roberta	Harms	EV Count Valentino	2
Linda	Hamrick	RTM First In Line	3
Rebecca	Grams	Bears Northern Light	4
Diane	Meinders	Lacey's Game	5
Jennifer	Plummer	Fancy Savage Nite +/	6
Amy	Yatsko	Captain	7
Marcia	Weilbach	DS Aristoi	8
Shelley	Dake	Crusion	Pull
Barbara	Kurti	Tryllerika	Pull
White River Spring 5/7 - 50 Mile Endurance - Jr			
Austin	Shaffer	Pearl Jam	1
Rachel	Meinders	Ms Dasani	2
White River Spring 5/7 - 30 Mile LD Sr.			
Don	Caldwell	Yo Dusty	1
Diane	Maxey	BKA Tiffany	2
Karen	Graham	Rain Beau's Adios	Pull
White River Spring 5/8 - 25 Mile Comp HW			
Jim	Duvernneay	Makin Art Wonder	1 (tie)
Sandra	Wright	Occidnetal Sky	1 (tie)
White River Spring 5/8 - 25 Mile Comp LW			
Diane	Meinders	Laceys Game	1
Katy	Byrne	CEA Haonhulim	2
White River Spring 5/8 - 25 Mile Comp Jr.			
Whitney	Meinders	Honey	1
White River Spring 5/8 - 50 Mile Endurance - HW			
Rodney	LeCouteur	Bahara Son	1
Don	Coldwell	PF Count Jester	Pull
White River Spring 5/8 - 50 Mile Endurance - LW			
Julie	Roe	Alada kheanne	1
Amy	Yatsko	Captain	2
Roberta	Harms	JM Cest Louie	3
White River Spring 5/8 - 30 Mile LD Sr.			
Rebecca	Gram	Brilliant Jasper	1
Stacey	Cooper	FA Eldenado	2
Joe	Mattingly	Mattingly Glitz	3
Linda	Hamrick	Mattingly KC Heart	4
Deborah	McBride	Manitoalimn Jingles	5
Mike	Robinson	Short circuit	6
Robert	Plummer	KM Khoranado	Pull
White River Spring 5/8 - 30 Mile LD Jr.			
Rachel	Meinders	Shatto's Sirlancelot	1

Thank you to UMECRA Sponsor for Top 10 Mileage Awards!



To learn more about the products, go to:

<http://www.abcpplus.biz>

Attention Ride Managers

In case you didn't catch this in the minutes from the last Board meeting, it was decided to continue the \$10.00 discount for Novice riders who join UMECRA.

Sooo... please send me the names and addresses of the Novice riders from your ride and I will send them a welcome letter and discount coupon.

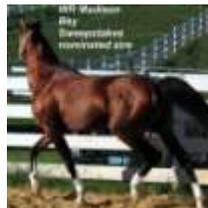
Help grow UMECRA!

Thanks for your help.
Marty Power



Why we ride!!!

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Breed your retired or resting Endurance mare to a Purebred Sweepstakes Nominated Sire chosen for Endurance with the two time World Champion's bloodline as well as our two National Champion's bloodline and Bonnie Mielke's superb endurance horse Pieraaz. Currently only \$500. He collects, handbreeds and pasture breeds. He is also offered for sale.

OR

Cross your excellent mare with a 16H Thoroughbred Retired Racehorse. \$500

Youngstock endurance & sporthorses also for sale. Not all horses are on website, but you may view the farm

at www.sporthorseconcepts.com



Horse Evacuation Tips from the Humane Society of the U.S

There may be times when taking your horses with you is impossible during an emergency. So you must consider different types of disasters and whether your horses would be better off in a barn or loose in a field. Your local humane organization, agricultural extension agent, or local emergency management agency may be able to provide you with information about your community's disaster response plans.

- Make arrangements in advance to have your horse trailered in case of an emergency. If you do not have your own trailer or do not have enough trailer space for all of your horses, be sure you have several people on standby to help evacuate your horses
- Know where you can take your horses in an emergency evacuation. Make arrangements with a friend or another horse owner to stable your horses if needed. Contact your local animal care and control agency, agricultural extension agent, or local emergency management authorities for information about shelters in your area. Inform friends and neighbors of your evacuation plans. Post detailed instructions in several places—including the barn office or tack room, the horse trailer, and barn entrances—to ensure they are accessible to emergency workers in case you are not able to evacuate your horses yourself.
- Place your horses' Coggins tests, veterinary papers, identification photographs, and vital information—such as medical history, allergies, and emergency telephone numbers (veterinarian, family members, etc.)—in a watertight envelope. Store the envelope with your other important papers in a safe place that can be quickly reached.
- Keep halters ready for your horses. Each halter should include the following information: the horse's name, your name, your telephone number, and another emergency telephone number where someone can be reached.
- Prepare a basic first aid kit that is portable and easily accessible.
- Be sure to have on hand a supply of water, hay, feed, and medications for several days for each horse you are evacuating.
- It is important that your horses are comfortable being loaded onto a trailer. If your horses are unaccustomed to being loaded onto a trailer, practice the procedure so they become used to it.

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Deadline for Next Newsletter:
5th of each month
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