



McHenry County Horse Club News

May, 2020

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New Members!

Welcome to the newest members of the McHenry County Horse Club.

We hope you enjoy our events and hope to see you involved.

Joy Ganvik

Basia, Tom and Ava Kardaras

Theresa Donoghue

Jill Kadish

Yvonne Comm

★ President's Corner ★

MCHC's 10th Anniversary year will be one we will not soon forget! I hope everyone is washing their hands, wearing a mask, social distancing and protecting yourself and your loved ones.

We started the year out with a big bang, great speakers, the best Winter Party ever and an outstanding Tack Sale. Then everything came to a screeching halt. As they say, this too shall pass.

Accordingly, the Board is keeping in touch and waiting to see what restrictions, or what the "new normal", will mean for MCHC events. As of right now, we have canceled all planned events through July. I will start calling each member to determine how they would like to see MCHC move forward for the rest of 2020.

On April 14th, the current member list was sent to each of you, along with the canceled events. If you like, you can reach out to other members and schedule a trail ride or just to meet and share your experience during these uncertain times. But remember to social distance.

If you have any suggestions, questions or just want to talk, please contact me.

We will all get through this and in years to come say, "Remember 2020 and COVID-19"

Vern

815-354-4418

Schedule of Events

August

- August 23 – Trail Ride Brookdale
- August 30 – Lippizans Horse Show

September

- September 8 – Board Meeting
- September 12 – Trail Ride at Rush Creek
- September 14 – Member's Meeting Wine and Cheese at Jodi Funk's – Vaulting
- September 18 – Bon Fire at the Bye's
- September 19 – Trail Ride at Rush Creek Rain Date
- September 26 – Play Day #3 at Spring Grove

October

- October 5 – Board Meeting
- October 12 – Member Meeting
- October 24 – Trail Ride at Brookdale
- October 31 – Trail Ride at Brookdale Rain Date

November

- November 2 – Board Elections Member Meeting – Pizza and Bingo!
- November 9 - Board Meeting



Member Meetings

Judy Scacci

The January speaker was Mike Clisham of the Chicago Mounted Police (CMP) Team.



His presentation included the history of the organization, how the horses and officers are trained and how the CMP use the horses in day to day policing and special events. Mike did not disappoint. He was as entertaining as he was back in April, 2016 when he first spoke to the club. If you missed him, you are out of luck, because that was our last opportunity to hear him speak... he will be retiring.

Just a fun fact, their horses are NEVER hand fed treats but our famous horse treats given as a thank you, will be placed in their feed buckets.



Our February meeting featured Dr. Molly Rice and Dr. Jessica Hunt from Midwest Veterinary Dental Services in Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

Dr. Rice started working with Dr. Travis Henry at Midwest Equine Services (now Midwest Veterinary Dental Services) in 2009. She became an equine Advanced Standing candidate of the American Veterinary Dentistry College in 2015, and successfully became board certified in equine dentistry in 2018. Her interesting presentation covered all aspects of a horse's mouth.



Dr. Hunt gave a short lecture is on My Horse Has What???? (Equine Odontoclastic Tooth Resorption and Hypercementosis! (EOTRH) Syndrome. This condition is most commonly found in older horses (+15). As the disease progresses, the roots of the incisors start to resorb, or basically dissolve. An easy test for this condition is to offer your horse a carrot and if he can't bite it with his front teeth, you should contact your veterinarian.



Our March meeting began with every attendee receiving a bag of carrots from the club. They were to be used to test your horse for EOTRH Syndrome.



Our speaker was Dr. John Byrd, the owner of Horsemen's Laboratory who spoke about parasites and fecal tests.

Dr. Byrd's extensive experience with horses led him to observe how a horse's health could impact performance, and out of that Horsemen's Laboratory was established in 1993.

The reality of a worm infestation may be properly understood if one considers that a horse's parasite will lay eggs in the intestinal tract that are then excreted via the stool. This manure ends up on your pasture, where the eggs hatch and larvae appear. These little parasites will find their way onto the grass - many of these small creatures may even inhabit one drop of dew - where they are picked up by a horse as it feeds.

Once ingested, the larvae will enter the animal's intestinal tract where they will briefly hibernate before undergoing a change that will propel them into the next stage of life where the entire process will begin again.

Thank you to Dr Byrd and his wife, Becky, who generously provided free fecal tests to approximately twenty 4-H kids that attended our meeting.

2020 Tack Sale

Judy Scacci

Our annual participation in the 4-H Tack Sale was a resounding success! Although we don't sell tack, we were very good at raffles.

This year thanks to the following for their generous donations to the raffle.

- The Bosos
- Angie Dierkes
- Cindy Edwards
- Jodi Funk
- The Hamiltons
- Debbie Holbrook
- Joan Laymon
- The Scaccis
- Laura Young
- Meaghan Zeiner



We had 12 items to raffle off, a few horse related things to sell and of course, our famous homemade horse treats. We made over \$400 which is our best year yet.

We also got a new member! A big welcome to Joy Ganvik.



Thank you to all the members who worked the table... couldn't have done it without you.



For 2 years, I have been trying to make money for the club by selling this jacket. Even had someone try it on at the Tack Sale but alas it did not fit. Vern said I couldn't bring it home again! So, I am happy to inform you it was donated the 4-H kids!



Vern had two great assistants pulling the raffle tickets this year. A big thank you to Jake Hamiel, our youngest member, and Stewart Wilson who is the son of member Jennifer Wilson and grandson of member Becky Rosenthal. They helped Vern pull the winning tickets.



Vern told Stewart not to look!



There should be no doubt, even though 9 of the 12 raffle items were won by members, our raffle was on the up and up!



You may or may not have noticed that the club logo is different? Thanks to our talented member Sandy Remmers, who created this special logo to commemorate our 10th anniversary.

Trail Rides

Ron Miller

Ron's article has been modified to remove the rides that we had to cancel due to the Corona Virus restrictions.

At the current time, the rides that are still scheduled are:

August 23, 2020
Brookdale – Joint ride with LCMP

September 12, 2020
Rush Creek
Rain date: September 19, 2020

October 24, 2020
Brookdale
Rain date: October 31, 2020

The Club will not have organized lunches at our rides, but members are encouraged to bring their own lunch and beverages and participate in our "circle of chairs" and socialize after the rides. Members may bring dishes to pass if they wish.

This year we have also established "rain dates" to combat Mother Nature. Put the dates on your calendar and we hope to see you there.

We are also having a joint trail ride with the Lake County Mounted Posse on August 23rd at Brookdale. The LCMP will provide lunch at our Joint Ride at a cost of \$5 each to MCHC members. If you plan to participate in this ride you will have to commit in advance.



Winter Party

Diane Hamilton

Over 70 people attended the Winter Party this year at the beginning of February to celebrate the 10- year anniversary of the McHenry County Horse Club.



The Silent Auction was the most successful in the history of the Winter Party. There were many horse related items from 14 Hands wine to various types of riding lessons.



Maravela's Banquets and Catering once again served an excellent meal which even included a carving station. The games were fun (we really do have a competitive group here); the conversation was lively; and a great time was had by all. Thanks to all of the workers and donors who made the party possible.



Now do not forget to wear those beautiful new blue logo jackets at all of the MCHC activities this season! If you missed the Winter Party this year, we are planning on seeing you there next year for another excellent party.