

NorCal Miniature

Letter from your President

I would like to also express my gratitude to the NorCal Members and the Board for making our 2023 shows and year end meeting extra special and something to be remembered with a final comment of, 'LET'S DO IT AGAIN!!!'

A special Congratulations to Ailene Tarap, for being elected to the AMHA Executive Committee Treasurer Position. Having Worked closely with Past Treasurers, I know how vital this position is to the Development of the Association as well as the day to day operation. Ailene is the right person at the right time to guide the AMHA forward financially. And thank you to Jacob Elliott, our other AMHA Director, for all you do in the International Program as well as representing this Region.

I would like to thank our outgoing NORCAL Board Members, Ted, Yvette, and Christine for their service, and welcome in our 2024-2025 NORCAL Board. President reelected, Bob Kane, Vice President, Roxy Cortez, Secretary reelected, Becky Horat, Treasurer, Brenda Kane, who once said never again, Directors Sharon Housley, Tonya Pearsall, (yes members she will still be hitting you up for her new sponsorship program), and Director Elect Katey Valente with her meat balls that could not pass through a Sobriety Check Point, we will have to try them at one of our shows, (must have ID verifying you are of age to taste test).

Merry Christmas with a Big Happy New Year NORCAL MEMBERS!!!! See you in 2024.

Bob Kane

2024 show schedule.

NorCal Show Dates are:

May 17-19, 2024

June 21-23, 2024

These will be AMHA and AMHR shows.

We are now adding Pony and VSE Classes

(VSE are open to non-registered Minis & Ponies)

Both shows will be held at Brookside Equestrian Center in Elk Grove, CA.

2024 Western Regional Show -
Aug. 2-4, 2024

held at Murieta Equestrian Center
Rancho Murieta, Ca.

AMHA World Show Sept 20-28, 2024

AMHR National Area VII Show-
May 24-26, 2024

In Norco, CA. (pending)

AMHR Nationals (pending)
Sept. 5-14, 2024

2024 AMHA ANNUAL MEETING
will be held in Reno, NV -

Fair winds and following seas...

It is with great sadness that NorCal is announcing the loss of a long-time member a very dear friend. Bob Housley passed away peacefully among close family on December 30, 2023.

Eric Housley posted a loving tribute to his father that was so very elegantly written we would like to share. "Bob Housley sailed peacefully into the sunset after 2 weeks in ICU in Funchal on the island of Madeira, Portugal. We have had ups and downs but have been blessed by beautiful people at both the hospital and hotel here and have received and felt all of the love and support from our friends and family even from what feels like halfway around the globe. We just experienced a new year's fireworks show/celebration like no other, and while he wasn't here with us, he was in our hearts, and felt it was an amazing send off. RIP Dad..."

As some of the membership know, Bob was a very dedicated and proud member of the submarine service, with an extensive list of services to this county.

We as a club have been very honored to have him as a tremendous supporter of the membership Happily hosting camp-out s'mores around the fire. After retiring as Sharon's ready room manager, Bob could be found with Bob Kane barbecuing for the masses at many dinners for the membership and guest. Many of us can remember the pair announcing ring side laughing together. The pair always make for a delightful evening after a long day of showing.

We would like to announce in Bob Housley's honor the Year-end Youth all around award will be named for him. He was so proud to watch the membership grow and compete.

Please keep the family in your thoughts as they work through this challenging time. Bob Housley will be missed dearly by many.



Norcal's Highlighted Sponsor



Ailene and Paul Tarap were married in 2010. Paul's family are also longtime dairymen and cattle ranchers in the Berryessa area of Napa. For more than 22 years, Paul has been a leader for local 4-H as well as the nonprofit Ag4Youth, which teaches at-risk kids to raise market animals. He is the current ranch manager for Ag4Youth. We decided to create a down-to-earth, ranch-style wine tasting experience in Napa Valley.

Today, Ailene and Paul live on the ranch with 40 Belted Galloway cows, 12 champion mini-horses, 8 dogs, and a blind goat. Ailene and Paul compete in cattle and horse shows and keep both Quarter Horses and Miniature Horses on the property. Twenty-one-year-old Dayspring First Light ("Blondie") has won the world championship more than 28 times.

[Belted Vines](https://beltedvines.com/) <https://beltedvines.com/>

Are you looking for membership or sponsorship forms

[Membership \(norcalmhc.com\)](https://norcalmhc.com)

2024 Board

President: Bob Kane
Vice President: Roxy Cortez
Secretary: Becky Horat
Treasurer: Brenda Kane

2024 Board of Directors

Sharon Housley
Tonya Pearsall
Katey Valente

Committees

By Laws - Sharon Housley
Youth Committee - Alexis Joseph, Cammy Day
Hi-Point - Tonya Pearsall, Becky Horat
Publicity/Website- Becky Horat
Facebook- Becky Horat, Tonya Pearsall
Newsletter – Tonya Pearsall, Katey Valente, Becky Horat
Shows/Events - Brenda Kane
Gelding Incentive – Tonya, Sofia Cortez
Membership & Hospitality - Chairman Needed

COOL FACTS: Equine Winter Adaptations

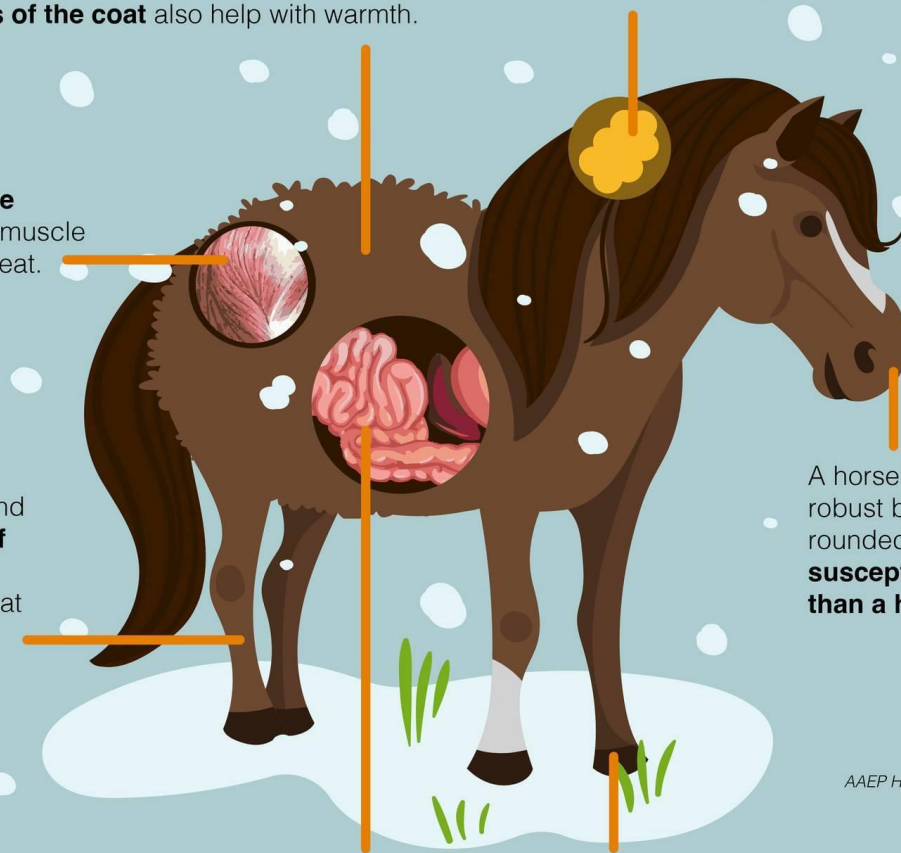
Do you ever wonder how your horse stays warm during the cold winter months? There are many adaptations to help them do this!

Horses increase the insulating abilities of their coats by **piloerection**, a phenomenon where the hair stands up to better trap air within. The combination of **two layers of the coat** also help with warmth.

Wild horses go into the winter heavier than ideal and the **fat serves as an extra layer of insulation**.

Horses have a **huge muscle mass** and muscle activity produces heat.

Their **distal limbs** (below the knees and hocks) are made of **mostly bones and tendons**, tissues that are resistant to the cold temperatures.



A horse's **nose** has a robust blood supply and is rounded so that it is **less susceptible to frostbite** than a human's nose.

Hindgut digestion of hay produces the most heat, acting as a small furnace inside of the horse.

The hooves have an alternative route of blood circulation through larger vessels that can be used in low temperatures.

Source: Dr. Nicole Scherrer
AAEP Horse Owner Education Committee



For questions or AD Space please email NorCal.Newsletter@gmail.com