

EMPOWERING THE EQUINE COMMUNITY THROUGH COOPERATION AND EDUCATION 19

For further information about the Conference visit: www.saveourwildhorses.net



Save Our Wild Horses

DC Conference

Wild Horses & Wildlife Art Show

Friday, April 29, 2022 from 6-9pm at Yotel DC

For more information: www.saveourwildhorses.net

The 4 day conference will feature expert speakers covering a wide variety of topics related to our Wild horses and our public lands, informational tables, photography displays, and the **Wild Horses & Wildlife on America's Western Lands Art Show** on Friday evening. Saturday April 30th will see the **Save Our Wild Horses Assembly** on the National Mall from 11a.m. to 3p.m. This will be a peaceful event meant to educate the public and bring awareness about the plight of our Wild Horses.



Heather, Linda and Cheryl hope that you will join them in D.C. for this exciting and impactful event!

www.saveourwildhorses.net



Save Our Wild Horses
Conference and Assembly
April 26-30, 2022
Washington DC

Join us for this very special 5 day event!

We are very happy to announce that both
Congresswoman Dina Titus & Congressman Steve
Cohen will be speaking at our conference!

Our list of guest & expert speakers also includes:

Ashley Avis - Wild Beauty Foundation
Scott Beckstead - AWA & Center for a Humane Economy
Jim Brown Photography
Dr. Cardona-Mosely, DVM - Evanescent Mustang Rescue
Val Cecama-Hogsett - CAES
Ginger Fedak - In Defense of Animals
Marty Irby - Animal Wellnes Action
Manda Kalimian - CANA Foundation
Dr. Ross MacPhee - Curator & Biologist
Laura Leigh - Wild Horse Education
Erik Molvar - Western Watershed Projects
Dana Zarello & Ginger Kathrens - Cloud Foundation

Find more information here: www.saveourwildhorses.net



YOUTH

A LOOK AT THE INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION

The Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) offers a wonderful opportunity for youth in grades 4-12 to participate in competition during the school year without having to own a horse. The IEA is celebrating its **20th anniversary season** and it continues to grow year after year. This season, a record was set for membership which was more than 14,135 active members nationwide. IEA began in 2002 with 175 riders on 13 teams and has now become the largest youth equestrian organization in the Country, and the largest feeder organization to collegiate equestrian programs.

The mission of IEA is to introduce students in private and public middle and secondary schools to equestrian sports. The IEA supports three disciplines; Hunt Seat, Western and Dressage. Hunt Seat teams can compete in equitation on the flat and/or over fences. Western teams can compete in Horsemanship and/or Reining or Ranch Riding. Dressage teams can compete in Test and/or Dressage Seat Equitation. Classes are offered in four ability levels: beginner, novice, intermediate and open. Riders in grades 4-8 are eligible for Middle School while riders in grades 9-12 compete at the High School level. Points are tracked for individual rider accomplishments AND for overall team accomplishments.

Individuals and teams earn points to qualify for regional, zone and national finals.

One of the greatest parts of joining IEA is that you do not need to own a horse to become a member. Students ride horses that are furnished by the host barn and chosen by a random draw. The use of personal tack is not allowed and schooling is not permitted prior to showing. This equalizes competition variables and tests the horsemanship of the contestants. Teams take turns hosting horse shows throughout the season which begins August 1st and ends at the National Finals in late spring or early summer.



By Heather Payne, Coach



For
More
Information
Contact
Heather
at
(716)
640-
1133

Heather Payne, has been conducting her business, **Payne Show Horses** at the Nash Hill Equestrian Center for about 8 years. In addition she leads the **Down The Rail** 4-H Club in Cattaraugus County. Heather is the Head Coach of the very successful Western New York IEA Team. Heather brings 25 years of experience to Nash Hill and the team. She is a graduate of The University of Findlay's Equine Science Program Nash Hill is a state of the art Equestrian Center located at 10999 Persia Rd., Gowanda, NY. The newly renovated facility which is home to the WNY Equestrian Team and offers boarding, training, lessons, facility rental, professional saddle fitting (as the home of Staci Saulter's Allegany Mountain Saddlery).

More info on IEA can be found at: www.rideiea.org or for info about joining contact Heather by e-mail: wnyequestrianteam@yahoo.com

There are numerous benefits for its members, coaches and barns with IEA Teams. Not only do riders get to be involved in a team sport but they have the opportunity to ride an assortment of horses, some with a high level of training and capability which they might not ever have the opportunity to lease, own or show otherwise. It gives increased teaching and coaching revenues to the coaches and introduces showing for students without horses, at various levels of abilities, and those without horses at various levels of ability and those without the financial means to show at larger shows.

Students have the opportunity to earn scholarships toward their college education through awards in competition and through sportsmanship activities. In 2011, the IEA established the Benevolent Fund to assist riders and coaches in need through programs such as the IEA Financial Assistance Program and the IEA Coaches Assistance Grant.

Membership is open year round with most regular season shows happening between August and February.



Registration for the 2022-2023 season will officially open in May 2022. The membership fee for coaches and riders is \$60. A local team that participates in IEA is the Western New York Equestrian Team. This Western team practices at Nash Hill Equestrian Center in Gowanda, NY. The Team consists of 24 riders this year and is coached by Heather Payne. Last year their Middle School Team and 6 individual riders qualified for and competed at the IEA Nationals in Fort Worth, Texas, during the American Paint Horse Association World Show. The Western New York Team always welcomes new riders to join their Team each year. Coach Payne recommends that new riders start taking during the summer prior to the competition season so they can be prepared for their first show. Coach Payne said, "One of my favorite parts of coaching an IEA team is being able to take riders with little or no experience and teach them the skills that they need to win at these shows. I also love the reining. Most of our riders do not own a reining horse and most have never done reining or might never have the opportunity to ride a well-trained reining horse, IEA gives them that opportunity. I love seeing the riders excel and fall in love with a new sport that they may never have known about if it wasn't for IEA. It's also a wonderful way for my riders to improve their skills on a variety of horses; it helps them become better riders when it comes to their own horses as well."

CONGRATULATIONS ASHLEY AVIS

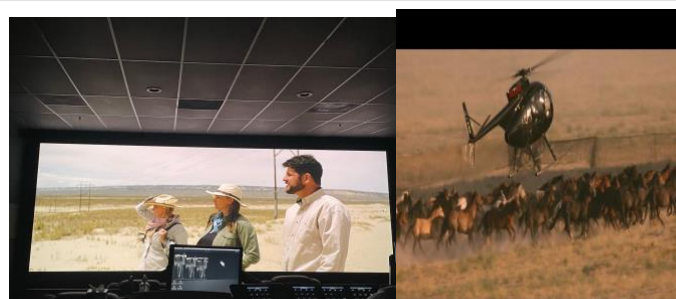
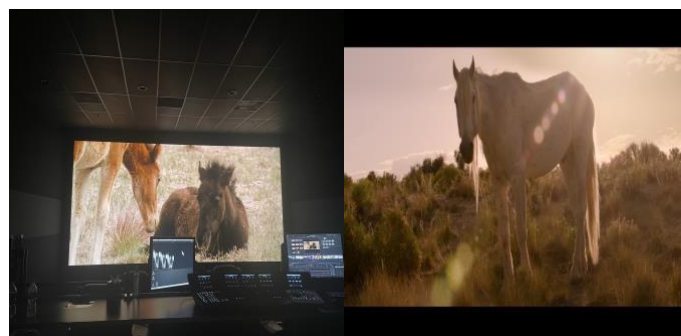
The documentary film we have all been looking forward to, **'Wild Beauty: Mustang Spirit of the West'**, was screened on March 31st for a group of about thirty core crew members family and friends in Santa Monica, California.

Quoting Ashley Avis, creator and producer, "This was the first time anyone had gotten to see the documentary in a theater, with the stunning color and immersive sound. Most of the audience left in tears, moved by the issue and wanting to do more to help raise awareness, which is exactly what are goal is."

This film consumed 4 years, 20,000 miles of travel filming in 13 states and 40 terabytes of footage! At the time of this publication it is being submitted to film festivals and hopes are that it will debut soon.



Ashley Avis and Edward Winters, co-producer and husband, at Screening of 'Wild Beauty : Mustang Spirit Of The West'.



CONGRATULATIONS CARL and TAMMY BLEDSOE

Carl and Tammy Bledsoe (along with Carl's favorite mount and demo horse, Jazzy) made their way from their home farm and business, **Just Gait**, in Talking Rock, Georgia to Murfreesboro, Tennessee and the Tennessee Miller Coliseum for the 2022 Southern Equine Exposition. The Expo was held at this great facility from March 18th- 20th. Carl had 4 presentations, 2 clinics and 1 lecture over the course of the long weekend and demonstrated to full stands and had a standing room only situation for his lecture. Attendees wishing to speak with Carl were willing to stand in line at his booth between demos and clinics in order to converse with him.

A recent broken leg kept Carl out of the saddle and out of action for a time but he is coming back strong with an impressive schedule of clinics and a commitment to be a judge for the **Appalachian Trainer Face Off and Heart of Phoenix Fun Show**, August 18th-20th in Winfield, West Virginia.

For information on Just Gait, clinics, training and other events check the Just Gait FaceBook page or contact Tammy and Carl at: Tbledsoe2801@gmail.com



For a full schedule of Carl's upcoming clinics and events check the **Just Gait FaceBook page**

BOOK AND FILM REVIEWS

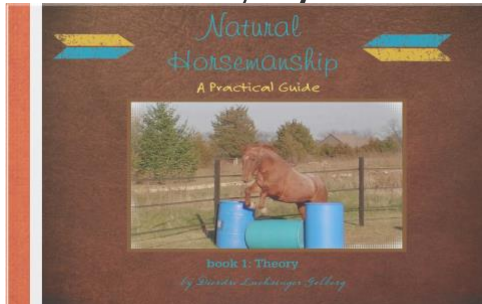
Natural Horsemanship A Practical GuideBook 1- Theory

By **Diedre Luchsinger Gallery**

This is a great book for anyone wishing to get started in the horse world. It tracks the evolution of horses and why they do what they do in the wild as well as when they are brought into the world of humans.

It traces the domestication of the horse from the caveman to today, explaining their body language as well as facial expressions making it easier for people to understand just what to look for when working with a new horse. There are always warning signs when a horse is about to react to a situation. So use this guide to help understand the workings of your horse's mind.

Submitted by **Phyllis Jensen**



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Mustangs and Renegades: A Modern Day Western

A film by **James Anaquod Kleinert**

The length and depth of research that went into this film series are evident in every one of the 11 episodes that are currently available. History, politics and pertinent players that have a role in the current crisis for our American Mustangs are all revealed by Kleinert himself or in the wonderful contributions by such entities as Jim Baca (a former Bureau of Land Management Director), Michael Blake (author of 'Dances With Wolves'), Craig C. Downer (wildlife biologist who worked directly with Wild Horse Annie), and Senator Raul Grijalva, among others. The beautiful filming, excellent narration by the author and abundance of truth in these films brought me to believe that I needed to watch each of these individual films twice! Well worth the time investment for anyone with an interest in American History, the function of government or the plight of our iconic American Mustangs.

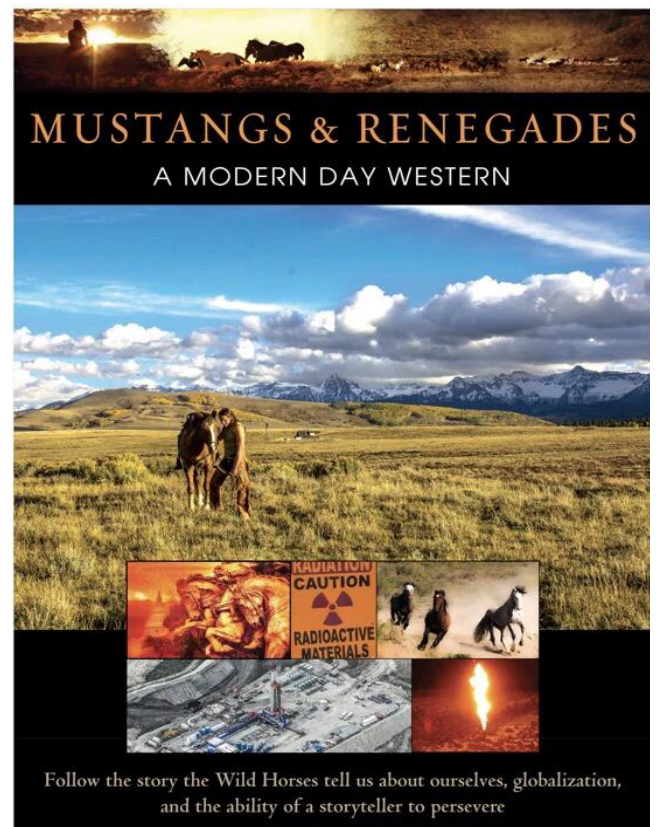
Find the films at:

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/mustangsrenegades>

Find more about James Kleinert and his fine art at:

www.instagram.com/mustangsnrenegades &

www.mustangsrenegades.com



Follow the story the Wild Horses tell us about ourselves, globalization, and the ability of a storyteller to persevere