

***KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.
NEWS FOR KANSAS AND THE EQUINE INDUSTRY.***

December 2023 EDITION



“Let there be peace on earth

And let it begin with me

Let there be peace on earth

The peace that was meant to be...”



**News, announcements and events from around Kansas,
regarding the Kansas equine industry.**

**Legislation, Insurance, Equipment & Retail discounts are just
some of our membership benefits! Visit our website to learn
more.**

Join our herd!

**Visit Our
Website!**



Renewal starts January 1



www.kansashorsecouncil.com

2023 Upcoming Events and Calendar

This month there are shows, rodeos, trail rides, and more!

See them here:

Calendar of Submitted Events

Any questions regarding events, please call us at
785-776-0662

If interested in more information or to register for an event, please
email us at

director@kansashorsecouncil.com



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A Cowboy's Faith


By Frank J. Buchman

Fewer Hours on Horseback

Maturity takes its toll on a wannabe cowboy's horseback riding enthusiasm and already limited abilities. Never a world class horseman, but ample ambition and plenty of guts brought success training young horses.

Starting untrained horses to ride for many owners throughout the Midwest kept a calendar filled for more than four decades. Notable "real cowboys" brought their horses for initial breaking and spread the word about the humble service to countless others.

It must be emphasized that the horses were not "finished" show, working, or ranch horses. They were "30-day horses" requiring

A vertical strip of green pine branches runs down the left side of the page. The branches are covered in dense, needle-like leaves and have a few small, brown, dried-out tips.

additional riding when owners got them home. Key to the program was that the horses, often untouched upon arrival, were handled every day.

They had to be tied solid and exposed to a rider on their back the first day. Saddling followed as the horse stood alone to become accustomed to the handler's expectations. Always moved slow, the saddled horse was led in a pen the next day becoming more accustomed to being worked with. Tied back in the stall, the horse was mounted and dismounted by the gentle trainer voicing compliment for calmness.

Progressing, the mounted saddled horse was asked to turn tight circles both directions inside the stall. After continuing maneuvers, the stall gate was opened, and the horse was ridden at a walk into a larger pen. Sessions always ended by gently turning the horse in circles and then backing him straight for a few steps. A horse learns very fast with praising gentle consistent calm control.

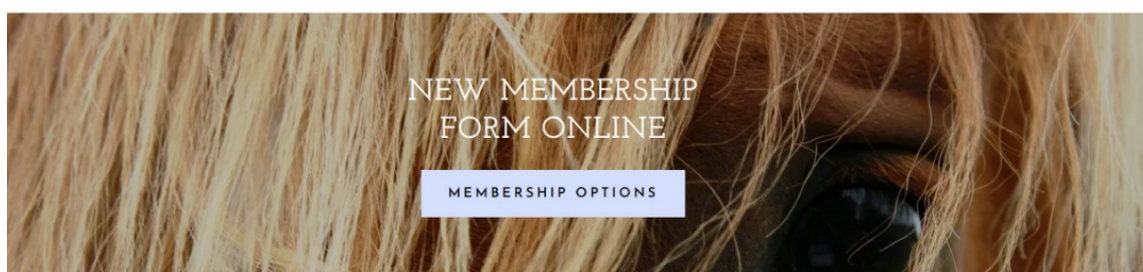
Within a week, the horse can be urged into a slow jog trot in a large circle. He will soon be asked to speed up into a slow lope. Ridden cautiously in the pasture at different gaits, the horse becomes accustomed to the outdoors. Riding bareback is good for the additional exposure. The gentle, green-broke horse must continue to be ridden regularly for a year or longer to become a "broke horse."

Exhibiting in six circuits more than 30 horseshows annually collecting numerous yearend championships, slowdown has now come. Unbroke horses are not being accepted for training. Fewer shows are attended with less prizes being won while the goal remains to ride a horse some every day.

Reminded of Proverbs 20:29: "Youthfulness is be admired for vigor, but gray hair gives prestige to old age."

A vertical strip of green pine branches runs down the right side of the page. The branches are covered in dense, needle-like leaves and have a few small, brown, dried-out tips.





NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM ONLINE

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Join Now

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- ☐ Joint Individual Membership- BCH- KS/ KHC \$80.00
- ☐ Joint Family Membership- BCH- KS/ KHC \$100.00
- ☐ Student Membership- Kansas Horse Council \$35.00
- ☐ Individual Membership- Kansas Horse Council \$50.00
- ☐ Family Membership- Kansas Horse Council \$80.00
- ☐ Club Membership- Kansas Horse Council \$35.00
- ☐ Business/Organizational Membership- Kansas Horse Council \$100.00
- ☐ Individual with Back Country Horsemen of KS \$45.00
- ☐ Family with Back Country Horsemen of Kansas \$50.00
- ☐ Business/Affiliate Org with Back Country Horsemen of KS \$50.00

☒ I would like to automatically renew my membership

Log in to your existing account

Login Name:

Password:

[Log In](#)

Forgot your password?
Enter the e-mail address associated with your account and we'll send you a link to recover your login information.

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MEMBERSHIPS

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- ☐ Joint Individual M KS/ KHC
- ☐ Joint Family Mem KHC
- ☐ Student Members Council
- ☐ Individual Membe Horse Council
- ☐ Family Membersh Council
- ☐ Club Membership Council
- ☐ Business/Organiz Membership-Kansas Horse Council

NEW for 2024 and beyond!

Kansas Horse Council has implemented a new online membership portal. It's super easy to use.

For 2023 members renewing for 2024, when you open the membership form, you'll be prompted to "Login to your existing account". Enter your name and your email associated with your 2023 membership. Select "Recover Account" and that sends a message to your email. The message provides a link to set up your login password and you can add a profile picture too if you want!

NOTE: You will be assigned a new member number.

First time memberships and renewal memberships can now opt to set up auto-renewal.

When you have an account and you are logged in, any purchases you make are listed in your personal account, so you can always see your transactions and you'll always have your member number handy.

HRP, Lifetime Insurance, Signs and Guides are in the "store" options, just under the Membership options page.

More options and conveniences are on the way soon! We hope you like the changes.

Feel free to email or call if you have any questions.
director@kansashorsecouncil.com, 785-776-0662



Breyer WinterFest features eight fantastic, holiday-themed workshops created by talented model horse hobbyists, plus exclusive online programming featuring holiday greetings from Breyer portrait horses, visits to the legendary Breyer Archive Room, and extra holiday fun, hosted by the Breyer Events Team. All this content is available to Breyer fans across the world at no charge and completely on-demand through January 1st, so you can enjoy on your own schedule!

[Learn More Here](#)





AMERICAN YOUTH HORSE COUNCIL

LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Nominate a
horse industry
professional
dedicated to the
education of youth



**HORSE
INDUSTRY
PROFESSIONAL
OF THE YEAR**

**NEW AWARD
CATEGORY!**



RECIPIENTS
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MARCH 21-23, 2024
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JANUARY 16, 2024**

AYHC.COM/AYHC-AWARDS



The AYHC Horse Industry Professional of the Year award is an annual accolade designed to honor exceptional individuals dedicated to the education of youth in the horse industry. Esteemed nominees for this prestigious distinction are professionals actively engaged in roles that support the youth horse industry, either through employment or self-employment. These individuals demonstrate exemplary skills as educators, coaches, or mentors to young horse enthusiasts, actively promoting the youth horse industry at local, state, or national levels. Learn more at ayhc.com/ayhc-awards



BestHorsePractices

Best Horse Practices Latest Podcast

Buck the Trend, a Mental Health Forum

Under the auspices of the Best Horse Practices Summit, Buck the Trend is a pilot project developed by Maddy Butcher to address the mental health challenges specific to cowboys, trainers, farriers, and others in the horse community. It is founded on the idea that a small, peer-focused group, hosted in a safe, relaxed setting, and led by experienced mental health professionals, is an effective way to nurture conversations, build skills, and affect positive change.



It is funded in part by a grant from the [LOR Foundation](#) and has the generous support of [Patagonia WorkWear](#).

It will be held in mid-February, 2024, in Mancos, Colorado, and facilitated by KD Bryant and Joseph Prekup, two experienced therapists familiar with our community.

[Read more about the intersection of mental health, best practices, and horses here.](#)

The problem:

Many of us have acknowledged that our work can be isolating and demanding and that there are cultural, logistical, economic, and social impediments to getting help and being well.

Our mental health and wellness impact not just us, but those around us, including family, friends, coworkers, and, of course, the animals.

Horses may be “therapeutic.” They can make us feel better. But they can’t necessarily help us build skills to navigate interpersonal relationships and feel better about ourselves.

The solution:

This forum is focused on skill-building and elevating the mental health conversation in our community. It’s an opportunity to focus on ourselves for a moment, so that we can enhance and improve what’s around us (specifically, the well-being of those close to us, humans and non-humans alike, as well as the greater horse community).

If you would like to be involved or support Buck the Trend, [please contact us](#).



HORSES



X1111

X1111

Look what's coming! The US Postal Service will issue a set of horse stamps in 2024.

The horses were photographed by Stephanie Moon Photography of Ohio and Karen Wegehenkel Horse Photography of Oregon.



How to Assure the Reluctant Landowner

Maintaining and Acquiring Horseback Access to Private Trails and Land

By Denise Y. O'Meara, RLA for Equine Land Conservation Resource, July 11, 2016

Access to land for trail riding, boarding, performance, and more is essential to equine enthusiasts everywhere. Agreements with private landowners and public land managers require different approaches. The segment and the following segment of Save The Trails will provide information to help you develop, maintain – and sometimes repair – these critical relationships. In this segment of Save The Trails we will focus on how to build and maintain relationships with private landowners in order to gain access to trails. In the next segment we will focus on working with public land managers to develop and maintain access to trails on public land.

No Trespassing

Private property makes up an important segment of our equine activity spaces. Many trails connect nonadjacent public land trails and destinations. Private lands host facilities such as boarding and show stables, as well as open land, for a variety of equine activities. Private equine accessible lands located near denser population zones are especially vulnerable as land is converted to development.

Aside from increasing land values, the potential issues that go along with allowing riders on their property can make even long-time horse friendly landowners skittish. And property that has changed hands can quickly become inaccessible through lack of communication and understanding. Riding a favorite trail can become trespassing overnight.

What contributes to a landowner's reluctance to allow access to horseback riding activities? The most obvious factor is liability. Add damage to land and facilities, loss of privacy, poor communication and lack of appreciation and the result could be a disgruntled landowner with a gate, a lock and a "No Trespassing" sign.

What To Do

Get to Know your Landowner: Does the landowner have an unvoiced or unresolved issue? Is this a new owner that is leery of the possible consequences of equine access? A little homework can help you gauge the situation and mood of the landowner. A past or ongoing horseback-related injury lawsuit, for example, bodes poorly for a friendly chat.

If the owner is willing, approach him/her in a friendly manner and ask about their concerns. Don't be defensive or overly assertive. Initially, listen without offering instant solutions unless the landowner requests your input.

Create an Organization or Club: Riding clubs and organizations can make a difference in landowner relations:

- Establish a relationship with the landowner in which the club is responsible for setting user behavior rules and the owner is responsible for providing safe conditions.
- Establish Rules for Riding, agreed to by the landowner, for the use of event spaces and trails, including:
 - Who may ride –member/guest only, and/or sign an event user agreement;
 - Restrictions – activities, land areas, etc.;
 - Trail behavior rules – carry in/carry out; report conditions; use courtesy; safety considerations; weather/surface conditions; trail days/hours; etc.;
 - Event/facility rules –safety rules; equipment storage; other pets; horse health rules and

requirements, etc.;

- Use the club's website or social media as a communication hub. Post information, conditions, etc.

- Purchase club liability coverage or offer inexpensive policies for individual members through an insurance broker.

Learn about Protection Tools: Attorney Julie R. Fershtman, an Equine Law practitioner, offers these suggestions:

- A "liability waiver/release...can offer the landowner as much protection as the (available) state law will allow."
- Help the landowner to locate and understand state "laws that limit equestrian-related liabilities, such as the...Equine Activity Liability Act or the Recreational Land Use Act".
- Laws may allow you to, "offer to sign an indemnity agreement...in which you agree to protect and hold harmless the landowner if he or she is sued for any wrongful acts that you are accused of committing while using the land."
- Purchase your own liability insurance, such as a "Personal Horse Owner's Liability" policy and show the landowner proof.
- "You and the landowner can establish a mutual agreement, confirmed in writing, regarding your use of the land that covers several matters" including rules and restrictions.

Help Out With Maintenance and Safety – Volunteers: Landowners have the work and expense of monitoring and repairing their land and facilities. You can help. Co-opt riding club members and other user groups to participate in monitoring and workdays. Contact your local chapter of Back Country Horsemen of America for help getting started.

Show the Landowner Your Appreciation: Showing your appreciation to the landowner will help establish, long-term, the privilege of riding on their land. Invite him/her to events, send a gift, have a landowner appreciation day. Communicate well. And help the landowner to monitor and care for their land.

Of course, there is no guarantee that the landowner will be comfortable with the assurances you offer, and sometimes nothing you do will make him or her willing to let you use the land. If that is the case, accept the refusal graciously and proceed elsewhere.



As blanket season is in full force upon us, here is a very important reminder courtesy of the horse doctors at Miamitown Equine Veterinary Services:

"When securing blankets, make sure that the snaps/clips are facing inward, toward the horse! If they are facing out, they can easily become stuck on something, like the hay net in the picture."





EPISODE 8

The Impact the Horse has on Authentic Leadership Development

December 5, 2023



Think about it: If you grew up with horses, how do you think they influenced your life today? Julie and Megan talk with PhD candidate Caitlin Lunzmann, who is currently studying at the University of Florida and looking at that very question. Her thesis focuses on studying the impacts of horse experiences on youth development in terms of leadership, emotional intelligence, and social skills. She's looking at the impact that horse-human bonds have on competencies like self-awareness, emotional intelligence, ethics, confidence, and ability to build trust and how experiential learning opportunities horses provide and developing how they can be applied.

Catch the latest episode of the American Horse Council Podcast, "The Impact the Horse has on Authentic Leadership Development".

PODCAST



*I believe in the future of agriculture.
with a faith born not of words but of deeds*

Greetings!

I hope this email finds you well and that you've had a moment to consider our previous messages regarding the Kansas FFA Foundation's Endowment Fund campaign. We are approaching a critical juncture in our fundraising efforts, and your support is more important than ever.

As we aim to raise \$5,000,000 by the end of 2023, just a few short weeks away. We are incredibly touched by the incredible response from individuals who share our passion for fostering the next generation of Kansas and agricultural leaders. Your generosity can help us bridge the gap between our current progress and our ambitious goal.

By donating to the Kansas FFA Foundation, you are investing in the future of Kansas agricultural education and leadership development. Your contribution will directly benefit ag teachers and FFA students, ensuring they have the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to excel in their chosen paths.

We understand that there are many worthy causes, but we believe that supporting FFA is an investment in the future of our state and the agricultural industry as a whole. We invite you to be part of this inspiring journey and make a lasting impact on the lives of young leaders.

To donate and learn more about our campaign, please visit www.ksffa.org/endowment. If you're considering a donation or would like to discuss how you can help us reach our goal, I'd love to talk to you directly. You can pick a time that works best for you directly from my calendar here <https://doodle.com/bp/johannaanderes/kansas-ffa-foundation--lets-meet-w-johanna-anderes> or reply to this email with your availability and I can sync from there.

Thank you for your consideration and support. Together, we can empower the next generation of agricultural leaders and ensure the continued success of the Kansas FFA.

Happy holidays,

Johanna Andres, Kansas FFA Foundation



A Devoted Horse

July 9, 2018


Horses rise or fall to your level of expectation, no matter how high or low. If you think he's going to spook at something, he generally will. If you think he is going to throw a fit about getting in the trailer, he will oblige (especially if his emotional outbursts have gotten him what he wanted in the past). On the other hand, when your expectations are high, and you have clear parameters of obedient and compliant behavior, he steps up.

It shouldn't come as a huge surprise that horses will respond to your expectations. After all, they're herd animals—instinctively drawn to the herd, which provides the comfort and security they yearn for. Keep in mind that membership in the herd is not automatically granted—each horse must earn it; and once granted, a horse must follow the rules of the herd and be a good herd mate (meet expectations) in order to maintain his status. A good citizen is one that respects the hierarchy of the herd and lives up to the expectations of the leader.

Keep in mind that horses not only live in cooperative groups, they're also extremely communicative. While us humans rely heavily on the spoken/written word to communicate (often believing words more than the physical evidence before us), horses communicate primarily with postures, gestures, and actions. And horses never lie.

Learning to have clear and lofty expectations of your horse, to convey those expectations with consistent and unambiguous actions, to control your own emotions and be aware of the body-language message you present your horse, is all it takes to have a compliant and willing horse that worships the ground you walk on.

My Herd, My Rules



Horses know leadership when they see it; they seek out authority, because it makes them feel safe. Having been around horses well over half a century, literally working with thousands of individuals over the years, I've learned to first *have* expectations and boundaries, and then *convey* them to any horse I encounter—immediately. The first part of the equation is critical—knowing what behavior you expect from your horse, and therefore knowing when he is compliant and when he is not. That seems easy, right? But if I asked you to state three simple and clear expectations of your horse right now, could you?

Because I am abundantly clear on my personal boundaries and I have a few fundamental rules of behavior that I expect from any horse, a horse learns my rules within a couple minutes of our first interaction. Horses love clarity and consistency; they're lightning-fast learners, given the right conditions for comprehension (timing and pressure). So, in a few short minutes, a fussy, tantrum-throwing horse can become a model citizen, looking to me with deference and willingness, because my expectations have become clear and his compliance is non-negotiable.

Horses are good at following rules, when rules are clearly defined and consistently enforced, because that is what life is like in the herd. But long before you can “enforce” the rules or “enforce” a boundary, you have to *know* the rule, be clear on the boundary *yourself* and have high expectations of your horse's behavior.

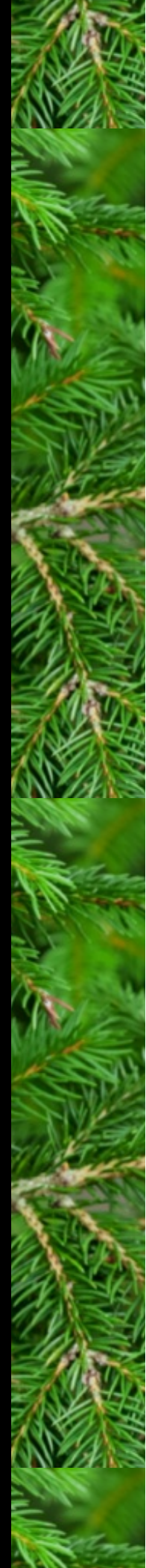
One reason we do groundwork with horses, is to establish these rules and boundaries and to build a relationship with your horse wherein he looks to you for direction and eagerly does your bidding. Whether it takes you minutes, days, or weeks to become the leader in the eyes of your horse, depends on you. Horses come along quickly when presented with consistent and fair leadership.


Talk the Talk

Once you know your own boundaries and have clear expectations of your horse's behavior, it's time to convey those expectations to your horse. The message needs to be simple, clear and consistent and conveyed without emotion. Both reward and correction are meted out fairly—his actions have consequences, for better or for worse.

For instance, a very basic expectation I have of any trained horse, is that he moves his feet when I ask him to and stands like a statue if I ask him to. I'll ask him to stand without moving in the exact same way 100% of the time (facing him with my toes pointed at his shoulder and saying, “Whoa.”). And 100% of the time, I will correct him appropriately if he moves (a scolding and a bump of the rope) and I will always reward him when he complies (by giving him the greatest gift—leaving him alone). Because my message is clear and the reinforcement or reward comes quickly and has meaning, even a tyrant of a horse will become compliant quickly.

Because horses crave authority, they're also quite eager-to-please animals, if you have the same respect and admiration they give the herd leader. Because horses want to be accepted in the herd, they're good at following rules. But for a rule to become law, it must be consistently enforced, and compliance must be mandatory. Sometimes horses understand what behavior is expected of them, but if they learn that reinforcement is lacking, and/or they can employ





clever tricks to circumvent the rules and manipulate the human, compliance becomes optional.

To be the *maker* of the rules and the *enforcer* of the rules is not easy; to do it with *consistency* and *clarity* is even harder. Throw into the mix a thousand-pound flight animal, who may physically intimidate you and who easily learns to push your emotional buttons and being the leader can get downright grueling. The trick is to keep your own emotions in check as you single-mindedly convey your expectations to your horse. The more emotionally charged your horse becomes, the more granite-like your emotions must be.

Explain the simple rule (don't move your feet unless I tell you to) or define the boundary (stay behind my shoulder as we walk), then reinforce immediately and with meaningful pressure when the horse breaks the rule; leave the horse alone and take all pressure off the moment he is correct. Reinforcement should come quickly (within a second of the infraction) but should be over just as fast (one and done) and should never be done in anger or retribution. A true leader strives to always be in command of her emotions, to always set a good example and to always speak the truth.

Walk the Walk

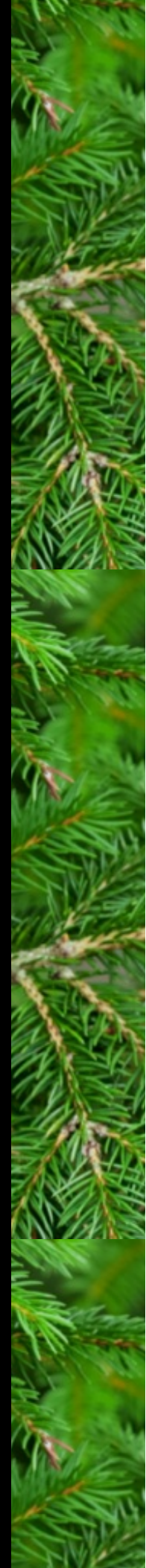
It's hard for a horse to look up to you as a strong and benevolent leader, when you present the picture in your body language of a lost tourist in a foreign land. Words mean nothing to your horse, but your actions, your emotions and your body language tell him everything he needs to know.


Horses crave authority because it brings order, regularity, and peace to an otherwise chaotic world. It's not enough to *have* expectations, to *convey* and *enforce* the rules, you also must comport yourself in a manner that you look like the one in charge, at all times. It's my goal to make my horse think I am not only in control of *his* actions, but I control everything in the environment, too. In his eyes, I want to be the supreme commander of the universe. With that, comes not only his trust, but his compliance and willingness, too.

Everyone has self-doubt at times. Everyone. It's what you do with yourself in that moment that separates leaders from followers. Taking mental and physical control of your emotions, reminding yourself, "I've done this before and I can do it now," and then pushing through that moment of self-doubt, will get you everywhere with your horse (and in life). When you allow self-doubt to creep into your ground-handling or riding of a horse, you become passive and convey the picture of that lost tourist. The horse sees this as a giant opening to either 1) start a mutiny, or 2) abandon ship.

Once you've asked a horse to do something, you should continue to ask, with steadfast determination, until you get the right answer. If you're not committed, or you cannot reinforce the command, it's best not to ask. Your horse is very keen to your level of confidence, intent, and determination. He can see it—or lack thereof—in your body language (where you look, your posture, your gestures, even the look on your face and the way you move).

The key is to act confident on the outside, even though you don't always feel that way on the inside. Fake it 'til you make it; never show your weakness on the outside. It's not that you always feel confident and in-control, just don't let





that negative emotion take over your mind and body. The mind, body, and spirit (the mental, the physical and the emotional) are inextricably intertwined. Controlling your mind with positive thoughts and your body language with a show of determination, will keep the negative emotions at bay.

Be the Captain

Of course, you cannot just strut around like a leader and expect someone to follow. You must also be true to your word, consistent and predictable in your actions and have sound judgment in all matters. Say what you do and do what you say. You must recognize the horse's effort and willingness, just as quickly and vehemently as you offer criticism and reinforcement.

Often, in a moment that really counts with a horse, humans are too caught up dwelling in the past and fretting over the future to notice a horse's behavior in that instant. Horses exist in the moment—when three seconds go by, it's like a whole different day to the horse, and the moment is lost forever. Sadly, humans tend to linger in the past (he spooked here before) and jump to the future (what if spooks up there), instead of directing our horse like a true leader, in the moment of his greatest need.

It's a tall order, what your horse needs from you to feel safe and comfortable in your presence. He needs to know what you expect of him, that rules exist and will be enforced fairly and consistently. He needs you to be strong emotionally, in-control of yourself and others, clear in your intent and consistent in your actions. He needs you to make good decisions, to recognize his efforts and reward his compliance. It's a lot too for him to ask, but the price is well worth paying, because once you become a true leader in the eyes of your horse, he will reward you with obedience, respect and devotion.

Come See and Visit with Julie Goodnight at EquiFest of KS 2024 in Salina, KS! March 14, 15, & 16





Planning for the future?
Consider a tax deductible donation to
the Kansas Horse Council Foundation, a 501c3 charitable
organization, promoting equine education and providing academic
scholarships to equestrians.



Los Angeles Board of Animal Services Commissioners
Recommends Ban of Rodeo Events

LA County CA continues to press the attempt to ban rodeo and more...though it's only one county in one state it serves as a reminder to remain alert and remember that elections matter. Read "Who Is the LA City County Actually Serving?" from PTH.

PTH Article



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**Check out Best of America by Horseback
EquiFest 2023 TV coverage!**

EquiFest of KS 2023



Pitchin A Fit

by Del Shields

Nineteen years I've owned that Grey. He's always tried to buck. He'll pitch a fit and crow hop some, but he never has had any luck.

I'd scold him good and give him a sermon. I'd remind him that I'm getting old. But the fact of the matter is, he don't buck all that good and well, I've always got him rode.

So, the daughter came by with her new man; asked me if I could teach him to ride? I told her, "well I guessed I probably could" and just for a moment I got an ornery feeling inside.

But I put him on a cool one, just for the daughter's sake. And I didn't want the liability of whatever bones he might break.

So, the wife and I and the two of them set out for a little ride. My old Grey hoss was quiet and smooth as we walked out stride for stride.

Shevawn suggested we move some calves from the trap where they'd been mothered. I'd been planning to do it anyways, so this time was as good as any other.

When the calves ran past with their heels in the air, my Grey caught the fever and joined. I felt that all too familiar burning sensation, when he pulled the muscle in my groin.

Well, I reined him in and gave him his talk. He repented and made amends. But as I trotted him off, he seemed stiff in his joints. A sadness in my heart crept in. The years and work have taken their roll. Trust me, I know how it feels. But we promised we'd always take care of each other. We're a team and that was our deal.

I've been thinking real hard about just letting go, the next time he pitches a fit. So that he can have a story to tell, "Did you see the way that cowboy lit?" In conversation around the hay ring, he'd tell his nickering friends if he could, "I've really never tried to buck all that hard, the truth is, that cowboy don't ride all that good."

Spots Available!

February
2024

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DECEMBER FUNNY

(floating around FB)



Why Everyone Needs to take a 1st Aid Course

Robert Eversole

May 4, 2023

I've spent enough time riding, camping, and packing in the backcountry to sometimes become complacent. Complacency isn't a badge of honor; it's a significant failure point on my part. Every so often, I start cutting

corners, trying to hurry along a process or task that shouldn't be rushed. I'm not alone in this failure. As humans, we all try for the seemingly easy way out of a situation or circumstance.

Sometimes the dice roll in my favor, and all is well. Occasionally they don't. Taking pictures while riding and focusing on the camera instead of my animal worked fine until bees entered the picture. Hanging onto the lead of pack string when I should have been concentrating on my mule during a river crossing that suddenly became "sporty."

Sometimes the evacuations involved rigging a makeshift sling from a bandanna before starting the slow trudge out. Others resulted in calls into SAR and waiting for a helicopter. While the rescues differed, they're always complicated and exhausting as you're pushed to your limits, mentally and physically. In all these situations, corners were cut that should not have been. A solid background of First Responder / 1st Aid knowledge made a big difference in the outcome.

Unplanned events happen. The question is not if but when they occur and whether you are prepared to deal with the aftermath.

The importance of knowing where you're going

During my trail riding and horse camping clinics, I repeatedly stress the necessity of investigating the places they'll be in and thinking about the consequences of an injury. Some areas may have helicopter rescue service that will pluck you off the mountainside, but that should never be your first line of defense. A SAR team might take hours to get to you, or it might be too stormy for aviation assets to fly.

Post Covid more people are getting into the outdoors than ever. SAR crews have been breaking call-out records left and right while balancing volunteer burnout. These volunteers are stretched thin. SAR crews have the right to tell you that you'll have to wait if a more pressing rescue needs their attention. Are you prepared to stop the bleeding, splint a fracture, and keep an injured partner alive until more advanced care is available?

The knowledge you want to have

You won't learn to do this in a horsemanship course. Nor will you learn CPR, which is often necessary for heart attack victims who may not be breathing. At a minimum, you'll need to take an American Red Cross CPR class to gain these vital skills. I suggest taking it a step further for either a Wilderness First Aid or Wilderness First Responder course.

Horse riding and camping is, unfortunately, a pay-to-play activity. I wish there were a way around the cost of entry to the fabulous sport we're blessed to engage in. Unfortunately, to ride and camp safely, you need to become educated. We only drive cars after taking a driver's ed class and passing a test. Think about stepping out onto the trail in the same way.

So, if you're new to trail riding this season, at a minimum, you should sign up for a 1st Aid and CPR course. Then, before you close your web browser, look up wilderness medicine classes in your area. If you've played in the backcountry for years and still haven't taken a wilderness medicine class thank your lucky stars that you've made it this far.

As always, for more information on this and many other essential topics for trail riders and horse campers, visit us at www.TrailMeister.com. You can also get a copy of the best-selling book "The ABCs of Trail Riding and Horse Camping," which features over 180 topics for the active or aspiring trail rider.

**Be sure to meet Robert Eversole- the Trail Meister- in person at EquiFest of KS,
March 14-16, 2024, in Salina.**



SAVE THE DATE March 14-17, 2024
www.equifestofks.com



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We know it's cold now, but your horses will thank you come summertime! This 4-foot diameter, six-blade design delivers unmatched airflow. It's conveniently sized for easy storage but packs a punch. The magnet motor provides quiet operation to keep even the spookiest horse calm. Our favorite use? Positioning the sidekick down the barn aisle to provide both heat relief and movement of stagnant air.



**FOR THE DIYER:
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Refresh your barn from top to bottom. Sherwin Williams offers paint selections for a variety of surfaces to give your barn, fences, or jumps the makeover they deserve! Don't forget the rollers and brushes.



K-STATE
Research and Extension

K-State Research and Extension is partnering with the Sunflower Foundation and the Kansas Trails Council to bring you a series of webinars. These events are for local trail advocates of any kind - from city managers to volunteers - who want to create access to trails so their citizens can enjoy the physical, mental, and community benefits of connecting with nature.

Next Webinar is December 12th. Register here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Did you miss October & November's Webinars featuring:

Mike Goodwin, Kansas Trail Council

Nancy Nelson, Fredonia

Lacey Lies, Independence

Myron Leinwetter, Rossville

Jeff Bender, Kansas Dept of Wildlife & Parks

Find the replay link here: [Public Trail Resources \(k-state.edu\)](https://k-state.edu/public-trail-resources)



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Helping At-Risk Horses

- UHC Equine Resource Database
- Equine Welfare Data Collective
- Education and resources on responsible ownership.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 9, 2023

United Horse Coalition Launches Membership Drive Contest

The end of the year is the perfect time to make a change and make a difference. Why not end the year on a more colorful note while supporting the United Horse Coalition (UHC)?

The UHC is hosting their membership drive as a reminder that each organization in our industry, no matter their capacity, or mission, can support horses that are at-risk or in transition. Now through December 14, any new membership with the UHC is eligible to win a little extra something to support their cause.

New members (or returning after more than two years) joining as a registered 501c3 rescue or sanctuary at the Non-Profit Membership level, will be entered into win a gift card for \$250 from Sherwin Williams.



New members (or returning after more than two years) joining at the Full, Associate or Supportive level are eligible to win a \$100 gift card from the American Horse Council.

“Because the UHC relies solely on our membership fees to continue the work we do, your support through your membership with the United Horse Coalition is critical to ensure the viability of the valuable resources we provide to the equine industry as a whole,” says Ashley Harkins, director of the UHC.

The UHC is a neutral entity and broad alliance of equine organizations that have joined together under the American Horse Council to educate, advocate, and collaborate industry wide on solutions to the issues that surround our nations at-risk horses and those in transition. The work that UHC does, ensures that every horse owner has access to the resources they need to keep their horse(s) safe at home should they fall on hard times, or barring that, help provide options to rehome their horse responsibly, ensuring that no horse need be put in a situation where they become at-risk. In addition to these essential resources, the UHC provides free presentations and educational materials to current and prospective equine owners on responsible horse ownership and breeding, estate planning, preparing for euthanasia and aftercare, responsible rehoming options, and more.

In supporting the UHC, you support providing resources and responsible options for horse owners who need our help the most, while helping to keep our industry alive and well. Your membership helps to provide resources to horse owners, who may even belong to your own clientele, member base or organization. The resources that UHC offers are free and are critical to ensuring the wellbeing of horses (and their owners) across every discipline throughout the entire equine industry.

The UHC is also home to the UHC Equine Resource Database as well as the Equine Welfare Data Collective--a collaboration that accumulates, analyzes, and reports data to enhance programming for transitioning and at-risk equines. The data found in the EWDC reports help us as an industry to have a better understanding of the true nature of what is really happening out there, not just anecdotally. The work UHC and EWDC accomplish on such a tight budget within the equine industry is no small achievement, and we are proud that the industry looks to, and trusts, the data supplied in these reports. This data is used to drive positive change and help organizations to improve their effectiveness across the industry in an effort to make lasting forward movement for at-risk equines and those in transition. Both the UHC and EWDC utilize the UHCERD in their daily work to help advance their respective missions within the equine industry.

To help us, help the equine industry, and the owners who need our support the most, please consider becoming a United Horse Coalition member organization: <https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/become-a-member/>

The contest is sponsored by the American Horse Council and the United Horse Coalition. No purchase is necessary to enter or win, and all legal residents in the 50 states of the United States and the District of Columbia are eligible.

Limit one entry per organization, per email address and per household. The winner will be selected and announced on or about December 16. The UHC will attempt to notify the winner via telephone or email, and if the potential winner cannot be contacted within five business days after the first attempt, the UHC will select an alternate potential winner.



DID YOU KNOW...

It's **FREE** to Access the Horse Trails of America Map

THE map is **free to access**, but we do ask that all sign in and make an account so that we can keep our community safe. Here's where to make your membership (or take advantage of the six-month free trial for the Trail & Travel

Membership): <https://www.horsetrailsofamerica.com/start-membership>. Or if it's easier to remember, HTA.horse will take you to

the same spot.

Watch the Video

Want more help? I made a how-to video to walk you through all the features and what to do. Watch that on our new YouTube channel—and be sure to hit subscribe and like once you're there: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rQm8Lnd3ko>

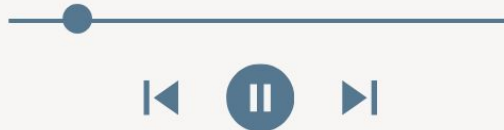
A map of the United States with numerous location pins. The pins are colored green, yellow, and orange, and many have numbers next to them. Overlaid on the map is a large blue banner with the text "1000 LOCATIONS!" in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, a dark blue banner with white, bold, sans-serif text reads "KEEP ADDING...". At the bottom, the text "HTA.HORSE" is displayed in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. The map shows state boundaries and names, including Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Virginia. The Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean are also visible.

Want more help? I made a how-to video to walk you through all the features and what to do. Watch that on our new YouTube channel—and be sure to hit subscribe and like once you're there: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rQm8Lnd3ko>





Harnessing the Healing Power of Horses for Mental Health with Jen Grant, Jessica Normand, and Lynn Thomas



From mental health professionals to horse enthusiasts, many have long known the incredibly powerful bond between humans and horses. Join Jen Grant, Jessica Normand, and Horses for Mental Health co-founder, Lynn Thomas to learn about their groundbreaking campaign that sheds light on the powerful healing potential of horses in mental health treatment and personal growth.

PODCAST



HERE FOR HORSES

www.hereforhorses.org

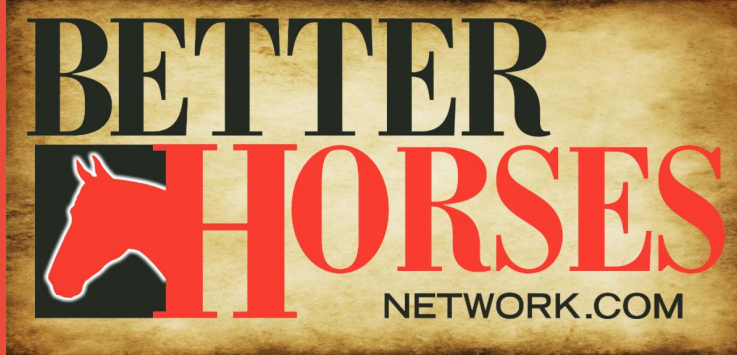
the **HORSE**
YOUR GUIDE TO EQUINE HEALTH CARE

Dr. Howland Mansfield describes signs a horse is ready to retire from riding, ranging from mild work intolerance to lameness.

Each horse is unique and will be ready for a step-down career or retirement on an individual basis. Dr. Howland Mansfield of American Regent Animal Health, who is based in South Carolina, describes what signs owners should look for when deciding if their senior horses are no longer comfortable in riding careers.

This podcast is an excerpt from our Ask The Horse Live Q&A, "When Should I Retire My Horse from Riding." Listen to the full recording [here](#).

[LISTEN TO THE PODCAST HERE](#)



If you missed the Better Horses coverage of EquiFest 2023, replay the two-part episodes here!

[Episode #196](#)

[Episode #193](#)



Giving a shoutout to these participants and the hours they've logged enjoying time with their equine friends!

Q3 Results Coming Soon:



**Back Country
Horsemen
of Kansas**

**10 years
2014-2024**

Keeping equestrian trails open for future generations.

Kansas Back Country Horsemen of America

Did you know next year is BCHKS 10-year anniversary?

Want to know more about Back Country Horsemen- Kansas?

Like and Follow on Facebook:

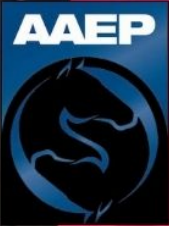
[\(20+\) Back Country Horsemen of America Kansas Chapter | Facebook](#)

Many fall trail rides offer opportunities to support trails and trail improvement projects.

Veterinarian Appreciation Day



NOM
NOT ONE MORE VET



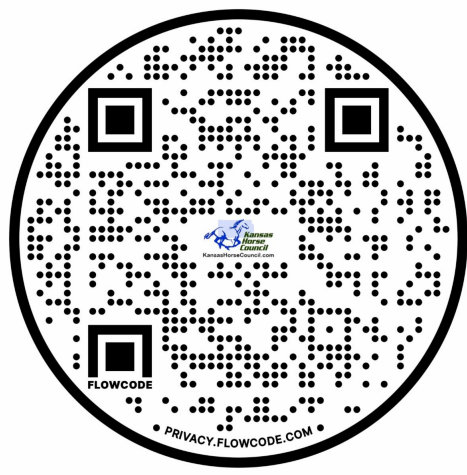
Every Day can be Veterinarian Appreciation Day!
Ways to show your appreciation include:

- Shout-out some positivity to your vet on social media
- Handmade cards from children or even adults can fill their walls and bring smiles to their hearts
- Take the time to listen--ask how they are, learn what their day is like
- Send photos of your pet with a letter of thanks
- Send a gift package -- many times, vets and their techs don't have much time for a lunch/dinner break. Sending some treats (nutritious and fun) or even purchasing some party subs can make a big difference

Don't Miss This Great KHC
Benefit:

Subscription opportunity to The
Horse Magazine at 90%
DISCOUNT off retail-
Only \$5 for the year to Kansas
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the **HORSE**
YOUR GUIDE TO EQUINE HEALTH CARE



Chef Alli's Makes Tik Tok Cinnamon Rolls with Heavy Cream

INGREDIENTS

Cinnamon Rolls

- 2 cans Refrigerated Grands Cinnamon Rolls, including the containers of frosting included with each roll tube.
- Whipping cream
- Butter
- Dark brown sugar
- Cinnamon

Frosting

- Cream cheese
- Butter
- Powdered sugar
- Kosher salt

Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Spray a 9×13-inch baking pan with nonstick baking spray. Unroll both cans of canned cinnamon rolls and place them into the prepared pan in a single layer; reserve the containers of white

icing to use later in this recipe to make the frosting.

- Gently and slowly pour the whipping cream over and around the unbaked cinnamon rolls in the pan.
- In a small bowl, combine the 1/3 cup melted butter, brown sugar, and ground cinnamon. Spread this mixture evenly over the unbaked cinnamon rolls in the pan. Tightly cover the cinnamon roll pan with foil and place it onto the center oven rack.
- Bake the cinnamon rolls for 30 minutes or until fully cooked throughout. Remove the pan of cinnamon rolls from the oven to a cooling rack; uncover to cool.
- While the cinnamon rolls bake, make the frosting. In a medium mixing bowl, add the butter, cream cheese, and salt along with the contents of both containers of the white icing that came with the canned cinnamon rolls; stir to combine.
- Add the powdered sugar and stir until the frosting is nice and smooth. If the frosting appears too thick to spread easily, add a few drops of milk to loosen it.



Kansas Horse Council Specialty License Plate

- Kansas Horse Council license plates are available at your local County

Treasurer's office.

- You don't have to be a member to sport one, on your car, truck or trailer!
- Show your love of horses with this colorful statement plate!

KHC License Plate Info



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FOR KHC AND
THE WORK IT DOES.

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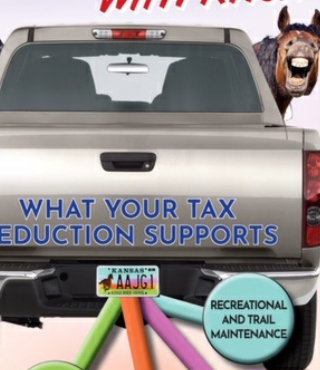
are available to
anyone who owns or
leases an automobile,
RV, truck or trailer
with a gross weight of
20,000 pounds or less.

HOW TO GET YOURS:

TROT over to your County
Treasurers Office

FILL OUT a Kansas Royalty
Tag form

PAY a one time production charge of \$50.00 plus
title fees, registration fees, personal property tax
and a \$30 donation to the Kansas Horse Council.
The \$30 tax deductible donation will appear on
your paperwork every year when you renew! If the
vehicle is currently tagged, the original plate must
be returned and the current owner's registration
and proof of insurance will need to be provided.



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JOINT MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE IN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS!

Individual: \$80 (\$15 to BCHA/\$15 to BCH-KS/\$15 to KS Chapter of Choice/\$20 for insurance/\$15 to KHC)
Family: \$100 (\$15 to BCHA/\$15 to BCH-KS/\$15 to KS Chapter of Choice/\$40 for insurance/\$15 to KHC)

Trails Advocate Level Individual: \$80

Trails Advocate Level Family: \$100

One enrollment to support two organizations!

Simple and makes sense!



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF KANSAS

What's the best way to stay informed of BCHKansas news and activities?

Follow Facebook.

There are several Facebook pages set up to keep BCHKansas members and all equestrians up-to-date on activities on several of our public trails. Here's a list:

Back Country Horsemen of America Kansas Chapter
Sunflower Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Kansas
Saddle Ridge Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Kansas
Tuttle Creek Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Kansas
Saddle Ridge Chapter
Big Hill Lake Riders
Friends of Randolph State Park
Friends of Rockhaven Park
Let's Ride—Perry Lake
Kanza Rail Trails Conservancy

Receive notifications of workdays or see reports on trails-maintenance or campground improvements. Join in on workdays whenever possible!

Follow the www.bchkansas.com website.

Encourage a new member to join BCHKS and be entered into an end-of-year drawing.

INTERSCHOLASTIC
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ASSOCIATION



GET A
JUMP
ON THE **2023-2024**
IEA SHOW SEASON



Join Now! Competitions begin August 1st.

**Attention Kansas lesson barns, you too
could become an (IEA) Interscholastic
Equestrian Association facility and
partake in shows & awards!
Checkout their Facebook page and
website, www.rideiea.org**

Kansas Horse Council Rewards Programs



DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:

- When you shop at Dillons and use your Rewards card, KHC will earn a percentage rebate based on your Dillon's purchases!

To link & register your rewards card click here: **[Dillons Rewards Link](#)** and log into your existing account. Search for Kansas Horse Council or enter our NPO number, KS920 and click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *Rewards Card. *You must have a registered Dillons Food Stores rewards card account to link the Community Rewards program to Kansas Horse Council. (Cards are available for FREE at any Dillon's customer service desk.) SHOP: Purchases will not count towards rebates for KHC until you register your rewards card and link to Kansas Horse Council here: **DILLONS REWARDS LINK** Registered Rewards Cards must be swiped at checkout or use your phone number registered with your Rewards Card when shopping for purchases to count. This program does not affect your Fuel Points balance. Points will still accumulate for your personal use. Rebate program is based on purchases at Dillon's stores payable to Kansas Horse Council as a Non-Profit Organization. Thank you for your continued support to the voice of equine enthusiasts in Kansas!

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A percentage of every sale is

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As a member of KHC, you are eligible for these discounts.



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John Deere offers substantial discounts on everything from mowers and tractors to Gator™ Utility Vehicles, hay and construction equipment.

- The MSRP Program: up to 28% off
- The Cash Bonus Program: up to \$2,700 off
- Construction Equipment: up to 26% off



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BAF is committed to Energy Efficient Air movement and providing comfort to the equine industry. Equine members will receive up to a 25% discount on qualifying purchases for all Equine Facilities and Personal Residences.



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Horsemanship
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TO JOIN UP

EARN
REWARDS

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THE
KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL
PRESENTS

HORSEMANSHIP REWARDS PROGRAM

Earn rewards while working with your favorite equine friends!
This program is open to anyone who enjoys working with horses, minis, donkeys, ponies, or mules, including "grade" equines.

This program recognizes participation in Equine Activities such as riding, schooling, competing, showing, training, ground work, driving, exercising, and assisting in a Therapy Program or Rescue. The program does not include feeding, stall cleaning and maintenance.

Awards are given at 25, 50, 100, 250, 500, 1000, 1500 & 2000 hour milestones. Upon 2000 hours completed, members are welcome to re-enroll and start again!

PROGRAM RULES & REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be a current KHC Member.
- Must pay a \$35.00 initial program enrollment fee the first year and then a \$15.00 annual program fee thereafter.
- May ride or handle more than one horse and it is not necessary to be the owner of the horse.
- Hourly log sheets may be submitted monthly, quarterly or annually. Annual submissions must be postmarked no later than December 31st.
- The KHC Member participant will need an Individual membership to track member rewards by name.
- Rewards points are not retroactive. Date of log begins on enrollment date.
- Rewards are subject to change based on availability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL, 8831 QUAIL LANE, SUITE 201, MANHATTAN, KS 66502
www.kansashorsecouncil.com | 785-776-0662 | Fax 785-539-2928 | director@kansashorsecouncil.com

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\$15, to
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hours into the New Year!
Logs are submitted quarterly.
Saddle up, ride and earn rewards...it's a
great way to start a NEW year!
For more details visit:
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Learn About Kansas Horse Trails! RIDE Kansas!

Saddle Up and RIDE Kansas! Visit our Kansas Department of Wildlife and U.S. Corps. of Engineers equestrian facilities. Visiting and riding or camping shows support of our parks, and keeps them open for future use and possible funding of improvements. Always leave only hoofprints behind. Share our multi-use trails. Call before you haul if in doubt before your visit.

KDWP State Parks info.



Do you have your copy

of our Equestrian Trails in Kansas?

Copies are provided FREE at all Kansas Horse Council events, or \$3 for s/h and we'll mail you one.

These guides are also available at all KDWP offices.

Trail info is also available online here:

Public Trails in Kansas

Stay tuned for our updated trail book this spring!



Kansas equestrians deserve a big pat on the back for another impressive year of volunteer work on public trails! Our public land managers and other trail organizations continue to be impressed by the dedication of equestrians to taking care of the trails we love to ride.

BCHKS volunteers reported the following for 2021 - 3,783 hours, with a value of \$259,326 in labor and supplies.

Since BCHKS started keeping track in 2014, equestrian volunteers in Kansas have contributed - 23,000 hours, with a value of \$1,250,943 in labor and supplies!

We do make a difference!



Kansas Horse Council | 8831 Quail Lane, Suite 201, Manhattan, KS 66502

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