



New York State  
**Horse Council**  
WESTERN CHAPTER

Equine Update

**General Membership Meeting November 15<sup>th</sup>  
1:30pm – 3:30pm  
East Aurora Moose Lodge**

**See the flyer inside for more information.**

YOUR EQUINE NEWSLETTER

2009 #6 NOV / DEC

***In this issue:***

*Niagara County 4H Proves Big  
Things Come in Small Packages*

*Birdsall Horse  
Rescue & Sanctuary*

*Syracuse Invitational Clinic  
Review by a HC Member*

*Right to Farm Law Update*

*Christmas Wish Lists for  
WNY Horse Non Profits*

*And Much More!*

**Attention WNY Trail Riders!**

Don't miss our General Membership Meeting on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm at the East Aurora Moose Lodge.

We will have **James Hornung, the Commissioner of Erie County Parks, David Paradowski, Forestry Supervisor from the NYS DEC, and Mark Thomas, Director of the Western Region OPRHP (Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation)** speaking about trails.

These agencies control virtually all the public riding land in WNY. Bring your riding buddies and your questions to this great opportunity to learn about what's happening with our trails!

*In riding a horse we borrow freedom*

## Birdsall Horse Rescue and Sanctuary Newest Western Chapter Member

The newest member to the Western Chapter is the Birdsall Horse Rescue and Sanctuary, located on a free-leased 26 acre property in Bloomfield N.Y. They are a Not-For-Profit group which has just received their tax-exempt status from the IRS..

They do not charge when someone takes one of the horses on a permanent lease. They do, however, accept donations whenever they're offered.



This is Snowball and Ruby Birdsall who rescued him from the Fingerlakes Livestock Auction. No one would bid on this yearling stallion because he had only one testicle. Surgery for him is \$1500 at Cornell University. As of November they are halfway to that sum because of donations from people who have heard about Snowball and want to help

If anyone wants to give toward Snowball's surgery or to help the Sanctuary in any other way, they can send to: Birdsall Horse Rescue and Sanctuary, Box 45, Bloomfield, NY 14469. Or through Paypal by logging in to Paypal and paying to their Treasurer, [kirk.marie.miller@gmail.com](mailto:kirk.marie.miller@gmail.com)

### Board of Directors Elections at General Meeting

Five Board of Directors' positions are expiring at the end of this year. Four of the Board would like to run for re-election to the board. They are:

- Sharon Kettner
- Barb Raucher
- Linda Tarnawskyj
- Peter Tarnawskyj

Martha Sturniolo who has been a general member of WCNYSHC is interested in running for a position on the board.

### WESTERN CHAPTER *Board of Directors*

Mark Adrian  
Becky Bartels – *Recording Secretary*  
JoAnn Bonsack  
Susan Braen  
Barb Cunningham – *President*  
Ann Czapla  
Barbara Huber  
Sharon Kettner  
Barb Rauscher  
Carol Schmelz – *Corresponding Sec.*  
Vinnie Speck  
Paul Szalinski  
Mary Szarek  
Linda Tarnawskyj  
Peter Tarnawskyj – *Treasurer*  
Larry Thurber  
Ginger Trautwein – *Vice President*  
Gayle West

## WNY Welcomes Parelli Instructor

Mollie Robbins Vacco, Licensed Parelli Professional recently transitioned to teaching the Parelli Program in the field. Mollie has spent the last 4 years studying intimately with Linda and Pat Parelli, 3 years of which she spent living and traveling with the Parelli Organization all over the USA and to Australia.



The Parelli program is for all breeds ages and disciplines. Mollie is currently residing at 100 acre ranch located in Boston, NY and also travels to your horses. For more information on how you can Reveal your horse, discover your potential and live your dream with horses contact Mollie at 716-912-8207 or [mrobbins22@gmail.com](mailto:mrobbins22@gmail.com). Visit the farm's website at [www.100acrewoodsranch.com](http://www.100acrewoodsranch.com)

### *NYS Horse Council Western Region Directors*

Mary Ann Byers      Jim Leising

### *NYS Horse Council Western V.P.*

Bob Pfohl



New York State  
Horse Council

[www.wcnyshc.org](http://www.wcnyshc.org)  
716-735-3529

# Small Horses, Big Hearts

*Submitted by Niagra County 4-H club, The Unbridled and Wild*

People ask me from time to time; what do you do with those miniature horses? I smile. We do a lot with them. Besides the basics of teaching children horsemanship, showmanship and driving that is. They teach the children first and foremost, how to develop and have a relationship with an equine friend.

What else can we do with them? The most rewarding work we've done is to bring our miniature horses (no..not ponies!!) to Niagara Hospice. Our Niagara County 4-H club, The Unbridled and Wild, was looking for ways to do creative community service when I received a call from Niagara Hospice. They had a patient that wanted to see a horse. I had just the horse for the job!

We walked into the building, right into the Lobby. What a beautiful building this is. I worry that my minis might leave a surprise or two but the staff at Hospice assures me that it is not a problem. Down the hall, and yes, right into the patient's rooms. And without encouragement, our mini walks right up and places his head gently on the lap of our new friend. And they stay like that, for a long time. And then they both sigh. And so do we. We visit nearly everyone but there are a few too ill to visit with us.



How gentle and kind these minis are. And what smiles did they generate! It was a wonderful experience for us, to be able to share our beautiful minis. We will do this every year we vow. And it is now year 3 so we're on a roll.

So the next time you hear someone ask "what do they do with those little horses?" Now you can tell them! And don't forget that they may be small, but they have big hearts!



## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jenessa Preston of Amherst who was named Grand National Champion at the Morgan Grand National and World Championship Horse Show in Oklahoma City in October in the Walk-Trot Hunter Seat Equitation Division in her age group. She is pictured below with Pomp and Circumstance and their trainer Olivia Doust.



## Message from the Farm Bureau

Our equine committee has been working on Liability Reform for the 2010 legislative session. Assembly member Steve Hawley has sponsored A 843 which relates to landowner recreation liability and farm and horseback riding operation liability relief; and enacts the "equine activity safety code act". In the Senate Sen. Ranzenhofer has sponsored S4567 which is an act to amend the general obligation law, in relation to the duty to keep premises safe for certain uses and enacting the "equine activity safety code act. Our committee has worked hard to get these bills sponsored....we need all equine owners to call their representatives and urge them to back these bills. This project affects all of the equine community so we all should be vitality interested in its passage.

*Hans J. Mobius  
Chairman NYSFB Equine Committee*

## Right to Farm Law Update

*Reprinted from Lake Lives, the Official Newsletter of the Erie County Farm Bureau*

Town of Hamburg Supervisor Steven Walters and the Hamburg Town Board members recently voted into law a local Right To Farm law for the Town of Hamburg. This leaves only five Erie County towns without a local right to farm law- Alden, Cheektowaga, Grand Island, Lancaster and Tonawanda. The Erie County Farm Bureau encourages you to call your town leaders and request that they pass a Right To Farm Law to protect the agricultural industry in your town.



# New York State Horse Council, Inc. 2010 Membership Form

[www.nyshc.org](http://www.nyshc.org)

Memberships are for the calendar year January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010

Membership Information (*please print legibly*):

(*Please check one*)

Primary Member \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal

New Membership

Club/Business/Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer availability and Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check age group of primary member for Vintage Equestrian Program records:

Under age 18:  Age 19 – 29:  Age 30 – 49:  Age 50 – 62:  Age 63 and over:

Mark the **NYSHC Chapter** you wish to join. A portion of your dues is transferred to that chapter for local activities.

\_\_\_\_ General Membership (*no chapter affiliation*)

\_\_\_\_ New York City

\_\_\_\_ Cattaraugus/Chautauqua Counties

\_\_\_\_ Orange County

\_\_\_\_ Palisades (Rockland County)

\_\_\_\_ Putnam County

\_\_\_\_ Ulster County

\_\_\_\_ Westchester County

Western (Erie/Niagara County)

## Memberships

**Individual** or **Family** membership includes \$1,000,000 individual 24/7 liability coverage for equine related accidents. Select one of the following:

\_\_\_\_ - Individual - \$55.00 (Includes **one** adult + all children in the household under age 18.)

\_\_\_\_ - Family - \$75.00 (Includes **two** adults + all children in the household under age 18.)

\_\_\_\_ - Life - \$500.00 (Includes **Individual** insurance coverage for one (1) year only.)

\_\_\_\_ - Life Member – Insurance coverage only - \$20.00 for Individual or \$40.00 for Family coverage.

**Clubs, Businesses, and Educational Institutions receive one newsletter and one vote at meetings regardless of size. These memberships DO NOT receive insurance coverage. Select one of the following:**

\_\_\_\_ - Educational - \$50.00 (Recognized equine program)

### Equine Club

\_\_\_\_ 1 – 50 members - \$ 50

\_\_\_\_ 51 – 100 members - \$ 75

\_\_\_\_ 101 – 250 members - \$150

\_\_\_\_ 251 – 500 members - \$175

\_\_\_\_ Over 500 members - \$200

### Equine Business

\_\_\_\_ 0 - 50 employees - \$ 50

\_\_\_\_ 51 - 250 employees - \$ 100

\_\_\_\_ Over 251 employees - \$ 200

## Make check payable to: New York State Horse Council

(NYSHC is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization registered with the NYS Attorney General Charities Bureau)

Mail to: NYSHC Membership  
Stephen Ropel  
221 New Road  
Nassau, NY 12123

Contact:

Email: [sropel@nycap.rr.com](mailto:sropel@nycap.rr.com)

Telephone: (518)366-8998

Check box if a receipt is requested (*Include SASE*)





*~free! all are welcome~*

**November 15<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm to 3:30pm**  
**East Aurora Moose Lodge**  
**905 Main Street, East Aurora**

*~Light Refreshments provided by the Western Chapter NYSHC~*

### *Agenda:*



**Brief General Membership Meeting**



**Special Recognition Awards to NYS High School Rodeo All Around Cowgirl, past Queen Kelsey Baldwin and current Queen Lydia Prabucki**



***Speakers:***

**Mark Thomas, Director of the Western Region OPRHP**  
**(Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation)**

**James Hornung, Erie County Commissioner of Parks & Recreation**

**David Paradowski, Supervising Forester NYS DEC**

### *Topics will include:*



**Accessibility and Status of Multiple Use Trails in Western New York**



**Current Status of Major Parks/Areas**  
**(i.e. Knox Farm, Genesee Road Forestry, Allegany State Park, etc.)**



**What Horse People Can do to Help Parks/Forests Managers**



## Got Trail Troubles? Get to THIS Clinic!

Mark your calendar to attend our June 12th, 2010 **“Trail Horse Obstacle Clinic – Mounted Police Style.”** The WCHYSHC is pleased to bring Joann Long - National Mounted Police and Toronto Police Mounted Services Certified - to Western New York for this clinic. Riders will work with their mounts in creative sensory and obstacle situations, with the emphasis on bomb proofing to trail challenges. All disciplines welcome! Additional information will be posted soon on our website: [www.wcnyshc.org](http://www.wcnyshc.org).



## Budget Cuts are Threatening our Trails!

The Catt. Co. Dept. of Economic Development has drafted a letter that you can use to send to state officials to urge them to reconsider budget cuts to Allegany State Park.

Please go to our website and download the letter and send copies to the Governor and to the Senator and Assemblyman representing your district. Together we can influence how our tax dollars are spent!

<http://www.wcnyshc.org>

## Equestrians Identify Yourselves!

Stand up and be counted as a member of the New York State Council, Western Chapter. Membership Badges are now available and will be distributed to all Chapter members.

Wear your badge at all equestrian events (shows, trail rides, community forums...) to show your support for the horse industry in NYS and your membership in the organization that *“...Speaks for the Horse.”* We'll be looking for badges at events throughout the year, and if you're spotted wearing yours you'll be entered into a drawing for prizes at our Fall Membership meeting next year.



## Syracuse Invitational

*Submitted by Martha Sturniolo, NYSHC Member*

“How It’s Done-Dressage and Jumping,” a clinic presented at the Syracuse Invitational Sport Horse Tournament was a significant addition to an already packed schedule of events for the 126<sup>th</sup> National Horse Show held Oct 28-Nov 1, 2009 in Syracuse NY. The Sport Horse Tournament benefits Cornell University and Vera House. I had the privilege of attending the clinic, excited to see three top equestrians illustrate the relationship between dressage and show jumping.

Demonstrators at the clinic were Ian Millar, Canada’s most famous medaled equestrian, Courtney King-Dye, a World Cup and National Grand Prix finalist, and Anne Kursinski, recognized as a legend of Olympic Teams. Emceeding the event was John Madden, another master equestrian in his own right, adding humor and insight to a program featuring mixed disciplines.

A common theme in the program among the three presenters was “Basics, Basics, Basics” in equitation. Regular, consistent training and discipline, results in clear communication between mount and rider. Consistency sets muscle memory as second nature. All stressed safety first, including a conversation about the importance of helmets. Another common theme is conditioning your horse and maintaining strength, you cannot expect soundness or a top performance otherwise. Millar, King-Dye and Kursinski, all demonstrated the subtleties of fluid body movement, with minimal interference from the rider, allowing the horse to move naturally. This was an excellent program for all levels of experience, whether as competitor or recreational rider. I would look forward to next year’s event offering a repeat of the same theme, as all of us can benefit from the shared knowledge of the Masters.



# WNY Horses Have Christmas Wishes



*Looking for something for that hard-to-buy-for person?  
Please consider a donation to one of our local organizations that support horses here in WNY. Here is a Christmas Wish List from some of our members:*

## **Equi\*Star Therapeutic Riding Center**

A number of Equi\*Star horses are aging and their body shapes have changed some of their saddles no longer fit. After the first of the year Equi\*Star will be having them horses fitted for new saddles. Also, there are those hard to fit horses, such as the draft/pony cross and the mule. They are hoping to raise enough money to replace their old, worn saddles with new ones. These horses have strengthened children's bodies, started children speaking and set people free from their disabilities, one hour at a time. Help us to keep them comfortable with a "wardrobe update."

Donations can be made on line simply by going to our website, [www.equistartheranch.org](http://www.equistartheranch.org). or if you who snail mail, our address in: Equi\*Star, Inc, P.O. box 25, Newfane, New York 14108

## **Sunshine Horses, Inc.**

We are a non-for-profit horse adoption program, helping our equine friends find their "forever home", while at the same time giving youth an opportunity to learn about horses in their care in a safe and structured environment. We are located at the NYS Fair grounds (in the racetrack barns- Barn 21) and are an entirely volunteer run program, so we welcome new helping hands! Our horses that are available for adoption can be found at [www.nysunshinehorses.org](http://www.nysunshinehorses.org) or at Petfinders and put in Syracuse as the area for search.

Your holiday donations can be sent to our treasurer: Gail Banks, 105 Wheaton Rd. Apt. 20, Syracuse, NY 13219.

As you all can imagine our expenses are very high - all donations go towards the feed and necessities of the horses. We Thank You!!

## **High Hurdles Therapeutic Riding of SASi**

High Hurdles Therapeutic Riding of SASi would appreciate anything a club or individual can do to fill their horses' Christmas Stockings.....your time, interest or donation will warm us inside and out. We are accepting volunteer applications for 2010. Financial donations to sponsor riders or support the horses are always appreciated, but we also accept donations of tack and equipment For more information about High Hurdles, contact Judy Feine, Equine Services Supervisor by email: [hhurdles@sasinc.org](mailto:hhurdles@sasinc.org), or phone: (716) 496-5551. You can learn more about High Hurdles by clicking on the website: [www.sasinc.org](http://www.sasinc.org)

## **Wild Rose Pony Club Christmas Wish List:**

Our annual fundraiser, the Wild Rose Trail Trial Poker Run, was cancelled this year due to rainy weather, so we are in need of funds to support our annual scholarship. Our scholarship is given to a child, who doesn't own a horse and can't afford to belong to a national youth organization that teaches riding and horsemanship. The scholarship pays all Pony Club expenses for one year for the recipient.

Donations may be made to:  
Wild Rose Pony Club/ 3507 Eagle Harbor Road/ Albion, NY 14411.

This is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization, thus your donation is tax-deductable.

Please help us support the Horsemen of the future.

## **The Erie County SPCA Educational Farm**

Contact person is Sheila Foss, Farm Manager 716-629-3511

Here are some things they need:

- Rubber stall mats
- A 16' stock trailer in good condition
- Outdoor fluorescent light fixtures & bulbs
- Plain (4#) salt bricks
- Reams of colored copy paper
- Bagged shavings
- Loads of hay/straw

## **Saving Wild Horses Through Grace Ministries Inc.**

Located at 6140 Benning Rd, West Falls, N.Y. rescues Mustangs and also runs programs for disadvantaged youth, many from the inner city Please go to their Web site [www.savingwildhorses.org](http://www.savingwildhorses.org) to view their Wish List.

## **Tender Mercy Equine Rescue**

Located at 5639 Lewiston Rd, Middleport, NY is dedicated to provide a humane alternative for abandoned, abused unwanted, neglected or slaughter bound horses. To view their wish list, go to their website:

<http://www.tendermercyrrescue.com/wish/wish.html>

# Advertise in this Newsletter!

Beginning in 2010 our newsletter will be welcoming ads from members and nonmembers to help cover the costs of the newsletter. With a paid ad you will also receive a free web listing/display ad on our website. Website listing to members is free even without a paid ad in our newsletter. Make checks payable to Western Chapter New York State Horse Council (WCNYSHC).

<b>Cost to Nonmembers per issue</b>	<b>Cost to Members per issue</b>
\$10 BCard size	\$5 BCard size
\$20 1/4 page	\$10 1/4 page
\$30 1/2 page	\$20 1/2 page
\$60 full page	\$30 full page

**Special Half Price Introductory Rate on a Full Year of Advertising (6 issues) when we receive your payment by January 10, 2010:**

<b>Cost to Nonmembers per year</b>	<b>Cost to Members per year</b>
\$30 BCard size	\$15 BCard size
\$60 1/4 page	\$30 1/4 page
\$90 1/2 page	\$60 1/2 page
\$180 full page	\$90 full page

Send your advertisement with payment to:

Barb Cunningham  
3021 Johnsoncreek Rd  
Middleport N.Y. 14105

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Christmas Dressage Show and Festivities** at Chestnut Ridge Farm, Gasport N.Y. Dec. 12, 2009  
*chestnutridgeequestriancenter.com*  
or contact Sue Williams  
716-772-2707 or 716-772-2957

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Horse Health Seminar**, Feb 6, 2010  
Sponsored by Genesee Valley Equine Clinic 585-889-1170 Wheatland Chili High School, Scottsville N.Y.

**Niagara County Tack Swap** at the 4-H Center Feb 26, 2010  
Tables can be reserved by contacting Cheryl at *ckrfarm@peoplepc.com* or call 439-4499 after 6pm



Barb Cunningham  
3021 Johnsoncreek Rd  
Middleport N.Y. 14105

Mailing Label