



The Must-See Equine Event of 2011 – Perfect for Any Budget (It's FREE!!)

EquiFest WNY March 20, 2011

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YOUR EQUINE NEWSLETTER

2011 #1 JAN / FEB

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Ride & Drive Program

*Equine Therapy Program for
Teenaged Girls*

Membership Renewals

And Much More!



EquiFest is Western New York's FREE Equine Exposition and Equestrian Gathering showcasing a variety of breeds and disciplines. EquiFest will feature clinicians and demonstrations and include exhibitors and vendors of equestrian oriented products and services, offering resources that are available to local equestrians.

For only \$30 per single exhibit table, EquiFest provides a venue for local equine organizations, boarding barns, training facilities, product manufacturers, and retail businesses to showcase their products and services to the equine enthusiast.

Limited exhibit and sponsorship opportunities are available so everyone who is interested in being a vendor/exhibitor at EquiFest on March 20th **now is the time**, to contact us and reserve your table space.

For a vendor registration form go to www.wnyEquiFest.com or call Barb at 716 735-3529 or email to barbcunningham11@gmail.com for more information.

Care, and not fine stables, makes a good horse.

Danish Proverb

Message from the President

The past year proved to be very successful for the Western Chapter of the N.Y.S.H.C. Our membership increased making us the largest chapter in N.Y. We had our first clinic which was a great success. Our spring and fall general membership meetings were well attended and our fall Chinese auction raised \$500.00 which was shared among the three non-profit groups who spoke at the meeting. All in all a good year.

Well Christmas has come and gone and a New Year is here, and it brings with it lots of ideas and adventures. On a very personal note Cisco and I are back on the trails after a long lay up due to my shoulder replacement. The Western Chapter has been busy planning for an exciting 2011.

In the middle of January our Equine Directory will be published and available at no cost, look for it at your local feed stores and horse events. March 20th we will be holding our first EquiFest at the Hamburg Fair ShowPlex.



There will be more than 50 vendors, and 8 demonstrations in the arena, and no admission fee to attend. A couple of trail rides and picnics are being planned for summer and fall as well as another clinic this summer-more to come soon on those events.

I would like to invite and encourage you to attend our Board of Directors meetings which are held the 4th Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held at the East Aurora Nursing home located at 292 Main St., East Aurora 14052 at 7:30 PM. If you are interested in becoming a board member we are always happy to welcome folks with enthusiasm and new ideas.

Please renew your membership and encourage your friends to join. Stay safe and warm and enjoy all you have.

Barb

EQUINE TRIVIA:

In the 19th century 82,000 horses in Chicago produced 600,000 tons of manure per year.

Western Chapter Board of Directors

2011 Officers

- Barb Cunningham – *President* – 716-735-3529
- Mary Szarek – *Vice President* – 716-837-3761
- Peter Tarnawskyj – *Treasurer* – 716-655-1796
- Carol Schmelz – *Corresponding Secretary* – 716-694-3488
- Martha Sturniolo – *Recording Secretary* – 716-625-6813

- Mark Adrian – 716-946-7594
- Becky Bartels – 716-537-2646
- JoAnn Bonsack – 716-941-9010
- Ann Czapla – 716-681-4018
- Barbara Huber – 716-665-4810
- Debbie Huckle – 716-655-2001

- Sharon Kettner – 716-652-4313
- Barb Rauscher – 716-675-3908
- Linda Tarnawskyj – 716-655-1796
- Ginger Trautwein – 716-675-3091
- Gayle West – 716-625-9245

NYS Horse Council Western Region Directors

- Mary Ann Byers – 716-662-5198
- Jim Leising – 716-532-3357

NYS Horse Council Western V.P.

- Bob Pfohl – 716-633-6145



Available in
January 2011 at
WCNYSHC
events, tack shops
and feed stores



New York State
Horse Council

www.wcnysbc.org
716-735-3529

**Mark Your
Calendar!**



WNY
Equifest



**Presented by the
Western NY Chapter NYS Horse Council**

Horse lovers of all ages, all disciplines
come and enjoy presentations including:

- 🐾 Erie County Mounted Division-Opening Ceremony
- 🐾 Pony Club-pas de deux with flags
- 🐾 Saddle Fitting-Allegany Mountain Trail Saddles
- 🐾 Horse Play-HyWynne Farm
- 🐾 Tom Pinkowski Training Center
- 🐾 Bandaging-Royalton Equine Veterinary Service
- 🐾 Hippotherapy/Therapeutic-High Hurdles
- 🐾 Clipping-Sara Whittington
- 🐾 Taining-Bella Ryder
- 🐾 Pony Club-Quadrille
- 🐾 The Reluctant Loader-HyWynne Farm
- 🐾 Equine Talk Training and Teaching-Nancy Proulx

**Sunday
March 20
9am - 6pm**

**Showplex
Hamburg Fairgrounds
5600 McKinley Parkway 14075**

FREE ADMISSION

Exhibitor/Vendor tables available.
Contact Mary Szarek
wnyHorse@aol.com 716-837-3761

www.wcnyshc.org
www.EquiFest.com



**NYS
HORSE
COUNCIL**

WESTERN CHAPTER

Knox Farm State Park Closed

Time to Write Your Representatives!

3 of the 4 NY State parks closed are located in Western New York and one of those has trails for horses.

As of January 1st, OPRHP closed **three parks located near Buffalo**: Knox Farm State Park in East Aurora, Woodlawn Beach State Park in Hamburg and Joseph Davis State Park in Lewiston. They will also be closing the Robert Moses State Park Nature Center in the Town of Massena in the Thousand Islands.

<http://www.nysenate.gov/>- NY State Senators

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/>
NY State Assembly

<https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml>
House of Representatives

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=NY US Senators

Contact our new Governor:

<http://www.governor.ny.gov/contact/GovernorContactForm.php>



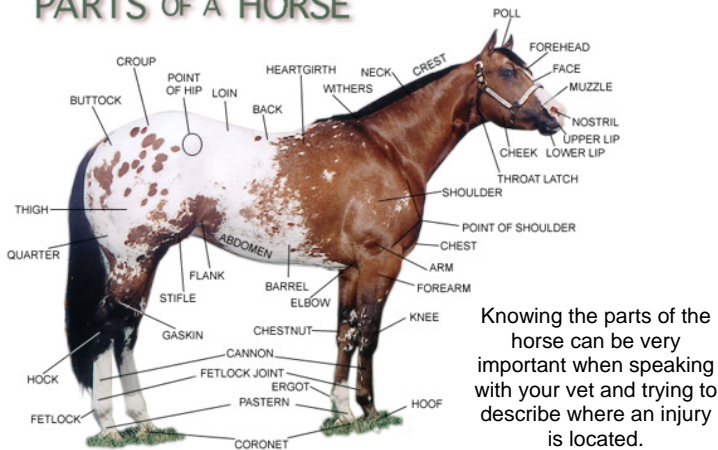
<http://www.friendsofknosxpark.org/>

You may also want to contact
Friends of Knox Farm State Park
Betsy Wallace
P. O. Box 601 • East Aurora, NY
14052 • (716) 655-7200



EQUINE TRIVIA: There is no Icelandic word for pony, so the country's only breed is called the Icelandic Horse despite standing only 13-14 hands.

PARTS OF A HORSE

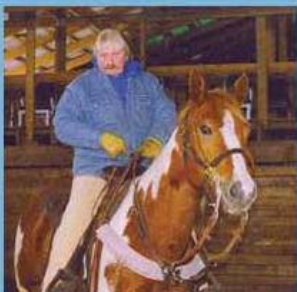
A photograph of a high-quality, custom-made red leather trail saddle with silver hardware, set against a dark background.

Custom made saddles for the serious trail rider that spends hours in the saddle not minutes in the show ring.

- Custom fit
- Custom Made one at a time
- Fittings by appointment

The logo for Allegany Mountain Trail Saddles features a green oval with a stylized mountain range and the text "Allegany Mountain Trail Saddles" in a cursive font.

John Rettig
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www.trailridingsaddles.com



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*Here to Help You and Your Horse Have a Better
Understanding of Each Other*



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Amy Hanssen's Training Center

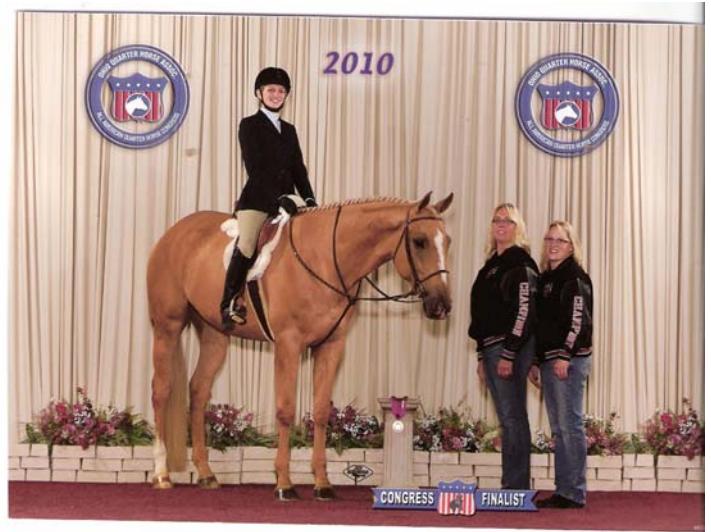
Amy Hanssen's Training Center is proud of the 2010 accomplishments that have been earned through their horses and clients.

The farm is located in Middleport, NY and specializes in all around events. Offering training and instruction to both horse and rider through lessons, training, leasing, summer camp, and horse shows. They train in a wide variety of events, including English, western, halter, showmanship, and equitation classes. Amy Hanssen's has two trainers; both of which are AQHA professional horseman. They take extreme pride in their students and their horses. Riding lessons are available for all ages and for any level of rider.



Horse Brand One Next a Kin with Jenna Striffler on the horse. Amy Hanssen-Keyes is next to the horse and Virginia Beaton-Weyers is next to Amy.

In 2010 the students and clients at the farm had an incredible year! The horse shows that were attended varied from open shows with both English and western events to Hunter shows to registered AQHA shows. Whether our clients were out there doing lead line for the first time, or attending their first congress we are proud to be by them every step of the way! The AQHA Congress is the world's largest single breed horse show held in Columbus, Ohio. More than 8,500 horses were there, and 17,000 entries were made. It attracts more than 650,000 people to the Columbus area. This year was a particularly fantastic trip for the crew that attended. Jenna Striffler, of Lockport, NY attended with a horse named Brand One Next A Kin. This was Jenna's second year there and the horse's ("Kenny") first. They were named **Congress Champion** in Novice Amateur Equitation over fences and placed **third** in the Novice Amateur working hunter. Jenna has been riding with the Training Center for over 10 years. She is dedicated to her preparations and works very hard.



Meg Logan on Leagal Treatment with trainers Amy Hanssen-Keyes and Virginia Beaton-Weyers

Another client that attended was Meg Logan of Albion, NY Meg's horse Leagal Treatment is a 5yr old palomino gelding. Her horse was a finalist in the AQHA Junior Hunter hack. Meg and her Mother (who also has a horse of her own) also work very hard at dedicating themselves to their horses. Traveling to lessons and horse shows, often filling their calendars completely. Another student, Alexandria Colling attended for her very first time. She successfully handled her working hunter courses with ease! The entries per class for this particular show vary, but are at an average of 100 or so per class. For the Clients to even make the haul there and handle the pressure is an accomplishment in itself.

Remember if you want to learn to ride for pleasure or competition we can help! We also offer a full boarding service that includes use of our facility and our trails! If you would like to learn more about the Training Center just go to www.amyhanssenhorses.com or call 716.735.7988 and come on out for a tour. We provide a professional and friendly atmosphere and we welcome visitors.



The NYS Horse Council Ride - Drive Program

The NYS Horse Council has a program that NYSHC Members may participate in (any age). If you ride or drive your horse please consider joining in and having some fun. It can be on trail rides, in shows, on Wagon Trains---whatever-- as long as you are forward going and riding or driving your horse (grooming does not count). Have your friends join in and have a little competition or maybe just some time to share with friends relaxing on your horses.

You must be a NYSHC member (dues paid for that current year), sign up and pay a start fee of \$15 (\$5 every year after to continue participating), obtain an official NYSHC log sheet and start filling the hours in.



The Program will run the calendar year—fees must be paid in order to receive awards. You will receive a participation removable poly window sticker when you start. After you accumulate 25 hours you will receive a Ride/Drive Patch Award and as you add up those hours you will receive awards (hour bars) after 100, 200, 300, 500, 750, 1000 hours and so on and just maybe you will see your name in the NYSHC Newsletter. Hours will be counted on the Rider/Driver.

There is no limit on how long it takes you to achieve each award. As the program grows we plan on having awards at the end of the year for things like oldest rider with most hours, oldest horse, youngest rider, most hours, ect. If you would like to sponsor an AWARD please contact Leah Leising at 716-532-3357 or lleising@netsync.net.

Start making plans to join in the Ride-Drive Program and rack up those hours. A great place to be racking up those hours is at one of the NYSHC Sponsored rides or events.

For more information contact:
Leah Leising at 716-532-3357 or lleising@netsync.net.
<http://nyshc.org/pages/ridedrive.html>

Go to <http://nyshc.org/pages/ridedrive.html> to download the application and the log sheet.

For 2011 I hope all our members will consider joining the Ride – Drive Program. This year I would like to offer to an award to the horse and rider in the Western Chapter who logs the most hours.

Barb C.

Horse-O-Meter Pedometer

Neat new product found by one of our members!

Description: The Horse-O-Meter not only registers how far you ride, but also works as a stopwatch and clock. The meter clips onto a breastcollar, just off your horse's shoulder blade. The horse's shoulder action is measured as a "stride," and strides add up to miles.

The test: The horse meter was tested by Bonnie Davis. "This useful meter is small, compact, and easy to drop in shirt pocket or saddlebag," says Davis. "It did take me a few trips to program correctly, though." On the upside, she notes that when correctly attached to your horse's breastcollar, you'll be able to monitor distance from your horse's back. But she adds a caveat: "The safety string is a little short for looping around wide, two-inch breastcollars. Be sure to wrap the little safety string around the breastcollar, and tie it, so it won't get lost if it comes loose."

Cost: \$50.

Contact: Two Horse Enterprises,
(510) 657-5239;
www.twohorseenterprises.com



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www.HolisticConnections.net

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Mollie Vacco



Hello Fellow WCNYSHC Members,



How lucky are we that our lives are touched by horses- I think that everyday and then I remember I am living my dream! Over 10 years ago I began a journey studying the Parelli Natural Horsemanship program. Parelli is a natural approach to horse training where we put the relationship first with Love, Language, and Leadership as our guiding principles.

For the last 6 years I spent my time basically in the pockets of Pat and Linda, emerging myself in their program, lifestyle, and soaking up every bit of knowledge and experience I could so that I could become the best me I could be as a Horseman! I recently transitioned home to share the Parelli Program with Horse Lovers and help Pat and Linda with their mission of "Changing the world for Horses and People". It's been a learning experience and amazing time, this December Pat honored me with my 3rd Instructing star! I am one of only 50 – 3 Star Parelli Instructors in the World. What does it mean to be a 3 Star Instructor? Parelli breaks up their program into 4 Savvies, or areas of study. ONLINE, LIBERTY, FREESTYLE, & FINESSE. Two are on the ground and two are riding, they build on each other. As a 3 Star I am licensed to teach Online, Liberty and Freestyle through Level 4, the highest level we teach in the field. Hundreds of people apply for this very selective process every month, I am so honored to be on Pat's team and reside in Western New York.



I currently teach out of 100 Acre Woods Ranch located in Boston NY, a Natural approach to boarding your horse, please feel free to stop in for a visit! I also travel all over the country teaching the Parelli Program. My student range is from Beginners of all ages including kids as well as high level Equestrians. Parelli is all about the foundation no matter what you specialize in, Trail riding, Jumping, Reining, 4-H, Reined cow horse, etc. Every horse deserves a foundation, and every person deserves to be safe and have fun with their horse, with Parelli You Can! Just a couple of Horseman who support Parelli: Walter Zettl, David & Karen O'Connor, Karen Rohlf, Craig Johnson, Darren Simpkins, and many others. I'm passionate about people and horses having successful relationships, I can't wait to be part of your Journey!

Mollie Vacco
mollie@parelliinstructornewyork.com
716 912 8207
www.parelliinstructornewyork.com
www.parelli.com
www.100acrewoodsranch.com



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EQUINE TRIVIA: The state animal of New Jersey is the horse.

Member's Featured Website



KATELAND FARMS owned by members Ted and Joy Jenney provides driving lessons and stocks a limited inventory of carts and harness for miniature horses as well having driving miniatures for sale. Visit them at:

<http://www.katelandfarm.com/>



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Horse Council Gift Memberships are now available to give for ANY occasion. Our gift cards are perfect for Birthdays, Mother and Father's Day, Thank You gifts, Graduations, Congratulations or just because! Gift cards to announce your gift are available from Barb Cunningham, WCNYSHC President, 735-3529, barbcunningham@gmail.com



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EQUINE TRIVIA:

The normal weight of a horse's heart is 8.5 pounds. Even though Secretariat's heart was not weighed at autopsy, Dr. Thomas Swerczek, head pathologist at the University of Kentucky, estimated it at 22 pounds.

Are you a Western
Chapter member with
a story to tell?



Would you like to tell our
membership about you, your
horse, or your business?

Please send in articles, stories,
tips and quotes to
Barb at barbcunningham11@gmail.com

Recommended Reading



**Horse Bits and
Pieces; Sublime
Equine Trivia**

by *Sarah
Widdicombe*

Anyone who has ever fancied horses, even just in passing, will find this book to be highly entertaining and even educational! Everything from why horses are measured in hands to anecdotes about famous horses and their owners can be found within its pages. There are facts about polo, horse racing and rodeos, tidbits about celebrities and their horses, and answers to nagging questions like why is the left-hand side of a horse referred to as "near" no matter how far away it is? Makes the perfect gift for a horse lover, or for the self-indulgent horse lover to buy for himself!"

Don't delay... renew your membership in the Horse Council

Support, promote and protect the interests of New York's horse industry with your continued membership in the Western Chapter NYSHC.

Business Members will now receive a membership plaque when you join/renew by February 28, 2011. Displayed in your barn or office, this tasteful sign lets everyone know you support the horse industry in New York State by being a member of the Horse Council.



Show Horse Appraiser

Hans J. Mobius
Director Erie County Farm Bureau
Chairman NYS Farm Bureau Equine Comm.

Maple Row Farm
10820 Hunts Corners Rd
Clarence, NY 14031
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EQUINE TRIVIA: More than 1,100 horses and mules were used in the filming of "Gone with the Wind" (1939).

Now There's Proof: Horses are Good for You!



Emotional IQs of Girls Improve After Equine Therapy

Girls who took part in an equine therapy program showed an improvement over those who did not, a study has shown.

The study centered on 38 students of Arizona's Copper Canyon Academy students, 24 of whom participated in the equine therapy program and 14 who did not. Students in both groups were administered the BarOn Emotional Quotient Inventory (EQI) two times, once at the beginning of the eight-week course and again at its completion. The EQI is composed of five general scales and 15 subscales that are designed to measure an individual's personal, social, and emotional skills related to self-understanding, capacity for empathy and relating to others, tolerance for stress, flexibility, motivation, and problem-solving effectiveness.

In comparison to the control group, the scores of the 24 equestrian therapy students showed statistically significant increases on the intrapersonal scale, stress management scale, adaptability scale, and total emotional quotient scale after they had completed the therapy.

Among the 14 control-group students, there was no significant statistical change between the pre-test and the post-test. George Davies, the Copper Canyon counselor who conducted the study, said the results indicated considerable improvement in a wide range of personal, social, and emotional categories among the course participants. "In general, the results indicate that students who participate in the equine therapy program should show greater effectiveness in daily functioning and greater happiness with life in general, than students who didn't take part in the program."

"This program is especially valuable to younger students, students who have a history of not responding well to traditional 'talk therapy,' and to students with attachment/bonding issues," Davies said. "It can also be 'a way in' with students who are oppositional and resistant."

Copper Canyon Academy is a therapeutic boarding school for girls. In equine therapy, the horses effectively serve as co-therapists, providing unconditional positive regard, setting firm boundaries, testing students' boundaries and providing students with an opportunity to learn to empathize with and care for others.



New York State Horse Council

New York State Horse Council, Inc. 2011 Membership Form

www.nyshc.org

Memberships are for the calendar year January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011

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

X 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
Telephone: (518)366-8998

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

Advertise in This Newsletter

Get your horse business noticed by an active equestrian community!

Now accepting ads for the 2011 Newsletter – rates as follows:

Advertising Rates Western Chapter N.Y.S. Horse Council Newsletter: 1/2011-1/2012						
	Members		Non Members			
	per issue	per year	per issue	per year		
½ page: horizontal 7½x5 vertical 3¾x10	\$30	\$120	\$60	NA		
¼ page: horizontal 5x3¾ vertical 7½x4¼	\$15	\$60	\$30	NA		
⅛ page: horizontal 3¾ x2¼ (business card)	\$10	\$40	\$20	NA		
Classified Ad	\$10	\$40	NA	NA		

Submit all ads and questions to Barb Cunningham at barbcunningham11@gmail.com

Ads should be the sizes specified above and in a Word Document,
Jpeg, Bitmap or PDF format



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