HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS
EDUCATE • MOBILIZE • REPRESENT

P O Box 788
Quincy, IL 62306-0788

Phone: 217-689-4224

Email: hci@horsemenscouncil.org

HORSES FIRST. THE REST LATER.

The mission of Horsemen's Council of Illinois is to educate, mobilize and represent Horsemen and the equine industry to ensure a thriving Illinois horse community.

Need a speaker or presentation for your group?

Horsemen's Council of Illinois board members come from a diverse equestrian background and can provide presentations on a wide range of topics from horse health & disease, legal, land use, trail riding, driving, showing, racing, disease and legislation.

We'd like to update your group on HCI activities and goals this year to serve Illinois horsemen. We have several new programs, legislation and initiatives that we'd like to tell you about

We would also like to hear about the needs of horsemen in your area to find out how we might work together on solutions.

If you are interested contact the HCI office.

217-689-4224 or

hci@horsemenscouncil.org

HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS
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COURIER

Voice of the Illinois Horse Industry

2016 - Issue 2 Spring 2016

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The Politics of Horses

Sheryl King, PhD
President
Horsemen's Council of Illinois

In this increasingly divisive presidential election year, politics has become a nasty word. It doesn't have to be. One definition of the adjective "politic" is *shrewd or prudent in practical matters; tactful; diplomatic.* That is what the horse industry needs to be to fight remain relevant in the 21st century. To put it more bluntly, either horsemen defend their right to exist or we will cease to exist. Am I saying that I believe that horses will go extinct? Of course not. But I am saying that horse ownership and present uses of the horse will become increasingly rare or even impossible. It is happening even as you read this.

Our ability to own and enjoy our horses and to allow others to discover the joy of horses is being eroded or even outright attacked from many fronts. Urbanization and zoning restrictions, even in suburban and rural areas, is excluding horsekeeping. High insurance costs and a general loss of personal responsibility have driven many public stables out of business. The increasing power and influence of radical animal rights advocacy that rejects animal ownership and creates onerous and unreasonable restrictions on how, when and under what conditions we can enjoy our horses is a huge threat. Without our political involvement, those with no knowledge of horses are increasingly deciding humane rules and environmental requirements governing horsekeeping. Access to safe and maintained trails on which to ride our horses is shrinking. Even seemingly small things like regulations concerning hauling horses, and requirements for licensure have and will continue to change. If we horse owners don't become part of the process and get involved in these issues at the grassroots to protect and promote our passion, we have no one to blame but ourselves when we lose our freedoms.

Benjamin Franklin said, "*We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately*". The horse industry is diverse and often fractioned. This favors the "divide and conquer" form of attack - - and it has worked well for opponents of various parts of our industry. It is essential for our industry's survival that horsemen recognize that our differences are much less important than our commonalities and what affects any part of the horse industry ultimately affects the whole. Numbers and a united voice matter.

The Horsemen's Council of Illinois practices the politics of horses. HCI brings the entire horse industry under a single umbrella to promote and defend. Our political effectiveness depends on proving that we speak for the hundreds of thousands of horses and tens of thousands of horse owners in our state. That means ***we need your membership*** and we need the membership of all the horse lovers that you know. Beyond membership, ***we need your involvement***. We need you to help us put horses in the spotlight. When HCI asks for your help to move an issue in Springfield, we need you to contact your representative – it really does matter and it really does make a difference. When we organize an event to help fellow horsemen – be it a trails work day, a fundraiser for horsemen's disaster relief, an educational event or a campaign to get something recognized or accomplished for some aspect of our industry - we need you to respond, and to chip in for every part of our great industry. Prove that horses matter.

MEMBERSHIP FORM ON PAGE 11

Illinois Statewide Horse Trails Spring Clean-up

THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS AND IDNR STAFF WHO COMPLETED CLEANUP PROJECTS AT THESE SITES!

APRIL 30

Franklin Creek State Natural Area
Elmer Stauffer - Site Office
Rock River Trail & Horsemen Assoc
Siloam Springs State Park
Mark Gerard - Site Office
Quincy Saddle Club - Ron Gaus
Illinois Prairie Path - Elgin Branch
Trail Riders of DuPage

MAY 7TH
Giant City State Park
Calvin Beckman - Site Office
Volunteer Leader - Jerry Sutton

MAY 7TH
Rock Cut State Park
Melinda Kitchens - Site Office
Valley Rider's Saddle Club - Liz Longenecker

MAY 14TH
Jubilee College State Park
Joe Bassetti - Site Office
Volunteer Leader - Jerry Lutker
Weinberg King State Park
Mark Gerard - Site Office
Volunteer Leader - Jim Stevens

Giant City

DuPage

Weinberg King

Siloam Springs

Equestrian trails and campsites across the state recently got some TLC from volunteers who assisted in HCI's first annual Trails Work Day. To bring a focus to equestrian trail use Horsemen's Council of Illinois and Illinois Department of Natural Resources partnered in the effort to have a statewide trails work day. HCI mobilized horsemen in response to concerns voiced for several years that horse trails in parks throughout the state need attention. What began as a single weekend event was extended to several weekends due to wet weather. From April 30th through May 14th groups worked on trimmed trees over campsites, installed picket lines, picked up trash, cleared trails and installed new signage. The weather was wet and cold, not ideal for riding but just fine for the clean-up and projects.

HCI board member and Trails Committee Chair Tony Troyer says the project has several benefits, "IDNR and the site staff now know they can count on horsemen to assist with volunteer labor and acquiring resources for some projects. We're demonstrating good stewardship for these valuable natural resources, leading by example to other user groups and cultivating volunteer resources for ongoing projects."

There are workdays yet to be completed at two sites. This will become an annual event coordinated by HCI. We all have the opportunity to make our trails and parks better places to camp and ride! If your group is already assisting at a park, or has a project in mind let us know by calling the HCI office at 217-689-4224 or by sending an email to hci@horsemenscouncil.org. You will be put in touch with HCI board member Tony Troyer who is leading the effort.

IDNR land comprises 44% of the total miles of equestrian trails in the state. There are 49 sites with equestrian facilities. Join us in this stewardship effort.

Let's protect our assets.

SUMMER DATES

Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Areas -TBD
John Hott - Site Office (217) 442-4915
Volunteer Leader - Denise Bingamon (217) 377-8909
Matthiessen State Park - JUNE 18
Kerry Novak - Site Office (815) 667-7551
Volunteer Leader -Tony Troyer (815) 530-4464

HCI Represents YOU!

Founded in 1987, **Horsemen's Council of Illinois** is the only statewide organization that works to serve the entire horse community. We are amateurs, professionals, horse hobbyists, breeders, local riding clubs and larger businesses. Individuals and groups from all disciplines, breeds and types of horses are welcome. We are led by a Board of Directors and committees that address education, equine health and welfare, trails, land use and legislative and regulatory concerns.

Memberships are critical to HCI success for two reasons:

1) We can better represent you, your organization, your discipline, your PASSION if we know who you are;
2) The income from memberships helps sustain the operating budget of HCI and provide key services to members.
3) **There are more than 70,000 horsemen in Illinois.** Please encourage others to join HCI so we can do MORE to educate, mobilize and represent horsemen. Memberships are accepted throughout the year.

HCI Member benefits:
All Membership Levels: weekly email bulletin, monthly e-newsletter, equine health and legislative alerts, print newsletter, access to members only resources on website, access to professional expertise of HCI board members and speakers for your group events, regional event invitations, American Horse Council Advantage Plan, option to purchase American Horse Council Grassroots Membership at 40% discount.
Gold Level Membership: all of the above benefits and $1 million Excess Personal Equine Liability Insurance

Member Discount Benefits

As a member of the Horsemen's Council of Illinois, you are eligible for significant savings on nationally known products through NTRA Advantage. Your membership entitles you to special savings on products used for your equine farm, business, or personal use. To enjoy the benefits of one-stop buying, call NTRA Advantage toll-free at (866) 678-4289 or visit www.NTRAadvantage.com.
This package includes discounts from: John Deere, Equine Savings, UPS, OfficeMax, Sherwin Williams, Valvoline.

HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS
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Membership Application

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ State: _____
County: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
# of Horses: ____ Boarded ____ At Home: ____

Membership Levels

All memberships run January through December

☐ Youth Membership - Free
18 years or younger can join HCI at no cost
☐ Basic - Family Membership - $30.00
Bundle (list all family members on the membership)
☐ Gold - Family Membership - $75.00
Includes $1 Million Excess Equine Liability Policy
☐ Basic-Individual Membership - $25.00
☐ Gold – Individual Membership - $50.00
Includes $1 Million Excess Equine liability Policy
☐ Life Individual Membership - $350.00
$1 Million Excess Equine Liability insurance option, Billed $20 annually.
☐ NEW - Optional American Horse Council Grassroots Membership - $15.00

Organization/Business Name:
_____
(Provide primary contact information above)
Number of Members: _____

☐ Business & Professional Membership - $100
Bundle (up to 50 members can be listed)
☐ Non-Profit Organizations - $50
Bundle (up to 50 members can be listed)
☐ Supporting Association Membership - $50
Bundle (up to 50 members can be listed)

You can also join online: www.horsemenscouncil.org

Send application and payment to:
Horsemen's Council of Illinois
P O BOX 788
Quincy, IL 62306
For more information: 217-689-4224

SHARE THIS PAGE WITH OTHERS!

ILLINOIS EQUINE FOUNDATION

The Illinois Equine Foundation' s first ever 'Pitch A Pony' fundraiser was a great success! This fundraiser took place at the Horse Fair on March 6th and raised more than $1,000 for the **Illinois Equine Foundation Disaster Relief Fund.**

What is "Pitch-A-Pony"? Each fair goer has the opportunity to flex their muscles and see how far they can throw their purchased set of ponies. Participants line up around the outside rail in the coliseum and on the count of three, try to throw their pony in a hula-hoop in the middle of the arena. The person who gets their pony closest to the target wins a prize! It's that simple!

Pitch A Pony was held on the last day of the Fair, Sunday March 6th in the coliseum during the scoring session of the Heartland Horseman's Challenge. More than 600 ponies were pitched. Marissa Fitch won and iPad and Marin Roth won a 50 inch TV. The prizes were generously donated by John Barnard. Our thanks to context coordinator Katie McCauley.

Don't forget this is all for a good cause! **All proceeds raised from this event support the IEF Disaster Relief Fund.**

Be ready for the second annual Pitch-A-Pony at Illinois Horse Fair 2017.

Since 1987 the **Illinois Equine Foundation** has provided a tax-free way to help the Illinois equine community through charitable giving.

The Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes within the meaning of section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Its purpose is to promote equine events, equine activities and equine education and to include the establishment and administration of related scholarship funds, grants, financial assistance, research projects in support thereof.

Tax deductible contributions to strengthen and support these worthwhile goals are gratefully accepted. Contributions can be designated as general or earmarked for specific uses. Gifts can be made in any amount and may be received as monetary sums, stock, annuities and other assets, bequests from estates, endowments or other means.

For more information contact the Illinois Equine Foundation through the HCI office at 217-689-4224 or visit the Foundation page on the HCI website.

Equine Liability Warning Signs

Now available from HCI. These signs should be posted at every barn, entrances to premises, arenas, trails, etc. Complies with Illinois statute to display equine liability disclaimer. Sturdy construction. Easy to read.

HCI Members: $14.00 each.

Non-Members: $20.00 each.

Price includes tax.

Shipping: $8.00 up to 4 signs.

Order your sign online from the HCI website or call the office to place your order, 217-689-4224.

Horsemen's Council of Illinois welcomes these 54 new and renewing members since March 1st:

Individuals: Rosie Allen, Sally Atterberry, Dawn Conlin, Abigail Danielewicz, Dawn Faulkner, Patricia Gomes, Cynthia James, Janine Kumicich (life), Marilou Landes (life), Deanna Langus, Debra LoCoco, Andrea Marcinkus (life), Kara McCleary, Mary McKinnon, Andrea Pletzke, Barb Reed, Danny Rich, Eunice Riemer, Virginia Rous, Ed Sleezer, Stephanie Speiser, Margaret Strano, Bruce Wachowski, Irene Wachowski, Richard Washburn, Stephen Webel (life), Lois Haubold

Families: Kelly Baxter Family, Kristy & Chris Doyle, Tom & Kristina Hull, Daniel Kelly, Bob & Kathy Knezivich, Ken & Sharon Kolweier, Roger & Regina Landon, Paul LeJeune, Lynn Malafant, Jessica Milam, Doug & Rachel Powell, James & Nancy Rosse, Merle Taylor, Joanne Von Oehsen, Jeff & Lexi Weber, James Winch, Roland Yeast, Brandon & Mary York

Supporting Associations: Fox Valley Trail Riders, Galesburg Boots & Saddle Club, Illinois Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners Foundation, Region XI Arabian Horse Association, Miss Rodeo Illinois Organization

Business & Professional: The Fall Creek Ranch, Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue TETHER

Legislative Action to Preserve Illinois' Equine Heritage

by Elaine Ramesh
Chair, Legislative Committee

Here is the latest information on what HCI is doing for you to help preserve your rights to ride and to keep horses. We've got several great initiatives going, and have made good progress already this year.

HCI Presence in Springfield for Agricultural Legislative Day

Four HCI board members formed an action team to participate in Springfield on March 1 in Agricultural Legislative Day, sponsored by the Department of Agriculture. Agricultural organizations from throughout the state came together on that day to remind legislators of the importance of our collective industries. Tony Troyer, Paula Briney, Russ Derango and I heard from leaders and legislators during a brief morning program, and then spent the rest of the day connecting with our elected officials to inform them about the state's strong equine community. We brought packets of information about our organization and the economic power of the equine industry; and details of legislation we support to as many offices that the four of us could reach.

Also, during the Agricultural Legislative Day, each member agricultural organization provided a small item to contribute to a gift basket for the legislators. The Future Farmers of America delivered the baskets and box lunches to every legislator's office. As our contribution to the basket, HCI provided information about HCI and passes to the Horse Fair (which just happened to be the same week as the lobby day). Since our Governor joined us for the Fair's rodeo, we know the baskets found an audience.

Board members Troyer, Briney & Derango representing HCI at Illinois Ag Legislative Day

Governor's Proclamation Honoring Horses Issued

One of the Legislative Committee's initiatives is to increase awareness of the benefits of horse ownership. To that end, I wrote a Proclamation request, with consent and input from the Board. Although we did not have it approved in time for the Horse Fair, the week after the fair the Governor signed our Proclamation. The language is provided elsewhere in this newsletter and on our website. The Proclamation recognizes the importance of horses, their benefit to the local economy and also designates December 13 as Day of the Horse in Illinois.

Legislation Filed In Spring Session

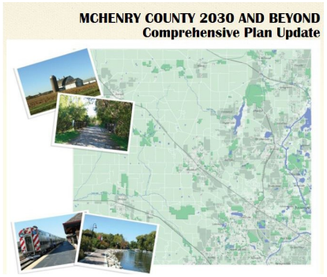
A companion resolution having the same language as the Proclamation is working its way through Springfield (**SJR 0046**). We also have another resolution which a downstate legislator co-sponsored on our behalf, **SJR 0038**. This resolution calls for a task force to look into how horse trails can be improved upon and expanded in the state parks, and has already been recommended for approval. Understanding that there is no money to create new trails, the task force will look for ways to repurpose existing structures like rail beds, service roads and tow paths for horseback riding; or to open current trails (that horses are not now allowed on) for horseback riding.

We also lobbied for a legislative fix to allow federal funds from the Recreational Trails Program to be released despite the budget impass. This was necessary because we have two projects in our state to maintain and improve horse trails that involve RTP grants. Though the grants for the projects are approvable,

(Continued on page 4)

Regional Planning Should Include Horsemen

Attention Chicagoland Horse Owners! There are two important on-line surveys you can take to indicate your support for the continued right to keep horses in your backyard.



McHenry County has opened an on-line survey in conjunction with the Regional Planning Commission's project to update the McHenry County 2030 Plan. The Committee has already indicated that it believes that the amount of estate zoning in the county should be reduced. ***If you keep horses in your backyard, then you are in estate zoning.*** Please take the time to make your opinion known by visiting the McHenry County website's Planning & Development page. On the left side of that page, chose opinion survey from the listing under McHenry County 2030 and Beyond subheading. https://www.co.mchenry.il.us/county-government/departments-j-z/planning-development/2030-beyond

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is preparing a new comprehensive plan for the Chicagoland area. The project is called "On to 2050". CMAP is the comprehensive regional planning agency for the seven counties and 284 municipalities of metropolitan Chicago. HCI board member Elaine Ramesh recently met with CMAP and introduced HCI and the impact the horse industry has on the economy and quality of life for all regions of the state.

Input is being sought in a survey which can be found at www.cmap.illinois.gov. There are places in the survey to write in your comments, so be sure to let the planners know that we need to have land use guidelines that allow us to keep our horses at home under estate zoning. **A CMAP representative will be coming to the northwest suburbs on Wednesday evening, June 22 to speak to suburban equestrians about the planning process and take input from equestrians. Please contact the HCI office if you are interested in attending this meeting.**

(Continued from page 3) ***Legislative Action to Preserve Illinois' Equine Heritage***

there is currently no way to have the funds released to get the work done because IDOT and IDNR lack budgets. In an attempt to help get the federal money where it is supposed to go, **SB 2869** (an amendment to the Illinois Highway Code) has been filed.

Although the spring legislative session ended without passage of the bills, all three pieces of legislation have passed the Senate and are awaiting House action. They will still be active, and will be taken up again for consideration in the fall legislative session, so please contact your representative in the House and let them know you would like them to support SJR 0046, SJR 0038 and SB 2869.

Legislation to be Filed in Fall Session

So we have three pending pieces of legislation for 2016, but we are currently working on three additional proposals which are likely to be filed as legislative bills this fall. Details to come later this year.

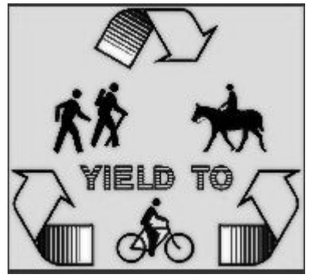
Here's where you come in....

To keep you informed of pending bills and of future developments, our website's Legislative News & Resources page (under the Home tab) will be kept updated to show the current legislation which we have initiated, are following, or do support. So check back often. From time to time, we will also send out Action Alerts via email or the website to inform you when you can help by calling, writing to, or meeting with your legislator to express your support for a particular bill.

Does all of this sound interesting to you? We certainly hope so. The HCI board would love to have you join us to help in our efforts to have more supportive laws for horsemen in our state. Please contact us at hci@horsemenscouncil.org to make an inquiry about serving with us.

Shawnee Trail Conservancy

Mountain Bike Survey 2015



Last year the Shawnee Trail Conservancy (a non-profit trail advocacy group headquartered in southern Illinois) conducted a survey of the equestrian community concerning the use of mountain bikes in the Shawnee National Forest (SNF). The survey results have been tabulated and turned over to the US Forest Service to be reviewed and considered when they develop the next forest plant for the SNF. The purpose of this article is to summarize the survey results for the general public.

This issue came to our attention after an unfortunate encounter between mountain bikers and equestrians that resulted in injuries to the equestrians. At about the same time mountain bike groups began petitioning the FS to make all trails in the SNF open for mountain biking. Based on information from other parts of the country it became apparent there are inherent dangers on trails shared by bikers and equestrians. At this point the directors of the STC decided it would be beneficial to poll equestrian users as to their encounters with mountain bikes and their opinions on the use of mountain bikes in the SNF. This article is a summary of the full report which can be accessed at http://shawneetrailconservancy.com/Mtn%20Bike%20Survey%20Results.html

The survey collected results from over 460 equestrians. Seventy –eight percent of the responders considered themselves experienced trail riders; 61% rode experienced trail mounts; and 91% of the time they were accompanied by inexperienced riders. Eighty-seven present of the responders had ridden in the SNF at one time or another. Eighty-nine percent have had an encounter with mountain bikers while on the trails; less than 25% of the time bikers yielded; and 13% were considered dangerous. Survey results show 71% prefer to have separate trails for mountain bikers and equestrians.

The STC recognizes the fact that mountain bikers have a right to recreate in the SNF. However, we recognize the inherent dangers of having mountain bikers and equestrians using the same trails. Any trails designated for both bikers and equestrians should be with no blind curves. The officers and directors of the STC hope the survey results will help the USFS make sensible and safe decisions regarding trail usage in their next forest plan.

Shawnee Trail Conservancy
PO Box 44
Eddyville, IL 62928
info@shawneetrailconservancy.com

IL Equine Research & Promotion Board

The Illinois Equine Industry Research and Promotion Board is pleased to announce that the 2016 round of competitive grants have been awarded. The Board reviewed and evaluated a number of grant proposals and awarded $65,000 to these groups during a presentation at Illinois Horse Fair on March 6th:

- Southern Illinois University – research for the evaluation of therapeutic efficacy of curcumin in arthritic horses.
- University of Illinois – research in-vivo biomechanical evaluation of the laryngeal tie-forward in horses.
- Illinois Boots and Saddle Club – for facility improvements.
- Illinois Farm Bureau –Equine Education in the Classroom project
- Central Illinois Riding Therapy – new automatic horse waterers at the therapy facility.
- Gallatin County Fair – a project to provide additional county fair arena lighting.
- Chakota Therapeutic Riding Center – a project for facility improvements.
- New Kingdom Riders – a project for an outdoor riding arena.
- Quincy Saddle Club – Siloam Spring State Park Equestrian Campground hitching rails.
- TETHER – Technical Large Animal Rescue equipment start-up.
- Tony Troyer in partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Matthiessen State Park Equestrian Trails project.
- Refuge Ranch – partial funding for the Quest Program.
- Salem Ranch – outdoor arena fencing and south pasture fencing.
- Adams County Fair - additional stalls to new horse barn.

Potential grant recipients are encouraged to network and develop a grant for their local area that will benefit all equine enthusiasts. Proposals are due every year on November 15th and awarded during the Illinois Horse Fair in March of each year.

The Illinois Equine Industry Research and Promotion Board is an Illinois not-for-profit entity, organized to provide research, promotion and education for the equine industry in Illinois. Authorized by the enabling legislation, the Equine Promotion Board collects a voluntary assessment on equine feed purchased in Illinois. Run by a 12-member board of directors, the Equine Promotion is responsible for the collection, monitoring and disbursements of the equine checkoff funds. To learn more, visit www.iepb.org

Youth Judging Results

Coming from three states, 185 youth ages 8 to 19 entered the All-Youth Horse Judging trials. Competition was broken up into two age divisions Juniors, aged 8 to 13 & Seniors aged 14-19. The diversity of the contestant's horse breed knowledge was tested with the eight classes that were presented to them. Four halter classes and four performance classes were judged. Contestants were scored on how closely their ranking of the horses in each class matched the official placings as determined by a panel of experienced horse judges. Awards were given to the top ten individuals in each age division along with the top five teams in each age division. Trophy duffels were given to the champion individuals and teams as well. Thanks to Debra Hagstrom and her team for organizing this great event.

Sr Individual Ranking

1 Monique Garrett - Madison County Mane Event
2 Josa Comstock - McHenry 4-H
3 Grace Schumacher - Plymouth FFA Team A
4 Brenna Berns - Carroll Boots N Spurs
5 Emily McDermott - Lucky Horseshoe Blue Team

2016 All-Youth Horse Judging Trials Senior Team Ranking

1 McLean County Big Hitters
2 Warren County
3 FFA Horse Squad
4 McHenry 4-H
5 4-H SPIN

Jr Individual Ranking

1 Amanda Hall - Shelby County
2 Charlotte Toohill - Dewitt County
3 Sarah Miller - UCET
4 Hannah Maher - Knox County
5 Olivia Charles - Bond/Carol County

2016 All-Youth Horse Judging Trials Junior Team Ranking

1 Lucky Horseshoes
2 McLean County Champions
3 Sangamon/Menard
4 Bond/Carol County 4-H
5 UCET

Congratulations to all and thank you for participating!

Heartland Horseman's Challenge

Adam Richardson was named winner of The Heartland Horseman's Challenge, a judged competition covering all days of the Illinois Horse Fair, where a trainer is given the opportunity to work with a horse unknown to them, culminating in a freestyle ride or challenge course, allowing each competitor to showcase their abilities and talents. This year's challenge partnered trainers with off the track Thoroughbreds. 5 of the OTTBs were adopted. The event was sponsored by ADM Alliance Nutrition.

Liberty Class - The winner of Liberty was Evan from Horsemeister Friesians followed by Bell Bottom Cool Dude and Crusador.

Breed and Sport - was led by Friesians, then Vaulters, and Tennessee Walkers

Stall Decorating Winners: Mini Whinney Farms, David Davis, Tennessee Walkers.

Dean Scoggins Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Maggert was awarded the 2016 Dean Scoggins Memorial Scholarship during the Horse Fair. She received $1,000 toward educational expenses at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

The Scoggins scholarship was initiated in 2007 to honor the memory of the late Dr. R. Dean Scoggins, DVM, a dedicated horseman in addition to being a skilled veterinary practitioner and faculty member at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He spent a great deal of time promoting the strength and integrity of the horse industry through his educational efforts, teaching both on-campus and off-campus as an Illinois State Specialist with U of I Extension.

Volunteers Make It Happen!

Without the dedication of dozens of volunteers working all aspects of the event, Horse Fair would never happen. Thanks isn't enough!

COLISEUM/LIVESTOCK/CLINICIANS
Jerry Sutton, Jim Stevens, Tim Boyer, Paula Briney, Dee Dee Rea, Wes Lynch, Liz Carter, Cricket Simons, Dale Waterman, Jeff Kindhart, Tracy Taft, Mike Taft

HORSE CHECK-IN/BREED & SPORT/ STALLIONS/Horses for Sale
Paula Leifel, Cheryl Crowdson, Jan Marcott, Vicki Simons, Annette Donaldson,, Marty & Chris Power, Pam Siebert, Emily Corum, Kim Stout-Brown, Sally Atterberry, Kimberly Rhoades, Stacy Bowman, Alicia Pool, Dennis French, Nina French, Rhonda Baum

TICKETING
Karen Jones, Sheree King, Dave Nobbe, Charlene Lynch, Illinois High School Rodeo

OFFICE
Cheryl Dement, Mindy Bell, Elaine Craver, Daryl Nobbe, Margie Thrash, Loretta White, Kevin Kline, Vicki Simons, Brenna Kindhart, Kerry Grunloh - IT, Amy Nelson - Media

PITCH-A-PONY
Katie McCauley, Betty Stevens, Sally Rush, Carol Dilbeck

GROUNDS
Dennis Monroe, Robb Lippert, Chuck Cooch, Nathan Lippert, Robb Lippert, Amy Monroe, Blair Monroe, Rechelle Monroe, Stuart Morgan, Ethan Woodard, Jonathan Rhoades, Russ Derango, Clint Derango, Mike Welsh

TRAM DRIVERS
Ralph Young, Larry Munro, Pam Munro, Marc Rogers, Robb Lippert, Nathan Lippert, Gary Connelley

CARRIAGE DRIVERS
Jeff & Becky Hanlin, Zach Hileman, Shawn & Danielle Londrigan, Tony Troyer,

SEMINAR PRESENTERS
Richard Keyworth, David Genadek, Dale Myler, Rachel Boyce, DVM, Susan Cain, EdD, Richard Balsbaugh, PhD, Kevin Kline, PhD, Chuck Sheahan, Deke Carls, DVM, Rebecca Lidy, Nina French, Todd Reddig, Ida Hammer, Nicole Gilbert, DVM, Lindsey Perry, Phil Farrell, Linda Sitton, Land of Lincoln Horseshoers , Midwest Horseshoeing School, Dennis French, DVM, Scott Austin, DVM,

SEMINAR MODERATORS
Meghan Cox, Stephanie White, Lois Guyon, Ruth Fennick, Anne Corbin, Jenne Rosegay, Crystal Welsh, Sheree King

HOSPITALITY/KIDS CORNER
Kim Dresch, Millie Hellyer, Katie McCauley, Teri Derango, Sara Burch, Jacob Dresch, Libby South, Mark Dresch, Janis Cooch, Charlene Lynch, Tanner Greathouse, Rusty Mecum

ALL YOUTH JUDGING
Debra Hagstrom, Will Corum, Emily Corum, Dana Taylor, Elaine Craver, Ericka Lee, Jake Lee, Molly McGhee, Stacey McGhee, Sam Marusiak, Laure Southwood, Cori Ellioitt, Danielle Neisdendorf, Lauren Wells, Paul Roger, Theresa Boehm, Sydney Boehm, Carli Miller, Rachel Torbert, Hana Murphy

HEARTLAND HORSEMAN'S CHALLENGE
Dave Nobbe, Dee Dee Rea, Tim Boyer, Jody Powell, Dennis Cappel, Jud Carter

IHF QUEEN PAGEANT
Anne Marie Connelly, Virginia Smith, Kaylynn Hall, Jessica Hall, Tracy Hall, Michelle Smith, Olivia Ree, Diane Connelly, Kiersten Pratt, Becca Schweiter

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Miss Illinois Horse Fair 2016 - Alexandra Homberger (right)
Jr. Miss Illinois Horse Fair 2016 - Natalie Schimp (left)
Photo: Mane Event Promotions

HUNDREDS OF PHOTOS ON-LINE!
See More of Illinois Horse Fair in Pictures from Our Event Photographer:
Mane Event Promotions
http://maneeventpromotions.pixieset.com/

IHF Queen Pageant

During the three days of competition, 8 candidates displayed their skills in a 4:00 minute horsemanship performance, 1:00 minute public speech given to an audience on the Fair's main stage, and interviewed with judges for 4:00 minutes. These young ladies must prove that they can represent the Illinois Horse Industry with style! We welcomed an array of horse breeds and disciplines from Missouri Fox Trotters, to OTTB's and hunter/jumpers to barrel racers. Candidates were welcomed to the rodeo performances in a beautiful carriage and sold 50/50 tickets to raise funds for the pageant!

Miss- Alexandrea Hemberger of Auburn Illinois. Rode her Pinto Gelding, Bernie, and scored 276/300. She will attend University of Kentucky in the fall as a freshman.

Jr. Miss- Natalie Schimp of Eldorado, IL. Rode her AQHA Mare, My Rod's Knockin' or "Knockers". She scored 271/300 points. She attends Eldorado High School.

Miss Horsemanship: Rebecca Henry
Jr. Miss Horsemanship: Gracie McCullers
Essay: Gracie McCullers
Miss Congeniality: Danielle Sill

HCI to Honor Horse and Horsemen

There are thousands of horsemen, horsewomen and organizations in Illinois who positively influence others in the equine community and serve as examples of good sportsmanship, good horsemanship and promoting the equestrian way of life in Illinois. Also, there are thousands of Illinois horses who have impacted individual lives as well as the equine industry.

Horsemen's Council of Illinois has established two annual awards to celebrate the importance of the horse and equestrian life in our state.

Nominations for these awards will be accepted from July 1 through October 1. Honorees will be announced at Illinois Horse Fair in March. Now is the time to submit an award nomination for these special individuals, organizations and animals.

The Horsemen's Council of Illinois Ambassador Award

honors an HCI member organization or an HCI individual member who has done an outstanding job of fostering and supporting the equestrian way of life in Illinois.

Eligibility:

- Individual must be an Illinois resident and at least 18 years of age.
- Organization or individual must be an HCI member.
- Organization must be Illinois-based.

Criteria:
Organization or individual demonstrates excellence and outstanding service to the equestrian community in one or more of the following categories:

- putting on events and/or providing education for the non-equestrian community to introduce them to horses
- helping to open new horse trails or provide new public horse-related amenities
- working diligently to improve or maintain existing horse related-amenities
- obtaining favorable publicity to promote an Illinois equestrian lifestyle
- use of horses in a way that engages and benefits the public

An individual or an organization may only receive the award once, and only one award will be presented each year.

We all know a deserving person or horse.

Don't wait - let HCI know who they are!

NOMINATION FORM ON NEXT PAGE

The Horsemen's Council of Illinois Dust Commander Lifetime Achievement Award

Dust Commander was a small, unassuming chestnut thoroughbred born in Illinois. Though no one thought he could win, and despite getting bumped by another horse coming out of the starting gate, he won the 96th running of the Kentucky Derby in 1970. This award celebrates his achievements and seeks to honor a horse who shares Dust Commander's spirit of excellence.

An annual award honoring a horse, pony, mini, donkey, hinny or mule; to recognize special valor or outstanding competitive achievement.

Criteria:

- If the horse is being nominated for competitive achievements, the horse currently resides in Illinois. Applications from Illinois-bred horses are strongly encouraged. Outstanding results from competitions in equestrian sports including eventing, racing, reining, driving, hunter/jumper, distance riding etc. will be considered.
- If the horse is being nominated for valor or heroism, the acts must have taken place in Illinois and the horse currently resides in Illinois. Qualifying acts could include enhancing/prolonging/ enriching a patients' life through an equine therapy program, valorous service as a police horse, in assisting in locating a lost person, saving another animal's or a human's life etc.
- Award may be posthumous.
- Animal may only receive the award once, and only one award will be given out each year.

HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS
AMBASSADOR AWARD OR DUST COMMANDER AWARD

Application (check one): ____ Ambassador Award ____ Dust Commander Award

Individual/Organization/Horse - Nominee

Individual, Horse Owner or Organization Contact: _____
Last *First* *M.I.*

Organization Name & Year Founded:: _____

Horse : _____
Name *Breed* *Age*

Address: _____
Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

_____
City *State* *ZIP Code*

Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Nomination

Please refer to the award criteria in preparing your nomination. In the space below describe with specific examples how the individual, organization or horse has made a significant lasting impact on people and the Illinois horse industry. Attach additional pages if needed. Photos, news clippings and letters of support are welcome.

Nominator

Full Name: _____
Last *First* *M.I.*

Address: _____
Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

_____
City *State* *ZIP Code*

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship: _____

Submission

Nominations must be postmarked by October 1st. Mail 3 copies of the application and attachments to:
Horsemen's Council of Illinois
PO Box 788, Quincy, IL 62306
217-689-4224

ILLINOIS Horse Fair

Illinois' largest all-breed horse event since 1987

2016 Illinois Horse Fair Committee

Ron Rhoades, Event Manager
Amy Nelson, Communications
Karen Jones, Ticketing
Melinda Bell, Vendors
Cindy Johnson, Fashion Show
Anne Marie Connelly, Queen Contest
Debra Hagstrom, Youth Judging
Sheree King, Seminars
Paula Liefel, Breed Demos
Jerry Sutton, Rodeo & Coliseum
Cheryl Dement, Volunteers
Rhonda Baum, Horses for Sale
Paula Briney, English Clinics
Tim Boyer, Western Clinics
Dave Nobbe, Heartland Horseman's Challenge
Kim Stout-Brown, Stallion & Stabling
Jim Stevens, Annex & Livestock Center
Kim Dresch, Hospitality
Russ Derango, Operations
Tony Troyer, Carriage & Draft
Cheryl Waterman, HCI Staff

P O Box 788
Quincy, IL 62306-0788
Phone: 217-689-4224

Email: hci@horsemenscouncil.org
ihf@ihorsemenscouncil.org

www.horsemenscouncil.org
www.illinoishorsefair.com

The large venue of the Illinois State Fairgrounds provided abundant opportunities for nearly 14,000 in attendance to experience ***"Ride Your Dream"*** at Illinois Horse Fair 2016 on March 4th through 6th. More than 20 buildings, 4 arenas, 2 demonstration areas, 4 classrooms and 95,000 square feet of shopping were filled with evidence that the horse industry in Illinois is thriving. The annual Illinois Horse Fair is the primary fundraiser for ***Horsemen's Council of Illinois*** who uses the proceeds to educate, mobilize and represent horsemen and the equine industry.

More than 230 horses along with their riders and handlers took up residence to put on demonstrations, participate in clinics, challenges, and show the horse-hungry public their "stuff". Whether from the saddle or the stands, dressage, rodeo, barrel racing, cutting and liberty are just some of the dozens of ways participants and spectators enjoyed the week-end. The large number of vendors satisfied the appetites for shopping and food. Wooten Rodeo filled the coliseum both nights.

Dawson Performance Horses, Tim Boyer, Brody Robertson, Lyle East, Curt & Polly Hagey, Gary Lane, Marilyn Weber and Smith Lilly provided nearly 90 clinic sessions and hundreds of hours of education and personal interaction with participants eager to sharpen their skills in a variety of disciplines.

Governor Rauner visited on Friday and IDNR Director Rosenthal attended on Saturday. Both were impressed by the diversity of the horse industry and its impact on the state economy. Since Horse Fair, the Governor has issued a proclamation declaring December 13 Illinois Day of the Horse. And, the staff of IDNR welcomed a new partners with horsemen in our first annual Trail Work Days.

More than 160 volunteers provided manpower throughout the weekend to ensure all aspects of the fair ran smoothly.

The IHF Committee has been working for months planning for 2017. New management is being hired and planning has begun for Illinois Horse Fair 2017 to be held March 3rd through 5th. We will be seeking volunteers, clinicians, educators, exhibitors and vendors. If you want to be part of the planning, please let us know.

Adam Richardson is presented the Heartland Horseman's Challenge trophy by Sandy Chatten with ADM

2016 Illinois Horse Fair & Horsemen's Council Sponsors