

Great River Classical Horsemanship Association e-News

Our Website: <http://GRCHorse.org>

Newsletter 2011-05

A USDF GMO

February 1, 2011

GRCHA members are automatically USDF members .
USDF strongly recommends all riders wear protective headgear when mounted.

On-Going Activities

Riding Lessons at Windrush Hill Farm. Note: Strangles on the farm—no horses coming or going now. See letter later in this issue from Ann Bennett. Saturday mornings will be reserved for private lessons by appointment. New students start with private lessons, and then may join a small group lesson. The children enjoy riding together. The youth group lessons will be on Saturday, 1pm to 2pm for children needing help saddling and the children should come half an hour early for help so come at 12:30pm. For children that can groom and tack up by themselves, the lesson will be 2pm to 3pm, come at 1:30pm to groom and tack up your horse. There will be an adult group lesson from 3pm to 4pm, you will want to be tacked up and ready to ride by 3pm. Sometimes a family wants to ride together, so that could be scheduled in the morning. Private lessons by appt on Tuesdays. Individual arrangements for lessons with owners of horses in training are made throughout the week as our schedules permit.

Lesson Fees: Ride your own horse in a group lesson: \$25; Ride your own horse in a private lesson: \$30; Ride a school horse in a private lesson: \$35; Ride a school horse in a group lesson: \$35; Ride a school horse while your horse is in training for group lesson: \$25; Ride a school horse while your horse is in training for a private lesson: \$30

Email windrushhill@farmtel.net or call Ann at 319-986-2199 to schedule a lesson either with a group, or privately. Free to audit. For directions to Windrush Hill Farm, go to www.windrushhill.com. (GPS and Mapquest directions are WRONG.)

Roping/Cattle Working Practice. Check for the schedule before you come or send an e-mail request to be on our activities e-mail list. Location: indoor arena at **Dreamcatcher Stable**, 18859 152nd Ave, Sperry, Iowa. Contact Cheryl or Mark Lieurance at cheryl.lieurance@yahoo.com See <http://www.dreamcatcher-stable.com/>

Private Dressage Lessons with Genelle Royer at Pat Pollpeter's Arena are **cancelled until better weather**. Contact Genelle for further information at 217-453-2409 or geneller@frontiernet.net

Riding Lessons in Fairfield. Cancelled for now. Ann Bennett is teaching lessons in Fairfield on Wednesday afternoon/evening. For location and an appointment, email windrushhill@farmtel.net or call 319-986-2199. There is a \$5 trip charge added to each lesson, so \$30 for semi-private one hour lesson, \$40 for private 30 minute lesson, your horse.

Riding Lessons at Flying Change Stables, 1925 295th Ave., Ft. Madison, IA. Ali Glenn teaches riding by appointment any day of the week between 9 AM and 7 PM. Lessons are \$30 per hour for private lessons; \$15 for 30 minutes. There is no extra charge to use one of her school horses. To ride and school someone's horse, she charges \$15. She has one lesson pony and two lesson horses that can all jump. Group jumping lessons for three riders can be arranged at \$15 each. Contact Ali on her cell phone at 319-371-6034.

Hatha Yoga for Equestrians Makes Good Horse Sense with Jewel Marie McDonald, at Morningstar Studio, upstairs, on the square in Fairfield. The 2nd Annual Winter Equestrian Yoga Series is now underway, **Mondays at 5:30pm**. See details in calendar below. For further information, contact Jewel at morningstar@lisco.com

GRCHA 2010-2011 Calendar

To volunteer to host an event or update GRCHA activities,
contact Melissa Viviano,, Vice President, redhorse98@att.net
Send other items for calendar to Lora Conrad at lpconrad@tctwb.com

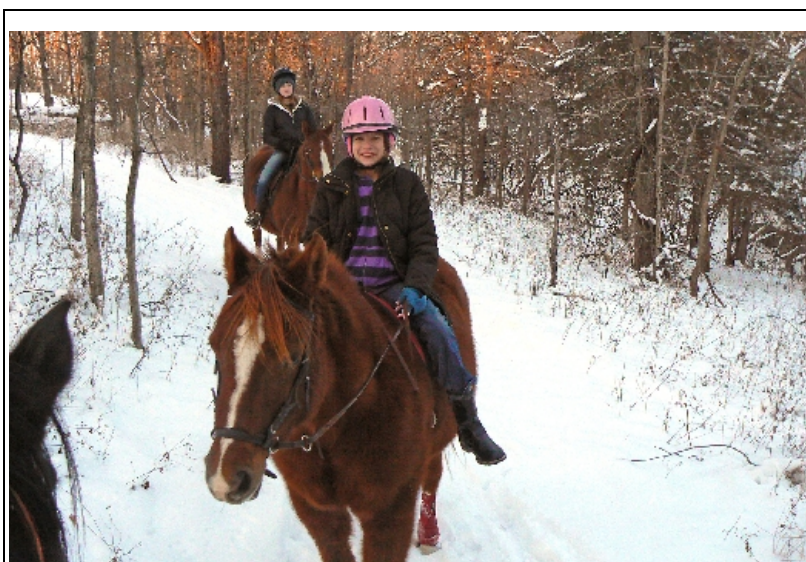
Month	<p>GRCHA 2011 Dues— Did you send in your membership for 2011? Individual-\$42; family-\$62. Send check payable to GRCHA to: Dena McCulloch, Treasurer GRCHA, PO Box 102, Gladstone, IL 61437</p>
February	<p>Feb 12. 10:00 AM GRCHA Northern Centered Riding Study Group meeting. See first page of text below.</p> <p>Feb. 12th 11:00AM GRCHA Southern Centered Riding Study Group Meeting. See first page of text below.</p> <p>Feb 27 11:00AM GRCHA Soup Social and Silent Auction at the home of Art & Judy Duke, 1307 Redwood Ave., Brighton, IA. Bad Roads Reschedule date: March 6. Join us. Bring a friend. Enjoy conversation about our horsey plans for spring and catch up on what our friends have been doing, great food, a silent auction, a business meeting, a tour around Art & Judy's home and farm. For directions, you can Google Map their address or use the following: Coming from the south through Fairfield, IA. Take the Pleasant Plain Road (W21) north about 10 miles until you see a sign for St Mary's Polishville Cemetery. Turn right (east) in about 100 feet onto 136th street. Go 1/2 mile east and turn left (north) on Redwood Ave. At the top of the hill, the Duke farm is on the right (east) down a quarter mile lane. Coming from the north through Brighton, IA. Go east on Hwy 1 out of Brighton for about 1 mile and turn south on Pleasant Plain Road (W21). Then go about 3 miles south until you see a sign for St. Mary's Polishville Cemetery. Turn left (east) in about 100 feet onto 136th Street. Go 1/2 mile and turn left (north) on Redwood Ave. At the top of the hill, the Duke farm is on the right (east) down a quarter mile lane.</p> <p>Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 5:30 – 7:00 PM Hatha Yoga for Equestrians with Jewel McDonald. Deepen the Breath - Improve Flexibility - Release the Hips - Create a Deeper Seat and Neutral Pelvis - Enhance Suppleness of the Lower Back - Cultivate Core Strength - Improve the Postural Alignment - Relax in Mind & Body (10 Class Series Monday, Jan. 17- Mar. 21 5:30 - 7:00pm \$150.00) Morning Star Studio, 51 S. Court Street - Fairfield, IA (East side of Square) for More Info please call 641-472-4287 Interested in joining us or want further information, contact Jewel at morningstar@lisco.com</p>
March	<p>Mar 4-6 Illinois Horse Fair, Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL Features Craig Cameron, 2010 Road to the Horse Colt-Starting World Champion and Hall of Fame Cowboy, along with West Coast trainer Charles Wilhelm, The Behaviorist Ryan Gingerich and others See:http://www.horsemenscouncil.org/HorseFair/</p> <p>March 7, 14, 21 5:30 – 7:00 PM Hatha Yoga for Equestrians with Jewel McDonald. Interested in joining us or want further information, contact Jewel at</p>

	<p>morningstar@lisco.com</p>
April	<p>April 1-3 Iowa Horse Fair, Des Moines, IA Features Stacy Westfall and Richard Shrake. See: http://www.iowahorsecouncil.org/Iowa%20Horse%20Fair/ihf-general.htm</p> <p>April 15-17 Midwest Horse Fair “StarGrazing”, Madison, WI http://midwesthorsefair.com/index.php?page=home_detail&post_id=5875</p> <p>April 16 Doug Bogart Lessons at Field Farm. Contact Lori Field at lori_field@fmi.com</p> <p>April 17 GRCHA Horse Trailer Clinic at Melissa Viviano's home at 3390 175th St., Wever, IA (directions later). Clinic coordinator is GRCHA member Randy Goble. To ask for specific issues to be addressed regarding owning, maintaining and using your trailer, send an e-mail to Randy at dmculloch@dresser-rand.com. Its a hands-on workshop—bring your trailer! (But not your horse this time)</p> <p>April 28-May 1 Rolex Kentucky. See: http://www.rk3de.org/</p>
May	<p>May 2-12 Bob King Clinics at Dreamcatcher Stable, Sperry , IA ALL CLASSES LIMITED TO 10 RIDERS – Auditors welcome \$25/day A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required for <i>each class</i>. Make checks payable to: Cowboy School Inc. Mail checks to: Dreamcatcher Stable, 18859 152nd Ave. Sperry, IA 52650 Further details on camping, meals & horse pens are on the website: www.dreamcatcher-stable.com or call 319-759-5679</p> <p>May 2-3-4 Foundation Horsemanship \$450 Starting with the basics. Groundwork essentials will lead to a partnership with your horse. Learn how to prepare your horse on the ground so he'll be a willing partner under saddle.</p> <p>May 5-6-7 Advanced Horsemanship \$450 For riders familiar with the basics that are ready to expand their Horsemanship skills</p> <p>May 9-10 Cow Working \$300 plus cattle fee TBD Learn how to 'read' cattle. This will not only help the rider with the skills necessary to move cattle from one place to another, but will give the horse the ability to help it's rider!</p> <p>May 11-12 Ranch Roping Fee: \$300 plus cattle fee TBD The working Ranch Horse is a valuable tool to many cattlemen. Ranch Roping is popular with those interested in low-stress management of their cattle. This style of roping is slow and artistic, using a 60' rope to throw a large variety of head and heel loops.</p> <p>May 14 9 AM-4 PM Iowa Trail Riders Association De-Spooking Clinic at Windrush Hill Farm. ITRA Members \$35 (participate); Nonmembers \$45 (participate); Audit only \$15; Deadline for registration is May 6, 2011. Maximum number of participants is 15. Registration includes lunch. For a complete brochure, contact Denise Schieffer at (319) 728-8737 or email ponyexpress11@hotmail.com</p>

	<p>May 19-20 Tentative Dates Equine Dentist Dr. Tom Allen in Keosauqua (at Conrad's barn and Achenbach's barn) To reserve dates and times, contact Lora at lpconrad@tctwb.com.</p> <p>May 30 Memorial Day Holiday</p>																		
June	<p>June 4 Doug Bogart Lessons at Windrush Hill Farm. Contact Ann Bennett at windrushhill@farmtel.net</p> <p>June 16-19 GRCHA Centered Riding Clinic at DreamCatcher Stable with Carol Wilson</p> <p>June 16, Thursday – Pre-Clinic Program---5 to 7pm DreamCatcher Stable-Lecture by Carol Wilson: Topic “Introduction to Centered Riding Principles”, beverages and snacks pot-luck. Free to all GRCHA members, riders and auditors.</p> <p>June 17-18-19 Schedule:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>7:30 - 8:30am</td><td>Check-In</td></tr> <tr><td>8:30 - 10:00</td><td>Morning Group Session</td></tr> <tr><td>10:30 - 11:30</td><td>Riding Group #1</td></tr> <tr><td>11:30 - 12:30</td><td>Riding Group #2</td></tr> <tr><td>12:30 - 1:30</td><td>Lunch</td></tr> <tr><td>1:30 - 2:30</td><td>Riding Group #3</td></tr> <tr><td>2:30 - 3:30</td><td>Riding Group #4</td></tr> <tr><td>3:30 - 4:30</td><td>Riding Group #5</td></tr> <tr><td>4:30 - 5:00</td><td>Wrap Up Session</td></tr> </table> <p>Clinic Tuition covers costs for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday Clinic, including 3 - One Hour 2 or 3 person Riding Lessons, Unmounted Exercises, Handouts, and Riding Lesson Observations. Limit: 12 riders. The cost per 2011 GRCHA member rider will be \$200. The total amount is due and payable to reserve your slot for the clinic. Send the completed registration form and your check to Dena McCulloch, Treasurer, as noted on the registration form. NOTE: All 12 riding slots are reserved – contact Dena at DMcCulloch@Dresser-Rand.com about being on a waiting list in case of a change of plans.</p> <p>Participating auditors will participate in the 1.5 hour unmounted exercises daily and receive handouts as well as riding lesson observations. Cost is \$20 per day or \$45 for the entire clinic, payable to GRCHA now. Participating auditors are limited to 6.</p> <p>June 16-18 2011 Iowa Trails Summit in Waterloo/Cedar Fall. For more information, see www.iowadot.gov/iowabikes</p>	7:30 - 8:30am	Check-In	8:30 - 10:00	Morning Group Session	10:30 - 11:30	Riding Group #1	11:30 - 12:30	Riding Group #2	12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	1:30 - 2:30	Riding Group #3	2:30 - 3:30	Riding Group #4	3:30 - 4:30	Riding Group #5	4:30 - 5:00	Wrap Up Session
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July	<p>July 4 –Monday—Holiday</p> <p>July 23 Doug Bogart Lessons at Field Farm. Contact Lori Field at lori_field@fmi.com</p>																		
August	<p>Aug. 27-28 GRCHA sponsored “Saddle-Up for St. Jude” Kathy and Gerald James, Coordinators. Camp-Out and Trail Ride Fund-Raiser. Still being planned. If you have suggestions, send them to gkjames@dishmail.net</p>																		
September	<p>Sep. 5 Monday-Labor Day Holiday</p>																		

	<p>Sep. 8 – 11 Fort Madison Tri-State Rodeo. See http://www.tri-state-rodeo.com/tri-state-us/ for full information.</p> <p>Sep. 18-19 Iowa Region NATRC Ride, Stephens Forest</p>
October	GRCHA Annual Meeting TBD
November	Nov 24-Thursday-Thanksgiving Day Holiday
December	DEC ?? GRCHA Holiday Event and Awards Program TBD

**Feature Photos:
Starting the New Year off Right!**



Riding in the snow January 12, 2011 4:30 pm--Lora on Muscatella (That's Muscatella's ear in the left corner), Dasha on Sassy and Faith on Kari.

Centered Riding Study Groups All Set To GO!

The study groups are for any of our members that would like to learn more about centered riding this winter and early spring (not just those who will be in the clinic in June). The text for the groups will be Sally Swift's Centered Riding (the first book). For more info on Centered Riding, go to www.centeredriding.org

Southern Centered Riding Study Group:

The first meeting of this group will be Sat. Feb. 12th at 11:00 AM at Pat Pollpeter's home on Hiway 2 near Donnellson (2516 Hiway 2, just east of the Apple Orchard, driveway is almost under the high power lines, house is at end of driveway, not the first house). Pat has Centered Riding videos for us to watch. Becky says: *Join us for our first organizational and movie meeting. We will plan a future schedule for meeting and reading at that time. If everyone brings a little something as a lunch snack to share we can munch and watch at the same time. A fun day to get us started and help ward off the winter blahs. Be sure to invite anyone who even wants to just view the videos and share some good horsey conversation, even if they don't think they can join us for reading the whole book.*

Interested in the "Southern CR Study Group?" If you plan to come, send an e-mail to Becky at cohodosb@iowatelecom.net

Northern Centered Riding Study Group

The first meeting of this group will be Sat. Feb. 12 at 10:00 AM at Diana Thrift's home just SW of Iowa City. Diana says:

I expect the meetings would last from 1 to 1 1/2 hours max. At our first meeting we'll set up a schedule for future meetings--we can be flexible as to day and time and how often to try to accommodate our varying schedules and preferences. I'm happy to have all the meetings here, but also glad to rotate with others' houses if some of us want to take turns going out on dark winter nights (hopefully, it will be spring before we know it...). Again, the group can set whatever "ground rules" at the first meeting.

At that first meeting, we'll watch Sally Swift's 1st Centered Riding DVD. *As for reading and individual study, we'll start with Sally's first book, but will also delve into the 2nd book; I understand from Becky that there are some activities in that one we can do with our bodies that should be fun and useful. We'll also be able to watch the 2nd Centered Riding DVD, and I'd imagine it will also have the exercises; in any event, I'm sure watching those will be WONDERFUL, and we can thank Mary for buying both and making available to the group!*

If you own the books, bring them with you. Directions:

From Iowa City: 1.8 miles west of Mormon Trek on Rohret (past Weber School)--house on south side of road, 3329 on brown mailbox and on blue ditch sign.

From 218: west on Highway 1 for 2 miles, right on Maier (gravel) 1 mi to end at Rohret, go left, house on left as above.

From Kalona: Highway 1, left on Maier (first road after Sharon Center Road), left on Rohret as above

Interested in the "Northern CR Study Group?" Please let Diana know if you plan to come. Send an e-mail to Diana at diana-thrift@uiowa.edu

Health Alert!!

Two Cases of Equine Infectious Anemia Confirmed in Missouri

The following is excerpted from a Missouri Department of Agriculture news release dated January 27, 2011:

The Missouri Department of Agriculture's Division of Animal Health confirmed positive test results for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) in two horses earlier this month in northeastern Missouri. Department officials have tested 696 other horses, including those located nearby and any that may have been in contact with the infected animals. No further positive cases have been identified.

On Jan. 5, 2011, a Belgian horse in rural Pike County tested positive for EIA. The animal was immediately quarantined, and humanely euthanized following additional testing in mid-January. A second horse on the farm also tested positive for EIA on Jan. 7, 2011. That horse was humanely euthanized, as well.

"Although this disease does not affect humans, it is a disease that can have a devastating impact on our equine industry," said Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler. "We will continue to closely monitor the situation and remind horse owners to schedule regular Coggins tests with their veterinarian to screen for this disease."

(Lora's Note: There have been no positive Coggins tests reported so far this year in Illinois nor Iowa. Local vet says there have been no positive tests in our area in quite a few years.)

EIA Information Sheet

The US Dept. of Agriculture publishes an information sheet on EIA . It is available at:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/eia/eia_info_sheet.pdf

Coggins Testing Data

The following paragraph is from the Univ. of Kentucky EIA research website
<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/VetScience/EIA/challenges.html>

After 37 years of testing in the United States we are finding less than one positive equid in more than 10,000 tested; in the tested population, the risk of acquiring EIA is essentially zero. In the last three years, 416 cases were reported on 237 premises (an overall rate of 0.007%), with 104 of them on three premises. The other cases were found on 234 different premises, often with no known source for the infection determined; many of the new cases are in previously untested horses. Thus, sporadic cases are expected to be found each year with little evidence for active transmission.

Ann found the state by state Coggins test results in map format for the last several years at
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/eia/eia_distribution_maps.htm

Iowa and Illinois had NO positive tests in the 2006 through 2009 years and none that I could find in 2010 (not on this map). Texas and nearby Oklahoma and Arkansas seem to have the largest number of cases.

EIA and The Controversy Regarding Coggins Test Policies.

Is there really not a vaccine? Is it EIA or Coggins tests that kill horses? For both views and further information regarding vaccine development, read

<http://hubpages.com/hub/Equine-Infectious-Anemia-Controversy>

and also <http://www.myhorse.com/coggins-test-and-equine-infectious-anemia-eia.html>

(Lora's note: Thanks to Genelle, Ann and Denise for information sent to me re EIA and/or the MO cases.)

More on Strangles....

The following white paper was released by AAEP (American Association of Equine Practitioners). See: https://www.aaep.org/siteadmin/modules/page_editor/images/files/StranglesWhitePaperFinal033009.pdf

What Horse Owners Should Know About Strangles

On Behalf of the Equine Research Coordination Group

Strangles is a highly contagious disease that causes horses to have swollen and painful lymph nodes that block their airway and can cause difficult breathing. The name was coined because these enlarged nodes sometimes (but rarely) suffocate affected horses. The first reported case of strangles in a horse was in 1251 by Jordanus Ruffus in Europe. Convinced of its contagious nature, Ruffus recommended isolating affected animals and pointed out that the most common source of infection for horses was water buckets previously used by infected animals. This advice remains valid today.

Here are some common questions and answers about strangles:

What causes strangles and what should I expect to see?

Strangles is caused by the bacteria *Streptococcus equi* (commonly known as *S. equi*), which gains access to a horse either through the animal's nose or mouth. Bacteria then invade the lymph nodes in the head and throat area, making them swollen and painful. With time, abscesses in the lymph nodes will mature and rupture to drain a creamy pus. Other lymph nodes in the head and throat may be involved but not be apparent because many of them will drain into the horse's throat and nasal cavity. Additional signs of the disease that often develop include fever, loss of appetite and listlessness.

How does a horse become exposed to strangles?

Most horses that develop strangles contract the disease through contact with the infected nasal discharges from another horse that has an active case of strangles or has recently recovered from strangles. Direct transmission occurs when horses, being very social creatures, have nose-to-nose contact with each other. Indirect transmission occurs when a susceptible horse shares feed, water buckets or housing with an infected horse. About 20% of horses continue to shed *S. equi* in their nasal secretions for several weeks after they have recovered from the disease, making all recovered horses a potential source of infection for at least six weeks after clinical signs have resolved. An extremely small percentage (1% to 10%) of horses continue to shed *S. equi* in their nasal secretions for months to years. These horses frequently have guttural-pouch infections caused by *S. equi*. Fortunately, *S. equi* is not a hearty organism and does not persist for long in the environment. While it is possible that a horse could contract strangles from the pasture that housed a horse with strangles, it is very unlikely.

How will a veterinarian know if a horse has strangles?

A veterinarian generally will diagnose a case of strangles based on the classical clinical signs. The gold standard to confirm the infection is a bacteriologic culture from either nasal swabs or pus from the abscesses. Another test is a polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which detects the DNA of *S. equi*. While this test is excellent, it does not distinguish between dead and live organisms and therefore should not be used alone to make a diagnosis of strangles.

What should be done if there is a strangles outbreak?

Proper management by the horse owner or the farm manager is the key to the successful control of an outbreak of strangles. Working with a veterinarian, the owner or farm manager can identify affected groups of horses, look at the geography of the premises and review management practices to develop a practical disease-control strategy. Several specific aims of the plan should include:

1. Preventing the spread of *S. equi* infection to horses on other premises and to new arrivals on the infected premises. This is done by stopping all movement of horses on and off the affected premises until further notice. Horses with strangles and their contact should be maintained in well-demarcated “dirty” quarantine areas. Clustering the cases in groups should allow parts of the premises to be allocated as “dirty” and other parts as “clean.”
2. Establishing when horses that have recovered are no longer infectious. The veterinarian will institute a program of culturing nasal swabs over several weeks. Horses that consistently test negative are returned to the clean area.
3. Investigating long-term carriers. If a horse continues to shed *S. equi* longer than expected, the veterinarian will recommend an endoscopy examination of the guttural pouches and determine treatment if needed.
4. Preventing infection spreading from dirty areas to clean areas of the premise. Ideally, the individuals working with horses should be divided to deal with each of the two groups of horses. If this is not possible, horses in the clean area should be attended to first. The veterinarian will also be able to describe methods of disinfecting facilities.

Is it possible to vaccinate against strangles?

Field experience suggests that vaccinating horses usually reduces the incidence and severity of strangles. However, vaccination is not an absolute preventative. Researchers are actively working to develop improved strangles vaccines to protect horses from this highly contagious disease.

By Corinne R. Sweeney, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM, University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine

Considering Strangles Vaccination?

Read the following paper from AAEP on strangles vaccines and vaccination schedules and what to expect.

<http://www.aaep.org/strangles.htm>

Open Letter to Windrush Hill Clients and Friends:

For those of you thinking about coming to Windrush Hill Farm for lessons or bringing a horse for training later in the spring, here are my thoughts about my barn quarantine due to the strangles infection. I expect to be back open by April 1st for lessons and training horses. This is allowing a 4 to 6 week period free from any symptoms, as I am hopeful that the last of the sick horses are abscessing and on the mend now. However, I do want anyone signing up for lessons, clinics, or bringing a horse for training to know that there is still some risk of getting strangles at my barn. We will have disinfected the premise but statistics show that I can still have an asymptomatic carrier shedding the strep equi bug.

I am recommending that you talk to your vet about vaccinating your horse for strangles. If your horse has never been vaccinated and has never had strangles, a series of two vaccinations several weeks apart is required whether you decide to use an IM or intranasal vaccine, and then some time after that for antibodies to respond. You will want to allow a total of about 6 weeks from the first vaccination, including the second vaccination 2 to 3 weeks after, then several more weeks for a good antibody response. Or if you have vaccinated for strangles before, and it has been more than six months ago, you may want a booster. Horses that have had strangles and recovered will have immunity for one up to maybe five years. Your vet can advise you when to begin vaccinating as there is a test for antibodies. Vaccination does not guarantee that your horse will not get sick, but if it does get strangles, it usually reduces the symptoms. I am not requiring

strangles vaccination---but advising you to consult with your veterinarian and decide. (An excellent link in addition to the AAEP vaccine recommendations is the following article by Dr. Nancy Loving: http://www.thehorse.com/pdf/Vaccinations/Vaccinations_pt7.pdf)

If you are just coming to Windrush Hill for the day, I advise you to bring and use only your water buckets and tack. When tying up, tie up to your trailer. Do not allow nose to nose contact with other horses, and no hand grazing. You will also want to limit petting other horses and then petting your own horse. Strangles is not thought to be air borne, but a contact disease, and any residual snot or pus on the ground or on your hands or clothes, can be tracked to your farm on boots and clothing. One article that I read cautioned about snot or pus that is frozen and when thawing could be viable. There is a limit to the time that the bacteria remains viable on surfaces and that is 4 weeks on outdoor surfaces exposed to sunlight and ultraviolet rays, and 8 weeks on interior surfaces, not disinfected. I will probably provide a basin for you to wash boots on your way home for awhile. I certainly do not want to put anyone at risk, and feel I am taking all normal precautions, but as the custodian of your horses, you will want to decide what is best for you.

Regarding preventing diseases other than strangles, I do require any horse coming to live on the farm (boarders and training horses) to have a negative Coggins test within the last year to try to be sure we do not bring any horse onto the farm with EIA.. I have not required this for horses just coming for a lesson since Iowa and Illinois have had no positive Coggins tests in the last few years. But I may be rethinking this with the recent report of two horses in northeast Missouri that tested positive to Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). That is a death sentence for your horse, as there is no vaccine, no cure, and most horses are euthanized to prevent spreading the disease to other horses. That infected horse is a reservoir for the disease because blood sucking insects like horse flies and deer flies are the primary method of transmission..

Regarding vaccinations required, I do require recent EWT and rabies vaccinations for horses living on the farm. Rabies vaccine is effective against a disease that is deadly, endemic in Iowa, and can kill people. EWT is a proven vaccine that can save the life of your horse from several serious diseases. For all other vaccines, consult with your veterinarian.

If you have any questions for me, feel free to email windrushhill@farmtel.net or call 319-986-2199.

Sincerely,
Ann Bennett

Web-Walking...

Disinfectants

If you are trying to assess how best to disinfect your stables, your trailer, your horse gear, etc----there are a number of issues to consider. The issues include how much organic material is present, what type of surfaces you are disinfecting, and what you are trying to kill. If its soil—you just can't do it!

The following excerpt states one of the key conclusions:

Keep in mind that disinfectants that are inactivated in the presence of organic matter might be perfectly useful for the countertops in the tack stall, cleaning out the refrigerator, and for other areas that are not heavily contaminated. However, for use in stalls, horse trailers, and aisleways that have heavy traffic and high levels of contamination, phenolic compounds work very well.

<http://www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=387>

Arena Dust.

Right now controlling arena dust seems far away in a sunny dry future. But we all face it whether riding in a round pen, an outdoor arena or an indoor arena. Often we underestimate the damage it is causing to our lungs and to our animals. Review this article for a refresher on what you are facing and the options for control.

http://www.footingsunlimited.com/site/files/717/57793/227874/340827/GET_CONTROL_OF_ARENA_DUST.pdf

Dealing with Tendon, Ligament or Laminitis/abscess problems?

Check out the following site that Marsha Achenbach sent:

http://www.plumshadefarm.com/ice_horse_tendon_wrap.asp

They have products such as ice wrap boots, pads and boots for laminitic horses, emergency boots, abscess treatment kits, and other specialty products.

ASPCA Horse Rescue in Arkansas- Update

Since early December, the ASPCA has been working in Fulton County, Arkansas, rehabilitating more than 100 neglected horses rescued from a horse trader's farm. The horses have spent a little more than a month under the ASPCA's care at a temporary stable in Mountain Home, Arkansas, receiving veterinary attention, good eats and treats, and the chance to run and play in a pasture.

Fulton County remains the guardian of the horses, and is hoping for a hearing before the end of January that will transfer ownership to the ASPCA. In the event that we receive custody of the horses, an adoption event will follow.

To learn more about this case and to support the work of the ASPCA, please visit the [Fulton County Equine Rescue](#) page.

Scam Alert

Equine.com recently sent an e-mail notice that someone has contacted by phone some of their customers, telling them that their on-line order was not complete and that they need to give their credit card number again on the phone. This is a **SCAM**. A similar tactic has been tried on other companies' clients and is sometimes done by e-mail, asking you to resubmit your credit card information. These are usually all scams. Double check the website address and e-mail address if you get any such solicitation; go back to the order site and or catalog and call the company and ask. Do not use the link inside such an e-mail. Do not give out your credit card info under these conditions. Legitimate companies never solicit your credit card information in this way.

Member News.....

The Hard Times.....

Judy and Art's mare Rosita has some shoulder problems they are attempting to get accurately diagnosed and treated.

Lora's gelding Khokho sprained a front leg this week in these slippery conditions. He's relaxing in a stall at the moment.

Becky's Zee still undergoing treatment and care for the bad cut he suffered—outcome not yet clear.

The Good Times...

Ann's son David has made it home from Afghanistan for a two week break.

Jess Uhlmann and her husband are getting ready for baby. For one thing, she has bought a new Canon Rebel Ti2 camera that does both stills and video—so she'll be sending us more horse and of course, baby pictures this year. She wrote: *We've been busy getting ready for baby. We painted the nursery a couple weeks ago and just set up the crib on Monday. The nursery is a nutty brown color and my husband refinished a dresser I used when I was a child for the room. All white for the crib and dresser and I found a fun red cowboy sign with hooks plus little cowboy boot towel/coat hooks to help give it the horse flair:) kinda fun to plan and prepare.*

Lora has had insulation put in her arena and fans installed for summer. Will let you know later how this works out. Can already tell that it feels warmer in the arena even if the temperature is no higher because the winter wind does not sneak in anymore.

Ann has purchased hydrated magnesium chloride flakes to use in her arena sand. This should absorb water, keeping the sand moist and not dusty and also not freezing into the hard surface that one gets when watering in winter. She will give us a report once she gets it installed and has some time to see how it will work.

News from Former Members.....

Yvonne Ohlshelen sent the following from her Arizona home...*Just returned from sunny California, spent the week at Stanford University's Big Red Barn and finished my certification process for equine massage through the MastersonMethod. Had a great time and helped Phase I students learn and work on school horses as well as privately owned horses, even got over to see the ocean! Now the REAL work may begin!!!*

Happy riding and hope to see you and your horses!

Happy Birthday! to Becky Grier

---celebrating on February 12th.

Here are Becky and Kansas one cold but sunny day, last winter, getting ready for drill team practice. Our wish for Becky.....

**May you never be too old
and never be too cold---
to enjoy time with your horse.**



Sell, Swap & Seek Shop.....

Want something listed? Need a copy of the complete advertising policy? E-mail Lora at lpconrad@tctwb.com (Ads free to current GRCHA members, up to ¼ page per issue. Fees apply to ads listed by all others.)

The Yellow Horse www.theyellowhorse.com

A new website that is the yellow pages for the horse industry. Offering Classifieds, boarding, trainers, bridle trails, horse hotels and more. Follow Yellowhorse on facebook for specials and features. Growing everyday, Yellowhorse had over 4,000 shows and events listed for 2010!
Melissa Viviano

POA's For Sale. In case you know of anyone who would be interested, contact Ann Bennett, email windrushhill@farmtel.net or call 319-986-2199.

4 yr old gelding named Blanco, white with roan spots, about 13 hands. Not started under saddle, very smart and willing and wouldn't take much to get him going under saddle but like all young horses would need some consistent quality rides. He is brave and fearless, good with the toy box. Sound and nice gaits. Easy to catch in the pasture, learning to respect your space and boundaries. No papers but could possibly hardship him into POA registry, \$500.



13 year old roan and white mare named Spirit, about 13'2". She has a big hock on one leg but we have worked her at the walk, trot, canter and she does not seem to be sore on it, but has a hitch in her get along. Will take both leads (not a cued lead) just willing to lope both ways. She is kind and gentle, scared at first but once I petted on her was willing to let me drape the tarp all over and flag and bag. She knows how to stop, go, and turn but no lateral aids. Kind eye, more horse like in way of going and conformation. Needs work to trail ride, nervous but manageable. OK to be ridden by children with supervision in an arena. Has POA papers, \$750.



10 yr old bay with white blanket mare named London, 10 years old, about 13 hands. Old fashioned kind with sparse mane and tail and chunky body, attractive head, nice color and conformation. Has some education, nice gaits, knows lateral aids. Fussy in snaffle like she might have been pulled on, nervous, needs reassurance and pets. I think she would come around with some consistent quality handling. Rode out away from the barn pretty good, but wanted to hurry to go home. Not for a beginner, but a youth with some confidence might enjoy her. Could make a nice pony with a little work. Has POA papers, \$1250.

Helmets/ Flysheets for sale. Owner of Douds Lumber & Hardware has 1 med and 2 lg Troxel "Spirit" helmets, black,--new-- \$20 each. Several HorseSense white flysheets, all size 75 inch. New in zipped bags. \$20 each. If you want them, either e-mail Lora at lpconrad@tctwb.com or call Dale at 641-936-7115.

For Sale: Horse Farm. Home with 80 acres. 3 stall barn with tack room and hay storage, outdoor fenced arena 60 x 40. Sheds. \$485,000. Jay & Yvonne Ohlensehlen, 7094 188th St., Sperry, IA, jko@mepotelco.net

Horse for Sale: 2003 half Arab half QH grey gelding 14'3" named Spencer. Used for lessons with youth and adults, unflappable, good around children, dogs, cattle, chickens, tractors. Sound, safe, sane. Loves people, well socialized with other horses, easy to handle and ride. Trail rides and arena rides. \$2000. Contact Ann Bennett, 319-986-2199 or email windrushhill@farmtel.net See photos of him to the right and at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/lpconrad/100705?authkey=Gv1sRgCNPf6dOM7tyPRg#5492726153547866882>



Wanted: Truck bed topper. Looking for a reasonably-priced used topper for the back of short box GMC Sierra extended cab pickup. Martina Poggenpohl 319.530.0197

Gelding for sale. Green, beautiful, sweet and friendly, nearly black 15:2 gelding for trail riding, started last year; would make a super trail horse for anyone who knows how to ride. He has a month's training and is about 8 years. Contact Martina Poggenpohl martinapo@peoplepc.com 319.530.0197

Companion Horse available: Reign is a well behaved half Arab mare with a constriction in the cervical vertebrae/spinal cord that affects her balance. You cannot tell anything is wrong with her when handling her and watching her in the pasture. But, she cannot be ridden due to balance issues with a rider on her back. She is otherwise healthy and nice to handle and would make a good companion horse or therapy horse for working on the ground. Call Ann Bennett, 319-986-2199 or email windrushhill@farmtel.net.

For Sale: Eggs from happy hens. Kathy Reed has eggs raised from her own free-range chickens for sale. Kathy also needs us to save empty egg cartons for her for a while---so pile 'm up and take them to our next group activity for Kathy. Contact Kathy for prices and how to get the eggs at lonesomemilefarm@gmail.com



For Sale: Sarah Luebbert's Courbette saddle.

For Sale: Dressage Saddle. 17.5", medium wide tree, Courbette Charles De Kunffy "Grand Prix". Saddle, matching bridle, girth, stirrup leathers and irons all for \$800. The saddle and bridle are in like new condition. See info at:

[http://www.vtosaddlery.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?](http://www.vtosaddlery.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=CCDKGPDS)

[Screen=PROD&Product_Code=CCDKGPDS](http://www.vtosaddlery.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=CCDKGPDS) Saddle is dark brown maybe Havana. This saddle is the best saddle I have ever used. Does not fit current horse. Sarah Luebbert at SLuebbert@Dresser-Rand.com

For Sale: 16" Veach roping saddle. \$400. Contact Deb Schmitt at 319-931-8039 or dschmitt@dresser-rand.com

Arabian Stud Book Collection: volume 5 (1950ish) through volume 42 (1982). Paid \$300 many years ago. Make offer. Martina Poggenpohl martinapo@peoplepc.com 319.530.0197

For Sale: Freeform Treeless All Purpose/ Endurance/ Dressage saddle. Retail \$1,500 (purchased from Action Rider Tack) Must sell: \$850 or best offer. My horse's withers are too high—great for low to no withers. In good condition, 3 years old, with knee blocks, thigh blocks, 17 inch removable seat, leather bottom lining, adjustable buckle stirrups & fillis irons with pads. 4 front d-rings and 4 rear d-rings and has "full" girthing. Martina Poggenpohl martinapo@peoplepc.com 319.530.0197

Foodie Section.....

From Jess Uhlmann: *The story behind this recipe is I modified it from allrecipes.com - an internet recipe site. After my husband got done eating it, he actually stood up and hugged and kissed me and thanked me for such a delicious meal, lol! Now that is rare from a man who usually grunts and shrugs his shoulder when I ask how dinner tastes, lol. So easy and makes great leftovers!*

Slow-Cooker Beef Stroganoff

2-3lbs stew meat beef
pepper
garlic powder or garlic salt**
1/2 large onion chopped
1/2 packet dry onion soup mix**
1 beef bouillon cube**
1Tbsp Worcestershire sauce**
2 cans **Golden Mushroom Soup**- (do not use cream of mushroom) **
1 can water
1/3 package cream cheese **
1 large dollop sour cream
optional- package sauteed mushrooms (I use canned mostly)

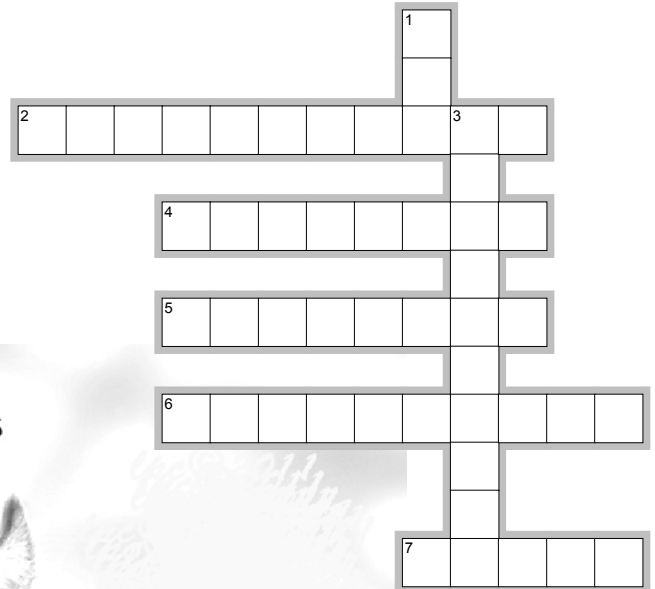
** There is plenty of salt in the soup, bouillon, cream cheese, and onion soup mix- I recommend low sodium versions of whatever you can buy if you watch your salt levels.

Directions- Brown stew meat in skillet in a little oil with pepper and a pinch of garlic salt (to personal taste.) Place all ingredients **except** cream cheese, sour cream and optional mushrooms in slow cooker and mix. Cook for 5-6 hours on low setting. Approximately 1 hour before serving add cream cheese, sour cream, and optional mushrooms and stir. Serve over egg noodles or rice or baked potatoes. Enjoy!

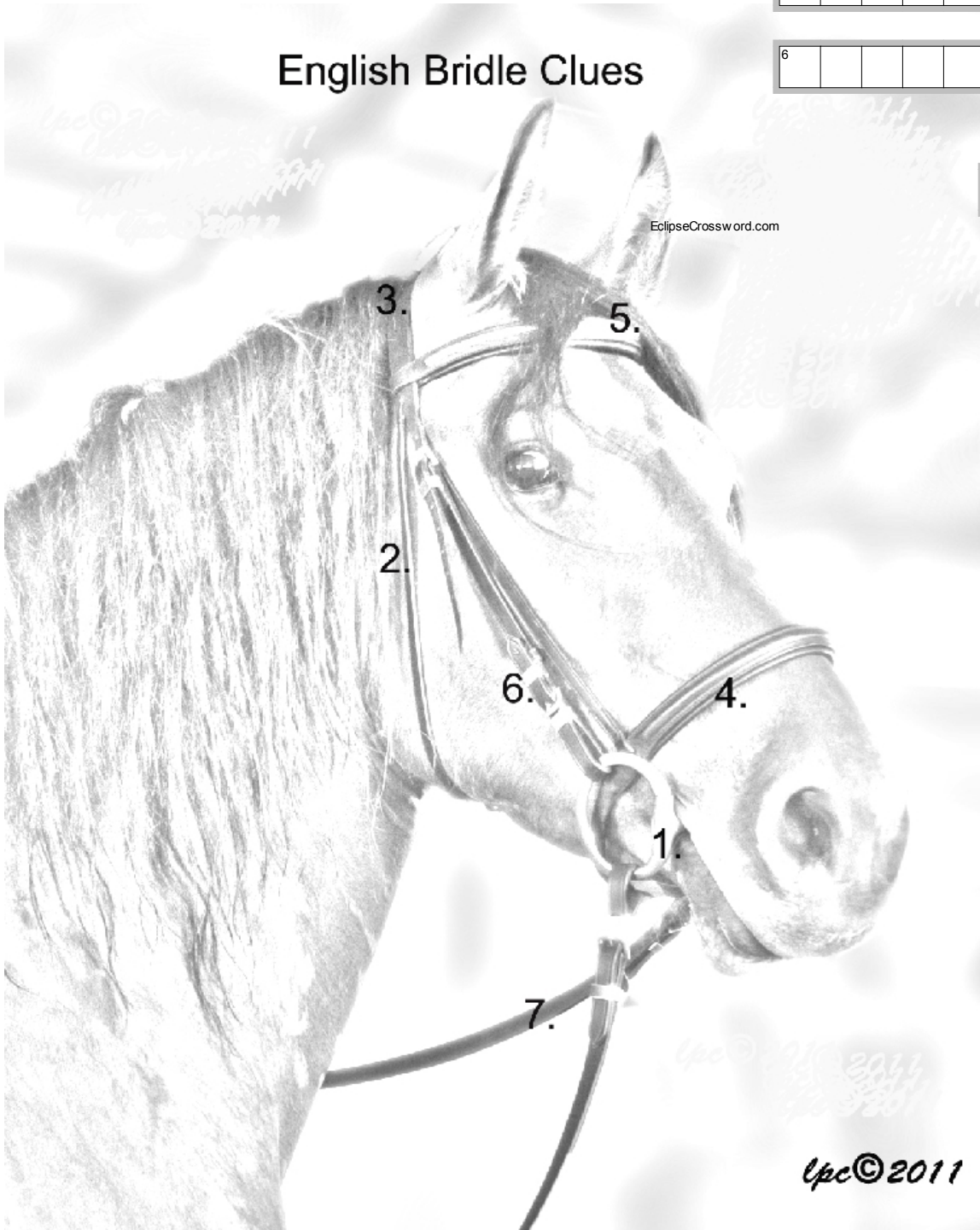
Got a recipe you'd like to share or looking for a special recipe---Let us know.

Horse Fun Section

Coloring book page with clues numbered for the cross-word puzzle. Answers next issue.



English Bridle Clues



Lora's Two-Bits.....

Feedback on Sample Kids Horse Fun Section

Thanks for the encouragement and ideas I received for the Horse Fun Section. Special thanks to Ann for two educational, fun books for kids as samples of what we might do and to Genelle for referring me to another fun kids horse book. As you can see, we are trying it. This is the second one. Designed for you, your kids or grandkids to enjoy.

For everything in the E-News ---- Please let me know what works, what doesn't, and what you'd like to see.

Next issue scheduled Feb. 15, 2011.

Lora P Conrad
GRCHA E-News Editor
lpconrad@tctwb.com

