

October 2008

“The Roundup”

Orange County Horse Council

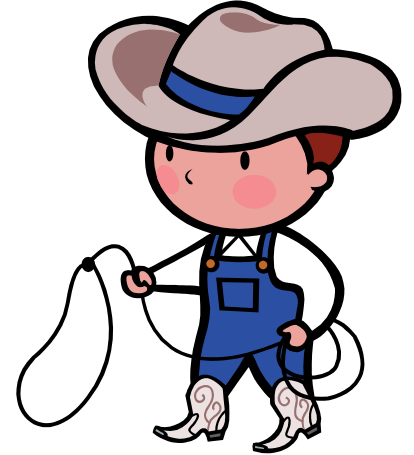


Volume 1, Issue 4

Welcome All to Orange County Horse Council’s First Horse Show & Expo!

Momma, just let your babies grow up to be cowboys
And let them play guitars and drive those old trucks
They CAN be doctors and lawyers and such
Momma, just let your babies come PLAY with the cowboys
They’ll never stay home, they’ll never be alone
Even with some horse they love.

Cowboys are easy to love and easy to hold
Their hearts are big and true more than any old gold...
So, give them a taste come to the PARK, with that you’ll brand their soul
Momma, just let your babies come PLAY with the cowboys
They’ll minds will not roam, and they’ll be better at home
Because of the horses they LOVE!



Orange County Horse Council is pleased to invite everyone to our all-inclusive First Horse Show and Expo! So, all you Cowpoke, Moms and Dads, Uncles and Aunts, Grandparents and Friends, roundup your youngens and visit the Orange County Park on Sunday, October 26, at Orange County Park, from 8 a.m. till conclusion. We’ll have plenty of horses and ponies, cowboys and cowgirls, jumpers and drivers, shop at venders, food and beverages to purchase, and a petting zoo!

By: Debbie Schiraldi, OCHC Communications Chair

OCHC ELECTION STATUS:

Hello Everyone - this note is to inform you that the slate of officers for the Orange County Horse Council has been approved by the nominating committee. The Election will be held at the November 5, 2008 at 7:30 pm. General Membership meeting at our NEW LOCATION:

President: Mark Gisselbrecht, Treasurer: Kathy Hamre, & Corresponding Secretary: Patricia Bowens

Hamptonburgh Town Hall Community Room, 18 Bull Road, Campbell Hall, NY 10916

Please join us!

Patricia Bowens

Orange County Horse Council of NY

Corresponding Secretary & Web Mare



**Orange County
Horse Council**

Newsletter compiled and designed by: Debbie Schiraldi, OCHC Communications and Membership Chair and is for information and entertainment purposes only.
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Learn What Works for You! Part III *By: Anthony Congelosi, Paul Congelosi Trailer Sales*

In the previous issue, we talked about some of the different options to consider when purchasing a straight load trailer. Now, we will go more in depth into some things to consider when buying either a slant load trailer, or a stock trailer.

Slant Load Trailer: Although there are many different opinions out there, one that we very commonly hear is that trailering in a slant load trailer puts less strain on the horses. Because they are not rocking forward and backward when you are stopping the trailer, it may be less strain on their legs than a straight load trailer (although this is not a proven fact). If you have very large horses, you will most likely not be able to use a slant load trailer, because a standard width trailer will have smaller stalls than a comparable straight load version.

Unless a custom trailer is ordered, all slant load models come with a dressing room, and a majority of them also come with a rear tack room. They are generally either 7' or 7'6" tall, and usually are 6'9" wide. A slant load trailer can be ordered in an 8' wide version, but it costs substantially more and you have to deal with interior wheel wells. As with a straight load, you do have the option of a full or a half divider, but most of them come with a half divider.

Stock Trailer: Another school of thought that is commonly spoken about is the use of a standard stock trailer to haul horses. People who are not hauling the same horses all the time (such as someone who ships horses) tend to prefer a stock trailer for loading purposes. Instead of seeing a small stall, the horse sees a wide open space when loading, making it seem as though they are entering a stall in a barn. They are also able to turn around when unloading, so that they don't have to back out of the trailer with no ramp.

A basic stock trailer is a very simple concept. Generally, any trailer that is 16' long or longer will come with a horizontal center gate, and no other dividers. If the trailer is going to be used for horses, it should be at least 7' tall, with floor mats and plywood lining going around the lower sidewalls. The open slats allow for ventilation in the summer, and in the winter plexi-glass inserts can be used to keep some of the cold air out when driving down the road.

Although these are not the only points to consider when looking for a slant load or a stock trailer, this is a start. If you have any questions about this topic or others, feel free to e-mail Paul at Paul@CongelosiTrailerSales.com. Additionally, we would love to know what other topics you would like us to cover, so contact us with that information as well. Happy Trailering!

We could never learn to be brave and patient, if there were only joy in the world.

Helen Keller
US blind & deaf educator (1880 - 1968)

DEHYDRATION TEST

The first method is to test the "capillary refill time" by parting the horse's lips to expose the gums. If you press gently and briefly on the upper jaw with your thumb you will see the blood is forced from the gum. Count how long it takes for the gum to return to its normal color. If it is longer than 2 seconds your horse may be either dehydrated or might have a circulatory problem.

Another way is to pinch the skin on the horse's neck just on front of the shoulders. If the skin does not return back to its normal position quickly, this may indicate dehydration. This is an easy test for you to do frequently to build up a picture of his relative hydration from day to day.

It is important that you check the methods described here regularly so that you can build up a relative picture of your horse's condition - since only a scientific test can give an "on the spot" hydration measurement.

If your not sure or confident in your technique, simply ask your veterinarian to go over this with you on their next visit.

The 1st Annual Orange County Horse Council Horse Show and Expo is Sunday, October 26, 2008 at Orange County Park in Montgomery. Visit www.OrangeCountyHC.com for forms and information.

**OCHC Newsletter sponsorship ads
courtesy of the following businesses:**

Paul Congelosi Trailer Sales, Inc.

2201 Rt. 17K, Montgomery, NY
(845) 361-2246

Visit: www.congelositrailer-sales.com

Kathy Gramm

Specializing in Equine Vacations,
and all your travel needs.

(845) 774-9626

Visit: www.amazzintravel.com



Just For Laughs! Join us...

LEGAL PAPER

An Amish man answered a knock on his door one morning. An electric company worker handed him a piece of paper stating that the electric company was going to run a power line through his pasture.

The Amish man said, "No, you can not."

"Legally, that paper says we can" -- replied the electric company worker.

As he left and returned to his co-workers in the field, the Amish man went to his barn and turned his bull into the pasture.

As the bull rumbled toward the workers in the field, the Amish man hollered, "Show him your PAPER!"

Attention Current Equine Businesses!

OCHC is embracing local equine businesses. During the year OCHC will promote our events, newsletters, and other flyers. So that we are fair to all our local industry. The ads listed above are \$15 an issue, and help to defray our costs.

I will be seeking out future stories, jokes, and light articles of interest. So, please drop me a line. **Contact Debbie at: DebbieSchiraldi@hvc.rr.com**

Volunteers Needed Any Horseperson!

Please consider volunteering at the 1st Orange County Horse Council Horse Show & Expo, Sunday October 26th at Orange County Park. Under the new direction of Robin DeMaio, our event will be a grand all inclusive event for all horse enthusiasts! Robin brings to her resume as Show Chair her extensive experience in television. So, please contact her at (845) 781-0357. Any time you can donate to help bring unity to our passion for horses in the community is so greatly appreciated. We'll feed you, give you a job you're comfortable with, and give you a t-shirt!

Winter Weather - What about the Horse? Take Good Care! Jim Hamilton, DVM

There are several "extra" considerations when it comes to your horse's well being/survival during very cold winter weather. It is important to take special precautions because it is much easier (and cheaper) to think ahead than react after the fact. The age of the horse, does he normally live in or out, has he been clipped, are there automatic waterers or buckets... all factor into the winter equation.

When you go to feed the horse on that ever-so-cold day, keep in mind that a large portion of the energy that is consumed will go to heating the body, so a higher dietary energy content is important. Another consideration is adequate water consumption. Studies have shown that if the water is warmed up, the amount consumed by the horse is much higher. Therefore, work several water changes into the schedule to promote more drinking. Any horse vet will tell you that most colics during the winter are impaction/constipation colics, which, in large part, are due to poor water intake - a little extra labor now is much cheaper than the vet bill later!

If your horse lives out a lot, then construction of a run-in shed (wind break) should be top priority. During heavy snow, the shed provides the only dry place in which to sleep - make sure to find a level spot in the field and face the opening to the south for maximum sun. The shed is a good place to feed and, if designed with a gate across the open side, you can close the animal in on the worst of days.

There are many horse owners who boast of their animal's "thick skin", their amazing tolerance of a frigid environment. One can only wonder how that judgment is made. Hopefully the criteria is something other than survival!



Orange County
Horse Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 522
Goshen, NY 10924



We're on the web!
www.orangecountyhc.com

Town of New Windsor Master Plan News

As New Windsor is working on a new Master Plan, I am compelled to address local horsemen in New Windsor and beyond regarding the above subject of zoning for horses. As a lifetime county resident, a recreational horse owner, and New Windsor property owner and resident for over 25 years it necessary to voice my opinion. I have started in a respectful and informational manner to communicate change in a positive fashion to the Master Plan Advisory Board. The current code is 2 horses for 5-acre minimum parcels then jumps to 20 acres with no number of horse requirements. This was not a farmland or green space friendly decision, and now the opportunity presents itself to ratify this to a new more horse friendly code for recreational enthusiast with smaller parcels then 20 acres.

It is imperative for the town of New Windsor to realize that all horse owners are great for the economy, promote responsibility in our youth, allow for green space-, which is disappearing in New Windsor rapidly, and enhance our area landscape. With so few parcels available to the consumer our town must address this situation. As taxpayers and residence we are entitled to a non-discriminating and diverse countryside.

New Windsor encompasses a large area, and lets not forget that it is blessed with the Stewart State Forest which so many of us fought to protect, it is 7,700 acres of multi-use trails. Horse enthusiasts come from all over the Hudson Valley area and beyond to ride because our green space is disappearing. So, why would New Windsor shut the door to horses in our own area? This is our gem of a State Park.

Please drop a line to the Town of New Windsor Master Plan Committee as a member of the local Orange County horse community. We can inform them that revisiting this in a more equine friendly direction, will benefit the entire community at large. Snail mail or visit the town's web site to assist this cause for myself and my neighbors.

Thank you,
Debbie Schiraldi

New Windsor Master Plan Advisory Committee
555 Union Avenue
New Windsor, NY 12553

Web site:

<http://town.new-windsor.ny.us/masterplan.aspx>