



Tennessee Walking Horse Foundation News

Volume 01 | Issue 01



What Is The Tennessee Walking Horse Foundation?

The Tennessee Walking Horse Foundation (TWHF) is a tax exempt charitable organization that enables people to easily and effectively support and promote funding for charitable, scientific and educational projects for the welfare and interest of the Tennessee Walking Horse and educate people about the unique talents of this equine breed. The TWHF is qualified as a 501 © (3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code, and donations may qualify as charitable contributions deductible for federal income tax purposes. The TWHF has a board of directors set up separately from the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' & Exhibitors' Association.

Contributions of all sizes are welcome. You may make a contribution to any of our existing Funds or set up your own with a minimum gift of \$5,000.00 with approval of the Foundation board. The Foundation offers several levels of giving for those who wish to make a contribution.

Its Mission

"The mission of the Tennessee Walking Horse Foundation, Inc. is to encourage support of, and funding for charitable, scientific, and educational projects for the welfare of the Tennessee Walking Horse while serving the needs of both the donor and the recipients."

The TWHF Board of Directors

- David Pruet, Old Hickory, Tennessee - President
- Stephen Brown, Vancouver, Washington - Vice President
- Dee Dee Miller, Lewisburg, Tennessee - Secretary/Treasurer
- Loyd "Buster" Black, Brooks, Georgia - Director
- Frances Cole, Grass Valley, California - Director
- Harold Dean Givens, Murfreesboro, Tennessee - Director
- Dr. Linda Montgomery, Hurtsboro, Alabama - Director
- Terri Mosley, Mt. Airy, North Carolina - Director
- Joyce Moyer, Castalia, Ohio - Director

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Fundamentals Of A Fund - Animal Welfare

This fund provides for programs to support equine trauma and research through education, treatment and rehabilitation of horses that have been injured or suffered a debilitating disease. This fund will be available for Tennessee Walking Horses in crisis from catastrophic events and assistance will be provided via the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' And Exhibitors' Association Equine Welfare Committee.

This fund is dedicated to helping Tennessee Walking Horse owners struggling to provide for their animals, and to saving as many Tennessee Walking Horses as possible from abuse, abandonment and neglect. This fund may be used to assist equine rescue groups and individuals with rehoming horses, providing adequate hay and feed and providing necessary farrier and vet care.

To learn more about the Animal Welfare fund click here to visit the TWHF website.

Micah Care Seeks To Spread Some Sunshine

At the 2012 Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' And Exhibitors' Association (TWHBEA) General Membership Meeting, held November 30, 2012, a TWHBEA member from Tennessee, with great support from President Marty Irby, motioned that a committee be established to help any Association members that find themselves in need. Included in his motion was the idea to name the committee Micah Care in honor of Micah Bialy, a Tennessee Walking Horse Youth Association member who recently lost his battle with cancer. The motion carried unanimously.



It is the purpose of the Micahcare Committee to provide encouragement, a little cheer and sunshine to TWHBEA Members, and their families, when expected and some unexpected events may cause interruptions to their daily living.

It is Micahcare's purpose in form of small tokens of acknowledgement to let them know that TWHBEA cares. We want to recognize our sick, shut in, injured, or passing, however, we also acknowledge celebratory events such as graduations, weddings, births, promotions.

A little sunshine goes a long way and sometimes can make a difference.

To learn more about Micah Care click here to visit the TWHBEA website.

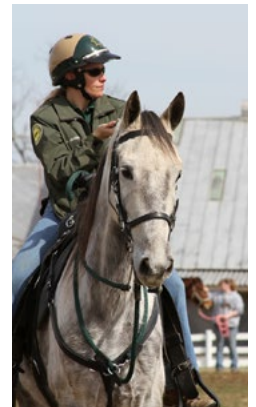
To support Micah Care click here to visit the TWHF website.

Supporting Service Horses

The mission of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association (TWHBEA) Service Horse Program will be to assist members who want to use their horses in service to their communities. Service horses are identified as horses used for Mounted Patrol, Equine Therapy, and Search and Rescue.

The goals of this groundbreaking program are as follows:

- *To identify and develop service horse trainers and instructors and assist them with instructor development to teach safe, non-abusive, and ethical training methods for the training of members and their service horses.*
- *TWHBEA Service Horse Certified Trainers and Instructors will receive instruction in the proper documentation of training information to be entered into the online database. They will also be given a database password.*
- *Certified Trainers and Instructors will be listed on the TWHBEA Service Horse Website along with their contact information and their ratings and resume.*
- *Certified Trainers and Instructors will be able to post all clinics and training opportunities.*
- *Certified Trainers and Instructors will be able to post training videos which will be used as online and distance learning and, if approved by committee, will count as documental training. Any existing training videos would be in a condensed form (20 to 30 minutes) and reference to the full length video posted.*
- *Instructor development training opportunities for Certified Trainers and Instructors will be offered to enhance and improve their abilities.*



To learn more about the Service Horse Program click here to visit the TWHBEA website.

To support the TWHBEA Service Horse Program click here to visit the TWHF website.

TWHF Scholarship Recipients: Where Are They Now?

Daniel Starnes

Daniel Starnes received a Tennessee Walking Horse Foundation scholarship for Graduate School. In 2009 he has graduated with a Masters of Science in Biology with an emphasis in Environmental Science. He has published two first author scientific peer-reviewed journal articles in environmental science and nanotechnology. After finishing his M.S., he initiated an algae based bio-fuels research project at Western Kentucky University before beginning work on his doctoral degree. Currently, he is pursuing a PhD from the College of Agriculture at the University of Kentucky in Environmental Nano-toxicology. Since starting his research at the Tracy Farmer Institute for Sustainability and the Environment, Dan has been involved in researching the impacts that nanotechnology has on the environment and potentially on human health. To date, his research has been included in two prominent research publications, presented at two national meetings, and presented at two international meetings.



To learn more about the Scholarship fund click here to visit the TWHF website.

Useful Knowledge: Water Quality Testing

Reprinted with permission from Equine Disease Quarterly, Volume 19, Number 4

Providing horses a continuous supply of clean water is part of the foundation of good husbandry. Several different sources of water might be found on a horse farm: ponds, streams, lakes, and automatic waterers or troughs supplied by well water or city water. (See sidebar.)

It is difficult to find guidelines specific to equine drinking water. Most often, they are lumped into the water quality guidelines for livestock. Following is information to help assure that water quality for your horses is of sufficient quality.

Water samples can be tested for physical and physiochemical properties, excessive nutrients, toxic compounds, and microbes.

Physiochemical properties include salinity, water hardness, and water pH. Salinity is the presence of dissolved substances. Hardness is determined by the water's concentration of calcium and magnesium. Excessive water hardness can create mineral deposits on water piping and affect the efficiency of certain disinfectants. Water pH is its level of acidity or alkalinity.

The presence of excessive nutrients, such as sulfates and nitrates, can also be determined by water testing, as can the presence of toxic compounds-arsenic, fluorine, lead, mercury, and many others.

In a recent issue of the Canadian Veterinary Journal,* a case of water sulfate toxicity was reported in horses. Of a herd of 19 horses, five were found dead, and 13 others had diarrhea. Extensive diagnostic testing of the horses was completed as well as surface water testing and examination of the pastures for toxic weeds. The authors concluded that excessive sulfate levels with high salinity of the surface water caused the illness and deaths.

Fecal coliform measurements can help determine the presence of fecal matter and possible pathogens. Stagnant water can cause excessive growth of bacteria called cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae. In times of drought where surface water levels can become low and water flow decreases or ceases, overgrowth of this bacteria can occur, and cattle have been reported to become sick or die from drinking water contaminated by it.

Floods are the number one costly disaster in the United States. Flood waters can contain sewage, gasoline, oil, petrochemicals, and many other contaminants and are not suitable for livestock as a water source. As soon as is safely possible, animals should be provided a clean source of water in flooded areas.

For advice on water testing, contact your local office of the Cooperative Extension Service (CES) for testing supplies, sample collection instructions, and handling procedures. State CES websites and www.eXtension.org are also good sources of information on water quality and livestock.

*Burgess BA, Lohmann, KL, Blakley BR. (2010). Excessive sulfate and poor water quality as a cause of sudden deaths and an outbreak of diarrhea in horses. *Can Vet J* 51:277-282.

COMMON WATER SENSE TIPS, OFTEN OVERLOOKED

- ✓ **CHECK** all automatic waterers and buckets/troughs every day to ensure continuous water supply to horses.
- ✓ **EXAMINE** all watering equipment for buildup of filth scum, algae growth, fecal contamination, etc.; clean as necessary.
- ✓ **DO NOT ALLOW** horses access to pasture areas with stagnant or contaminated water.
- ✓ **INSPECT DAILY** the gates between pastures that allow horses access to fresh water.
- ✓ **IF HORSES ARE WITHOUT** drinking water for more than a day, do not let them drink as much as they want. Excessive water consumption can result in a condition known as "water intoxication," which can be deadly. Consult your veterinarian about rehydrating horses.

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