

Missouri Horse Council Newsletter – Winter 2019



Executive Committee

Chairman: Joe Eddy - Rocheport
Vice Chairman: Ed Adams - Kansas City
Secretary: Michelle Forness - St James
Treasurer: Lynn M. Martin - Centralia
Past Chairwoman: Becki Krueger - Kahoka
Member: Brandy Von Holten - Mora
Member: Sherry Copeland - Marshfield
Member: Cindy K. Roberts - Chesterfield

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Message from the Chairman



Wow! I can't believe 2019 is almost over. It has been a whirlwind of a year for the executive committee of the Missouri Horse Council (MHC). We have worked through all tasks related to creating an organization legally and procedurally. We have worked to define who we are and what benefit we can be to the equine industry. We have published 2 newsletters, created a website and social media presence and released a podcast so that folks can learn more about our organization and what it means to be an "organization of organizations".

In addition, we are working to understand and develop positions on various issues affecting horse owners and organizations. Our voice was heard at a recent public hearing on a proposed ban of horseback riding in a Jefferson County park. We see our value in being able to be "one voice" for our very fragmented industry. We hope that you see the value in that as well and will join with us to let all our voices be heard.

Our annual meeting is coming up on January 25th. I am looking forward to a productive time of collaboration and discussion of horse-related issues and how we can all work together for positive outcomes. I hope to see you there!

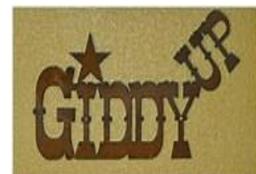
Joe Eddy, Chairman

Annual Meeting: January 25, 2020 in Jefferson City at the Missouri Farm Bureau Center located at 701 South Country Club Drive. Everyone is invited to join, and lunch will be served!

Please RSVP by January 13, 2020. Email info@missourihorsecouncil.org

Call for 2020 officer nominations

At the Annual Meeting, there will be a call for officer nominations and elections will occur. Please be thinking about whether you or someone you know might be a good nominee for an Executive Committee position on the MHC. Positions open for election include Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Directors.



Get your organization's designated voting member on record now

Paid membership organizations must have a voting member on record with the MHC Secretary no less than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Please do not forget to do this so that each membership organization can be represented during ballots. Email info@missourihorsecouncil.org with your organization name and designated voting member's name by Thursday, December 26, 2019 11:59 p.m.



Silent auction at the Annual Meeting

Horse-related gift items will be available on a table for the silent auction. Bring your checkbook!

National Day of the Horse proclamation signed by Governor Mike Parson



On December 4, 2019, Missouri Governor Mike Parson signed and proclaimed that **December 13, 2019 was NATIONAL DAY OF THE HORSE.** This day encourages people of the United States to be mindful of the contribution of horses to the economy, history and character of the United States, and we thank our elected officials for support of Missouri's equine industry.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE HORSE

December 13th, 2019

A Proclamation by the Governor of the State of Missouri

WHEREAS, Missouri's equine industry has a rich history of horses, mules, and donkeys being used for agricultural work, transportation purposes, and recreational use; and

WHEREAS, the beneficial impact of the equine industry on Missouri's economy is essential to continued growth, with over 281,000 equids primarily used for recreational and show purposes; the industry contributes \$718 million in goods and services and provides 42,200 full-time jobs across the state; and

WHEREAS, Missouri equestrians span all facets of industry from breeders to trainers, boarders to farriers, veterinarians to ranchers, trail riders to competition riders, rodeos to thoroughbred racing, and much more, all of whom are concerned with the conservation and protection of Missouri's historic equine culture; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri recognizes the Missouri Mule as the state animal, for Missouri historically being the nation's primary mule producer, and the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse as the state horse, for originating in the Ozark Mountains in the early 19th century; and

WHEREAS, significant advancements have been made in equine nutrition, health, and husbandry by Missouri's dedicated researchers, resulting in improved well-being for equids nation-wide; and

WHEREAS, equestrian trails and shared trails have been properly preserved and maintained in order to protect the environment, reducing soil erosion and run-off; to benefit recreational use of equids, contributing to improved quality of life for Missourians; and there is nothing better than the view of nature and the world from the back of a horse, mule, or donkey; and

WHEREAS, caring for and building a working relationship with horses, mules, and donkeys has proven beneficial to Missourian's quality of life, including use as therapeutic animals to children, adults, and veterans with disabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim December 13, 2019 to be

NATIONAL DAY OF THE HORSE

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 4th day of December 2019.

Michael L. Parson

Governor



MHC represented at the Missouri Livestock Symposium

Becki Krueger, Past Chairwoman, attended the Missouri Livestock Symposium held December 6th and 7th, 2019 in Kirksville, Missouri. Their trade show is the largest agricultural-based trade show in the Midwest. Becki set up a booth for the MHC, handed out literature and talked with horse owners about the newly founded (January 2019) MHC and what we offer to Missouri's equine industry.

MHC supports Missouri's trail riding community

Cindy K. Roberts, on behalf of the MHC, was asked to appear before the Jefferson County Council on November 12, 2019 to oppose bill #19-1042, which included a possible park trail ban to horseback riding. Cindy serves as a Director on the MHC Executive Committee and was one of thirty-three individuals that spoke to the Jefferson County Council voicing the MHC's concerns. After discussion and filings of several briefs, the Jefferson County Council voted to remove bill #19-1042.

Trail Tip provided by Brandy Von Holten

When traveling to trail facilities or areas with numerous equines, always bring your own bucket. Using community water sources such as a water trough is a risky way to increase your equine's chance of contracting infectious illnesses. Also, if you bring your own bucket, be sure to not let the end of the water hose be submerged into the drinking water.

Horse, donkey and mule facts

1. An average-sized horse drinks between 8-10 gallons of water per day, but the volume increases with hot weather, exercise, some disease conditions and even boredom.
2. The mule is smarter than both parents.
3. Mules and donkeys bray during inhalation and exhalation, while horses whinny during exhalation only.
4. Mules require less food to maintain bodyweight compared to a horse of the same size.
5. Mules will act up out of boredom; packers know this and keep their packstring in line by riding a leadhorse.
6. An adult horse's brain weighs 22 oz, about half that of a human.
7. Chariot racing was the first Olympic sport in 680 B.C.
8. Horses have 7 common blood types (A, C, D, K, P, Q and U).
9. There are more than 400 different breeds of horses.
10. Horses have 64 chromosomes, donkeys have 62 and mules and hinnies have 63. Chromosomes must be in even numbers to pair off and develop an embryo, which is why mules and hinnies are considered sterile (with very rare exceptions!)

