

# MONTANA DRAFT HORSE AND MULE ASSOCIATION

MAY 2018

Calendar:

June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Moore, Mt. horse auction (see ad below). A one day event instead of two. The usual progress days will be later in the summer.

June 14, 15, 16<sup>th</sup>: Hay mowing in Pryor, Montana. This is a very TENTATIVE date as it depends on when the hay is ready and the weather. Watch for details as we get closer. It is a 2-3 day event depending on how fast we can mow. You are welcome to bring a team, mower, or just come and watch/help. Some years we spend as much time fixing mowers as mowing, but we have always got it done in the end.

June 29, 30, 31<sup>st</sup>: EXPO in Deer Lodge, Montana. Come see the big hitches and the teamster competitions or be a competitor. Website at [www.DraftHorseExpo.com](http://www.DraftHorseExpo.com)

July 13<sup>th</sup>: Moore, Mt. field day at the Reuben Miller farm. This is the same as done previously with the auction but is separate this year.

September 14, 15, 16<sup>th</sup>: MDHMA Twin Bridges Fall meeting. The rain last year tried to ruin it all but it turned out to work just fine. It's a good thing we had the buildings to get inside. We'll do it again so mark your calendars.

## NOTICES

Western Heritage Days

### Message

Please let your members know that we at the Stevensville Main Street Association are looking for interesting entries for the Western Heritage Days parade June 23. I'd say a few mule and draft horse teams would stir lots of interest. Pass the word around and if anyone is interested, have them call us at 777-3773 to find out how to register on line--all free. We hope to see some of you in the parade. Kim [info@mainstreetstevensville.com](mailto:info@mainstreetstevensville.com)

Draft Horse Show in Kalispell August 15th thru 19th

### Message

We are looking for people who would like to be a part of our Draft show at the flathead County Fairgrounds August 15th thru the 19th. Please bring your draft breed and draft cross horses, Fjord or Haflinger ponies, and draft mules, along with your wagons and/or carts for our shows from 1:00 to 3:00 Thursday thru Saturday. This event is great fun and there are over 1800 visitors

to our barn each year. This show is very relaxed and we do driving demos just to show the versatility of the big (and smaller) animals. You get the choice of demoing what you want to do and there is plenty of parking for you and your rigs. Please let me know if this is something you would be interested in. There is a small stipend to attend. We attempt to cover your gas and meals. Please call me (Dave Olson) at 406-253-6378 or [dale.olson1949@gmail.com](mailto:dale.olson1949@gmail.com).



**DUES**

**ITS PAST TIME TO SEND IN A CHECK FOR YOUR 2018 DUES**

\$30/year PER INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY

\$100/year for a business membership which includes advertising

send to:

MDHMA  
c/o Ed Jordan sec/treas  
Box 66  
Pryor, Mt. 59066

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Phone number:

We want to keep you on our mailing list and keep you part of our group so please send your dues in today.

Kurt Genter Enterprises cart  
Suitable for smaller size horse or pony - \$1800 (firm)

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This is a beautiful cart in excellent condition. I've had only six rides it it. Look at the beautiful wood carving work on the dash. Extra room under the seat. Included are photos in garage and hitched to my 14h Haflingers. It has been stored clean and under cover. Looks brand new. Rumor has it Kurt Genter stopped making these beautiful carts. Get this one while they're hot!



Shafts, 77" long -- Shaft width at cart end, 38" -- Shaft width at narrowest, 27" -- Width of cart floor, 40"  
Wheel diameter, 36"

Please call me at 406-475-2486 or email - [pintopal@mt.net](mailto:pintopal@mt.net) - Buyer is responsible for transport —Andy Ayers

## RATTLESNAKE LIFE SAVERS

A friend told me the other day that she saw the largest rattlesnake she had ever seen sunning itself on a rock. She said the snake was as big around as her wrist! Now that would be a big one for sure and it seems early in the year for the snakes to be a problem, but to be sure, they are around. Rattlesnakes can pose a life-threatening problem at times to your horse and to you. A few years ago while riding the hill behind our home, my wife's horse suddenly did a 180 degree turn and Lesley did a 90 degree turn, which landed her on the ground. The horse was responding to the sound of a rattlesnake using his rattles at full volume. Lucky for Lesley, she didn't land ON the snake, but it still took a long time before she could sit down comfortably.

Most horses if bitten get it on their legs. There is lots of swelling and sometimes some tissue death that can take a long time to recover. There is always pain as well. The big problem comes when they get bit on their nose while grazing.

Horses are built, anatomically speaking, such that they cannot breathe through their mouth. They only get air through their nose. When their nose starts to swell from the bite, it will easily swell so much that the swelling cuts off their air. Death from suffocation can occur in a short while. Most of us will never have that happen, but there is a good thing to pack in your medical kit while riding to make sure suffocation never does happen.

Pictured below are two sizes of tubing you can get at hardware stores. I cut them in about 1-foot lengths and then round the ends with a file to make them smooth. If your horse is bitten and the nose swells, just insert the tube into the nostril about half way to keep the airway open. You can tape the tube around the horse's nose or it will stay in place because of the swelling all by itself as the swelling increases. The tube may need to be left in for several days until the swelling goes down. The smaller tube will more easily fit a foal. If everyone carried these, you can borrow one from a fellow rider and have one for each nostril, but one will keep your horse alive. Easy, cheap, easy to carry—life saving.

