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The AHC News is published monthly and provided to you as an AHC member benefit. Through AHC’s network of organizational, small business and individual members, our news reaches 1M horse enthusiasts - but that’s only if YOU pass it along!

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Potential Topics & Speakers Sought
AHC Conference Planning Task Force is seeking suggestions on potential topics or speakers for the upcoming 2022 Conference. Send your ideas to info@horsecouncil.org by March 1st.

AHC Annual Meeting June 5-7, 2022
Omni Shoreham, Washington DC
Can't make the meeting? Save Monday June 13, 2022 Virtual "Recap"

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**Pyrethrin Regulation Changes at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**
The EPA released a Proposed Interim Decision in October concerning pyrethrin, the pre-eminent ingredient used in equine fly spray products. This document proposed a ban on the use and sales of hand operated trigger style fly spray applicators and the use of misting systems in housing and event spaces. This ban was in response to extreme assumptions on the part of the EPA concerning the amount of product used daily in our industry. In addition, the EPA was operating under the false impression of alternative fly spray products being widely available. AHC staff collaborated with USDA personnel, livestock industry groups, and fly spray manufacturers to draft multiple independent comments, which have all been submitted. The EPA announced they will make a decision based on the comments submitted in 2024. No changes will be implemented before then.

**United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Import Rule Announcement**
The USDA released a proposed rule on import regulations for horses on November 29th. The proposed rule will amend several regulations, including the number of days horses exported from regions free of contagious equine metritis (CEM) are allowed to spend in a CEM effective region and re-enter the United States without testing from 60 days to 90 days. Other changes include new requirements for health certificates, Canadian import regulations, new requirements for Caribbean horses, and various verbiage and contextual language changes. AHC staff is collaborating with importer members to assure that none of these changes significantly hinder their ability to move horses safely and cost-effectively.

**Horse-racing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) concerns Animal Feed Industry Association (AFIA)**
AHC staff was approached by the AFIA who shared their concerns over language included in the HISA regulations concerning “normal” feed and unrecognized feed additives. The AFIA is working to have many previously unregulated feed supplements fall under the FDA's authority. AHC staff reached out to HISA and shared AFIA’s concerns.

**Hemp By-product Effort with Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO)**
The AAFCO approached the American Horse Council to solicit support and input for their official position statement concerning future legislation allowing for the use of hemp and hemp by-products in feed ingredients. They advocate for research, development, and official application to AAFCO and the FDA for review and approval of any hemp feed additives. This position directly falls in line with the feedback shared with staff following the 2019 AHC Annual Meeting, where this issue was first introduced to members.
Consumer Alert on Ransom/Bail Promotions

Numerous American Horse Council members have expressed concern regarding the practice of “Ransom” or “Bail-Out” sales marketed online. These complaints echo concerning media reports on fraudulent practices that take advantage of the empathetic nature of the equine enthusiast community. In an attempt to alert uninformed, yet sympathetic, individuals to the risks involved in sourcing animals from these operations, the American Horse Council Equine Welfare Committee released a statement which has been posted on the UHC website.

Instead of contributing to a problematic practice, we strongly encourage interested parties who are willing and able to re-home a horse to utilize the numerous programs listed through the United Horse Coalition’s Equine Resource Database at [https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/](https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/).

Legislative Updates

Congress Passes a Continuing Resolution to Fund the Government through March 11, 2022…what does that mean for the horse industry?

Congress passed and the President signed, another Continuing Resolution (CR), which will keep the U.S. government funded through March 11, 2022 (the past CR funded the government through February 18, 2022). Congress is responsible for passing legislation to fund the government for all federal agencies using American tax dollars. However, if Congress fails to pass legislation to fund the government before a new fiscal year begins, they can pass legislation to keep federal operations going at current spending levels – called a “CR.” This becomes important for many reasons for the American Horse Council as well as the entire horse industry. If Congress passes a funding increase to a federal program as supported by the American Horse Council, that increase will only be recognized if Congress passes a budget…not extends current funding through a CR.

The American Horse Council Urges Congress to Implement the “Great American Outdoors Act”

The American Horse Council, along with the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, recently sent a letter to Senate National Parks Subcommittee Chairman Angus King (Maine), and Steve Daines (Montana) – respective Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, thanking and continuing to urge Senate consideration to implement the “Great American Outdoors Act” (GAOA), one of the most important pieces of outdoor recreation legislation ever signed into law. According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the recreation industry generated $689 billion in economic output, accounted for 1.8 percent of GDP, and 4.3 million American jobs in...
2020, despite industry slowdowns and access restrictions caused by COVID-19. Prior to the pandemic, outdoor recreation was growing faster than the economy. GAOA addresses this by fully funding both section of the GAOA...the “Land and Water Conservation Fund” at $900 million per year and establishing the “Legacy Restoration Fund,” which allocates billions of dollars to help address the maintenance backlog on public lands and waters.

- Full funding for the “Legacy Restoration Fund,” if implemented appropriately, will address many recreation backlog projects, ensuring improvements to docks, restrooms, campgrounds, trails, roads and more
- Full funding of the “Land and Water Conservation Fund” will positively impact millions of Americans in urban and rural communities

Continued...the Senate National Parks Subcommittee recently held a hearing on implementation of the GAOA. “The investments being made through this historic Act are coming just in time as people are clamoring for more access to the outdoors. Parks and other public lands and waters have provided critical opportunities for respite and rejuvenation for the American public. GAOA funding will enhance conservation and recreation opportunities in local communities, support the annual multibillion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and improve access to America’s treasured places for many years to come,” stated Ms. Shannon Estenoz - Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks (U.S. Department of the Interior), in her testimony.

The American Horse Council Coalition Activities Update (of which the American Horse Council is an active member)...

- Family Business Estate Tax Coalition

The Family Business Estate Tax Coalition, recently held an excellent meeting regarding “grantor trusts” and “value depreciation,” and provided “The Top Ten Estate Planning and Estate Tax Developments of 2021.” The Coalition emphasized that it can be used as a resource to members who seek education, updates, and information to better understand and keep up with, issues involving estate planning.

Grantor trust rules are guidelines within the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) that outline certain tax implications of a grantor trust. Under these rules, the individual who creates a grantor trust is recognized as the owner of the assets and property held within the trust for income and estate tax purposes.

Depreciation is a method for spreading out deductions for a long-term business asset over several years. The basic way to calculate depreciation is to take the cost of the asset minus any salvage value over its useful life. Depreciation is handled differently for accounting and tax purposes, but the basic calculation is the same. Taking depreciation expenses each year is a way to reduce your business tax bill.

- Sound Horse Summit

The Sound Horse Summit, recently met to continue the horse industry’s push for Congressional passage of the “Prevent All Soring Tactics Act of 2021” (PAST Act). Specifically, members of the Summit discussed current co-sponsorship levels (House - 248 and Senate - 51), as well as efforts to urge the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and Senate Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee (committees of jurisdiction of the PAST Act), expeditious consideration of the legislation. The American Horse Council will keep members and the industry up to date on developments.
The H-2B Workforce Coalition recently held a meeting to discuss the “Dignity Act” – legislation introduced by Congresswoman Elvira Salazar (D-FL). Specifically, the “Dignity Act” provides a reasonable, compassionate, and complete solution to America’s immigration crisis. It ends illegal immigration in the United States for the last time, re-establishes law and order, provides a practical solution for the undocumented, revitalizes the American workforce, and restores America’s economy. Key Points:

- Secures the Border
- Enhances Enforcement and Mandates E-Verify
- Reforms the Asylum System
- Protects Dreamers
- Dignity Program: Undocumented immigrants can enter a 10-year program for renewable legal status
- Redemption Pathway: Provides an optional path to more permanent legal status, but with enhanced criteria, for those that have completed the Dignity Program
- Provides Workforce Retaining for unemployed or displaced American workers
- Implements market-based reforms for Agricultural and Guest Workers

The “Dignity Act” considers that much of the undocumented population may not be looking for a citizenship-or-nothing deal but would likely be content with the opportunity to live in the U.S. legally, work and pay taxes, have protection from deportation (for non-felons), and be able to travel to their country of origin and be with family for the holidays. It also recognizes that real border security and effective enforcement measures must be in place to ensure any fix would be final and would never be needed again.

The Economic Bridge Coalition

The Economic Bridge Coalition represents small businesses across the country that have been hit hard by COVID-19, including live events such as equipment rental companies, audio visual providers, event planners and designers etc.; firms that power the travel industry such as travel advisors; amusement parks and attractions, and those who are engaged in all aspects of producing fairs and festivals as well as airshows and horse shows. The meeting discussion centered around methods to encourage Members of Congress to pass an omnibus budget and supplemental before the current Continuing Resolution expires (March 11, 2022).

Contact Mark Riso at mriso@horsecouncil.org for more information

RESEARCH Projects

The University of Edinburgh and Utrecht University are sponsoring the development of a short questionnaire to help horse owners/caretakers monitor chronic pain associated with osteoarthritis (the common form of arthritis in horses). You can hear more about this at podcast: https://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/article/episode-38-evaluating-chronic-pain-horses The project is funded by the Morris Animal Foundation.

The goal of the questionnaire is, first of all, to improve equine welfare, but also but also to help horse owners to be more aware of behavioral signs of pain in their animals.

We are currently looking for participants who are the owners or caregivers of a horse with vet-diagnosed arthritis. People should contact Diane Howard at dianehowardct@gmail.com. The total time commitment is approximately 1 hour.
Plenty of research exists surrounding outdoor equine and livestock arenas, but when it comes to indoor facilities, University of Kentucky College of Food and Environment researchers are breaking new ground with a multi-year study.

“This is an area that has become of greater interest to Cooperative Extension clientele across the state,” said Bob Coleman, UK extension horse specialist. “I get asked about it often from people who are building their facilities from the ground up. They are thinking about what the ground’s going to look like, indoor and outdoor, and there’s just been such a lack of information out there.”

Coleman is working with UK agricultural engineer Morgan Hayes and biosystems and agricultural engineering graduate student Staci McGill to study indoor arena conditions affected by a host of variables including air temperature, humidity, ventilation, air speed, horse activity and outdoor conditions. With 13 cooperating arenas, the researchers have been installing measurement devices and collecting data they will use to determine best management practices for building and maintaining indoor facilities.

Read more at Unique research could improve indoor equine and livestock environment | News (uky.edu)

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**Collegiate Horsemen’s Association Conference**

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will serve as the host institution for the American Collegiate Horseman’s Association (ACHA) National Convention on April 6-9 in Ocala, Fla.

The ACHA National Convention is hosted by a different college or university each year. As the host school, ABAC will coordinate horse industry tours, networking sessions, social activities, and professional development opportunities for the students in attendance.

Awards will be presented to honor outstanding members, scrapbooks, and more. Over 100 students are expected to attend.

Dr. Katheryn Cerny, Advisor for the ABAC Horseman’s Association said, “We are excited to be the host school for this year’s event. Ocala is considered the ‘Horse Capital of the World,’ and we have some unique ideas planned for the students; including the opportunity for one lucky winner to get the chance to ride a Paso Fino.”
In case you missed it....

Love to the Rescue - An Equine Welfare Statistic Round-Up

On February 14th, 2022 the American Horse Council hosted the webinar “Love to the Rescue – An Equine Statistic Round-Up”.

Managing at-risk and transitioning equines carries many different logistical needs compared to smaller animals like dogs and cats.

Emily Stearns, MSc, Program Manager for the Equine Welfare Data Collective (EWDC), explored current data on equine and companion animal welfare, logistical differences between managing difference species, and how equine welfare fits into the big picture of trending animal sheltering statistics within the United States. Included in the presentation was a Q&A panel discussion with Ashley Harkins, Program Director of the United Horse Coalition (UHC) and Ed Jamison, CEO for Operation Kindness in Dallas, Texas and Board of Director VP for the National Animal Care & Control Association (NACA).


Have questions after attending the webinar? Feel free to contact the Equine Welfare Data Collective at EWDC@horsecouncil.org
UHC Announce Corro Winner and Partnership

Corro is proud to partner with the United Horse Coalition to help horses and the humans that care for them by sharing educational resources and expert recommendations from Corro's featured programs. As the one source for all things horse, Corro is dedicated to promoting horse welfare by ensuring that horse owners have everything they need to give back to the animals that give us so much.

To top it off, Corro offers an incredible rewards program where you can earn money back on each and every order you make, to help make caring for your horses more affordable. To sign up for the rewards program, you simply need to create a Corro Account. Corro will also be providing UHC members with a discount code for $10 off your first order of $10 or more with them. Contact Ashley at UHC@horsecouncil.org to obtain the code and simply apply the discount at checkout.

Old Guard Seeks New Horses

The AHC was recently contacted by our friends at the US Army Caisson Platoon at Ft. Meyers as they are looking to acquire new horses this year. If you'd like additional information, contact Carlin Keally 1LT, AR- US Army Caisson Platoon Leader, HHC, 1st Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, The Old Guard Carlin.l.keally.mil@army.mil

Thank You To Our Sponsors
C. Jarvis Insurance renews Corporate Sponsor with American Horse Council

C. Jarvis Insurance Agency of Aurora, Ohio, is a national and international, family-owned company that provides equine, liability, ranch, and farm, as well as personal insurance coverage. Founded in 1946 by Charles C. Jarvis, the company is now owned by his granddaughter Kimberly Jarvis. Together with her sister, Sandy Jarvis, and her daughter, BrookeMarie Jarvis, Kimberly and her team bring the Jarvis tradition of professionalism, compassion, and hands-on experience into the next generation.

The company provides coverage to professional horsemen and individual horse owners, associations and clubs, shows, special events, auctions, and others with liability, farm and ranch, international travel, frozen semen, embryo and perspective foals, major medical, mortality, and more.

“We are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, worldwide,” says Kimberly Jarvis, president, and owner of Jarvis Insurance Agency. “We believe in personal service. When people call us, they reach a live person, and they can immediately speak with a representative. When we say we’re here for you, that’s our promise.”

AHC President Julie Broadway stated “We are look forward to continuing our relationship with C. Jarvis Insurance and the knowledge and expertise they bring to help horse enthusiasts and equestrians with their insurance needs.”

Kim Jarvis added “C. Jarvis Insurance, providers of equine, liability, ranch, and farm insurance is proud and honored to sponsor the American Horse Council. Protecting your passion so you can live your dream.

Pyranha, Inc. and Adeptus Partner with the American Horse Council (AHC)

The American Horse Council is pleased to announce its continued sponsor relationship with Pyranha®, Inc. and Adeptus® Nutrition. This support is critical to the equine industry in Washington, DC and beyond. The American Horse Council (AHC) works daily to advocate for the economic, legislative, and social interests of the equine industry in the United States. The AHC has a strong belief that the more opportunities available for horses in a variety of activities, the more likely the industry is to thrive, as well as all those who participate. The AHC represents all parts of the equine industry and is the only national association achieving this in Washington, DC and across the United States. With a deep commitment to fulfilling the needs of their members, AHC's mission is to be advocates for the United States equine industry.

Pyranha, Inc. has been innovating and providing pest control solutions for 50 years in the livestock, pet, and residential industry. Pyranha, Inc offers ready-to-use and concentrated insecticide products, as well as their misting systems. They also offer a line of odor-management products ideal for livestock areas, homes, kennels and more. As a top manufacturer of fly sprays, barn misting systems and insect control solutions, Pyranha, Inc. continues in their commitment to provide their customers with the most advanced and highest quality technologies to control their insect problems effectively.

Pyranha's sister company, Adeptus® Nutrition, offers a complete line of supplements for horses and pets. All Adeptus® Nutrition products are manufactured and formulated using the most current research and science, combined with practical knowledge of what horses and pets really need. With the wellbeing of the animals in mind, the Adeptus® mission is to provide quality products at reasonable prices with proven results.

"We are thrilled that Pyranha, Inc. and Adeptus® Nutrition will be partners with the American Horse Council again in 2022. We understand the importance of what they do", said Managing Partner, David Cunningham. "American Horse Council’s commitment is exclusive in the equine industry, and we are proud to be a part of an organization that thrives on the mission of advocating for the welfare of the equine industry. American Horse Council’s position ‘Put the Horse First’ is not just a statement, but a pursuit that also resonates with our goals. Pyranha, Inc. and Adeptus® Nutrition are committed to providing products to ensure the well-being and safety of all equine breeds, their owners, riders, and caretakers. This is an ideal partnership with an organization like AHC, which shares similar goals and a forward-looking mission for the equine industry.”

We invite our media partners to feature this exciting news and the impact it will have on the equine industry. For interviews or more information, please contact Marcie Voglino at marcie@pyranhalife.com

EquiFit Partners with the American Horse Council (AHC)
The American Horse Council (AHC) is pleased to welcome our new sponsor, EquiFit, ambassadors for equestrians & equine athletes alike.

“This is great fit for AHC, because like us EquiFit believes in science and is constantly seeking & using new technologies that improve performance, health, & well-being for horses & humans” stated Julie Broadway, President at AHC.

EquiFit, Inc. is a Massachusetts-based company which designs and manufactures technologically advanced products for top riders and horses throughout the world. From their ImpacTeq technology to the D-Teq Boot line, the T-Sport Wraps to the GelCompression Therapy line, EquiFit continues to raise expectations by pairing innovative designs with highly advanced materials.

We invite our media partners to feature this exciting news and the impact it will have on the equine industry. For more information, please contact Julie Broadway at jbrodney@horsecouncil.org.

American Horse Council Sponsors & Partners