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 - please pass it along!

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AHC 2022 Announces Invited Guest Speakers

(Washington, DC)- The American Horse Council (AHC) is pleased to announce that speakers for committee meetings and the upcoming National Issues Forum, have been set. The AHC’s Annual Meeting and National Issues Forum takes place from June 5-7 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel.

Invited Guest speakers include:
United Horse Coalition Meeting; Panelists from ASPCA’s Right Horse Initiative; GFAS; TAA; TCA; STA and EQUUS Foundation
Equine Welfare Committee; USDA Animal Care
Equine Industry CEO Forum: Wanda Little-Coffey of ASAE
Congressman Sanford D. Bishop. Jr. (GA)
Margaret Reynolds – Author, Reignite
Jennifer Brown Lerner, Deputy Director Aspen Institute – Sports & Society Program
Keith Roberts - Author, The Oak Journal “Level up your Life”
Julie Fershtman, Foster Swift Attorneys
Janet Kane Patterson - Morris Animal Foundation
Charlene Couch, The Livestock Conservancy
Panel Discussion on trends in Horse Sales - Keeneland (Shannon Arvin), Superior Sale (GT Werry), Appalachian Challenge (Tinia Creamer), CSU Sales (Craig Huffhines)
Health & Regulatory Committee; Dr. Nat White-NADPRP biosecurity project; USDA APHIS
Awards Luncheon: This year’s award winners to be announced, plus 2021 Hickey Award Dr. Peter Timoney; 2021 Rolapp Award - Senator Susan Collins (R-ME); 2020 Hickey Award Dr. G. Marvin Beeman; Van Ness Award Fred Sarver, and Rolapp Award Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-OR)
Racing Advisory Committee: Lisa Lazarus of Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority

Hotel Reservations
View the amazing Omni Shoreham [Omni Shoreham VIDEO]


Conference Registration & Tentative Agenda
Go to Eventbrite [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/313805820657](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/313805820657)

For the full conference schedule, please visit the on the AHC website at [www.horsecouncil.org](http://www.horsecouncil.org).

Legislative Updates
The American Horse Council Continues to add to the numbers of bills and legislative actions it tracks, monitors, and weighs in on – on behalf of the horse industry. Here are few recent additions...

Small Business Succession Planning Act - This bill requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) to establish a program to assist small businesses with developing and implementing business succession plans. The bill also provides a tax credit for a business that establishes a succession plan or that successfully carries out such a plan. To carry out the program, the SBA must develop and make publicly available a toolkit to assist small business with succession planning. Further, it must train resource partners on the toolkit, educate small businesses about the program, and ensure that each SBA district office and each resource partner employs someone to counsel small businesses on using the toolkit.

Expansion of Office of Advocacy SBA) - Another bill will expand the Office of Advocacy within the SBA to include small business in the international world...the Office of Advocacy serves as a watchdog for small business within the U.S. federal government.

National Service Animals Memorial Act - This bill authorizes the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work on federal land in the District of Columbia to commemorate the heroic deeds and sacrifices of service animals and handlers of service animals in the United States. The corporation shall be solely responsible for the acceptance of contributions for, and the payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work. Federal funds may not be used to pay any expenses for the establishment of the commemorative work.

Resolution Thanking Service Animals and their Handlers - This resolution recognizes and thanks service animals and their handlers who serve the United States in times of war and peace and supports the creation of an annual process to nominate animals for the Medal of Bravery and Distinguished Service Medal.

Omnibus Budget Bill - In the recently passed Omnibus Budget, language was included directing the Department of Justice to explore the possibility of creating the Animal Cruelty Crimes Unit to help better enforce the Horse Protection Act and other animal cruelty laws.

H-2B More Than Twice as Many H-2B Visas to be Available for Summer Season - As they did for last summer, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of Labor (DOL) will make available an additional 35,000 H-2B temporary nonagricultural worker visas for the second half of FY 2022. This more than doubles the usual 33,000 allocation or cap for the summer. Of the new 35,000 visas, 23,500 will be allocated to returning workers (those who received H-2B status within the past three years) and 11,500 will be allocated to nationals from El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, and Honduras, regardless of whether they are returning workers. Last year, the special allocation included only the Northern Triangle countries. This year, Haiti has been added.

Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International Seeks Board Volunteers; No Horse Experience Necessary

Are you looking to...
...apply and increase your leadership skills as part of a dynamic board team?
...learn more about how horses and humans work together to improve lives?
...be part of an accepting community that values diversity?

The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH International), a Denver-based, 501 (c) (3) nonprofit membership organization that
leads the advancement of professional equine-assisted services, serving children and adults with special needs through rigorously developed standards, credentialing and education, is looking for dedicated professionals to serve on our Board of Trustees. No prior experience with horses or equine-assisted services required.

We seek individuals with a commitment to best-practice nonprofit board governance and to represent a broad spectrum of gender, age, race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, and disabilities. Areas of expertise desired include, but are not limited to, finance and accounting (CPA a plus), nonprofit leadership and governance board experience.

Your participation will have a profound impact as you help represent PATH International. 813 PATH Intl. Member Centers provide services worldwide that incorporate horses into a variety of riding and unmounted activities. Through our standards and credentialing, we improve the lives of more than 53,000 children and adults with special needs, including more than 6,000 veterans, every year. To request an application and details regarding the process email aliscum@pathintl.org. To learn more about PATH International and the communities we serve please visit: www.pathintl.org

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**Trained Horses = Successfully Adopted Horses**

When asked what resources would help rescues most, the unanimous response was "Training" Forever Foundation focuses on helping rescue organizations

- Grow their training teams, and
- Provide a consistent language for all handlers

Resulting in horses that are better prepared for their future adopters. And the program is free to equine rescues!

Learn more about how your organization can be a part of the Forever Foundation in this webinar https://vimeo.com/showcase/9387596.

Or register for the program or one of our live clinics here https://linktr.ee/foreverfoundation

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**What happens to your horse, if something happens to YOU?**

Learn more about Estate Planning and the different responsible options that are available to help horse owners increase the likelihood that their horse will be able to transition safely into a new home.

Share this important information, as well as other educational resources to help horses at-risk (and their owners) now.

https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/uhc-materials/
Mark Your calendars May 16, 2022 at 1:00 PM ET

AHC Qtrly Webinar featuring Journalist, Sarah Maslin Nir

Telling Your Equestrian Story: How to turn your passion for horses into published works and film. New York Times investigative journalist Sarah Maslin Nir always kept her love of horses secret at her day job, until she decided to write a book about it! Now on to her fourth horse book, as well taking horse stories to Hollywood, Nir shares her journey, which can also be yours!

Registration instructions will follow as the date gets closer!