



Flying Changes

DECEMBER 2011

President's Letter

Hi All,
Where did the year go? It seems like yesterday we were at a meeting discussing venues and dates. Denai Meyer the schooling show manager got it all set up and the show year got underway. The first show in March at Cherry Tree Farm, DJ Collins and Rena Haynes co-managed, Barbara Burkhardt ran the office, Kathleen Martin scribe, JC on gait, and Winnie Fitch our runner. It was a great start to the show year.

The next show at Sandia Vista got canceled because of windy weather but the work of scheduling and set up was still done by Maria Davis, George Davis, Bar-

bara Burkhardt and JC helped with the arena set up. Show 3 got canceled early before entries went out but DJ, and Rena were ready as show managers but the quarantine still not lifted by the NM Stock Board.

Show 4, was postponed, but the Show Manager hung tough got it rescheduled and ran a great Show at Luna Rosa. Susan Dezavelle went above and beyond for one of our most successful shows. She organized a great crew, Christa Marsh, Ginny Boaw, Kay Coen, Brenda Edeskudy, Pam Heinline, Tom Oler, Erlene Seybold, Katrin Silva,

Gilly Slater, Marybeth Perez-Soto, and Julie Wilson. Show 5 was to be at The Taos Equestrian Center, Judy Huddleson did all the work as show manager but because of all the rescheduling forcing things to run together we just didn't get enough entries for a show.

Show 6 at the Santa Fe Equestrian Center, Maria Davis and Barbara Burkhardt managers, Kathleen Martin scribe, Pam Heinline scorer, Jolene Tanty runner, George Davis runner, Linda Davia gait, and Sivia Gold gait. That was a fun day, won-

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The New Mexico Dressage Association is a United States Dressage Federation Group Member Organization (GMO) and all members are automatically USDF Group Members (GMs). For USDF Participation Membership, members must apply directly to USDF.

USDF & Region 5 News



I had the wonderful opportunity at the beginning of November to attend the USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships in Scottsdale, Arizona. There were competitors from several states, including Arizona, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah. The weather was

very nice for the first day, then we had a little rain and we were able to see how well the show management dealt with difficult situations! That little rain is not common in Arizona apparently (this was my first show in Arizona!) and the outdoor arenas did not drain well. Jay and his crew shifted all the show rings into covered

arenas and allowed competitors to warm up where ever they could find footing to suit their needs. The staff and volunteers did a great job punting in a difficult situation!

The judging panel for the Championships was great and I had a lot of fun and learned

a lot scribbling every day. It was also great to participate in the awards ceremonies and meet quite a few folks I have never met before. There were two lovely competitor parties with great food. All the food came from, to my surprise, the same

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Calendar

December 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Clinic on Collec- tion, with Lynn Clifford	12	13 Board of Direc- tors meeting. Location TBD	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*Schooling Show Updates
and Rated show premiums
will be posted on the
Web—www.nmda.net*

January 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NMDA News—President's Letter

derful view, and great weather.

Show 7 was at Bosque Farms in September, again a great day, DJ Collins and Rena Haynes managers, Randi Phillips runner, Barbara Burkhardt gait, and Kathleen Martin scribe.

Show 8 in October at Cherry Tree Farm, again DJ Collins and Rena Haynes managers, DJ scorer, Beth German gait, JC gait, Kelly Carmody runner, and Kathleen Martin scribe.

Well that's it for NMDA,

then add the Watermelon Pony Club show, Juan Tomas Hounds show, and the 2 Arab Association Shows we still had a full schooling show year.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS, NMDA WOULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT YOU !!!!!!!

SUSAN AND RANDI ARE SENDING OUT BALLOTS TO VOTE FOR VOLUNTEER AWARDS, IF YOU

DON'T SEE A NAME THEN ADD IT ON. AGAIN A VERY SINCERE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS,

JOHN C.

Around the Barn—A Fresh Look

Many barn owners dream of walking down an aisle between rows of fancy box stalls that house happy horses. Unfortunately, sometimes the reality is not as pretty: you may see broken stall fronts, doors that no longer work or mismatched stall fronts.

If your current barn strays from your fantasy, don't despair! With a little time and effort, you can replace those old stalls or install new stalls in a stall-less shed or barn. Soon, you'll be walking down the beautiful barn aisle of your dreams.

Step 1: Decide What You Need

Before you pick up the sledge hammer to demolish existing stalls or head off to buy lumber, figure out what you need and want in your new stalls. If you are replacing existing stalls, decide whether you need to replace

the entire stall or only the stall fronts. If the dividing stall walls are in good repair or only need minor repairs, you can save time and money by leaving them in place and only replacing your stall fronts.

If you want to add stalls to a shed or barn that previously didn't have stalls, Charlie Poore of Quickstalls, Inc. (www.quickstalls.com) recommends getting out some paper and a pencil and drawing your barn and plotting the layout of the stalls. Come up with a few different layouts to consider. If you aren't sure which layout you like best, get stakes and string and plot your preferred layout. Walk through it a few times to get the feel for where walls and doors will be and whether the layout works for you.

When deciding what you need, consider both your

current and future needs. For example, if your goal is to eventually purchase a stallion, include a stallion-safe stall now. If you plan on foaling out mares in the future, either install broodmare stalls or build stalls with easily removable dividers so that you can turn two regular box stalls into one large foaling stall.

Also think about future resale value: don't build stalls smaller than 10 x 10 feet, as that will limit buyers if you have to sell your property. Also, avoid installing stalls anywhere where the ceiling will be less than eight feet tall (10 to 12 feet is best).

Step 2: Decide Whether to Build From Scratch or Buy a Kit

Next, you need to decide whether to build stalls from scratch or to purchase prefabricated stalls (also called

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The Vet's Office—Domestic Horse Slaughter Prohibition Lifted

On Nov. 18, President Obama signed into law an agriculture appropriations bill, which, among many other provisions, lifted a 5-year prohibition on funding for U.S. Department of Agriculture inspections at horse processing facilities.

The funding prohibition that effectively banned horse slaughter in the United States from 2007-2011 was always a passive measure rather than an active one, preventing slaughter by prohibiting funds for required inspections. The new law doesn't actively re-instate horse slaughter for human consumption, which was never illegal. Rather, the language about prohibiting funding for inspections has been removed.

While the provision was lifted, the appropriations bill does not include any money to pay for horsemeat inspections.

However, the USDA issued a state-

ment saying there are no slaughterhouses in the United States that butcher horses for human consumption now, but if one were to open, it would conduct inspections to make sure federal laws were being followed.

A report issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office in June found that 137,984 horses were exported for slaughter in 2010.

Slaughter proponents like Dave Duquette, founder and president of the nonprofit organization United Horsemen, argue that the welfare of unwanted and slaughter-bound horses was at risk under the prohibition.

"I do not want to see horses suffer, starve and die, and at the bottom of the market, people are stuck with horses that they can't get rid of," said Duquette, noting that in the present economic climate, the prohibitive cost of euthanasia for un-

wanted horses can lead to cases of neglect.

Citing animal behavior specialist Temple Grandin as an advisor, Duquette estimates that retrofitted processing plants, privately funded by U.S.-based investors, could re-open within 60 days, though they'll be subject to state legislation. Duquette's organization will also promote an International Do Not Slaughter Registry through which horses may be registered via microchip, and their registrants notified should those horses turn up at a processing plant.

But for Michael Markarian, president of the Humane Society Legislative Fund, the bill was disconcertingly retrogressive.

"It's extremely disappointing that the committee took this step backward for America's iconic horses and is willing to waste tax dollars on the cruel horse slaughter industry,"

Around the Barn—A Fresh Look

Cont on next page

stall kits). Building your own stalls saves money and lets you customize the stalls to your barn and farm. However, it takes a lot of time, construction skills and the right tools. So if you've never built anything before, using stall kits might be a better option.

Stall kits cost more than building your own stall, but they're much easier to install. They come in two basic forms: support post stalls and modular or portable stalls. Support post stalls get strength from posts set into the barn floor or ground so you'll need to install the sup-

port posts first. Most manufacturers recommend using at least 4 x 4-inch posts set a minimum of three feet into the ground. Support post stall kits come in different forms, but most require you to fit together several pieces before installing them. They also normally do not come with the lumber for the stall, so you'll have to purchase that separately, cut it to the right length, and slide it into metal channels in the stall.

Modular stalls don't need support posts; they come in panels that are held together

by brackets. They can be installed in a barn using brackets to attach them to existing walls, or they can be used as free-standing portable stalls that can be moved and reconfigured (the panels are heavy and require more than one person to move). Some portable stall kits include four complete stall walls that must be snapped together with brackets, while others require more assembly.

When purchasing stall kits, modular stalls or the materials to build your own, Charlie

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Around the Web

Read all the news from USDF Region 5 at <http://www.usdfregion5.org/>

Interesting news and articles on the Pan Am games at chronofhorse.com

Show News—

Follow Through

Whatever it is that you ask from your horse, be prepared to follow through with your request. Working with horses is a creative endeavor, it's true – and sometimes we have to throw our whole training plan out the window. However, I've seen too many people give up before they even make a clear request! Next time you ask your horse for anything, experiment with these three steps: 1) be clear about exactly what you want; 2) be sure that what you want is realistic, for this horse, on this day; 3) follow through with your request until you get some gesture that your horse is trying to do what you've asked. Keep in mind that, with horses, the smallest gestures are often the most important – and the easiest to miss!

Lynn Clifford

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this year's show season—and good luck for next year!

The Vet's Office-

said Markarian in his blog, adding that the legislation will likely face court challenges.

"Americans don't eat horses, and they don't want them inhumanely killed, shrink-wrapped, and sent to Japan or Belgium for a high-priced appetizer," Markarian said.

Instead, the HSLF is one of several organizations supporting passage of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (H.R. 2966/ S. 1176), a bill introduced and referred to House and Senate committees this summer, which would ban both the domestic and exported slaughter of U.S. horses.

See <http://www.chronofhorse.com/state-us-horse-slaughter> for more information on the current state of horse slaughter in the US.



Clinic Corner

Leslie Apfel will be available to teach lessons from Dec 10-22 in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Please email nmgypsy@hotmail.com for more information or for schedule.



Clinic on Collection, with Lynn Clifford

Sunday December 11th 10am -4pm at the Santa Fe Equestrian Center
All disciplines and breeds welcome; Auditors welcome.
Limit 8 participants, \$95 includes clinic and facility fee (byo lunch)

Discount for members of NMDA

RSVP by Sunday, December 4th to lynn@lynnclifford.com or 505-231-5353
(Stay and trail ride or practice after the clinic; corrals or stall available for fee.)

Special Offer: \$10 DISCOUNT OFF A PRIVATE LESSON SCHEDULED WHEN SIGNING UP FOR CLINIC

Let me help you solidify your new skills with a personalized lesson on your horse or mine!

USDF & Region 5 News—*continued from page 1*

caterer we use at the Colorado Horse Park, Wild Willeys.

Saturday evening's Competitor Party also hosted one of the most touching awards

ceremonies I have had the privilege of witnessing. I was lucky enough to be at the World Cup when Debbie retired Brentina, but it wasn't quite as personal and relevant.

Terri Patton-Rich retired her Grand Prix horse, Fontainebleau, who was her dancing partner his entire riding career. Terri had the privilege of riding with some of our top

USDF & Region 5 News—*continued from page 6*



riders in the country and in the world and won many awards and Championships with Fontainebleau. He had to retire at a relatively young age due to some fairly serious injuries, but as she rode him out into the arena for the final time, you wouldn't have had an inkling. I think one of the things that touched the 100 or so people who attended the ceremony was Terri's comment that though they didn't make any of the Olympic or other National teams, they

challenged those that did to be better competitors. If you have a few minutes and a few tissues, please take the time to watch the YouTube video of the ceremony - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6wNrHrAF8U&feature=email>.

Fontainebleau and Terri Hallman-Rich were great representatives for Region 5 during their careers and we were honored they chose our Champi-

onships to have their moment.

I hope everyone has a great Holiday Season and I hope I saw quite a few of you at the USDF Convention and Symposium!

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

Around the Barn—A Fresh Look

Poore says the biggest mistakes he sees are people who make decisions based on price, not need. "Look at the quality of the materials. Heavier, thicker materials will hold up better." Quality costs more up front, but it lasts longer and keeps your horses safer than flimsy materials. Dave Goossens of Country Manufacturing Inc. (www.country-manufacturing.com) adds that you need to purchase materials suitable for your area. "Black steel should only be used in low-humidity climates," he says. "Use galvanized steel if you live in an area with high humidity, and aluminum if you live near the coast where salt in the air is a problem." He also adds that properly dried tongue and groove lumber is best. Fresh lumber that isn't well dried will shrink over time, leaving gaps and bowed wood in your stall walls.

Step 3: Installation Time

When installing stalls, it's important to take time to do the job properly. It's common to underestimate the amount of time it will take,

thing at least twice to make sure you get the right length, and use string levels to make sure your lines are straight and level. Before you begin construction, walk around the stake and string design to make sure everything is laid out in its proper place.

If you are using a stall kit, Poole recommends laying out the pieces of the kit and making sure they're all there before getting started. Then review the instructions or assembly photos, and make sure your kit comes with a photo of what the stall should look like when finished. If you have questions about the instructions, call the company to clarify before you start assembling your stall.

Once you start assembling or building, measure any cuts you must make twice, and check every edge with a level at least twice before nailing or screwing things together. Using the level gives you even edges and helps make sure your stalls are square. Dave Goossens warns that if your header board (top board on the front of the stall) is

not square, the door may not slide properly, so it is important to get that installed correctly. He says that's one of the biggest mistakes people make.

Once the stalls are done, take a minute or two to step back and admire your work. You'll be proud of your barn each time you walk down the aisle—and even prouder knowing you did the work to make the barn look great.

by Jennifer Williams, PHD
August 1, 2011,
www.stabelmanagement.com

Stall Kit Manufacturers

Most stall kit manufacturers ship anywhere in the continental United States. However, shipping can be quite expensive, so check with local companies first. Then check to see if other companies have dealers near you. This list is just a sample of the companies that offer stall supplies.

- AGCO, www.agco.com, 1-800-522-2426
- Armour Companies, www.armourgates.com, 1-800-876-7706
- Country Manufacturing, Inc., www.countrymfg.com, (740) 694-9926
- Innovative Equine Systems, www.equinesystems.com, 1-800-888-9921
- Priefert Ranch Equipment, www.priefert.com, 1-800-527-8616
- Quick Stalls, Inc., www.quickstalls.com, (505) 453-4322
- Tractor Supply, www.tractorsupply.com, 1-877-718-6750
- Triton Barn Systems, www.tritonbarns.com, 1-800-918-6795

Classifieds

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BRAND NEW - The Santa Fe In Synch Drill Team

Safety, fun and learning for everyone! Learn great training patterns and safely expose your horse to riding in a group in a progressive way. Focus on quality walk work initially, tempo, individual control, group cohesion, spacing (farther apart in beginning until riders and horses acquainted), communication, then the movements become more complex and trot and canter are introduced as appropriate. At the Santa Fe Equestrian Center (formerly The Horse Park) on Sunday afternoons every other week. Also by arrangement at your barn with a 4 rider minimum. \$30 - \$20 based on what you can pay w/ SFEC \$20 facility fee. Call or email for more information. 505-231-5353 or lynn@lynnclifford.com.



Lynn Clifford, MA, EAGALA II, LPCC pending
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"Out beyond ideas of right doing and wrong doing there is a field. I'll meet you there." Rumi



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Suppleness is what separates the average Dressage horse from the fabulous one. Ravel is the perfect example of this! This simple method assists your horse in reaching his MSP - Maximum Suppleness Potential.

In order to be supple, muscles must be free of all tension. All horses accumulate tension in their muscles to one extent or another, mostly to a very large extent. Learn this simple technique to release tension from your horse's muscles. Cost is extremely reasonable. Call Sivia Gold-470-8404; siviagold@yahoo.com



HORSES FOR SALE

"D'Arcie" Lovely 2nd level school master. 13 yo. 16.2h+ registered Hanoverian mare. First level Regional champion. Qualified two years in a row for 2nd level Regionals championships. 2010 NMDA 2nd level champion. Very sweet temperament, she is an excellent confidence building horse. Good dressage home only. \$8,500.

"Fiama" elegant 9yo 16h+ branded Swedish WB mare. Also in Westphalian mare book. Former NMDA champion training level. Many high point awards at first level. Spent last year winning at A level hunter shows. Currently schooling second level. Very supple and comfortable gaits. Good energy. She is ready to win for you! \$8,500 firm.



FOR SALE:

18" Kieffer dressage saddle, excellent condition, adjustable tree.

Three pads, stirrup leathers, irons included, 22" girth.

\$2,000.00 (new is \$2,900.00)

Call Janice for more information

Albuquerque 505 822-7946



Great deal on TROPICAL RIDERS - All brand new with tags. Two pairs White "Jane Savoie" style front zip, deerskin dressage patch, Schoeller Microfiber - size 32R & size 26R - \$140 each. One pair Black "Jane Savoie" style front zip, deerskin fullseat, Schoeller Microfiber - size 28R - \$165. One pair Black deerskin knee patch, Schoeller Microfiber - size 42R - \$100. One pair Black pull on style, deerskin dressage patch, cotton/lycra blend(enduro cool fabric) - size Large - \$100. Also have perfect condition used HARRY HALL black dressage coat, size 14L, 4 button, single pleat back, 100% Wool - \$50. Call (505) 501 3633



NEW MEXICO
DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

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NMDA Mission Statement:

The New Mexico Dressage Association (NMDA) is a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of New Mexico. NMDA is also a Group Member Organization of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF). The organization's purpose is to promote the understanding of dressage and to develop skill and excellence in its use, as well as encourage, promote and conduct exhibitions, shows, clinics and other events by which interested people may develop their potential as riders and train their horses to the extent of their capabilities. Privileges of membership include but are not limited to participation in the organization's activities and receiving the Handbook/Test Book, and monthly newsletter. Members also become Group Members (GM) of USDF, with all its benefits.

The Back Page

WANTED

Newsletter Editor

It is with regret and sadness that I must step down as newsletter editor starting with the new year. My last issue will be December. I have enjoyed the challenge of trying to provide an informative aid to our community. If anyone is interested please contact John or myself.

