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Kansas Horse Council Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2010

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EquiFest 2011 Update

The Horse As Art Challenge

The featured artist for EquiFest 2010 is **Dawn Trinkler**, of Mound City, KS. Her piece titled "Companions" will appear on the cover of the program guide, the pre-event flyers and the EquiFest of Kansas website, equifestofKS.com. You can view more of Dawn's work at her website, nobruses.com.



We're already searching for artwork for EquiFest 2012. Would you like to have your work considered in

[American Horse Council](#)

Calendar August & September

September 4-5 - KS Buckskin Horse Assoc. show at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, Lawrence

September 4th - Haysville saddle club monthly swap meet is on the first Saturday of every month!

September 12th - Free Side Saddle Clinic. Linda Price, instructor, 49 years experience, 1-785-889-4800. 15605 Day Road, Onaga

September 12 - Elk City Lake Fall Trail Ride

Sept. 18 & 19 - Kansas Horse Council's KHJA Show @ Vermillion Valley Equine Center, Belvue

Sept 18 & 19 - Amazing Grace Trail Ride at the D&D Ranch located 3 miles west and 3 miles north of Utica

Sept 24-26 - FALL DREAM RIDE IN THE FLINT HILLS. Flying W Ranch is located 13.8 miles W. of Strong City

Sept 25 - 2nd Annual SCARC Benefit Mounted Poker Run. C&W Ranch, Smolan

Sept 25 - Herington CVB Rails 'N Trails Festival and Trail Ride, Herington, Kansas

October 2 & 3 - Kansas Horse Council Promotional Trail Ride, Fall Ride in the Gypsum Hills at the Mills Ranch in Barber Co.

October 2nd - Haysville saddle club monthly swap meet is on the first Saturday of every month!

Oct. 23rd - Fall Cowgirl Camp Cottonwood Falls - Jo & Rex Rex Buchman - 620-794-5332 Jo Turner 785-232-0579 Email: jo@royfreywestern.com

[For more info on all these events click here.](#)

the EquiFest **Horse As Art Challenge**? All pieces selected for final consideration will be on display at EquiFest 2011 where the winner will be announced.

All mediums will be considered but the work must be original, signed and produced within the past 4 years. Pieces must be ready to hang or display.

For contest rules contact director@kansashorsecouncil.com.

Gypsum Hills Trail Ride

October 2 & 3, 2010

The annual KHC Fall trail ride is being held at the beautiful Mills Ranch near Medicine Lodge on Oct. 2 & 3. KHC members ride for the discounted price of \$25. Non-member fee is \$35.

We'll ride out Sat. morning at 10:00 with lunch out of your saddle bags then return to camp for a catered meal and **lots of door prizes**. On Sunday morning after coffee and doughnuts we'll leave camp at 9:00 and be back in camp by noon.

For complete information [Click Here](#) and to register [Click Here](#).

Mark your calendars and plan your trip now -
It's going to be a GREAT time in the saddle!



Legislative Update

by Chris Mensch, Vice President, KHC B.O.D.

I will attempt each month to provide pertinent information concerning equine-related legislation and activity. Questions and opinions are welcome.

Hay Theft

About Us

We are here for you. Since 1992 the KHC has worked for the horses and horse owners of Kansas. Call us at 785-776-0662 or director@kansashorecouncil.com

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Homes for Horses

READY FOR ADOPTION

There is an urgent need for homes for a large number of horses that were seized in Coffey County last month.

[Click Here](#) to see pictures and read about the horses available for adoption.

KS Liability Law Signs

Remember - if you don't have a Kansas Liability Law sign posted on your property - you are not covered by the this law. Protect yourself and order yours today.

\$30 for members
\$40 for non-members
(Price includes tax + S/H)

*By Detective Brett Wilson #171
Johnson Co. Sheriff's Office, TRACE Coordinator
Olathe, KS 66061*

On 07-24-2010, a local Johnson County rancher sold 669 small square bales of hay to an individual from Palestine, Texas. The transaction occurred over the telephone and the internet. The hay was picked up by a semi-truck trailer, but payment has yet to be made.

TRACE does not usually put out suspect names, but in this case we will make an exception, to prevent further thefts or to possibly find more victims.

The suspect in this case goes by Joel or J.L. Neal of Palestine, Texas for Mineola, Texas. He contacted Mr. Bollin by email after observing Mr. Bollin's hay for sale on the internet. Neal has used an internet name of J.L. Lovelady in the past and has several posts about him in "haybarn.com".

If you have had any contact with this person what so ever, please contact me via email at TRACE@jocogov.org or by telephone at 913-715-5561. Texas authorities are also interested in Neal.

2010 Horse Owners and Breeders Tax Handbook

The 2010 Edition of the Horse Owners And Breeders Tax Handbook will be available in the coming months. If you would like a copy (or copies) held for you, please send your name, phone, email, and number of copies desired via email to ahc@horsecouncil.org.

United Organizations of the Horse - Plans for Wyoming Processing Facility

Plans are progressing to site a state-of-the-art processing plant designed to humanely slaughter horses in Wyoming.

The Unified Equine LLC plant is only one component of a holistic system designed to provide a solution to the problem of excess domestic horses in the United States. All horses entering the holistic Unified Equine System will be first evaluated by veterinarians. If they are in poor condition they will be sent to the Rejuvenation Program for extra feed, care, and supplementation to put them quickly back to good health. If they are in decent condition and have any prospect for use they will be sent to the Rescue Program which is a collaborative effort with college and university equine training programs and private horse trainers to train, re-train and market horses. If they are inappropriate for either slaughter or other aspects of the system such as pregnant mares, colts, yearlings, and weanlings they will be put on pasture until ready for re-evaluation and placement. Finally, those horses that are past their useful life, unsound and unable to recover, or dangerous and untrainable will be humanely processed. To read more [Click Here](#).

California Anti-Slaughter Resolution Passes

Go on-line,
www.kansashorecouncil.com or
call the office @ 785-776-0662



A bill instructing California's congressional delegation to support federal legislation that would forbid the transport of horses to horse processing plants in Canada and Mexico took its final step to passage on Wednesday when that state's Senate approved the measure. To read more [Click Here.](#)

Agritourism

Back Country Horsemen of America strongly support the USDA's new program, "Open Fields" or Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program. This ties in with last months report on Agri-tourism in Kansas. Please help support these programs to provide more land to explore and more income to KS ranchers/farmers. For more info contact BCHA at 888-893-5161 or www.backcountryhorse.com.

BLM

The BLM published it's "Working Toward Sustainable Management of America's Wild Horses and Burros- Draft Goals, Objectives and Possible Management Actions" this summer. This downloadable 28 page document is a must-read for all interested in the Mustangs, the Bureau of Land Management, use of our tax dollars, and the decision-making process that constitutes federally run projects. To learn more [Click Here.](#)

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Humane Society of the United States

Pattie Stalder, Administrator, KHC

This article isn't intended to debate the issue of unwanted horses and horse processing facilities but, it's hard for me to miss an opportunity to reiterate how the lobbying paid for by HSUS has impacted horse welfare. My intention is to clarify who the Humane Society of the United States is and why Kansans should know about them. So please bare with me as there is a lot that needs to be said.

In a February 2010 poll conducted by Opinion Research Corporation, 71 percent of Americans agreed that the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) "is an umbrella group that represents thousands of local humane societies all across America." And 59 percent believed that HSUS "contributes most of its money to local organizations that care for dogs and cats."

Both of these statements are false. Despite producing a steady stream of television commercials and other fundraising materials that imply otherwise, HSUS is not affiliated with any of America's more than 10,000 hands-on pet shelters. And in 2008, the most recent tax year for which nonprofit IRS filings are available, HSUS shared less than one-half of one percent

of its budget with legitimate "humane societies" and other pet shelters.

Below is a complete listing of HSUS grants awarded to Kansas from 2006 through 2008:

2006 HSUS Grants: \$500 - Kansas Animal Control Association (Chanute)
\$2,500 - National Animal Control (Olathe)
2007 HSUS Grants: \$1,000 - Cat Association of Topeka, Inc. (Topeka)
\$1,000 - Kansas Animal Control Association (Topeka)
\$377 - Kootenai Humane Society (Holton)
\$1,650 - Mid America Bully Breed Rescue, Inc. (Mayetta)
2008 HSUS Grants: None
Total HSUS Grants: 6
Total: \$7,027

All told, HSUS's total spending in the 39 states that received grants during 2006 - 2008 made up just one-fifth of one percent (0.2%) of their total budget during that time. But in those three tax years, HSUS spent nearly \$280 million on salaries, lobbying, advertising, fundraising, and other programs. At the end of 2008, HSUS reported having over \$162 million in assets.

In 2007, HSUS got a federal law passed that prohibits the U.S. Department of Agriculture from spending tax dollars to inspect horse meat. So although there's nothing illegal about processing horses for human consumption, the practice is halted as a practical matter.

Unwanted horses are as much a part of life as unwanted dogs and cats, but the economics of the situation are a bit different. For starters, eating dogs and cats is pretty uncommon in the Western world, while horse meat can be found in most European and Canadian grocery stores and all over Japan.

Sadly, Americans euthanize millions of "surplus" pets every year, and no dog owner expects to "sell" his or her animal at the end of its life. But, euthanasia costs money. The average cost of euthanizing and burying or disposing of a horse carcass is \$500 to \$800. Some states in the northeast require a dead horse to be cremated which raises the disposal cost substantially.

Most horse owners, however, consider the animals to be *livestock*, although HSUS would prefer to have them all categorized as companion animals. Until a few years ago, a horse would actually bring a price when it was time to "put it down," because there was a commercial market for the animal's meat. What would HSUS have you do when it's necessary to end a horse's life - their literature recommends "Horse owners can plan for their animal's eventual death by setting aside funds for humane euthanasia by a veterinarian, if it becomes necessary." For some horses and horse owners this is a good choice, but not for all. Not all horses have owners with the means or desire to choose that form of legalized euthanasia but they no longer have the option of selling the animal to be processed. This leads to animals being left to starve and fend for themselves when owners are unable to afford the cost of euthanasia and burial.

The animal rights group doesn't seem to have a problem with euthanizing horses but it continues to oppose processing them for meat (along with other livestock). This has created a cash crunch for horse owners all over America. And human nature being what it is, the end result is a lot of unwanted horses being turned loose to fend for themselves-or worse. So what does HSUS recommend as an alternative to ending the life of a horse you no longer want, can't afford or has dangerous habits that put you or your family at risk? According to their website, "Another option is to donate the horse to an equine rescue organization; some will take unwanted horses and find them good homes." This is true but not because of financial assistance from the HSUS.

I applaud and support the rescue facilities in Kansas but there are limits to how many horses they can accommodate. This was unfortunately proven with the seizure of 90 horses from a Kansas rescue last month. The seven Kansas rescue facilities that are registered with the Unwanted Horse Coalition, (the one where the horses were seized was not one of these) report the maximum number of horses they can hold across the entire state is approximately 105 animals. That doesn't mean there are 105 openings, in fact they could all be full at the same time. Plus, sometimes there are fees for surrendering your horse to a rescue.

Having shut down the processing facilities in 2007, HSUS moved on to become the driving force behind the California law that freed laying hens from their cages and are currently working in California to prohibit the sale of eggs that are imported from other states that keep laying hens caged.

Last month they began a new wave of promotion for their

vegetarian "Humane Choice" dog food. That's right folks, not only do they not want us humans eating animal protein they don't want our dogs eating it either! They are promoting their new product as "nutritious, delicious, and cruelty-free kibble".

If you're feeling a need to know more about this powerful organization, and I sure hope you are, visit www.humanewatch.org. HSUS is actively pursuing their agenda in neighboring states. We would be foolish to think Kansas is not a target. After all, we are the "Land of Beef". [Click Here](#) to read about what's happening in our neighboring state of Missouri.

We need a loud, unified voice that our legislators can't ignore. Stay alert to what HSUS is doing because we all have a lot at stake.

If you want to help by adopting or donating to the animals in shelters, **do so locally**. Animal shelters and rescues in Kansas need every nickel they can get-including the local "humane societies" that share part of their names, but not any affiliation, with HSUS. Don't make the mistake of confusing this national organization with your local shelters that do so much to help animals in need.

(Excerpts in this article were taken from www.humanewatch.org.)

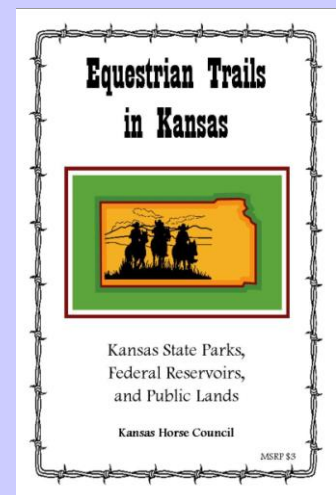
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Equestrian Trails in Kansas

If you're a trailrider make sure your saddlebag has the newest trail guide available. You'll have all the information you need to select which trail suits you best. Our ***Equestrian Trails in Kansas*** guide contains trails in all Kansas State Parks, federal reservoirs and public lands plus lots of other valuable information.

Order your copy today!

Call 785-776-0662 or mail your check for \$3 to:
Kansas Horse Council
8831 Quail Lane, Ste. 201



Manhattan, KS 66502

Our Price: \$3.00
S & H: \$ included

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Save \$\$



Remember as a KHC member you receive discounts at many Kansas merchants and national businesses. Take your membership card with you when you shop at **RB Outpost, Roy Frey Western, CircleStar Tack, Classic Equine Stall Systems, Grasspad Warehouse or on-line at equinebusinessforms.com.**

For national vendors call 866-678-4289 before you shop to enjoy your membership advantages at John Deere, UPS, Sherwin Williams, Office Depot, Wells Fargo, Equine Travel Advantage, NTRA Rx Discount Card & Toshiba.

Take advantage of these generous offers - they are for KHC members only.