



NORTHERN MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN HORSE CLUBS

Contact: Shelly Murphy 231-275-4122

NMAWHC Club Briefs

2007 Approved Show Dates

June 2-3 Anna Bays Memorial, Mecosta County Fairgrounds, Big Rapids
June 16-17 Windsonnet Open Horse Show, Traverse City, MI
July 7-8, Wendy Taylor Memorial Open Horse Show, Cadillac, MI
July 14-15 Anna Bays Memorial, NW MI Fairgrounds, Traverse City
July 28-29 NMAWHC Open Horse Show, Gladwin County Fairgrounds, Gladwin
August 26 NMOF Open Horse Show, Traverse City, MI

2007 Membership

The 2007 form is available online as well as in this newsletter. Please remember, you must be a member BEFORE you can accumulate year-end points.

2007 Board

Mike Zerbe is your new NMAWHC president. Welcome new board members Angie Kirby and Kristin Leach. Clinics in Traverse City and Gaylord are being planned. The dates will be posted on the website and in the next newsletter.

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Enclosures:

Anna Bays Showbill
Gladwin Showbill



WINTER CHILLS

See story on Page 2

It is hard to believe we are approaching March already. The plummeting temperatures this month have been hard on some horses, and Danielle Ruiz has written a timely article on colic for this newsletter with a list of symptoms to watch for, and what should be in your first aid kit.

This newsletter will be followed closely by the next with more showdates, clinic dates and showbills. Your next newsletter will also feature a column from Angie Kirby profiling club members. We will also have articles in the upcoming issues about getting your horse in shape for the show season and even a recipe or two!

The NMAWHC website has been updated with the showdates for this year, the 2007 membership and the revised Rule Book. As a courtesy, we have also added showdates for other associations to our site to assist our members and other associations in planning the show season. Our clinic date has not been set, we are looking at the possibility of holding multiple clinics this year in order to cover our membership area better. If you are interested in hosting a clinic, please let us know!

We are looking for photos for our photo gallery - in the ring, or on the sidelines, new or old - if it involves a club member and horses send it in!

As always, we would like to encourage our members to get involved! Come to meetings, help with the Anna Bays shows, take notes on what works, needs work or suggestions to make our club better, encourage friends and neighbors to come to a show, mentor a youth. Our club is doing great things and can only get better with your participation!

Dear Membership,

I was honored to receive the Member of the year award for 2006. Your support over the last two years has meant a lot, but it is time to pass the reins on to someone else.

I can not stress enough how important your input is to improving the club and helping it move forward. The meetings are always open to you. Contact any board member to get the date, location, and time of upcoming board meetings.

Yours truly,

Jada Leek
2004-2006 NMAWHC President

WINTER CHILLS KILLS!!!

By: Danielle Ruiz

Owning horses in Northern Michigan during winter months can be challenging in single digit, or below zero weather. Colic is one of the most common winter health problems horses endure. Water buckets freeze, water gets cold, and horses will not drink as much or may quit drinking all together.

Colic means any type of abdominal pain. This pain may be mild to severe. It is important for horse owners to pay attention to their horse's normal habits and behaviors so they recognize when their horse is uncomfortable, because it may not always be obvious. The first step to a speedy recovery from colic is catching it early.

There are several different types of colic, all very serious if not caught in time, and even then, age and general health are critical factors as to how a horse comes out of colic.

Impaction is a type of colic where the intestines become impacted by a firm mass of food. Impactions are one of the most common types of colic and usually occur in the large intestine. Impaction colic's can be caused by a horse not drinking enough water and the food doesn't have enough lubrication from water, causing the food to get dry, firm up, and not move efficiently through the digestive tract.

Another common, less serious type of colic is gas colic. Gas builds up in the intestines, most commonly in the large intestine. The gas stretches the intestine causing abdominal pain.

Twisted gut, or proper name torsion, is a very serious type of colic. I, as some of you know, have had a personal experience with this type of colic. My mare Honey was nine months pregnant and her foal was EXTREMELY active, so I thought her abdominal pain was from the foal doing the hokey pokey in her stomach, when really, had I not gotten her down to Michigan State when I did, I would have lost her. She had a 360 degree torsion, or twist, in her large intestine. The doctor at Michigan State told me her large intestine looked like the end of a tootsie roll wrapper it was so twisted. A very expensive surgery later and my mare is doing great and had a perfectly healthy foal on her due date!

Enteritis or colitis can cause abdominal pain as well; this is due to inflammation of the small and large intestines.

Gastric distension or rupture is when a horse gorges itself on grain, the contents in the stomach swells. The horse's small stomach and its inability to vomit mean that in these circumstances the stomach may actually burst.

Once this has happened death is inevitable.

Sand colic is a very common colic too. Sand accumulates in the stomach and intestines irritating the lining of the stomach causing diarrhea, and colic like symptoms. It's very important to sand clear your horses regularly.

Parasite colic's are caused by the impaction or festation of large amounts of intestinal worms. Horses should be dewormed regularly to help prevent this type of colic.

Prevention of colic:

- *Allow as much turn out time as possible.
- *Maintain a regular feeding schedule.
- *ENSURE CONSTANT ACCESS TO FRESH WATER!!!
- *Make sure at least 60% of digestible energy is from forage.
- *Do not feed excessive digestible energy.
- *Do not feed moldy hay or grain.
- *Provide access to forage for most of the day.
- *Do not feed or water immediately after exercise.
(Make sure they're cooled down first.)
- *Maintain constant exercise routine.
- *Make all changes in diet and exercise very slowly.
- *Control intestinal parasites.
- *Sand Clear regularly.
- *Do not feed horses off the ground. (Hay and grain feeders.)

Colic kit to keep on hand:

Being prepared for a colic can save your horse's life. Doing as much as you can to get your horse comfortable until your veterinarian can get there can greatly affect the outcome of colic. Here are a few things to keep on hand or make your own colic kit with:

- ***Veterinarian Phone Number.**
- ***Banamine:** If you feel comfortable giving injections having injectable banamine on hand is always a plus. Never give any without consulting your veterinarian first! The nice thing is now they have oral paste banamine in case you are not comfortable giving injections. It comes in a tube just like a dewormer. Very easy to use, but again always call your veterinarian first.
- ***Mineral oil.** A lot of times mineral oil is used in impaction colics to help lubricate the feed so it can pass through the digestive tract.
- ***Pepto Bismal.** Helps alleviate abdominal pain, and settle stomachs.
- ***Electrolytes.** Gatorade, Pedialite, any of those will do. The blander the better.
- ***Thermometer.** Always good to check a temp if you think your horse is having a problem.
- ***Stethoscope.** Makes it a lot easier to listen for gut sounds, checking heart beat, and listening to lungs.
- ***Large syringes.** 60 cc's work best for administering oral fluids such as electrolytes, mineral oil, pepto, ect.
- ***Smaller syringes and larger needles.** In case you do want to give injectables.

Signs or symptoms of colic to watch for:

- *Doesn't want to eat.
- *Lack of bowel movements.
- *Lying down more than usual.
- *Getting up and lying down repeatedly.
- *Standing stretched out.
- *Turning their heads towards their flank.
- *Repeatedly curling their lips.
- *Pawing the ground aggressively.
- *Kicking with the hind feet at their abdomen.
- *Rolling.

What to do if you think your horse is colicing:

- *Call your veterinarian IMMEDIATELY!!!
- *Take temperature. (Should be 99-101)
- *Check pulse, good spot under the jaw. (Should be 52 BPM)
- *Listen for gut sounds.
- *Watch respirations.
- *Flip the lip, and check the color of the gums. (Should be pink not pale.)
- *Start walking.



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2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership term begins January 1 and ends December 31.

Benefits of Membership:

- Social and Volunteer Opportunities
- Educational Opportunities
- Competitive Opportunities and Experience
- Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Membership Directory

Membership Type:

- Individual Youth (18 Years & Under) \$20
- Individual Adult (19 Years & Over) \$25
- Family (2 adults & children of one or both adults) \$35
- I request that my NMAWHC Newsletter be mailed to me. \$5

I understand that I will be charged \$5.00 extra in my membership dues to cover the costs of production and mailing

Membership Information:

Full Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____
 City: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Zipcode: _____

Family Membership Information (please list each family member):

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Circle one:

Would you like to have your name published in the membership directory? Yes No

Please return 2007 Membership Application along with payment to:

Sandy Whipp, NMAWHC Treasurer
4205 Hamlin Road
Grawn, MI 49637

OFFICE USE	
DATE _____	TIME _____
CHECK# _____	CASH _____
AMOUNT _____	
SHOW/EVENT _____	

Northern Michigan Association of Western Horse Clubs

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E-mail: slmurphy@charter.net

2007 Board Officers

Mike Zerbe	231-275-6481	President
Sarah Gilbert	231-218-8362	Vice President
Shelly Murphy	231-275-4122	Secretary
Sandy Whipp	231-263-5208	Treasurer
Tallie Terlaan	surly42@hotmail.com	Point Secretary

2007 Board of Directors

Deb Cochran	231-620-2067
Pam Gilbert	231-275-3849
Goldie Krassow	surly42@hotmail.com
Danielle Ruiz	231-409-6048
Kristin Leach	231-883-3115
Angela Kirby	231-267-5310

The next NMAWHC board meeting is scheduled for March 21st at Lakeside Charlies in Cadillac. Members are welcome at all board meetings. Please contact a board member to confirm date and time.



NMAWHC

C/O Shelly Murphy, Secretary
11966 Fredmar Drive
Interlochen, MI 49643

CLASSIFIEDS

MUST SELL

2004 AQHA Sorrel mare. Jewel has been started under saddle. \$2500 or best offer

2005 AQHA IF Sorrel mare. \$1500 or best offer

2004 AQHA Sorrel mare. Started under saddle. \$1900 or best offer

All these mares are great movers deep hocked and flat.

We have others available for more info Contact Jeff @ 231-258-5424

Peekaboo Diversion

1998 AQHA Incentive Fund Mare
Easy to handle, no bad habits and very fun to ride. Trained by Nancy Toteff. Shown local/AQHA. Awards in Halter and Western Pleasure. For more information contact Barb - 231-929-9941

To place a classified contact Shelly Murphy at 231-275-4122, or email your classified to slmurphy@charter.net subject NMAWHC Ad