



Thursday, March 15, 2018

**MEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting was held at The Marion Du Pont Equine Medical Center (EMC) at 7:00 pm.

Called to order by President Harter at 7:00.

The following Officers were in attendance:

President Robyn Harter

Secretary Judith Lovegrove

Treasurer Liz Shockley

Judy Brescia, Marketing

Western Lesson Coordinator Linda Giannino

English Lesson Coordinator Mary Gustafson

Special Events Coordinator Elaine Meilahn

Vice President Hila Wever was not in attendance.

22 Members were in attendance. New members Sherry Dennis, Sheila Mckee and Jill Widdifield were welcomed.

1. Guest Speaker: Amy Sidwar, Goodness Farrier Associates (formerly Forging Ahead)

Amy's topic was "Maintaining Good Hoof Quality Throughout the Season." Amy and GFA, are the staff farrier service at EMC and address all types of complex hoof issues and lameness problems associated with the

hoof. While I could not do justice to Amy's excellent presentation I will do my best to summarize.

Amy presented a timeline of when and what type of weather conditions present challenges to hoof care throughout the year:

Jan-Feb: frozen ground for 5-6 weeks

March: mud season 5 weeks

April-May: mud/flies/new grass (see Safergrass.org and Harmony Equine websites for effects of grass on hoof and horse health)

June: Moisture from rain/dew

July-Aug: flies, hardground, humid

Sep-Oct: hoof walls tighten

Plan? Be proactive. Moisture is the worst offender: you have to manage hoof exposure to moisture. Maintain a consistent turn out schedule. Bell boots are not just for over-reaching; get bigger (and cheapest, as you'll go through them) boots to cover the foot all around to the ground.

Turnout. While fly stomping during the day is not good, it is not as damaging as the moisture from the dew overnight. Keep this in mind when deciding when to turn out.

Hoof lotions and potions. Use a good moisture barrier hoof oil. Right now Amy and associates recommend Kevin Bacon's hoof oil (can get on Amazon.com). Keratex is good for drying but not for reducing the expansion and contraction dew causes when it moisturizes the hoof and then the hoof dries in the sun. While Amy has no personal experience with the Hoof Heel product, when asked she said Hoof Heel as a good reputation among farriers. Amy instructs NOT to use lanolin based hoof treatments; DO use applications that have oils as ingredients.

Farriers. Make sure to get farrier intervention before problems begin. If the horse is lame and follow advice. Amy and associates will likely want:

- Radiographs, MRIs, etc.

- Alternative shoes can be used if there are problems. There are lots of synthetic options, and adhesives.
- If needed, you can get The Series I (“Manola Blanick” of shoes!). Glue to hoof wall, aluminum with a rim pad. May need two rounds of shoeing to correct a hoof. About \$225 a pair.

Feel free to contact Amy with any questions:

Amy Sidwar-Seaver

540-554-8819

[amys1@vt.edu](mailto:amys1@vt.edu)

## 2. Treasure’s Report: Liz Shockley

- \$14,804 in the account
- All IRS filings have been done.
- 1099s done
- Middleburg Bank, now Access, is not as good as it was and is further from Liz’s house than others. Liz will move account to either Highland or Bank of Charleston.
- Insurance company, Banker’s Life, has restructured and no longer does Equine insurance. Our agent is on top of it and will find another insurer. Our current policy expires April 2.

## 3. English Lesson and Show Update; Tru Liberty Work Day April 8: Mary Gustafson.

- April lesson plan handed out for sign up.
- True Liberty Show in June.
- Ashley is in favor of a work day to maintain our jumps at Tru Liberty. This will be April 8, 2018, 1:00 followed by a potluck. We will repair and paint our jumps and Ashleys. The XC jumps will be stained. We will also take an inventory. Ashley needs Jump Cups so would be a good gift from us in exchange for her

generosity in allowing us to train at her farm. We will need, for the work day:

Jump Cups

Wood

Paint

Stain

Brushes

Buckets

Nails

Screws

Robyn Harter moved to spend up to \$750 to buy these and needed items, Patty Tracy seconded. We voted and the motion passed with none opposed.

Building a storage shed, maybe 15x10, with blue stone, for the jumps will be discussed more in Fall.

#### 4. Western Riding Lessons: Linda Giannani

- They will continue at Ride On Ranch with a Rider on the instructors' insurance.
- The lesson program is in a little bit of flux as the instructor's due date is unpredictable but Charley is optimistic it will be April 10. Last teaching date is April 3.
- Request has been submitted to Mary Flood to do lessons for western riders. Linda is trying to accommodate different interests but everyone likes Mary Flood's lessons.
- Linda is going to observe a prospective new trainer.
- Linda will sort out a schedule next couple weeks.

5. Loudoun County Equine Alliance (LCEA) Expo: was scheduled Tuesday (3/20) but because of the snow is now scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2018, 5:30-8:00 pm.

- Pat and Judy will set up at 4:30
- Mary will bring her new table display, which was circulated at the meeting.
- Mary, Linda and Liz will be there to man the table.

6. Diane Hutchinson: Update to website; explanation of WE.

- Webmaster; there is a page up there today, with links to Working Equitation (WE) and “This Just In” which is pictures, content, etc.
- Working Equitation (WE) is new to the US, out of Portugal. A 4 phased event with some similarities to other disciplines: Dressage, Ease of Handling (EOH), WE is like a gymkana over/around obstacles, speed over obstacles (not done in this region), cattle phase.

Three dates for WE lessons in April, May, and June - possible expansion in the fall. Instructor is Kimberly Da Silva, highly qualified, lived and trained in Brazil.

7. Wendy Murdoch Clinic was great! Elaine Meilahn. Very successful and we will be repeating in the Fall. Wendy is from Washington, VA, so coordination is fairly straight forward.

8. English Camp and Crystal Crown trail ride: Robyn Harter.

- Next month registration opens for English camp. Three weeks beginning June 11, Monday through Thursday, 5:00-8:30. Each of 3 groups of students will have 2 or 3 sessions day. There will be

BYO dinner break (20-30 minutes). Instructors will be Sharon, Alyssa and Melissa. Programs run progressively: Baby Novice, Beginner Novice, Novice, Training. Also 1 flat session. Maybe lottery to select. \$250 a week.

- Crystal Crown trail ride June 30 at Camp Highroad. Diane is ride Secretary. Betty Lowry is working. Need 2 AVs to use to help out. If volunteer on Saturday, you get to ride through the course on your own on Sunday.

9. Upcoming Guest Speaker: Per Elaine, in May we will have Maureen Kelleher speak on the topic of Sports Medicine for Horses: Conditioning.

10. Ride on Ranch and EMC contributions. Robyn moved to make the following donations automatic every year:  
\$500 to EMC because they host meetings  
\$300 to ROR because they host Christmas Party

Judith Lovegrove seconded. Motion passed with no opposition.

Meeting was adjourned at or about 9:00.