



Northeast
Peruvian
Horse Club
NEPHC

JANUARY 2007 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to 2007! The Board of Directors would like to wish all our members a happy, safe and healthy New Year!

The club's Annual Christmas Party/Meeting was held again at Westview Farms, generously hosted by Gene Pepe. There were over 35 people in attendance, and it looked as though everyone had a wonderful time! At the meeting, ballots were counted, and Dave Ryan and Torey Mather were elected to serve another two years on the Board. After the Board conferenced, it was unanimously decided that the Board of Director positions would remain the same for 2007:

President - Dave Ryan
1st Vice President - Debbie Clark
2nd Vice President - Torey Mather
Secretary - Athena Goumas
Treasurer - Manny Brito

While we are speaking of "membership", our congratulations go out to Diane and Vinnie Melapioni on the birth of their third child! Little Emma Rose Melapioni was born on December 28, 2006, weighing in at 8 pounds 2 ounces and measuring 19" long. Mom and Emma are doing just

great, and Megan and John are ecstatic to have a new sister in the family! Oh, and Dad's doing OK, too.



SCHEDULED EVENTS

The club is sponsoring an **ORIENTEERING RIDE** on May 20, 2007 at Colliers Mills Wildlife Management Area in New Egypt, New Jersey. It will be hosted by Torey Mather and held at her farm, Sleepy Hollow Stables LLC. The cost to club members is \$25.00; non-members price is \$30.00; and non-riders pay only \$15.00, because the cost includes the barbeque which follows the ride! Torey has set up a great event here, with two courses, both with marked trails, and two divisions; teams or singles. Requirements are simple: (1) A compass; (2) A Release Form; and

(3) Negative Coggins. The event is being held Rain or Shine, so come on down and show off your horse! The event is open to all breeds, so if you have a riding buddy who doesn't own a Peruvian Paso, don't worry. They can come along, too!! Torey is looking into having the ride sanctioned by the National Association Competitive Mounted Orienteering so that you hardcores can earn some points while you're out there navigating the course. She is also looking for a few volunteers to help out on the day of the ride. If you can help out, please contact Torey at 609-758-5114 or e-mail smoothrider3@comcast.net.

We are in the process of scheduling the next General Meeting for the club. Bob and Bonnie Roth have agreed to host the next meeting at their residence on a date in April as yet to be determined. Be on the look-out for our mailing to let you know when the meeting will be held.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of our club's Regional Championship Show. We will again be running a double show this year. The judges will be Marco Dapelo and Ann Chess. The show will be held at the Lexington Virginia Horse Park on July 27, 28 and 29, 2007. The Pasobilities Drill Team will be exhibiting again this year, and we hope to have a few other surprises in store for exhibitor and audience. So, mark your calendar now for those dates, and make it a point to get to the show this year!!!

We are also looking into sponsoring a clinic again this year. Last year, Jeff Marcum was the guest speaker, and

all in attendance said they learned a lot at the clinic. We keep these clinics "informal", so no one has to worry whether they are "good enough" to be there. All levels of riding are accepted; how else do we learn??? When the plans have been finalized, we will send out a flier with all the information.

NAPHA has scheduled their 2007 Annual Meeting. After conferring with the Governing Council, it was voted to hold the meeting at the Hyatt Regency DFW Airport Hotel. The dates are March 31 and April 1, 2007. This will mark the 3rd Annual Meeting for NAPHA. Their membership meetings are always open to any NAPHA member who wants to attend. Attendees are charged a \$135.00 Registration fee. The deadline for Registration is March 1, 2007. The Governing Council Meeting will be held during this weekend, also. NAPHA is providing Group Room Rates for a Single or Double room at a cost of \$119.00 + tax. The deadline for the group rate is March 15, 2007. If you are interested in attending the Annual Meeting, contact NAPHA to register for the meeting. Hotel reservations are to be made directly with the Hyatt Regency. Their telephone #'s are: 1-800-233-1234 or 972-453-1234.

Other events that you might be interested in, but are not NEPHC sponsored, include a monthly "Lesson Day" at Sleepy Hollow Stables in New Egypt, New Jersey. The lesson instructor is Sally Siegrist, a multi-disciplined horsewoman with over 30 years' experience. If you are interested in attending one of these lesson days, please contact Torey

Mather at: 609-758-5114, or e-mail her at: smoothrider3@comcast.net. The next lesson day is scheduled for February 10th, so get a move on! Space is limited for these lessons.

Dr. Doug and Cheryl Perry, of Perry's Perquiman's Peruvian Horses, are sponsoring a seminar at their farm in North Carolina on March 3, 2007, on the "Proper Hoof Trimming for Peruvian Horse Owners and Farriers". The instructor for this seminar is Danny DeLoach, a farrier from Florida, who has 25 years' experience with the Peruvian Horse. The seminar fee is \$30.00, which includes lunch. If you are interested in attending the seminar, or are in need of additional information, please contact they Perry's at: 252-426-2016, or e-mail them at: drperuvian@inteliport.com. The seminar will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The Alexandria Equestrian Association and Northeast Mountain Horse Club is sponsoring a "Foundation First" clinic to be held at Alexandria Park in Milford, New Jersey on Saturday, March 3, 2007. It is being held in an indoor facility, so the clinic will be held "rain or shine". The scheduled speaker is Robert Lawson from Paris, Kentucky, who won "Trainer of the Year Award" in 2005. By learning how to build a foundation with your horse, you can build a long-lasting relationship between you and your horse to your mutual benefit. The cost to attend with Pre-registration is \$25.00. If you pay at the door, it will cost you \$30.00. For more information, contact Randy Smith at 717-266-2137 or e-mail him

at RLPK57@aol.com. Lunch will be available on-site; bring a chair.

MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

Don't forget to check out the club web-site when you're cruising the internet. Our club members have sent in some great photos-guaranteed to make you smile! And if you think of something that might be good to place on the web-site, contact Manny Brito. He was the web-site guru responsible for getting our web-site into cyberspace. In case you forgot it, our web-site address is: www.neperuvianhorseclub.com. Put it in your "Favorites".

Safety First!!! How many of us know that the red maple is poisonous to our horses? Eating the leaves releases a toxin in the horses system, which can be fatal! And because researchers have yet to identify this toxin, there is no treatment beyond supportive care for this poison. When the toxin is released in the horse's system, it destroys the red blood cells. Since the red blood cells carry the necessary oxygen to the horse, the horse can ultimately asphyxiate. If the toxin is released in the system, the horse's gums will turn reddish brown; the horse may appear colicky. There may be troubled breathing. Depending upon the level of the toxin in the system, it may include kidney damage. According to the North Carolina State University, researchers learned that how quickly the toxin spread was in correlation to the amount of leaves the horse ingested. IF the horse only ate a "few" leaves, the horse might survive after two-three days of supportive care. If the horse ate a "very large"

amount of leaves, the horse could die in as little as two hours!! So, get out there and check those trees!!

Do you use old tires as a feeder for your horse? Be aware that some tires contain metal filaments that could break off and accidentally be ingested by your horse. A filament may become lodged in the horse's tongue, which will be quite painful for your horse, as you can imagine. If you use tires, make sure you check them. If it looks like it's frayed, replace it! A metal filament piercing your horse's tongue may ultimately require surgery to have it removed.

I recently took a quiz regarding horse reflexes. Did you know that horses have, and I'll name them: Menace, Flyshaker, Crossover and Clamp reflexes? Now, apply your logic and common sense to these reflexes, and I'll bet you can figure them out. The Menace Reflex might be a little tricky... Give up yet?

The Menace Reflex is associated with the horse's eye. It is the reflex that causes the eye to shut to protect itself. Wave your open palm in front of his eye—don't poke him in it!!! It deals with vision and facial neurologic function.

We should all have figured out the Flyshaker Reflex. Who hasn't seen that horse skin shimmy and shake when that dastardly fly lands? It deals with skin and fine motor response.

The Crossover Reflex is interesting...if you can cross your horse's front legs, he should immediately uncross them. He should also not step on his other hoof when you move him sideways. Kind of self-

explanatory: balance and awareness of body position.

Ah, the Cramp Reflex! Also easy to figure out. Anyone try to get that crupper under the tail when your horse says no? It ain't happenin'...and that's your Cramp Reflex at work. Tail strength and surrounding muscle neurologic function.

For some of us in the Northeast, winter has finally arrived and the weather outside is frightful! With colder and possibly freezing water temperatures, make sure your horse stays adequately hydrated. Horses can become a bit testy in quick temperature changes. Also make sure they have enough hay...it is a good source of heat for a horse in cold weather.

HAPPY TRAILS EVERYBODY!