



Figurehead Fall 2012

Newsletter of the Midstates Morgan Horse Club, Inc www.midstatesmorgan.org

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/MidStatesMorganHorseClub?fref=ts>



From the President: At the September meeting, the need for a By-Law amendment was discussed. Since we are trying to reduce the number of meetings, and have more spontaneous/fun/get together events in the club, it was proposed to alter article X section 1 "the annual meeting of the club shall be held in November" to be changed to read "the annual meeting of the club shall be held in March". This gives us the 30 day notice to the members.

A quick vote on this By-Law change will be held at the Christmas Party at Stone Ledge Farm.

Go to our **NEW** Face Book page!!!! Post quick news, photos, catch up on members. <https://www.facebook.com/#!/MidStatesMorganHorseClub?fref=ts>

In 2013, Prairie State Classic turns 20 years Old!!!!

We would like to celebrate that event in several ways. Coming in to 2013, we would like members to dig deep into their dusty files and locate memories of the last 19 shows...photos, ribbons, awards...especially PHOTOS!!!!.....and written memories sent to put in the newsletter, and perhaps a display at the show, would be greatly appreciated.

Help plan a very special event for the 20th Anniversary! Suggestions for parties, activities would be of great help...as would

VOLUNTEERS!

Shirley



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Come and help at club events and receive this T-shirt in appreciation of your efforts!! They are also available for purchase at **\$10 each**. Contact **Kris Breyer**



Mid-States Morgan Horse Club

Meeting Minutes September 21, 2012
Held at Susan Jansson's home in Barrington, IL.

Members in attendance: Gail Kelce, Mitzi and Mike Deal, Al and Kris Breyer, Mary Lou and Shirley Orlando, Cindy Berg, Susan Jansson and Kathy Berkheimer.

Guest: Kate, Master Saddler. Rita and Zoey Boserup and the new proud owners of Equinox Black Jack
Minutes accepted as read by Susan, motioned, second, passed by voice vote.

Treasury report accepted as read by Gail, motioned, second, passed by voice vote.

Open Show made \$817.00. Entries were OK. 2013 date yet to be confirmed. Kathy Minder to be the judge. We will have to order ribbons and trophies for next year.

PSC had a \$3442.00 profit. \$1413.00 to be sent to OSF, motioned, second and passed by voice vote. Everyone seems happy with the Ledges as the facility. May 31-June 2, 2013 will be PSC 20th anniversary. An idea to have a DVD made up with people sending in pictures of the show, horses and people with a search to find old members and have them send in something too. We need someone to put the DVD together. The judge will be Richard Wright and possibly Jane Blue as the steward. A thought to have a Face Book pages for PSC. (not done~~YET!)

Website needs some major work. Tammy Johnson will charge us 500.00 to design and set up. Chris Mothkovich will get to Tammy what she needs. Items to be put on the site, fun things with Morgans, links to horse shows, show bills, show results, pictures, membership list, newsletter and possibly having a members only area. \$185.00 was paid, March 4, 2012 for 5 years renewal of our domain name but at this time we have no site.

Kris said she would set up a club Face book page (editor's note~ DONE! And is being used!!!!)

Membership is down and Shirley would like to send out a mass mailing to past members.

Susan Jansson has been doing the Horse's Mouth ad, it was recommended to change the ad quarterly.

The youth, need to be members of the club in ordered to be covered by our insurance. In addition, they need to be members of the AMHA, if they wish to participate in badge work. It is 5.00 for each organization. It would be great if we had a youth representative for Region 5 and attend the youth meeting at Nationals.

Trail ride to be held at Rock Cut State Park October 21, 1:00 and will be a 2-4 hour ride depending on the weather and how long everyone wants to ride. Maybe have a Spring ride near Al and Kris Breyers home next year.

Christmas party will be at Stone Ledge Farm, December 8, 2012, 6:30 with a dish to pass.

We need to decide on how many meeting we are going to have each year and address with formal by-law changes.

The meeting also included a demo of Anneka Jansson taking the rounds with jumping FS Cabana Boy over some pretty impressive fences.

Respectfully submitted *Kathy Berkheimer*, MSMHC Secretary





Merry Christmas

*The Stone Ledge Farm/ Mid-States
Morgan Horse Club combined Holiday Party
Is coming up soon!!!!*

Where: Stone Ledge Farm, 6912 Manchester Rd. South Beloit, IL 61080.

When: December 8, 6:30PM

*Who?: EVERYONE!! MSMHC members current and former, SLF Clients
and Friends alike!!!*



Main dish, drinks and setaps will be provided!

Please bring a special party dish/dessert to pass!!

*There will be entertainment/ activities and **FUN** for all ages!!!*

RSVP: By December 3rd

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News from the Kelce family:

This year, at the Morgan Grand National and World Championships, there were three generations of our family showing Morgan horses! Daughter, Becky Gruenberg, donned her Western gear and rode the lovely BPM Estralita de Oro (Lita) to Top Ten placings in Open Mares and Ladies

Mares.



last year and completed the year on top!

Not to be out done by her mother, Taylor and BPM Gold Dust

(Dusty) repeated their grand national and world championship wins in Western Walk/Jog Equitation 11 & under, and second in Western Walk/Jog Pleasure in the qualifier and third in the world championship. Dusty and Taylor came on the show circuit with a splash of color



With the winning reputation of his daughters and granddaughter going before him, Dennis was paired with our four year old, Town Affair (Peeps), in classic pleasure driving classes. He had a great year with Peeps culminating in a reserve finals placing in Gentleman's Classic Pleasure Driving.

Who knows what is in store for the Gruenberg family where showing horses is concerned in 2013, but Cameron is now showing an interest in being in the ring. After watching Cameron and Hayden ride the other day, it looks like the girls will be following in Taylor's footsteps. Becky is now getting Peeps ready for her sister, Holly Kelce, to show in the Classic Pleasure classes next year. Holly lives in California and will be traveling to Illinois to practice on Peeps and any other horses Becky and Jamie want to throw her up on. I would fully expect that she will be an exhibitor at Prairie State, Jubilee and the Grand National plus a few other shows.



Also in California is our daughter, Jennifer. She is a riding instructor and horse trainer at Bennett Stables in the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Her daughter, Lillie age 7, has been showing Jennifer's mare, Merriehill TizLovely. We bought Lovey for Jen from Stan & Paulette when Lovey was three and Jennifer has driven and ridden her in shows before taking her to William Woods. After their college years, the pair moved to the LA area. Lovey is up in her twenties now, but still has the energy for trail rides, teaching children to ride and attend shows with her young riders.

The Marengo-Union Times



Championship Horse Show

November 03, 2012

Merriehill Farm and the Bodnar Family of Marengo just returned from the Morgan Grand National World Championship Horse Show in Oklahoma City after winning several World titles. The Bodnars took 17 horses to compete at the event and an astonishing 13 came home as World and National Champions. Merriehill trained horses competed in 43 different events, winning 25 and finishing 2nd in 6 others. Their lowest finish was 8th in the World. Every year Merriehill competes and wins at the World

show, but this year's results were unprecedented for the local farm.

Merriehill Farm has been located on Meyer Rd in Marengo since 1971 and is indeed a family business. Stan and Paulette Bodnar are the owners, and train at the farm along with sons Mark and Whitney, and Whitney's wife, Jessica. Stan, Mark, Whitney and Jessica competed in events themselves and all came home with World Titles. When asked what the key to this year's success was the Bodnars mentioned hard work, luck, and the trust their clients put in them to do right by their animals. Several of the winning horses are locally owned. Sara Peterson of Marengo, Sally Balletto of Algonquin, Bruce, Susan and Nicole Peterson of Roscoe and The Tabakoffs of Elizabeth, IL all had top ribbon winners with Merriehill. The Bodnars also have clients from several other states including Alabama, California, Massachusetts and Wisconsin.

Now that the show season is over Merriehill is focusing on next year already, as well as having more time for the many riding lessons they give each week to local children and adults. To learn more about Merriehill and their training and riding lesson programs call 815-568-7392 or visit them on the web at www.merriehillfarm.com or their Facebook page, Merriehill Farm, Inc.

ANIMALS DESCENDED FROM INGLESIDE HORSE BREEDER PROGRAM WIN CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

Published on October 14, 2012

The annual Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show was held in Oklahoma City on Oct. 6 to 13 - the largest horse show for the Morgan breed with more than 1,200 horses competing.

Calvin and Virginia Hanson of Cornwall are thrilled with the results. Four of the winning horses this year descend from the bloodline of registered Morgan horses created at their former Big Oak Morgan Horse Farm near Ingleside - an equestrian facility they established in 1967 along with the late Merton Bud Hanson.

The four horses are:

- **Merriehill Black Label** won four awards – World Champion Hunter Pleasure Three Year Old, World Champion Hunter Pleasure Three Year Old Futurity; United Professional Horseman's Association Classics Grand Champion Morgan Hunter Pleasure; and Grand National Reserve Champion Hunter Pleasure Three Year Old Stallions and Geldings. He is owned by Beth Fancsali of Chicago, Illinois, and shown by trainer Jessica Bodnar of Merriehill Farm in Marengo, Illinois.
- **Merriehill After Hours** won three awards – World Champion Junior Stallion, World Reserve Champion Two Year Old Stallion Futurity, and Grand National Champion Two Year Old Stallion. He is owned by Cingate Morgans LLC of Montgomery, Alabama, and shown by trainer Whitney Bodnar of Merriehill Farm in Marengo, Illinois.
- **Medomak French Invasion** won two awards – third prize in the Grand National Championship Classic Pleasure Driving Masters, and sixth prize in the World Championship Classic Pleasure Driving Masters. He is owned by Jonathan Kaufman of Mendon, Massachusetts, shown by Joseph Webb, and trained by Nikki Rae Woodworth of Mendon, Massachusetts.
- **Tudor Oaks The Real Deal** won two awards –fifth prize in the Grand National Championship Hunter Pleasure Ladies Geldings; and eighth prize in the World Championship Hunter Pleasure Ladies. He is owned by Susan and Bruce Peterson of Roscoe, Illinois, and shown by Nicole Peterson.

The four horses trace back to the Hanson's Champion Morgan stallion Waseeka's Serenade, and his daughter Big Oak Mylady Cobra who was bred by the Hanson family and born at their farm. She was purchased as a two-year-old by Muriel and Victor Burnheimer of Waldoboro, Maine, and became one of the more prominent Champion Morgan show horses in the U.S.; and the mother of 13 foals, most of which are champions or producers of champions.

Over the years, this show has produced 21 World Champions, 15 World Reserve Champions, 35 Grand National Champions, and 20 Grand National Reserve Champions that trace to the Hanson horse breeding operation. Although the farm has been retired; other farms utilize the bloodline which continues to make its mark at the Morgan breed's most prestigious horse show.

The first Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show was held in Detroit, Michigan in 1973 and 1974. From 1975 to 2012, Oklahoma City has been the home of the show. The show is recognized by the United States Equestrian Federation, the national governing body for the equestrian sport in the USA.

The website for the show is www.morgangrandnational.com which provides the complete show results.

Fox River Valley Pony Club Members: Who Are They?



A little girl named Grace loved horses. They were her passion. But she wasn't allowed to ride as her mother was afraid she'd get hurt. She was encouraged to try a variety of different sports: ice skating, dancing, swimming, soccer. They just weren't for her. She pleaded with her parents, relentlessly, to let her take a riding lesson. And on June 8, 2004, she did just that. She was 10 years old. It was her birthday.

Two years later she received another milestone birthday present: a 15HH chestnut Morgan named Cruiser, a feisty horse with a fire that allows him to go beyond his capabilities. Grace started out in a Saddle Seat, but soon joined the Pony Club and got hooked on eventing and dressage. She and Cruiser have made it through the ranks to the C2 level together. Cruiser is 15 now, and showing some signs of age. But he's as game as ever, and always happy to meet a new challenge.

In their last Morgan horse show eight months ago, Grace and Cruiser were crowned Grand Champions. The pair won three classes as they earned top honors in the Equitation and Pleasure classes. Grace and Cruiser now event at the Novice level. What Grace loves about eventing is that you "do it all." "For dressage, you need to be accurate, execute patterns, and be sharp. For cross-country you have to be fearless. And jumping is just fun!" she says with sheer excitement in her voice. Being fearless in the saddle is not her strong suit. But with the help of her trainer, Beth Conzo, and her mother, best friend and role model, her resolve is solidifying by the day.

To say that Grace has strength of spirit is an understatement. Having lost her father unexpectedly to a heart attack four years ago, Grace had to cope with loss and indescribable grief at a very young age. What silver lining there was to that tragic event, Grace saw and embraced.

She now understands she has to be mindful of her health and enjoy every single day. She's since taken up running, and is a member of her school's cross-country team. She ran her first full marathon on April 1st, finishing in one hour and fifty minutes, well within her goal of two hours. "I love to run," she beams. "It makes me feel good. Accomplished, proud, and healthy."

Grace has big plans for her future. She is enrolled at Illinois State University in the class of 2018, where she will study special education. She plans on maintaining her passion for writing, and perhaps even penning the next great American novel. At ISU, she intends to earn a place on the equestrian team and compete on the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association circuit. The challenge there will be riding horses provided by the host schools, and jumping courses of fences in hunt seat equitation classes without the benefit of any warm-up whatsoever, which will surely be a catalyst to her blossoming confidence. "I'd like to make it to Nationals," she says. "I'd like to go to one national competition in my riding career."

Grace has learned not only about caring for horses and riding through Pony Club, but also teaching young children to ride within Junior Pony Club. "I love teaching younger kids. It makes me more confident to realize my dreams of running a therapeutic riding center one day." "Pony Club can be old school, difficult, and stressful," she admits. "But I stick with it because I learn so much that other riders just don't know about horse care."

Riding on the beautifully maintained trails of the forest preserve, and practicing cross-country at the Riding Center, Grace knows how fortunate the club is to have these facilities at its disposal. To the Riding Club of Barrington Hills, Grace and Cruiser say a big "Thank you!"



Ingrid J. Pivlanis
Head Instructor, FRV Junior Pony Club
Instructor, FRVPC



Fall Feeding Tips for Horses

By [Kristen M. Janicki, MS, PAS](#) · Oct 31, 2012 · Article #30790

As temperatures drop, horse owners should begin to make changes in their horse's feeding program in preparation for winter.

As temperatures drop, horse owners should begin to make changes in their horse's feeding program in preparation for winter. But what alterations are needed? Here are some points to consider when preparing to adjust a nutrition program for the colder weather.

Water

As the temperatures fall, horses will often decrease their water consumption per day. Ensure horses always have access to fresh water, and when temperatures dip below freezing, make sure to check all water sources for ice.

Also consider providing electrolytes and/or warmer water to encourage drinking. If

adding electrolytes to water rather than via an oral supplement, provide a second watch bucket in case the animal won't drink the flavored electrolyte water.

Forage

The most common way to provide forage to a horse is by supplying them with hay. Depending on the type (grass or legume) and harvest time, hay can provide a significant amount of a horse's daily nutritional needs. In addition, hay provides the horse with the required fiber for hindgut health.

If hay is in short supply, consider integrating alternative forage sources--such as hay cubes, beet pulp, and complete feeds--to help stretch the forage supply. (*Editor's note: See [Alternative Fiber for Horses](#) for more information on integrating these alternates.*)

Additionally, there are many benefits to fiber in the winter besides providing nutrients. The heat created by hay digestion is greater than the heat of digestion from concentrates, which means that horses are able to save energy needed to produce body heat by consuming hay.

Monitor Body Condition

Without the use of a scale, an easy and effective way to monitor a horse's weight is by [body condition scoring](#). This system estimates the fat present on the horse's body and will help horse owners adjust their feeding programs accordingly.

Aim to monitor a horse's body condition score every couple weeks leading up to and during the winter months. Longer, thicker hair coats can be deceiving of the horse's actual condition, so additional feed might be needed to maintain his weight during the colder months.

If a horse is over conditioned, reduce the amount of calories from grain before reducing forage amounts. If the horse is under conditioned, increase the amount of forage he consumes or change to a more nutritious type of forage. Additional calories from concentrates and/or fat sources might be needed to help a hard keeper maintain his weight.

Take Home Message

Colder weather requires horse owners to monitor a horse's nutrition program more carefully and possibly adjust it to meet the horse's nutritional needs. If specific questions arise when adjusting a feeding program for the winter, it's advisable to consult a veterinarian or equine nutritionist.



RIDING TALL IN THE SADDLE

Stone Ledge riders
earn world, national
championships

By Rick West
STATELINE NEWS SERVICE

SOUTH BELOIT — "If you want to know what it's like to be a world champion, just ask Nicolette Geddeis." That's what David Geddeis recalled hearing the announcer say when his 17-year-old daughter Nicolette Geddeis was named a world champion at the Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show, Oct. 6-13 in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Nicolette, a junior at Hononegah High School who rides for the Stone Ledge Farm in South Beloit, won both a world and national championship in the hunter pleasure division for riders of her age (see related graphic.)

"It's been fantastic to see her natural ability to ride a horse," said David Geddeis, who ironically is allergic to horses. "It takes a lot of devotion, a lot of time and education to give (her) the opportunity to be at the level of expertise she's at and to conquer the big goal of being national champion."

Nicolette earned her awards at Oklahoma City competing against 26 riders in her division.

"It was a lot of hard work, working for two nationals. It's non-stop competition, so you have to be prepared to succeed," Nicolette Geddeis said. "You perform the walk, the trot and the canter and the judges observe you on your etiquette, how you look on the horse."

Please see Riders, page 13



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE GEDDEIS FAMILY

Nicolette Geddeis, 17, of Roscoe sits proudly on her horse Merriewold Diplomat after winning a national and world championship during the Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show earlier this month in Oklahoma City, Okla. Geddeis rides for the Stone Ledge Farm in South Beloit.



RICK WEST/STAT

Above, Stone Ledge Farm champion rider, Taylor Gruenberg, 12, of South Beloit with her horse BPM Gold Dust and, at right, Reece Hart, 12, of Clinton with her horse Maple Rose Ty One On. Gruenberg earned a world and national championship, while Hart finished third at the Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show in Oklahoma City, Okla.

THE RIBBON GOES TO ...

Nicolette Geddeis
Junior Exhibitor
16-17 year olds

- Winner of a World Championship and Grand National Championship in Hunter Pleasure
- Third in Grand National Hunter Seat Equitation

Taylor Gruenberg
10-11 year olds

- Winner of a World Championship and Grand National Championship in Walk Jog Western Seat Equitation
- Reserve National Champion in Walk Jog Western Pleasure Grand Nationals
- Third in Walk Jog Western Pleasure World Championships

Reece Hart
11 year olds

- Third in Walk Trot Hunter Pleasure Grand Nationals
- Fourth in Walk Trot Hunter Pleasure World Championships
- Eighth in Walk Trot Hunter Seat Equitation Grand Nationals



RIDERS

Continued from page 12

and how you make the horse look and basically your togetherness. You have to be one with your horse."

Becky Gruenberg, owner of Stone Ledge Farm and Geddeis' trainer, said Nicolette's division was one of the largest at Oklahoma City.

"Part of our strategy was to teach (Nicolette) the skills to be seen by all three judges and she did that perfectly," Gruenberg said. "Actually, she kind of made an art form out of it."

"There was such a cohesion with (Nicolette) and her horse ... and that was something we worked on all summer."

Seven riders, of all ages, from the Stone Ledge Farm competed in Oklahoma City, and Geddeis wasn't the only rider to earn top awards.

Two of the stables' youngest riders, Taylor Gruenberg of South Beloit and Reece Hart of Clinton, both 12, also earned some prestigious ribbons.

Gruenberg defended her title by winning a world and national title in her age group in the walk, jog western seat equitation (see related graphic).

"The first year I didn't know what to expect," Gruenberg said. "Now that I know what to expect, I was more confident in myself and (my horse) Dusty. We've had two years of working together and finding out each other's tricks."

Reece Hart competed in the walk, trot hunter pleasure division for her age, earning a third- and fourth-place ribbon.

"When you get older it gets more complicated and more competitive," Hart said. "The longer you're with your horse, the more you get to know him."

In addition to the October show in Oklahoma City, the Stone Ledge riders compete in about six to seven shows each year, including the Morgan regional horse show in Springfield, Ill. During the winter, the Stone Ledge Farm hosts a special winter circuit at its facility in South Beloit.

When not at school, riders like Nicolette, Reece and Taylor are at the



Bek West/Staff

From the left are proud parents Becky Gruenberg, David and Vicki Geddeis and Kellie Hart. Gruenberg also is the owner and trainer at Stone Ledge Farm in South Beloit.

Stone Ledge Farm two to three times a week to train.

"I get out here every chance I get to ride my horse, or one of the (Stone Ledge) lesson horses, to work on my posture and my handling of the horse," said Reece Hart, a seventh-grade student at Clinton Middle School.

"(Reece) has been riding since just before her sixth birthday and she's moving up a division, so she'll be doing the walk, trot, canter," Reece Hart's mother, Kellie Hart said. "The (trainers at Stone Ledge) do a phenomenal job in getting these kids ready for the kind of competitions they do. And giving them the courage and confidence to go into a ring with 26 other horses and come out on top — it's daunting."

Becky Gruenberg said it's also very important that her riders come to the stables often to develop and retain a strong bond with their horse.

"It takes a completeness in your teamwork with your horse," Gruenberg said. "Your horse can't question you."

For Taylor Gruenberg, the owners' daughter, visits to the stables are more frequent, however. Becky Gruenberg said she's never put pressure on her children to ride, and if and when they do, no special treatment.

"We were not going to allow (Taylor) to do it without putting the effort into it," Becky Gruenberg said. "As long as

the effort is there we're happy to support her."

Taylor Gruenberg is a seventh-grade student at Willowbrook Middle School.

Nicolette Geddeis will be leaving for college in less than a year and she said she plans to attend the University of Illinois to pursue a career as a bio-technical engineer.

She plans to keep riding and is looking for a way for her horse, Merriewold Diplomat, to be stabled near the university.

"We're looking into it," Nicolette Geddeis said. "To keep him close."

Becky Gruenberg said, even with their busy training schedule, each of the young riders do honor-roll worthy efforts at their respective schools.

"We always tell the kids that if they're not doing good at school, it's not acceptable," Becky said. "They have to balance it all."

This trio of young riders has excelled in the classroom while also proving they are world-champion athletes.

"So many people don't consider it a sport because they think the horse does so much of the work," Becky Gruenberg said. "People need to understand what these kids are doing, how hard they're working, and how much intelligence, physical work and strategy that goes into it — it's mind and body."

**To view more photos of the Stone Ledge Farm champions visit
Facebook.com/Stateline News**



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American Morgan Horse Newsletter

AMHA Board of Directors Third Quarter Meeting Highlights

Below are the highlights of AMHA's Board of Director's Third Quarter meeting. This took place telephonically on August 4, 2012.

Bylaws

- The bylaws committee met telephonically on Monday July 30.
- The chair reported the committee held a short discussion regarding possible changes to membership classes to better define and clarify the various types of memberships. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.
- Minor bylaw housekeeping items will be addressed at the next meeting.

Registry

- The registry committee met telephonically on Monday July 30.
- The committee heard the second quarter registrar's report, which may be found on the Members Only side of the AMHA.
- The committee voted to amend registry rule Section 1-C. C to remove the required signature of stallion owner for embryo transfers.
- The chair presented three suggestions from the internal controls audit for discussion: use of electronic forms, rush fee, consideration of member/nonmember fee structure. The committee addressed each item.
- The committee heard a request from the Swedish Morgan Horse Society for possible rule change. The committee voted against this rule change unless mandated by government rules.
- The committee heard three requests for fee discounts. The first request was approved due to the purchase of a herd of 40 horses. The other requests were disapproved.
- The committee also heard a suggestion from a member regarding records maintenance. The committee thanked the member for their suggestion.

Finance

- The finance committee met telephonically on Tuesday July 31.
- The committee heard the second quarter financial update including balances for each account and the income statement and balance sheet.
- The executive director shared the results of the internal controls audit by JMM Associates. Chair J. Gove expressed his pleasure with the results.
- The committee reviewed and approved a new investment policy consistent with the VCF.
- The committee approved the professional services of McSoley, McCoy for 2012 as accountant/auditor.
- The chair asked everyone to review the draft of the 2013 budget and send comments and suggestions to the chair or the Executive Director by September 1.

Board

- The AMHA Board met telephonically on Saturday August 4 from 11:00 a.m. ET to 2:00 p.m.
- The Board discussed several items from the recent American Horse Council conference and agreed to adopt the "Full Circle" program to aid unwanted or abandoned horses.
- The Board heard and approved standing committee reports and motions, and approved new life members.
- President Sebring appointed G. Green, S. Foy and C. Fletcher to ad hoc committee to look at the AMHA star rating program for enhancements.
- Working/Special committee reports were presented. Motions to add new committee members were heard and approved.

The next quarterly meeting will be held in Dallas, Texas, October 25-27, 2012.

AMHA Seeks Nominations for 2013 Convention

It's not too early to start thinking about next February and AMHA's annual Awards Banquet! If you know an influential Morgan icon whose contributions to the breed should be recognized, please consider nominating him or her for a special AMHA honor. A list of past recipients and details of each award can be found at www.morganhorse.com/membership/honors. The 2013 AMHA Convention will take place February 20-23 at the historic Benson Hotel in Portland, Oregon. Plans already are starting to take shape for this annual event, including a presentation by Mark Bolender, the country's leading expert in Mountain Trail, Extreme Trail, and Competitive Trail, and a three-time National Grand Champion. Nominations are due November 1. Please submit your nomination form to AMHA by fax, (802) 985-4944, or email, info@morganhorse.com. Awardees will be announced mid-December.

Registry News: Foals Resulting from Frozen Embryo Transfer

The Registry rule, Section 1-C, requires the signature of the record owner or lessee of the stallion, or owner of the frozen semen at the time of insemination, on the *Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer*. AMHA does not require these signatures on a Registration Application or on the Application for Non-Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer and appears to be an oversight, as it is in direct conflict with what the Registry Committee was trying to accomplish with the Registry rule changes in August 2010.

This housekeeping matter is keeping the rule in line with the 2010 change. To bring this rule back in compliance, the following wording was approved.

Section 1-C: Foals resulting from frozen embryo transfer

1. All applications for registration must be correctly completed on the official Registration Application and submitted with the appropriate Registry fee.
2. Every application for registration of a horse that is the result of a frozen embryo must be accompanied by an Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer **signed by the record owner or recorded lessee of the donor dam at the time the embryo was harvested.**
3. The recorded owner or recorded lessee of the donor dam at the time the embryo was harvested as well as the recorded owner or recorded lessee of the stallion that bred the mare or whose semen was used to inseminate the mare must sign the *Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer*. If frozen semen was used to create the embryo, the *Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer* must be signed by the owner of the frozen semen at the time of insemination.
4. The *Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer* must identify who is to be recorded as the breeder of the resulting foal. The original *Registration Certificate* will be issued in the name of the last party as it appears on the ownership history of the *Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer*.
5. Each change in ownership of a frozen embryo must be reported on the *Application for Frozen Embryo/Oocyte Transfer*.
6. Every horse, for which application is made, must be DNA tested and/or blood typed (at the applicant's expense) as specified in Rule 2, Section 3.

Before any transfer of an embryo from a donor dam, the donor dam's blood type or DNA type must be permanently recorded with the Registry as specified in Rule 2, Section 3.

What is "Coat Color Verified?"

Have you had your Morgan's coat color tested, but it is not reflected on its registration certificate as "coat color verified"? This could be because not all the proper tests were conducted.

In order to say "coat color verified," horses must have the following color tests:

Chestnut or Black: Red Factor/Agouti test

Palomino, Buckskin, Smoky Black, Cremello, Perlino or Smoky Cream: Red Factor/Agouti test and Cream Dilution test

Silver: Red Factor/Agouti test and Silver test

Gray: Red Factor/Agouti test and Gray test

Splash: Red Factor/Agouti test and Splash test

If your Morgan has been "coat color verified" through AMHA and you would like the verification recorded on your Registration Certificate, please return the Registration and the fee of \$25 to AMHA along with your request.

To order coat color tests, please call the AMHA Registry (802) 985-4944 or download the application at

https://www.morganhorse.com/registry/registry_applications/.

Change to AMHA Registry Rule Regarding Lease Agreements

The Registry Committee recently agreed to remove Rule 9, Section 4, A4 from the Registry Rules and the Notice of Lease Agreement form. The AMHA Registry Rules regarding Lease Agreements had required the Notice of Lease Agreement Application to include the markings, coat color, and other marks of identity. Oftentimes these items were omitted and the application wasn't processed until the information is obtained. Although the Registry Staff checked the markings and coat color against the written description of the markings recorded on the horse record, it could not actually confirm or verify that the horse being leased is the correct horse changing hands. The inclusion of this requirement could lead the parties involved to believe that AMHA is in validating the correct identity of the horse. Below is Rule 9 in its entirety. Section 4, A4 in bold will be removed from future lease applications.

RULE 9 - REQUIRED REPORTS

Section 4: Lease Agreements

A. Notice of all lease agreements must be correctly provided on an official Notice of Lease Agreement form and filed with the Registry with the following:

1. Registration name and number of the horse being leased.
2. Names and addresses of lessor(s) and lessee(s) clearly typed or printed.
3. Beginning and termination dates of the lease. If termination date is "until further notice," so state.
4. All markings, coat color, and other marks of identity of the horse being leased.
5. The personal signatures of the lessor(s) and lessee(s).

B. The applicable fee must accompany the Notice of Lease Agreement form.

C. Upon termination of any lease, the owner or lessee shall notify the Registry in writing of the termination.

Attention Youth! Apply for AMHA's Youth Achievement Award

Are you an active youth club member? Did you attend a clinic or equine seminar this summer? Do you enjoy community service? There are more than 80 different ways you can earn points toward AMHA's annual Youth Achievement Award. No matter your background or

region, you can be a winner! Awards points are earned from November 1, 2011 through October 31, 2012. The youth member with the highest accumulation of points will be recognized at the AMHA Annual Convention, February 20-23 in Portland, Oregon.

A win in the AMHA Youth Achievement Award Contest is a great résumé or college application builder! Don't miss an opportunity to be recognized for your efforts! This award is open to all current AMHA Youth members and the youth member's name must appear on a valid membership account. There is no enrollment fee. Deadline is November 15, 2012. Application and instruction forms may be downloaded by going to www.morganhorse.com/resources/ and clicking on "Youth."

AMHA is on Facebook!

Next time you are on Facebook, check out AMHA's page, "**Sharing Carrots**." This page has interesting equine news, updates from the Association and Grand National, and any other interesting tidbits we want to pass along to you!

Go to **Sharing Carrots**, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Morgan-Horse-Association-Sharing-Carrots/111766915152?ref=hl>, and "like" us!

2013 AMHA Membership Renewals are in the Mail!

By now, you should have received your 2013 AMHA membership renewal by mail. **This year's renewal form is NEW and has some changes. Please read it over carefully! The form must be accurately completed in order to be processed.**

Because we are sending these early, we're offering a bonus incentive for those who renew (and accurately complete your membership) by December 1! You can get the breed journal, *The Morgan Horse*, for \$21.50—that's \$10 off the usual price, PLUS 30 days of the Registry Online service for FREE! That's a total savings of \$35!

Aside from this bonus, renewing early also ensures uninterrupted service on the Members Only side of www.morganhorse.com. Please note, registry work cannot be processed at member rates if your membership renewal form is incomplete.

Read the form closely and return to save delays!

AMHA Helps Unwanted Horses

In an effort to help the increasing population of unwanted horses, AMHA has established a page on its website to help abandoned or neglected horses. Included are ways you can help these horses, a list of rescue sites, as well as those who are willing to give a horse a foster home. To see what you can do to help less fortunate horses, go to Unwanted Morgans,

<http://www.morganhorse.com/shopping/unwanted/>.

Full Circle Allows a Safety Net for Morgans

AMHA is proud to sponsor Full Circle, a program to encourage individuals to provide a "safety net" for horses they bred, owned, trained, drove, cared for, or just admired. The initiative is modeled after a similar program first introduced by the American Quarter Horse Association.

The Full Circle program allows, at no charge, anyone with interest in a Morgan, to record his or her name and contact information in the AMHA record of that horse. If that horse should ever become unwanted, the individual with custody of the horse at that time can contact the AMHA Registry Department to see if the horse has been enrolled in Full Circle.

By enrolling a horse in Full Circle and providing your contact information for that horse, you give AMHA permission to provide that information to an individual inquiring as to the horse's possible Full Circle enrollment. If you enrolled a horse, this is the point where you could be contacted by that individual, not AMHA, to help. From there, the options are up to you and the person contacting you; AMHA has no involvement or stake in the outcome.

Options may include taking the horse back, recommending or facilitating adoption or alternative career options, or providing funds or care or training. The choices are varied and up to you and the current owner or contact person. If your situation has changed and you can't help, there's no obligation on your part by enrolling the horse. You can also delete your name from a horse's Full Circle enrollment at any time, also at no charge.

To enroll a horse in Full Circle, you must have the registered name of the horse you wish to enroll. Also, be prepared to provide all your contact information, including alternative individuals who will know how to reach you should you move or change your phone number or e-mail address after enrolling a horse in Full Circle.

You can currently enroll a horse in Full Circle one of two ways:

Fill out the form and mail to AMHA, 4066 Shelburne Rd, Suite 5, Shelburne, VT 05482; or call the AMHA Registry Department at (802) 985-4944. For more information, contact Erica Eulau Richard, AMHA Registrar, Erica@morganhorse.com or (802) 985-4944 ext. 301.

AMHA Announces Board of Directors Candidates

AMHA is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates for the 2013 election for Regions 1, 2, and 9.

Region 1 (two positions): Sara Foy (incumbent), Cindy Mugnier (incumbent)

Region 2 (two positions): Sharon Skelly (incumbent), Ann Scussell

Region 9 (one position): Linnea Sidi (incumbent)

The Annual Meeting of AMHA members will take place at 3:30 p.m. Pacific Time on Friday, February 22, 2013 at The Benson Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

Nominating petitions for one Director at Large position closes on November 1, 2012. Candidates for this position will be announced after that date.

Ballots will be mailed to those 2012 AMHA members in good standing as of December 31, 2012, the beginning of January 2013.



**2013 AMHA
Convention
Schedule
Online! More
Seminars to
Come!**

Plans for the 2013 AMHA Annual Convention are shaping up with various activities and

seminars for everyone! Lots of fun and excitement will take place February 21-23 in Portland, Oregon at The Benson Hotel.

If you are in town early, self-guided farm tours will take place at Scandia Morgans, Northwest Morgan Horse Farm, and Nelsen Stables on Wednesday, February 20.

On Thursday, February 21, enjoy visiting Forest Nealon's Illahee Farm for a breakfast and lunch, a wine tasting, and a special Cowboy Dressage demonstration by the one and only Eitan Beth-Halachmy! This is just a small highlight of all the exciting activities that will take place at Forest's world champion farm that day!

Friday morning, February 22 has a whole feast of interesting seminars and discussions. From "How Do You Define Success" with Kurt Rumens, to a look at equine law, to Cowboy Dressage, and PNW Morgan history! The day ends with AMHA's annual banquet where we honor some of the breed's top supporters.

On Saturday, February 23, learn how to market your horse through social media, and three-time National Mountain Trail Champion Mark Bolender will give several seminars on extreme trail and mountain trail riding. AMHA will honor some of its top competitors at the Awards Luncheon and the day will end with the AMHA/World Morgan Futurity Stallion Service Auction, which is always a special event. Please note, this isn't a final schedule, as plans for even more fantastic events continue to be made! Check out the current Convention schedule by going to www.morganhorse.com/association/annual_convention/convention_schedule/.

Registration is now open! Please go to www.morganhorse.com/association/annual_convention/ to register today! Those who make their reservations by February 13, 2013 are eligible for the early bird drawing!

Attention Morgan Breeders!

Even though it's early, January will be here before you know it! Don't forget, if you bred your stallion in 2012, your Stallion Service Reports are due January 15, 2013 and rules regarding the use of frozen semen that took effect in 2010 are still to be followed. If you used frozen semen in lieu of fresh cooled semen, you, the stallion (or frozen semen) owner, are required to file the Stallion Service Report. In the past, it was the mare owner's responsibility under these circumstances, and a Frozen Semen Certificate was required at the time of registration. This is no longer the case. AMHA has returned the responsibility for filing the Stallion Service Report to the stallion (or frozen semen) owner.

If a mare owner or frozen semen owner is in possession of a previously issued Frozen Semen Certificate, this form must be submitted with the Stallion Service Report, and AMHA will accept your signature on the report.

If you sold multiple units of frozen semen with the intent that the new frozen semen owner could use it on multiple mares or could store it for use in the future, a Notice of Frozen Semen Transfer must be filed with the AMHA. The Notice of Frozen Semen Transfer is solely for reporting purposes; it is not a contract. It is the responsibility of the parties to ensure compliance with contractual obligations.

If you are a stallion owner, frozen semen owner, or mare owner who plans to or has bred using frozen semen, please review the Registry Rules and Regulations, which can be found at www.morganhorse.com/registry/rules_regulations/. Please refer to Rule 2, Section 1-A and Rule 9, Sections 1 and 6. These revisions went into effect October 1, 2010 and affect all Stallion Service Reports submitted after this date. Questions? Please call AMHA at (802) 985-4944 or email registry@morganhorse.com

[<mailto:registry@morganhorse.com>](mailto:registry@morganhorse.com).

September/October 2012 Network Available to AMHA Members

The September/October 2012 edition of AMHA's member newsletter, the *Network*, is now available

www.morganhorsepublications.com [<http://www.morganhorsepublications.com/>](http://www.morganhorsepublications.com/). You can read the *Network* two ways, in a "page-turner" format or as a PDF. Both can be found on this page [here www.morganhorsepublications.com](http://www.morganhorsepublications.com)

[<http://www.morganhorsepublications.com/>](http://www.morganhorsepublications.com/). The November/December issue will be printed and mailed to all 2012 AMHA members.

This is a perfect opportunity to advertise your farm, horses for sale, stallions, club, or event and be seen by the entire Morgan community! For more information on advertising, contact Julie Dickie at Julie@morganhorse.com [<mailto:Julie@morganhorse.com>](mailto:Julie@morganhorse.com), (802) 985-4944 ext. 501.

AMHI Board of Directors Meeting Minutes-October 5, 2012

The American Morgan Horse Institute held a Board of Directors meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at the Embassy Suites on October 5, 2012.

Shelburne Property

Foremost on the agenda was the announcement of the October 19, 2012 closing date on the sale of AMHI's Shelburne property, former home to AMHA and the National Museum of the Morgan Horse. The Waldorf School for grades K-12 has purchased the property for the sum of \$1 million. \$600,000 of the proceeds of the sale will be used to set up an endowment fund for The National Museum of the Morgan Horse. Interest from this fund will cover the museum's basic operating expenses. In addition, the National Museum of the Morgan Horse was also granted \$80,000 for governance and other funding matters.

After realtor, legal, and administrative fees are paid, the remaining portion of the proceeds will be set aside for AMHI scholarships and governance fees. AMHA will receive \$35,000 to cover their moving expenses from 2009.

Horse Park Committee

Jill Smith will be replacing Elaine Galatz as Chairperson of the Horse Park Committee. Elaine will continue as a member of the committee. Brian Hickman from the Brydan Corporation Marketing Company presented a report on the progress of *America's Own*. *America's Own* tells the history of America from the back of a Morgan Horse with true stories from each of the 50 states. This commemorative publication is to be distributed free to visitors to the Morgan Pavilion at the Kentucky Horse Park.

National Museum of the Morgan Horse

Helen Herold has been appointed Director of the National Museum of the Morgan Horse. The relocation of the museum to Middlebury, Vermont, has produced increased visitor traffic to the museum and its gift shop. The museum archives are now housed in the Middlebury College Library, thus providing better access, preservation, and cataloging of the materials.

Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show®

AMHA owns the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® and contracts for its management. The current management contract with AMHI expires on November 1, 2012. The AMHA Board of Directors has signed a new license with the American Morgan Horse Educational Charitable Trust to manage the show. This will not change the operation of the show in any way. Submitted by Barbara Irvine, Reporter for *The Morgan Horse* magazine October 18, 2012

Rock Cut Trail Ride!!

Ten riders and nine horses had GREAT time at the club's Rock Cut State Park trail ride on October 21, 2012. We had fun and the weather was great and the horse and kids were fantastic

Horses from left to right: Lita (with Becky & Hayden Gruenberg), Mateo (With Nicolette Geddeis), Glowie (with Cameron Gruenberg), Benny (with Kendra Geddeis), Dobie (with Taylor Gruenberg), Ty (with Reese Hart), Ginger (with Chris Mothkovich), Wrigley (with Mitzi March), and Maynard (not pictured, as I am on him!). *Kathy Berkheimer (who took the picture!)*





SAINT ANTHONY FOUNDATION

October 30, 2012

Foundation Board

John Lichy
Chairperson

Brent Barnard
Vice Chairperson

Tim Muldowney
Treasurer

Pat Shaw
Secretary

Romero Bennett

Shari Casey

Mike Cys

John Denis

Ken Dufour

Rebecca Epperson

Cheri Gresham-Smith

James Hatcherberry

John Harezlek

Brent Johnson

Colleen Klein

Penelope Lechtenberg

Peggy Malone

Steven Nailer

Bharat Patel

Dr. Pyno, M.D.

David A. Schertz, FACHE
President and CEO

Richard E. Zumwalt, CFRE
Executive Director

Mid-States Morgan Horse Club, Inc.
959 High Point Dr
Rockton, IL 61072-3312

Dear Mid-States Morgan Horse Club, Inc.,

On behalf of the Sisters and Staff of OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center, I would like to thank you for your generous gift of \$1,413.15 for the Center for Cancer Care. Your gift makes a difference and allows us to provide the highest quality services to our patients.

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of supporters like you, we have been able to retain our special style of treatment, service and support. Many comfort amenities such as additional wheelchairs, scales with handrails, individual televisions at each infusion area, and an ice machine have addressed the needs of our patients. These additions have resulted both in staff efficiency and in our ability to provide the best of quality care to our patients.

We thank you for your kindness and your support of the work of OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center through the Foundation Council. Your gift will touch many lives. From the patients who will benefit from your generosity... thank you!

Sincerely,

Richard E. Zumwalt
Richard E. Zumwalt, CFRE
Executive Director

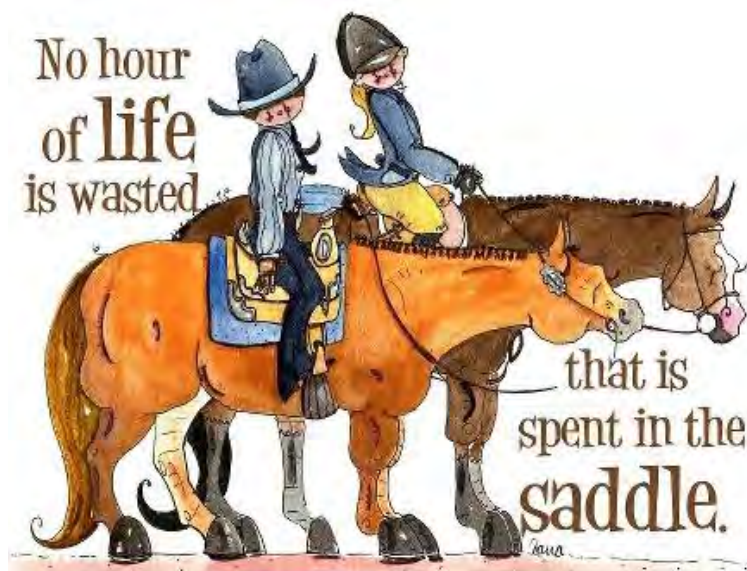
For IRS regulations, we affirm that you have not received any item of value in return for your contribution to the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Foundation Council.

*Thank you so much! You
are so good to our patients!*

*What a well run
event and a great
time! See you next
year! Jessica*



Newsletter Editor
26715 N. Schwerman Road
Wauconda, IL 60084



MID-STATES MORGAN HORSE CLUB, INC. Membership Form 2012

Name _____

Farm _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____

AMHA Member? Yes _____ No _____

Children: Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

All members (general, associate, and youth) who have paid their dues will have their name and address listed in the directory free of charge.

GENERAL FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (husband, wife, children under 18) \$30.00

GENERAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP \$20.00

ASSOCIATE FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (family as above, no voting privileges) \$25.00

ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (no voting privileges) \$15.00

TRANSITIONAL YOUTH (18-21 years old) \$15.00

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP (individual under 18 years old) \$5.00

SEND TO: Gail Kelce, 959 High Point Dr., Rockton, IL 61072

Total _____ Cash _____ Ck# _____

