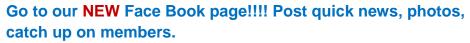


# Figurehead Winter 2013

Newsletter of the Midstates Morgan Horse Club, Inc

www.midstatesmorgan.org



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

Holiday Party photos are posted there!!



from the fresident: I hope everyone is avoiding the flu the

best they can. The March meeting will be at the home of Dennis and Gail Kelce. I will have a date soon. This meeting will have a lot to talk about, open show, PSC, web site, etc.

We will need a lot of **VOLUNTEERS** for PSC for both before and

during the show. We need someone to be in charge of gathering the pictures and news of the past 20 years and put together a presentation for Saturday night. Would the Merriehill and/or Stone Ledge's youth group want to do this?

Tami Johnson is working on a new club website. Kathy Berkheimer is the person to send information, news, pictures of the things we do with our Morgans.

I will have more news and up date to come

Shirley

In 2013, Prairie State Classic turns 20 years Old!!!! We would like to celebrate that event in several ways. We would like members (past and present) 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 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Suggestions for parties, activities would be of great help.

There is a rollover of officers and directors for 2013.

We have one director vacancy.

#### MSMHC 2013 Officers and Contacts:

President Shirley Orlando 630-434-8732 orlandoshirl@att.net
Vice-President Susan Jansson 847-516-484 happysue@comcast.net
Secretary Kathy Berkheimer (773) 539-7549 kcrberk@mindspring.com
Treasurer Gail Kelce (815) 624-7993 gkelce@earthlink.net

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Webmaster Tami Johnson

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



# A change to the by-laws was voted on and passed at the Christmas party December 8th 2012.

#### the old by-laws read as follows:

ARTICLE X-FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 1- THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLUB SHALL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER. SECTION 2-A REGULAR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD A MINIMUN OF FOUR(4) TIMES A YEAR, WITH NOTIFICATION AT LEAST (7) DAYS, BUT NOMORE THAN SIXTY(60) DAYS IN ADVANCE, AS SCHEDULED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

#### the new by-laws read as follows:

SECTION 1-THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLUB SHALL BE HELD IN MARCH.
SECTION 2-A REGULAR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD A MINIMUM OF TWO (2)
TIMES A YEAR, WITH NOTIFICATION AT LEAST (7) DAYS, BUT NO MORE THAN SIXTY(60) DAYS IN ADVANCE, AS SCHEDULED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

### Mid-States Morgan Horse Club membership renewals are now due!!

### Renewal form is on the last page......

My address for renewals until March 5<sup>th</sup> is:

Gail Kelce 1160 Scenic Gulf Drive #1107A Miramar Beach, FL 32550

So far for members paid I have:

Gina & Chuck Ayersman
Theresa Adams
Shirley Orlando
Mary Lou Orlando (Life Member)
Ruthann Peterson
Beth Fancsali
Dennis & Gail Kelce



American Morgan Horse Newsletter



#### **AMHA News**

#### Club Event Pages in 2013 Morgan Horse Magazine

We hear all the time about how local and regional club news used to be a

welcome part of *The Morgan Horse* magazine. We want to bring back some of those good old days!

To do so we're offering Morgan clubs—state clubs, regional clubs, youth teams, etc— the opportunity to have photos from their events published in *TMH*. We'll be accepting up to two candid pictures per club of event functions with a single 75-word caption to explain the photos. Candids must come from a club-sponsored event, such as a clinic, trail ride, a year-end awards banquet, a special party. Please note, we will not accept photos promoting specific horses, riders, or bloodlines or offering content that should otherwise appear in an advertisement. *TMH* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted. We encourage club directors to organize submissions from within the club, and to submit them on a timely basis. We hope readers and members will look forward to having this space to call their own in every issue of the official breed journal. Submit your high-resolution photos and your captions to magazine@morganhorse.com. This section of the magazine will begin with the January 2013 issue.

#### **AMHA Announces Changes to its Pathways Program**

Beginning in 2013, the AMHA Pathways Program will be seeing several changes and enhancements. Among the changes, participants will now be able to log and send hours electronically via an Excel spreadsheet conveniently located on the AMHA website, and fresh awards for most of the levels will be offered! New awards being offered include water bottles, leather cleaner, name plates mounted on wooden plaques you are able to engrave, and bridle bags! Another exciting change is the addition of retail items through the AMHA partner, Fieldhouse. Fieldhouse will soon make items available with the Pathways logo so you can promote the program while out on the trail! Being discontinued will be the Lifetime enrollment fee. Those who are enrolled in the Pathways Program as Lifetime participants will be grandfathered in, while those starting the program in 2013 and in the future will now pay a yearly fee of \$15.

Pathways also is expanding to offer a Half Morgan category. With this addition, horses that have either a registered Morgan sire or dam are eligible to participate for awards. Awards for the Half Morgan category are given up to 2,000 hours logged and participants still follow the same guidelines in regards to AMHA membership, fees, and what hours are acceptable for eligibility in the program.

For more information on the AMHA Pathways Program, please

visithttp://www.morganhorse.com/activities\_and\_recreation/pathways\_program/ or contact Taylor@morganhorse.com, (802) 985-4944 ext. 401.

#### **AMHA Enhances its Star Rating Program for 2013**

In an effort to help local shows across the country, AMHA has enhanced its Star Rating Program. Horse shows that apply for and are accepted as AMHA Three Star Shows will qualify the first and second place horses in all-Morgan classes for the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show®. The enrollment fee for AMHA recognition is \$50. In return for the enrollment fee, Three Star shows will receive banners to display at the show, a special logo, as well as certificates for winners in all-Morgan classes. Advertising in *The Morgan Horse* magazine and listing in the AMHA calendar of events on www.morganhorse.com also is offered. New for 2013, Two Star Shows will be charged a \$20 enrollment fee. While classes at these shows do not qualify for Grand National, AMHA will supply, upon request, certificates for winners in all-Morgan classes. The AMHA Star Rating Competition Program was established in 2010 with two goals in mind: to educate and increase awareness of all types and levels of competitions that promote the breed and showcase the Morgan horse, and to provide a tool to help horse owners identify affordable, convenient competitions where they can enjoy the fun of showing and test their skills. The rating also allows novices to compare the offerings of competitions so they can choose the right venues for them; as their level of experience and confidence grows, riders and drivers can select higher-rated competitions.

To see requirements and benefits for AMHA's Star Rating Program and to download a 2013 Star Rating application, please go to http://www.morganhorse.com/competitions/star\_program/. For more information, contact Chris Koliander at AMHA, (802) 985-4944 ext. 402 or chris@morganhorse.com.

Please note, you may receive more than one ballot via email for the 2013 AMHA election if your email address is shared with multiple people in your family. These aren't duplicate emails; be sure to look for the AMHA member number on each ballot!

#### **Does AMHA Have Your Current Address?**

Ballots for the 2013 AMHA election will be sent at the end of the month to all current members. Did you moved in the last year and not updated your address with AMHA? If you do not receive your ballot by February 1, it means AMHA does not have an accurate address on file for you. Please call the office at (802) 985-4944 to update your address to ensure accurate delivery of your AMHA mail!

### 10 WINTER HEALTH CARE MISTAKES TO AVOID

Ensure your horse stays healthy all season long by using common sense and avoiding these Top 10 winter horsekeeping mistakes By Toni McAllister

Winter is setting in, and while you may be tempted to wrap your horse in an overly toasty warm blanket and tuck him in to a heated barn for the cold season, avoid the urge. He's better off if you refrain from too much over-coddling. Of course throwing him out for the winter and forgetting about him until the spring thaw isn't the way to go either. Ensure your horse stays healthy all season long by using common sense and avoiding these Top 10 winter horsekeeping mistakes:

#### 1. Letting his waterer freeze over.

A horse will not stay properly hydrated if his water is frozen. Snow and ice are no substitute for clean, unfrozen drinking water. Your horse's risk of impaction colic is greatly increased if he doesn't have access to unfrozen water at all times. If you live in a region that experiences below-

greatly increased if he doesn't have access to unfrozen water at all times. If you live in a region that experiences below-freezing temperatures, invest in a heating device specifically designed for horse waterers and troughs.



Talk to your veterinarian about how much feed your horse should receive during the winter months. As the temperatures drop, your horse burns more calories to stay warm. For some horses, this means considerable weight loss. If your horse isn't on a calorie-restricted diet, consider increasing his hay rations as it gets colder outside. Forage (hay) provides an excellent source of calories. Also, the process of digesting fiber (most hays are high in fiber) helps keep a horse warmer.

#### 3. No exercise.

Just like we humans, horses need exercise all year long, even when it's cold outside! If possible, continue riding through the winter months. If severe conditions make winter riding impossible, turn your horse out daily in a large pasture or paddock daily; if it's safe to do so, consider longeing him to keep him fit.

#### 4. Overriding an out of shape horse.

If you only ride when the weather is good, chances are you won't be doing much saddling up if you live in a cold winter region. That's ok if you do other things to keep your horse fit, but if he's a stable potato most of the season, use caution: An out-of-shape horse is at a much greater risk of musculoskeletal injury if exercised hard. If your winter riding schedule is sporadic, based on weather conditions, stick to lighter workouts that won't over task your horse. Gradually increase his exercise level as his fitness improves.

#### 5. Sequestering a horse indoors.

Horses will stay healthier and fitter if left outdoors for the winter, with a few caveats: All horses must have shelter from the elements. A three-sided shelter with a roof is a must. If you do bring your horse indoors, try to leave him out during the day and only bring him in at night. And don't close your barn up! Instead, leave it open to ensure good airflow inside; a closed-up barn leads to poor air quality that can affect a horse's respiratory health.

#### 6. Over blanketing.

When it's snowing outside and you're inside enjoying a warm dinner by the fire, it's hard not to feel sorry for your horse. To ease the guilt, you may be tempted to rush out and pile yet another blanket on him. Stop yourself right there! Yes, a horse with a full or partial body clip does need blanketing during winter, regardless of whether he's kept indoors or out. But a horse with his natural winter coat probably doesn't need blanketing as long as he has shelter from the elements, is receiving proper nutrition and is in good health. Over blanketing a horse can cause him to overheat, which can lead to dehydration and a host of health problems. If you are concerned about your horse's comfort during winter, talk to your veterinarian about it.

#### 7. Lack of hoof care.

Nothing irks a good farrier more than an owner who insists on foregoing hoof care during the winter months. Horses—barefoot or shod, ridden or not—need regular farrier care every six to eight weeks, maybe even more often, regardless of the season. Period, the end!

#### 8. No beauty treatment.

Even if you don't ride during the winter, groom your horse regularly—daily if possible. Regular grooming and handling

provides the opportunity to evaluate your horse and alerts you to problems such as illness, injury, weight loss, lost shoe, cracked hooves, et cetera. It's up to us, as owners, to intervene as quickly as possible when something is wrong. Catching a problem early on helps put your horse back on the track to good health.

#### 9. Throwing him out to pasture and forgetting about him.

There's an old cowboy adage out there, "no rest for the horseman." Yes, the holidays are upon us, and yes it's darn cold outside, but you still have to keep up on your daily horsekeeping chores. Even if your horses are in pasture, you still have lots of work to do! Watering, feeding, grooming, exercising—get busy.

#### 10. Neglecting your own health.

Most of us are responsible horse people who put equine health in front of our own. But remember, if you're not healthy, you won't be able to care for your horse. When tending to your horsekeeping tasks this winter, stay warm, stay safe and stay healthy because there's someone counting on you every day.

## Hay Shortage – What Options Are There?





By Dr. Lydia Gray on December 27, 2012 at 4:00 pm

I hear there is going to be a severe hay shortage this winter because of the droughts and floods and I'm very worried that my horse

will run out of food. Is there something else I can feed him or do you have a supplement that can replace hay?

Long-stem forage is necessary for normal digestive function and normal behavior in the horse. When horses are allowed to eat forage (hay or pasture) free-choice, they spend 50% of their time eating or grazing. However, if pellets (even pelleted hay) are the sole source of forage in the diet, horses only spend 10% of their time eating. That leaves a lot of time for behavioral problems to develop such as wood chewing, <a href="mailto:cribbing">cribbing</a>, mane and tail chewing, or <a href="mailto:eating-dirt">eating dirt</a> or <a href="mailto:feces">feces</a>. It may also set the horse up for serious health problems such as <a href="mailto:color:blue">colic</a>, <a href="mailto:laminitis">laminitis</a> and <a href="mailto:ulcers">ulcers</a>.



According to the Nutrient Requirements of Horses published by the National Research Council, horses should have a minimum of 1% of their body weight each day in forage. I'll use my horse as an example. He weighs 1400 pounds and would need at least 14 pounds (1% of his body weight) of hay per day. Because hay bales and flakes can differ greatly in weight, I hung three flakes of his hay from a fish scale using baling twine to get an accurate weight. It came to seven pounds, meaning each flake weighs between two and two and a half pounds. By feeding him 3 flakes of hay morning and night, he is receiving 14 pounds of hay per day (plus pasture plus a <a href="mailto:multi-vitamin/mineral supplement">multi-vitamin/mineral supplement</a>).

If hay is becoming harder to get in your area or becoming too expensive, there are some ways to stretch your hay so it will last longer besides the obvious choices of hay cubes or hay pellets:

- Complete feeds many commercial feed companies make an all-in-one product that contains both forage and grain (concentrate). When using complete feed as a hay stretcher, Purina Mills recommends replacing 50% of the hay with an equal amount of the complete feed and reducing grain by 0.5 to 1 pound. If replacing all of the hay and still feeding grain, feed the same amount of complete feed as you were feeding hay and reduce grain by 2 to 3 pounds. If using the complete feed as the sole ration, follow the directions on the bag. Don't be surprised if you have to feed 15 to 20 pounds of a complete feed!
- Chopped hay "Regular" chopped hay can be added to the diet in any amount, to stretch long-stem baled hay. With its Safe Starch Forage product though, Triple Crown provides not only chopped hay in a bag, but has fortified it so that when fed as directed (at least 20 pounds per day for a 1000 pound horse) it provides a 100% complete and balanced diet. Read chopped hay bags carefully so that you know if the product is just hay that will need fortified with additional grain, a ration balancer or multi-vitamin, or has already been fortified like this product.
- Hay Stretcher Blue Seal makes this product, which is a large pellet with a nutritional profile similar to grass hay but slightly lower in fiber and higher in energy. It may be used to replace up to 50% of the hay in a horse's diet on a pound-for-pound basis. Hay Stretcher is not fortified with vitamins or trace minerals so grain or a <a href="multi-vitamin/mineral supplement">multi-vitamin/mineral supplement</a> is still necessary.
- Beet pulp This high-fiber product has a nutritional profile similar to alfalfa hay, and may be used to replace up to 25% of the hay in a horse's diet. Like HayStretcher, grain or a <u>multi-vitamin/mineral supplement</u> is still necessary to complete and balance the diet.

In addition to replacing part or all of your horse's hay with one of these products, there are some additional things you can do to stretch his forage. Feed smaller, more frequent meals so he's less hungry in between and also wastes less. Feed on

a <u>mat</u> or in a <u>tub</u> to prevent further wastage. Use a <u>small hole hay net</u> to slow your horse's consumption down. And do what I did and accurately weigh your hay so you know you're feeding the correct amount for your horse's size. Any time you change your horse's diet, even if it's from one kind of hay to another, there is the risk of a digestive disturbance that can lead to <u>colic</u> or <u>laminitis</u>. In fact, changes in hay increase your horse's risk for colic by 10 times (vs 5 times when changing grain). Fortunately there are several products on the market specifically designed to protect the GI system. For example, <u>EquiShure</u> from Kentucky Equine Research contains a time-released hindgut buffer to decrease the chances of hindgut acidosis in at-risk horses. <u>Yea-Sacc</u> from Farnam stabilizes colon pH to help reduce the risk of digestive disorders and improves the digestibility of fiber. And our own <u>SmartDigest Ultra</u> contains <u>prebiotics</u>, <u>probiotics</u>, <u>yeast</u> and <u>enzymes</u> all shown to support normal GI function. Better yet, when it's purchased in SmartPaks you are automatically eligible to apply for enrollment in <u>ColiCare</u>, our colic surgery reimbursement program.

I hope you are able to find some reasonably priced hay this winter but if you aren't, at least now you have some ideas to make what little hay you have last longer without risking your horse's health.

## Sustainable Equine Parasite Control Do's and Don'ts

By <u>Erica Larson</u>, <u>News Editor</u> • Nov 21, 2012 • Article #30888 Editor's Note: This article is part of TheHorse.com's ongoing coverage of topics presented at the 9th International Conference on Equine Infectious Diseases, held Oct. 21-26 in





Nielsen suggests providing a basic treatment foundation for all horses of two yearly treatments with effective dewormers to suppress a possible resurgence of the Strongylus species and tapeworm.

Photo: Megan Arszman, TheHorse.com Web Producer
In regard to the state of equine parasite control, Martin Nielsen,
DVM, PhD, EVPC, believes the horse industry is currently in the
midst of a "revolution." With new research on parasite control and
anthelmintic resistance currently taking place at a rapid rate,
equine deworming recommendations are also changing.
Nielsen outlined the do's and don'ts of "sustainable equine
parasite control" on Practitioners' Day at the 9th International
Conference on Equine Infectious Diseases, held Oct. 21-26 in
Lexington, Ky.

The main goal of sustainable equine parasite control is to minimize disease risk associated with parasite infestations while trying to prevent said parasites from becoming resistant to all forms of dewormers.

"As parasitologists one of our commitments is to come up with the most current, evidence-based advice (for horse owners)," even if it means readdressing and revising existing recommendations, said Nielsen, an assistant professor of equine parasitology at the University of Kentucky Gluck Equine Research Center.

To that end, Nielsen and colleague Craig Reinemeyer, DVM, PhD, of East Tennessee Clinical Research, developed a list of key points to remember about successful sustainable equine parasite control, based on current research.

Don't use an anthelmintic without knowing its efficacy against the intended parasite population. Nielsen explained that small strongyles (cyathostomes) exhibit at least emerging resistance for all anthelmintic classes--benzimidazoles, tetrahydropyrimidines (pyrantel), and the macrocyclic lactones (ivermectin and moxidectin); ascarids (*Parascaris equorum*) have widespread resistance against the macrocyclic lactones; and all drugs are effective against large strongyles (*Strongylus vulgaris*). Nielsen recommended using fecal egg count reduction tests, especially on high shedders, to evaluate efficacy. Aim for a threshold of 90% efficacy for the benzimidazoles and tetrahydropyrimidines, and a 95% threshold for macrocyclic lactones.

**Don't treat at fixed interval frequencies year-round.** Different types and life stages of parasites flourish at different types of the year, and there are parasite seasons and off-seasons with huge differences in parasite transmission," he relayed.

**Don't rotate blindly between drugs.** "This is a myth that's difficult to kill," Nielsen said. "(All the research) that comes out shows rotation doesn't do squat against slowing resistance. Besides, there isn't much to rotate between since it doesn't make sense to rotate to a drug to which there is already resistance"

**Don't treat adult horses during the off-season.** "Adult horses should be treated during the active parasite season (i.e., grazing season) only," Nielsen said. "Treating them during winters is an unneeded used of dewormers."

**Don't treat the entire herd before moving to new pasture.** Anthelmintic resistant eggs develop and are expelled via feces during and immediately after deworming of the entire herd, Nielsen said. If these resistant eggs are deposited in a clean pasture with no nonresistant parasite larvae to dilute out the resistant ones, the vast majority of the parasites horses ingest will be drug resistant, he explained. The good old "dose and move" advice is no longer recommended.

**Don't treat pregnant mares just prior to foaling.** While pregnant mares can harbor potentially dangerous parasites for foals, such as ascarids, the main source of parasite infection for young horses is the environment. Additionally, there is no

evidence of periparturient rise in egg counts in the foaling mares, he said. "Pregnant mares should be treated just like other adult horses," Nielsen relayed, and if this is the case, there is no real incentive for additional dewormings around foaling.

Don't treat at the first frost. "Frost doesn't kill infective strongyle larvae or eggs of the roundworm Parascaris equorum," Nielsen said. "When the first frost occurs, the grazing season is typically over, and so is the active parasite transmission season. Treatment at this time has been associated with an increased risk of parasitic disease and could potentially accelerate the development of drug resistant worms. Rather than targeting treatments at the time of the first frost, parasite treatments should be performed well ahead of this, and the first frost should mark a time period with less intensive deworming."

Don't intentionally under-dose any anthelmintic treatment. Essentially, under-dosing only adds to the anthelmintic resistance problem by exposing parasites to a drug, but not at a high enough dose it kill them.

Don't use formulations not labeled for horses. "We don't know how drugs not labeled for specific uses will work in the animal; it hasn't been studied," Nielsen said. "It doesn't make sense to extrapolate a ruminant dose and use it for a horse. How do you know if it works?" Additionally, he noted, dewormers labeled for other animals still contain the three classes of drugs in equine dewomers. so they likely won't do anything to combat anthelmintic resistance. Finally. Nielsen cautioned not to administer products in a different manner than they're intended to be, such as administering an injectable dewormer into an apple and giving it to the horse. "We have no idea what the plasma concentrations of the active ingredient will be, and we may very well underdose the horse," he said.

Don't use a standard treatment program for all horses in a **stable.** All the horses on a specific farm have different egg counts: some high, some low, and some in the middle. Therefore, each horse should be treated individually. For example, a high egg shedder will need more aggressive treatment than a low shedder. Consider implementing fecal egg counts into horses' annual veterinary care to determine just how much deworming they require.

Now that all the "don'ts" are out of the way, Nielsen said, what should owners do when it comes to deworming?

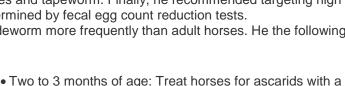
For adult horses, Nielsen recommended fecal egg counts to determine the each horse's specific deworming requirements. He

also recommends an annual fecal egg count reduction test to see which dewormers work on specific farms and which aren't as effective.

He suggests providing a basic treatment foundation for all horses of two yearly treatments with effective dewormers to suppress a possible resurgence of the Strongylus species and tapeworm. Finally, he recommended targeting high shedders more aggressively than low shedders, as determined by fecal egg count reduction tests.

For younger horses, Nielsen noted that owners should deworm more frequently than adult horses. He the following deworming schedule:





- benzimidazole:
- Six months of age: Take a fecal sample to determine whether to treat for ascarids or strongyles, and then treat accordingly (he cautioned that the drugs that still work against ascarids, most likely will not work against strongyles and vice versa);
- Nine months of age: Treat horses for strongyles using an efficient drug (most likely pyrantel, ivermectin, or moxidectin, he
- One year of age: Treat horses for tapeworms and strongyles.
- Geographic location might impact the exact deworming schedule, so consider discussing these deworming plans with a veterinarian prior to implementing it.





#### Newsletter Editor 26715 N. Schwerman Road Wauconda, IL 60084



Name

# MID-STATES MORGAN HORSE CLUB, INC. Membership Form 2013

Farm				
Name				TATES MORGA
Address				
Phone Home	Cell			( * * ) ( )
Email				
AMHA Member? Yes No		_		
Children: Name		Age		MORSE CLUB, INC.
Name	Age			CLUB, INC.
Name	Age			
All members (general, associate, a address listed in the directory free GENERAL FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (hus GENERAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (fic. ASSOCIATE FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (fic. ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP)	e of charge. sband, wife, children unde amily as above, no voting	er 18)	. \$30.00 ).00 . \$25.00	ne and
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YOUTH MEMBERSHIP (individual und	er 18 years old)		\$5.00	
SEND TO: Gail Kelce, 959 High Po	int Dr., Rockton, IL 6107	72		
Address until March 5 <sup>th</sup> is: Gail	Kelce, 1160 Scenic G	Gulf Drive, #110	7A, Miramar I	Beach, FL 32550
TotalCash Ck#_				