CounciLetter

November / December 2026

WWW.WISCONSINHORSECOUNCIL.ORG INFO@WISCONSINHORSECOUNCIL.ORG

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Wisconsin Horse Council

Executive Board 2026

Executive Officers

President - Anne Murphy
608-513-4488
equuspo@gmail.com
Vice President - Heather Kuenzi
920-285-0701
kepponyclubcenter@gmail.com
Secretary - Jill Feller
920-948-9502
jfeller5732@outlook.com
Treasurer - Kricket Jewett
608-751-3288
kricketj@gmail.com

Executive Board of Directors

Past President - Nancy Edwards
262-853-5272, njrhorse80@gmail.com
Director at Large - Gail Seasor
608-576-9429, gailseasor@att.net
Director at Large - Mark Long,
715-323-3666, yeahicanfixthat2@gmail.com
District 1 Rep - Chris Nelson
715-557-0169, jpbird1862@gmail.com
District 2 Rep - OPEN

District 3 Rep - Bonnie Shepherd,
262-670-1426, bonshepherd@outlook.com
District 4 Rep - Lauren Cnare
608-235-9179, speckson@charter.net
District 5 Rep - Dana Sechler,
608-963-2380, danasechler@hotmail.com

Office Staff Member

Darla Schack - Newsletter Editor/Website Administrator, Administrative Assistant
darla@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
121 S. Ludington Street
P.O. Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925
Phone: 920-623-0393
info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

Midwest Horse Fair

Teri Giannetti– Executive Director
teri@midwesthorsefair.com
131 S. Ludington Street
Columbus, WI 53925
Phone: 920-623-5515

WHC Mission Statement

To represent, protect and foster a unified equine industry in Wisconsin through leadership, education, service and communication.

WHC Vision Statement

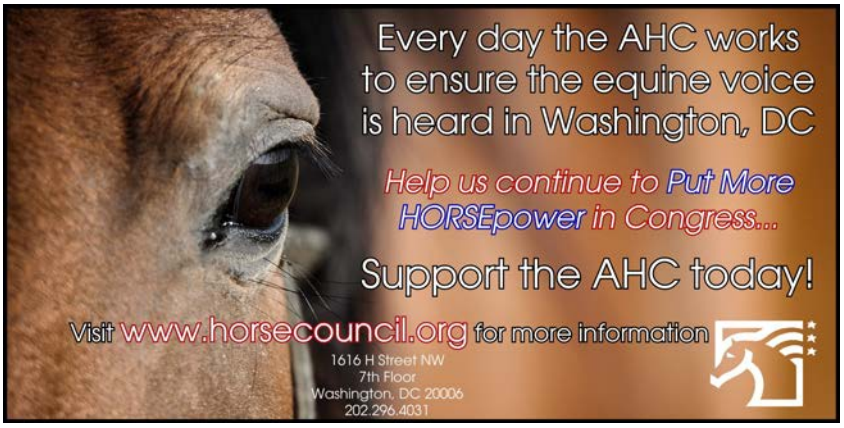
To take a pro-active role in the future growth and development of the equine industry.

ATTENTION!

Tear out pages 25 & 26 to fold as a handy brochure to keep or to share! This month's featured brochure is "Make a Difference by Joining Wisconsin Horse Council".

Membership in the Wisconsin Horse Council is open to individuals, associations, businesses, societies, or other entities whose interests are in line with the WHC's purpose and Mission Statement. Our membership year follows the calendar year. Members will receive a free e-newsletter and the option to purchase a printed newsletter where FREE classified ads can be placed and business card, 1/4, 1/2 and full page ads can be purchased as well. The newsletter reaches 500+ horse enthusiasts. The WHC currently sends out six issues per year.

The WHC employs a professional lobbyist who works with us on pending legislation as needed for the equine industry. We continue to work on adding new benefits for our members. Please feel free to contact us with your comments or suggestions. Thank you!



Welcome to the Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation

The bond between an equestrian and their equine is an experience worth cherishing; we are dedicated to strengthening this bond and enriching the equestrian experience in Wisconsin through education, research, charity, and scholarship.

Visit our website www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org – Go to the WSHCEF tab at the top of the page

What is the mission statement of the WSHC Equine Foundation?

The Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation was created to better serve Wisconsin's growing equestrian community and to help that community realize its fullest potential. The Foundation is a tax exempt, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization, and as such allows individuals to make tax-deductible contributions to support Wisconsin equine projects.

The mission of the Equine Foundation is to support Wisconsin's expanding equestrian community by funding:

* Educational Initiatives
* Equine Research
* Trail Development
* Youth Scholarship and Participation

What is our relationship with the Wisconsin Horse Council?

The Wisconsin Horse Council is our parent organization and the sole member of the WSHC Equine Foundation. WHC Board of Directors are elected to serve on the WSHC Equine Foundation Board of Directors, along with non-WHC individuals. The WHC was incorporated in 1972 as an advocate for the equine owners and industry in the State of Wisconsin. It has grown to become the focus of the equine industry in Wisconsin.

The Mission Statement of the Wisconsin Horse Council is: To represent, protect and foster a unified equine industry in Wisconsin through leadership, education, service and communication.

The WSHC Equine Foundation is a federally approved 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to the advancement of equine activities and the equine industry in general.

The Foundation's main objectives are to promote education, research and development, charity, and scholarship opportunities for equestrians in Wisconsin.

WSHCEF Officers, Board Members & Volunteer Committee Members

Officers

President: *Katie Bachhuber*
Vice President: *Linda Ernsberger*
Secretary: *Diane Sackett*
Treasurer: *Nancy Young*
Board Members: *Lori Helmer, Jan Pieper, Jennifer Juliuson, Gail Seasor- WHC Exec BOD Rep. Bonnie Shepherd - MHF Rep.*

Volunteer Impact Team Members

Karen Meekma
Sharon Hookstead
Dave Kluge
Roxanne Cromheecke-Kluge

WHC District 5 Youth Ranch & Trail Clinic

By Anne Murphy, WHC President

The morning of October 17, 2026, dawned cold and bright in Custer, Wisconsin at the Heartland Equestrian Center. WHC District 5 welcomed the well-known clinician and all-around horseman TJ Clibborn for a clinic dedicated to youthful equestrians.

Some of the participants were a little nervous and some of the horses were a little frisky with the weather. Kids and horses all seemed to settle in to learn new skills or refresh already familiar skills. They all tested their communication skills with their horses, from moving and stopping straight, pivoting in a box, dragging a log, to roping a steer head. The kids even got to play the horse version of the mailbox game. Of course, the ultimate challenge in any ranch/trail clinic is the GATE!

All the participants made great improvements, in a relatively short period of time. They left Heartland with smiles on their faces and a Wisconsin Horse Council shirt to help them remember the clinic and what they learned.



















Horses and Riders Learn New Skills for Trail Riding at WHC District 4 Clinic



On August 8, brave horse and rider pairs teamed up to learn new skills and develop confidence together at the "Trail Obstacles with Confidence" clinic sponsored by WHC's District 4 and hosted by the Menomonee Fall Saddle Club. Clinician Keri Rogalla, of Rogalla Riding Center in Marathon, Wisconsin, coached a series of small groups through the "playground" of obstacles commonly found on the trail, including bridges, water features and other "scary" objects. Auditors held their breath, then applauded as each pair explored and negotiated through the course in-hand or under saddle.



Rogalla said, "I encourage people to take the time to invest in their horse's knowledge before they hit the trail. Exposure and experience in a supportive and controlled situation like this builds horse and rider confidence to have fun and be safe out in the world. These teams did a great job guiding each other."



Kristina Michels, chair of District 4, explains "This is exactly the type of event we like to put on to encourage people to gather together to learn and share, and increase all of our enjoyment of horse life. It shows the value of the excellent training resources we have in the state and the value of a WHC membership." District 4 members received a reduced fee for participation and WHC youth members could attend for free.



Michels encourages WHC D4 members to share ideas for other events members would like to see put on throughout the year. Share comments on the D4 Facebook page "Wisconsin Horse Council District 4."

NOTES OF THANKS...

Dear Members of the Wisconsin Horse Council,

The Waushara County 4-H Horse Association would like to thank the Wisconsin Horse Council for the generous sponsorship of $50 towards a class sponsorship at the Waushara County Fair's Jr. Horse Show. Your donation helped to support numerous awards for youth at this show.

Sponsorship by Wisconsin Horse Council was announced at the fair throughout both the Pleasure Show and Speed Show and during award presentation.
Because of your generous donation youth were able to receive Grand and Reserve Champion Ribbons
Thank you so much!



Attached, please find a press release for the newspaper following the competition.

Sincerely,
Members of the Waushara County 4-H Horse Association

Rachel Ballenger
Carole Brooks
Kaylee Frailing
Kayden Epping
Taylar Epping
Ella Zamatt
Kaitlyn Brooks
Sadiet Brooks
Elise Carpenter
Kierynn Brinkman



Quarter Moon Acres
Equine Therapy Center

1347 55th Avenue
Amery, WI 54001

715-554-0748

qtrmoonacres@gmail.com

EIN: 46-4870622

August 17, 2026

Wisconsin State Horse Council Foundation
121 S. Ludington Street
Columbus, WI 53925-1678

Dear Wisconsin Horse Council Foundation:

Thank you very much for the $1001 foundation grant support from the Wisconsin Horse Council toward our Hooves for Hero's Program. This program exists to restore connection, purpose and hope for those who serve and protect our communities.

We will gladly give you recognition for your generous support to our veteran and first responder program. Evidence shows how special horses and equine-assisted therapy eased PTSD and depression within a short time. More than once, we have heard from our veterans how 'this place makes me feel so....good'. From one horse lover to another, we know this is true.

Wisconsin Horse Council is truly a blessing to so many people. We couldn't thank you enough.

God Bless You!

Patti Andersen

Patti Andersen
Executive Director

Quarter Moon Acres Inc. (QMA) is a 501(c) (3) not for profit organization offering equine-assisted therapeutic and educational activities (EAAT) to help improve physical, behavioral, cognitive and emotional functioning in individuals with disabilities. QMA offers its program to people with disabilities regardless of race, creed or financial need.

2027 WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL

ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

These Awards are sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, Inc. in cooperation with the Midwest Horse Fair®. Nominations may be submitted by clubs, associations, or individuals.

Horseperson of The Year Award is based on contributions to Wisconsin's equine industry as a whole, or in any specific area such as: youth activities, education, research, industry promotion, related legislation and regulation, trails, other equine events, or activities.

- Any person 18 years old or older can be nominated.
- Nominees must be a Wisconsin resident.
- Nominees need not be a member of the WHC.
- Include a paragraph explaining why your nominee should receive this award. Nominations received without an appropriate write up will not be accepted.

Special Achievement Award is based on a major accomplishment in the equine industry.

- Any person 18 years old or older can be nominated.
- Nominees must be a Wisconsin resident.
- Nominees need not be a member of the WHC.
- Include a paragraph explaining why your nominee should receive this award. Nominations received without an appropriate write up will not be accepted.

Lifetime Achievement Award is based on a lifetime of service to the equine industry.

- Preference given to any person who has devoted at least 25 years to the equine industry.
- Nominees must be a Wisconsin resident.
- Nominees need not be a member of the WHC.
- Include a paragraph explaining why your nominee should receive this award. Nominations received without an appropriate write up will not be accepted.

Show Judge of the Year is based on the integrity, diversity of knowledge, sportsmanship, willingness to accept and continually strive for greater knowledge of various breeds and disciplines at open shows.

Equine of the Year is to recognize the horses, ponies, donkeys, mules or any equine who have enriched the life of one or more humans or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines and is awarded to the owner of the horse and is based on merit and voted on by the WHC Board of Directors which will decide the state Equine of the Year.

- Nominated equine must be a living resident of Wisconsin.
- Owner must be a resident of Wisconsin
- A completed WHC Equine of the Year Award Nomination Form , one (1) clear, color photo of the nominated equine (5x7 or 8x10) , and an essay containing 250 words or less describing how the nominated equine has enriched the life of one or more people through outstanding training, contributions or accomplishments or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines must be received on or before December 1, 2026.

Awards will be presented to the winners at the Wisconsin Horse Council Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 18, 2027 during the Midwest Horse Fair®.

Nomination forms can be accessed at www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org under "Programs" & then "Annual Awards" or by contacting the WHC Office at info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org.

All Nominations are due by December 1, 2026.

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
2027 HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR
Nomination Form

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, and in cooperation with the Midwest Horse Fair®, the Horseperson of the Year award is an annual award based on contributions to Wisconsin's equine industry as a whole in any area: youth activities, education, research, industry promotion, related legislation and regulation, trails, other equine events, or activities.

Requirements for WHC Horseperson of the year:

- Nominees must be a resident of Wisconsin
- Nominees need not be a member of Wisconsin Horse Council
- A completed nomination form sent to the WHC office is required

Clubs, associations, or individuals may submit nominations. Self-nominations are not accepted.

We/I would like to **nominate** the following person to be honored as **Wisconsin Horse Council 2027 Horseperson of the Year**:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Name & address of nominee's local newspaper (and e-mail, if known): _____

_____

The winner, as chosen by the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Horse Council, will be recognized at an Awards Ceremony at the Midwest Horse Fair® on Sunday, April 18, 2027 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison.

Nominated By:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State ZIP: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Attach a narrative that tells why you believe your candidate should be the WHC Horseperson of the Year. Include areas of the equine industry in which your candidate has had a direct impact. How has your candidate's accomplishment(s) contributed towards enhancing the future of the equine industry in Wisconsin? Nominations received without an appropriate write-up will not be accepted.

Nomination submissions must be legible. It is suggested that a word processing program or typewriter be used.

You may attach **TWO** additional pages of supporting documents. These pages may contain a resume, additional letters of reference, supporting newspaper articles, or other information that would best support your nominee as the WHC 2026 Horseperson of the Year.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than: December 1, 2026.

Mail to: Wisconsin Horse Council
Attn: Awards Program
PO Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925

phone: 920-623-0393
email: info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
subject: Awards Nomination

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
2027 Lifetime Achievement Award
Nomination Form

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, in cooperation with the Midwest Horse Fair®, a Lifetime Achievement Award is based on a lifetime of service to the equine industry as a whole in any area: youth activities, education, research, industry promotion, related legislation and regulation, trails, other equine events or activities.

Requirements for the WHC Lifetime Achievement Award:

- preference given to any person who has devoted at least 25 years to the equine industry
- nominees must be a resident of Wisconsin
- membership in Wisconsin Horse Council is not required
- a completed nomination form sent to the WHC office is required

Clubs, associations, or individuals may submit nominations. Self-nominations are not accepted.

We/I would like to **nominate** the following person for a **WHC 2027 Lifetime Achievement Award**:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Name & address of nominee's local newspaper (and e-mail, if known): _____

_____

Award recipient(s), as chosen by the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Horse Council, will be recognized at an Awards Ceremony at the Midwest Horse Fair® on Sunday, April 18, 2027 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison.

Nominated By:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Attach a narrative that tells why you believe your candidate should receive a WHC Lifetime Achievement Award. Include areas of the equine industry in which your candidate has had a direct impact. Nominations received without the proper write-up will not be accepted.

Nomination submissions must be legible. It is suggested that a word processing program or typewriter be used.

You may attach **TWO** additional pages of supporting documents. These pages may contain a resume, additional letters of reference, supporting newspaper articles, or other information that would best support your nominee for a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than: December 1, 2026.

Mail to: Wisconsin Horse Council
Attn: Awards Program
PO Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925

phone: 920-623-0393
email: info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
subject: Awards Nomination

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
121 S. Ludington St., P.O. Box 72, Columbus, Wisconsin 53925
Phone: 920-623-0393

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF HORSES AND HORSEMEN IN WISCONSIN

Equine of the Year Award 2027

The Wisconsin Horse Council (WHC) has created this award to recognize the horses, ponies, donkeys, mules or any equine who have enriched the life of one or more humans or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines. An Equine of the Year is chosen, and the award is presented to the owner of the equine. Each award is based on merit and voted on by the WHC Board of Directors.

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL EQUINE OF THE YEAR AWARD

- Nominated equine must be a living resident of Wisconsin. The owner must be a resident of Wisconsin as well.
- Nominations must be received by the WHC Office as listed on or before **December 1, 2026** and include the following:
  - Completed WHC Equine of the Year Award Nomination Form
  - One (1) clear, color photo of the nominated equine (5x7 or 8x10)
  - Essay containing 250 words or less describing how the nominated equine has enriched the life of one or more people through outstanding training, contributions or accomplishments or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines
- The Wisconsin Horse Council is not responsible for illegible, lost, late, incorrect, incomplete, stolen, misdirected, undelivered, or delayed nominations or for nominations not received by the specified deadline. Submissions, including photographs and essays, will NOT be returned under any circumstances, and will become the property of the Wisconsin Horse Council.
- The WHC office staff will send all materials to the WHC Awards Committee for review.
- The Wisconsin Horse Council Board of Directors will choose the statewide Equine of the Year. The voting will close on **December 31, 2026**.
- The equine chosen must be able to attend the Midwest Horse Fair® in 2026. The award is presented at the Wisconsin Horse Council Awards ceremony during Midwest Horse Fair®.
- The WHC District of the winning equine owner is responsible for paying the stabling cost at Midwest Horse Fair®.

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL

2027 Equine of the Year Award

Nomination Form

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, the Equine of the Year Award is an annual award given to recognize the horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, or any equine who have enriched the life of one or more humans or been cast into the spotlight because of outstanding acts, creating a positive image for equines.

Equine's Registered Name (if applicable) _____
Nickname _____
Breed _____

****

Name of Owner _____ Owner lives in District _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____ County _____
Phone number _____ E-mail _____
Name & address of nominee's local newspaper (and e-mail, if known): _____
_____

****

Nominated by _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone number _____ E-mail _____
Relationship to Equine (i.e. owner, trainer) _____

****

Return this nomination form, one (1) color photo (5 x7 or 8x10) of the nominated equine, and an essay (250 words or less) on or before **December 1, 2026,** to the WHC Office address listed below.

Wisconsin Horse Council
Attn: Annual Awards Committee
121 S. Ludington Street
P.O. Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
2027 SHOW JUDGE OF THE YEAR
Nomination Form

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, Inc. in cooperation with the Midwest Horse Fair®, the Judge of the Year award is an annual award based on contributions to Wisconsin's equine industry as a show judge.

Requirements to be nominated for WHC Judge of the year:

- Nominee must be a Wisconsin Horse Council certified judge
- Nominee must be 25 years old or older
- Nominee must be a Wisconsin Horse Council member at the time of nomination
- Nominee must be a Wisconsin resident
- A completed nomination form sent to the Wisconsin Horse Council office is required

Clubs, associations, or individuals may submit nominations. Self-nominations are not accepted.

I/We would like to **nominate** the following judge to be honored as the 2027 WHC Show Judge of the Year:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____)_____ Evening Phone: (_____)_____

E-mail address: _____

Name & address of nominee's local newspaper (and e-mail, if known): _____

_____

A plaque of recognition will be presented to the winner at the Wisconsin Horse Council Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 18, 2027 during the Midwest Horse Fair® at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison WI.

Nominated by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____)_____ Evening Phone: (_____)_____

E-mail address: _____

Please complete this **2-page nomination form** and return it to our office in Columbus. Only fully completed forms will be considered for this award. You may mail, fax, or send it electronically as a Word document. Handwritten forms need to be legible. You **may include 1 additional page of information** with a completed form.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2026.

Mail to: Wisconsin Horse Council
Attn: Awards Committee
PO Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925

phone: 920-623-0393
e-mail to: info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
subject: Awards Nomination

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
2027 SHOW JUDGE OF THE YEAR
Nomination Form

Nominee name _____

1. Is the nominee a Wisconsin resident? _____
2. Is the nominee 25 years or older? _____
3. Is the nominee a current member of Wisconsin Horse Council (WHC)? _____
4. Does the nominee hold a current WHC Judge Card? _____
5. What other Judge Cards does the nominee hold? _____

   _____
6. Is the nominee a competitor and/or trainer as well as a judge? _____

   _____ competitor _____ trainer (check one or both or none)

Please consider if your nominee possesses the attributes of a good show judge – someone who adheres to the standards of honest and fair judging and thereby raises the overall perception and quality of the equine show industry.

You may include narrative from personal experiences with the nominee and/or examples of what you think make this individual an outstanding judge and how he/she is worthy to be Show Judge of the Year.

Think about the following characteristics when nominating someone as Show Judge of the Year and try to give examples of why you think this person will make a great candidate for this award.

- Does this individual possess a working knowledge of breed and discipline rules and standards?
- Does this individual strive to improve their judging knowledge through continuing education?
- Does this individual practice what is considered good ethics (or ethical behavior) both in his/her professional and personal life?
- Does this individual exhibit good sportsmanship as a judge and/or competitor?
- Does this individual contribute to the quality of open show judging in Wisconsin? How?
- Does this individual engage in activities outside of judging to help people improve their show skills and become better competitors? What type of activities?

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
2027 Special Achievement Award
Nomination Form

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Horse Council, in cooperation with the Midwest Horse Fair®, a Special Achievement Award is based on a major accomplishment in a person's equestrian life.

Requirements for a Wisconsin Horse Council Special Achievement Award:

- nominees must be a resident of Wisconsin
- membership in Wisconsin Horse Council is not required
- a completed nomination form sent to the WHC office is required

Clubs, associations, or individuals may submit nominations. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

We/I would like to **nominate** the following person for a **Wisconsin Horse Council 2027 Special Achievement Award**:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Name & address of nominee's local newspaper (and e-mail, if known): _____

_____

Award recipient(s), as chosen by the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Horse Council, will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony during the Midwest Horse Fair® on Sunday, April 18, 2027 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison.

Nominated By:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Attach a narrative that tells why you believe your candidate should receive a WHC Special Achievement Award. What has your candidate's accomplishment contributed towards enhancing the future of the equine industry in Wisconsin? Or, what special honor or skill has your candidate mastered? Nominations received without the proper write-up will not be accepted.

Nomination submissions must be legible. It is suggested that a word processing program or typewriter be used.

You may attach **TWO** additional pages of supporting documents. These pages may contain a resume, additional letters of reference, supporting newspaper articles, or other information that would best support your candidate's nomination for a Special Achievement Award.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than: December 1, 2026.

Mail to: Wisconsin Horse Council
Attn: Awards Program
PO Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925

phone: 920-623-0393
email: info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
subject: Awards Nomination

Save the Date

April 16, 17 & 18 - 2027

ALLIANT ENERGY CENTER | MADISON, WI

Tik Maynard & Nick Rivera as the "Groundwork Guys" at Midwest Horse Fair!

Tik Maynard and Nick Rivera founded The Groundwork Guys after Tik's first Road to the Horse win in 2024.

They've worked together on horse projects for years, including Tik's second Road to the Horse win in 2025.

At Midwest Horse Fair, they'll teach together as The Groundwork Guys, and each will also share their own expertise in clinics focused on their individual discipline, jumping, and foundation training.

Watch for clinic applications to open in late November!



Proudly sponsored by Menzel's.

Time to Plan Your Visit to Midwest Horse Fair 2027!



Join us in April 2027 as we "Enjoy the Ride" in Madison for three days of all things equine!

Learn from world-class clinicians, shop your favorite vendors, discover new breeds and disciplines, enjoy outstanding entertainment, and catch up with friends who share your passion for horses.

Whether you're returning for another year or planning to bring along family and friends, there's always something new to see, learn and experience at Midwest Horse Fair!

Visit Facebook, Instagram and YouTube for more information.

Save the Date

April 16, 17 & 18 - 2027

ALLIANT ENERGY CENTER | MADISON, WI

Steffen Peters Returns to Midwest Horse Fair!

A six-time Olympian and one of the most accomplished riders in U.S. dressage, Steffen Peters brings an extraordinary record of achievement and a lifetime of experience to every ride.



- Three-time Olympic medalist
- 2009 World Cup Champion
- Pan American Games gold medalist
- Nine-time U.S. National Champion

From the international stage to the everyday details that help horses and riders reach their potential, Steffen has a wealth of knowledge to share!

Buy Your Tickets Early & Save!



Pick up your general admission tickets at a participating Blain's Farm & Fleet as soon as November and save!

One-day admission is $21 in advance or $30 at the gate and Three-day admission is $48 in advance or $60 at the gate. Alliant Energy Center's Parking fees are included in your admission.

Or earn your admission by volunteering for a 3-hour shift at the Midwest Horse Fair. Come and be a part of our team in 2027 and for every 3 hours of volunteering you'll earn a one-day admission pass.

Visit Facebook, Instagram and YouTube for more information.

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL

Free Youth Memberships run concurrent with the school year

Office Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Date Processed: _____

Date Mailed: _____

LEVEL I FREE YOUTH MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION – for Ages 8 – High School Graduation

Name: _____ Age: _____ School Grade for Current Year: _____

Street Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

County: _____ WHC District #: _____ Number of Horses: _____

Equine Organization(s) that you belong to that are WHC Level II or III Members: _____

_____

Contact information to the organization(s) you are joining under: _____

_____

Parent/Guardian Signature Required: _____

Parent/Guardian Name Printed: _____

☐ I agree that WHC can publicly share name/photos of the Youth member listed above on their media platforms.

Parent/Guardian Contact Info:

Street Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

***All information requested above is required and must be complete and accurate.**

LEVEL I YOUTH MEMBERSHIP OPTION

☐ Individual Youth Membership (no insurance) ..... $ **FREE**

☐ Free E-newsletter sent to the e-mail listed above..... $ **FREE**

Note:

- If a Free Youth Program Member would like to participate in a WHC program that requires a WHC Level I Membership, they will be required to hold a paid Level I Membership as well. Remember that our regular Level I Youth Membership (17 & under) are always free with a paid Level I Adult Membership. So that means if the parent or guardian are already a Level I Member, the Level I Youth Member would already be covered and able to join the WHC Program of choice.

Wisconsin Horse Council does not sell or distribute our membership list. Information is kept private for use only by our organization for WHC business.

Return application to:

Wisconsin Horse Council
P.O. Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925
Phone: 920-623-0393
www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

The Wisconsin Horse Council
Proudly Presents

"Free Youth Membership Program"

The Wisconsin Horse Council has implemented a "Free Youth Membership Program"!

Here are the requirements:

*Youth between 8 years of age and graduation from high school who are members in good standing of an equine youth organization, or an organization with a strong youth membership.

* The equine organization is a member in good standing with the Wisconsin Horse Council.

*Applicants under the age of 18 must have a parental signature included on the Wisconsin Horse Council Youth Membership Application.

* This annual membership will run concurrent with the student's school year and will remain viable as long as the applicant is in good standing with the equine organization.

* Youth members will be non-voting members of the WHC District they reside in, and they will be eligible for e-newsletters.

* The Free Youth Membership Application MUST be filled out COMPLETELY.

* WHC Liability Waivers must be signed by all members prior to participating in any event.

We are planning on three or more educational training courses per year via Zoom, and attendees will be eligible for prize drawings.

As we move towards in-person clinics and training throughout the state, the Wisconsin Horse Council is asking for suggestions of what kind of clinics and presentations youth members would be interested in. Please check with your group leader and send suggestions or presentations to info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org.

As this program develops, our vision is to provide opportunities to explore the world of horses and horse related professions and businesses.

Please scan the QR Code below and go to the "Membership" tab for more information and the application. We look forward to hearing from you!


WISCONSIN
HORSE COUNCIL
Ride
WISCONSIN
Enjoy your fall riding!
Take advantage of this beautiful season, get out on the trails, and log your hours for the Ride Wisconsin Program.
Totals must be submitted to the WHC office by
JANUARY 1
Submit your hours by mail or email:
darla@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
Wisconsin Horse Council
121 S Ludington, PO Box 72, Columbus WI 53925

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL

Trails Today... Opportunities Tomorrow

TRAIL GRANTS

Building Better Trails for Wisconsin's Equine Community



Now is a great time to start looking at projects that need funding in 2027!

WHC Trail Grants Support:

- Improving existing equine-open public trails
- New trail development
- Trail amenities and access
- Projects that enhance the equine trail experience for all users

Why Apply?

- ✓ Help make your trail project a reality.
- ✓ Support your local equine community and land managers.
- ✓ Build stronger, safer, and more accessible trails.
- ✓ Be part of a statewide effort to grow and protect equine trails in Wisconsin.

GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE:

FEBRUARY 1

Great trails. Stronger communities. A healthier equine future.

Wisconsin Horse Council • Trail Grants


RIDE WISCONSIN
Award Program
for Trail Riders/Drivers
Get out and enjoy the trails
with your equine partner and earn rewards
for your hours riding/driving the trails!
Visit the WHC website for all of the
guidelines, forms & application!
SHARE THE TRAILS
www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
WISCONSIN
HORSE COUNCIL

WISCONSIN
HORSE COUNCIL



TRAIL GRANTS

Offering financial support to friends' groups for trail improvements totaling almost $1Million in benefits

TRAIL MASTER CERTIFICATION SCHOOL

Training land managers and volunteers to design, and build sustainable trails

RIDE/ DRIVE WISCONSIN

Celebrating your accomplishments on the trails! Log your hours in the saddle to earn great prizes!

ADVOCACY & MORE

Partnering with trailmeister.com to keep Wisconsin Horse trail maps currant. Working with the DNR to advocate for horse trails around the state.

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL TRAILS

ALL THINGS TRAIL RELATED!

Our committee meets via zoom to ensure trails are celebrated in all aspects!



Phone Number
920-623-0393

Web Site
WisconsinHorseCouncil.org

Email Address
darla@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

Office Address
121 S. Ludington St
Columbus Wi 53925

WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All Memberships run from January 1st through December 31st

Office Use Only:

Payment Type: _____

Check #: _____

Amount: _____

LEVEL I MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Individual Name: _____

Youth Name(s): _____ Age(s): _____

Family Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

County: _____ District #: _____ Number of Horses: _____

LEVEL I MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS (Please check type of Membership & choice of newsletter.)

☐ Individual Membership (no insurance)	$ 20
☐ Individual Membership PLUS (includes $1 Million personal liability insurance)	$ 45
☐ Family Membership (no insurance)	$ 30
☐ Family Membership PLUS (includes $1 Million personal liability insurance)	$ 80
☐ Youth (age 17 & under = free with ***paid*** Level I adult membership)	$ 0
☐ Individual Lifetime Membership ***(one-time fee which includes the 1st year of liability insurance)***	$250
☐ Annual fee on Lifetime Membership for $1 Million personal liability insurance	$ 25
☐ Printed Newsletter mailed to the address above	$ 30
☐ Free E-newsletter sent to the e-mail listed above	$ 0

Description:

Level I membership class is available to any individual/family whose interests are similar to those of the Council and is for individuals/families only. Level I and Level II members elect Directors to the WHC Board to represent their District. Family membership is for a family of 2 or more living at the same residence and has 1 vote in the elections and business of their District. Membership must be current to vote at District meetings.

- Programs such as the Certified Judges and Ride Wisconsin require a Level I membership - even if you are a Director or a contact person for a Level II or III organization, you will need to be a Level I member yourself to participate in programs.
- Youth (17 & under) are free with a paid Level I adult membership.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP is an individual Level I membership with a one-time fee, giving the individual a paid-up membership for his/her lifetime. If LIFETIME MEMBERS wish to retain the $1 Million personal liability insurance after their first year, they must purchase it on an annual basis.

Wisconsin Horse Council does not sell or distribute our membership list. Information is kept private for use only by our organization for WHC business.

Membership dues, payments and gifts to Wisconsin Horse Council are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Such payments may be deductible under the Internal Revenue Code as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

Return application and payment to:

Wisconsin Horse Council
P.O. Box 72
Columbus, WI 53925
Phone: 920-623-0393
www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

What **is Wisconsin Horse Council?**

WHC is a non-profit organization representing horsemen and women and the equine industry in Wisconsin. In representing the equine industry, we promote the horse through leadership, education, and service, and take a proactive role in the growth of our industry.

Who **is Wisconsin Horse Council?**

You and me - we are the Horse Council through our membership, participation in our districts, and involvement in WHC committees and programs. We are the Force of the Horse in Wisconsin.

Why **belong to Wis Horse Council?**

This is the only state organization that exists for "the horse" and the people who own them or simply love them. We are not a breed organization, a saddle club, or a riding discipline. We are here for the welfare of the horse and the betterment of our equine industry as a whole. Membership in WHC connects you with other horse people who share your concerns and brings a broader view of the equine industry to you. The strength of our voice is in direct proportion to the size of our membership. Often, people belong to organizations in relation to their profession; you should belong to WHC in relation to your passion. The important part of representing an industry is you. We can't do our work effectively without you. We need your membership and participation to do a good job—promoting the value of our industry, protecting the welfare of our horses, and preserving our chosen way of life. Become part of taking care of our horse community by joining WHC today!

Question: Who do you want representing your interests as an equestrian—an organization that knows and understands our industry or some other organization with a different agenda?

Wisconsin Horse Council
121 S. Ludington Street
P.O. Box 72
Columbus WI 53925
920-623-0393
www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org
info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

How **does Wisconsin Horse Council make a difference?**

- Own and operate one of the premiere horse expos in the U.S.—Midwest Horse Fair
- Re-invest in our horse industry through such efforts as purchasing the Kiser footing system at Alliant Energy Center; sponsoring large animal rescue training for first responders; employing the services of a professional state lobbyist
- Conduct and sponsor an annual Trail School to educate volunteers, public land managers, and trail planners in designing and building sustainable recreational trails for equestrian riders and drivers
- Improve the level of open show judging through the educational seminars and certification of our Show Judge program
- Provide funding for sponsorships and grants at levels that offer significant financial help to equine charity events and programs, and volunteers building and improving recreational trails
- Sponsor recognition of people who have invested time and money in growing and developing our industry through mentoring young horse people, initiating new programs, providing leadership in various equine/ equestrian areas, and promoting responsible use of horses
- Sponsor educational seminars and clinics for horse owners
- Pursue an active role in legislative matters affecting both our state and national equine industry
- Pursue and encourage a strong connection with the ag community as a whole with our participation in Ag Day at the Capitol, Farm Technology Days, and other ag events

Make a Difference by Joining Wisconsin Horse Council

WISCONSIN
HORSE COUNCIL

Partner with us to promote and protect the equine industry in Wisconsin

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

Members-Only Programs

Certified Judges Program: WHC has run the annual WHC Certified Judges seminar since 1979. The seminar is a key element in the Wisconsin Judge's Certification System.

Trail Riding/Driving Program: You can obtain recognition and awards for your hours spent enjoying horse trails through our Trail Riding/ Driving Program.

Trail Grants & Sponsorships: WHC provides funding to develop and improve public horse trails in Wisconsin; volunteers and land managers provide the labor.

Funding is provided also for equine programs and events in Wisconsin along with improvements benefiting our equine industry.

Additional Member Benefits

Members receive the *CouncilLetter* - the newsletter that keeps you connected with the Wisconsin equine industry. It includes a members-only classified section . Also, members receive a discount on advertising in the *CouncilLetter*.

WHC employs a professional lobbyist to assist us in evaluating and acting on legislation affecting the equine community. In addition, WHC is a participating member of American Horse Council, which is our lobby force in Washington DC working on national issues affecting the horse industry.

Members have access to the special discount programs of the American Horse Council.

A $1 million excess personal liability insurance option is now offered with an individual or family membership.

Links to our website are offered to member businesses and organizations.

*** FREE ***

Upcoming Events

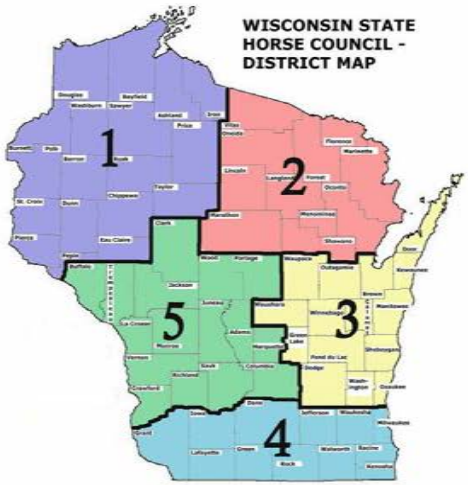
Listing on WHC website

We have created a special section for your upcoming events ... and it's FREE!

E-mail any equine-related event (shows, tack sales, clinics, meetings, etc.) to info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org.

Information to include:
Date:
Event:
Location:
Contact phone: (very important)

Questions? 920-623-0393
info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org



WISCONSIN STATE HORSE COUNCIL - DISTRICT MAP

$1 Million Personal Excess Liability Insurance from Equisure, Inc.

The newest member benefit is a $1 million Personal Excess Liability Insurance for our individual and family memberships.

This is excess insurance, beyond your primary liability coverage as an equestrian. For Members without primary policies, the excess liability will be considered "primary." This insurance covers you in the event your personal horse(s) causes injury or damage to another person or property. It is only offered to non-commercial equines and activities. It even covers equine related incidences away from your residence for which you are personally liable or negligent.

Protection is provided if you are performing or competing in horse shows, clinics, or demonstrations. Business and professional pursuits, rodeo, and racing exposures are excluded.

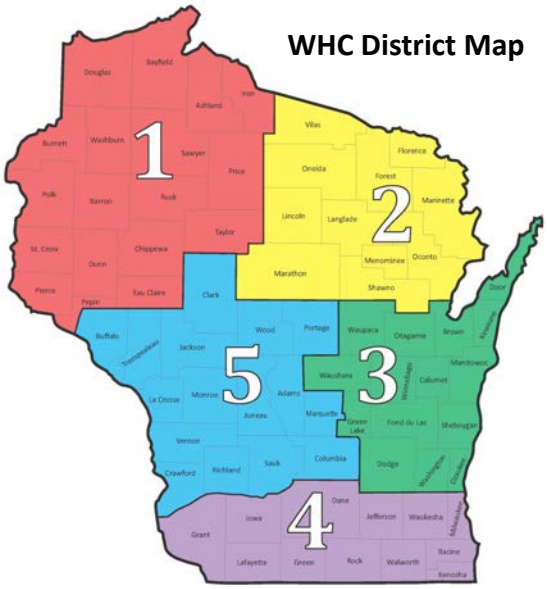
The insurance is optional; you are not required to take it as a WHC member. This insurance is available only with an individual or family membership. You do not have to be a Wisconsin resident to become a WHC individual or family member and get this protection. Check out the insurance details at our website.

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

JOIN US!

Does Wisconsin Horse Council sound like a good fit for you? Joining is easy!
Download a membership form at www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org or join on-line.

SIGN UP TODAY!



WHC District Map

District 1 includes the counties of: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Iron, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, St. Croix, Taylor and Washburn

District 2 includes the counties of: Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Shawano, and Vilas

District 3 includes the counties of: Brown, Calumet, Dodge, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Washington, Waupaca, Waushara, and Winnebago

District 4 includes the counties of: Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Kenosha, Lafayette, Milwaukee, Racine, Rock, Walworth, and Waukesha

District 5 includes the counties of: Adams, Buffalo, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Marquette, Monroe, Portage, Richland, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vernon, and Wood

WHC District 1:
Contact - Paulette Adair
715-554-2904
lucksaddlery@gmail.com

WHC District 2:
Contact - Kevin Griepentrog
715-203-5401
gkevin@midwestcapitalpartners.com

WHC District 3:
Contact - Katie Bachhuber
920-539-0601
rideendurance2@yahoo.com

WHC District 4:
Contact - Lauren Cnare
608-235-9179
speckson@charter.net

WHC District 5:
Contact - Mark Long
715-323-3666
yeahicanfixthat2@gmail.com

CouncilLetter Deadline

The deadline for articles, upcoming events and advertisements for the WHC CouncilLetter is:

January / February Issue:
December 15th at noon

Articles must be equine related, may not be for commercial benefit and must be sent to us in a timely fashion. The Editor reserves the right to revise or refuse articles. Ads and articles are best sent in electronic format (prefer MS Word or Adobe Acrobat) to:

info@wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

Office hours: Monday-Friday - 8am-4pm

Join us on Facebook and become a friend. You will receive the most up-to-date information and connect with fellow horse people.

www.wisconsinhorsecouncil.org

Important Dates to Remember

November 11	Veterans Day
November 26	Thanksgiving Day
December 1	WHC Annual Awards Nomination Deadline
December 24	Christmas Eve
December 25	Christmas Day
December 31	New Year's Eve







** Please check out our Calendar of Upcoming Events, included in each issue of the CounciLetter, as well as posted on the WHC website, for shows, fundraisers, clinics, tack sales and more!*

Join us on Facebook and become a friend. You will receive the most up -to -date information and connect with fellow horse people.

