



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/ELECTION

Saturday February 11, 2012

Pikes Peak Community Center
Divide

5:30 pm: POTLUCK SUPPER

6:30 pm: MEETING

Meat will be provided by the Saddle Club so just bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Please remember that in order to vote in the upcoming election February 11, 2012, you *MUST* be current with your membership dues ! (Membership renewals due January 21, 2012)



**The postmark deadline for Absentee
Ballots is Friday, January 20!**

If you are interested in being on the BUILDING COMMITTEE for our new facility please submit your name & qualifications at the General Meeting OR email us at: info@wpsaddecub.com OR you can mail it to our office at PO Box 9005, Woodland Park, CO 80866.



WPSC BOARD AND CONTACT INFO:

Email:

info@wpsaddleclub.com

Chuck Mahoney—President

687-9509

Kelley Serafin—Vice President

466-7018

Chris Miller—Treasurer

748-4709

Dailynn Bockhahn—Secretary

290-0763

Directors

Mick Bates 687-4360

Dale Gemaehlich 687-8205

Tay Jeffords 205-0100

Dick Gysin 687-1057

Stan Vahsholtz 687-3314

Steve Vahsholtz 687-6897

Club Administrator:

Randi Heard 687-4253

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JOIN US AT THE **FLORISSANT GRANGE** ON
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
 FOR A FUN FILLED FOOT STOMPIN' FAMILY
 EVENING WITH THE **FLORISSANT JAMMERS!**

Potluck dinner begins at 5:30 pm - Bring your favorite dish! We don't have a particular theme or a planned menu, so it's truly potluck!

** The Florissant Grange does not permit alcoholic beverages. Coffee, tea and lemonade will be furnished, or you can bring any soft drink of your choice. **

If you play a musical instrument, bring it and join in!



In the event of inclement weather, we will postpone the event until a future date. If in doubt, please call Randi at 687-4253.

Directions to the Florissant Grange: From Woodland Park take Hwy. 24 to Florissant, a 4-way stop. Turn right at the Fossil Inn/Costello's & take the first left. The Grange will be on your right about 1/4 mile. From Lake George, go to Florissant, turn left at the Fossil Inn then turn left at the next road and the Grange will be on your right.



Bring your friends, family, & come join the fun!

Blanketing For Good Health

(An excerpt from "Your Aging Horse: Winter Horse Care", by Christine Barakat, *EQUUS Magazine*)

Although a full winter coat will protect most horses well enough in sub-zero temperatures, blankets can be an integral part of maintaining an older horse's health during the winter.

"An older horse, even a perfectly healthy one, is going to have a harder time staying warm in very cold weather," says Trachtenberg. "They tend to have less muscle mass and fat to act as insulation." A cold horse not only becomes thin, but he will also become stressed and weak as his body struggles to maintain its temperature. That can lead to a compromised immune system less able to fight off illness or infection.

As a general rule, Trachtenberg recommends blanketing any horse older than 20 when temperatures drop below 40 degrees Fahrenheit. "That doesn't mean you should feel guilty about not blanketing a 21-year-old who is in great shape," he says. "If that horse has shelter and is maintaining his weight and seems healthy, he probably doesn't need a blanket. But with the older horses in colder climates, it's better to start from the assumption that they need a blanket rather than the other way around."

For horses on the cusp of old age, the decision to blanket needs to be made based on a number of factors. "A 17-year-old horse with a body condition of 4, for instance, may need blanketing while his 23-year-old pasture mate in good shape doesn't. Horses with poor dental health may also need a blanket because they are unable to properly chew and digest hay for warmth," says Trachtenberg. Arthritis and other lame-ness issues can make it harder for an aged horse to keep warm---sound horses can generate heat by moving around, but a sore horse may not.

And pay attention to more than simply the ambient temperatures: "A horse will be much colder in 38 wet, windy, sleety degrees than in 20 degrees with an insulating layer of dry snow on his back," says Trachtenberg. In addition, he says, it's wise to invest in a couple of blankets of different weights: "That will give you the freedom to blanket on the relatively warmer days without the worry of overheating the horse. A horse that is kept too warm under a blanket will begin to sweat, and that can quickly lead to dangerous chills."

If you're unsure about blanketing, watch your horse for signs that he's cold. The most immediate and obvious is shivering, says Trachtenberg: "It revs a horse's metabolism and burns calories. The horse stays warm, but not for long and at an extremely high cost. An older horse can shiver an alarming amount of weight off in a short period of time."

No one style or type of blanket is best for older horses, but a good fit is critical. "I've treated some older horses who got tangled up in blanket straps that were too long," says Trachtenberg. "A younger horse will just rip the blanket to shreds to free himself, but an older horse may not have the strength to fight his way out. Be extra careful when fitting.

Finally, it's very important to take your horse's blanket off regularly. "A lot of problems can go unseen under a winter blanket, especially weight loss. Older horses may not have a cushioning layer of fat over points like the withers, shoulders or hips and can develop pressure sores. Older horses with Cushing's can also be prone to bacterial and fungal skin infections. You've really got to take the blanket off each day and take a look at what's going on underneath it," says Trachtenberg.

Owners of geriatric horses often talk about getting their beloved animals through "one more winter," and with good reason. This time of year can be the harshest for the oldest members of the herd. With attentive feeding and blanketing, however, you can lessen the worst of the wintertime burdens for older horses to have them greet spring in good health.

ARENA RULES

If you use the arena, PLEASE put the equipment back where you found it!

We are still finding barrels and poles in the arena.

The dumpster has been removed.

PLEASE clean up your own trash.

LOCK the gate when you leave. We have found it unlocked on several occasions!

ADVERTISING FEES

CLASSIFIED ADS (Horses, tack, trailers, farm equipment, etc.) = FREE to Members

BUSINESS ADS - Member Cost = \$30/3 Months, or \$12/Month

GOING OUT OF THE HORSE BUSINESS!**FOR SALE:**

HORSE TRAILER: 1995 S&H 2-horse straight-load, bumper pull, w/slide-out saddle-rack, trailer brakes, trailer mats, plexi-glass side windows, good flooring. Silver. Great Condition!
\$1,795

2 SADDLES:

Western barrel racing saddle, 14" seat w/round skirt. \$250

Dale Martin Barrel racing saddle or all round saddle w/square skirt, Excellent Condition. \$800

Rubbermaid Water Tank, 2'3" w x 3.5' x 2' \$ 23

Blanket: Heavy duty waterproof Canvas w/wool lining. Good Condition. Neck to dock of tail 51"; Chest around to back 66". \$45

Various tack including several pairs of boots size 6 1/2-8 Women's and one pair of Men's size 10.

CALL JENNIFER FORBES @ 684-9058

WPSC BOARD MEETINGS

The Board meets the **1st Thursday** of each month at 6 PM. Membership is encouraged to attend. We meet at the Woodland Park Professional Building, 400 W. Midland in the 2nd floor conference room. A 2nd monthly meeting may be added if necessary. For details call and leave a message at 687-9975 or email us at info@wpsaddleclub.com.

The Beginning of the End...

A friend gives you a horse...

You build a small shelter...\$750

You fence in a paddock...\$450

Purchase small truck to haul hay...\$12,000

Purchase a 2 horse trailer...\$2,800

Purchase 2nd horse...\$2,500

Build larger shelter with storage...\$2,000

More fencing...\$1,200

Purchase 3rd horse...\$3,000

Purchase 4 horse trailer...\$17,500

Purchase larger truck...\$23,000

Purchase 4 acres next door...\$38,000

More fencing...\$2,000

Build small barn...\$18,000

Purchase camper for truck...\$9,000

Purchase tractor...\$23,000

Purchase 4th & 5th horse...\$6,500

Purchase 20 acres...\$285,000

Build house...\$185,000

Build barn...\$56,000

More fencing & corrals...\$24,000

Build covered arena...\$182,000

Purchase Dually...\$44,000

Purchase gooseneck w/living quarters...\$45,000

Purchase 6th, 7th & 8th horse...\$10,750

Hire full time trainer...\$50,000

Build house for trainer...\$84,000

Buy motor home for shows...\$125,000

Hire attorney -- spouse leaving you for trainer...\$35,000

Declare bankruptcy, spouse gets everything.

Friend feels sorry for you...gives you a horse.....

OLD FOLKS RIDING RULES

1. We DO NOT need to show up with our hair combed, make up on and wearing a clean shirt.
2. Moaning, groaning and complaining about aching muscles is perfectly acceptable as is taking Motrin prior to a ride.
3. Helping someone on or off the horse does not mean the rider is an invalid. It only means the horse got taller overnight.
4. No one will comment about how big someone's butt looks in a saddle.
5. Everyone will wait, patiently, while someone dismounts and adjusts equipment. Everyone will also wait, patiently, until that person remounts and is ready to move on...no matter how long that takes.
6. When a horse is acting up we will accept that the horse is just having a bad hair day and it is not the rider's fault.
7. Mentioning it is too hot, too dry, too humid, too wet, too buggy, etc., is considered self-expression, not whining.
8. Wanting to be first, last, walk or just stop does not mean the rider is a wimp. Sometimes it is necessary to teach a horse who is in charge.
9. We will take the time to discuss the important issues of the day like who is dating who, who is cheating on whom and any other relevant information which needs to be passed on.
10. We will acknowledge that horses are very strange animals and sometimes for no reason at all we fall off of them. If this happens to any rider the other riders will ascertain that the person is okay and then not mention the incident to another living soul, especially husbands and significant others.
11. We will acknowledge, without apology that riding more than 2 1/2 hours increases our grumpy level far more than any ego benefits we may get from riding longer.



P.O. BOX 9005
Woodland Park , CO 80866

Phone: 719-687-9975

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info@wpsaddleclub.com

Website:

www.wpsaddleclub.com

**“ROPING OUR PAST AND
RIDING INTO OUR FUTURE”**

**WOODLAND PARK SADDLE CLUB CALENDAR:
JANUARY / FEBRUARY, 2012**

January 20: Latest acceptable postmark date for Absentee Ballots
21: Membership Renewals Due
28: Potluck/Dance at Florissant Grange, 5:30 pm

February 2: Board Meeting, Woodland Professional Building, 400 W. Midland
2nd Floor Conference Room. 6:00 pm
11: General Membership Meeting/Election & Potluck
Pikes Peak Community Center, Divide, 5:30 pm