



Madison County Trail Blazers

Saddle Club January 2009

Newsletter

Website: <http://www.madisoncountytrailblazers.com>

30 TRUTHS ABOUT HORSES

1. People who don't take care of their own horses will be the first ones to tell you how to care for yours.
2. You should never buy a cheap girth!
3. A handsome horse who's badly behaved will become a lot less attractive in about 15 min.
4. People who think they have nothing more to learn about riding, hit the ground the hardest.
5. Children and ponies are natural allies and often have identical dispositions.
6. The richest horse people often look the poorest.
7. The closeness of a horse is one of the sweetest smells in the world.
8. A solitary ride through the woods is more beneficial than six months with the best psychiatrist.
9. The worse a person rides the more likely they are going to blame it on the horse.
10. The best thing about going to the barn first thing in the morning is that horses don't care how you look.
11. If a dealer insists a horse is worth twice what he's asking, he's usually worth half that much.
12. The best way to appreciate how another person rides is to get on their horse.
13. I can recognize another horse person no matter what town, city, state, county or country I visit.
14. You can never have too many hoof picks.
15. It is not always wise to argue with something that outweighs you by 1,000 pounds.
16. I'd rather have a horse with a perfect mind than a perfect head.
17. Eight hours is not too long to be in the saddle!
18. If you think you have left the water on in the barn you have, if you think you have closed the pasture gate you haven't.
19. When someone asks you if you like their horse always say yes.
20. The happiest people I know own horses, dogs, cats and at least one deranged goat.
21. If you're looking for the perfect horse, you will never own one.
22. Owning a horse can either make a marriage or break it.
23. I'd rather lose my Chap Stick than my curb chain.
24. You shouldn't talk about your first place ribbon to someone that came in second.
25. If someone says that horse has a little buck, it has a BIG buck.
26. If we need rain, schedule a show.
27. I've never warmed up to someone that didn't want to walk down to the stables.
28. A clean stable and a sparkling horse are among life's great pleasures.
29. A FREE horse is not a cheap horse.
30. No matter how badly behaved you are, your horse always gives you a second chance.

From the December Meeting....

The December meeting was held at Scotty's Bar and Grill in Hamel, IL across from the Hamel Seed & Farm Supply.

Thank you Kathy Strickfadden for all the work you did on our website. I especially want to thank you for showing me how to maintain the MCTB website. I've had a lot of fun changing things around. Have you seen the virtual horse on the site — Nickers? You can feed him an apple, brush him, and he follows your cursor around — cute!! If you have anything you want added, or comments, etc... please contact Dianne Doll at (618) 644-3655 or silverrose@hometel.com.

The Board of Directors have the 2009 contract ready to go over with Triangle H Farm. There were no suggested changes.

The Award Banquet/White Elephant Sale was held January 10, 2009 at Hamil Community Center in Hamel, IL. Andy Butler cooked the meat for the banquet. He had his traditional Cowboy Cookin' of pulled pork, brats & dogs, and his wonderful Beef Brisket! There was a really good turn out and everyone brought some great dishes to share! The White Elephant sale had plenty of stuff to sell! This is one of the club's biggest fund raisers, 50/50 tickets were also sold this year! A good time was had by all!!!



Keeping Horses Warm by: *Horse.com*

"Horses have a wonderful ability to survive in the cold," Hammer said. "A full winter haircoat is perfect for insulating the horse against the cold winter weather. However, that insulation is lost if the haircoat gets wet. Providing shelter allows the horse to stay dry on wet, snowy days and, ultimately, allows them to stay warm."

Another way to keep horses warm is to feed them hay. Heat is produced through the digestion of feed and can be useful in helping a horse maintain body temperature in cold winter weather. The greatest amount of heat is released when microbes in the gut digest high-fiber feeds such as hay. In cattle, this process is going on in the rumen; in horses, the process occurs in the cecum and large colon.

High-fiber feeds produce more heat during digestion than low-fiber feeds. Thus, digestion of hay will result in the release of more heat than low-fiber grains, such as corn and barely. Although oats are a low-fiber grain, they will produce more heat during digestion, compared with other grains, due to their fibrous outer hull.

The lower critical temperature for horses with a heavy winter coat during dry, calm weather is approximately 30° Fahrenheit. For each 10-degree change below the critical temperature, horses require an additional intake of approximately 2 pounds of feed per day, assuming the feed has an energy density of 1 mega-calorie per pound, which is typical for most hay.

"Considering that a 1,000-pound horse consumes 15 to 20 pounds of hay daily to maintain body weight in ideal weather conditions, consuming an additional 10 to 14 pounds becomes impossible for many horses," Hammer said. "Therefore, in extreme conditions, hay alone is usually insufficient to supply the energy demands for a horse to maintain his body weight, and some type of additional grain source is justified."

Putting a blanket on the horse can also help keep it warm. A variety of winter blankets are available. "These can be very beneficial, especially for horses that do not have a full, healthy winter hair coat," Hammer said. "However, blankets also can be detrimental because a blanket prevents the horse's hairs from standing up (their natural defense against cold weather), and using too light a blanket will actually cause the horse to get chilled."

Blankets also must be maintained. An ill-fitting blanket can rub, resulting in sores, and a dirty or wet blanket can lead to skin problems, such as fungal infections.

"If the predictions hold true, it sounds like we are in for a long, cold winter," Hammer said. "Make sure to do your part to keep your horse warm and comfortable during this winter season."

by: *North Dakota State University Extension*
January 04 2009, Article # 13373

Check out the Horse.com website for More Articles or check the Madison County website For the full article:

www.madisoncountytrailblazers.com



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Triangle H Farm ~ Boarding, Feeds, Tack, Clinics, Lessons & More!	Edwardsville	(618) 692-4823

2009 Show Dates

May 17, 2009

June 7, 2009

June 28, 2009

July 5, 2009

August 30, 2009

September 6, 2009

September 20, 2009

October 4, 2009

October 18, 2009

All shows held at Triangle H Farms.




www.triangleh farms.com

2009 Officers

President:	Marilyn Cron	(618) 644-5270
Vice President:	Janet Kromraj	(618) 346-8033
Treasurer:	Linda Skaer	(618) 644-9395
Secretary:	Julie Turner	(704) 453-6194
Show Committee Chair:	Megan Cron	(618) 644-5270
Board Members:	Lea Sommers	(618) 644-5859
	Mark Cron	(618) 644-5270
	Dana Shain	(618) 377-0543
	Bev Dew	(618) 288-5191
	Tricia Franke	(618) 792-3801
	Gary Franke	(618) 659-9665
Trail Masters:	Pam Witthofft	(618) 667-8059
Web Master:	Dianne Doll	(618) 644-3655
Fund Raising Committee:	Lisa Waltrip	(618) 259-3362
	Jan Cooper	(618) 888-2517
	Vicki Champion	(618) 797-2737

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> 	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 MCTB Holiday Party & W E Auction @ Hamel Community Center
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Crazy Bowl for MAHR 1-5pm at West Park Bowl in Columbia, IL	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Triangle H Play Days @ Triangle H	26 MCTB Club Meeting @ Scotty's in Hamel	27	28	29	30	31

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Valentines Day!</i> 
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Triangle H Play Days @ Triangle H Farms	23 MCTB Club Meeting @ Scotty's in Hamel IL at 7:30pm	24	25	26	27	28

STOLEN HORSE! A Registered Paint Horse that was stolen from a farm in Flat Rock Illinois sometime during the night on Friday August 22. The farm is Located about 10 miles north of Lawrenceville, IL. It belonged to the Keith Caughran family, specifically their 13 year old daughter that has owned him for 5 years. Please keep a look out! There is a picture of the stolen horse on our website. Please check out all the missing horses at <http://netposse.com/stolenmissing/>.

Crazy Bowl to benefit MAHR (Mid-America Horse Rescue) Sunday, January 18th from 1-5pm at West Park Bowl in Columbia, IL. Enjoy a Crazy afternoon with friends & family to benefit the horses. Cost is \$15 per person for bowling and \$2 for shoe rental. 50% of the \$15 is a donation to MAHR. Contact Cecilia Gast at (618) 420-1055 for more info.

Winter Play Days ~ the last Sunday of January, February, March and April starting at 1pm at Triangle H Farm. \$25 to show all day. Andy's food stand is available! Youth 15 and under classes, and adult 16 and over. Lots of really fun classes like "Musical Stalls", "Mounted Challenge", "Ball & Racket". High points awarded after the series! For more information check out the Triangle H website: www.trianglehfarm.com or check the MCTB site: www.madisoncountytrailblazers.com

Schnuck's Cards are NO expense to the club member, or a friend, or a relative that uses the card ~ just a great fund raiser!



Simply get a Schnuck's card and activate it as you would a credit card. Then swipe the card every time you shop at Schnuck's and a portion of your purchase will be donated to the club! How much easier can it be! I just love a Fund Raiser that doesn't cost anything! You can activate your card on line by going to: <https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1c1.jsp>. **The Organization number is 500018247 and it is listed under the city of Alton, IL. (Under Denise Reynolds' address).** Schnuck's cards are available at the shows and at the club meetings. For more information, call Jan Cooper (618) 888-2517.

CLASSIFIEDS

HORSE LOVERS DREAM! 12 acres 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 1300 sq ft, 2970 Miles Station Road, Brighton, Illinois ~ Beautiful quiet country setting with room for horses and/or livestock. Partially wooded with pond. Wildlife galore! Four car garage. Two newer barns with three separate pastures. New maintenance free vinyl fencing. Two horse stalls with room for more. Electric and water in both barns. House was built in 1930 with an addition in 1975. New furnace, central a/c, electric and plumbing. House is on city water. Fridge, stove & dishwasher stay! Motivated to sell! \$219,000 For more information, call Trisha Franke at (618) 792-3801.

Hay for Sale * Large Round Bales of Grass Hay \$50/each, also some Alfalfa Round Bales available, call for price. Brad (217) 415-8134 — located in Marine, IL

Madison County Trail Blazers
c/o Dianne Doll
10115 East Kirsch Road
Saint Jacob, IL 62281-2131

PLEASE POST!
Thanks!