



NEWS



In the news...

Cottonwood Arena News

Check out the Homer News Website

<http://spotted.homernews.com/pages/gallery.php?gallery=308654>

To see pictures of the **Fun Day** we had September 1st at Cottonwood Horse Park !!!

~ **Reminder** ~

Anyone using the arena **has to be a KBEA member**. KBEA has insurance coverage for members only - so this is really important. If you happen to see someone at the Horse Park you don't recognize, please ask if they're members - for their safety and ours.

*** **Please Remember** ***

- 1) Carry your membership card with you when riding at the park.
- 2) Kids (under 16) need to wear helmets.

Member Dues Reminder:

Members who need to send in dues of:

\$ 12.50 per adult

\$ 5.00 per student

are as follows:

Johnson, Jacky

Johnson, McKenzie

Rykaczewski, Alina

Rykaczewski, Cheryl

Seguela, Evelyn

Please mail to KBEA as soon as possible to continue receiving the newsletter & other KBEA benefits.

Memberships

We now have 97 members !

New Members to be added to address, phone & email books:

#70 Kristina Gray
3108 W 42nd Ave Apt 7
Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone: 399-2560

#71 Lacy Mather
Austin Mather
4103 Mattox St Apt 40
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 299-5223

#73 Tailer Jones
PO Box 3176
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 907-252-9875
email: david6404@gmail.com

#74 Melissa Clark
Mikayla Clark
PO Box 96
Anchor Point, AK 99556
Phone: 299-3958
email: clarky238@aol.com

#75 Alexandra Dobbins
60389 Bryant Ct.
Homer, Ak 99603
Phone: 235-5524
email: teresadobbins@hotmail.com

#76 Jessica Grant
PO Box 1226
Anchor Point, AK 99556
Phone: 226-1102
email: katy.meow471@gmail.com

#77 Christie Donich
PO Box 918
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-3843 or 235-3838
email: feederking@alaska.net

#78 Kerry Nelson
Kat Nelson
PO Box 205
Kasilof, AK 99610
Phone: 907-262-2182
email: krnelson@alaska.net

#79 Martine Sorensen
PO box 15083
Fritz Creek, AK 99603
Phone: 235-2001
Cell: 399-1852

#80 Leah Jenkin
PO Box 2347
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-7572
email: seafite@xyz.net

#81 Annette Koth
PO Box 1723
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-2256
email: sealrockbnb_alaskaus@yahoo.com

#82 Hanna Dickinson
2298 Mt Augustine Dr.
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-4889
email: tina@homerakalaska.org

#83 Jenna Luchaco
PO Box 3615
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-8971
email: brei@ideafamilies.org

#84 Julie Frye
580 Waddell Ave
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 226-3686

Don't forget to stop by HEA and see Renee to pick up your 2007 KBEA Directory.

Board News...

President: Roberta Highland

Vice Pres: Renee Eidem

Treasurer: Donna Richards

Secretary: Cass Crandall

Members at large:

Marian Beck

Rhonda Bradshaw

Janet Fink

Shirley Schollenberg

New Kbay Eq Association Email:

KbayEA@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

Annual Meeting @ City Hall Council Chambers

Wednesday, November 14th, 7 pm
Door prizes, food, singing, poetry,
slide show, vote on officers.

Fundraising Committee Meets:

October 25th @ 5:30 pm

Homer Public Library

This committee really needs more
volunteers. We currently are
searching for a new Fundraising
Committee Chairperson. Please
come give your input & HELP !

"How Do I Donate?"

Just a thought:

We owe \$30,000 each June for
the next 3 years for our land
payment.

We have 75 family, single, joint,
and youth memberships.

If each membership gave a **tax-**
deductible donation of \$500 per
year (or \$40 per month) we could
meet our obligation each year.

Please consider donating what you
can to make the burden lighter
for all. PFD's are here now!!!

Thank you for your consideration.

From The Horse's Mouth

By Roberta Highland



Howdy Everyone!!!

I hope you have all had a chance to stop by Cottonwood Horse Park and take a look. If we do say so ourselves – "It is beautiful" – especially with the Fall colors.

A big THANKS goes to Tommy Patton and Noe Ramirez for the finishing touches on the arena and preparing the round pen site and filling the ditch. Another big THANKS to John Crandall for grooming the arena to perfection many times and moving the sand to the round pen and grooming that, too. John also mowed the "park site" under the cottonwood trees.

The restrooms are enclosed – more big THANKS to Dave Beck and Tim Quinn for hours and hours of meticulous building. Painting courtesy of Jeanie Fabich, Cass Crandall and Marion Beck. Robert Archibald is ordering doors and will be getting a crew together to finish the restrooms.

We had a wonderful 1st Event on September 1, which included a drill team performance and fun games for horse riders, MC'd by Jeanie Fabich. Many volunteers helped this be a Great day.

Cass Crandall and helpers have been doing pony club classes for kids and adults, including jumping, on the weekends. All KBEA members are welcome to use the facilities if you call Cass or Roberta first for scheduling at this time.

This has been an incredible volunteer effort and thanks go to everyone who has helped this park become a reality.

We will be busy this winter writing grants, fundraising, writing a brochure, fundraising, planning events and schedules, fundraising and calling on all of you for help.

Happy Trails.

Roberta Highland
President

Equine "Green Tea"

Boost water consumption for your horse in cold weather by making alfalfa "tea".

Soak about 1 pound of alfalfa hay cubes in 2 gallons of water until they are almost all completely loosed and softened (takes only about 20 minutes, depending on brand of cubes).

Add about a half-tablespoon of salt, stir, and serve.

Funny Cowboy Quotes

Here are some cowboy quotes & tips for life:

The biggest troublemaker you'll ever deal with watches you shave his face every morning.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

The easiest way to eat crow is while it's still warm. The colder it gets, the harder it is to swallow.

When in doubt, let your horse do the thinkin'.

Basketball, Football, Baseball...
RODEO: Bring yer own BALLS!

Don't mess with something that ain't bothering you.

It's better to keep your mouth shut and look stupid than open it and prove it.

Treat a woman like a racehorse, and she'll never be a nag.

When a cowboy's too old to set a bad example, he hands out good advice.

It's That Time Of Year Again!

Seller's Terms... (what they say & what they really mean...)

Got Cow Sense: *he'll attack any cattle within a 5-mile radius*

Unregistered: *probably stolen*

Protective Mother: *don't even think about going near the foal*

Lady's Horse: *Perfectly sweet with women, but will kill men*

Good Disposition: *The only good thing about him*

Selling Due to Retirement: *he's making us old*

Started Good: *we quit while we were ahead*

Started: *we quit while we were still alive*

Loud Color: *we spray painted him bright red*

Really Broke: *literally*

Slight Nervous Habit: *he shakes and has muscles ticks anytime anyone asks him to think*

Great Stud: *breeding is the only thing he's good at*

Anyone Can Ride: *as long as they have the right protective gear, they will survive*

Smooth: *you won't notice he's bucking until you're on the ground!*

Feed & Supply Storage

An old refrigerator/freezer turned on its back makes an excellent feed storage box.

Remove and discard all the racks, icemaker and inside storage bins and clean it thoroughly.

Old chest-type freezers may also be used for storage of feed, supplements and meds that do not require refrigeration.

The baskets make organizing and finding things a snap.

Everything stays clean and rodent-free.

Fund Raising



The Fundraising Committee REALLY needs volunteers to help pull off fundraisers & come up with ideas for raising funds.

We need to purchase items to maintain the park, props for playing games, as well as paying for the land and insurance.

Please call Therese 235-1846 or show up at the meeting October 25th @ 5:30 at the Homer Public Library to see what you can do to help.

We really need a Committee Chairperson!



Bitless Riding: Fad or Fabulous

Something I've been hearing a lot about lately that I thought you might be interested in learning about.

A bitless bridle, also commonly referred to as a hackamore, has three primary traditional varieties: the bosal hackamore, the mechanical hackamore, and the side pull. The way in which a bitless bridle fits a horse and provides control varies with each type. There are varying circumstances that may warrant a rider choosing one type of bitless bridle over another.

Primarily, regardless of type, the bitless bridle provides control utilizing sensitive pressure points on a horse's head rather than in the mouth. For this reason, many riders will use a bitless bridle on a horse that has had a mouth injury or has dental problems. Similarly, some riders choose to start a young horse out with a bitless bridle. The bitless bridle is frequently used for [endurance riding](#) and trail riding. Though some horse show events, such as rodeos and jumping competitions, allow most kinds of tack, many events do not permit bitless bridles.

Though there is much controversy amongst riders regarding the use of a bitless bridle over a bitted bridle, much is left to the preference and experience of the rider along with the riding circumstance. Some people advocate bitless bridles as more humane than those with bits, though others believe all bridles are humane when used by an experienced rider.

Most novice riders prefer to experiment with different types of bridles until they learn to gauge their own responses and those of their horse. Experienced riders tend to rely less on bridle control as they learn to steer with their legs and body, thus often resulting in having no bridle preference at all.

How to Use a Bitless Bridle:

by eHow Pets Editor

Introduction

There is a growing trend towards the "less is more" mindset in the horse world, particularly in regard to horse tack. A bitless bridle has been developed—no, not a bosal or hackamore, but a bridle that works simply by putting gentle pressure on the horse's head. There are some tricks to using the bitless bridle effectively, though, so follow the steps below for more natural horsemanship.



Instructions

Difficulty: Challenging

Step One

Purchase a natural leather or synthetic bitless bridle in a size to fit your horse comfortably. For instructions on measuring, see the Resources section below.

Step Two

Place the bridle on the horse and adjust it correctly. The noseband should sit just below where the nasal bone joins the cartilage of the nose and fit snugly. The brow band should fit snugly, but not too tightly.

Step Three

Ensure the crossover straps are not twisted under the horse's head and are not tangled under the noseband.

Step Four

Give the horse some time to get used to the new headstall. Put him in a round pen and lunge him with it, or do some ground driving to see how the horse reacts. Ground driving is putting a set of long reins on the bridle, then walking or jogging behind the horse, using the reins to steer and stop it.

Step Five

Take your first ride with a bitless bridle in a safe, enclosed area, such as a round pen or arena, until you and your horse are accustomed to the new feeling of freedom and higher level of horsemanship.

Tips & Warnings

- Check to see if the noseband is too tight or too loose. You should be able to slide one finger between the noseband and the underside of the horse's jawbone. The noseband is too loose if it slides up and down on the horse's nose when pressure is applied to the reins.
- Use a light hand with a bitless bridle. This will take some adjustment if you are used to maintaining contact with your horse's mouth through a bit, but constant pressure on the bitless bridle can be confusing to the horse.
- Your horse may exhibit exhilaration the first time he is ridden bitless because it feels so much better without a bit in the mouth. If he is a well-trained horse, he should settle down quickly and respond well.
- Ensure your horse is up to date on teeth floating. The bitless bridle can put pressure on the horse's cheeks from sharp points protruding from the teeth, causing great discomfort and poor performance.
- Be careful when ground driving your horse if he isn't used to it. Saddle the horse and run the long reins through the D rings on the saddle to keep them stable and don't get too near your horse's hind legs. Tie the stirrups together under the horse to keep them from flopping.

Find this article at: http://www.ehow.com/how_2096850_use-bitless-bridle.html

Abolishing Tack Room Clutter ~ found this in a newsletter on www.longridersgear.com

by Megan Dykeman

We all have them: messy lockers and tack rooms that look like a tornado went through them. My mess is the result of years of acquiring tack and a lack of time to figure out where it should all go. But a disorganized tack room can be the biggest time eater; time can be wasted finding the right bit or a set of splint boots that match. If you lose things because of clutter, you can also end up spending money needlessly to replace items that are buried at the bottom of your tack locker.

**"You know Martha Stewart has been in your barn when the manure in your barn yard has been sculpted into swans."
- Lynn Sampson, Alberta**

You don't have to go quite that far! In this article I hope to offer you some simple, easy and cheap organization solutions for your tack room or locker. All of these items are available at your local dollar store or home improvement shop. Many may already be lying around your property.

The first way to free up space is by getting your polos and boots put away in an easily accessible place. The cheapest and most effective way to do this is to put a bungee cord on the wall attached by either 2 nails or eye screws. This simple storage solution will save you time and neatly display your bandages and boots so they are easy to find.

Bridles and halters can be another source of clutter. Improperly storing these expensive pieces of tack can lead to broken leathers. This also is a time waster because you end up spending needless time replacing or untangling your equipment. A cheap and safe way of making your own bridle hanger is to use old shallow tin cans, like tuna or saddle soap cans, and screw them to the wall. This also keeps the shape of the bridle, which prevents the leather from cracking. You can even paint them your barn colors for aesthetics! Another neat thing you can do is paint the center, like I did, with "chalk board paint." (I purchased this at my local hardware store.) You then can write each horse's name in the center - a great solution if you are managing lots of horses and riders. This way, everyone (especially kids) will know which bridle goes with which horse.

Milk crates are a great space saver. I purchased some for \$1.00 a piece at my local dollar store. They are fantastic for storing cottons and bell boots. The holes enable you to see what's in them, eliminating the need to fumble blindly through box after box. They are also stackable, making them great in the tack room or on the trailer. Small plastic drawers are a great space saver. They are stackable and available at any dollar store. They work great for storing bits, small bottles, and miscellaneous supplies. If you label them, this saves having to go through each drawer to find what you are looking for.

Saddle pads, coolers, and blankets can easily be stored with custom-made hangers. I went down to my local hardware store and picked up a few 3/4" inch 4' dowels and some nylon rope. You simply drill a hole at each end and you can make your own hangers. Each one can feature as few or many dowel hangers as you please. Storing them by hanging saves so much room and makes post-ride drying easier. There is nothing worse than a wet blanket or saddle pad the next time you go to ride! These are handy to take with you to events or shows where space is at a premium.

Crops and whips can easily and safely be stored by taking a piece of PVC piping and screwing it to the wall. This keeps them off the floor while eliminating the risk of them being broken by careless feet. It also saves time; you won't have to fumble around to find one.

There are two handy ways to make your own saddle hangers. Either with 4"X 4" treated lumber approx 2' feet long, with a rope anchor screwed to it or 4" PVC pipe 2' long with a rope anchor bolted on. To fasten them to the wall simply screw an eye screw into the wall and hang the attached rope anchor to the eye screw. If the hanger sags a bit, you can level it up by adjusting the distance the eye screw is in the wall or putting a block of 2"X4" behind the hanger.

Once you have organized your tack storage area, you will find that the time spent at the barn simply getting your stuff ready to tack up will be greatly reduced. If you spend 10 minutes each day finding your stuff, that's 70 minutes a week! That's at least one ride! Think about how many rides that would be each month - especially if you have more than one horse. Your tack and equipment will also last longer. As Martha Stewart would say "It's a good thing!"

True Helmet Story

by Vanessa

I am the kind of person who would never put a child or a beginner on a horse without a well-fitting helmet. Ever. Period. But I am older, more experienced - and I don't plan on falling off of the horse I ride. So the other day I debated whether or not I needed to wear my helmet during an "ordinary" dressage lesson. More out of habit than sense, I buckled it on.

Less than an hour later, I was in the emergency room. If I hadn't been wearing that helmet, I would have been in the morgue.

Please understand I am a good rider. I've been on horses for almost 20 years; I'm a training level eventer who up until recently was riding three or four young, green horses every day. This time, I was riding a dead-quiet, sweetheart schoolmaster in a lesson.

Unfortunately, the King of All Bees stung that schoolmaster about ten minutes into the lesson. I don't remember hitting the ground. I don't remember riding in the ambulance or having my clothes cut off me. I don't know what my attending physician told my parents and my boyfriend when no one could say with any certainty if I was going to be all right.

Thank heavens, I ended up with "only" a nasty concussion and (hopefully only temporarily) impaired vision. When I returned to the barn, I found in my tack closet, my helmet with a neat crack running up one side. Without that helmet, that crack would have been in my head.

I've taken a lot of ribbing for wearing a helmet, but as my finger caught on one sharp, broken edge, the chilling reality of my situation dawned on me. It occurred to me, I'm not a kid anymore. I don't heal as fast or as well, and I have certain responsibilities as an adult. I thought, "How could I have ever explain to my loved ones that I was lying there horribly injured (or worse) because I cared more about what a people said and thought than about how much I meant to them?" I am not immortal - but I am inestimably precious to those who love me. To them, I cannot - I dare not - make excuses.

Please understand: accidents can happen any time, on any horse. It doesn't matter whether or not you're a good rider. AND, the better the horse the more sensitive and powerful he is and will be when the King of All Bees visits YOUR ride.

For more True Helmet Stories visit Jessica Jahiel's website: www.horse-sense.org/stories/. Jessica was inspired to create the True Helmet Stories webpage after reading Vanessa's story. Her website now has a large section totally devoted to helmet stories, offering encouragement to equestrians who are on the fence in the helmet decision as well as awareness of helmet replacement, selection and other useful and life-saving information. This story was published with Jessica's permission.

Keep Water Tanks Sparkling

This is a fantastic natural alternative to the questionable bleach method or the smelly gold fish method that can attract rodents. Pond fanciers know the little secret of setting a bundle of lavender and/or barley straw afloat in your water tank! Use 1 oz. of lavender/barley sprigs tied into a bundle for every square foot of surface water (algae is initially formed primarily on the water's surface, so depth/volume does not need to be taken into account). It will even clean up algae that already exist - depending on how grimy your tank is already it may take a few weeks. Unless your horse is quite unusually inquisitive he will leave your floating bundle alone; however you should use organic material to tie the bundle as opposed to some other substance that might injure your horse if ingested.

CLASSIFIED ADS

~ Place an Ad ~

Members can place a classified ad for free here! Selling a horse or a saddle? Are you boarding horses or maybe looking for something special? We would love to include your ad in the newsletter!!! Contact either one of us with info: *Sabrina Lea* at 235-5900 or *Sandy Arndt* arndtfarm@gmail.com

~ Free Business Ad ~

We are looking to expand our newsletter! We need your business card size ad (or the info that you would put on a business card) I can design one for you if you don't have one! Most of you out there have a business, or a hobby you could advertise for FREE in our newsletter! Again, please contact either one of us to get your info into the newsletter: *Sandy Arndt* arndtfarm@gmail.com or *Sabrina Lea* at 235-5900

~ Horse for Sale ~

18 year old - 15 hands,
reg Thoroughbred Mare
excellent dressage partner!!!
Very nice mover!
off to college ~ regretfully selling.
\$2,500 OBO
Alina 235-2401
rski@xyz.net
more info or pictures

~ Horse for Sale ~

Thoroughbred Gelding
11 yrs ~ 15.2+ hands
sweet disposition ~ FAST
intermediate/advanced rider
\$1500 OBO
Leah Campbell 235-4040

~ Saddle for Sale ~

Utahn Working Saddle
Hand-built 14 1/2 Inch
western riding saddle.
Excellent quality, asking \$800.
Hard working
& beautifully crafted.
leave message for
Carrie Reed @ 399-0140

Cue Bars Laddie

AQHA Blue Roan Stallion
at Stud.
Reining, Cowhorse,
Cutting, Roping.
\$800 LFG
for more information go to
www.coastalequine.com
or call Allison 360 961 5537

Cued To You

2003 AQHA Gelding,
Broke, gentle, pretty.
Reining, cowhorse, roping, 4-H.
\$6000
www.coastalequine.com
or call Allison 360 961 5537

Laddies Lil Player

2004 AQHA Bay Gelding
Big, Strong, Athletic,
very kind and broke.
Will be great at any discipline, but
started in cowhorse and reining.
\$6000
www.coastalequine.com
or call Allison 360 961 5537

~ Saddle for sale: ~

Crump 17.5" Prix deSaute,
Black.
Excellent "new" condition,
close contact saddle.
Includes girth, leathers & stirrups.
\$500.
Call Janice 907 235-7049

~ Saddle for Sale ~

black english Wyntec saddle
complete with stirrups, irons, etc
\$350.
Mossy 245-7540

~ Saddle for Sale ~

Rossi Y Carusso English saddle
16 1/2" all purpose
Carrie Reed @ 399-0140

~ Horse Wanted ~

Bombproof horse
Gelding preferred
Carrie Reed 399-0140
[Cdf119@hotmail](mailto:Cdf119@hotmail.com)



puppies for sale ?
car or truck for sale ?
personal land for sale ?
looking to buy something ?

Member's ads in the KBEA
Newsletter are FREE !!!!

Sterling Rose Saddlery

~ Feed for Sale ~

straw \$14 per bale
oats \$26 per 100# bag

Please call
235-5900

Happy Feet Farm

~ Hay for Sale ~

Outside hay
delivered to Homer
Orchard Grass, Timothy or Alfalfa
Double-compressed 60 lb bales
\$520 per ton
New shipment arrived 8/23/07
Jeanie 235-4888

Your Business Card or Ad Here!!!!!!!!!!!!

PENINSULA VETERINARY SERVICES

Jerry Nybakken, DVM

Specializing in large animal medicine

& "Exotic Animal" medicine

Ranch calls available

48213 Funny River Road

P.O. Box 1763

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

(907) 260-5850

(907) 252-7806



~ Newsletter Input ~

We want to make this YOUR newsletter,
with information/ideas **you** are interested in.

Send info by **email:**

Sabrina: westemak@yahoo.com

Sandy: amdtfam@gmail.com

or to any Newsletter Committee member

snail mail:

KBEA: PO Box 21, Homer

telephone:

Sabrina: 235-5900 or Renee: 235-8567

or drop it off: Renee @ HEA

Website Pictures Needed!



I **still** need some pictures for the KBEA web site! Please email me (or drop off at HEA or snail mail to KBEA) any pictures we could use to jazz up the site. Pictures of: *you, kids, animals, shots of local color, view shots, etc..* Thanks,

Jeanie jeaniefabich@yahoo.com



~~~~~  
It's that time of year again, when we need to invite our friends, family, co-workers, etc to join the KBEA family.  
~~~~~

Kachemak Bay Equestrian Association Jan thru Dec 2008 Membership



Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

email: _____

Adult membership _____ x \$12.50 = _____

Student membership _____ x \$ 5.00 = _____

Mail along with check to: PO Box 21, Homer, AK 99603

Questions? (907) 235-8567



Be a member! Join us as we continue toward our goal for a multi-use park and equestrian facility in the Homer area!

Check out some of the benefits to joining today...

Trail Rides!

Check out the local Trails with old friends & new!

Fundraisers!

BBQ's and other fun get-togethers with like minded people of our area!
Help us realize a dream for a horse facility so you and your kids can enjoy the benefits!

Clinics!

Opportunities for new and exciting horse-related classes and gatherings!

Vision Statement

A community that supports and appreciates the use of Equine resources and benefits from the values attained from the presence and use of horses in the Lower Kenai Peninsula.

Mission Statement

To provide a multi-use park, including an equestrian facility, for therapeutic and educational opportunities and recreational events for the community of Homer and the Lower Kenai Peninsula.

Contact: Roberta Highland, President of KBEA 235-8214

or

KbayEA@gmail.com for more information