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Advertising: 281-447-0772

Editorial Content: news@horsebackmagazine.com

Edited by Steven Long and National News Editor Carrie Gobernatz

A Note From From the Nebraska Killing Fields



By Jerry Finch, Founder

Habitat for Horses

Friday started out with snow on the ground, the cars, the people.... this was not a Pina Colada/Jimmy Buffet day. It warmed up, kinda', but the snow turned to light rain.

Didn't bother the efforts of the volunteers, however. The horses were hayed, water buckets filled and they started loading horses around 10. Eleven horses moved out, including Drake, the orphan foal, who was adopted by a local character who is a real, honest to God cowboy. Looks, acts and lives the role, and I've never seen a grown man as happy as him when I told him he was cleared. Nor have I seen so many people with tears when we watched him drive away.

Part of the daily chores for the HSUS folks was to bottle feed Drake several times a day.

AHC Posts Washington Agenda



COMMITTEE MEETING Schedule

AHC 2009 NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM

JUNE 14-17, 2009

Here is the finalized Board of Trustees and Advisory Committee meeting schedule for AHC's 2009 National Issues Forum being held June 14-17 at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill here in Washington. A registration form is also attached. This form can also be downloaded from AHC's website, www.horsecouncil.org.

If you have not already done so, you should make your hotel reservations as soon as possible by contacting the hotel at 202-737-1234 or you can use the following direct link to the Hyatt Regency website,

<http://washingtonregency.hyatt.com/groupbooking/wasrw2009hors>.

The American Horse Council has negotiated a per night rate of \$235 single or \$260 double. The **cut-off date** for guaranteeing a room at the AHC special rate is **TUESDAY, MAY 12TH**, so be sure to make your reservations as soon as possible.

Sunday, June 14

4 pm – 6 pm State Horse Council Advisory Committee Orientation Meeting

6 pm Reception (sponsored by State Horse Council Advisory Committee)

Monday, June 15

8:30 am – 4 pm State Horse Council Advisory Committee

9 am – 11:30 am Equine Species Working Group

Noon – 3 pm Unwanted Horse Coalition

Noon – 4 pm Health & Regulatory Committee

[Louisiana's Calvin Borel Wins Kentucky Derby on No Name 50/1 Long Shot](#)



Lawyer Joins AQHA Staff

AMARILLO, (AQHA) - Chad Pierce, who has been serving as AQHA's general counsel while a partner in the Underwood Law Firm, will become a full-time AQHA employee May 17. In addition to his duties as general counsel, he will assist several AQHA Standing Committees, including Stud Book and Registration, and Nominations and Credentials with conducting their Association business. "We welcome Chad to the AQHA team," stated AQHA President Jim Helzer. "I have watched Chad become an integral part of the Association business model these past six years, and now having him full time at AQHA will complement greatly our experienced and dedicated

Drake loves people, loves to be scratched and if someone walked by his pen and didn't pay attention to him, he'd whinny in his little squeaky voice.

Lemme' explain the price structure. It keeps changing, but maybe we have it set now and no more changes.

If you are not a nonprofit, just someone wanting to adopt a horse, it is a flat \$100 - nothing extra for a Health Cert. if you are traveling out of state.

If you are reclaiming your horse with proof of ownership - Same \$100 including Health Certificate for out of state travel.

If you are a nonprofit rescue/sanctuary/training center - no charge and Habitat for Horses picks up the cost of the Health Certificate.

Perhaps that will inspire more rescues to become involved and take more horses.

I wish each of you could come out to the arena and look into the eyes of the horses. They know. They understand the past, they know what is before them now, but none of us know the future for them (or for ourselves). It's our job to put that future in place. What greater thing could we do than to secure the lives of each and every horse that we have the opportunity to touch.

I want them to remove the memories of their past from them. I want them to hear kind voices, to know what real people are all about and to never again feel hunger or pain. We can't guarantee that, but we can do our best to make it a reality.

Saturday we have more hay coming in, then a small load on Sunday, then a truckload on Monday. Each and every horse, burro and mule out there has gained weight. In the mid-day, they are sleeping and peaceful. The volunteers often stop and look. They feel the peace.

There is a difference in the last week, a big difference. They will

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 pm – 2:30 pm | Recreation/State Horse Council |
| Committees Joint Meeting | |
| 2:30 pm – 4 pm | Recreation Committee |
| 2 pm – 3 pm | Animal Welfare Committee |
| 3 pm – 4 pm | Horse Show Committee |
| 3 pm – 4 pm | Racing Advisory Committee |
| 5 pm – 6 pm | Board of Trustees/Committee |
| Chairs/Staff Reports & Discussion | |
| 6 pm – 7:30 pm | Reception |
| 7 pm | Board of Trustees Dinner |
| Meeting (Trustees Only) | |

Tuesday, June 16

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|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9 am – 4 pm | General Session – National Issues |
| Forum | |
| 4 pm – 5:30 pm | Board of Trustees Business |
| Meeting | |
| 6 pm | Congressional Reception |

Wednesday, June 17

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|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am | Legislative Update for "Ride-In" |
| Participants | |
| All Day | Congressional/Federal Agency Visits |

staff. Additionally, this will be a good move financially for AQHA, which is something very important to the Executive Committee in this current economy." AQHA Executive Vice President Don Treadway Jr. commented the move would be a first for AQHA in its 69-year history, but the timing was right for both parties. "When we approached Chad to see if he might be interested in moving to AQHA full time, he responded positively and with real interest," Treadway said. "When we sat down to work through the details, it became very apparent this would be a win-win for all concerned, and I am very pleased we could reach an agreement." "I am excited and look forward to joining the AQHA team as its in-house general counsel," Pierce said. "Over the past six years, the Underwood Law Firm and I have been blessed with the unique opportunity to provide legal counsel to AQHA. "My being able to continue to do so from an in-house position will no doubt allow me to have an even more in-depth perspective of AQHA's operations, strategic plans, registration matters, show matters, governance, and other corporate issues. I appreciate the confidence of AQHA's Executive Committee in offering me this position, and I am eager to contribute to AQHA's efforts in maintaining its leading role in the equine industry, promoting the American Quarter Horse and protecting the welfare and integrity of the breed." A graduate of the University of Texas and the Texas Tech University School of Law, Pierce and his wife

live. They know that now, and I truly believe that they are thankful.

It doesn't matter to them what organization threw hay over their fences or what the name tag says when the water bucket was filled, and it doesn't matter to us who are working this project. This is a scene of caring people serving the animals in need.

Thank you - from them, from me, from each other.



Horseback News Lines

Magazine: Tel: 281-447-0772
 FAX: 281-893-1029
 Internet:
news@horsebackmagazine.com

Shannon have twin 5-year-old sons, Will and Ben.

Pierce joined the Underwood Law Firm in 1995 and with the retirement of longtime Association legal counsel Barry Stone assumed that position for AQHA in 2003.



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Tel: 281-447-0772
 FAX: 281-893-1029
news@texashorsetalk.com