

The Rocky Beat

MONTHLY NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN HORSE ASSOCIATION

W I L L O W ' S S T O R Y

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Warmth in Winter
- Get Involved!
- Sponsors
- Trail Miles
- Registrar's Plea
- Trail Program Love
- Versatile Horse

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I was having a conversation with another horse lady one day, and she asked if I knew of anyone who wanted a horse. She was moving and was willing to give her to someone as long as she had a good home. She said she was a Rocky Mountain and so I asked if she was rideable. She said she hadn't been ridden in a couple of years, so of course I had to go and see her. Growing up I had Quarter Horses and Paints, but I've had Icelandics for 26 years now and have some friends with Rockies. I said I could come and look at her that weekend (it was a long wait till the weekend). As soon as I pulled into the driveway, I knew she was coming home with me. She was a beautiful red chocolate with a star and snip (she also has a double swirl, found that out later). I went back home hooked up the trailer and off I went to pick her up.

Her name was Willow, and she was 12 years old. That's all I knew about her. I asked if she had her papers, but she said she never got them from the woman she bought her from. I was curious to find out just who she was but not sure how to go about it. I started sending her picture to some breeders here in Ontario,

but no one answered. I finally got a reply back from one who said she looked a lot like her stallion, Tim's Choco. She suggested that I get in touch with the RMHA and talk to them. I contacted the RMHA the next day and talked to Cyndee Davis. Since I knew she had been registered, she said they could do a DNA test. I printed out the form, apologized to Willow for yanking her hair out and explained it was for a

good cause. It took about three weeks although it seemed like forever, and I got a call from Cyndee saying they found her. Her registered name is "Highcreeks Willow Breeze", but in order to get duplicate papers I had to get her breeder to sign the form. She



gave me Louise's name and information, and I crossed my fingers. Thankfully she still had the same phone number. She was so happy to find out where she had gone, and we talked for over an hour. She was more than happy to sign the form and even sent me pictures from when she was a foal and early training. We still keep in touch today.

Willow and I have been hitting the trails almost every weekend (as I still have my Icy to ride). Maybe because she hadn't been ridden for a couple of years, but when I first started riding

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED AD (MAX 50 WORDS) -\$10

FRIENDS OF THE RMHA

Please thank them for their support of the RMHA with your patronage if you have a need.

Click on each name to visit the corresponding website.

[Stoner Ridge Farm](#)

[West Coast RMH Club](#)

[Mike Walker](#)

[Lee Boyd](#)

[Bluegrass Equine Vet](#)

[Michael & Judy Brummer](#)

DEADLINES TO NOTE:

Spring Issue Printed Magazine:

Next RMHA Board Meeting:

American Horse Council Benefits

For RMHA members. If you would like to see the benefits we get just for being members of the RMHA
Go [HERE](#)

B.E.S.T.S. DIRECTORY LINK

Advertise with the RMHA

-Help to support all of the programs of the RMHA by advertising in the BESTS Directory or becoming a website home page sponsor. Live links to your own website are available from the BESTS Directory and the website home page. Contact the RMHA office (859-644-5244) for more information. Ads must be prepaid.

RMHA Trail Program

If you ride those trails and you aren't a part of this program yet, you should be! What are you waiting for? And if you are, you need to know that the trail year has changed! To find out all you need to know, click [here](#)!

Friends of Sound Horses (FOSH)–

Read [HERE](#) about their news and activities

Link to KHBIF Information.

KHBIF Information

Horse expo participation forms-If you

plan to participate in expos in 2019, please find your form [HERE](#) . Forms are now being accepted year-round.

RMHA Versatility Program

What do you do with your horse? Perform? Ride Trails? Show? Extreme Cowboy? Obstacles? Mounted shooting? Drill team? More? Then you should really check out our versatility program! Get all the details right [here](#) and start adding up those points!

Love your program? Keep it going!

Support + Volunteers=Programs
Not only do we appreciate our volunteers, but they are utterly essential to our programs and many functions of our association. Without volunteerism, we would lose many of the programs we participate in and enjoy. Please call the office to volunteer!

FROM THE HOME OFFICE

[illegible]

FROM THE REGISTRAR:

LABEL ALL PHOTOGRAPHS, PLEASE!!! This is very important!!

Whether you send in one horse or multiple horses for registration, every photo **MUST** be labeled.

Thank you in advance for your help in keeping your records accurate.

ALSO Regarding Emails: All email photos must be labeled! Preferably also in the subject line.

A Horse of a Different Name

When naming horses or foals, no punctuation is allowed with the exception of apostrophes.

REGIONAL LIAISONS

Do you know what a regional board liaison is? Here is your explanation according to the rules:

From the Rules, Section 3:

5. Board Communication with Affiliated Clubs (Amended January 24, 2015) Annually the president shall appoint a Member at Large of the Board to act as a direct liaison with each Affiliated Club. An officer may act in this capacity if specifically requested. Duties will require biannual reports from regional club liaisons with the second report to include financial status and a list of members.

Here are the currently appointed liaisons:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Central States | Brittany Hopkins |
| 2. Lone Star | Jane Gean |
| 3. Michigan | Kathy House |
| 4. Mid-Atlantic | Tess Smith |
| 5. Pacific Crest | Janet Peters |
| 6. Southern States | Jason Slone |
| 7. Tristate | Jane Gean |
| 8. West Coast | Mindy Smith |

VERSATILITY PROGRAM

If you do a number of different things with your Rocky, this is the program for you.

The versatility program runs from November 1 to October 31 each year. Completed forms must be turned in by December 1st to be tabulated for the year. Youth and Adults may participate and are tallied accordingly. There are forms for the program on the RMHA web site. There are two forms. One is for [Horse of the Year](#). The [Accumulating form](#) is for subsequent years. The program runs year after year. A very detailed description of the program is on the RMHA website at [Versatility Program](#).

Examples of some of the versatile things one might do with their horse are trail riding, trail competitions, showing, 4H programs, team penning, dressage, jumping, carriage driving, drill team or demos and any other activities that are popular in your area of the world. You will need to keep good records as you must turn in documentation with your forms. Documentation can be scores, photos, receipts or any other form depending on the activity.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing many folks participating in the Versatile Horse Program.

W I L L O W ' S S T O R Y

her, every time I asked her to gait she would give a protest buck, so I just made her go faster. It only took her a couple of days to figure out that it was more work if she bucked, and she hasn't done it since. Her gait is super smooth, and when she locks into it at her fast speed, it's fantastic. She is super smart and decided once that she forgot how to load on a trailer (she always just walked in). We were at the park, and I went to put her in. She just planted her feet. I tried everything, and no way would she move, so after about 20 minutes of a stand-off, I explained to her that she could either ride home in style or walk home beside the trailer. At that point, she moved her front feet in just far enough for me to go out the side door around behind and give her a hard slap on the rear with the whip. She literally leaped on and has loaded perfectly ever since. She definitely has her own opinion about things and doesn't mind letting you hear it, then we do it my way. I just love her to bits and am so glad I have her. Everything happens for a reason, I believe, and I guess she was supposed to find me. A big thank you to the RMHA and DNA, it's a wonderful thing!



Submitted by Member, Lisa Dickson



D I D Y O U K N O W ?

Keeping Horses Warm through Winter's Chill

By Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D.

Horses love it when there's a chill in the air. But as the winter temperatures set in, your horse will rely on you to protect him against extreme cold. Some areas of the country have milder winters than others, but no matter where your horse lives, there are adjustments to be made.

First, pasture becomes limited or non-existent and horses must be fed hay. Hay loses many of the nutrients originally found in fresh grass, such as vitamins E and C, beta carotene (for vitamin A production), and omega-3 fatty acids. In addition, exposure to direct sunlight declines during winter, limiting your horse's ability to produce his own vitamin D. It is more important than ever to fill in these nutritional gaps by providing a vitamin/mineral supplement that also includes flaxseed meal for necessary omega-3 fatty acids.

Alfalfa is beneficial for most horses because when combined with grass hay, it boosts the overall protein quality. This helps protect immune function and keep body proteins such as muscles, hair, skin, and hooves, in good condition. Consider offering your horse a 30/70 mixture of alfalfa/grass hay.

Hay helps your horse produce body heat

A good rule of thumb — for every 10 ° F below freezing (wind chill temperature), feed 10% more hay than usual. But better yet, offer grass hay free-choice. His digestive system requires a steady supply of forage and the best way to do this (and the most convenient for you) is to keep hay available at all times, day and night.

When more calories are needed

Wet and windy conditions increase energy needs, making it difficult for your horse to eat enough if hay is his only feed source. Depending on the condition of your horse, and his level of activity, you may need to add concentrates to the diet. A high fat commercial feed is fine for healthy horses. For the easy keeper, it is best to avoid cereal grains such as oats, corn, barley or sweet feeds. Beet pulp or alfalfa pellets provide calories without much starch and sugar. And don't forget fat sources such as rice bran (stabilized and fortified with calcium), flaxseed meal, and oils — they are concentrated sources of calories.

Your older horse may need joint protection

Though a joint supplement may be helpful, start by adding vitamin C. As horses age, they no longer produce as much as when they were young. Vitamin C is necessary for collagen production – the protein found in joints. Omega 3s from flax or chia seeds are also a means of reducing joint inflammation that is aggravated by cold weather.

Do you need to blanket your horse?

Don't rush to blanket your horse. If he is healthy, of normal weight, and has a good winter coat, he can do very well in cold weather. Your horse's winter coat is an excellent insulator, provided his skin doesn't get wet. Therefore, most horses do not need to be blanketed as long as they have access to shelter from the wind, rain, and snow.

If you must blanket your horse, use waterproof, breathable materials only, and monitor your horse's coat under the blanket for sweating. When temperatures drop, a wet horse underneath a blanket can be colder than he would be with no blanket at all.

Shelter

Turnout is the ideal situation, along with a three-sided shelter or free access to a barn to provide protection against severe weather. If your horse is stalled, make sure the barn is well ventilated to avoid respiratory problems. But remember, if a horse is unaccustomed to stall living, this can be very stressful, resulting in ulcers and reduced immune function. *So the more turnout you can provide the better.*

Tips provided with permission by Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D. at [Getty Equine Nutrition](http://www.gettyequine.com)

T R A I L M I L E A G E P R O G R A M

Last Name	First Name	Miles	Last Name	First Name	Miles
Northcote	Gloria	29,185	Sheglia	Michelle	851
Moon	Dean	19,523	Hopkins	Leslie	801
Untiedt	Susan	13,639	Dunn	Jan	766
Pravda	Cindy	13,579	West	Barbara	730
Plumley	Laura	10,456	Swope	Valerie	627
Wisneski	Patty	9,358	Bullock	Jan	542
Balan	Christina	9,126	Collins	Kelley	469
Monaco	Linda	8,868	Enyart	Janet	455
Peters	Janet	8,285	Tucker	Julia	437
Burke	JD	5,280	Altizer	Diane	432
Kaper	Tara	5,089	Emmert	Angie	353
MacDonald	Heiderose	4,142	Branham	Sandra	338
Ewert	David	4,049	Abram	Karen	292
Crampton	Daniel	4,031	Grimes	Melissa	271
Quatsoe	Carrie	3,486	Bunting	Kathleen	225
Zynda	Alyce	2,925	DeHaan	Pamela	217
Meadows	Sandi	2,895	Enderle	Patricia	207
Nichols	Jennifer	2,852	Holland	Karen	146
Fleming	Angela	2,759	Wickham	Stewart	40
Meadows	Dallas	2,656			
Cade	Jackie	2,547			
Miller	D'Anna	2,081			
Styers	Ellen	2,037			
Garman	Sherry	2,010			
Humphreys	Kerri	1,968			
Tremper	Lee	1,827			
Smith	Tess	1,713			
Smith	Ken	1,618			
Daby	Leahe	1,544			
Pierson	Dolly	1,484			
Killip	Tammy	1,430			
Bynum	Kayla	1,318			
Jolley	Marianne	1,228			
O'Dell	Ashley	1,197			
Pearce	Rhonda	1,141			
Depew	Claudia	1,105			
Lewandowski	Darlene	1,095			
Lutz	Sandra	1,061			
Reeder	Deborah	1,026			
Morgan	Rosemary	1,021			
Griffin	Terri	943			

Trail Miles as of 6-30-19

C A L L I N G A L L R I D E R S

So, you asked, and we added. As part of the 2018 Membership Survey, numerous requests were made to allow Registered Rocky Mountain Horses who were not certified into the Trail Mileage Program. Starting with the 2020 Trail Year (November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2020), the program has changed and riders who have Registered RMHs who are not Certified will be allowed to track and submit their miles.

This new program consists of two subprograms:

- Rider Mileage Program where yearly and lifetime trail miles are tracked by **Riders**, and
- RMHA Trail **Horse** Program where yearly and lifetime trail miles are tracked by **Certified Rocky Mountain Horse(s)**

RIDER MILEAGE PROGRAM

The new rider mileage program is open to all RMHA members with a current rider card and current trail card and there are now 2 divisions – Registered and Certified.

REGISTERED DIVISION

This division is for riders riding one or more RMHA Registered but Un-Certified horses. Yearly and lifetime miles will be tracked by the rider and submitted each year. At the end of the year, the RMHA Trail Committee will verify miles, and yearly awards are given for the Top Five high mileage riders in this Division.

Lifetime miles by single rider on a registered but uncertified horse or horses are tracked and awarded at key milestones - that is, 100, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 2500, 7500, 10,000, 15,000 and 20,000 miles.

Yearly and Lifetime awards will be given at the annual awards banquet.

CERTIFIED DIVISION

The Certified Division is for riders riding a RMHA Certified horse(s). Again, yearly and lifetime miles by rider (riding a certified horse(s)) are tracked by the rider and submitted each year and verified by the RMHA Trail Committee.

As with the Registered Division, yearly awards will be given yearly for the Top Five high mileage riders in this Division.

Lifetime rider awards miles by single rider on a Certified horse or horses are tracked and awarded at key milestone - that is, 100, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 2500, 7500, 10,000, 15,000 and 20,000 miles.

All awards will be given at annual awards banquet.

HORSE MILEAGE PROGRAM

Yearly and lifetime miles by ridden RMHA members on their **Certified Horse(s)** will be tracked for each Certified horse. The current rider will track the miles and submit them each year for verification by the Trail Committee. The rider must be enrolled in the Rider Mileage Program for that year for the miles to be counted. Yearly and lifetime horse awards are described below.

Yearly Certified Horse Awards - Yearly miles per Certified Horse will be tracked and an award given at the annual awards banquet to the Top High Mileage Certified Gelding, Top Mileage Certified Stallion, and the Top Mileage Certified Mare.

Lifetime Certified Horse Awards – Lifetime mileage for Certified horses will be awarded as follows:

2,500 miles	Junior Trail Horse Certificate – (one horse/one or more riders – Certificate goes to current owner and in horse file)
5,000 miles	Tobe Award (one horse/one rider) – Plaque/Story for Magazine Senior Trail Horse Certificate (one horse/one or more riders – Certificate goes to current owner and in horse file)
7,5000 miles	Master Trail Horse Certificate (one horse/one or more rider – Certificate goes to current owner and in horse file) – Plaque/Story for Magazine
10,000	Trophy – (one horse/one of more rider - Trophy goes to current owner)

CALLING ALL RIDERS

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE

All RMHA members in good standing are eligible to participate in this program. This program requires an annual Rider's Card, and enrollment in the Trail Program. The Rider Card and Trail Program forms are available via the website or the RMHA Office. No mileage awards will be awarded without completion of these forms and associated fees. All horses participating in the RMHA Trail Certified Horse Awards Program MUST be Certified upon date of the yearly enrollment in the program.

The trail year for both programs runs from November 1 to October 31. The rider must be enrolled in the Rider Mileage Program for that year for the miles to be counted. Late submissions will still get credit for miles ridden but will not be eligible for any **end-of-year** awards.

The Trail Committee is currently working on the associated awards and a developing a sponsorship program to help fund and promote our programs. The program fees cover the costs of the awards only. If you are interested in being a sponsor – let us know!

So, fill out the forms and jump in the saddle. Looking forward to seeing all of you and your beautiful Rockies out on the trail.



As a first time participant with a young green horse self starting under saddle, this was a great incentive program to keep me on track. Working full time makes it difficult to get out on the trails. At the end of August, following a 3 month horsemanship challenge done with NATRC Region 4 members. I was able to get my 4 year old out on trail by ourselves successfully without issues or explosions. Fancy I Am, aka Callie, has been a stellar horse for me as a first time RMH owner. Thank you for having this program and I'm excited for the owners of non-certified RMHs that they'll be able to participate in the program going forward!

Chrissy Knight



Chrissy Knight and Callie
September 2019
NATRC R4 ride at Six O Ranch
Cleburne, TX

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.RMHORSE.COM



The Rocky Mountain Horse Association is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

One horse for all occasions

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Mission:

The purpose of the Rocky Mountain Horse Association is to aid and encourage the preservation, promotion, breeding and development of the Rocky Mountain Horse throughout the United States and Internationally.

M A N A G E R ' S M I N U T E

Thanksgiving is less than two weeks away! For most of us, the weather has turned cooler (much!) and Fall is giving way to Winter. Riding our Rockies is just that much more fun when there's a zip in the air!

While we are still basking in the glow of a great International Show this year, we are busy planning for 2020. The Board of Directors and various committees want to hear from you—our members. We are busy building budgets, reviewing progress on our Strategic Plan goals, and getting ready for the Annual Awards Banquet in February. Come join your fellow members who are already involved in making our association's plans for 2020 a blueprint for growth.

Because Thanksgiving is almost upon us—it's more than appropriate to think about what we are thankful for this year. I am thankful for my family—children and grandchildren, the folks at my church and neighbors, and, especially for all those who serve as first responders and our great military. I'm also thankful for each one of you who support this thriving association and the important work it does in promoting and preserving the Rocky Mountain breed! Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Bill Nelson
General Manager, RMHA