



MEDINA COUNTY O.H.C.

DEDICATED TO PROMOTING RIDING IN THE CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

November 2004

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[Http://www.medinacountyohc.com](http://www.medinacountyohc.com)

To Blanket or Not -- A Discussion

My email has been burning up with the "to blanket or not" issue. I found this interesting so what follows is a panel discussion of a kind.

Panelist #1 Dr. Rebecca Gimenez, a PhD in Equine Physiology and her husband, a Veterinarian/PhD who teaches in the Equine Sciences Department at Clemson.

Horses evolved for 60 million years in the high plains of Siberia - their hooves, ears, hair, and skin has evolved to maintain heat and distribute it as needed. (ever seen snow melt on hooves? that's right - it DOESN'T! There is a complex mechanism by which countercurrent blood returning from the hoof is warmed by blood going to it).

Horses generate their body heat from fermentation of long stem roughage. Blankets assist them in maintaining their heat, but because of precisely what you mentioned (when you take the blanket off - their thermostat has to reset - when you put it back on - it has to reset)

Blankets prevent the natural process of air fluffing between the hairs of the coat, so he will remain colder for several hours until his thermostat resets and the hair fluffs back up. When horses get cold, they run around or use THERMOGENESIS (laymans term is shivering) to burn O₂ in their oxidative phosphorylation cascade - which makes LOTS of heat. IN SHORT- a horse stays warm if you HEAT IT FROM THE INSIDE - give him HAY and keep him in decent condition.

FOR ALL WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS --Rainy and cold, snowy, icy, cold and windy, rainy cold and windy - FEED MORE HAY - ALL THAT THE HORSE WANTSTO EAT! Provide water that is above freezing so they DRINK normally. Provide normal grain amounts - that doesn't warm the horse.

Leave the blankets in the barn and leave the horse OUTSIDE! Provide a run in shed or shelter out of the wind where they can make a choice but notice that most of the time they CHOOSE to remain out IN it. More horses die or get sick from ventilation problems (ammonia, poor ventilation, dust and respiratory inhalants) in barns than EVER get sick from a little cold rain and wind.

If you are going to leave them in a barn - they need ALOT more bedding than most people use - most stalls always reek of ammonia. It is cheating to stand in the stall to assess that - get down on your knees where the horse's nose is. Closing the barn up or heating it is BEGGING for respiratory infections from condensation. Have AIR FLOW thru the barn and get the animals out for EXERCISE! Don't let those buckets freeze or you'll have colics.

This blanketing philosophy applies only to horses who are allowed to grow a winter coat and who are bathed very infrequently in the winter (soap removes the natural oils and grease from their skin and coat, and then the hair does not fluff properly).

To Blanket or Not -- A Discussion continued

These vets do NOT blanket unless the horse is SICK and has to be maintained in a barn.

Panelist #2- Respondant Sandra Franklin

The article below does not address the issue of how much work a horse is getting....if he is routinely worked, up to sweating, a thick, woolly coat becomes a wet cloak of chilling danger. He overheats: think of yourself going to a gym without being able to remove your winter coat. A body clip is essential for those horses in routine hard work, and then, of course, blanketing.

Also, the more fit a horse is, the less his coat grows....the added muscle creates warmth.

To remedy the flattened, less warming hair coat issue, and shivering, place crumpled straw under the blanket to create air space/wick moisture – great for cooling out a sweated horse as well. The fleece coolers do not maintain warmth like wool—check your horse to see if he is toasty warm under that cooler or blanket!

A shivering horse(and human) needs help; he burns an enormous amount of calories (heat) to maintain his core temp. Contrary to the article below, if your horse is shivering, you need to address the issue, not ignore it. Also, a shivering horse generally stands, does not move about, as stated below, in order to conserve his energy and apply the calories to warming his core (unless he is running from a pack of wolves).

Having had over 200 horses, many lived outside in arctic conditions (32 below 0) – no one shivered. However, a chilling wind/rain can cause them to shiver – even in moderate temps; they used the run-in in those conditions.

They are not wild horses...don't treat them as such. The domestic horse needs protection consideration.

Panelist #3 Respdant Joyce Dickson

A sweated horse needs cooling down until dry (cooling blankets work well). He can then be groomed so his hair can erect and trap air, and put back outside or in. All animals need shelter from the wind because of wind chill, which they would find by themselves if they were wild. We provide it for them. The article doesn't say anything about what to do if the horse is shivering, except that it is an indication of a cold horse. What they do say is FEED MORE HAY (so shivering isn't a problem), and don't blanket unless the horse is old or sick.

Body clipping is a convenience for the rider, at the horse's expense. It takes time to cool out a horse in the winter when you've allowed them to wear their own coat, which many people will not spend. I consider it a part of winter riding. On the other hand, I save lots of time not having to worry about what blanket my horse should be wearing today. I let him worry about that, naturally.

More information was be found at www.THEHORSE.com (winter weather care)

MEDINA OHC SCHEDULE OF EVENTS				
Jan 2	Trail Work Hours Report Due	Ronda Urbank		330-923-9557
Jan 15	Trail Miles Ridden Report Due	Ronda Urbank		330-923-9557
Jan 29	Annual Dinner	Waters in Hudson 3 PM	Rosemary Young Hope Orr	440-884-7994

Medina County OHC General Meeting November 3, 2004

Announcements:

Trail Miles ridden for 2004 are due to Ronda Urbank by January 15, 2005

Trail Maintenance hours for 2004 are due to Ronda Urbank by January 2, 2005

The trail council has changed the date of our joint trail building to Saturday November 20th. There is bench work to do on the switchback north of 303 and there is a very muddy spot near old Akron-Peninsula Road where we need to bench more. Meet at 9:15 at Robinson Field. Bring your own lunch.

The date for the 2005 banquet is January 29 at 3:00. This is a Saturday and the banquet will be at The Waters in Hudson, Ohio. There will be a sit down dinner with a chicken, fish or vegetarian choice for \$25.00 per dinner, a Prime Rib dinner at \$28.00. Child's dinners will be \$20.00. Members with an interest in planning the banquet were asked to join the committee and share their ideas.

The calendar has made roughly \$13,000.00 in profit. Reuss will be taking them to the State membership meeting. The Bath Journal is coming out with another article. Calendars won't be discounted until at least after December 1st or later. If calendars were discounted, it could be done at say Borders or other clubs could take them and sell them and make some profit. Both ideas had unsatisfactory strings attached.

The President appointed a Financial Committee for 2005. The chairperson will be Bob Borrows. Rosemary Young and Joyce Tretow will also serve on the committee.

Penny Passalacqua was present and showed us the Cuyahoga County current fund raiser. They are selling Our Town all around Coupon books for \$20.00 each. These are thick books of coupons for entertainment and restaurants in the mostly Cleveland area. Penny also invited anyone interested to attend their banquet January 22, 2005 which is a Sunday at 4:00. Their adult price is \$15.00, \$10.00 for kids. There will be an auction and it will be held in the Knights of Columbus Hall off 480 in Garfield Hts., Ohio.

The Medina County first Halloween ride was very successful. Roughly 50 members and friends attended. There were twenty to thirty people at the fire each night and all had lots of fun.

Linda Weese, from the nominating committee, presented the nominated slate of officers for 2005 as follows:

President Sherry Eucker

Vice-President Jack Weese

Secretary Sheri Dohmer

Treasurer Stacy Sadar

There being no additional nominations from the floor, the officers were elected as presented.

Carol Himelright asked if we can get someone to research grants. Our club needs to find matching funds or a corporate donation. The thought is we need matching funds for our profits from the calendar sales for possibly helping to fund environmental studies of our trails. Sandra Bauer will contact a lady she has met in Indiana to get the name of a person around Holden Arboretum who does grant research.

The meeting was adjourned through a Ron Bauer, Jack Weese motion.

Reuss Griffiths showed the movie "In the Company of Horses." The movie took various breeds one or two at a time and presented a biography regarding the breed.

OCH State Meeting November 14, 2004

By Ronda Urbank State Delegate

Phil and I, Reuss Griffiths and Jack Weese traveled to the State OHC Membership meeting near Springfield Ohio. The meeting was hosted by Clark County. They served the best meal we have ever had at a State meeting. Unfortunately the caterer had difficulty getting the meat cooked and the meal was one hour late. This made a very long meeting fit to an even shorter time frame because the meeting was in a High School and we had to be out by 5:30 PM. There were approximately 230 Ohio members present. We are grateful our safety was considered the important item over promptness.

When we arrived home very late last night, I had difficulty seeing any purpose in the meeting. This morning when I was rested, I suddenly realized the election had made history in OHC. The really important thing that happened at this meeting is because several members cared enough about OHC to allow themselves to run for election, there was more than one choice on the ballot for every office. There were three choices for President because Mary Ann Schmidt, past president from the early 1990's, was nominated from the floor and was willing to run because she felt changes need to be made at the leadership level. Dave Whitten from Lorain County ran for Vice-President. Dave is very active in the region and works very hard for OHC. Now that the State leadership realizes members are concerned about OHC, its fiscal responsibility and things like censorship of the Webb and articles submitted to the Corral and newsletter I think more things will be decided by committee.

The final slate of elected officers for State OHC is: Neil Shaw President, Rick Patterson Vice-President, Kathryn Harrison Recording Secretary and Ransae Hall Treasurer.

Other noteworthy business includes:

The Standing Rules were amended under duties of the Treasurer to read in 8. Shall oversee the professional preparation of the OHC taxes for submission to the IRS.

Standing Rule 9 failed to be changed. It would have provided for a professional audit of the State Treasurer's books. The old rule remains and the directors, appointed by the President as opposed to being elected, will continue to audit the books.

Dual memberships will now be known as multiple memberships. This refers to members who join more than one OHC County Chapter.

Another duty was added to the trail committee. They will coordinate trail improvement efforts with other trail user groups in the State of Ohio. This has been happening, but now it is part of the rules.

A motion was passed to provide State Officers and Directors with \$1,000,000 liability insurance, to research making available a policy that ALL OHC members can obtain just by being members, and to reimburse Mike Gerard the annual premium of \$690.00 which he paid personally to provide the liability Insurance for OHC State Officers and Directors through June 28, 2005. Mr., Gerard did not seek reimbursement. He paid the premium to protect himself as director and others from being sued as a result of OHC being sued. As OHC members, we cannot expect quality people to risk losing their life's savings to be an officer of State OHC.

The Gibby award, a very nice plaque complete with a picture of Kathy Runo on her horse, was given to her husband Don. Kathy's daughter and grandson were also in attendance. Kathy was acknowledged for laying out trails, building trails, grooming trails etc. Kathy died in June as the result of a fall from her horse at a ride in Hocking Hills

Nominations are due January 1, 2005 for people who might be eligible to receive the trail worker award from State OHC for 2005. Bill Unger, State Trail Mile committee chairperson announced a new award for people who ride 25,000.00 miles or more lifetime. The award was given to Charlie Barger from Claremont County. Charlie received a Plaque and a specially designed belt buckle. Medina County has a member coming very close to 25,000 miles. That would be Sammie Kendig who I show as having 20,816 life- time miles ridden and reported through Medina County. You would have to be reporting your miles ridden to become eligible for this award.

Members are urged to go on the Web to DNROH.ORD and complete the State Park usage form. I have done this and can see by the questions that if horsemen want trails, campsites and other improvements, we need to be completing the form to let the ODNR know we are users.

**REMINDER
RECORD TRAIL MILES?**

**THE LEAVES HAVE CHANGED
COLOR.! HAVE YOU RECORDED
THOSE TRAIL MILES?
NOW IS THE TIME !!!!
TO TELL THE STATE OF OHIO
HOW IMPORTANT OUR TRAILS
ARE BY REPORTING EVERY
SINGLE MILE RIDDEN ON THE
APPROPRIATE FORM
NEED FORM SEE WEB SITE -
MEDINACOUNTYOHC.COM OR
CONTACT SUSAN BURROWS
330-334-1528**

It's 2005 membership renewal time

Yes, it's that time of year again! Time to re-new if you are a current member or sign-up new members. Remember, numbers do count! So just follow these simple rules:

1. Fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter or on our website with all the correct information. (If you need more forms, just e-mail me at Mohotta@prodigy.net or call me on 440-884-7994)
2. Include your e-mail address if you want to receive information on-line. Get up-to-the minute info on trail projects, rides and other club activities.
3. Sign the form
4. Make your check payable to Medina OHC
5. Family memberships include children under 18. 18 and over must have their own membership
6. Mail completed memberships to Rosemary Young, 9480 Tracy Trail' Parma Oh 44130

Important information !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Secondary memberships are \$10.

Anyone joining or renewing through the state will be charged for the allowance that Medina county chapter keeps from it's usual membership fees.

**The Differences in Riding Disciplines
Explained**

Part 4 of a 4 part series

The Hunter / Jumper Competitor:

The hunter/jumper competitor is in a wide-striped polo shirt and beige breeches. The polo is so folks will know they're a jumper rider until they put on their shirt and stock tie. Baseball cap is mandatory after a ride, in order to exhibit free advertising for that trainer's stable for which they've forked over a mere grand or so per month.

Her horse, Neverbeenraced, is a prime example of American Thoroughbred. The coat is deep bay, no markings, a textbook TB head (no jowl), and no unusual conformational characteristics other than crooked legs. Perfect, just perfect.

The gelding has learned to count strides all by himself, and asks in midair which lead his mistress would like to land on today.

The Eventer:

The Eventer is always hunched over. Bent forward under the load, it's from carrying three saddles, three bridles, three bits, and all related color-coordinated gear to every three-day event on the East Coast, or it could possibly be a defensive stance for protecting his/her wallet, which is, of course, nearly empty after buying three saddles, three bridles, three bits and all that color-coordinated gear.

Looked down on by the H/J set as "people who just run their horses at fences" and by the dressage queens as "not pure dressage riders," eventers are smugly convinced that they are in fact the only people in the world who CAN ride, since the H/J's don't jump real fences and the dressage queens don't ride real horses.

One popular horse, Fastnhighasican, is a Thoroughbred track reject who had never won (or placed) in a single race. Perfect eventer! He has two speeds: gallop and stop'n'dump which are used at his discretion for all three phases of eventing.

His favorite stunt is performed at cross-country water obstacles where his rider invariably stands up slimed in waist-deep, murky pond water and threatens to sell him to Fleistergeidel's owner.

Called "Hi-ass" for short, Fastnhighasican delights in another hilarious speed variation, the imfreeandyoucantcatchmegallop, a real crowd-pleaser. It brings down the house when he stops and licks the Crisco off his legs before continuing on to the merciless telephone-pole jump just ahead.

2004 Committee Chairman

JACK'S STALL Nov. 2004

I trust that everyone has been trying to ride as much as possible before the nasty winter weather arrives. What do the woolly bears have to say about the upcoming winter?

Those of you that were unable to attend the Halloween Party and campout missed a really good time. It should become an annual event.

On Oct. 31st about a dozen of our members rode in the parade in downtown Cleveland in support of the Cleveland Mounted Police. The parade was a blast. When was the last time that you rode down East 9th Street and onto the Shoreway? On a horse that is. No horses freaked out and everyone had a safe ride.

It has been my privilege to serve as your vice president during the past year. I am especially proud of the new by-laws and that we are now a member driven club. Please take advantage of the opportunities that you have to be a contributor to the planning and operation of our club.

Sherry will be setting up the standing committees for the coming year. If you would like to be on a particular committee please let her know. We need all of the help and input that you can give the club.

I am looking forward to serving as vice president for the coming year. I think that our club is "on the move" and that we had some really fun times this year and that we will have many more in the coming year. If you have any wild ideas for a weekend campout theme here is your chance to have a weekend in the spotlight.

Numbers are very important to the park and to the state. Please make sure to turn in your trail miles and trail work hours to Rhonda. Every mile counts. Even if you only had a few miles please turn in the numbers. They add up. The more that we can show that the trails are used the more chance we have of getting trail improvements and more trails.

May you be with your horse. Jack

Membership	Rosemary Young
Trail Maintenance	Reuss Griffiths
State Representatives	Phil and Ronda Urbank
Banquet Committee	Hope Orr
	Rosemary Young
Social Rides	
Recorder Hours	Ronda Urbank
Competitive Trail Ride	Joyce Tretow
Sunshine	
Regional Rides	Phil and Ronda Urbank

Board Members 2004

Ron Bauer	2004	330-666-4995
Jack Weese	2004	440-234-9668
Hugh Freeman	2004	440-238-7277
Hope Orr	2004	330-666-9619
Reuss Griffiths	2004	330-928-1912
Sherry Eucker	2004	330-928-1912
Debbie Aldridge	2005	330-239-1952
Sandy Bauer	2005	330-666-4995
Louise Harting	2005	440-238-7277
Carol Himmelright	2005	330-923-0722
Joyce Tretow	2005	330-725-3795
Patricia Vance	2005	330-836-9358
Pete Vega	2005	330-273-3736

NEWSLETTER

Copy Deadline 5th of Month
Editor: Susan Burrows
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Wadsworth, OH 44281
330-334-1528

Email susan-sb@msn.com
Address Changes Rosemary Young

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page \$30.00
Half Page \$15.00
Quarter Page \$ 8.00
Business Card \$ 3.00

Business Cards are published in three issues of the newsletter for donations to the club. If you have received donations, you need to get the Business Card to Susan Burrows for inclusion in the newsletter.

FREE MEMBER ADVERTISING POLICY

Selling something horsey or tacky--we can help. Mail or email advertising information to Susan Burrows for three shots at a targeted market.

MEDINA COUNTY OHC -- MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Year _____ New____ Renewal_____ Equine Activity _____
 Name _____ Age Phone () _____
 Address _____
 _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Occupation _____ Email _____
 Spouse _____ Age _____ Children (under 18) _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____
 County Chapter Affiliation MEDINA _____ At Large _____ Family Membership # of persons _____
 Other County Chapter Membership? No _____ Yes (where) _____
 Corral (free of charge) Yes _____ No _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Newsletter: mail it with a stamp _____ I'll pick it up from the website _____

SELECT MEMBERSHIP TYPE

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual _____	\$18.00	(State dues \$13.50+\$ 4.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/> Family _____	\$28.00	(State dues \$19.20+\$ 8.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (as of Jan 1 -- 62 years+)	\$11.00	(State dues \$ 8.20+\$ 2.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (as of Jan 1 -- 18 years+)	\$16.00	(State dues \$10.80+\$ 5.20 County)
<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary _____	\$10.00	(State dues \$ 5.20+\$ 4.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate _____	\$36.00	(State dues \$21.20+\$14.80 County)

of Members _____ President _____
 For Chapter Use Only: Membership card issued by _____ Date _____
 Make Checks payable to: Medina OHC Mail to: Rosemary Young 9480 Tracy Trail, Parma, OH 44130



Medina OHC
1565 Lantern Hill Drive
Wadsworth, OH 44281

**Halloween Ride and
 Campout Oct 23-24**

If Horses Were in High School

Quarter Horses: Definitely jocks. Strutting around flexing those muscles, showing off their butts. Not necessarily bright, but get passed on since they are responsible for all the trophies in the glass cases.

Paints: Quarter Horses with too much makeup on.

Thoroughbreds: Preppies. They are athletes, never 'jocks'. Monogrammed blankets, leather halters, Nike eventer shoes, the latest custom trailer and tack.

Connemaras: Gorgeous chicks with sultry eyelashes, sexy curves, devil-may-care attitudes. NOT into studying or anything to do with geometry. Great fun to be around, delightful senses of humor, and the world's best pranksters. Can usually be found in the nearest pub, entertaining the masses. Fast and easy.

Appaloosas: Could only be the stoners. They like to drop acid so they can watch their spots move.

Arabians: RAH! RAH! SIS BOOM BAH! GOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO TEAM!! (need I say more?).

Shetland Ponies: Frightening, spiky hairdos, snotty attitude and any color of the rainbow. Gotta be PUNKS. Some even sport tattoos.

Friesians: Big, buff, and always in black, they are the biker clique. Cigs hanging out of the corner of their mouths, dangerous glint in the eyes, daring anyone to cross their path.

Morgans: They're the nerdy teacher's pets, running around doing everything from yearbook to decorating the gym and rattling out the bikers, stoners and jocks. They have perpetual wedgies.

Drafts (all breeds): No real clique, they're just the big guys who sit in the back of the room and fart a lot (and then laugh). Who's going to STOP them?

Icelandics and Paso Finos: They're the little squirrely geeks who flit around a dance trying to fit in and fail miserably. The kind who wear Toughskins jeans from Sears (or would that be ripoff WeathaBeetas??).

Ahkle Tekl (Akle Takl? Ackle Tackle....!! Akhal Teke!!): Foreign exchange student(s). And no one can spell their names either.

Hackney Ponies: A breed this manic would have to be band geeks. Marching along with their knees and heads held high..... even going to the bathroom.

Warmbloods: The school staff and faculty. Looking down their noses with righteous indignation and disgust. Secretly wishing they were having half as much fun.