

H O P P R I N T S

MACKINAC HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mackinac Island, Michigan

November 2016

Thank you, Mackinac Island Community Foundation!

For several years MHA worked to redesignate the capped landfill area adjacent to the Mackinac Community Equestrian Center so that it could be used for horse turnout. In 2013, the Mackinac Island Community Foundation awarded MHA a grant that enabled us to go ahead with surveying the land and developing a site plan. Approval to repurpose the capped landfill area for horse turnout took another year and required cooperation and agreement from the Department of Public Works, the Mackinac State Park Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality and the City of Mackinac Island.

While capped landfill sites are reused for other purposes throughout the world, this is a first for Mackinac Island! Once approval for horse turnout was granted from all parties, MHA again turned to the MICF to ask for grants to fund post-less fences for horse turnout, since we cannot dig into the capped landfill. Through the great generosity of the Dr. Rex and Elizabeth Orr Foundation via MICF, we were able to purchase two round pens and improve safe turnout options for horses in our care.

Through the Mackinac Community Equestrian Center, MHA provides a place where children and adults can learn not just how to ride, but also about hard work, care, patience, and the community of working with others.

We will continue to be stewards of this land and to refine and return it to useful purpose. We are very grateful for the generous grants from MICF and the support and assistance from the DPW, the Mackinac State Park Commission, the Michigan DEQ and the City of Mackinac Island.



Where Have all the Horses Gone?

Take a ride to the Mackinac Community Equestrian Center (MCEC) and you'll find the doors closed, the pens empty, the horses gone. Yes, summer is over, but our MHA horses aren't feeling lonely. They are enjoying the winter with families who have "adopted" them during the off season.

- Blaze is being sponsored by the Douglas Fairbanks family in the Grand Rapids area.
- Fiona is at Sunset Farms in Sheperd, Michigan sponsored by Sue Bellinger.
- Marco is at Excalibur Stables in Traverse City, sponsored by the Stuck family. The Stucks' granddaughter and a few friends will take lessons on Marco over the winter.
- Robyn is at the Gaylord Equestrian Center, sponsored by the Bailey family. Jeri-Lynn and daughter Nora will be riding Robyn.
- Noble is in Kentucky at Steppin' Hi Stables. His care and training is being overseen by the Growney Family, and he is still looking for financial sponsorship.

It's nice to know these horses will be loved and pampered, thanks to all of our winter sponsors.

Members Make it Happen

As the Mackinac Horsemen's Association winds down an intensely busy 2016 season, it would like to thank its members and supporters for making all its work and activities possible. During 2016 MHA had a record number of horse boarders, lessons and youth camps, a swinging Cowboy Cookout party, clinics and more.

Two Youth Day Camps were successful and very well attended. Both summer residents and visitors staying in local hotels enjoyed camp, and some are planning next summer's vacations around the sessions.

We had horses short-term boarding for 91 nights, which is double the "overnight guests" from last year. Lessons were up 19% over last year, with about 350 lessons given.

Thanks to the help of a Mackinac Island Community Foundation grant, we increased our turnout with a second round pen on the capped landfill. (See story above.)

New this year was a Ladies Camp, a Cowboy Clinic with trail course instruction, and an open-mic horse show. And that's not all! MHA also:

- Provided education and community service through the Mackinac Trailblazers 4-H Club
- Offered free horse lessons to MIPS students
- Offered scholarships for continuing education in equine-related fields to MIPS students and graduates
- Provided horses for short and long-term lease

We couldn't do this without your help. Please support the horse culture on Mackinac Island by renewing your membership or joining MHA for the first time. Thank you!

Mackinac Horsemen's Association 2017 Board of Directors

Lisa Brock, President	Trustees:
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Education Director	Tim Shea

Mackinac Community Equestrian Center

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www.mackinachorses.org



FRIENDSHIP



HORSE SHOW



MACKINAC TRAILBLAZERS 4H



DAY



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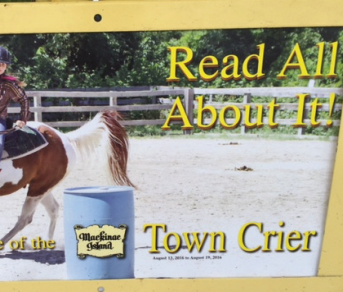
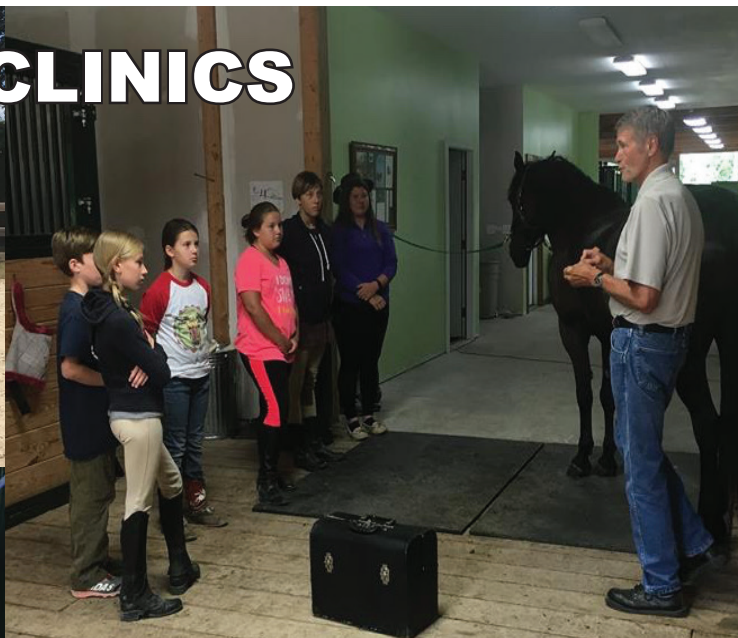
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CLINICS



Thank You to Our 2016 Members • Donors • Sponsors . . .

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Wawashkamo Golf Course
William & Julie R. Wick
Dan & Jennifer Wohletz
James Yates
Don & Lisa Yeck
Michael & Wendy Young

ALL WHO SUPPORT AND
SHARE IN OUR MISSION

UPCOMING 2017 EVENTS

June 29: Member Appreciation Party
July 10-14: Day Camp
July 31-August 4: Day Camp
ending with an open mic horse show!
August 19: Driving Clinic
Sept. 2-3: Richard Shrake Clinic



Winter Adoption Program

A new program has begun to take shape at MHA, the Winter Adoption Program.

Because it is beneficial to have the continuity of horses that return every year, MHA owns several horses for its lesson program. Each winter the responsibility of caring for these horses falls to MHA. It has been a goal for some time to find suitable winter homes for these horses to relieve the financial burden on our small non-profit organization.

This year we can proudly say that we have been successful in finding winter homes for four out of five of our horses. The benefits to MHA are obvious. Each winter family is responsible for paying the board for each horse, although MHA still is financially responsible for farrier and vet costs. The benefits to the host family are numerous: the joys of owning a horse without the long term responsibility, the bonding and personal growth that occurs when caring for an animal, the ability to further horsemanship skills and practices—especially when working with a horse you have come to know. Please contact us to find out more.

The Mackinac Horsemen's Association, in recognition of the unique ordinance of 1898 banning the "horseless" carriage on Mackinac Island, is dedicated to the promotion, education and future of horses and horsemanship on Mackinac Island and throughout the State of Michigan.

JOIN US . . .



**YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR
MISSION OF PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL AND
ENTERTAINING WAYS TO ENJOY THE HORSE
CULTURE OF MACKINAC ISLAND.
BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!**