

Horse Welfare Update

SOHO & The Hay Hotline

The SOHO (Save Our Horses) fund continues to grow as donations appear at the office like fresh buds at spring; occasionally a few days will pass without receiving any donations and then suddenly a farmer will donate 100 bales of hay or a local veterinarian will bring a generous check to the office.

As of the printing of this newsletter the Horse Council has spent roughly two-thirds of the SOHO funds to provide temporary feed for 129 horses in 15 counties. With the change in weather and new spring grass the expectation is that the calls to the Hotline (866-634-0030) for hay assistance will decrease.

Any remaining SOHO funds will be used to support the Safety Net program (which purchases feed for

horses temporarily when the owner has an injury or change in employment status), provide training for local authorities on identifying and addressing equine neglect and abuse, and other equine health and welfare programs. For more information about SOHO please visit http://www.kentuckyhorse.org/SOHO_describe.shtml.



Equine Rescue Meeting

As part of continued efforts to support the health and well-being of Kentucky horses, the Horse Council hosted an Equine Rescue Group meeting on March 25th.

Thirty-five individuals from around the state representing more than a dozen equine rescue organizations attended the networking session.

The meeting was an overwhelming success as ideas for improving rescue were debated and evaluated. Ideas discussed included: transitioning to coalition fundraising, developing standards for equine rescues, developing volunteer guidelines and a volunteer handbook, sharing resources, networking rescue groups through online chat rooms, and more.

The group also discussed developing a hay bank and other needed resources. Until a more formal arrangement is made one of the rescues volunteered an extra barn in which to "bank" hay.

The group will meet again on June 21, 2008. For more information or for Rescue Meeting updates email info@kentuckyhorse.org or call 859-367-0509.

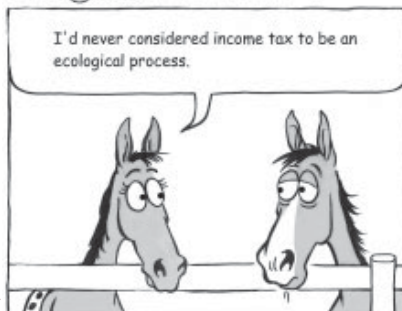
Status of bill to eliminate sales tax on horse feed and other farm items

House Bill #249 was filed by Royce Adams in the House. As of the printing of this newsletter, it looks like the odds are slim that it will pass this session due to the extremely tight state budget; this bill, if it were passed, would reduce state income by an estimated \$6 Million.

The impact on horse owners is the elimination of sales tax on the following items: hay, feed, feed additives, water and waterer systems, wormer, fly repellents, equine grooming supplies, straw and other bedding supplies, and seed and commercial fertilizer to be applied on land, the products from which ordinarily constitute feed for equine if these items are purchased for equine.

The Horse Council will keep you posted as to the status of this bill at www.kentuckyhorse.org.

Fergus BY JEAN ABERNETHY



NEW! Regional Horse Councils

The Kentucky Horse Council is dedicated to making sure that our resources and programs meet the needs of ALL areas in Kentucky! So to make this goal a reality, the Horse Council recently decided to form REGIONAL HORSE COUNCILS, composed of a grouping of counties who form a Horse Council within their own region. Each county is represented on the regional board, and that board – with input from the horse owners in the area – decide what projects they would like to

focus on. Whether it is education, trail maintenance and support, 4-H mentoring, facilities improvements, horse show enhancements — whatever that region feels they need most, that is what we will work on.

Each region will send a representative to sit on the main Kentucky Horse Council board, to suggest to the Council better ways to use our resources, identify areas of need across the state or legislative issues that need to be carried forward.

The Kentucky Horse Council can also provide financial assistance, advice on assistance from Frankfort or other sources, educational offerings, and help with newsletters and websites, to name a few.

We are already moving forward in a number of areas to establish these regions, and if you would like to become involved in your part of the state, please talk to Essie or Ginny at the office (859-367-0509 or 866-634-0030).

Note from the 2007 KHC Trail Master

I would like to encourage the trail riders of the state to get involved with what's going on with our trails.

You can attend meetings at Cave Run, Mammoth Cave, Frankfort (The Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority meetings), or wherever they're being held to help voice our support for issues.

You also can get involved with trail crews all over the state through local saddle clubs, Friends of the Trail, Back Country Horsemen, or any group that helps maintain trails.

Keep posted on events by going to KYTrailRiding.com and send a couple of representatives of your group to the Friends of the Trails roundtable held the third Thursday of every other month, usually at the KY Horse Park (The next one is May 15th) Call the Kentucky Horse Council for directions or any other information you need.

The Kentucky Horse Council has become our best friend in support of trails. They have written grants for trail work at Cave Run and Red River Gorge, support efforts by KY Dept. of Fisher and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service, KY Division of Forestry, KY State Parks and other land managers to insure our trail use on these public lands. They have also helped to unite users through the formation of Friends of the Trail and the Kentucky Trails Coalition. They have helped educate land managers and trail users through Mike Riter's National Trail certification course on how to build and maintain our trails. They have involved future generations by working to get a trail program added to 4-H. There are many other projects too numerous to mention.

The future of our trail systems look bright but we all must unite in support of the Horse Council. It is funded through the sale of the House Council license plate. I would like to encourage us all to support our trail efforts by buying one of these plates. This plate is the only specialty plate that can also be put on a farm truck. In doing so we will be helping to insure ourselves of a good trail system in the state.



See you on the trail —

Buck Winburn, 2007 Trail Master of the year

Note from the KHC President

My sincerest thanks to each of you for your support of the Kentucky Horse Council. We all will agree it has been a particularly challenging winter but because of your support we have all made life a little bit better for many horses.

With your support through memberships, license plate renewals, business sponsorships and donations we launched the Safety Net program last April. Following the devastating droughts of summer, we launched the SOHO program in the fall. Without your support, and the efforts of a very small but committed staff, we would not have been able to undertake this most needed task. You will find elsewhere in this newsletter more information on both of these programs.



The Kentucky Horse Council is however deeply involved in many other projects. Our education classes have been very well attended. We continue to review grant requests. And show season is just around the corner so you will find board and staff members in attendance at many of these. As a matter of fact, Ginny and I plan to spend time on the road in late spring visiting horse groups and attending events throughout the state. Let us know if you would like us to attend something in your area.

And, as always, we need you. There are so many ways you can get involved in the Kentucky Horse Council. Call us – ask how you can be actively engaged in the very important work that we are undertaking. We say “Where all horses count” in our slogan but maybe we should consider changing it to “Where all horses, and owners, count”!

Thanks for your support –

*Madelyn Millard, President
Waterwild Farm*

YOUTH NEWS

Hippology Grants were awarded to six 4-H clubs representing 4 different districts. The grant money will be used to purchase educational supplies to support 4-H youth participating in Horse Bowl.

New **4-H Youth Scholarship** offered by the Kentucky Horse Council. Active 4-H members planning to attend a Kentucky college or university in the fall 2008 are encouraged to apply for the \$1,000 scholarship. Deadline for scholarship submission is May 1, 2008. More information and scholarship applications are available online at <http://www.kentuckyhorse.org/scholarships.shtml>

A **T-shirt design contest** is currently underway to develop a new look for KHC Youth members. The contest is open to all youth members and design submissions are accepted through May 1, 2008. The winning design will be featured on youth member t-shirts and distributed to all youth members. The winner will also be awarded an ipod shuffle. For more information visit <http://www.kentuckyhorse.org/Youth.shtml>



Volunteers!



The Kentucky Horse Council needs your help with basic office support. Volunteer assistance is needed in the following areas:

- ❖ Updating email contact lists
- ❖ Preparing mailings
- ❖ Labeling brochures
- ❖ Organizing

If you are interested in volunteering at the Kentucky Horse Council office please contact Essie at 859-367-0509 or admin@kentuckyhorse.org.

Use caution!

With the emergence of spring grass also comes the increased risk of founder and colic

Horses across Kentucky are excited at the emergence of new shoots of spring grass. As a horse owner and lover it is imperative that you restrain your horse from filling his stomach with the delectable, tender spring forage.

If your horse has spent the winter in a sacrifice field, stall or small paddock he will need to make the change to field turnout gradually. Much like a child at Halloween you should allow your horse small amounts of spring grass each day. As your horse's digestive system acclimates to the lush forage you may gradually extend his turnout time.

The University of Kentucky has the following recommendation for introduction to pasture: When a horse is to be turned out on pasture all day, especially if the pasture is lush and green, time on pasture should be gradually

increased to avoid overeating. Horses should be provided with all the hay they want to eat about a week prior to the start of complete pasture turnout. The time on pasture should be increased by one hour each day for four to five days. Then, before the horse is going to be turned out completely on pasture, a hay meal should be provided. It is important to remember that each horse is different.

Whether it's grain, hay, or time on pasture, any change in the horse's diet should be spread over several days or weeks.

Monitor your horses' activity and health closely especially as you make changes in his diet and throughout the spring. It is important to understand what is normal for your horse since an abnormality may signal illness.

Signs of Founder or Laminitis may include: hot or warm feet,

bounding digital pulses, camped in front stance, lameness, sensitivity to hoof testers. If you think your horse may be foundering remove him from the field and place him in a stall with deep bedding and call the veterinarian immediately. Do not feed him grain or grass during a laminitic episode without the approval of your veterinarian.

Signs of Colic may include: kicking at the belly, laying down and getting up, rolling, stretching, sweating, excessive tail swishing, accelerated heart beat, and accelerated respiration. If you think your horse may be colicking remove him from the field and lead him at the walk until your veterinarian arrives. Do not allow him to eat anything during a colic episode without the approval of your veterinarian.

Anytime your horse behaves in a manner that is unusual for him seek the advice of your veterinarian.

Causes of Foal Mortality

This article was reproduced in part from "Equine Disease Quarterly" January 2008.

Neonatal losses are a significant problem for the equine industry. The University of Kentucky conducted a one year study (September 2004 – August 2005) examining 259 foals postmortem. Cases included only those that resulted from a live birth and were less than 180 days old at the time of death.

The majority (67%) of neonatal deaths occurred within the first 30 days of life (174 of 259).

Top five causes of death occurring by 30 days of age were found to be:

- Septicemia – 25%
- Musculoskeletal issues other than rib fractures – 17%
- Pneumonia – 14%
- Gastrointestinal Problems – 11%
- Rib Fractures (dystocia, trauma, and other causes) – 10%

Top four causes of all neonatal deaths (up to 180 days):

- Septicemia – 21%
- Musculoskeletal issues (including rib fractures) – 20%
- Gastrointestinal Problems – 16%
- Pneumonia – 15%



Since foals are especially susceptible to infectious diseases prevention may be the best option for reducing deaths. The study concluded that it is imperative that veterinarians continue to educate horse owners and farm managers about vaccination, hygiene, and early recognition of clinical signs. The University of Kentucky is currently investigating more inclusive studies on foal mortality.

Tidbits

✓ The Equestrian Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) and Breyer Animal Creations are offering funding for local conservation groups to protect land for equestrian use. Breyer has pledged a minimum of \$10,000 to ELCR.

The deadline for grant applications is midnight September 1, 2008. More information and applications are available at http://www.elcr.org/index_breyer.php.

✓ The Rolex Kentucky 3 day event returns to the Kentucky Horse Park April 24-27, 2008. Riders compete for \$250,000 in prize money over four days. This year's event has the added attraction of being a United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Selection Trial for the 2008 Olympic Games in Hong Kong.

✓ The Kentucky Horse Park is adding an 8,000 square foot addition to the Kentucky Horse Park's International Museum of the Horse. Ground breaking for the project, funded totally by the Trust and the American Arabian horse community, is anticipated by April 1. It will be the first major addition to the museum since its opening in 1978 and will expand its permanent exhibition space by nearly 30 percent.



◆ The World Games 2010 Foundation is requesting proposals for equine exhibitions and demonstrations to be showcased at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games at the Kentucky Horse Park, September 25-October 10, 2010.

Equine organizations interested in hosting an exhibition or demonstration, for breeds, disciplines, or equestrian sports, must submit an application to the World Games 2010 Foundation by May 1, 2008. An electronic copy of the application is now available online at http://www.feigames2010.org/get_involved. National organizations and recognized affiliates are strongly encouraged to either submit proposals on behalf of their breed or discipline, or to actively support proposals that exhibit cooperation within their breed or discipline.

The selection process is expected to be very thorough and competitive, and organizers anticipate the proposal review process to last through early 2009. The demonstrations, exhibitions, and other special events will be evaluated based on their ability to appeal to a wide audience, contribute to an overall varied equine exhibition, ability to be held at no cost to the World Games 2010 Foundation, and reflect the world class level of the World Equestrian Games. Breed and discipline affiliate representatives will be involved in the proposal review process.

For additional information about the RFP process, contact Holley Groshek, Director of Administration for the 2010 Games World Foundation, at 859-255-2010 ext. 224 or hgroshek@feigames2010.org.

◆ Kentucky first lady Jane Beshear is now a member of the board of directors of the World Games 2010 Foundation.

◆ *Kentucky Monthly* magazine has been selected as the "Official Kentucky Magazine" for the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

◆ The American Farrier's Association has been named the Official Certified Farriers of the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

For more information visit www.feigames2010.org

K.A.R.E HELPS DROUGHT-STRICKEN FARMERS

Governor Steve Beshear and Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer announced an \$8.15 million program to help Kentucky farmers affected by last year's drought.

The Kentucky Agricultural Relief Effort (K.A.R.E.) will be funded with master tobacco settlement money and administered by the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP).

K.A.R.E. is designed to help producers pay for on-farm improvements and investments that will help reduce the impact of the drought. Farmers may seek funding for water projects, such as drilling, piping or hook-up to municipal water systems; forage projects, and other projects such as fencing, feeding equipment,

animal waste handling equipment and crop insurance. Producers may apply to be reimbursed for eligible expenses retroactive to Dec. 1, 2007. Guidelines will be posted on the GOAP Web site, <http://agpolicy.ky.gov>, by close of business Monday.

K.A.R.E. fund totals \$6.15 million, of which \$4.1 million is from county tobacco settlement funds and \$2.05 million is from state tobacco settlement funds. Producers must submit applications for funding to their respective county K.A.R.E. program administrators by Aug. 1. The chief executive officer of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, which oversees Kentucky's tobacco settlement funds, will award K.A.R.E. funding for eligible projects.

Counties may apply for funding from a separate \$2 million state-wide pool after they have committed all of their county tobacco settlement money. Funds from the \$2 million pool will be allocated based on a formula measuring the agricultural impact of last summer's drought.

Production and yields for corn, soybeans, tobacco, hay and winter wheat were significantly lower in 2007 than in 2006 because of the drought and the April 2007 freeze. The effects of the drought on Kentucky pastures caused many livestock producers to send more animals to market than usual last year. A continuing shortage of hay due to the drought, along with record high prices for feed, has resulted in a steep increase in farmers' input costs.

Making a Difference

*Thank
You*

Thank you to the Kentucky Walking Horse Association who recently donated 3 tons of sweet feed to the Jessamine County Humane Society to help support the 70 Tennessee Walking Horses and other breeds that were confiscated by Jessamine County Animal Control. The horses are in the custody of the Humane Society pending trial (which could take several months). Currently the Humane Society has ample hay and grain dona-

tions but needs financial support. You may make a tax deductible donation to the Jessamine County Humane Society at 400-1/2 Park Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356.

Thanks

to all who have donated money, hay, and transportation services to the SOHO fund.

Kentucky horses appreciate your kindness and generosity.

New Horse Transport Documents

Effective January 1, 2008 horses transported within the state of Kentucky require a negative coggins (within 1 year) and a current health certificate (CVI). Intrastate health certificates are valid for **one year** from the time of issue or the date the coggins expires (whichever is sooner).

Out of state equine transport still requires a negative coggins within one year and an interstate health certificate (CVI) which is valid for 30 days.

Frequent out of state travelers may now use an **Equine Passport** (valid 6-12 months depending on the state) when traveling to the following states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, N. Carolina, Oklahoma, S. Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, W. Virginia.

For more information and an application visit <http://www.kyagr.com/statevet/equine/index.htm>

2007 Kentucky Breeders' Incentive Fund Awards

The 2007 Kentucky Breeders' Incentive Fund is funded 100% from the six percent sales tax on stud fees. The KBIF awards will total \$19,220,007, up from the \$15,000,000 in awards for 2006. Below are the statutory breed amounts of KBIF awards, with 80% allotted to Thoroughbreds, 13% to Standardbreds, and 7% to qualified other breeds.

- Thoroughbreds - \$15.5M (breeders incentives)
- Standardbreds - \$2.85M (sire stakes purses)

All others: (For 2007, the percentages are based on an allocated amount of \$1,370,007)

- KY Appaloosa Owners Association (4.49%) = \$61,570
- South Central Hackney Association (1.20%) = \$16,408
- KY Morgan Horse Association (1.23%) = \$16,872
- KY Mountain Horse (12.06%) = \$165,178
- KY Paint Horse Club (8.42 %) = \$115,323
- KY Paso Fino Horse Association (1.03%) = \$14,139
- KY Quarter Horse Association (32.60%) = \$446,629
- KY Saddlebred Owners & Breeders Association (10.68%) = \$146,381
- KY Walking Horse Association (28.28%) = \$387,506



“These are positive steps to help Kentucky’s horse industry, “ said Damon Thayer, Senate chairman of the Horse Farming Subcommittee. “It is gratifying to see the fund grow over 20% from 2006 to 2007, a sure sign that the fund is accomplishing its goal of attracting more horses to Kentucky’s farms. This will create more equine commerce and a more robust economy, and help Kentucky maintain its position as *Horse Capital of the World*.”

The KBIF is administered by the Kentucky Horse Racing Authority, which reports that checks are scheduled to be mailed to award recipients during the first quarter of 2008.

Classified	Classified	Classified
HORSES FOR SALE	SERVICES	LESSONS & BOARDING
<p>5 y.o. TWH mare, trail rides English, 5y.o. Black& White Paint mare, trail rides English. \$500 each or \$800 for the pair. Contact Ralph Gross at 859-384-6694</p> <p>Wonderful young H/J or Eventing Trakehner prospects for sale. Ages 3 - 7, priced from \$3k to \$17,500. Very green to show experience. Call Lynne at 859.265.6079 or email Lngmaplewoodfarm@hotmail.com for more info.</p>	<p>Tom Dixon, retired equine claims adjuster, information at www.equinemortalityclaimexpert.com. E-mail: tom1020@windstream.net</p> <p>Byars Equine Advisory, LLC Dr. T. Douglas Byars, DVM, Dipl ACVIM, AVECC 2183 Iron Works Rd, Georgetown, KY 40324 TDByarsEqA@aol.com cell 859-621-0223 office 502-867-7299, 877-867-7299 fax 502-867-7285, 877-867-7285</p> <p>Beck Realty Group Joe Beck, Broker 502-245-6515 or 502-419-594 Buyers Agents, specializing in Kentucky Horse farms & investment quality homes and land.</p> <p>Morgan W. Fry Independent Associate Representing AFLAC 501 Darby Creek Rd. Suite # 2 Lexington, KY 40509 859-420-6398 morgan_fry@us.aflac.com aflac.com</p>	<p>Windy Knoll Farm Lexington, Kentucky Horses Boarded Training & Lessons Available Indoor Arena & Outdoor Sand Arena 859-299-7410</p> <p>WANTED The Kentucky Horse Council wants to include your equine event on the website calendar of events. To submit a horse show, clinic, trail ride, tack sale, or other equine activity - FREE of charge - email info@kentuckyhorse.org</p> <p>Wanted to buy: 2-3 horse gooseneck Aluminum trailer with dressing room. Lexington area. 859-271-2843 or ggrulke@iglou.com.</p>
RETAIL		

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For more information about committee work or to volunteer email info@kentuckyhorse.org.

Kentucky Spring Horse Show Hosts First Stop in \$215,000 Hagyard Challenge Series

The Kentucky Spring Horse Show, held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington from May 7-11, will feature the first event of the 2008 Hagyard Challenge Series. The series, sponsored by Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, is composed of seven major show jumping competitions and features \$215,000 in prize money.

The first class, the \$30,000 Hagyard Lexington Classic Grand Prix CSI 3*, will be held on Thursday, May 8, in the Sheila C. Johnson Arena. The Kentucky Spring Classic Horse Show, held at the park the following week from May 14-18, will host the second class in the series on Thursday, May 15.

The series continues at the Kentucky Horse Park throughout the summer, with the final event, the \$50,000 World Cup qualifying grand prix, scheduled for the Kentucky National Indoor Horse Show on Friday, September 26. After this concluding grand prix, the Hagyard Challenge Series will award its top competitor with a \$50,000 Leading Rider Bonus.

The \$215,000 Hagyard Challenge Series is made possible through the support of the Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, located across the street from the Kentucky Horse Park.

"We feel great about our relationship with the Kentucky Horse Shows," commented Dr. Andy Clark of Hagyard Equine Medical Institute.

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