



# Aurora

TRIGGER MONTAGUE, FORMULATOR (BIOSTAR EQ)

## What Horses Used to Eat: Feeding Horses in 1856

**A veterinary surgeon named John Stewart, professor of veterinary medicine in Glasgow, Scotland, wrote a book that was published in 1856 called *The Stable Book: Being a Treatise on the Management of Horses*.**

A reader in the twenty-first century might giggle at the frequent mentions of draughts and cordials for horses (according to Dr. Stewart, a cordial helps many an ill or over-worked horse), tonic balls (an herbal preparation made into a ball with honey that is fed orally) and a physic (herbs and other concoctions directed by a veterinarian). Blood letting is mentioned as treatment for some disorders. But the real focus of the book is feeding.

It is quite surprising to read about some of the foods fed to horses in the 19th century: turnips, potatoes, parsnips, sugar beet, mangel-wurzel (beets), carrots, and yams. These root vegetables are all boiled or steamed before feeding with the exception of the carrot, and mostly fed in winter. "A work horse getting from between eight to twelve pounds of grain may have four pounds deducted for every five pounds of carrots he

receives." Dr. Stewart recommends turnips for farm and cart horses as well as the horses in coaching stables. He recommends the Swedish variety of turnips, which per 100 lbs equals in "nutriment" 22 lbs of hay. As a modern day horse owner, it's hard to imagine feeding 100 lbs of turnips per day.

**Other foods:** Wheaten bread (recommended for horses that are invalid or off their appetite), linseed, hempseed, oats, barley, and beans. Dr. Stewart does not recommend bran except for

..... a horse that is off his feed because he says: "bran has no nutriment; its laxative properties can not be true since bran is constipating to dogs. A shillings worth of oats is a great deal more nourishing than a shilling's worth of bran."

**Foods fed from other countries:** Dr. Stewart provides a travelogue of the foods fed to horses in different countries: pumpkins, apples, sweet potatoes, and corn stalks in America; figs and chestnuts in Spain and Italy; dates mixed with camels' milk in Arabia; dried fish in Iceland and Norway; black bread, rye, malt, and rye bread in Germany and Holland. In the East Indies

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## Welcome

Dear Reader,

*The holiday season has closed out 2011 with many fond memories and special moments with loved ones, family, friends, and (of course!) our horses. We are all blessed with these special moments and must cherish each and every moment we can.*

*Last year, I set a goal to be around people with good energy. Well, the Aurora Arabian Horse Association is certainly going into 2012 full of good energy. We are swinging into 2012 with great ideas for clinics and our shows! We are keeping up with the times with Facebook and Twitter and exploring promotions and communications opportunities with other horse associations. Our revamped newsletter is getting a lot of positive feedback.*

*The directors and executive are hard at work planning these clinics, horse shows, and sponsorship programs. We want to continue to incite your passion and improve your relationship with your horse. We want to make horsemanship a part of your family's lifestyle and, most importantly, we want to listen to what you have to say. Talk to us. If you have any ideas or some spare time we welcome your involvement.*

*Come and be a part of an association that is on the move! ■*



**Carla Jackson**  
President

# Calendar

## **Aurora Meeting**

Monday, January 9, 2012  
7:00 pm, Nisku Inn.

## **Aurora Youth General Meeting**

Friday, January 20, 2012  
6:30 pm.

Contact Terri Martin at [terri.aurorayouth@gmail.com](mailto:terri.aurorayouth@gmail.com)

## **CHRIS IRWIN: Horsemanship Demonstration**

Friday, March 9, 2012  
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm.

Cadence Creek.

For spectator tickets contact Lorie Fisher at 780.916.6375

## **CHRIS IRWIN: Horsemanship Clinic**

Friday, March 9 at 9:00 am until  
Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 6:00 pm.  
Cadence Creek.

To participate contact Caitlin Smith at 780.908.1604

## **Aurora Meeting**

Monday, March 12, 2012  
7:00 pm, Nisku Inn.

## **Northlands Farm & Ranch Show**

Thursday, March 29, Friday, March 30,  
and Saturday, March 31, 2012  
2012 Featured Equine Breed: ARABIAN

Aurora is very excited to showcase this breed with a schedule of events including demonstrations, displays and speakers. Check website as details become available.

## **MARJIE BECKER: Aurora Clinic**

Saturday, March 31, and Sunday,  
April 1, 2012

Royden Arabians are the host facility.

To participate contact Lorie Fisher at 780.916.6375, details and registration forms will be posted to the website.

## **Great Canadian Trade Fair & Sale**

Friday, April 13, Saturday, April 14,  
and Sunday, April 15, 2012  
Millennium Place, Booth #10  
Come check us out.

## **Youth Fun and Furry Show**

AHA Community Show  
Sunday, April 29, 2012  
Cadence Creek.

Tell us about your event, e-mail [info@auroraarabian.com](mailto:info@auroraarabian.com) ■

WWW.CADENCECREEKEQUINE.COM

# Cadence Creek Equine

**Cadence Creek Equine is a family owned and operated business located just outside of Sherwood Park, Alberta only 10 minutes from Edmonton.**

Caitlin Smith started Cadence Creek Equine Centre in 2005 with the goal of providing a small lesson program where she could teach just a few students. It was a 15 acre outdoor facility with five students. "Now", she says, "we have a 40 acre facility with more than 100 students attending each week!" Steve joined the team in 2009. He is an integral part of the team keeping everything behind the scenes running smoothly.

The lesson program is taught by Caitlin Smith (certified through CHA Level II - 2008) & Tricia Willsher (Chris Irwin Certified Bronze Trainer). Their goal is to create harmony between horse and rider at an early stage in a rider's journey with horses using a unique horsemanship focus that isn't to be found in most lesson facilities.

While the majority of the lessons are taught in English saddles, they also teach basic Western. More information about their classes is available on their website <http://www.cadencecreekequine.com/lessons.html>.

An excellent program for anyone considering the purchase of a horse is the My First Horse Program. If you think you are ready for your first horse, have a chat with Cadence Creek! Investing in an equine partner is a huge commitment and they

will guide you through the ins and outs of how to become a good horse owner. Education is key! "Our simple program is broken down into 4 steps. From self assessment, budgeting, trying out horses and to bringing them home - they are there for you every step of the way."

They can also board horses either indoors or outdoors. (Yes, they have a barn farrier and access to Delaney

Vet Services.) And they offer summer horse camps!

Cadence Creek offers a place for birthday parties and provides a great venue for Girl Guides to obtain their



Horse Power badge.

Caitlin is excited to announce that Chris Irwin is on his way back to Cadence Creek! Aurora Arabian Horse Association is co-hosting the evening demonstration.

Chris Irwin has spent 30 years developing an approach with horses that addresses this missing link: learning to speak a horse's body language so well that we truly "hear" how they feel about being handled and ridden, then developing the skills to give a horse what it needs so that he or she will happily give us what we want – a solid connection that engenders a

willingness to enjoy safe, comfortable, relaxed rides wherever we wish to go.

If you are interested in participating, please contact

Caitlin. Chris will be doing an evening demonstration on Friday, March 9, 2012 (of course using Arabians!) and the clinic will be running on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Spectator passes are \$25 for the Friday evening. ■

# Convention

**AHA Convention News** November 16-19, 2011, Region 17 hosted the Arabian Horse Association Convention in Vancouver, BC making it the first Canadian hosted convention in over 20 years. Please take the time to read Terry Johnson's Director Region 17 AHA Report on the AHA Convention held in Vancouver, British Columbia. It contains several things that all of you should be aware of.

There were 15 Resolutions considered by the working committees and the delegates: 3 were approved, 6 were approved with modification, 1 was disapproved and 5 were withdrawn.

The fundraiser "Pictures with a Mountie" raised over five hundred dollars for the Region 17 Youth, thanks to "Staff Sergeant" Gary Millar, photographers Kevin Johnson, Elke Ross and Katie Johnson. All the different Regional caucus rooms were raided and photos taken ... they were fined \$5 per photo.

All reports have been posted on the Aurora website. ■



Check out the YouTube video "Region 17 Youth Mountie Photos.m4v" to see the selection of photos.

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## Feeding Horses in 1856

"meat was boiled to rags to which is added some kinds of grain and butter"; and "sheeps heads were boiled for horses during campaigns in India"; cows milk in England was given to stallions during the "covering season."

**Feeding in 1856:** Dr. Stewart provides various feeding schedules based on the type of horse: cart, carriage, hunter, cavalry, race horse, and saddle horse. For most horses he recommends feeding



five times per day: 6am, 9:00am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, and 8:00pm with a total consumption of 12-16 pounds of grain (oats, and beans in a 5:1 ratio) with 12 pounds of hay. He recom-

mends feeding boiled food in the winter at the last meal of the day and adding turnips. He believes carrots should be given raw throughout the day. He recommends adding barley for horses in laborious work. The ratio then being 6:3:3 (oats to beans to barley) plus hay.

**What not to feed horses:** Dr. Stewart does not recommend distillery grains or brewers grains, which he calls "the refuse of breweries". He claims when fed regularly "they produce general rotteness, which I suspect in these cases is caused by disease of the liver. They also contribute to producing staggers and founder." Dr. Stewart also doesn't recommend raw wheat because "fermentation, colic and death are the consequences"; however, he says that if wheat is boiled and giv-

en with beans, some oats, and chaff that it "can be useful." He also stands strongly against the feeding of eggs (so stated because some stallion owners recommend it to increase the stallions' sexual potency), because he believes that eggs play no role in stallions' "readiness".

**Keep in mind:** It is clear from reading Dr. Stewart's book, that feeding horses largely depended on what food was available, depending on the country. And while we may think of horses in the 19th century as living bucolic lives, in truth these horses worked daily, worked hard, and had limited access to pasture because they worked 6 days a week either carrying riders, as mail or stage horses, pulling coaches, carts, plows, and wagons, or galloping into battle. The amount of food required for a working horse in the 19th century vastly outweighs the food requirements of most present day sport horses.

The book is a fascinating look into the care of the horse based on food, and herbs, and basic horse care. ■

# Summer Show

Aurora Summer show will be held again on the weekend of Friday, June 8, Saturday, June 9 and Sunday, June 10, 2012.

We will again be holding a concurrent show in conjunction with the Aurora Summer Show. We will soon make the announcement of the details of this schedule.

Prize lists and registration forms will be posted when they are approved on our website in the early spring. A sponsorship package will be released soon. Get your copy and support your club.

As you all know, these shows take many people to run smoothly. This year Jill Bromley will be taking on the task of recruiting these wonderful volunteers. If you have an interest in any of the available positions below, please let her know.

## HELP WANTED - 2012 SHOW VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

- Show Officials escort.
- Announcers.
- Sponsorship Coordinator.
- Ringmaster(s)-main ring and outside.
- Ribbon presenters - main ring and outside.
- Show office help - 3 days, show office experience appreciated.
- Trail set-up/tear down.
- Hunter/Jumper course set-up/tear down.
- Dressage/sport horse scribes.
- Halter scorers and runners.
- Show clean-up.

Contact Jill Bromley at [bromleyequine@wildroseinternet.ca](mailto:bromleyequine@wildroseinternet.ca) or 780.922.0302 if you are able to help out. ■

## COLIC IN WINTER

# How to keep colic at bay during cold months

**When asked to describe the most common wintertime equine health problem in their areas, veterinarians and horse owners around the country respond with near unanimity: colic.**

Even in the Southwest, where frigid temperatures are extremely rare, cases of impaction and sand colic spike during the winter months.

Three cold-weather practices converge to increase the likelihood of intestinal blockages (impactions) this time of year:

- Horses tend to consume less water in colder weather, either because they don't get as thirsty as in the summer or because their water sources freeze over. In addition, the roughages common in winter rations contain less than 20 percent moisture compared to the 75 percent or more water content in spring and summer grass. With insufficient liquid in the digestive tract, the food being processed becomes too dry to be moved along by peristaltic action and blocks a portion of an intestine. The stemminess of poor-quality hay contributes further to blockage formation.

- When the temperature drops, caretakers are inclined to boost their horses' grain rations to meet the increased energy demands of keeping warm. This disproportion of carbohydrates to fiber can upset digestion.

- The digestive system depends on body movement to help push food along. At pasture, a horse spends the bulk of his time wandering from one grazing spot to the next. The inactivity enforced by confinement in stalls or small paddocks may slow the movement of ingesta along the digestive tract. When one or more of

these influences produce an impaction, a course of intravenous fluids may be all it takes to soften the blockage and cure the colic, in which case the prognosis for long-term survival is excellent. If the blockage persists and requires surgery, the survival rate is greatly diminished.

Cold weather may conspire against your efforts to keep water flowing to your horses, but they are crucial to prevention. Anything that can be done to keep the horses drinking reduces the incidence of colic. Your particular "anything" may be purchasing water-trough or water-bucket heaters, carrying hot water to thaw frozen buckets and pipes or trekking twice daily to the stream to break a hole in the ice and check on the footing.

Leave your horses turned out as much as possible to ensure sufficient digestive stimulation. You won't be endangering their health in other ways, as horses in good condition with heavy winter coats or adequate blankets and access to windbreaks can withstand temperatures as low as 40 degrees below zero. Unless they are being pelted by drenching rain or

stinging ice, they are better off outdoors.

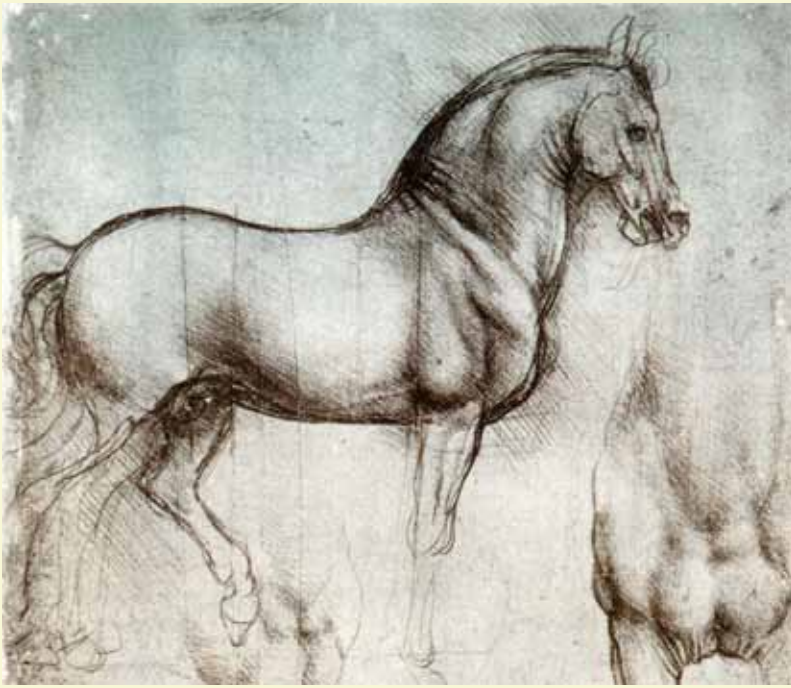
Finally, reach for an extra flake, not scoop, when temperatures start to drop: It's hay, rather than grain, that provides the most efficient heating fuel. And roughages don't produce

the carbohydrate overload that can trigger endotoxemia, a system-wide toxicity that's reflected in colic and/or laminitis.

This story was excerpted from the article "Weathering Winter", originally published in the January 1997 article of EQUUS magazine. ■

.....  
"Cold weather may conspire against your efforts to keep water flowing to your horses, but they are crucial to preventing."

—Article courtesy of the January 1997 article of EQUUS magazine.



## Leo

*Leonardo da Vinci seemed to have been a big fan of horses, and even his rough sketches possess an almost magical life-like quality, both in their detail and in their perspective.*

*Although ultimately known for his portrait painting ability, it seems he was able to capture his subjects regardless of what type of animal they were. I actually appreciate some of these informal sketches more than his popular pieces. They give us a glimpse into his character, simply because he enjoyed the challenge of drawing horses and found them subjects worthy of his doodles.*

*Now we know what the Mona Lisa was smiling at, there must have been a horse in front of her. ■*

### HIS HORSE

## Leonardo da Vinci

***Leonardo's horse is a sculpture which was originally commissioned in 1482 by Duke of Milan Ludovico il Moro, but not completed.***

It was intended to be the largest equestrian statue in the world, a monument to the Duke's father Francesco. Leonardo did extensive preparatory work for it, but produced only a clay model, which was destroyed by French soldiers when they invaded Milan in 1499, interrupting the project. About five centuries later, Leonardo's surviving design materials were used as the basis for sculptures intended to bring the project to fruition.

In 1977, Charles Dent began work to complete the unfinished sculpture in Allentown, Pennsylvania. His efforts to set up an organization to finance the project proved a difficult task that required more than 15 years. The projected cost of the horse came to nearly US\$2.5 million. Dent died of Lou

Gehrig's disease in 1994, leaving his private art collection to LDVHI (Leonardo da Vinci's Horse, Inc.), the sale of which brought more than \$1 million to the fund. In 1988, LDVHI enlisted sculptor/painter Garth Herrick to begin part-time work on the horse.

By 1997, Tallix Art Foundry, in Beacon, New York, the company contracted by LDVHI to cast the horse, had suggested bringing Nina Akamu, an experienced animal sculptor, on board to improve upon the Dent-Herrick horse. After several months, Akamu determined that the original model could not be salvaged and concluded that a completely new sculpture needed to be executed.

Leonardo had made numerous small sketches of horses to help illustrate his notes about the complex procedures for molding and casting the sculpture. But his notes were far from

systematic, and none of the sketches points to the final position of the horse, with no single definitive drawing of the statue. Akamu researched multiple information sources to gain insight into the original sculptor's intentions. She studied both Leonardo's notes and drawings of the horse and those of other projects he was working on. She reviewed his thoughts on anatomy, painting, sculpture and natural phenomena. Her research expanded to include the teachers who had influenced Leonardo.

Two full-size casts were made or Akamu's 24-foot (7.3 meter) design. One was placed at the Hippodrome de San Siro in Milan. The other is at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, a botanical garden and sculpture park in Grand Rapids, Michigan, paid for by billionaire Frederik Meijer. ■



# Forever Home

## My name is Mikey #1104

I am a chestnut quarter horse yearling born in 2011.

Currently I am learning to lead, pick up my feet and have made great progress in the last little while. I am very sweet and ready for my forever home! ■

# Get Involved

## Volunteer Orientation

For anyone who would like to become a volunteer for Rescue 100.

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

Saturday, January 14, 2012  
@ 11:00am

Saturday, February 4, 2012  
@ 11:00am

Rescue 100 / Keno Hills Stable (52164 Range Road 210, Sherwood Park)

Please RSVP via phone or email to:

rescue100.volunteering@gmail.com or 780.464.9988

All children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Anyone under the age of 18 will be required to wear a helmet – please bring if you have (bicycle helmet is fine).

Be sure to dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. ■

BY LETITIA HISE

# Intentions

***I've thought a lot about intentions over the years. A major stumbling block in human-horse communications happens because humans are so highly verbal and have lost most of their ability to think anything but words.***

Horses, being primarily non-verbal, are much more attuned to picking up the intentions of others through their movements, expressions, and yes, even their energy. As verbal creatures, we're poor at reading these signs in others, but most people take notice when someone with high energy enters a room. Horses pick up on your energy the way you pick up on someone giving you a dirty look. No words necessary. As a rider, you exhibit that energy in a number of different ways, from the way you breathe to your posture as you sit in the saddle. Leaning forward, sitting back, slumping, or stiffening, all send signals to your horse, usually without the knowledge of the sender.

Even though you may be consciously sending your horse a signal to move forward and to the right with your reins and your leg, your horse may be receiving conflicting signals of your intentions from your posture and your energy. It's not as crazy as it sounds. The next time your horse doesn't want to move forward, try making a mental note to yourself of how you're sitting and where you're LOOKING when your horse balks. Are you looking down at your hands? At your horse's ears? At the object on the ground you want to avoid? Or are you looking off in the distance to where you intend to take your horse? What are you thinking? Are there a tumult of words flowing through your brain? Or are you picturing your horse moving forward, imagining the feeling of forward motion, with the feel of the breeze in your face? No, horses can't read your mind, but they can read intentions -- by feel.

Here's an example. My horse Twister

becomes terribly herd bound. I don't know that he's really lacking in self assuredness so much as that he doesn't think the herd can survive without him. (I don't think he knows he's gelded.) So when trying to ride Twister away from the pasture where "his" mares are in danger of consorting with other geldings, I would run into some difficulty. Generally, a lot of balking, spinning, and even a little popping up in front, but usually, just refusal to move forward in a "departing" direction. One morning as I sat there cursing him, I suddenly realized I was falling into the trap I used to warn my students about: I was looking down. I immediately corrected myself and looked off into the distance--and being an extremely verbal creature and practically incapable of thinking in anything but words--I said aloud, "Look at that tree over there Twister; let's go see that tree!" (Mind you, I was looking at the tree, and by speaking the words, I changed my own energy.) Like magic, he started moving forward. It was a wonderful moment. I know better than to look down, but it's so easy to fall into that trap.

Where do you intend to go? Picture it -- LOOK at it. INTEND it. Your energy changes when you do that.

With horses, your balance (seat) changes too, when you look where you're going rather than where you already are (which is what you're doing when you look down). Have you ever thought your horse was stupid for walking right into that wire that you were staring at and trying to steer your horse around? You were the one who directed him right to that wire by focusing on it.

I used to say to students, "If you're looking at your horse's ears, he's leading you around by the nose." Where do you intend to go? If you're staring at his ears, you're not sending him anywhere but where he's already at, and you're a follower, not a leader. Look ahead; project your intentions to go up the road, up the rail, across the arena, over to that tree, through that water--but don't look AT the water--look BEYOND it! ■

.....  
Is a former riding instructor and currently works as a freelance graphics and marketing professional. —Letitia Hise.



**Mikey**

**The Foundation currently have several horses available for placement into their 'forever' homes. They encourage potential owners to apply. They will always have a need for 'forever homes'. For more information their website is [www.rescue100.ca](http://www.rescue100.ca)**

# Foundation

**Rescue 100 Horses** was established in February 2008 after Susan Fyfe of Keno Kills Stables received a call from the Alberta SPCA asking if she could take in 159 horses that were in distress and needing immediate care.

Over 200 horses have received a second chance at life because of the Rescue 100 Horses Foundation. It takes dedicated volunteers and generous donations to care for each horse and prepare them for placement in "loving" forever homes.

Abuse and neglect of horses in Alberta continues to increase and becomes more severe in the winter months. Winter provides extreme challenges in terms of food, shelter and water. Each horse requires the basic necessities to live a healthy, happy life and the Rescue 100 Horses Foundation provides the care and love to give the horses the life they deserve. ■

WWW.CHRISIRWIN.COM

## Chris Irwin

**You know you love your horse. But does your horse love you? Chris Irwin's evolutionary methodology - learning to think horse, speak horse, and play horse games by horse rules to be the better horse - teaches people how to develop a deep bond between themselves and their horse. Which just may be the key to your horse loving you back!**

There is a growing awareness among equestrians that there is much more to horsemanship than just riding. Chris Irwin has spent 30 years developing an approach with horses that addresses this missing link: learning to speak a horse's body language so well that we truly "hear" how they feel about being handled and ridden, then developing the skills to give a horse what it needs so that he or she will happily give us what we want – a solid connection that engenders a willingness to enjoy safe, comfortable, relaxed rides wherever we wish to go.

Such a relationship, however, is not

second nature. Chris shows us that we need to be open to change. Horses as prey animals and humans as predators are internally hard-wired to operate as polar opposites, leading to confusion and misunderstanding on many levels. We can't expect horses to understand our language, but if we care enough, we can learn to understand and speak their's. When we, do the horses begin to see us as an asset rather than as a liability – as a leader rather than as a control freak or a push-over. And everything starts to improve, for them and for us.

Chris is offering a Weekend Horsemanship Clinic at Cadence Creek Equine Centre in Ardrossan, Alberta. This clinics offer a wide range of education and instruction for English or Western riders, drivers or people who just want to develop their ground skills around horses. They are also

excellent for trainers-in-training looking to improve their skill levels. To focus on just one horse for two days of work can produce dramatic results, and allows those keen on gaining this level of competency to really hone their diagnostics and technique, both on the ground and in the tack.



Sessions are scheduled from Friday, March 9 at 9:00 am until Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 6:00 pm. To participate contact Caitlin Smith at 780.908.1604.

Aurora Arabian Horse Association will be co-hosting an evening

demonstration scheduled for Friday, March 9, 2012 from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm. Get your tickets early as their is limited space. For more information access our website at [auroaraarabian.com](http://auroaraarabian.com). Spectators tickets are \$25.00 ■

# Editor Message

Happy New Year! We are very excited to continue to bringing our members this vital line of communication.

The newsletter will be published in November, January, March, May, July, and September and will continue to be sent to you by e-mail blasts. It will also be posted on the Aurora Arabian Horse Association website.

The newsletter is in a new format and will be covering many new topics such as:

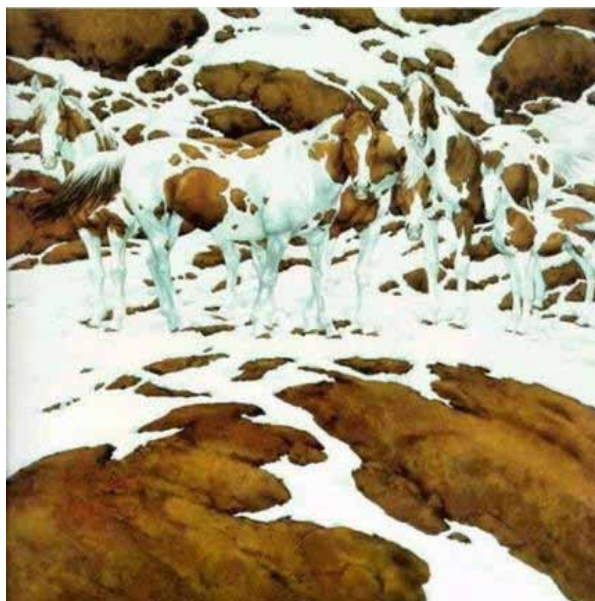
- Each issue will have a new column, *The Arabian Horse in History*, where the generally ignored role of specific horses in history will be presented.
- Each issue will also have a *Spotlight* section where we present information on a specific Arabian horse owner, trainer, barn, program, or event in Strathcona County and the surrounding area. What a great opportunity to get to know our fellow horsemen and horse lovers.
- "For the Fun of It" puzzles, games for the young and the older ... just play.
- Check out our articles, stories and classifieds.
- Monthly Aurora meeting minutes are now posted on the website.
- The team is more than willing to work with other horse associations regardless of breed type or discipline to assist them in getting their message out.

Tell us what you would like to see added e-mail:

[info@auroraarabian.com](mailto:info@auroraarabian.com) ■

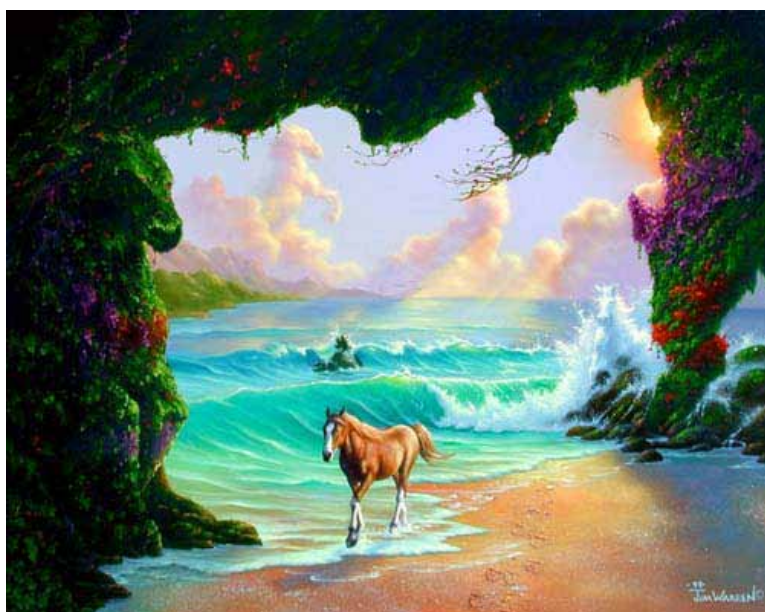
## FUN AND GAMES

# How many horses?



How many horses can you find in this classic piece of art? I'm not sure what's the name of this artist, but the image is great! Much fun.

How many horses can you count in this image below? It's obvious there is one in the middle, but if you observe and pay attention you will find a few more! ■



# Food for Thought

Each of the food words below is part of a bigger horse-related word or term. See if you can add the right letters to spell the new words using the accompanying clues. ■

\_\_ pizza \_\_ (a breed of horses)

strawberry \_\_\_\_\_ (describes a horse's coat)

\_ apple \_\_\_\_\_ (describes a horse's coat)

egg - \_\_\_\_\_ (this is attached to a horse's hoof)

\_ rib \_\_\_\_\_ (a bad habit)

liver \_\_\_\_\_ nut (describes a horse's coat)

curry \_\_\_\_\_ (a grooming tool)

\_\_\_\_\_ sage (a specialized style of riding)

lime \_\_\_\_\_ (helps keep stalls dry)

\_\_\_ ham \_\_\_ (a metal mouthpiece)

\_\_ oat (something that's done to horses's teeth)

## WESTERN DRESSAGE IS COMING TO ALBERTA



### New booking clinics for Spring 2012

- interested in attending a clinic?
- want to book a clinic at your barn?
- thinking of becoming an instructor?

### Want more information:

Contact: **Ruthanne May**  
 E-mail: [lmay@albertacom.com](mailto:lmay@albertacom.com)  
 Telephone: 780-922-4402  
 OR  
 Contact: **Debbie Hoyo**  
 E-mail: [dhoyo@shaw.ca](mailto:dhoyo@shaw.ca)  
 Telephone: 403-932-6478



Be sure to visit:

[Westerndressageofcanada.com](http://Westerndressageofcanada.com)

Western Dressage embraces all that we love about our western horses, their gaits, confidence and trainability. We add to this the partnership, control and beauty of dressage and we have the perfect result. Western Dressage.

## Ad

### FOR RENT:

One Bedroom Condo during the Scottsdale Arabian Show February 11 - 25, 2012 incl. at the Scottsdale Villa Mirage. This is a five star resort with Interval International (Time-share Trading Co.) and is only 5 minutes from Westworld. Features: Full kitchen, Washer and Dryer in Unit, Sleeps 4. For other ammentities and details on the resort visit [www.scottsdalevillamirage.com](http://www.scottsdalevillamirage.com). Price: \$1800.00 for 14 nights. Contact Win Furman, [furman.farms@sasktel.net](mailto:furman.farms@sasktel.net) or call 306.825.3269 ■

## Join

### Volunteers Needed for Aurora Summer Show Committee

Get involved in one of many roles available.

Aurora Show Meetings are held monthly prior to the general meeting.

Contact:  
 Dawn Hopkins  
 780.468.2978 or  
[ashbren@albertacom.com](mailto:ashbren@albertacom.com)

### ENVIRONMENTAL AIR CLEANING:

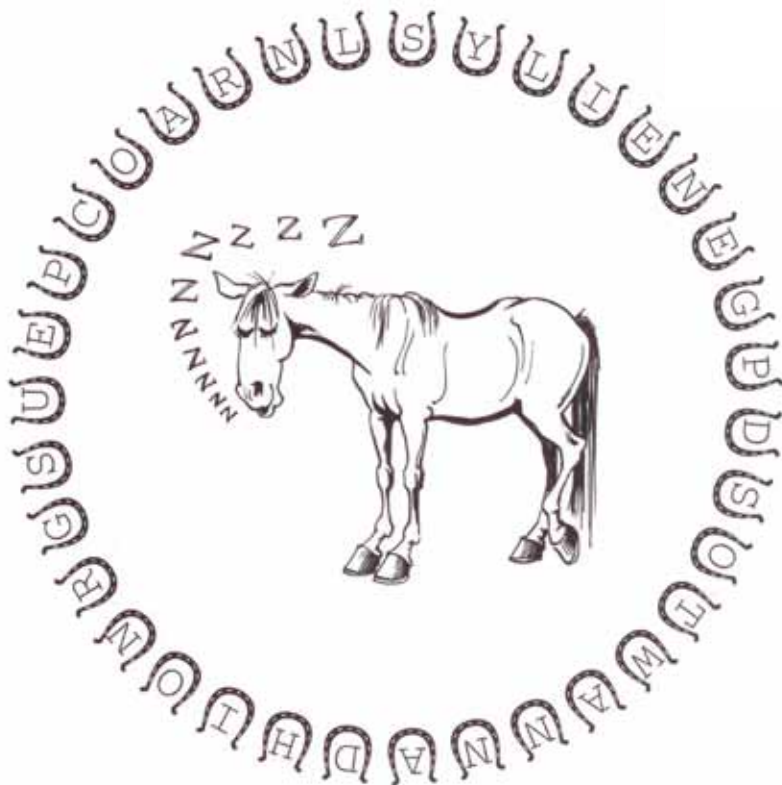
This product is a type of air decontamination/purification system to be used in barns and stables. Currently there are units in the pavilion at Spruce Meadows and several other private barns around Alberta. These machinges are able to kill viruses, bacteria, mould and breakdown harmful gases such as ammonia and hydrogen sulfide among others. Contact Lee Head, [lhead@envair.ca](mailto:lhead@envair.ca) or call 403.880.7483 [www.envair.ca](http://www.envair.ca) ■

CAN YOU DO IT?

# Circle Around

HOW TO PLAY: If you pick the right letter to start with and then go around the circle twice, stopping on every other letter, you will spell out an interesting fact about the way horses catch up on their sleep. ■

FACT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ■



To find the solution of these puzzles or to check out more games and activities, check out the aurora website "For the Fun of it" section at [www.auroraarabian.com/forthefunofit.html](http://www.auroraarabian.com/forthefunofit.html) ■

## Marjie Becker

*Nestled in the scenic rolling hills of Northern California with beautiful oak trees and lush pastures that have traditional white fencing to add the finishing touch, Becker Stables paints a picture of equine paradise.*

Concentrating on Arabian and Half-Arabians, they specializes in all major divisions with an emphasis on the Western, Hunter, English and Show Hack disciplines. With all the amenities it takes to raise and train top notch show horses, Becker Stables also maintains a healthy environment and provides the ultimate in care and training to each individual horses needs. It is their successful training methods that have helped establish them in an industry of greats, and, as a result, have transformed their farm into a home to numerous National Champion horses. Brett and Marjie have accumulated countless national championships through their hard work, consistency and honest approach. Creating a legacy that will make history, their amateur program boasts some of the best riders today. It's the "hands on", one-on-one time that makes each lesson valuable and



helps gear the rider towards the show ring. Taking pride in the work and the horses themselves is what sets Becker Stables apart.

Marjie Becker was the winner of the 2006 US Arabian National Championship Horse Show's Western Side Saddle Classes. Marjie rode JK Famous owned by the John and Karen Sparks Revocable Trust, Paradise Valley, California. Below are a couple of questions that she was asked back then.

**1 How long have you been riding?** Almost 15 years.

**2 What have been some barriers for you in preparation for exhibiting side saddle?** If the horse is well trained with two legs, preparation for exhibiting side saddle is not usually difficult. It is very rare that we get a horse that is just not suited for side saddle. It may be too rough-gaited, too difficult to fit the saddle, or unwilling to perform well without a leg on the right side.

**3 What brand of side saddle do you use on your**

**horses?** Do you find fitting an Arabian a difficult task? I like the Broken Horn side saddles, but they are difficult to find. I have also found a few small cus-

tom saddle makers that do a good job on the side saddles. The fit of the side saddle is crucial. A side saddle that does not fit will not stay in place and will make the horse's back extremely sore in a very short time. It is sometimes difficult to find a side saddle that fits well, but I do not think the problem is exclusive for Arabians.

**4 What do you look for in a side-saddle mount?** As for competing in any division, I want a pretty horse with a lot of quality. I also want smooth and steady gaits and a horse that can do his job easily, with or without a leg on the right side.

**5 How often do you school your side saddle horses in their tack?** I will ride the horse in the side saddle two to three times a week until the horse is as balanced and responsive in the side saddle as in conventional tack. After that I find it enough to school the horse in the side saddle only once or twice just before each competition.

**6 What advice would you offer the beginning side saddle rider?** Make sure your horse is very well trained with two legs before you try riding him with one.

The Aurora clinic is scheduled for Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1, 2012. Details and registration forms will be released shortly. For more information contact Lorie Fisher at 780.916.6375. ■

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