

# The Arena

*A newsletter dedicated to keeping NWRDC members in the know about club business, news, history, events and equine issues.*

**A Monthly Newsletter**

**February 2011**

**I'm Your Huckleberry**  
 This month's comments from NWRDC president, Pierce Williams.  
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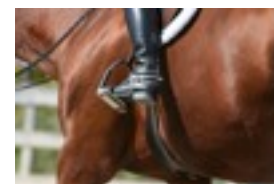
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**Editors: Pierce Williams, Veronica Williams, Barbara Rousseau**

## Club News

**Next Meeting: February 8, 2011 at 7:00pm at the VFW on Lake Street in St. Albans**

### January 11th Meeting Summary

This was the first meeting of the year for the club. There were some new faces at the meeting as well as some that have made it a habit to come out the second Tuesday of every month for our club meeting. It is always great to see new faces to get their input on the direction of the club.

The peewee committee reported that their books are done and ready to be sent out.

The open show committee has almost completed their books. They are working on a few more ads then they will be ready for print. There will be a new division this year at the open shows. It is a 40" and under division. Hopefully this will get some new members to join the club.

There was good discussion regarding the extreme cowboy races. Inside the pony



**Good ol' Blue - sure do miss him but it sounds like he likes his new home that we found through a club member! That's fellowship.**

track has been designated for the extreme cowboy races. They have some concerns regarding safety around the pond and some drainage issues. They are hoping to get these things straightened out before the first competition. There is excitement about the growth that the cowboy races will bring to the club.

The banquet committee has to make a decision on where to hold the banquet

this year. There was discussion about new and old venues being used. A decision has to be made sooner rather than later because these places book up fast. The new building is coming along. Half the building has been primed. The door has to be hung and the roof has to go on and then it's good to go.

Nutrena has a club program that will help our club earn some money. If you bring in the proof of purchase tags off your bags of Nutrena they will in return give us money back for each tag. So remember to take your tags off the grain bags and bring them into Walker's and let the club earn some money! Remember to put the club name on the envelope and give them to Heather Reynolds.

A committee has been formed to start working on a 5 year plan - this will take several months. But start thinking about this: If you could take a picture of the club in 5 years, what would it look like?

**Agenda Items for February 8:**  
 Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Reports

**I'M YOUR HUCKLEBERRY**

Howdy,

If you come to meetings, you know we often talk about how decisions regarding money and planning get made. Generally speaking, the board makes those decisions. They gather data by listening to what club members say at meetings and at events. Then they determine the highest need given the available funds. According to our by-laws, if you want something specific to be considered, you should send your ideas in writing to the attention of the Board of Directors at the address on the mailing panel of this newsletter.

To assist the board with future decisions, we've formed a planning committee that will develop a 5-year plan. This process is time consuming and hard work and, if we're lucky, should be done by July or August.

You'll have the opportunity to participate via an online survey. Ultimately, the goal of the 5-year plan is to answer the following questions:

- What is the mission of the club?
- Who should the club server?
- What does the club need to do in order to effectively provide that service to it's members?
- How will we fund those services?
- Do we need to make changes/improvements to the grounds to provide those services?

Once we've got the plan, anytime the members or board is considering an expenditure of resources, we'll be able to quickly determine it's valuable by checking it against the plan. Easy! So, keep your eyes peeled and remember ...

Nature gave us all something to fall back on, and sooner or later we all land flat on it.



Pierce Williams

## Equine Wellness



with  
*Dr. Phil of  
Vermont  
Large  
Animal  
Clinic,  
Milton*

### Preventing Colic

The number one killer of horses is colic. Colic is not a disease, but rather a combination of signs that alert us to abdominal pain in the horse. Colic can range from mild to severe, but it should never be ignored. Many of the conditions that cause colic can become life threatening in a relatively short period of time. Only by quickly and accurately recognizing colic – and seeking qualified veterinary help – can the chance for recovery be maximized.

While horses seem predisposed to colic due to the anatomy and function of their digestive tracts, management can play a key role in prevention. Although not every case is avoidable, the following guidelines from the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) can maximize the horse's health and reduce the risk of colic:

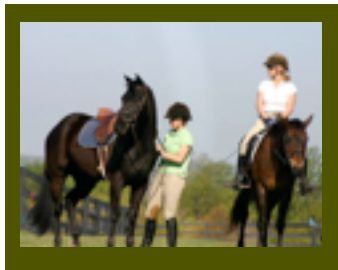
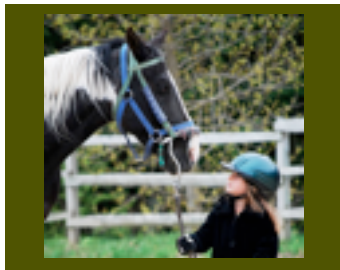
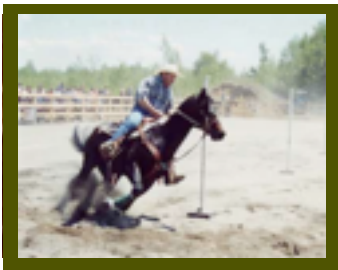
1. Establish a daily routine – include feeding and exercise schedules – and stick to it.
2. Feed a high quality diet comprised primarily of roughage.
3. Avoid feeding excessive grain and energy-dense supplements. (At least half the horse's energy should be supplied through hay or forage. A better guide is that twice as much energy should be supplied from a roughage source than from concentrates.)
4. Divide daily concentrate rations into two or more smaller feedings rather than one large one to avoid overloading the horse's digestive tract. Hay is best fed free-choice.

5. Set up a regular parasite control program with the help of your equine practitioner.
6. Provide exercise and/or turnout on a daily basis. Change the intensity and duration of an exercise regimen gradually.
7. Provide fresh, clean water at all times. (The only exception is when the horse is excessively hot, and then it should be given small sips of luke-warm water until it has recovered.)
8. Avoid putting feed on the ground, especially in sandy soils.
9. Check hay, bedding, pasture, and environment for potentially toxic substances, such as blister beetles, noxious weeds, and other ingestible foreign matter.
10. Reduce stress. Horses experiencing changes in environment or workloads are at high risk of intestinal dysfunction. Pay special attention to horses when transporting them or changing their surroundings, such as at shows.



Virtually any horse is susceptible to colic. Age, sex, and breed differences in susceptibility seem to be relatively minor. The type of colic seen appears to relate to geographic or regional differences, probably due to environmental factors such as sandy soil or climatic stress. Importantly, what this tells us is that, with conscientious care and management, we have the potential to reduce and control colic, the number one killer of horses.

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## Gymkhana

We had our first gymkhana committee meeting Jan. 14. Committee members for the 2011 season are Tracy Webb chairperson, Alan Webb, Shirley Langlois, Audra Langlais, Pierce Williams, Barbara Rousseau and, new this year, Ursula Ovitt. Some changes to note: Entry Fees are the same as last year plus \$1.00 maintenance fee per entry. We aren't doing tickets instead of ribbons this year. Novice class is WALK/TROT only - novice rider or green horse. We're changing the run in/out so we won't need gate people. Games have been picked and the books are almost ready to go to copy. Another meeting will be held in late Feb. or early March. Happy trails! If you have any suggestions please email me at [whitedove\\_6@yahoo.com](mailto:whitedove_6@yahoo.com).

### 2011 Gymkhana Schedule

May 28, 2011  
 June 11, 2011  
 June 25, 2011  
 July 16, 2011  
 August 20, 2011  
 September 17, 2011

## Pee Wee Gymkhana

The Pee Wee Gymkhana books are all done and we'll bring some to the February 8 meeting in case anyone wants to pick them up. Pee Wee sponsor forms have been sent out and we already have all 5 shows champion / reserve gifts donated so we're all set for 2011 seasons.

If anyone needs more information, email Sue at [jstable@hotmail.com](mailto:jstable@hotmail.com).

### 2011 Pee Wee Gymkhana Schedule

May 21, 2011  
 June 18, 2011  
 July 9, 2011  
 August 6, 2011  
 August 27, 2011  
 Rain Date September 18th

## Horse Show

The Horse Show Committee has sent out sponsor forms, and thank you ribbons. If anyone would like to sponsor a class or put an ad in the book, please contact a committee member. We are going over rules and guidelines. Books should be ready for printing by the end of February. We are working on judges for the 2011 season.

Thanks - the Horse Show Committee

### 2011 Open Horse Show Schedule

June 5, 2011  
 June 26, 2011  
 July 17, 2011  
 August 14, 2011  
 September 11, 2011

## Extreme Cowboy Race

A meeting was scheduled for Feb 1, 6:00 p.m. at Melissa's house to discuss; layout and timeline for permanent obstacles; list of moveable objects to acquire; race rules; ideas for first race - Memorial Day theme for decorations and obstacles.

Notes will be available in March newsletter.

### 2011 Extreme Cowboy Race Schedule

May 29, 2011  
 July 23, 2011  
 October 01, 2011



## Happy Birthday to:

Amber Collins, Tina Oram,  
 Jennifer Dickinson, Lisa Gratton,  
 Melissa Hamilton, Scott Rand,  
 Phil Pearo, Lorraine Jerome,  
 Nicole Rainville, Marleen Martel,  
 Michaela Quinn, Cheryl Pellerin,  
 Macy McNall, Kathy Greenlee,  
 Morgan Quimbee, Barrett Tanis,  
 Amber Rousseau

## Lake Champlain Appaloosa Club Tack Auction

March 27 at the Rainbow Inn, Altona NY

New this year: Greene County Horseshow Supply Inc. Food, local clubs, events and raffle items. Four \$50.00 gas cards will be raffled off - tickets are \$2.00 for 1, or \$5.00 for 3. Tickets will be on sale at Feb. 8 NWRDC meeting!

For more information:

Donna at 518-298-5401 or Sue at 802-868-5207.

## Club Contact Information

### Club Officers:

President: Pierce Williams, 802-598-8006,  
[pierce@piemanproduction.com](mailto:pierce@piemanproduction.com)

Vice President: Sue Tice, 802-324-4363  
[redneckgirl11@myfairpoint.net](mailto:redneckgirl11@myfairpoint.net)

Secretary: Barbara Rousseau, 802-796-3440,  
[rousseau@fairpoint.net](mailto:rousseau@fairpoint.net)

Treasurer: Sandra Hatin, 802-524-3261,  
[sanrayracing@yahoo.com](mailto:sanrayracing@yahoo.com)

### Board of Directors:

Lynn Benoit, 802-782-4081,  
[lbenoit\\_ransom@yahoo.com](mailto:lbenoit_ransom@yahoo.com)

Raymond Hatin, 802-524-3261,  
[sanrayracing@yahoo.com](mailto:sanrayracing@yahoo.com)

Shirley Langlois, 802-373-2275,  
[mariah1@wildblue.net](mailto:mariah1@wildblue.net)

Abbot Lovett, 802-434-2433

Jim Sullivan, 802-868-5207,  
[jsstables@hotmail.com](mailto:jsstables@hotmail.com)

### Committee chairs:

Pee Wee: Sue Sullivan  
[jsstables@hotmail.com](mailto:jsstables@hotmail.com)

Gymkhana: Tracy Webb  
[whitedove\\_6@yahoo.com](mailto:whitedove_6@yahoo.com)

Horse Show: Sandy Hatin & Sue Sullivan.  
Sandy: [sanrayracing@yahoo.com](mailto:sanrayracing@yahoo.com)  
Sue: [jsstables@hotmail.com](mailto:jsstables@hotmail.com)

Extreme Cowboy Race: Melissa Ballard  
[mballard@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mballard@myfairpoint.net)

## WOODSCAPES FORESTRY, LLC

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## J.P. North Tack Auction



English and Western tack, horse care products,  
helmets, blankets, leather care products and more.

February 19, 2011, preview at noon, auction starts at 1 p.m. at  
the Alburgh Community Education Center. 10% of the auction proceeds and  
100% of concessions go to support the Alburgh 8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip.  
Childcare available on site.

## Bison Creek Natural Hoof Care

*Natural Trimming and booting*  
*Easy Care Dealer*

*Healing your horse through natural care*

Marta Merrick  
1649 Lake Road  
Milton, VT 05468

H 802 893-0698  
C 802 363-8143  
[martamerrick1@aol.com](mailto:martamerrick1@aol.com)

### LOG CABIN STABLES, Alburgh

Full board 9' x 12' stalls, with turn-out  
Call Phil or Aileen: 802-309-3242 or 309-3075

*Present your NWRDC membership card to  
receive the following:*

#### Walker's in St. Albans:

10% discount except on grain, pet & bird food, and sale items

**Tack Box:** 10% discount storewide

**Guy's Farm and Yard:** 10% discount on horse items only

#### Oliver Seed in Milton:

10% discount except on grain, pet & bird food, and sale items



2011 Membership Application

Membership Dues:

Family: \$15.00      Single: \$10.00

**Please Print:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  Please send me the newsletter via postal mail

*\*By providing this information, you are granting NWRDC permission to send you the newsletter and other updates via email*

For family membership, please list all the children to be included and their ages. Children 18 years and older must have own individual membership.

Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_      Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_      Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_      Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all interests that apply:

\_\_\_\_ Trail Rides    \_\_\_\_ Gymkhana    \_\_\_\_ Pee Wee Gymkhana    \_\_\_\_ Horse Shows    \_\_\_\_ Extreme Cowboy    \_\_\_\_ Administration

I understand that the activity of horseback riding involves risk of harm and I knowingly assume that risk in consideration of participating in and using the property of Northwestern Riding & Driving Club, Inc.

Recognizing that wherever animals are in use, there is the potential for accidents which can cause injuries to other horses, cattle, riders, participants, and guests and spectators, I do hereby release, hold harmless, and indemnify the Northwestern Riding & Driving Club, Inc., its members, directors, officers, affiliates, agents, employees, family, and volunteers from any damages or claims that may arise out of or due to the use by me, my animals, my spouse, my children and any minors, for whom I act as a de-facto or legal guardian, of the grounds, arenas, stables, jumps, cross country course and other property owned, leased or used by the Northwestern Riding & Driving Club, Inc. owners, members, managers, directors, employees, affiliates, associates, agents, and volunteers. I further bind myself, my heirs, administrators, and executors to indemnify said entities and individuals from any judgments, costs of defense or suit, including attorneys' fees, and to reimburse said entities and individuals for any such losses. This agreement shall also apply to any claims or damages arising out of the negligence of The Northwestern Riding & Driving Club, Inc., its owners, members, managers, directors, employees, affiliates, associates, agents, and volunteers.

I have carefully read and do understand the above and hereby fully release the above entities from any responsibility as stated or implied. I also agree to no alcohol use, no abusive language and no abusive treatment of horses while engaged in any riding activities or any activities on the premises. To do so may result in being asked to leave the premises.

THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT.

Rider's Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Rider's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**--We will need a signed release form for every rider.--**

Mail completed form and check to:  
Northwestern Riding & Driving Club, Inc.  
PO Box 1314  
St. Albans, VT 05478

**For official use only:**

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Cards Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

## Arena Advertising Rates:



Members receive FREE 25 word listing in The Arena for your business:

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

25 Word Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Display ads (please circle ad size), members receive 20% discount of listed prices:

Business Card Size: 3.75" wide x 2" high: \$20 per issue \$120 for year

1/4 page: 3.75" wide x 5" high: \$40 per issue \$240 for year

1/2 page (v): 3.75" wide x 10" high: \$80 per issue \$480 for year

1/2 page (h): 7.5" wide x 5" high: \$80 per issue \$480 for year

To receive 20% off, you must agree to run the same ad for 12 months, you must supply your ad electronically, and the club needs to receive payment in the full amount before we can run your ad.

All proceeds go to supporting the Arena and the club. If you are interested, please contact Veronica or Pierce Williams.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send ads, sized correctly, as a jpg, eps, png, or pdf to: [pierce@piemanproductions.com](mailto:pierce@piemanproductions.com)

Mail completed form and check to:  
 Northwestern Riding & Driving Club, Inc.  
 PO Box 1314  
 St. Albans, VT 05478



## Northwestern Riding & Driving Club 2011 Grounds Rules

*The objective of this association shall be to promote good fellowship and to provide recreation among and for horse-lovers, young and old.*

1. A negative Coggins drawn from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 plus proof of Rabies vaccine for the same time period will be required for all horses and for all events.
2. Canterng outside of fenced-in rings is not allowed, except as required by special events.
3. A riders age is determined by their age as of January 1 in the current year.
4. Horses are not allowed in designated spectator areas.
5. Horses and horse trailers must be at least 200 feet away from concession stand.
6. When trail riding, use path around outside area of hay field.
7. Riding boots or shoes with heels are required. Sneakers or flat soled shoes are not allowed.
8. Use of alcoholic beverages on the grounds by participants, handlers, judges, officials, committee members and spectators during any active horse-related event is strictly prohibited.
9. Riding double is not allowed, except as required by special events.
10. All riders ride at their own risk and are responsible for damage done by their horse.
11. Abuse of horses will not be tolerated. Riders will be asked to leave and will receive no refund. If you have concerns about the treatment of any horse, please address it with a committee member.
12. At the discretion of committee members, anyone whose horse cannot be controlled in or out of the ring and may cause injury will be asked to leave without any refund.
13. All dogs must be leashed, attended at all times and kept away from all riding rings or you will be asked to remove your dog from the grounds. If your dog barks excessively, please leave them at home.
14. This is a family-focused club, foul language or excessive cursing is strongly discouraged.
15. Use of club grounds, other than events, is for members only and one guest.
16. Please return equipment to designated area after use.

**Per the NWRDC By-Laws the event committee has the ability to prohibit further participation at any event in any form by participants, judges, officials, committee members and spectators due to inappropriate conduct and request immediate removal from the grounds if deemed necessary. The Board of directors maintains the right to suspend any member due to inappropriate conduct at meetings, trail rides, shows, races, or other activities, without refund of dues.**

**Please be aware that the individual events being held at NWRDC have there own rules and for a list of those please contact the individual committees.**



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## Featured Photos



February newsletter printed courtesy of hmc2 marketing.