



2022

Community Report

**Northern New Mexico
Horsemen's Association**
Our 75th Anniversary

What is a Community Report?

We are delighted to publish our first annual Community Report that highlights our first full year of accomplishments as a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit organization with our Giving Program in place.

Our regional focus is northern New Mexico, and we work with various organizations and governmental entities to educate and advocate on behalf of the greater equine community.

In this report, we provide an overview of the clinics, horse shows, workshops, scholarships and other events in 2022 that we hosted or helped fund. Think of our Community Report as a "year in review," as we look forward!

In 2023, we are also pleased to be celebrating our 75 years as a horse and equine community devoted to the well-being and care of equines.

Our Giving Program

The cornerstone of our community support is our Giving Program. In 2020, NNMHA sold a parcel of land. Prior to the sale, we had become a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization. As such, we entered a new era of possibilities.

Once the proceeds of the sale were invested, we focused our resources to support horse owners, riders and other equine enthusiasts in this area.

The result is the NNMHA Giving Program, created to identify and fund projects that complement our mission and goals. At the same time, we continued and even expanded the much-enjoyed program meetings, trail rides and general fellowship. Thanks, long-time members, for sticking with us!

We also work to draw people into our efforts who



have never experienced that very special connection that exists between humans, horses, mules and donkeys.

The Giving Program was fully launched in 2022. We funded applications in three categories of giving: scholarships, grants and sponsorships, to both individuals and organizations. At the same time, we also began funding NNMHA branded projects, creating events from the ground up.

We financially supported a total of eight Giving Program applications and created four branded events. In total, \$12,950 was disbursed.

We work with other nonprofit organizations or individuals that typically include trainers, clinicians, rescue or shelter groups and veterinarians, through Giving Program awards and NNMHA branded projects.

Sponsorships

Through the Giving Program, we funded four sponsorships: a series of dressage clinics, a breed horse show, an endurance/trail riding clinic and an annual donkey race. (Funding for the race will take place in 2023.)

As part of NNMHA branded events, we sponsored three clinics and a workshop: Working Equitation, Ranch Riding and Working with Cattle clinics and a Handling Troubled Horses workshop.



We are pleased to play a role in sponsoring these hands-on events, whether through the Giving Program or as branded projects. We work with well-respected trainers, clinicians, veterinarians, farriers and others as experts in their field. We are also glad to work with state and national associations and organizations that bring their horse shows to our area.

As one example, we gave a sponsorship to support a two-day American Endurance Riding Conference (AERC) clinic organized by well-known equine community leader,



Deirdre Monroe. The event was led by a veterinarian clinician and covered both endurance trail riding and general matters of trail horse health with a veterinarian clinician.

“Our clinic was a great success, with 17 attendees on Saturday and six riders on Sunday. I have gotten rave reviews about Dr. Bob’s discussions.

We also managed to help a couple of riders who were very worried about their mounts and their actions leaving base camp.”

Deirdre Monroe

Scholarships

We provided one scholarship through our Giving Program that helped a professional gain additional expertise for a life as trainer and clinician.

That award went to trainer and clinician, Leela Brightenburg, who has been studying the well-regarded Masterson Method of interactive equine bodywork. NNMHA’s support helped her complete qualifications in the Masterson Method. Access to the Masterson Method has not been available in northern NM until now.

“The course was led by the founder of the Masterson Method, Jim Masterson, and I had to do a full session on a horse with him one-on-one so he could approve my skills and declare me an MMCP, Masterson Method Certified Professional...

They also taught additional techniques to help horses with injuries or deeper tension patterns to add to the skill set that I have already been developing.”

Leela Brightenburg

Grants

Awarding grants helps exemplary individuals and groups that are pursuing valuable goals themselves.



In 2022, our grants benefitted three organizations, including a rescue or troubled horse program, search-and-rescue services and trail maintenance assistance in a preserve.

One grant was awarded to the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Posse (SFSP), a search-and-rescue nonprofit that provides critical community help.

SFSP used this grant to help rebuild arena obstacles and equipment for training purposes. Besides its important search-and-rescue work, SFSP is generous in allowing others access to its arena and equipment to train and desensitize other equines.

*"Thank you so very much for the grant!
We are excited and eager to begin work....
We appreciate you guys so much!"
Major Alissa D. Mundt, SFSP*

Application Process

Our Giving Program application forms are on our website, as well as more information about the program. We welcome your interest.

Ongoing Activities...

In addition, we continue to offer monthly program meetings, Ridge Riders rides, social gatherings during the year and special events, as scheduled.

Ridge Rider Rides

This year, we have hosted seven Ridge Riders rides. These rides have long been a part of NNMHA. Group sizes ranged from three to thirteen riders during the spring/summer/fall seasons.

Rides were organized by our experienced trail boss and visited such scenic areas as Rowe Mesa, Caja del Rio and Copper

Canyon in the Abiquiu area. Rides are free of charge and open to all members. We always follow safety rules and horse-riding etiquette.

Educational Program Meetings

Throughout the year, we hosted 11 monthly educational programs with expert speakers, sometimes outdoors that involved equine demonstrations.

Programs featured veterinarians, attorneys, trainers, authors, farriers and heads of rescue organizations, authors, and others.

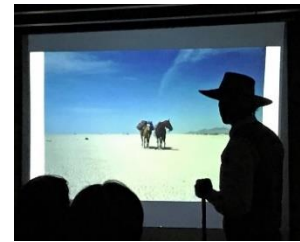
These meetings are open to the public and free of charge. There's always time to ask questions!

We also hosted two annual get-togethers where we can talk with others who have similar equine interests and informally share information.

Typically, there is also an educational component to these get-togethers that includes speakers of various disciplines. These social events are open to members and their guests.

Equine Welfare Advocacy

It was a first-ever event! NNMHA organized a benefit for The Horse Shelter. It



included a screening of the film, *The Mustangs: America's Wild Horses*, and a follow-up discussion of the film and the issue of wild horses.

Many hours of behind-the-scenes work resulted in a sold-out performance. The lively discussion included mustang and wild horse advocates, government officials, rescue organizations and NNMHA members and their guests.

We plan to organize similar events in the future and to stay on top of equine issues in our area and the state.

Looking to the Future: Youth Involvement, Broader Outreach

We also participated in two parades and look forward to participating in public events such as parades and other community-based activities. Doing so promotes awareness of equine opportunities and issues.

These events also provide in-person moments that invite young and not-so-young people to become more familiar with equines.



What comes next? In 2023, we hope to double the disbursements we make. We will continue to partner with trainers, clinicians, riders, veterinarians, farriers, rescue and shelter organizations and other equine specialists in our area.

We also want to put more effort into opening doors to help interested youth and non-riders connect with horses, mules and donkeys.



If you know of a project or an individual who deserves our support, please reach out to us. Our resources are limited, but we always welcome learning about worthy causes.

Plans are also underway to celebrate NNMHA's 75th anniversary in the coming year. We're excited about that!

Who We Are

For all these years, NNMHA has been offering equine events and support for horse enthusiasts of all disciplines and ages.

Horses are our passion, and our lives are better for having equines in them. We value all

kinds: horses, donkeys and mules...from miniatures to draft breeds.



Our mission? We are dedicated to the encouragement and education of our members and the greater northern New Mexico community with regard to equestrian activities of all kinds.

Our 2023 Board of Directors include: Howard Gershon, John Pearson, Gary Clendenen, Paula Zima, Evalyn Bemis, Ed Srsic and Georgia Fischel. Non-Board members or advisors are Joyce Davis, Karen Denison, Carol Marthens and Sandra Smith.

A special thanks to Helen Newton and Carol Marthens for their immediate past service on our Board.

Join Us

Consider joining us in the important work that we do. Being a member, attending our events and sharing our advocacy are great ways to support this area's equine community, make new friends and learn more about caring for your horse, donkey or mule.

There are numerous opportunities to lend a hand, as we are a volunteer-based organization. We welcome volunteers! As a member, you can choose an event or program to work on that interests you.

You will find membership information and more on our website, www.nnmha.org.

For questions, our email address is contact@nnmha.org.

List of 2022 Recipients

- *Leela Brightenburg, Scholarship* – training in the Masterson Method for trainers and clinicians
- *New Mexico Quarter Horse Association, Sponsorship* – State breed horse show held in Santa Fe
- *Hell Canyon Ranch, Sponsorship* – series of five Dressage clinics given by trainer Jeffrey Steinberg
- *Santa Fe County Sheriff's Posse, Grant* – rebuild arena obstacles and equipment at site for training purposes
- *Pas de Cheval Horse Rescue, Grant* – ongoing operations and veterinary expenses of off-track thoroughbred rescue program

- *Deirdre Monroe, Sponsorship* – defray costs for an AERC clinic on endurance/trail riding with a veterinarian clinician
- *Fiesta at Los Cerrillos, Sponsorship* – support for a donkey race that was part of an annual fiesta event (the event was cancelled due to weather, so support will roll over to 2023)
- *Terry Berg, branded clinic* – Ranch Riding clinic, real-life ranch riding for all ages
- *Loal Tucker, branded clinic* - Working with Cattle clinic (herding, separating and cutting)
- *Rudy Lara, Sr., branded clinic* - in-the-saddle Working Equitation clinic
- *Ginger Gaffney and Leela Brandenburg, branded workshop* – Handling Troubled Horses workshop
- *Commonweal Conservancy, Grant* – support upkeep and improvements of trails in the Galisteo Basin Preserve



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2.8.23