

# Classical Horse Club Newsletter



## CLUB NEWS

### Club Members Galloped into January Fun: Dinner and An Evening of Dancing Horses at the Stock Show

As the new year unfolded, Classical Horse Club members enjoyed an evening of Stock Show fun and entertainment. As always, the Stock Show delighted with a fusion of camaraderie, smells, and mesmerizing people watching, all followed up with a show. An Evening of Dancing horses was an unforgettable experience that celebrated the spirit of community and the wonder of horses.

The evening kicked off with a tour of the livestock pens and vendors' hall, followed by the flavors of a good beer, smoky meats and tangy sauces at the Smokehouse BBQ. As plates were piled high with barbecue goodness and side dishes aplenty, conversations with old friends and new flowed freely, and connections were forged over a shared love for good food, horses, and all things Stock Show.



Following dinner, An Evening of Dancing Horses began. As the lights dimmed, an all-female string quartet created a magical atmosphere in the arena. The audience was captivated by the artistry and precision of professional equestrian acts as they performed intricate routines set to live music. From graceful pirouettes to spirited gallops, from sliding stops to liberty routines, each performance was a breathtaking display of skill and beauty. Whatever the spectators' equestrian passion, "An Evening of Dancing Horses" offered something for everyone to enjoy.

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## CALENDAR:

[Rocky Mountain Horse Expo – March 15-17, 2024](#)

- Stacy Adams is taking her gorgeous Andalusian stallion, Cam, for the breed show.
- Kris is taking her famous ponies, LilyLu and her best pony friend, Indigo, to show off the delightful Shetland breed.
- **Save the Date** – Classical Horse Club Equine Extravaganza August 22 – 25, 2024

## March Get-Together:

Beers in the Barn.

Free admittance to the Horse Expo after 3 pm Friday, March 15. Gather at LilyLu's stall in the barn Friday afternoon. Look for her banner. The stall number will be posted on Facebook when it's known.



What would you like to do as a club?  
Send ideas to: Holly at [hroof@hroof.com](mailto:hroof@hroof.com).



## EQUINE EMERGENCIES: RECOGNIZING SIGNS OF DISTRESS

When a horse is cut or bleeding, it's obvious that there is a problem. But in cases of colic, illness, or a more subtle injury, it may not be as apparent. That's why it's important to know your horse's normal vital signs, including temperature, pulse and respiration (TPR), as well as its normal behavior patterns.

**WHAT'S NORMAL?** Take several baseline measurements when the horse is healthy, rested, and relaxed. Write them down and keep them within easy reach, perhaps with your first aid kit, so you have them to compare to in case of an emergency. Normal ranges for adult horses are:

- Pulse rate: 30 to 42 beats per minute.
- Respiratory rate: 12 to 20 breaths per minute.
- Rectal temperature: 99.5' to 101.5' F. If the horse's temperature exceeds 102.5' F., contact your veterinarian immediately. Temperatures of over 103' F indicate a serious disorder.
- Capillary refill time (time it takes for color to return to gum tissue adjacent to teeth after pressing and releasing with your thumb): 2 seconds.

### Other observations you should note:

- Skin pliability is tested by pinching or folding a flap of neck skin and releasing. It should immediately snap back into place. Failure to do so is evidence of dehydration.
- Color of the mucous membranes of gums, nostrils, conjunctiva (inner eye tissue), and inner lips of vulva should be pink. Bright red, pale pink to white, or bluish-purple coloring may indicate problems.
- Color, consistency, and volume of feces and urine should be typical of that individual's usual excretions. Straining or failure to excrete should be noted.
- Signs of distress, anxiety or discomfort.
- Lethargy, depression or a horse that's "off-feed."
- Presence or absence of gut sounds.
- Evidence of lameness such as head-bobbing, reluctance to move, odd stance, pain, unwillingness to rise.
- Bleeding, swelling, evidence of pain.
- Seizures, paralysis, or "tying up" (form of muscle cramps that ranges in severity from mild stiffness to life-threatening illness).

1 Source: <https://aaep.org/issue/guidelines-equine-emergencies>