



High Desert Horsemen
 P.O. Box 2263
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www.hdhorsemen.org

HD Hoof Prints

Volume 7 Issue 6

June 2011

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Jun 12th Washoe Lake State Park Ride, 10 am ride out. Potluck lunch after ride. Bring a side dish to share. HDH will provide hot dogs. Ride fee canned goods. Contact Bonnie Replogle 775-882-6604.

Thursday, Jul 14th HDH Board/General Membership Meeting 6:30 pm. Round Table Pizza, 3325 Retail Dr., Carson City (Across from Wal-Mart on College Parkway). Contact Vince Pirozzi 841-3563.

Friday-Sunday, Jul 15th - 17th Camp out/ Ride out at Frenchman's Reservoir (Equest). Price varies depending on number of riders (\$100 per day). Provide own equipment and food/hay. Fee includes use of corrals and camping site or just day riding. Contact Holly Smith 849-4181 or Kelli Lyon 629-0865.

Sunday, Aug 7th Blue Lakes Ride. 10 am ride out. Brown bag lunch. Ride fee canned goods. Contact Anne Martins 629-9368.

Saturday, Sep 10th 4th Annual Trail Trial. 9 am registration, 10 am ride out. Scout Camp (Fort Churchill State Park) Weeks, NV. ATTA and NQHA approved. Includes lunch. \$35.00 adult, \$25.00 youth, \$20 Schooling, \$10.00 companion. Poker hands will be available. Contact Kelli 629-0865. Volunteers still needed.

Thursday, Sep 15th HDH Board/General Membership Meeting 6:30 pm. Round Table Pizza, 3325 Retail Dr., Carson City (Across from Wal-Mart on College Parkway). Contact Vince Pirozzi 841-3563.

Saturday, Sep 24th **NEW DATE** Scavenger Hunt Ride. 10 am Scout Camp (Fort Churchill State Park) in Weeks, NV. \$10.00 Fee. Pot luck lunch. Members only. RSVP to Anne 629-9368 or Kelly 246-3468.

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Please check the website regularly for time and date changes. Sometimes things change and we have to reschedule or cancel. www.hdhorsemen.org or call the contact number listed for the event

Classified Ads



FOR SALE: Beautiful APHA mare, 15 yrs old, 15'1 hands, wonderful disposition, great all around trail horse, she is looking for a forever home. \$1500. Call Sandy 775-233-5470



FOR SALE: Western saddle—purchased at 4-H tack sale but never used (decided I didn't really need it). 15" seat, in good condition. Has "Buck Ranch" stamped on the cinch keeper—not sure if it is a brand name or? Will fit average sized horse. \$400. Contact Linda at 302-6278 or llmulkey@yahoo.com



Hard to Please

By Harold Roy Miller

Our Walking Horse Amber can be such a brat;
she just won't leave on her bright orange hat.
I wonder if it's because she hates the color -
perhaps she wants something a few shades duller.

I tried to please her with all kinds of head gear
but she doesn't like anything to touch her ear.
The way I see it, if she's gonna act like that,
she'll just have to go without a hat.



June Birthdays



June 7—Janice Scandrett

June 12—Julie Bean

June 18—Nancy Martin

June 19—Aimee Sumner

June 21 Kathleen Douglas

June 27—Jim Mulkey

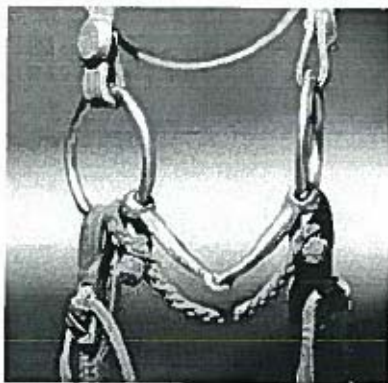
Measure Your Horse's Mouth for Proper Bit Sizing

Use this handy tool to measure the width of your horse's mouth for proper bit sizing.

By Suzanne Vlietstra

FROM
Horse&Rider

print email save popular



Is your snaffle bit the right width for your horse? Use this handy tool to check and see.

H&R Photo Files

In the September 2006 issue of *Horse & Rider*, magazine Bob Avila shares his wisdom on bits ("Bob Avila's Winning Insights: Bits From Start to Finish"). Whether you're looking for a bit for a green horse or a veteran campaigner, you want to be sure you're selecting the right size for your horse's mouth. If your snaffle bit's mouthpiece is too wide or too narrow for your horse's mouth, the bit can't do its job effectively. Here's how to make a tool to measure the width of your horse's mouth--and how to use it as a guide to proper bit fit.

(Note: The measurement you get from this method isn't absolute, it's simply a guide to help you pick the correct mouthpiece for your horse. Standard width is 5 inches. Generally, horses with small muzzles and jaws wear a 4 1/2-inch mouthpiece, as a 5-inch model may look sloppy. Horses with larger muzzles and jaws are usually more comfortable in 5 1/2- or 6-inch mouthpieces, so the bit won't fit the corners of their mouths.)

You'll Need:

An 8-inch section of 1/2-inch hose; a ruler; a pocketknife or leather punch; two rolls of different-colored, 1/2-inch wide electrical tape (we'll use red and yellow for ease of description); two split key rings; a lightweight headstall; two swivel snaps (optional).

Continued on Page 7

Yerington Ride—April 16, 2011

The Yerington Ride was great! There were 15 Riders:

Marsha Arthur/Annie
Linda Mulkey/Cougar
Cerena Cooper/Eddy
Deb Denkler/Hawk
Sandy Blair/Aces
Roy Johnson/Shaw
Brenda Rogers/JJ
Sandy _____

Trish Clark/Misty
Kelli Lyon/Rainy
Jack Gerrard/Pokey
Faye Gerrard/Midnight
Marty Martins/Sam
Leah Singleton
Sonia Scott

After 4 1/2 hours everyone was very hungry. Trish and Brenda were great hosts. Since it was Brenda's birthday, she was surprised with a birthday cake from Trish, so we got to eat cake and ice cream!



Trish Clark



Kelly Lyon



Faye Gerrard



Marsha Arthur



Sandy Blair and Roy Johnson



Marty Martins

Yerington Ride—April 16, 2011 (continued)



Deb Denkler



You'll Need:

An 8-inch section of 1/2-inch hose; a ruler; a pocketknife or leather punch; two rolls of different-colored, 1/2-inch wide electrical tape (we'll use red and yellow for ease of description); two split key rings; a lightweight headstall; two swivel snaps (optional).

Making the Measuring Tool

1. Using the ruler, mark points 1/2, 1, and 1 1/2 inches from each hose end. (The space between the two 1 1/2-inch marks should be 5 inches.)
2. Wrap a strip of red tape between the 1/2- and 1 inch marks at each end. Then wrap a strip of yellow tape between the 1- and 1 1/2-inch marks. Looking at the hose from left to right, you'll see 1/2-inch of bare hose, then a red piece of tape, then a yellow piece, then 5 inches of bare hose, followed by yellow tape, red tape and 1/2-inch of bare hose.
3. Using a pocketknife or leather punch, pierce a small hole in the hose end about 1/4-inch from each end. Then thread a split key ring through each hole.
4. Secure the rings to your headstall's cheekpieces, as though you're putting on a bit. Or, fasten swivel snaps to your headstall's cheekpieces. Then clasp the snaps to the key rings. (The latter is a bit faster.)

Mouth Measuring

1. To measure the width of your horse's mouth, bridle him with the measuring tool attached to the headstall, placing the hose in his mouth just like a bit. (Note: adjust your headstall so that the hose lies flat in your horse's mouth.)
2. The colored tape markers will tell you at a glance what size mouthpiece your horse needs. If the corners of his mouth are within the standard 5-inch width (the corners of his mouth are within the bare hose area) a 5-inch mouthpiece may be fine. However, when it comes to snaffle mouthpieces, wider is often better. Try a 5 1/2-inch mouthpiece; you may find him more comfortable and responsive.
3. If there's a gap of 1 inch or more between the corners of his mouth and the edge of the yellow tape marker, try a 4 1/2- inch or 5-inch mouthpiece.
4. On the other hand, if the corners of his mouth spread on to the yellow tape marker, opt for a 5 1/2-inch mouthpiece.
5. If his mouth spreads on to the red (or farthest) tape marker, a 6-inch mouthpiece may be best.

Suzanne Vlietstra is president of Hobby Horse Clothing Company, Inc., in Chino, Calif.



Stomping Out Breast Cancer Ride 5/14/11



Marsha Arthur and Annie won the "the most pink" category at the Stomping out Breast Cancer Ride.



Annie



Brenda Rogers and Trish Clark

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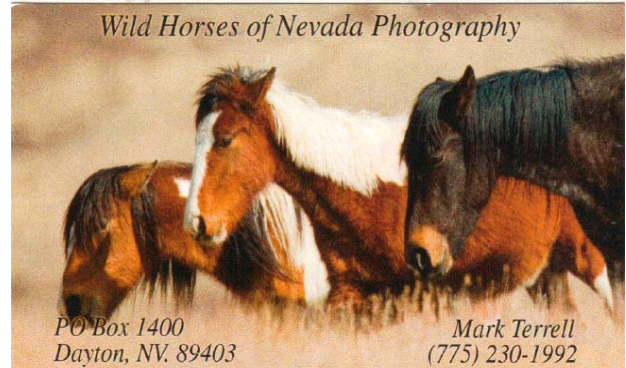
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