

Pennsylvania Cutting Horse Association

October 2020

A very special CONGRATULATIONS to
our PCHA President Andrew Sutliff
for being awarded the
2020 Congress Trainer Award!



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PRESIDENT

ANDY SUTLIFF

484-955-1881
sut459@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

JACK WERNER

267-246-6511
jcw@dejazzd.com

SECRETARY

JOANNE COTE THAYER

215-527-1826
Joanne.Thayer@gmail.com

TREASURER

BILL STEIN

570-428-2765
hws711@gmail.com

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A WORD FROM OUR SECRETARY

Thank you all for a great show season this year! Covid-19 has made it challenging at times, but you all stepped up beautifully! The October show results will be in our next newsletter.

Fall has arrived with bells on! I hope you are all well prepared for the fall and winter seasons. Right now temperatures are changing enough that jacket/coat needs are variable throughout the day, making overheating a potential problem.

Remember to check water heaters now, so you don't have a last minute frozen water emergency when the stores are out of supplies.

Best wishes for a relaxing off season for everyone,

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Joanne Thayer,
Secretary



**A big "THANK YOU" going out to all of our supporters and class sponsors!
We appreciate your dedication to the PCHA and to the sport we all love!**

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2020 Show Schedule

SEE PCHACUTTING.COM TO PRE-REGISTER FOR PCHA SHOWS

Date	Location	Regional	PCHA
October 10-11	JMJ Farm Lewsiburg WV	Regionals CANCELED for 2020	Call To Check Might be Canceled
Oct 24-25	Dream Park, PA		Yes
Nov 4-5	North American Louisville KY		
Nov 6-8	Shelbyville, KY		

2019 / 2020 CLINICS & RETREATS

BARB SCHULTE & SANDY COLLIER

High Performance Clinic

Sept 29 - Oct 1 @ Brasada Ranch, Powell Butte, Or
Deposit refunds possible through July 29

Showing Excellence Clinic

Cutting, Reined Cow Horse and Ranch Riding Competitors

Oct 30 - Nov 1 @ Green Acres Ranch, Temecula, Ca
Deposit refunds possible through Aug 30

Women's Combo Retreat/Skill Building/Trail Riding

Thurs - Sun Nov 12 - 15 @ Red Cliffs Lodge, Moab, Ut
Deposit refunds possible through Sept 12

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Barbra Schulte, March 20, 2017, Part II

Last month, we covered the question "Does My Horse Have "Cow"? This month we'll cover "Develop your own cow sense."

Cows Have A Bubble?

Before you go looking for cattle, however, you should know a few things about how cattle react to horses and people.

"Cows have a type of natural 'bubble,' meaning how close you can get to them before they move," Barbra said.

She explained that a cow that is used to horses and people has a small bubble. You could get very close to them before they'd bother to move because they've seen plenty of horses and you aren't going to be an unusual sight. On the other hand, a cow who isn't used to people and horses or is just naturally wild and nervous would have a very large bubble.

"If you had a really wild cow in a round pen, you might only have to move two or three feet to cause that cow to start running," Barbra said. "If you have a real quiet cow - in cutting terms, we call that a dead cow - he would have a very small bubble and you'd have to be really close to the cow in order to move it."

In cutting, how the horse controls the cow greatly affects the score that the judges give him. Cutting horse trainers understand just how a horse should position himself to get a specific movement from a cow. You can use the basics to affect how your horse interacts with cattle.

"If you're looking at a cow broadside and you're at a right angle to the cow," Barbra said, "if you move to the cow's hip, you will make the cow move forward. If you move to the cow's head, you will cause the cow to turn away from you." Moving toward the hindquarters will get you motion, while moving toward the head causes changes of direction.

Barbra explained how you can use this principle to herd a cow. For example, say the cow has his hindquarters toward you, but his head is turned to the right. If you want him to move in a straight line away from you, move to the right of the cow and approach him toward the ribcage area. That will cause the cow to straighten up, because his natural inclination is to move his head away from you, and then move his hip. A final thing to know about cattle is that they are more afraid of you on foot than they are of you on your horse. So if your horse isn't experienced around cattle, be aware of this, especially if you drop something, such as your cell phone, and want to dismount to retrieve it. Your act of dismounting may frighten the cattle, causing them to scatter and possibly spook your horse.

"You might want to note where the item is and first move the cattle away from it before getting off," Barbra said. "Then I would take my time and steady my horse with my hand on his neck before I dismounted. I would pay close attention to my horse's behavior and make especially sure that the reins are firmly in my hand."

Continued next month with "How the Pros Teach Cutting"





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What Your Horse's Hoof Angle Might Be Telling You *Part II*

Taylor Fabus, Michigan State University Extension, and Gabrielle Dingell, MSU student - March 1, 2019
We covered the basics from this article last month, here's some more information:

Looking at some real-world examples may help better clarify how to look at your own horse's feet and determine exactly what your farrier is doing. Here we'll explore several horses, from close to ideal to some with imperfections.

First, let's look at a horse who has a near perfect angles (Photo 1). This horse's hoof angle is very close to 50 degrees; this angle is closely followed with a strong pastern that matches the angle of the foot.

On the other hand, we have a picture of this very same hoof prior to trimming (Photo 2). In Photo 2, we see the horse has a broken back hoof-pastern angle; this will lead to increased pressure on the front of the leg coupled with an increase strain on the tendons along the back of the leg.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

Moving on to another horse, Photo 3, we see a horse that is overdue for its trim. This horse also has shoes, but it is still clear to see that its toe is long and in need of trimming. Continuing to grow this foot out can result in a horse that drags its toes and may result in tripping or stumbling. A horse with this issue can develop knee and back issues from having to work harder to lift the feet to avoid tripping. This is one of many reasons why it is crucial to maintain a consistent trimming schedule with your trusted farrier.

The horse in Photo 4 has a clubfoot. You can see the vast difference in the two front hooves. The far hoof in the photo has a near ideal shape and angle, but the near hoof would be described as a clubfoot. If not properly maintained, a clubfoot can lead to a contracted heel or tendon issues. An issue like this should not be corrected too quickly. Each time a horse's hoof angle is changed it could potentially put strain or pressure on the surrounding tendons and ligaments, therefore any changes should be done carefully and overtime. Also, there is certainly a limit to the change that even the best farrier work can do. A farrier should work to make a horse as comfortable as possible, not to fit every horse into the same mold.



Photo 4

See our September issue for the trim chart, which shows how trim affects pastern angle.

These images are not meant to diagnose your horse. They are meant to give insight to the differences in every hoof. Find a farrier that you trust, keep your regular appointments, respect their knowledge and ask questions. Be proactive and understand your horse's needs. Additionally, take care of your horse's hooves between farrier appointments.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>.



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