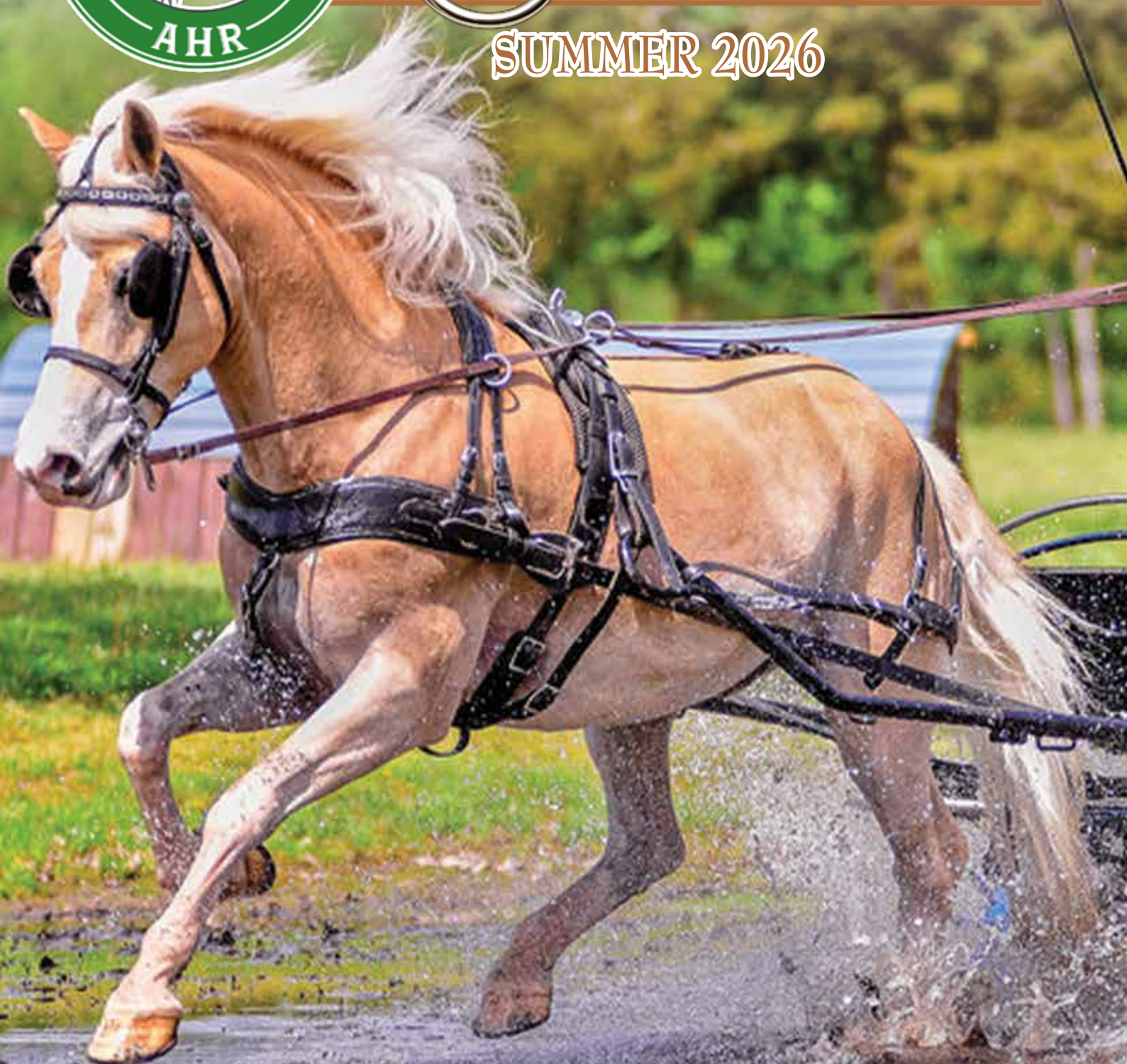




Official Haflinger News

HORSE BITS

SUMMER 2026



INSIDE: Association Updates, Member Spotlights & More!

LAKE ERIE COLLEGE FEATHERED SPLASH HORSE SHOW

3 DAYS
OF SHOWING FUN!

★ ★ ★
DOUBLED
JUDGED SHOW
★ ★ ★

AUGUST
14, 15, 16
2026

📍 LAKE ERIE COLLEGE
EQUESTRIAN CENTER
PAINESVILLE, OH

GYPSY VANNER HORSE SOCIETY
★ APPROVED FOR POINTS ★

GVHS JUDGE
Alex Longares



GVHS JUDGE
Paula Gatewood

Registered Gypsy
Vanners, Haflingers,
Brabants, and other
Non-Stock Horses

welcome!



★ CLASSES OFFERED ★

🏆 HALTER 🐎 ENGLISH 🤠 WESTERN 🌿 RANCH 🌲 TRAIL 👤 SHOWMANSHIP



SCAN ME!

🍀 MULTIPLE
DIVISIONS!

🏆 RIBBONS
& AWARDS!

📷 MEMORIES THAT
LAST A LIFETIME!

← SCAN FOR
SHOWBILL AND INFORMATION
from the Show Manager.

RIDE. LEARN. COMPETE.
MAKE MEMORIES.

FUN • FRIENDSHIP • COMMUNITY

✿ BOARD OF DIRECTORS ✿

Kathie Hanson (2026)
President & Central Regional Director
(218) 666-5924 khduenorth09@gmail.com
Inspection & Classification, Pedigree

Erwin Slabaugh (2028)
1st Vice President & East Central Regional Director
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Futurity, Inspection & Classification

Anne-Laure Cassou (2026)
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Promos & Publications

Dave Ayers (2027)
East Regional Director
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Pam Hess (2027)
Clerk & Director At Large
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Points & Awards, Promos & Publications

Glenn Yoder (2028)
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glennyoder@upwardprint.com

Michelle Harper (2028)
Director At Large
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AHR Office Hours

Monday to Friday
8 am to 4:30 pm EST
(330) 784-0000

☎ CONTACT US!

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Regarding Classifications:
Classification@HaflingerHorse.com

To Submit Content for Publication/Promotion:
Promotion@HaflingerHorse.com



✿ Mission Statement ✿

The purpose of the American Haflinger Registry shall be:

- *To collect, record and preserve the pedigrees and changes of ownership of Haflinger horses in North America.*
- *To maintain a Stud Book and registry.*
- *To promote and support only one United States Haflinger Registry.*
- *To stimulate and regulate any and all other matters such as may pertain to the history, breeding, education, exhibition, publicity, sale, or improvement of this breed.*

American Haflinger Registry

Post Office Box 124, 16402 Village Parkway, Fredericktown, Ohio, 43019

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★ promotion@haflingerhorse.com ★

Haflinger Horse Bits is the official publication of The American Haflinger Horse Registry (AHR). The American Haflinger Horse Registry is a non-profit tax-exempt corporation established to maintain the integrity of an accurate registry and to promote the Haflinger Horse breed through excellence. AHR is a membership organization that engages in registration, promotion and communication to promote these purposes. Basic annual membership is \$65 and includes the quarterly Haflinger Horse Bits News. We welcome articles, photographs, letters and Member or Haflinger Club Spotlights for potential publication. The publication of articles or advertisements is not necessarily an endorsement by AHR. AHR and the editor expressly limit any liability resulting from any and all misprints and/or inaccuracies whatsoever in advertisements or content published in this publication and said liability is hereby limited to the running of a corrected advertisement or article correction notice. Advertisers are solely responsible for the accuracy of their assertions or claims. Material may not be reproduced without the permission of the editor or permission of the person who owns the copyright.

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ON THE COVER...

Wowser CVA
at Spring Fling National Drive at Hoosier Horse Park - April, 2026
 Owned by: Pam & Curtis Hess,
 Chardon, Ohio
 Photo: Red Caboose Photography



The American Haflinger Registry Board of Directors regrets to share that Jessica Taylor has resigned from her board director position, effective immediately, due to health-related reasons.

We are truly sorry that Jessica has had to step away from her role and want to express our sincere appreciation for her service, time, and dedication to the AHR. Her contributions to the organization and the Haflinger community are greatly valued.

Please join us in thanking Jessica for her service and in wishing her the very best in the future.



HITCH FUTURITY

August 21, 2026

Must be entered in the Indiana State Fair by July 1st, 2026.
 Indiana State Fairgrounds
 Indianapolis, IN

SPORT FUTURITY

September 4 - 5, 2026

Ashland County Fairgrounds
 Ashland, OH

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings from the President

Spring has finally arrived and we are gearing up to plant our gardens. The weather has been less than perfect in most areas of the US this spring. Hopefully it will start to improve so we can get gardens planted and hay will be ready to cut in a timely manner.

As President, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued support and participation. Over the past year, we have achieved several milestones together. I am proud of what we have accomplished and excited about the opportunities ahead.

As we move forward, our focus remains on creating meaningful experiences for all members, encouraging participation, and maintaining the values that make our Registry special. We have several exciting programs and events planned in the coming months, and I encourage each of you to get involved, share your ideas, and help us continue building a strong and connected membership.

I would also like to express my appreciation to our officers, committee members, and volunteers who generously give their time and effort to support the Registry activities. Their commitment plays a vital role in our success.

Thank you once again for being an important part of our Registry. Together, we can continue to make our organization a place of friendship, growth, and enjoyment for everyone.

Best Regards;

Kathie Hanson

Kathie Hanson, AHR President

Upcoming Horse Bits News

Pictures & Content Submissions:

The next issue of AHR Horse Bits News will be arriving in mailboxes around mid-June! We hope you enjoy this new, updated look. We are working to bring you a newsletter with more content, professional articles and more relevant information. AHR welcomes Kasha Ford as their new Marketing Editor, as well. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for future issues of AHR Horse Bits, please feel free to reach out to her directly at (512) 259-6705 or via email at kasha@silverbuckleservices.com, you can also use promotion@haflingerhorse.com.

Do you have a story, member highlight, or special achievement you'd like to share? We welcome your submissions. Please email articles and high-resolution photos to promotion@haflingerhorse.com

We are always looking for engaging content from our members.

We are also seeking photos of members enjoying their registered Haflingers—whether in the show ring, on the trail, or at home. Selected images may be featured on the AHR website, social media, and in print publications. To ensure the best quality, photos must be high resolution.

When submitting photos, please include:

- Registered name(s) of the horse(s) pictured
- Name(s) of the owner(s)
- Name(s) of all people in the photo
- Photographer's name
- A usage release for any professional photos along with the statement: "I agree to allow the AHR to use these photos for media purposes."

Have ideas for future newsletter content? We'd love to hear from you. Would you enjoy seeing more member features, farm spotlights, youth highlights, or stories about the history of the Registry? The Promotions and Publications Committee is committed to continually improving Horse Bits News and strengthening communication with AHR membership.



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!

Perfect for Stud Services and Stallions, Horses for Sale, Boarding and Training Facilities, Equestrian Events, Sales & Auctions, etc.

All ads must be print ready, in high resolution and submitted in PDF form.

Questions to: promotion@haflingerhorse.com

★ ADVERTISING ★

Ad Size - Camera Ready Display	Member	Non-Member
Full Page 8.5" wide x 11" tall. 8" wide x 10.5 tall safe area. Include 0.250" bleed	\$35	\$50
Half Page/Horizontal 8.5" wide x 5.5" tall	\$25	\$40
Half Page/Vertical 5.5" wide x 8.25" tall	\$25	\$40

Issues	Materials/Art Due	Mailing Date
Spring 2026	February 20	March 15
Summer 2026	May 20	June 15
Fall 2026	August 20	September 15
Winter 2026	November 20	December 15

★★ Our Member Advertisers Help Support Our Newsletter ★★

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES

February 17, 2026 AHR Board Meeting ZOOM or call-in

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Dave Ayers
Kathie Hanson
Michelle Harper
Pam Hess
Erwin Slabaugh
Glenn Yoder
Jessica Taylor - absent (medical)
Anne-Laure Cassou - absent (family)

Meeting Agenda

The meeting was called to order by President Kathie Hanson at 8:02 PM

The minutes of the last meetings on January 20 and January 27 were approved via email last week to be able to put them in Horse Bits. Kasha requested to delay putting the minutes on the website right now as the website is having so many problems.

Committee reports:

Classification and Futurity: Erwin. The Futurity in Ashland has been confirmed via their contract for September 4-5, 2026. The Inspection contract is a carry-over from last year's contract. Each event requires a \$500 deposit which Erwin sends in to Ashland. The \$500 from the 2025 futurity which was canceled is being held over and applied to this year's contract for the June 19-20 classification. Erwin will send another \$500 to hold the September 4-5, 2026 date for the Futurity.

Pam and Michelle will make plans for improved educational aspects and new videos of Inspections and Classifications to prepare for the upcoming classifications this summer. John D. has generously offered to do a clinic prior to the Classification.

Glenn: No report on his Indiana futurity. Glenn will know better what to expect after his March sale which has 85 head right now. The outlook for the Indiana Futurity is not very positive due to lack of horses planning to be sent. There may be only 10 Haflingers in the Mt Hope sale. We are hoping that Ezra's sale in PA is coming along well but have not heard. Daniel Yoder's sale in Ashland, OH will be May 23 but will likely not have many registered Haflingers.

Finance: Dave Ayers. The January 31 balance sheet showed us carrying some larger balances in several checking accounts. Dave and others discussed opening a new one-year Business CD for \$50,000 with Live Oak Bank at 4.85% per year. Feb 13 was the opening date of this new CD account. Another CD will come due on March 15 and will be renewed.

Nominations: Pam. The ballots for the three Bylaws Proposals were printed at LBL Printers in Painesville. They addressed all the envelopes and printed the information sheets and ballots for 270 voting members at this time. Pam took the materials to BrightStar in Middlefield for envelope stuffing and application of postage. This was billed to Erwin Slabaugh who will need to get reimbursed. Mailings were postmarked Friday February 13th. Many Directors received theirs in the mail today, February 17. Ballots must be postmarked by March 15 and returned to the AHR office, who will then mail them to Pam for counting.

Points and Awards: Pam. The Ambassador and Golden Path Programs have two new submissions. Youth Committee: Dave and Michelle. No significant activity at this time. Michelle proposed an

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

engagement project for youth. This would be sent out by mail and have some stickers and other giveaways mailed out to the youth members. Michelle and Dave will work on this.

New Business:

There are website problems that need to be fixed to keep the website viable. The cost will be \$2,000-5,000 depending on what is authorized by us. Kasha says that JP @ Infinite Digital Solutions has made a commitment to do some of the repair on the website for free but he is out of the country for several months. If Infinite Digital Solutions does their website work, then hopefully we will be able to get the rest done for \$2,500 or so. Kasha has a person who would help her do this so it would be accomplished faster if we wanted to hire her contact for this project. Motion from Pam that we authorize \$2,500 for website work from Kasha's contact, with the possibility that it might need up to \$5,000 if the work is extensive. Glenn seconded. Motion passed.

Big Dee's Bonus Bucks program has been reinstated. Pam is working with Big Dees as the AHR Contact to reactivate this program. Advertisements were sent to Kasha to put in the newsletter and to update the Big Dees logo on our website. The Bonus Bucks code has changed to AHR1.

Pam is paying for a full page color ad in the newsletter for the Lake Erie Feathered Splash show August 14-16, 2026.

Old Business:

Non-profit Status: Pam. Zappitelli's Financial Services is working on reinstatement of our non-profit status but this will be a slow IRS process. We will have to file as a for-profit corp for this year. Pam will be taking our tax work to them this week or the first week in March. We discussed perhaps needing an extension due to the ongoing non-profit status work in process, and will have to pay some taxes on income for 2025 in the meantime.

Glenn motioned to adjourn. Dave second. Motion passed.

President Kathie Hanson adjourned the meeting at 8:56 pm.

DO YOU NEED AN AHR FORM? *Scan It!*



Scan the QR code for instant access to all AHR forms. Select the form you need, download it to your phone, and print at your convenience.



To use a QR code, open your smartphone's camera and point it at the code. Tap the link that appears to access the content.

Scan Here!

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Minutes AHR Board meeting March 17, 2026. Zoom and call-in meeting.

Agenda for March 17, 2026 AHR meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Kathie Hanson at 8:04 pm EDST.

Attendees:

Dave Ayers

Kathie Hanson

Michelle Harper

Pam Hess

Erwin Slabaugh

Glenn Yoder

Anne-Laure Cassou

Jessica Taylor – absent

The minutes of last meeting were approved earlier via email due to the need to publish the minutes in Horse Bits.

Committee reports:

Finance – Dave.

Dave is making efforts to get overdue accounts receivables caught up. He is calling and writing to individuals with overdue accounts, noting that around \$9,000 is owed for less than one year. Dave motioned that we publish in the June Horse Bits the names of members that have balances due for more than 60 days. Those that are not members will also be sent a copy of Horse Bits, Discussion followed. Dave withdrew the motion after discussion indicated that it would not pass. Dave will check with the office to inquire if bills are sent out every month on all unpaid balances.

Futurity - Erwin and Glenn.

Judges have not been hired yet. Glenn will see how much interest there is in the Indiana draft futurity, which is not looking optimistic. Glenn explained the Hoosier Sire program for Indiana sires.

Classification: Erwin.

Dave Ayers and Wayne Hipsley have been hired for the June inspection. The third inspector is still TBA.

Pam and Michelle met on the phone once and will meet again soon. They plan to prepare a hospitality tent for the June Inspection in Ashland. They also will plan for a video recording and possibly a clinic at that classification. Pam wants to increase advertising for the June Classification to generate interest. Michelle offered to send a note (hand-written and email) to past owners of inspected horses inviting them to come to the inspection.

Points & Awards – Pam

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Pam is sending out high-point Haflinger ribbons to several shows, primarily USEF USDF dressage shows and CDEs. Pam is hoping for more outreach with western or other discipline shows.

Promotions - Pam

Pam noted that Kasha is doing a great job on the Facebook page, with frequent timely postings and excellent graphics.

Pam is paying for a full page ad in the Horse Bits newsletter for Lake Erie Feathered Splash horse show August 14-16. The newsletter had many ads in it, and we need to inquire about the billing procedure for advertisers to ensure that AHR is paid for these ads.

Bylaws: Board

Pam said that ballots were mailed out in February to 270 voting members. They need to be postmarked by March 15 to be counted. Ballots are being mailed to the office. Pam asked Tammy to mail all the received envelopes to Pam by Monday March 23 as they all should have arrived by then.

For the new ballot initiatives that are passed, Kathie agreed to rewrite the bylaws incorporating approved changes and send the updated version to Kasha for publication on the website as the updated bylaws.

Youth - Dave and Michelle

Dave and Michelle will work with Kendall Dwyer, who is interested in working with Youth. Her horse has been accepted as a breed representative for youth representatives at Equine Affaire.

New Business:

Membership Meeting:

Paul Sutton inquired with Pam about a planned the membership meeting May 22nd at the Dan Yoders Ashland horse sale. Dan had contacted Kathie about this in late February. We are now in the window of not greater than 60 days or not less than 10 days' notice for this Membership meeting. Dave talked with Dan Yoder who said it would be OK with him that ½ of the fun sale proceeds would go towards the meal and ½ would pay for the hall where we will have the meeting. There was no mention of insurance costs this year.

Glenn Yoder motioned that we have the annual membership meeting at Yoder's sale in Ashland, OH on May 22. Seconded by Dave. Voting: All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. We will hold the annual membership meeting at the Ashland sale using ½ of the funds from the fun sale for the meal and the other ½ of the proceeds will be used to pay for the meeting hall.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Kathie will talk to Dan to confirm the membership meeting. Pam will contact Paul Sutton, and Pam will also send information to Kasha to publicize this to the membership. A postcard will be sent to publicize this to the members who receive printed newsletters. All other members will receive this info via email. This postcard needs to be designed, printed and mailed out to the membership. We will do this through Bright Star in Middlefield. Pam will work on postcard development and send it to Bright Star for printing and mailing.

Virtual shows: Pam discussed the possibility of AHR doing virtual shows for registered Haflingers and their AHR member rider/owner. Discussion followed with a goal of providing member services, member retention strategy and serving membership interest. Michelle discussed the AHA online virtual show which is self-supporting but is a huge amount of work by many individuals. Let's think about this for the future.

Old business:

Status of our AHR website. No new information. We continue to be frustrated with website problems and are working towards resolution of these issues.

Tax-exempt status: Pam sent out a detailed email to the board two weeks ago reporting on the ongoing efforts to regain our non-profit status. We are now waiting for a response from the IRS after filing for non-profit status. Federal taxes have been filed for 2025 as a for-profit corporation, with \$1,050 in federal taxes paid. Board agreed not to pay any quarterly taxes as we are hopeful to regain our non-profit status for 2026.

Erwin motioned to adjourn. Anne Laure seconded.

Kathie adjourned the meeting at 10:06.



WE'RE UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

We have been experiencing some issues with our website lately and are in the process of updating and fixing things.

We appreciate your patience and welcome your feedback on any future improvements we can make to the site.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Minutes AHR Board meeting 8:00 pm EDST April 21, 2026. Zoom and call-in meeting.

Agenda

Attendees:

Anne-Laure Cassou
Dave Ayers
Erwin Slabaugh
Glenn Yoder
Jessica Taylor - absent
Kathie Hanson
Michelle Harper
Pam Hess

Meeting was called to order by President Kathie Hanson at 8:08 pm EDST.

Minutes of last meeting. Glenn motioned to approve, 2nd by Erwin. All approved. Minutes approved. Pam will send them to Kasha for inclusion in the newsletter and to be put on the website.

Committee reports:

Finance: Dave. Financial balances were sent out by Stacie to the Board on April 8. The main checking account #8532 has \$67,978.05. The Futurity account has \$5,219.52. Account #5036 has \$100.00. Chase account #6368 has \$ 376.57. All four CDs are now transferred to Live Oak Bank.

Futurity- Erwin. Wayne Hipsley will be judging the Futurity in September. The HBC used to be triple judged but we are not sure what the HBC will be doing for this show.

Classification - Erwin. Wayne Hipsley is not able to judge the June inspection. Larry Thurber and Dave Ayers will be judging. Sue Morisse may be able to judge. Erwin urges everyone to get their entries in soon. Kathie will contact Kasha to promote the Classification every two weeks until event. Erwin knows of four horses coming, but they are not signed up yet.

Points & Awards – Pam. Pam has been sending out some AHR breed award ribbons including three shows for the Ohio Dressage Society, two other dressage shows in Ohio and the Charlotte's Creek CDE in Lexington, KY in May.

Promotions – Pam. The Big Dees Bonus Bucks program has earned over \$100 so far this year.

Youth. Dave and Michelle. No new business.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

New Business:

- Video person for the Classification at Ashland classification – Michelle. Discussion about the development of educational videos of the inspection process. Pam and Michelle discussed a \$300-\$500 budget for hiring a photographer. Others suggested that Pam and Michelle do the videos on their phones. John Dunkel is doing the clinic and is hoping that we can get a professional videographer. Dave motioned that \$300 be budgeted for videography for the Inspection. Pam seconded. Discussion followed. Erwin will talk to John about a comparative clinic with two or more horses from the inspection for the clinic to present for the clinic. All in favor. Glen opposed. Motion is carried to provide a \$300 budget for videography of the clinic for educational purposes.
- Details on the membership dinner on May 22 at the Ashland Haflinger and Crossbred sale. Paul Sutton has confirmed that the dinner will be catered and provided for the membership meeting on May 22. Kathie will not be there so Glenn will run the membership meeting. The meeting will be in person for attendees with no Zoom component. Items to be prepared in print for the members include current financials (P&L and balance sheet) , printed agenda, personal introductions of our board members, review of committee assignments, and printed copies of the most current meeting minutes of April 21. Pam will do this printing of 50 copies and bring the copies of these items to Ashland.

Old Business

- Tax status - Pam. At the request of our accountant Zappetelli Financial Services, Chuck Hendershot has re-filed 2023 and 2024 taxes. He was not able to re-file the 2022 taxes.
- We will still hold the regular planned board meeting on May 19 via zoom and call-in.

Motioned to Adjourn by Dave. Seconded by Erwin. All in favor, Meeting is adjourned.
Meeting adjourned by Kathie Hanson at 9:25 pm

AMERICAN HAFLINGER REGISTRY
Annual Membership Meeting Recap
 Ashland, Ohio • May 22

ASHLAND HAFLINGER and CROSSBRED SALE
 Hosted by Daniel Yoder

Thank You TO OUR MEMBERS!
 YOUR SUPPORT KEEPS AHR STRONG!

STRONG HORSES. STRONG COMMUNITY. STRONG FUTURE.

Ashland County Fairgrounds
 Ashland, Ohio

Held in conjunction with the Ashland Haflinger and Crossbred Sale hosted by Daniel Yoder

Friday dinner organized by Walnut Ridge Farm
 Paul, Carolyn & Lou Sutton

100+ attended the dinner

About 40 members attended the meeting

Committee reports and AHR updates were presented

Directors presenting: Glenn Yoder, Erwin Slabaugh, Pam Hess & Dave Ayers

A wonderful evening of fellowship, Haflingers and AHR updates!



The AHR Annual Membership Meeting was held on May 22 in Ashland, Ohio, in conjunction with the Ashland Haflinger and Crossbred Sale hosted by Daniel Yoder. The sale brought many Haflinger enthusiasts together for the weekend and featured a strong selection of high-quality, well-trained registered Haflingers that drew the interest of AHR members and buyers alike.



On Friday evening, Walnut Ridge Farm — Paul, Carolyn, and Lou Sutton — graciously organized a dinner for those gathered in Ashland. The dinner was supported by the AHR, along with proceeds from the Fun Auction held Saturday morning prior to the sale. The evening was a wonderful opportunity for members, breeders, owners, and friends of the Haflinger breed to visit, share stories, and enjoy time together.

More than 100 people attended the dinner, and approximately 40 members stayed afterward for the annual membership meeting. During the meeting, AHR Directors Glenn Yoder, Erwin Slabaugh, Pam Hess, and Dave Ayers presented committee reports and provided updates on current AHR news, ongoing projects, and important discussion items. Members in attendance had the opportunity to hear more about the work being done by the Board and committees on behalf of the Registry and the Haflinger breed.

The meeting served as a valuable time of fellowship, communication, and member involvement. Thank you to everyone who attended, helped organize the evening, supported the Fun Auction, and continues to take an active interest in the future of the American Haflinger Registry. ✨

STANDING AT
Haf-Bel Acres



Will Major PFH



STUD FEE - \$600.00



TOP SELLING YEARLING STALLION
AT HEART OF AMERICA SALE NOV. 8, 2025
SIRED BY WILL MAJOR

OWNED BY STEVE MANGELS & MATT RUCH - OAK RIDGE, MO
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL BENNIE - 217-856-2148

CURRENT FINANCIALS

06/05/26
Cash Basis

Profit & Loss May 2026

	<u>May 26</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Horse Bits Advertising	35.00
Membership Income	
3 Year Membership	360.00
Annual Membership	455.00
Lifetime Membership	800.00
Youth Membership	24.00
Total Membership Income	<u>1,639.00</u>
Registry Income	
DNA Genotyping Member	225.00
DNA Genotyping Non-Member	330.00
Early Registration	30.00
Member Registration	200.00
Non-Member Registration	100.00
Penalties and Fees	
Late Transfer Penalty	75.00
Overage Penalty 1	100.00
Overage Penalty 2	70.00
Total Penalties and Fees	<u>245.00</u>
Stallion Breeding Report Income	
Late Report	120.00
Total Stallion Breeding Report Income	<u>120.00</u>
Stallion License Income	
2026 License	455.00
Total Stallion License Income	<u>455.00</u>
Total Registry Income	<u>1,705.00</u>
Transfer Income	
Member Transfer	3,790.00
Non-Member Transfer	300.00
Total Transfer Income	<u>4,090.00</u>
Total Income	<u>7,469.00</u>
Gross Profit	7,469.00
Expense	
Banking	
Authorize.net Fee	9.17
Paymentech Fee	109.77
Total Banking	<u>118.94</u>
Contract Services	
Outside Contract Services	700.00
Registry Services	1,375.00
Total Contract Services	<u>2,075.00</u>
Marketing and Promotions	
Ashland Sale Catalog	125.00
Horse Bits	
Printing	1,256.71
Total Horse Bits	<u>1,256.71</u>
Total Marketing and Promotions	<u>1,381.71</u>

CURRENT FINANCIALS

06/05/26
Cash Basis

Profit & Loss May 2026

	<u>May 26</u>
Membership Expense	
Email Marketing	58.99
Membership Mailing	369.25
Total Membership Expense	428.24
Operations	
Postage, Mailing Service	233.24
Total Operations	233.24
Registration Expense	
DNA Genotyping	428.00
Total Registration Expense	428.00
Travel and Meetings	
Meals	1,215.00
Total Travel and Meetings	1,215.00
Total Expense	5,880.13
Net Ordinary Income	1,588.87
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	371.44
Total Other Income	371.44
Net Other Income	371.44
Net Income	1,960.31



THANK YOU FOR VOTING!



AHR BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS ARE HERE

Become a Director!

It is time once again for AHR elections, and this year there are four Board of Directors positions to be filled. We hope members from across the country will consider running for one of these important roles and becoming more involved in the work of the Registry.

The AHR Board of Directors is made up of Haflinger owners, breeders, and enthusiasts who volunteer their time for the benefit of the breed, the Registry, and our members. Board members represent Haflinger owners involved in many disciplines and from many parts of the country, all working together to help keep the Registry active, effective, and moving forward.

Board members meet once a month by Zoom or call-in and hold one in-person meeting each year. Directors also serve on committees and assist with projects that match their interests, skills, and experience. The Registry benefits from Board members with a variety of talents in business, communications, organization, technology, breed promotion, events, equine experience, and more.

The open positions for this year's election are:

Western Region Director — three-year term
Central Region Director — three-year term
At-Large Director — three-year term
At-Large Director — one-year term

The process to run is simple. AHR will provide each interested candidate with a brief questionnaire to help introduce themselves to the membership. Completed questionnaires should be sent to board@haflingerhorse.com.

Once all candidate questionnaires are received, they will be shared with the membership by email, USPS mail, and in the next issue of the newsletter. Members will then have the opportunity to review the candidates for the open regional and at-large positions before voting in September.

All candidate questionnaires must be received by the AHR office no later than August 1 so that we have time to notify the membership and prepare for the election.

If you care about the future of the Haflinger breed and the continued success of the Registry, we encourage you to consider becoming a candidate. Your voice, experience, and willingness to serve can make a meaningful difference. ❁

November 2025 Ballot Change Proposal Results

In late November, a mailing containing three ballot change proposals was sent to all 270 current AHR members eligible to vote. All of the ballots that were received at the office postmarked by March 15 were sent to the AHR Clerk Pam Hess for counting. Sixty-one ballots were received, with a return rate of 22.6%. All three ballot initiatives overwhelmingly passed.

The results were as follows.

Issue 1: 60 yes, 1 no

Issue 2: 60 yes, 1 no

Issue 3: 56 yes, 5 no

Please watch for the AHR Bylaws to be updated soon, reflecting these three Bylaws changes (1. Election of Directors by acclamation, 2. Change in AHR Geographical Regions, and 3. Allowing voting by electronic means).

All voting members who currently receive PRINTED NEWSLETTERS will receive paper ballots in future elections and voting issues. All voting members who currently receive electronic EMAILED NEWSLETTERS will receive electronic ballots in future elections and voting issues. ❁

Due North Haflinger Farm

Raising exceptional foals for the discriminating buyer!

NEWLY IMPORTED!



STELIA OF DUE NORTH
(Bellissimo x Statica vom Tannenberg)



AWE THAT & MORE OF GENESIS
Sire: Arno van het Nieshof
Dam: Awe Struck of Genesis



LEAP OF FAITH RT
Windstar van de Ooste x La Faith of M&N



ALL THE RIGHT MOVES OF GENESIS
Arno x gold classified All Inclusive of Genesis,
Moves is for sale.

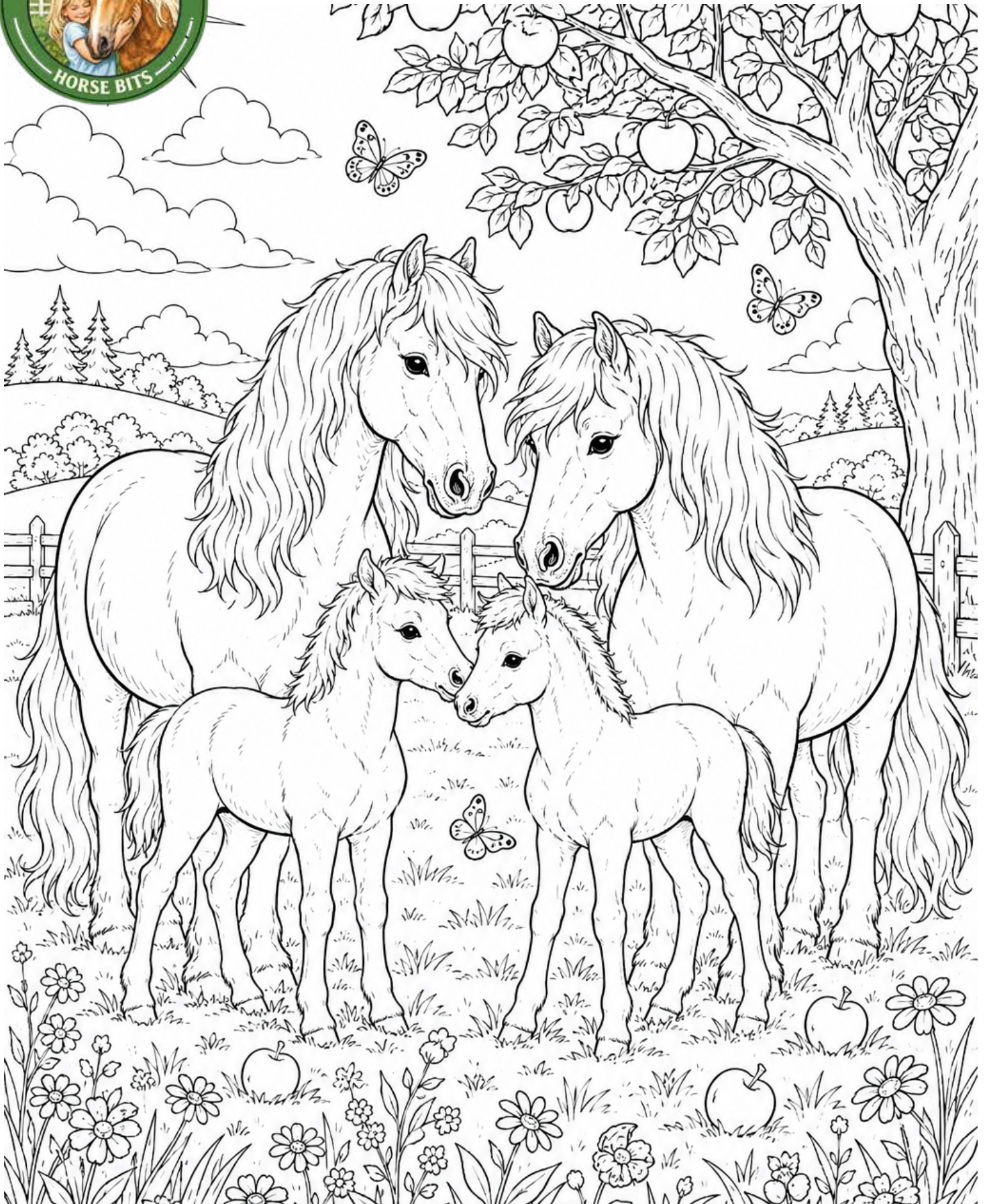
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For more information on our exceptional mares visit our website at duenorthhaflingers.com and on our FB page: DUE NORTH HAFLINGER FARM | Contact: Kathie and Mike Hanson - Phone: 218-780-2902 | 2749 Vermilion Drive - Cook, MN 55723 | Email: khduenorth09@gmail.com



Enjoy Coloring Your Summertime Haflinger!



Heart of America Haflinger Sale

CORRECTED DATES:

NOVEMBER 6-7, 2026

AT THE TOPEKA LIVESTOCK AUCTION

2025 SALE HIGHLIGHTS

LOT #1 - WILL MAGIC



TOP SELLING STALLION

SOLD FOR \$18,500

CONSIGNOR: Glen Chupp/Kyle Pound
BUYER: David Miller - Fredericksburg, OH

LOT #15 & 16 - ARTHUR & ARNOLD



TOP SELLING GELDINGS

SOLD FOR \$11,000 X2

CONSIGNOR: David Miller - Fredericksburg, OH
BUYER: Martin Baggett - Doogeville, WI

LOT #19 & 20 - NIGHTHAWK BML & NUVIEW WILLOW



TEAM OF GELDINGS

SOLD FOR \$10,000 X2

CONSIGNOR: Stanley Norris - St Louisville, OH
BUYER: Leroy Hershberger - Bonduel, WI

LOT #44 - REPLICATE RACHEL



TOP SELLING MARE

SOLD FOR \$17,000

CONSIGNOR: Glen Chupp - Sullivan, IL
BUYER: Blair Purcell - Stouffville, ON

MORE 2025 SALE HIGHLIGHTS



LOT #25 - ASPEN OF SUNSHINE

SOLD FOR \$8500

CONSIGNOR: Samuel Stutzman - Hopkinton, IA

BUYER: John or Wm Ellington

LOT #17 - WINKY

SOLD FOR \$8750

CONSIGNOR: Enos Stutzman - Hopkinton, IA

BUYER: Andrew Yoder - Apple Creek, OH



LOT #62 PISTACIO OF SUNSHINE

WEANLING FILLY

SOLD FOR \$3200

CONSIGNOR: Christopher & Beth Miller - Etna Green, IN

BUYER: Laura Jameson - Greentown, IN



SALE AVG - \$4600

MARE AVG - \$4400

GELDING AVG - \$5600

TOP 10 AVG - \$11,300

TOP 20 AVG - \$8800

CALL TO CONSIGN - DEADLINE SEPT. 1, 2026

SALE COMMITTEE

BENNIE CHUPP - 217-856-2148 ~ PHILLIP CHUPP - 217-294-2995

THE DREADED COLIC

Things To Know About Colic in Horses

Although horses have historically been known as working livestock, today they are often referred to as companion animals. More and more people are seeking to own “pet horses”, making large animal veterinary medicine even more important. With a growing horse industry, all horse owners should be aware and educated about one of the most common illnesses horses are susceptible to: colic.

“Colic in the horse refers to a pain originating from within the abdominal cavity. Most often, colic is associated with the gastrointestinal tract; however, it can also arise from other intra-abdominal organs like the kidney, liver, and uterus,” said Dr. Noah Cohen, professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. “Horses that experience colic will show varying degrees of pain with varying clinical signs. These can include turning to stare at the flank region, pawing at the ground, restlessness (such as getting up and down), rolling, sweating, having a high heart and respiratory rate, and flared nostrils,” Cohen continued.

So what causes colic and why is it so common in horses? According to Cohen, there are many potential causes of the illness. For example, one cause is a volvulus of the small intestine, where the intestine is obstructed by twisted on itself. “Often the cause(s) of a volvulus (or any other displacement or twisting of the gastrointestinal tract) may be impossible to define, or may be attributable to many factors such as diet, level of exercise, dehydration from sweat losses or inadequate water intake, and so on,” Cohen explained. Other common causes of colic include an abrupt change in feed, high grain or low forage diets, parasite infestation, lack of water (which can lead to impaction colic) and sand ingestion (choose an alternative flooring for your stalls, like concrete, to prevent your horse from ingesting sand).

Another cause of the potentially deadly illness could be linked to the time of the year. Weather conditions have been associated with colic cases; however, there is not enough data to indicate which specific weather patterns stimulate the illness. “When the ambient temperature and humidity are high, there seem to be more cases of colic. These cases are often colon impactions with food material; many of us attribute these to dehydration from increased sweat losses,” said Cohen. “In cold weather horses will consume more warm water than cold water. Because water sources for horses are generally cold from the ambient temperature, we also seem to see cases of colic attributed to inadequate water consumption during the cold weather.”

Although it may sound like almost anything can cause your horse to colic, Cohen explains that every horse reacts differently to situations that could potentially stimulate the illness. “One way to think about the multiple causes of colic is to think of a traffic accident,” he said. “Rainy roads can contribute to an increased risk of accidents occurring, but this doesn’t mean that driving on a rainy road will always cause an accident... The same is true for colic. Not every horse that has a recent change in diet will colic...and not every horse that goes from being housed at pasture to a stall (or vice versa) will experience colic.”

Luckily for horse owners, there are plenty of preventative measures against colic that can help stop the painful disease in its tracks. Some of these healthy habits include feeding your horse regularly (even on the weekends), making slow changes in diet instead of sudden changes, providing plenty of water and exercise, providing a balanced



diet fed in feed troughs (to prevent sand ingestion), and regularly deworming. If you think your horse may be experiencing colic, Cohen recommends calling the veterinarian and withholding all feed, but not water. Walking the horse may also keep the animal calm and will prevent injury from rolling or pawing at the ground. Knowing how to measure a horse’s rectal temperature, heart rate and respiratory rate will also come in handy. If you are trained to perform these tasks, Cohen suggests recording this information and sharing it with the veterinarian.

When owning a horse, make sure to know the causes and symptoms of colic. Although early detection is important in treating the disease, prevention is truly the key to maintaining your horse’s health. ✨



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Veterinary Medicine
& Biomedical Sciences

Pasture Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the web at vetmed.tamu.edu/news/tag/pasture-talk/. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to vmbs-editor@tamu.edu.

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Peak Fly Season Times By Region

Fly Control Best Practices for Haflingers



1 PEAK FLY SEASON BY REGION



2 FLY CONTROL BEST PRACTICES

-  1. Start early in spring before fly numbers build.
-  2. Remove manure, wet bedding, and wasted hay regularly.
-  3. Reduce breeding sites: wet feed, muddy edges, standing water.
-  4. Use fly masks, sheets, and leg protection as needed.
-  5. Use fans and shaded shelter—flies dislike strong airflow.
-  6. Place traps strategically; stable-fly traps near horses, horse-fly traps away from turnout.
-  7. Use equine-labeled repellents/insecticides exactly as directed.
-  8. Haflinger tip: check under thick forelocks, manes, tail docks, and around eyes for irritation.



General U.S. seasonal guide—timing varies with local weather, rainfall, irrigation, and farm management.

Sources: AAEP External Parasite and Vector Control Guidelines; Merck Veterinary Manual; University of Arkansas Extension; Cornell/Penn State Extension; University of Kentucky Entomology; Wisconsin Extension; Texas A&M AgriLife; Oklahoma State University Extension. Seasonal timing is a general guide and varies by temperature, rainfall, irrigation, manure management, and local conditions.



IHHA 2026 Haflinger Sale & Hoosier Sire Futurity



Six-Up Demo by Green Lawn Farm, South Whitley, Indiana

The 2026 Haflinger Sale and Hoosier Sire Futurity proved once again to be a strong showcase for quality Haflingers, dedicated breeders, and enthusiastic buyers from across the country. Held March 27–28, 2026, the sale attracted buyers from 14 states and Canada, with 82 Haflingers selling to 56 different buyers.

The weekend featured a wide variety of Haflingers, including breeding stock, young prospects, riding horses,

and driving horses. The overall sale average reached \$3,770, while the Top 10 averaged \$7,480 and the Top 20 averaged \$5,942.

Leading the sale as the high-selling stallion was Lot #1, Wibo's Rocket 2SH, bringing an impressive \$15,000. Consigned by Dennis Miller of Churubusco, Indiana, the stallion was purchased by Schwartz & Sons of Etna Green, Indiana.



The high-selling mare honors went to Lot #52, Cupid 2SH, consigned by Brian Miller of Plymouth, Indiana. The 14-year-old mare sold for \$7,600 to Danton Hirsh of Maynard, Arkansas.

Topping the gelding division was Lot #58, Newton's Chief of Hidden View, a four-year-old gelding

consigned by Harley Hochstetler of Howe, Indiana. The gelding sold for \$8,500 to Darrell Kemp of Loogootee, Indiana.

Friday evening's sale preview also featured the popular Hoosier Sire Futurity, judged by Dennis Miller of Churubusco, Indiana. The futurity included 10 yearling

HOOSIER CHAMPION STALLION ✦ W.L. ROB

W.L. Justin SSH2 x Wilma Girl S-SN
Owned By: Green Lawn Farms,
South Whitley, Indiana



HOOSIER CHAMPION FILLY ✦ AMINA CLA

Avalon of Genesis x A Rare Jewel CLA
Owned By: Willard Lebman,
Etna Green, Indiana



TOP SELLER ✂ \$15,000
WIBO'S ROCKET

Seller: Dennis Miller, Churabusco, Indiana
Buyer: Schwartz & Sons Haflingers, Etna Green, Indiana



TOP SELLER ✂ \$7,600
CUPID 2SH

Seller: Brian Miller, M.Bro Haflingers
Buyer: Danton Hirsch, Maynard, Arkansas



TOP SELLER ✂ \$8,500
NEWTON'S CHIEF OF HIDDEN VIEW

Seller: Harley Hochstetter, Howe, Indiana
Buyer: Darrell Kemp, Loogotee, Indiana



TOP SELLER ✂ \$7,000
CYMON OF TRIPLE ROCK

Seller: Gabe Weaver, Shreve, Ohio
Buyer: Travis Duenke, Ladonia, Missouri



“The overall sale average reached \$3,770, while the Top 10 averaged \$7,480 and the Top 20 averaged \$5,942.”

fillies and six yearling stallions, all highlighting the success of Indiana-standing Haflinger stallions.

In the Yearling Filly Class, Amina CLA claimed first place for owner Willard Lehman. The filly is sired by Avalon of Genesis and out of A Rare Jewel CLA. Second place honors went to Penny EGH4, owned by Wendell Miller and sired by Major Attraction SSH4 out of Precious Molly. Third place was awarded to Moment of Truth SSH4, owned by Harry Schwartz and sired by Main Attraction 2SH.

The Yearling Stallion Class was topped by W.L. Rob, owned by Lavern Schwartz. The winning stallion is sired by W.L.

Justin SSH2 and out of Wilma Girl S-SN. Momentum SSH4, owned by Harry Schwartz, earned second place, while Winning America SSH7, owned by Lamar Schwartz, placed third.

The Hoosier Sire Futurity continues to promote and recognize Haflinger stallions standing in Indiana while encouraging breeders from across the United States and Canada to participate.

Organizers expressed appreciation to the consignors, buyers, bidders, and spectators whose support helped make the 2026 event a success and are already looking ahead to the 2027 sale, scheduled for April 2-3, 2027. ✨



Indiana Haflinger Horse Association

30th Annual Sale & Futurity



TICK CONTROL FOR TRAIL RIDERS: PROTECTING YOURSELF, YOUR HORSE, AND YOUR TACK

Compiled by AHR Staff Writer

Trail riding and driving are among the great joys of owning a Haflinger. Whether you are heading out for a quiet woodland ride, a group trail event, a pleasure drive, or a weekend camping trip, time spent outdoors also means sharing the environment with ticks. These small parasites can be more than a nuisance. They may carry diseases that affect people, horses, dogs, and other animals, making tick awareness an important part of summer and fall horsemanship.

Ticks are most often found in grassy, brushy, wooded, and edge habitats—exactly the kind of places many riders and drivers enjoy. They wait on tall grass, weeds, shrubs, leaf litter, fence lines, wooded trails, and pasture edges for a person or animal to brush by. Once on a host, ticks may crawl for some time before attaching, which is why careful checks after a ride can make such a difference.

Where Are Riders and Horses Most at Risk?

Ticks can be found across much of the United States, but risk varies by region, tick species, season, habitat, and local weather. Riders in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Upper Midwest, and parts of the Pacific Coast should be especially aware of blacklegged ticks and Lyme disease risk. The American dog tick is widely distributed east of the Rocky Mountains and occurs in some areas to the west. Lone star ticks are common in many parts of the South, Southeast, Midwest, and expanding areas of the East. Gulf Coast ticks are more common in the southern United States, and Rocky Mountain wood ticks are a concern in parts of the Rocky Mountain region.

For horse owners, the practical takeaway is simple: if your trail ride takes you through tall grass, brush, woods, pasture edges, creek bottoms, or wildlife-heavy areas,

assume ticks may be present. Tick risk is often highest during warmer months, but ticks can be active whenever conditions are favorable. In many regions, that means spring through fall, and in mild climates, some tick activity can continue during warm winter spells.

Before You Ride: Protect the Rider

The best tick-control program begins before you ever swing into the saddle or climb into the cart. Wear light-colored clothing when possible so ticks are easier to see. Long pants, tall socks, and closed-toe boots help reduce exposed skin. Tucking pants into socks may not win a fashion contest, but it can help keep ticks on the outside of clothing where they are easier to spot.

Use an EPA-registered tick repellent according to the label. Products containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, or 2-undecanone are commonly used for personal tick protection. Clothing, socks, boots, and gear may also be treated with permethrin, but permethrin should be used only as directed and should not be applied directly to human skin. Allow

treated clothing or equipment to dry fully before use.

If you ride or drive frequently in tick country, consider keeping a “trail tick kit” in your trailer or grooming box. Include fine-tipped tweezers, disposable gloves, rubbing alcohol or antiseptic wipes, a small sealable bag or container, a lint roller, and a flashlight or headlamp for checking hard-to-see areas.

Before You Ride: Protect the Horse

Ask your veterinarian which tick-control products are appropriate for your horse and your region. Many equine-labeled sprays, wipes, or spot-on products are designed to help repel or kill ticks, but labels matter. Some products are not safe for foals, some require dilution, some should not be used immediately before riding, and some are not labeled for horses at all. Never use a dog tick product on a horse unless your veterinarian specifically directs you to do so.

For Haflingers, be especially thoughtful around thick manes, forelocks, feathering, and dense coats. Ticks can hide under long hair and in protected areas where they are hard to see. Before heading out, apply horse-safe tick repellent as directed, paying attention to legs, chest, belly, mane, tailhead, and other areas where ticks may climb or attach. Avoid spraying products into eyes, nostrils, or sensitive areas. For the face and ears, apply product to a cloth first if the label allows, then wipe carefully.

Keeping horses well-groomed helps, too. A clean coat makes ticks easier to find, and regular hands-on grooming gives you a better chance of spotting bumps, scabs, irritation, or attached ticks early.

Where to Check the Rider

After a ride, do a full-body tick check as soon as possible. Ticks like warm, protected areas, and they may be very small. Use a mirror or ask someone you trust to help check places you cannot see.

Common areas to check include the scalp and hairline, behind and around the ears, under the arms, around the waistband, inside the belly button, between the legs, around the groin, behind the knees, under socks, and anywhere clothing was tight against the skin. Showering soon after outdoor activity can help wash off unattached ticks and gives you a good opportunity to check carefully.

Clothing should also be checked. Ticks can ride home on shirts, breeches, jeans, socks, jackets, helmets, gloves, and boots. Dry clothing on high heat for at least 10 minutes when appropriate, or wash using hot water if laundering is needed first. Do not forget the truck, trailer, tack room, and laundry basket—ticks can hitchhike farther than you think.

Where to Check the Horse

A post-ride tick check should be part of your cool-down and grooming routine. Do not rely only on your eyes. Use your fingertips to feel for small bumps, especially in long hair or sensitive folds of skin.

Start at the head. Check the muzzle, nostrils, jawline, under the chin, throatlatch, forelock, base of the ears, inside and around the ears as safely as the horse allows, and along the mane from poll to withers. Then move down the neck and chest, especially between the front legs.

Continue along the shoulders, girth area, belly midline, elbows, armpit area, and behind the front legs. Check the legs carefully, including fetlocks, pasterns, coronet bands, and the backs of the knees. On Haflingers with feathering or thick lower-leg hair, take extra time to part the hair and feel close to the skin.

Do not skip the hind end. Check the flank, udder or sheath area, inner thighs, between the hind legs, tailhead, under the tail, around the dock, and the perineal area. These are places ticks can hide and where irritation may not be noticed right away.

If you find a tick attached to your horse, remove it carefully with tweezers by grasping it close to the skin and pulling steadily. Do not twist, burn, squeeze, cover it with petroleum jelly, or try to make it “back out.” After removal, clean the area and monitor it for swelling, redness, heat, drainage, or soreness. Call your veterinarian if the horse develops fever, stiffness, lameness, depression, loss of appetite, unusual swelling, neurologic signs, or if you find a heavy infestation.

Where to Check the Tack

Ticks do not only travel on skin and hair. They can cling to equipment and later crawl onto a person, horse, dog, or another animal. After riding or driving in tick country, inspect your tack before putting it away.

Check saddle pads, girths and cinches, breast collars, cruppers, bridles, reins, halters, lead ropes, driving harness, breeching, traces, saddle bags, cantle bags, helmet covers, gloves, and blankets. Pay special attention to fleece, wool, neoprene edges, stitching, folds, buckles, keepers, and any part of the tack that brushed against grass or shrubs. Shake out pads and bags away from the barn aisle, and consider using a lint roller on fabric items.

Do not toss trail tack directly into the tack room without checking it first. A tick carried into the barn can later attach to a horse, dog, cat, or person.

Trail Choices That Reduce Risk

You cannot eliminate every tick, but you can reduce exposure. Stay toward the center of trails when possible and avoid brushing against tall grass, weeds, and low shrubs. Choose open, well-maintained

trails over overgrown routes during peak tick season. Avoid letting horses graze in tall grass along trail edges. When camping, keep grooming areas, high lines, and corals away from brush and leaf litter when possible.

At home, keep pastures and riding areas mowed, reduce brush along fence lines and trails, remove leaf piles near barns, and manage rodent-friendly clutter. Ticks often thrive along the border between open areas and woods, so pasture edges, tree lines, and shaded fence rows deserve extra attention.

Smart Habits for Group Rides and Events

For organized trail rides, driving events, clinics, and camping weekends, tick control should be part of the checklist. Remind participants to use personal protection, bring tweezers, check horses after rides, and inspect tack before loading. If dogs are allowed, they should be on an appropriate veterinary-approved tick prevention program because dogs can bring ticks into trailers, stalls, tents, and living quarters.

If a tick is removed from a person, save it in a sealed container or bag if identification may be useful, and watch for symptoms such as rash, fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, joint pain, or unusual fatigue in the days and weeks that follow. Seek medical advice if symptoms develop or if there are concerns about disease exposure.

The Bottom Line

Tick control is not one single product or one quick check. It is a routine: protect yourself before the ride, protect your horse before exposure, choose trails wisely, check horse and rider afterward, inspect tack, and remove ticks promptly and properly.

Our Haflingers are willing partners on the trail and in harness. A few extra minutes of prevention and inspection can help keep both horse and handler safer, more comfortable, and ready for the next adventure. ✿

Key references used include CDC guidance on tick prevention, body checks, gear checks, tick removal, and geographic distribution; AAEP tick-control guidance for horses and recommended areas to examine; and Merck Veterinary Manual guidance on ticks and Lyme disease in horses.



WHEN IS IT TOO HOT TO RIDE, DRIVE, OR WORK YOUR HAFLINGER?

Summer is a wonderful season to enjoy Haflingers, whether on the trail, in the show ring, hitched to a cart, or working around the farm. But warm weather brings an important responsibility: knowing when heat and humidity make exercise unsafe.

Haflingers are famously willing, sturdy, and versatile horses. The breed is known for its golden chestnut color, long white or flaxen mane and tail, good temperament, and history as a practical family and work horse. That same willing nature can sometimes make it easy for a Haflinger to keep trying even when the conditions are becoming too hot. As owners, riders, drivers, and handlers, it is up to us to recognize when summer work should be shortened, modified, or skipped altogether.

Heat Is More Than Just the Temperature

One of the biggest mistakes horse owners make is looking only at the thermometer. Humidity matters just as much. Horses cool themselves primarily through sweating and evaporation. When the air is humid, sweat does not evaporate as efficiently, which makes it harder for the horse to release body heat. University of Georgia Extension notes that when both temperature and humidity are high, cooling becomes more difficult than the temperature alone suggests.

A simple barn rule many horse owners use is to add the air temperature in de-

grees Fahrenheit to the relative humidity percentage. This is not a perfect scientific measurement, but it gives a practical guide for decision-making. U.S. Equestrian's heat recommendations state that when temperature plus humidity is below 130, conditions are generally manageable; from 130 to 150, handlers should begin monitoring for heat stress; from 150 to 180, careful monitoring becomes critical. Florida equine heat-stress guidance recommends avoiding riding and working horses when temperature plus relative humidity exceeds 180.

For example, 88 degrees with 60% humidity equals 148. That may be acceptable for a short, easy ride for a fit horse with plenty of breaks. But 92 degrees with 80% humidity equals 172, which calls for serious caution. At 96 degrees and 85% humidity, the total is 181, which is too high for work and a good day to choose turnout management, grooming, or rest instead.

Haflinger-Specific Considerations

While every horse is an individual, Haflinger owners should be especially thoughtful about summer heat. Many Haflingers have compact, muscular bodies, and the breed is recognized for its full, long, light-colored mane and tail. A thick mane, sturdy build, and easygoing temperament can make some Haflingers appear more comfortable than they really are. Horses that are overweight, out of condition, older, very young, heavily coat-

ed, or not acclimated to summer weather are at greater risk of overheating. University of Minnesota Extension lists obesity, poor ventilation, direct sun, excessive work, transportation, high humidity, and hot weather as contributors to overheating.

Driving horses deserve special attention. A Haflinger in harness may be pulling weight, wearing additional equipment, and working with less airflow across the body than a horse moving freely under saddle. A cart or carriage may not feel difficult on level ground, but hills, deep footing, road heat, or long stretches in direct sun can quickly increase the horse's workload. If it is too hot for a moderate ride, it is usually too hot for a meaningful driving workout.

Practical Guidelines for Summer Work

On warm days, plan rides, drives, and groundwork for early morning or late evening. Florida Extension recommends riding during hot and humid months either early in the morning or late at night, providing shade, hosing horses down after work, maintaining clean fresh drinking water, and using fans where horses gather when possible.

Keep summer sessions short and purposeful. Choose walking hacks, light schooling, quiet groundwork, or easy conditioning instead of intense arena work. Avoid long trots, extended canter sets, heavy hill work, deep footing, and prolonged



driving in full sun. If your Haflinger is breathing hard, not recovering quickly, stumbling, acting dull, unusually resistant, or sweating heavily, stop and cool the horse.

Heat stress can happen faster than many people realize. Horses may show rapid breathing, elevated heart rate, weakness, stumbling, dehydration, hot skin, or sweating that is excessive—or, more concerning, less sweating than expected. The normal body temperature of a horse is generally about 99 to 101.5 degrees Fahrenheit, and Clemson Extension notes that if rectal temperature rises to 103 degrees, action should be taken to cool the horse.

Cooling Your Haflinger Safely

If your horse is hot after work, move to shade or a well-ventilated area. Offer water. Begin cooling with cool water, especially over the large muscle groups and areas where blood vessels are close to the surface, such as the neck, chest, and legs. UConn Extension recommends spraying the horse with cool water and moving the horse to shade or a cool, well-ventilated

barn for heat exhaustion or heatstroke.

Do not assume a horse is fine just because the work has stopped. Continue watching breathing, attitude, sweating, and recovery. UC Davis notes that a 1,000-pound horse that is not working, lactating, or in high heat and humidity needs at least 6 gallons of water per day, and that need may double or triple in high heat and humidity.

Electrolytes may be helpful for horses that sweat heavily, travel, compete, or work regularly in summer, but they should be used thoughtfully and with access to fresh water. When in doubt, ask your veterinarian what is appropriate for your horse.

When to Skip the Ride or Drive

It is better to miss a training day than to risk a heat emergency. Consider skipping work when the temperature plus humidity approaches or exceeds 180, when there is no shade or airflow, when your horse has not acclimated to hot weather, when the footing is deep, when hauling is involved, or when your horse seems tired before

you even start. Also avoid work during the hottest part of the day, particularly in humid climates.

For Haflingers, “too hot” is not a single number. It depends on the horse’s fitness, body condition, age, workload, coat, access to water, shade, airflow, and the combined effect of temperature and humidity. The safest approach is to plan ahead, keep sessions light, monitor recovery, and be willing to change plans.

Our Haflingers give us their best with generous hearts. In return, summer horsemanship means listening closely, choosing comfort over convenience, and remembering that sometimes the kindest ride is no ride at all. ❁

Sources: U.S. Equestrian heat safety recommendations; University of Minnesota Extension, Caring for Horses During Hot Weather; University of Florida IFAS Extension, Managing Heat Stress in Horses; Penn State Extension, Managing Horses in Hot Temperatures; UConn Extension, Heat Stress: Too Hot to Trot?; University of Georgia Extension, Managing Horses in Hot Weather; UC Davis Center for Equine Health, Keeping Horses Healthy in Hot Weather; and American Haflinger Registry breed information. Seasonal recommendations should be adjusted for each horse’s age, fitness, body condition, acclimation, workload, health status, and local weather conditions.



Would you like to be featured in a future Horse Bits Member Spotlight? Please share your story and photos with us at: promotion@haflingerhorse.com

KENDALL DWYER

AHR Youth Ambassador

Hello, my name is Kendall Dwyer, and I am honored to serve as the new Youth Ambassador for the American Haflinger Registry.

My Haflinger journey began in 2020, when I started riding with one of my mom's friends who owned a Haflinger. From that point on, my love for Haflingers grew into a true devotion to both the breed and the registry.

My first real relationship with a Haflinger began when I started leasing Wyatt Earp SBH, a 14.3-hand gelding owned by Laurie Szuter. At the time, I came from a hunter/jumper background, while Wyatt was more of an all-around horse. He took me to my first shows as an 11-year-old and helped build my confidence in ways I will never forget.

Wyatt also introduced me to my first Haflinger breed show, where I competed in my first western pleasure class—something I had once been very determined never to try! Together, Wyatt and I went on to win Youth Champion in both the Western and English divisions both years we attended. He also introduced me to fun shows and experiences that were completely different from the hunter and jumper shows I was used to. The pleasure shows and draft horse fairs I attended with my Haflinger show group opened my eyes to a whole new world of riding and showing.



While I was leasing Wyatt, I also became part of Golden Treasures Haflingers, founded by Jan Milo. There, I experienced a true barn family for the first time. We rode many of the sale horses that came through the farm,

often riding multiple Haflingers in one day. Each of them patiently put up with our shenanigans and always seemed willing to take care of us when we were younger. They had wonderful temperaments and were reliable, kind, and forgiving teachers.

After long days of riding, we would often sit together as a group and talk. On Wednesday nights, we even had farm dinners. Those memories are a special part of my Haflinger journey and helped me understand that this breed brings people together just as much as it builds confidence in young riders.

Later, I met my forever mare, Marvelette 2SH, also known as Marvi. I bought her as a driving mare, and together we began learning the joys

of riding. She was my first green horse, and we had to learn how to understand and trust one another. Over the past three years, Marvi and I have built a partnership that means the world to me. I have learned to trust her with my life, and we have become so in tune that sometimes I feel like she knows what I am asking before I even ask it.

Marvi has earned herself a forever home with me, and at the end of this year, she will be moving to her own farm built especially for her.

My love for Haflingers does not stop with Marvi. It continues with Wowzer CVA, a spunky and athletic gelding owned by Pam and Curtis Hess, whom I currently have the pleasure of working with. Wowzer excels in combined driving with his owner, and he and I are now on the adventure of helping him become a dressage pony as well.

Each of these wonderful Haflingers has helped shape me into the rider I am today. I never would have known a world outside of hunters and jumpers if Wyatt Earp SBH had not taken me out of my comfort zone. I would not have experienced the incredible bond of a Haflinger mare if I had not found Marvelette 2SH. Because of these horses, I now have the confidence to ride many different types of horses and try new things.

Looking ahead, I know Haflingers will continue to be a major part of my life. I cannot imagine being in a barn without seeing the golden coat and beautiful white mane of a Haflinger. 🐾

SHARE YOUR STORY:

Submit a Member Spotlight for an Upcoming AHR Horse Bits Newsletter



Every Haflinger has a story — and so does every AHR member. The American Haflinger Registry invites you to submit a Member Spotlight for an upcoming newsletter and share your journey with the entire AHR community.

Member Spotlights are more than just profiles; they are an opportunity to motivate and inspire fellow members — especially our youth. Whether you are showing at breed or open competitions, trail riding through scenic countryside, driving, participating in therapeutic programs, ranch working, or simply enjoying your Haflinger as a beloved family partner, your experiences matter. Sharing the unique ways you and your horse connect can spark new ideas and encourage others to try something different with their own Haflingers.

We especially love hearing about creative and unexpected activities. Do you compete in mounted archery? Use your Haflinger for farm work? Dress up for parades? Teach riding lessons? Take part in 4-H or Pony Club? Every story adds to the rich tapestry of our breed community.

And of course — don't forget the quirks! Haflingers are known for their bold personalities, clever minds, expressive faces, and occasional mischievous streaks. Does your horse untie knots, open gates, demand treats with dramatic flair, or insist on being the center of attention? Those funny moments and heartwarming habits are what make these horses unforgettable.

If you're concerned about writing something — don't worry. We are happy to edit and polish submissions while keeping your voice and story intact. Not sure how to get started or what to say? Simply fill out our Member Spotlight Question & Answer (Q&A) form. It's an easy way to share your experiences without the pressure of writing a full article.

By submitting a Member Spotlight, you help showcase the versatility, heart, and character of the Haflinger breed. You also give young riders and new members something to aspire to — showing them what's possible through dedication, partnership, and a little bit of that classic Haflinger charm.

We look forward to sharing your story! 😊

HORSE BITS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT QUESTIONNAIRE

Celebrating the People Behind the Breed
Each issue, we are proud to highlight a dedicated member of the American Haflinger Registry. Our members are the heart of the Haflinger community — breeders, exhibitors, drivers, riders, families, and lifelong enthusiasts who make this breed so special.

Member Name & Location:

AHR Member Since (Approximate Years):

- 1. How did you first discover the Haflinger breed?**
- 2. What drew you specifically to Haflingers?**
- 3. Tell us about your first Haflinger.**
- 4. How many Haflingers do you currently own and what do you enjoy doing with them?**
- 5. What quality do you value most in a Haflinger?**
- 6. What accomplishment with your Haflinger(s) are you most proud of?**
- 7. What discipline or activity do you primarily participate in?**
- 8. What makes the Haflinger breed special or unique in your opinion?**
- 9. What advice would you give to someone considering their first Haflinger?**
- 10. What does the Haflinger breed mean to you personally?**

📷 *Please submit 2–4 high-resolution photos (300 dpi preferred) along with your responses to:*

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American Haflinger Registry

PO Box 124, Fredericktown, OH 43019

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General AHR Office E-mail: secretary@haflingerhorse.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2026

Membership Includes:

- Full voting privileges
- Reduced rates on Registry transactions
- *Haflinger Horse Bits* (by-monthly newsletter) with reduced advertising rates
- Eligibility for participation in AHR programs including Inspection & Classification, Ambassador Program, Golden Path Program, and more
- Free farm directory listings and classified ads at haflingerhorse.com
- Free yearly calendar in December of your membership year

Name(s) _____

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MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

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- Annual - \$65^{USD} (expires 12/31/26)
- 3-Year - \$180^{USD} (expires 12/31/28)
- Lifetime - \$800^{USD} (non-expiring)

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- Annual - \$12^{USD} (expires 12/31/26)
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