

# BITS AND SPURS Jan-Feb-Mar 2017, SPWBCH Newsletter

## Mission Statement:

Our purpose is to perpetuate the common sense use of horses in America's back country, wilderness and roadless areas; to assist various government and private agencies in their maintenance of said resources; to work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use; and to educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resources by horsemen and pack stock.



## 2017 SPWBCH Officers - Contact Information

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| President: Mike Foster                            | Ph. 777-4383              |
| Vice President: Bruce Scott                       | Ph. 239-1007              |
| Secretary: Christy Bennett                        | Ph. 361-0767              |
| Treasurer: Betsy Hepburn-Day                      | Ph. 381-1378              |
| Local Board: Senior- Nancy Bender & Bob Driggers  | Ph. 360-1666 Ph. 360-6519 |
| Junior- Duane Krown & Patty Hascall               | PH. 642-3932 Ph. 370-8546 |
| BCHM State Directors: Julie Schram & Trish Foster | Ph. 961-2457 Ph. 777-4383 |
| Alternate: Kathy Hundley                          | Ph. 363-8230              |

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## NEXT MEETING

Thursday, March 9, 2017  
Hamilton Forest Service  
General Meeting @ 6:30  
Board Meeting @ 5:30



**President's Note** – Hello SPWBCH members and friends, It seems we are finally seeing the valley thaw out after a pretty harsh winter. Yesterday was so nice; Trish and I went over to Larry Creek to see if it was rideable yet. The road in and the parking lot are still covered in several inches of slush and ice, but the trails in some sections are almost clear. Maybe in a couple of weeks, after we get through the shedding season! In 2017 we have a few standard projects we will tackle and one big project that has been a long time coming. Thanks to the persistence of Bruce Scott and the cooperation of the Forest Service, the Sawtooth Bridge will be going in this summer. "History in the making." In the next couple of meetings we will be working on putting our projects list together and assigning leaders for each project. I am looking forward to working with all of you to keep our favorite trails well maintained. Thank you for allowing me to be your chapter leader this year. Let's get the work done together and have some fun at the same time! *Mike Foster*

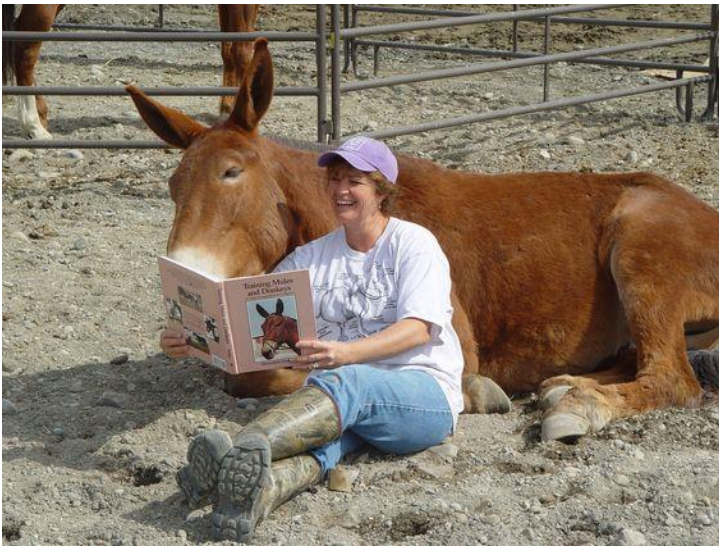


It's been a long winter here in the Bitterroot, so I thought I would dedicate this issue to hopefully making you smile with some added humor and photos. Enjoy!

## Health & Training



### “How to Train Your Mule”



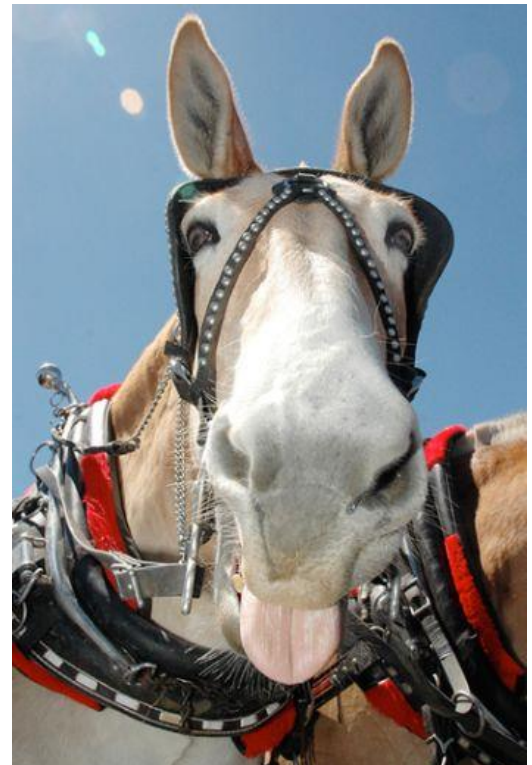
Teach them to read.



Patience, patience, patience and then more patience.



Don't let them gang up on you.



Punt and buy a horse!

# DUTCH OVEN RECIPE



## *Kybo Pudding\**

### Ingredients:

- 2-(16 ounce) packages mini cinnamon-sugar dusted donuts
- 2-(2.6 ounce) Hershey's chocolate bars-broken into pieces
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 12 ounces maple syrup
- 3 cups whole milk

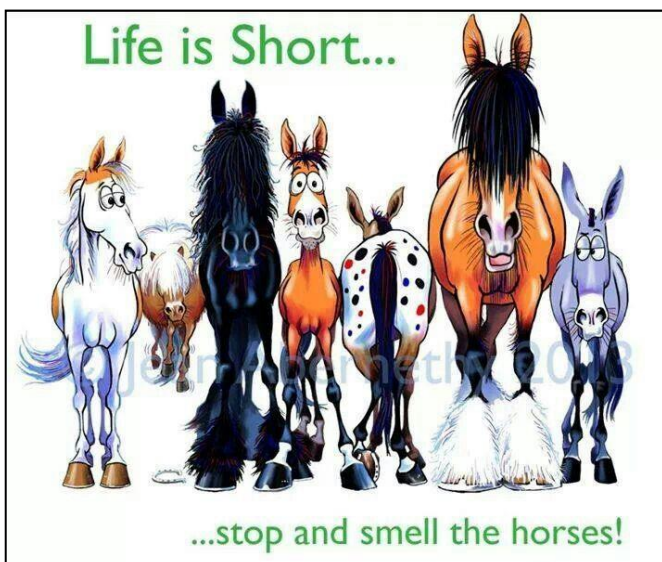
### **What You'll Do:**

Fill bottom of 12" Dutch oven with donuts.  
Cover donuts with chocolate pieces and sprinkle with cinnamon.

Pour maple syrup and milk over all.

Bake for 30 to 40 minutes using 17 coals on the lid and 8 briquettes under the oven. Serves 12-14

*\*This dessert guaranteed to give you a sugar high and brighten your day after a long winter!!*



Public Lands Rally in Helena on Monday, January 30. Members Taylor & Sally Orr and Kathy Hundley attended showing support to keep public lands in public hands.



## **BCHMT State Convention**

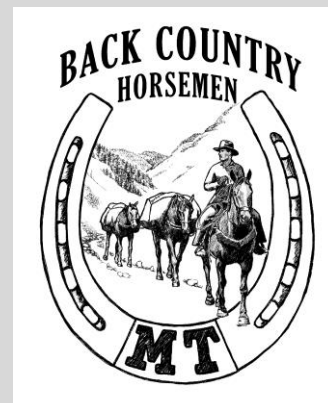
Hosted by the Mission Valley BCH

March 24-25-26, 2017

KwaTaqNuk Resort- Polson, MT

For more information go to:

[www.bchmt.org](http://www.bchmt.org)



# GIMP

By Baxter Black

I was out in the driveway scattering stove ash when I heard the geese. It was three days until the end of the season and I was still zero for 6. They rose from the field to the north, squawking raucously and aimed straight over the house.

I dropped the coal bucket in the snow and raced back in the front door! I careened off the furniture like a bad billiard shot! At the back door I grabbed the big twelve gauge leaned against the wall and three shells that I had conveniently placed on the top of the window ledge. Crashing off the back porch, I loaded the gun with the relaxed ease of a 13 year old on his first date! The geese beat the air above me as I swung the shotgun skyward. Boom! Boom! The geese sailed over the barn like a giant manta ray. Nary a feather fluttered to the ground but my two horses thundered from the barn!



I was in a funk that evening when I went to feed. But I noticed that my new rope horse was packin' his right hind. After a thorough lameness exam I concluded he musta slid on the ice and pulled a muscle. Possibly, I admitted, the result of a sudden fright.

Join the club. My old dog was favoring his left front. Considering his long history of bein' shot and run over, I wasn't surprised.

The cat Lefty, got stepped on a couple years ago and the Doc amputated her right hind.

Adding my bilateral bursitis, Pablo's bad back and my teenager's loss of memory, my place looks like a World War I field hospital. It's a hazard of country life.

My friend Charlie has a cowdog named Gimp. He has established a breeding program and now has produced a litter of pups that all limp. He wrote me of his success predicting that he will make a million selling them to cowmen. His theory is that it will save an enormous amount of time getting a cowdog to the bum leg-ged stage.

And, he stressed, it is humane since they won't have to go through the agony of getting injured in the first place. He says that a gimp dog will be more cautious around kicking cows, truck tires, bangin' chutes and cattle alleys. They can get right down to business.

It might be a good idea, but Charlie, like me, is gettin' a little long in the tooth. We're getting too practical. Playin' it safe. Goin' to bed early and eating our prunes. We're thinkin' like old dogs.

Young dogs think work is play. They turn over a new rock everyday discovering their world. Kinda like the thrill I got when I saw those geese fill the sky. Innocent wonderment. Made me feel like a puppy again.

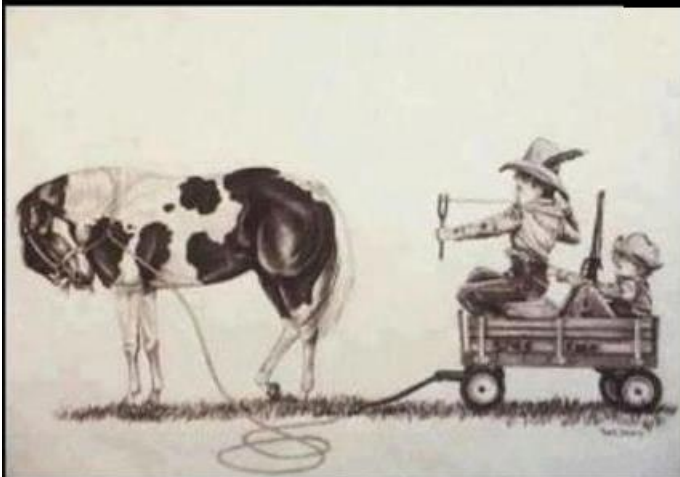


If your horse has had the winter off and you're ready to get back in the saddle, keep these success tips in mind so that it is a safe and enjoyable experience.

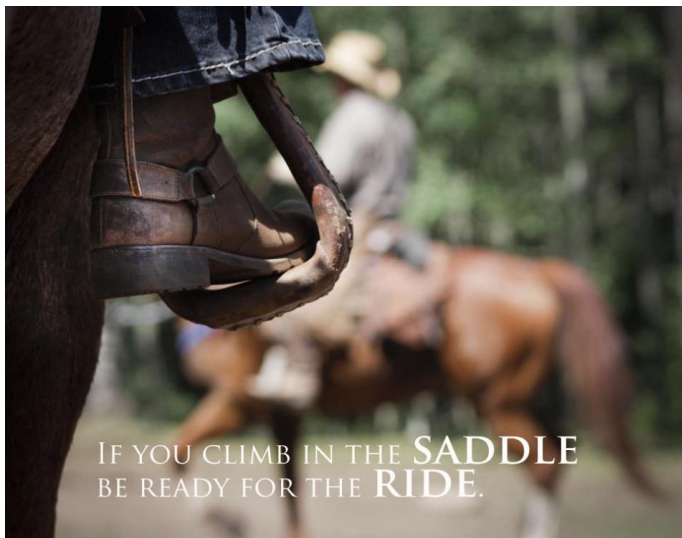
1. The first two sessions you spend with your horse after time off should consist of strictly groundwork. Groundwork is the safest way to get your horse to use the thinking side of his brain and focus his attention on you. Move his feet forwards, backwards, left and right and reward the slightest try.
2. When you go to saddle your horse for the first time, don't saddle him in the middle of the barn aisle or tie him to a post. Go where you have room to move in case he overreacts when he first feels the saddle on his back or the cinch tighten around his barrel.
3. Keep in mind that weather plays a huge role in your horse's behavior. Changes in weather, which happen often during spring, can make your horse hypersensitive and therefore more reactive. Make sure you're more thorough with your groundwork on cold, rainy, windy days.
4. The more times you pick yourself up off the ground, the better your groundwork gets. Rather than finding yourself dusting dirt off your jeans and wishing you had done a better job of preparing your horse for the ride, you're better off being overly cautious and making sure you stay safe.



**Motivation: think twice about your technique**

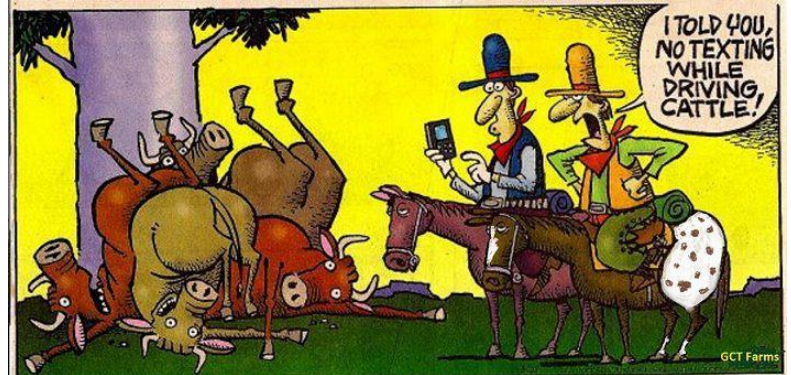


**Answers to Horse Trivia page 8**  
 1) Haflinger 2) kindness 3) spirit 4) 62 5) Jimmy Stewart 6) Sergeant 7) Robert E. Lee 8) 16 million 9) Branson, MO 10) Hard Tack



IF YOU CLIMB IN THE SADDLE  
BE READY FOR THE RIDE.

*~Work to a horse is anything he does  
because you make him do it~*



## PACK ANIMAL SPEED INDEX

~Author unknown~



Normal speed: Two steps per four seconds slower than the horse you're riding. One attempted mouthful of grass every 11 steps.

2<sup>nd</sup> gear: Passes your saddle horse, on either side, every 62 feet. Needs to be slapped with rope, but will pull back when you do...and jerk you out of the saddle. Eats grass at a trot. Ducks lead rope under your saddle horse's tail every 600 feet. Result: two wrecks per mile.

3<sup>rd</sup> gear: Likes to walk ahead of lead horse by at least two feet. Goes on wrong side of most trees. Catches your horse's rump (or your leg) on pannier. Your temptation to turn pack horse loose is strong. Don't do that...your supper is in those packs.

4<sup>th</sup> gear: You turned him loose. Eddie Arcaro aboard Secretariat couldn't keep him in sight on a fast track. If you can head him off, he'll run off into the timber. If you can't, you'll be running an ad in the paper.

5<sup>th</sup> gear: He saw a bear and sold the farm. In rough country this situation is worse, because he gains speed jumping logs. Shoot him if you can (the horse, not the bear).

\*reprint from "Packing and Outfitting FIELD MANUAL"-University Of Wyoming



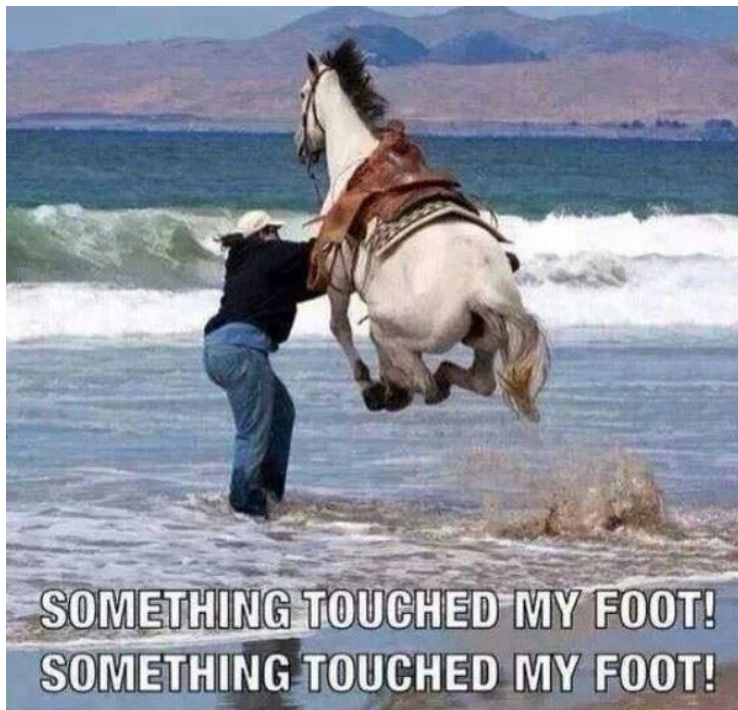


# Attention! SPWBCH

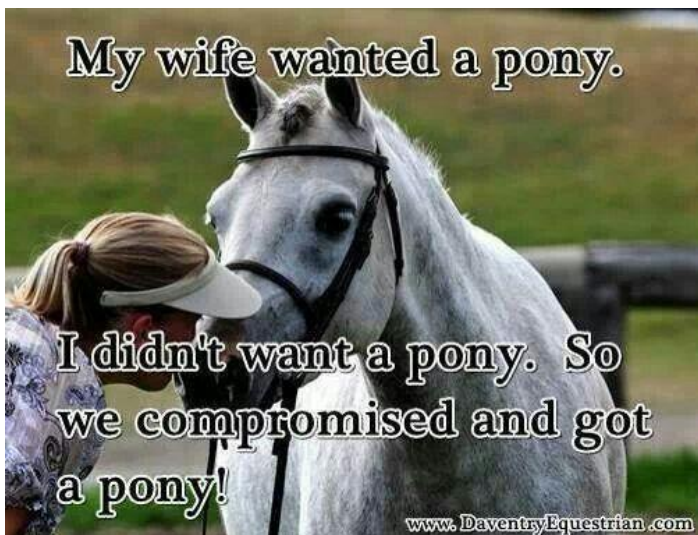
Members who have not yet renewed your membership for 2017

**This will be your final newsletter!**

Thank you for your continued support in our volunteer efforts to "RESCUE TRAILS" and promote the use of pack stock in our back country!  
**WE THANK YOU!**



**SOMETHING TOUCHED MY FOOT!  
SOMETHING TOUCHED MY FOOT!**



My wife wanted a pony.

I didn't want a pony. So we compromised and got a pony!

[www.DaventryEquestrian.com](http://www.DaventryEquestrian.com)



'RIDING A HORSE IS NOT A GENTLE HOBBY,  
TO BE PICKED UP & LAID DOWN LIKE A GAME OF SOLITAIRE.  
IT IS A GRAND PASSION'

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

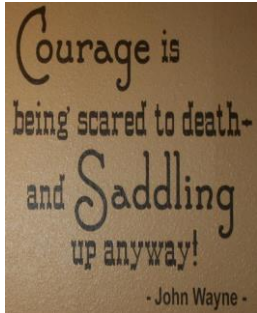
#GIFTHORSEEVENTING





**Selway- Pintler Wilderness BCH**  
**P.O. Box 88**  
**Hamilton MT 59840**

To view in color go to:  
[www.bchmt.org/spwbch/Newsletters.html](http://www.bchmt.org/spwbch/Newsletters.html)



**Remember-Please send me your stories and photos throughout the year if you would like to see them featured in the newsletter!**



*SPWBCH Bits and Spurs will now be printed quarterly.*



*Please help make our newsletter interesting, fun and informative by sending in articles, stories and photos! We love to read about your horses, mules, dogs, pack trips, campouts, hunting trips and good 'ole horse & mule sense! Trail history and updates are great too! Please send articles, news, pictures or horse/mule/back-country-related classifieds in to me for the quarterly newsletter at any time! Send to Kathy Hundley: 3448 Wright Way, Darby, MT 59829; prefer by e-mail: [montanakath@yahoo.com](mailto:montanakath@yahoo.com)*

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**HORSE TRIVIA**

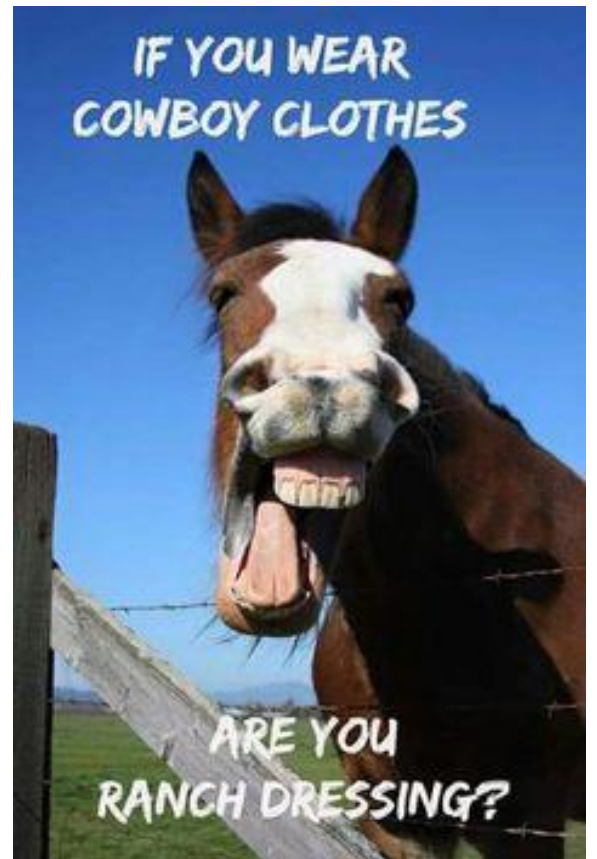
- 1) The first cloned horse, Promotea, was which breed?
- 2) Former slave veterinarian, Dr. William Key, performed with his horse Beautiful Jim Key between 1897 to 1906. Among other talents, the horse could read, do math and tell time. Dr. Key said he taught Beautiful Jim using what?
- 3) The only truly wild horses left in the world are the Przewalski's horses in Mongolia. They received that name in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, but Mongolians had always called them "takhi," which means:
- 4) Old Billy, the oldest horse on record, lived to be how old?
- 5) A Hollywood horse named Pie rode in 17 westerns with this actor.
- 6) During the Korean War, American Marines in Korea bought a mare from a Korean stable boy, named her Reckless, and taught her to carry supplies along supply routes without a guide. After the war, she was promoted to which ranking?
- 7) Traveller is famous for being this Civil War general's horse:
- 8) Trigger, Roy Rogers' golden palomino stallion, was preserved after his death in 1964 by Bishoff's Taxidermy of California and was on display for many years at the Roy Rogers-Dale Evans Museum in this city until it closed in 2009:
- 9) What is the highest price paid for a thoroughbred race horse at public auction?
- 10) What was the name of Seabiscuit's sire?

**\*\*Answers page 5\*\***

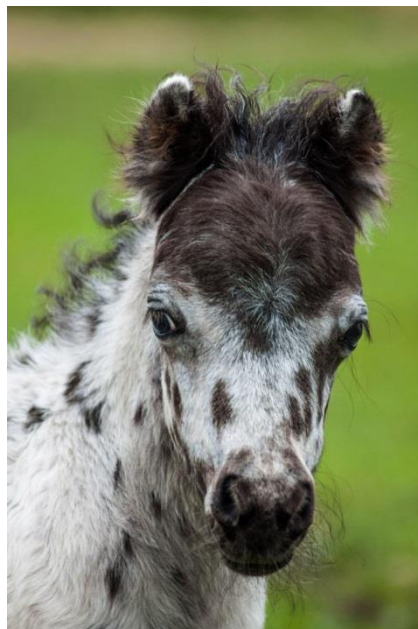


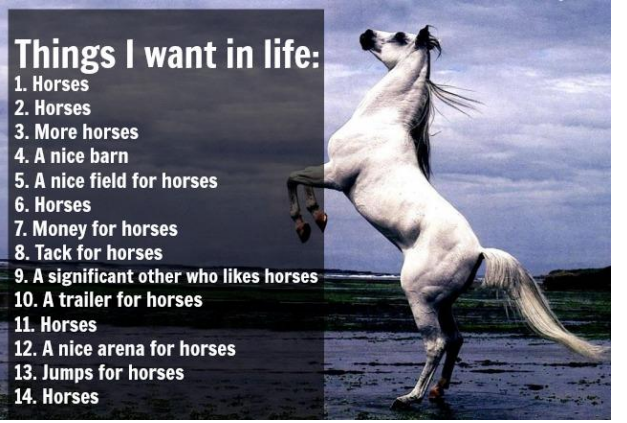


*Pega Donkey from Brazil*  
Gaited, refined, nice ears,  
light in front, good  
disposition



*If mares took selfies*





Tailgating may land a 1000 lb Horse in Your Lap!

