

## CONNECTION



Matching Horse People With The Right Horse Property For Over Three Decades!

See cover story and inside pages for horse properties in the Prescott, Arizona area offered by Horse Property Specialist, Trudy M. Zeiler

## THE FUTURE OF ARIZONA'S EQUESTRIAN INDUSTRY

by Adam M. Trenk, Esq.

There is no doubt that Arizona has a thriving equestrian industry. Even though the face of the local horse industry in places like Phoenix and Scottsdale has changed and the rural enclaves have been subjected to an almost forced migration over the years, our equestrian community remains strong statewide. With WestWorld in Scottsdale, Horseshoe Park in Queen Creek and numerous other community arenas hosting hundreds of events during the height of our season in the greater Phoenix Metro Area, on the whole, the industry remains strong despite outside pressures. However, in order to ensure the continued viability of the horse industry in our state, there are issues that must be addressed by the individual and the industry as a whole.

Although the rural lifestyle is not synonymous with equestrianism, the two are often subject to the same pressures. Modernity and urban growth often translate to increased government regulation with the intent to "mitigate" the impact of the pre-existing livestock on encroaching sprawl. When this regulation is not countered by thoughtful policy that encourages participation in the industry markets, it can be like the death of a thousand cuts. This type of thoughtful "prohorse" policy can be seen in areas within cities and towns that do continue to accommodate equestrian uses. In some jurisdictions, the use is supported with public amenities such as parks, trails and arenas. The continued viability of the horse industry statewide is dependent on a united effort to encourage governing bodies to

follow the lead of those that have cultivated "pro-horse" communities.

At the micro-level, the key to facilitating horse friendly governance is involvement. Staying connected to the actions of your local jurisdiction by voting, attending meetings and engaging your leaders is key. At the macro-level, we need to stand united as one voice, regardless of the equestrian discipline or equine breed of choice. This means becoming a member of an advocacy group like the Arizona Horse Council that will look out for the interests of the statewide horse community.

But staying involved is not the ultimate goal; it is the means to an end. We, as horse owners and stakeholders in the equestrian industry, need to leverage this involvement to support each other, promote our interests and see through policies that favor the economic and social viability of horse ownership and the equestrian sports. When communicating our motivations, we need to let people know that we are doing this not just because we are passionate about our horse related work and play, but because there are universal benefits to our society as a whole that result from equestrian industry.



## VERSATILE HORSEMANSHIP CLINIC May 24 - 27, 2013 • Phoenix, Arizona



## **AARON ENGLAND RETURNS TO ARIZONA**

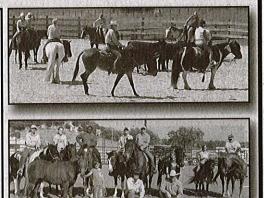
Want to know how to calm/settle your horse? Want your horse to respect you on the ground and in the saddle? Want to be safe and have your horse's trust? Want to understand the love, language and leadership that makes your horse want to be with you? Originally from Tombstone, Arizona, Aaron has more than 20 years of experience training horses. He spent three years studying with Leon Harrel, a World Champion Cutting trainer, and over five years with Pat Parelli,

achieving the highest level of horsemanship in Pat's program. He can teach you to have refinement in your riding and a confident, willing partnership with your horse, no matter your background. He loves helping his students achieve their highest level of competition in any discipline beginning with a foundation in communication instead of intimidation.



Level 1 starts working on the ground with the horse in a halter and lead rope. Participants progress from fundamental ground games to saddle games.

Level 2 builds on Level 1 with more advanced games on the ground and in the saddle.



For Details and Registration: 520-237-2430 • www.aaronengland.com
Saturday, May 25 - Sunday, May 26 • 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Dunn's Arena, Phoenix, AZ. • www.dunnsarena.com
Both days, \$350 - One day, \$195 • Auditing Free
Level 1- Saturday • Level 2- Sunday
Private Lessons Friday, May 24 and Monday, May 27

Horses are not just good for people's mental, emotional and physical health, which has been proven time and again as evidenced by the wide array of horse therapy programs for children, people with special needs, returning veterans, etc., horses are also GREAT for the economy. When people own horses, they spend a lot of money locally. This means measurable economic benefits. Jobs are cre-

ated, tax revenues flow.

The more our governments do to support and promote the equestrian industry, the more it will thrive. If the industry thrives, we all do better, from the equine professional to the backyard hobbyist. If the government fails to support the industry, it is not just to our detriment as horse owners but to its entire constituency.

We must stay informed and get involved to encourage government activity that favors the equestrian lifestyle. If we do not, and we lose equestrian amenities, we have no one to blame but ourselves when the industry suffers. Your help in forging an even brighter future for Arizona's equestrian industry will be appreciated by all for generations to come.



Adam Trenk is an Attorney at Rose Law Group pc (www.RoseLawGroup.com) and practices in the areas of equine law, land use, public policy, community relations and business law. He is an avid horseman and sits on the board of Canter Arizona, a non-profit that helps rehabilitate and adopt out ex-racehorses. Mr. Trenk served as an elected member of the Cave Creek Town Council from 2009 to 2011 was just elected again to serve as Councilman beginning in June of this year. He is a champion of the local equestrian community and supported by the Arizona Horse Council. He can be contacted by email at atrenk@roselawgroup.com or by phone at 602-402-3335. Like him on facebook at www.facebook.com/equineattorneys.