



AERC CONVENTION 2013

Think Like a Vet – Learn From the Vets

March 8 & 9, 2013

Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, Reno

Hotel Reservations: 800-648-5080 or

Click for GSR [Online Link!](#)

Speakers Include:

Trisha Dowling, DVM, MSc, DACVIM (LAIM), DACVP
Sarah Fletcher, MD • Karen Hassan, DVM, DACVS • Jeanette Mero, DVM
Hal Schott, DVM, PhD, ACVIM • Donna Snyder-Smith
Aarene Storms • Jeannie Waldron, DVM

Speaker Seminars • Fabulous Trade Show

National Awards Banquet • Tack Swap

Friday Night Dance • Regional Awards

Hot Topics Workshops • Much More!

Fun • Friends • Great Vendors • Don't miss it!



What's happening at the 2013 AERC Convention

March 8 & 9, 2013 • Grand Sierra Resort and Casino • Reno, Nevada

The convention is a fabulous two days of endurance, endurance and more endurance! It's a wonderful place to see old friends, meet new ones, and check out all the latest endurance gear at the always-terrific trade show. There's something to do just about every hour of the day, starting with Hot Topics seminars in the early morning, and ending with a dance on Friday night and the national awards banquet to close the convention on Saturday evening.

Be sure to sign up before February 22 to take advantage of discount pricing on seminars!

The Grand Sierra Resort's reservation line: 800-648-5080

Send us an email at aerc@foothill.net if you'd like the direct link to AERC's Grand Sierra online reservation page. Please phone the office at 866-271-2372 if you have any questions about convention. See you in Reno!

HOT TOPIC 1: Liability Issues at Endurance Rides (FREE!)

John Parke, Moderator

Friday, March 8 – 7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

This informative and lively session will include discussion of insurance, Good Samaritan regulations, and liability exposure of riders, ride managers and veterinarians. Also covered will be liability releases—their validity, and how to improve them.

HOT TOPIC 2: Dogs, Guns, and Steel (FREE!)

John Parke, Moderator

Saturday, March 9 – 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

A spinoff of Jared Diamond's best-selling 1997 nonfiction book, "Guns, Germs, and Steel," the AERC version will cover dogs at endurance rides, guns on the trail and steel (as in horse shoes). This is going to be a far-ranging Hot Topic session. Bring your thoughts and share them!

TRADE SHOW and TACK SWAP (FREE!)

Friday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. • Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Experience the wealth of distance information and gear at the convention trade show, and stop by the tack swap!

REGIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY (FREE!)

Friday, March 8 – 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Share in the accomplishments of 2012 award winners!

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE (\$10)

Friday, March 8 – 8:00 p.m. - midnight

A great time to get together with friends and dance!

GENERAL SESSION (FREE!)

Saturday, March 9 – 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Election of AERC officers takes place at this meeting. Members will also have the opportunity to voice their concerns and ask questions of their directors.

NATIONAL AWARDS BANQUET (\$40; \$20 for ages 11 & under)

Saturday, March 9 – 6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

The convention culminates in this ceremony celebrating national award winners and Pard'ners and Hall of Fame honorees.

Also: AERC Board of Directors will meet Thursday evening and Sunday morning. AERC members are welcome to attend.



2013 AERC Convention Seminars

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Friday, March 8, 2013

Blind Ambition: Ethics and Drugs in Competitive Horse

Trisha Dowling, DVM, MSc, DACVM (LAIM), DACVP

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

When CSI-style analytical chemistry meets the desire to win, things can get interesting in horse sports. Starting with an exercise in ethics, this presentation will highlight the realities and controversies in drug testing, such as who is the "person responsible" and the risks of contaminated products. Dr. Dowling is a professor at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine where she does research, teaches pharmacology to veterinary students and consults with veterinarians regarding drug therapy. She provides advice to AERC, the Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency (racing) and Equine Canada regarding issues in equine drug testing. Dr. Dowling been an endurance rider since 1996 and has been on three Canadian teams for Pan American Championships and was an alternate on the Canadian WEG team.

Achieve Greater Speed, Distance and Soundness with Better Rider Biomechanics

Donna Snyder-Smith

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Many "normal" human body issues (strong side/weak side) prevent a horse from delivering a quality performance. What if you could improve your horse before you even mount up? Come find out how with long-time coach, clinician, trainer and author, Donna Snyder-Smith. Donna earned ar Tevis buckle on her very first endurance ride. Over the years, with both Arabs and Mustangs, her trainer credentials included her horses finishing over 99% of their starts. Her coaching credentials include helping endurance competitors across the nation, from local LD amateurs new to the sport to clients who have won PanAm and World medals and regional and national weight and milage awards. Her 1998 book, "The Complete Guide To Endurance Riding and Competition," is still an industry standard.

Endurance 101: A Gentle Introduction to the Sport

Aarene Storms

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

From a "stick-horse vet check" to "The Bad Idea Fairy," the author of "Endurance 101" presents a lighthearted session for newcomers and experienced riders—bring a friend and be ready to laugh. An advocate for junior riders, equestrian trails and novice endurance horse-and-rider teams, Aarene Storms has contributed numerous articles to Endurance News and other equestrian publications. She wrote "Endurance 101: a gentle guide to the sport of long-distance riding" to encourage new riders to have fun and ride safely.

Hoof Balance and Lameness Issues

Karen Hassan, DVM, DACVS

3:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Have you been following Dr. Jeanette Mero's EN articles on hoof balance? This seminar will give you even more information about the importance of hoof balance for endurance horses. More than 90% of all equine lameness originates in the lower limb, and of those, more than 90% arise in the hoof. Learn what you can do to keep your horse's hooves in balance—whether you use shoes, hoof boots or go barefoot.

Dr. Hassan practices at Eastern Sierra Equine LLC in Carson City, Nevada.

Saturday, March 9, 2013

Tying Up – Unraveling Some of the Mysteries Surrounding this Syndrome

Jeanette (Jay) Mero, DVM

8:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Current research has shed light on some of the mechanisms behind equine exertional rhabdomyolysis. Topics to be covered will include causes, including genetic heritability, what happens to the horse during a tying up episode, treatment during an episode and prevention of future tie up events. Dr. Jay Mero, chair of the AERC Veterinary Committee since 2009, started her endurance career in the Northeast, but saw the light and moved to California in 2005. She graduated from the Cornell University Veterinary School in 1994 and completed an internship in Large Animal Medicine and Surgery at the Ontario Veterinary College in 1994-95. Dr. Mero owns her own equine practice in Mariposa and rides as often as she can with her four children.

Lyme Disease in Humans and Horses

Jeannie Waldron, DVM, and Sarah Fletcher, MD

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Lyme disease is of great concern to the equine community. This seminar will give you information on what to look for in yourself and your horse—especially important since few affected horses will show clinical signs of the disease. Diagnostic tests, vaccinations and treatment options will be discussed. Dr. Waldron is an AERC Hall of Fame member for her riding (6,575 miles accumulated since joining AERC in 1985) and for her services both as a ride veterinarian and a researcher. A fellow Virginian, Dr. Fletcher is a member of the American Academy of Family Practice, with a special interest in lyme disease. She has been an AERC member since 1999, and was the 100-mile middleweight champion at the 2012 Adequan® AERC National Championship.

The Secrets to Winning Best Condition

Michele Roush, DVM

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Here's your chance to learn the mechanics of the best condition judging, how the points work, and what it takes to have a good showing. Dr. Roush will also cover how to best present your horse to the vets at all control checks, not just for the BC judging. Dr. Roush received her DVM from UC Davis in 1993, and has completed over 14,000 AERC miles. She has also competed in ride & tie and-three day eventing. She has been an International endurance competitor since 2001, represented the U.S. at the World Championships in Dubai in 2004, and won the Haggin Cup at Tevis in 2005.

Fluffy, Fuzzy and Fat Foundered Horses – Equine Metabolic Diseases

Hal Schott, DVM, PhD, ACVIM

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction (PPID), or equine Cushing's Disease, develops as a consequence of loss of hypothalamic dopaminergic neurons, with parallels to Parkinson's Disease. Dr. Schott will cover diagnosis and management of the disease as well as the disease's mysteries—why these fat horses founder remains incompletely understood. Laminitis commonly develops while at-risk horses are grazing spring and fall pasture. Dr. Schott received his DVM degree in 1984 from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, then completed a residency in equine internal medicine and a PhD in equine exercise physiology at Washington State University. Since 1995, Dr. Schott has been an equine medicine clinician at Michigan State University, and continues to pursue his research interest in fluid and electrolyte balance in endurance horses.

Times listed are subject to change. Please check leaderboards at convention, or visit the AERC registration desk.



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Three ways to register: **Mail:** AERC, P.O. Box 6027
Auburn, CA 95604 **Fax:** 530-823-7805
Visa or Mastercard **Phone:** 866-271-AERC
Visa or Mastercard

Early registration guarantees seating at Speaker Seminars and ticket availability for the National Awards Banquet. In order for your registration to be processed prior to the convention, this form must be received by AERC on or before **February 22, 2013**. All registrations received after that date will be processed at the on-site rate. Cancellations received after February 22, 2013, will be assessed \$10. Absolutely no refunds for no-shows!

On-site registration/packet pick-up: Thursday evening 4:00-7:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. at the AERC Registration Desk.

1. Registration Information

Name _____ AERC # _____ Region _____ Phone _____

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2. Registration Fees

Speaker Seminars - FRIDAY

| | Quantity | Fee | Amount |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Single | () | \$45 (\$55 for on-site registration) | \$ _____ |
| Additional Family Members | () | \$25 each (\$35 for on-site registration) | \$ _____ |

Speaker Seminars - SATURDAY

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|---|----------|
| Single | () | \$45 (\$55 for on-site registration) | \$ _____ |
| Additional Family Members | () | \$25 each (\$35 for on-site registration) | \$ _____ |

Other Activities

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---|----------|
| National Awards Banquet | () | \$40 per person (\$20 children under 12)..... | \$ _____ |
| AERC Raffle Tickets | () | \$1 each | \$ _____ |
| Friday Night Dance | () | \$10 per person | \$ _____ |
| Other: _____ | | | \$ _____ |

Note: Veterinary CE registration information will be mailed to all AERC veterinarians.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

3. Method of Payment

Check (check # _____) VISA Mastercard

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature (as it appears on your credit card) _____