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Online Registration for the NARHA National Conference

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Denver—NARHA announced today that online registration is now available on the NARHA website (www.narha.org) for the 2009 NARHA National Conference and Annual Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas November 18–21.

The NARHA National Conference is a wonderful place to get a sense of the people and horses who make equine assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) such a challenging and rewarding industry. For people who wonder if this profession is for them, this is a perfect introduction. In addition the NARHA National Conference is simply the best opportunity for EAAT professionals from all over the world to renew friendships and update their skills and knowledge.

This year NARHA will present an inspiring keynote speaker, Michael Richardson, who operates Broken R Ranch in Hico, Texas. After a paralyzing injury in a Jeep accident, Richardson turned to therapeutic riding lessons. Today Michael trains horses, coaches riders and gives clinics—all from his wheel chair.

NARHA has selected the historic Cowtown Coliseum as the venue for the NARHA Horse Expo on Saturday, November 21. According the Cowtown Coliseum website www.cowtowncoliseum.com/history.asp the facility was built to be “the largest, most elegant and perfectly appointed livestock exhibition building in the South, and without superior in the United States.”

Since its completion in 1908, the Cowtown Coliseum has showcased such luminaries as Theodore Roosevelt, Enrico Caruso, Elvis Presley, Bob Hope and Doris Day. It has also been used in the filming of numerous movies, TV shows and music videos.

From sessions on “Natural Horsemanship for Therapeutic Riding,” “Teaching an Effective Driving Lesson” and “Drill Team for Challenged Riders”-to three games forums-the day will be filled with exciting learning opportunities. Not to be missed is the exhibition of the Fort Hood Mounted



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Cavalry in 1870's period attire.

The NARHA Horse Expo, a favorite among the NARHA Conference attendees, is included in the conference registration price. Transportation to the Horse Expo from the conference hotel is included—as well as breakfast and lunch. Registration for the NARHA National Conference and Annual Meeting is open to the public. For more information and to register online, visit the NARHA website at www.narha.org.

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About NARHA:

NARHA was formed in 1969 to promote equine assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. At over 700 member centers, a total of 42,000 children and adults find a sense of independence through involvement with horses. These member centers range from small, one-person programs to large operations with several certified instructors and licensed therapists. In addition to therapeutic equitation, a center may offer any number of equine assisted activities including hippotherapy, equine facilitated mental health, driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work, or stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful equine assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. There are more than 24,000 volunteers, 2000 instructors, 5,700 therapy horses and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at NARHA centers.