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NARHA Elects New Board Members

Denver—NARHA, formerly the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, announced on November 5, 2010, the results of its board of trustees election at the 2010 NARHA National Conference and Annual Meeting. The incoming Board Members are Miyako Kinoshita, Jim Harlan, Cheryl Miller, Ross Braun, Holly Schmitt, Allyn Mann, Arlene Alen and Carlene Taylor.

Miyako Kinoshita is an Education Program Manager at Green Chimneys Farm in Brewster, NY, where she manages the internship program and is a liaison to the Green Chimneys community. Miyako worked as an Equine Program Coordinator and a Green Chimneys School faculty member for 10 years before moving into the current position. Miyako was board president of Equine Facilitated Mental Health Association until the integration of EFMHA and NARHA earlier this month.

Jim Harlan is the co-owner and President & Chief Executive Officer of MJM Global Search, Inc., an executive recruiting firm located near Denver, CO. Jim had been employed by the Arabian Horse Registry for 16 years, his last 10 years as Director of Member and Field Services.

Cheryl Miller was the founder of Agape Therapeutic Riding Resources, Inc., in Cicero, IN, and retired as its executive director in 2009. She has been the NARHA State Chair for Indiana and the Chair of the NARHA Region 4 Conference in 2009.

Ross Braun is the president of the Maryland Council of Equestrian Therapies and is a conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Ross is an accreditation visitor and a NARHA registered instructor. He has also volunteered at a number of competitions for riders with disabilities.

Holly Schmitt was exposed to horses early as a volunteer sidewalker for her mother, who is an instructor for Cincinnati Therapeutic Riding and Horsemanship. Holly is an associate veterinarian with Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Lexington, KY, where she cares for the horses at various Thoroughbred rescue groups and Central Kentucky Riding for Hope.

Allyn Mann has worked as a trainer/driver in the Standardbred industry for 12 years and worked in the animal health industry for the past 25 years. Allyn currently works at Luitpold Pharmaceuticals as the Sr. Manager of the Animal Health Division. Throughout his career, he has launched several horse medications into the equine health market.

Arlene Alen joined Northern Arizona Horses with H.E.A.R.T. as director of marketing and development. She has served on the senior management teams of several corporations. She is a multiple Emmy-nominated production designer in television and motion pictures and founded RealGraphX and eSite Solutions.

Carlene Taylor has been a licensed professional counselor in Georgia for 14 years and is nearly completion of her doctorate. Her dissertation is on the efficacy of



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equine-assisted activities and therapies. She was chair of the EFMHA Standards and Ethics Committee and has presented numerous times on theory and practice of equine-facilitated psychotherapy.

NARHA welcomes its new board members and looks forward to the board's continuing vision and leadership.

NARHA also announced its new executive committee:

President – Kathy Alm

President Elect – Kevin Hardcastle

Vice President – Heather Hoff

Secretary – Jody Enget

Treasurer – Tom Winsor

Past President – Teresa Morris

For information about NARHA, visit the website at www.narha.org.

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About NARHA:

NARHA, formerly the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, 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.