



Washington State Livestock Coalition 2016 Year in Review

Washington State Livestock Coalition
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2016 was a busy year for the Livestock Coalition, our 7th year of operation. It began with our Spring seminar on various topics on animal care. Other activities and programs focused on topics that support agriculture and livestock care. And the Coalition awarded two scholarships. Details on these activities are provided below.

Scholarships

Two scholarships were offered by the Livestock Coalition in 2016.

The \$500 **Buster Smith Scholarship** to recognize the accomplishments of Buster Smith was awarded Elizabeth Warren. She attends Washington State University where she is studying Agricultural Education.

A new \$500 Scholarship was also offered to honor the commitment to livestock provided by local veterinarian. The **Dr. Everett Macomber Scholarship** was awarded to Amy Hoium, a local high school graduate. She will attend Centralia Community College in 2016 in her studies as a veterinarian technician.

The Coalition will continue awarding scholarships to assist with post-secondary education. It will increase the value of each scholarship to \$1,000 in 2017. No Finish Line, a local business, has agreed to sponsor the Dr. Everett Macomber Scholarship for 2017. Other corporate sponsors and partners are being sought for the balance of the scholarship awards.

Seminars and clinics

The Coalition spotlighted educational activities for 2016 to assist livestock owners (and those contemplating raising animals) in areas of disease, nutrition, and general animal care.

These included:

Spring Animal Care Seminar – March (Centralia)

Equine Behavior Clinic – August (Oakville)

Care for the Aging Equine – September (Yelm)

Plans are already underway for educational offerings on several different topics in 2017 that are of interest to livestock owners.

Assistance

A temporary assistance program was one of the activities that the Coalition initiated in 2009 and continues to be a significant service to the community.

A summary of activities includes response to 12 assistance requests in 2016, 4 calls were for feed assistance which resulted in deliveries of hay and grain, 1 request for repairing/building fence to keep out a neighbor's horse, 2 requests for transporting horses (1 from the Sheriff's Office), 1 complaint regarding a skinny horse and donkey (owner did not want help).

A large effort was made to respond to 4 requests for assistance in burying horses for elderly owners, as this has been a significant problem for livestock owners unable to take care of this issue.

The Assistance Committee has also provided counseling livestock owners on a variety of topics.

Trail Ride

The Coalition's annual Prize Ride on June 18th included more than 100 riders on both the 8 mile and 15 mile courses in Capitol Forest. More than \$3,000 in prizes was distributed to participants, including a \$500 gift certificate to be used at K&S Saddlery in Spanaway. The trail ride continues to be the Coalition's primary fund-raiser, this year generating more than \$3,500 in funds for the organization.

The 2017 trail ride is scheduled for Saturday -- June 17, 2017 at the Evergreen Sportsmens Club, with the ride in Capitol Forest.

Communications

Communicating the Coalition's activities continues with a web page (www.waslico.com), a Facebook page and regular issues of our newsletter "**Across the Fence**". The website is being updated and formatted for mobile devices and future sustainability.