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Certified Horsemanship Association Offering Regional Conferences in 2017; Attendees Get Continuing Education Credits Through CHA and Other Associations

(March 2017) – For those wanting continuing education opportunities, regional conferences hosted by the Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) regions are available throughout the year for all horse enthusiasts and are open to the public. Each CHA Region offers a regional conference open to anyone wanting horsemanship education, hands-on experiences, networking opportunities, and to make social connections within the horse industry. CHA Regional Conferences are great ways to learn from top instructors, clinicians, veterinarians, farriers, and other horse industry professionals. Many of the conferences offer hands-on mounted sessions taught by CHA certified instructors. Attendance at regional conferences counts toward the 25 hours of continuing education needed for CHA recertification and for other equine associations as well.

The following regional conferences are currently scheduled and taking registrations:

REGION 5 – New York, New Jersey, Washington DC, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Maryland

This conference is scheduled for March 31-April 1, 2017, at Houghton College in Houghton, New York. Workshops are designed to help riding instructors improve teaching techniques and learn to develop an educated eye. Topics include self-evaluation, good riding position, a CHA clinic lesson, developing soft and independent hands, acclimating new horses to becoming lesson horses, side-passing, fitness for riders, and many others. Conference attendees can ride and work with the CHA presenting instructors to improve their teaching techniques and riding. Contact JoAnne Young in New York at jyoung@houghton.edu or 585-567-8142 or download the registration form at <http://www.houghton.edu/am-site/media/cha-region-5-conf.pdf>.

REGION 6 – New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Brunswick, Quebec, Newfoundland

This conference is scheduled for April 21-23, 2017, at the Essex Technical High School in Wakefield, Massachusetts, in conjunction with the American Youth Horse Council Symposium. Contact Lori Maciulewicz in Massachusetts at hideawayfarmljm@yahoo.com or 774-259-1004.

REGION 4 – Lower Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Eastern Ontario

The **Annual CHA International Conference** is scheduled for October 26-29, 2017, at the Kentucky Horse Park and the Marriott Griffin Gate Hotel in Lexington, KY, and also serves as the Region 4 Conference. Contact the CHA Corporate Office at office@CHA-ahse.org or 859-259-3399 or visit http://cha-ahse.org/store/pages/47/International_Conference.html.

The following regional conferences have already happened:

REGION 1 – British Columbia, Washington, Western Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Alberta

This conference took place February 23-26, 2017, at the Warm Beach Camp and Conference Center in Stanwood, Washington. There was a large group, with 118 in attendance from the United States and Canada. Attendees learned about equine first aid, equine-assisted learning, trailering safety, schooling figures, videography tips, setting jump courses, leadership development, grids and cavaletti exercises, groundwork, trail riding, digital marketing, vaulting, ranch pleasure, trail emergencies, and more. Next year's Region 1 Conference will be in March 2018 at Canyonview Equestrian Center and College in Silverton, Oregon.

REGION 10 – California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and Hawaii

This conference had over 30 in attendance at Fillmore Equestrian Center in Fillmore, California, March 17-18, 2017. Attendees learned about cavalry drill team, ground work, transitions and the canter, jumping, working cattle, showmanship, vaulting, bareback riding, barrels and poles, trail riding and obstacle work, and more.

For more information, visit http://cha-ahse.org/store/pages/48/Regional_Conferences.html. Additional regional conferences, as well as certification clinics and skills clinics, are added throughout the year. To get notification as events are added, please sign up for the CHA monthly email newsletter at www.CHA-ahse.org.

CHA Instructors Change Lives Through Safe Experiences with Horses. The purpose of CHA is to promote excellence in safety and education for the benefit of the horse industry. CHA certifies instructors and trail guides, accredits equestrian facilities, publishes educational manuals, produces educational horsemanship DVDs and YouTube Safety shorts, and hosts regional and international conferences. For more information on the largest certifying body of riding instructors and barn managers in North America, Certified Horsemanship Association, please visit www.CHA-ahse.org or call 859-259-3399. To find a certified horseback riding instructor or accredited equine facility near you, visit www.CHAINstructors.com.