



HETI

Federation of Horses
in Education and Therapy
International

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Changes coming to your HETI membership

At its meetings this past July, the HETI Executive Committee considered changes to its membership levels and benefits. In order to meet the needs of HETI members, they discussed expanding the current levels of membership and benefits in a way that would give members greater value for their membership. After considerable discussion the Executive Committee approved the changes below which will be implemented, beginning in January 2014. It is important to note that these changes do not represent an increase in membership prices; in fact they will **reduce the membership fee for Associate Members from \$ 110 to \$ 60.**

These changes are defined below. For ease of comparison, please refer to the table included.

Federation Member - this membership level replaces the Full Membership. This member is any organization (including for-profit organizations*) desiring to be a formative member of the HETI federation. This member has voting rights (one vote per organization, as it is currently) and full access to all materials (journal, triennial membership directory, on-line journal articles, advertising, discount for Congress, etc.). Federation Members will have a specialized area of the HETI website as well. All IEC nominees would need to be affiliated with a Federation Member, so the history, foundation, ethos and governance of HETI would be continuous.

Institute Member - this is a new membership category for colleges and universities, research institutes (physical, cognitive and emotional) and organizations, and organizations with educational and/or certification capabilities. It does not confer voting rights. These members will also have a specialized area of the HETI website. These members will receive electronic versions of materials. Institute Members can also apply to become a Federation Member if they met the criteria established by the IEC.

Business Member - This new level is for organizations, businesses and individuals who are active in equine assisted activities, therapy and education, or related fields such as an equipment vendor, or other equine service provider. This non-voting membership level would only receive publications electronically.

Associate Member - this member level is for individuals, organizations, and institutes whose interest in HETI is primarily to stay abreast of what is happening in the field of equine assisted activities. These members will not receive the journal or the directory but will be able to access information on the website.

Honorary Member - this membership is an *electronic* membership, granted by the International Executive Committee, to affiliated organizations and individuals.

This four-level membership tier allows for all levels of interest and importantly, adds a tier that is at a lower cost than the current Associate Membership, affordable to those who are no longer actively teaching, researching or governing but may still want to stay in touch with what is going on in the field on a basic level.

Membership Level	Voting Rights	Directory	Journal	Downloads	Advertising	Congress Discount
Federation \$550	Yes	Hard copy	Hard copy	Free	Free	Yes
Institute \$250	No	Hard copy	Hard copy	Free	Fee	No
Business \$150	No	Electronic	Electronic	No	Fee	No
Associate \$60	No	Electronic	Electronic	No	Fee	No
Honorary	No	Electronic	Electronic	No	Fee	No

Questions about your membership? Please contact the HETI office at office@hetifederation.org

From the Director

Dear Friends,

Your HETI Board had a busy summer. Meeting via Skype rather than flying everyone in to one location proved a very efficient means of getting our work done. We were able to accomplish a great deal during two Saturdays in July. I am grateful to be working with such a dedicated, energized group of colleagues and I value their personal and professional support.

The fruits of that labor are the main

Grant to Support Research on Equine Programs Serving Veterans with PTSD/TBI.

Chagrin Falls, OH - September 25, 2013: The Caisson Platoon Equine Assisted Program, which serves the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in the city of

topic of this newsletter. We hope that by revising our membership structure, we are making HETI even more relevant.

As always, I want all our members to feel welcome at all times to submit articles and important dates of workshops etc. for inclusion in this newsletter as well as the [International Calendar](#) on our website. Our goal is to keep our members well informed about educational opportunities.

And I also invite you to visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HETI.international and click on 'Like' to receive our newest updates.

Sincerely yours,
Gisela Rhodes
Executive Director

From the President

Dear Members,

I hope this autumn season finds you all well and meaningfully engaged in your equine work!

As Gisela noted above, this summer our Board undertook many initiatives, among them a revamping of our membership categories. These changes were arrived at following a period of careful, methodical deliberation. They were created out of a desire to promote inclusiveness and to strengthen our membership base, a vital ingredient to a healthy organization. In the coming months you will be hearing news of enhanced features on our website. We feel very strongly our mission to disseminate information to all our members and this will be one of a series of steps we are taking in that direction.

As we move towards our Congress in Taiwan in 2015, we have every hope of meeting or exceeding our members' expectations. We have never forgotten that HETI is a membership organization and serves its members.

Thank you all for your support.

Cordially,

Ann O'Shallie
President

Bethesda, Maryland, donated a \$10,000 challenge grant to the [Horses and Humans Research Foundation](#)

(HHRF). This fund is designated to help address a serious and growing problem in the United States: untreated

mental health problems among returning troops. The research will focus on equine-assisted rehabilitation for veterans who have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).



Photo: Suzanne Dortch

The Caisson Platoon Equine Assisted Programs, co-founded by Mary Jo Beckman, Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired) and Larry D. Pence Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army (Retired), uniquely utilize the help of the caisson military horses (noted for their participation in military ceremonies). Beckman said supporting research is critical to the future of these programs; "We look forward to equine-assisted activities being recognized as a valuable treatment for both TBI and PTSD."

Two of the leading diagnoses among returning troops are PTSD and/or TBI, with 300,000 Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans suffering from PTSD or major depression, and about 320,000 experiencing at least a mild concussion or TBI in combat, according to a RAND Corp. study. These and other mental health issues are expected to cost the U.S. up to \$6.2 billion over two years in medical costs, lost productivity, and lives lost to suicide.

According to Pence, "fewer than 1% of the American population serves in our military. We send them off around the world to do what our nation asks them to do. When they come back less than whole, it's not an Army problem, a Marine problem or a Navy problem. It is an American problem. We have a responsibility to make them whole again, to find them treatments that do it best. The research becomes extremely urgent and extremely important. A person who lost their left arm, we know how to deal with that; prosthetics have improved several times over in last 12 years, as it always does in times of war. We know much less about how to deal with TBI and PTSD - the brain is such a complex and marvelous machine. We need the research to show the rest of the world the statistics regarding the effectiveness of these equine programs. It will help lead many more veterans into this direction."

Horses and Humans Research Foundation is the only organization dedicated solely to funding research to



support the equine-assisted activities and therapies field. To learn more about this and other Horses and Humans Research Foundation projects please email info@horsesandhumans.org or visit <http://www.horsesandhumans.org>.

Former HETI President Wins Canadian Award

Gillian Lawrence, past president of HETI (then-FRDI) has been awarded the Caring Canadian Award, to be presented David Johnston, the Governor General of Canada, in recognition of his contribution to the community. The Caring Canadian Award, which was established by the former Canadian Governor General Roméo LeBlanc, recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a "smart and caring nation."

New Full Members

HETI is very pleased to welcome Maria Liga and **HETRICS: Hellenic Therapeutic Riding**, and **Qi Zhi Vocational Training Center** of Taiwan as our newest Full Members.

Journal News

The Scientific and Educational Journal of Therapeutic Riding is in production now and will be released in early 2014. Thank you for your patience!