

AMC Extension Committee and University of Minnesota Extension Citizens Advisory Committee August 27, 2008

The committees met jointly at the University of Minnesota Equine Center located on the St. Paul campus. Dr. Bev Durgan, Extension Dean, welcomed the group to campus. Sharon Josephson, Chair - Extension Citizen's Advisory Committee and Commissioner Marcia Ward, Chair of the AMC Extension Committee greeted committee members and guests.

The group toured the equine facility with Dr. Krishona Martinson to learn more about the link between equine research and Extension outreach in Minnesota. An example of an equine outreach program is the horse equine days where horse owners learn more about: Poisonous Plants, Colic, Hoof Care, Rehabilitation, Pasture Management, Disaster Preparation, Fly and Pest Control, Vaccinations and Deworming, Dentistry, Vitamins and Minerals, Research Updates, Hoof Care, Lameness, 1st Aid. Link to extension horse resources: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/horse/>

Equine Center Background: The unique design of the Equine Center provides a functional high-tech space for performance and lameness examinations and reproduction therapies. With its indoor arena, high speed treadmill, digital radiography, and access to bone, CT, and soon MRI scans, the Center allows an unprecedented examination of a horse's performance, facilitating detection of subtle abnormalities. The Center's creative design allows for future expansion so that the entire equine program can be incorporated into the facility. Photo of facility below:



The next segment of the program entitled "A Snapshot of Effective Volunteerism in Extension" outlined the impact of volunteers in program delivery in:

- Extension Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Volunteer Programs: Master Naturalist, Master Gardener and Woodland Advisor programs.
- 4-H volunteerism with a focused look at the metro youth program.

Committee members were then transported to the 4-H building at the Minnesota State Fair to view the state fair arts in performance and to receive an update on 4-H programs and participation numbers. Next meeting AMC Extension Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 8, 2008 at the AMC Annual Conference in Duluth, Minnesota.