

Anti-Soring Leader Releases Series on the History of Tennessee Walking Horse Abuse, PAST Act, & USDA Regulations

It's time for everyone to lay down their swords and get something practical done to alleviate the pain that's scourged show horses for more than half a century

SHELBYVILLE, TENNESSEE , USA, March 22, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Animal Wellness Action has released the fifth and final in a series of articles published by Washington, D.C.'s [Patch.com](https://www.patch.com) that walk readers in the equine industry and animal protection space through the six-decade-long plague of soring that's marred the American show horse world since the 1950s.



Marty Irby rides Carbon Princess in an early morning workout in March of 1984 at the Walking Horse Trainers Show in Atlanta, Georgia (Photo credit: Irby family archives)

Soring is the intentional infliction of pain to horses' front limbs by means of applying caustic chemicals such as croton oil or kerosene, or by cutting the horses' hooves down to the bloodline, known as "the quick" and then driving nails into that soft tissue, making it hurt when they touch the ground in order to achieve an artificial high-stepping gait known as the "Big Lick."

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Marty Irby, executive director at Animal Wellness Action

The series, authored by [Marty Irby](#), executive director at Animal Wellness Action, a past president of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' & Exhibitors' Association, and former 8-time world champion rider and driver who was recently honored by Her Majesty, [Queen Elizabeth](#), II for his work to end soring opens with a short piece and general

overview of the issue and transitions through the history of the practice and breed, and the past decades of attempts to end soring that continue to be thwarted by parties on both sides of the

issue.

"It's time for everyone to lay down their swords and get something practical done to alleviate the pain that's scourged these horses for more than half a century," wrote Marty Irby in his final comments of the series. "This is not that hard. Lawmakers who have led on this issue and the key stakeholders just need to get together and recognize that 90 percent of the loaf is better than no loaf at all."

The series of articles can be found below at the hyperlinks to Patch.com:

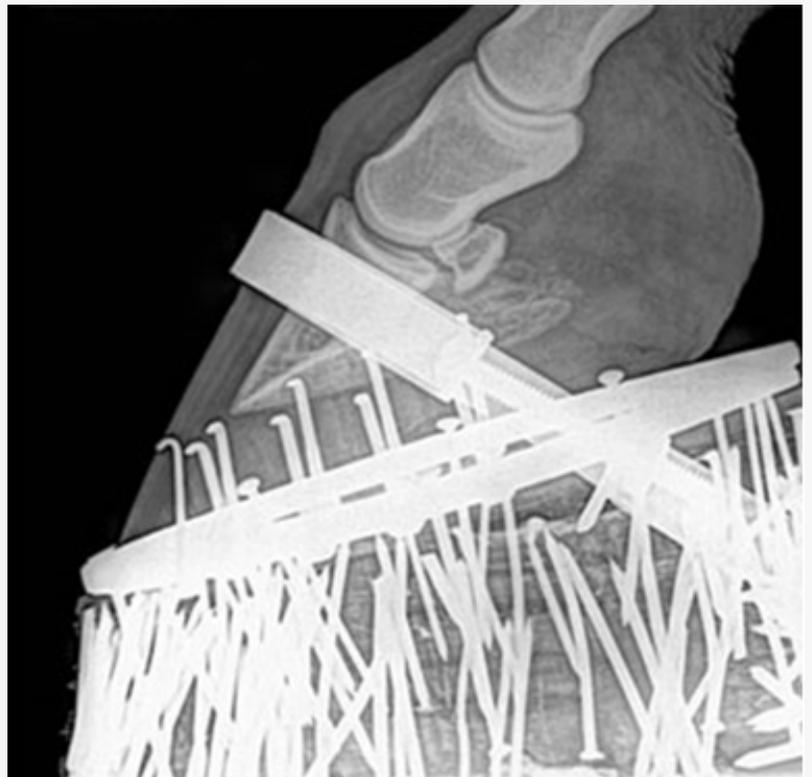
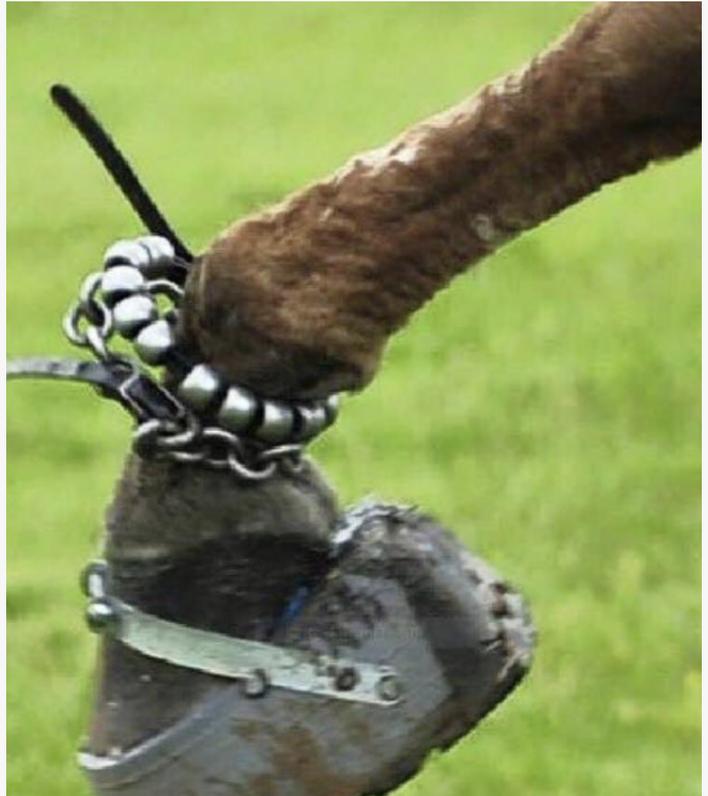
Horse Shows Where 'Big Lick' Abuse Runs Rampant Begin Soon: <https://patch.com/district-columbia/washingtondc/horse-shows-where-big-lick-abuse-runs-rampant-begin-soon-nodx>

Big Lick Animal Cruelty: 'The Gloves Are Off Now': <https://patch.com/district-columbia/washingtondc/x-nodx>

Big Lick Animal Cruelty: Win One for Joe: <https://patch.com/district-columbia/washingtondc/big-lick-animal-cruelty-win-one-joe-nodx>

Big Lick Animal Cruelty: Oliver Potts & USDA's Regulatory Debacle: <https://patch.com/district-columbia/washingtondc/big-lick-animal-cruelty-oliver-potts-usdas-regulatory-debacle-nodx>

Big Lick Animal Cruelty: PAST Act Compromise Will End Soring: <https://patch.com/district-columbia/washingtondc/big-lick-animal-cruelty-walking-horse-trainers-ride-tonight-nodx>



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Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, II Recognizes Marty Irby | Photo: Craig Swanson Design



1992 Tennessee Walking Horse 2-Year-Old World Grand Champion JFK | Photo Credit: David Pruett

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