

June

Kentucky Horse.org

A Publication of the Kentucky Horse Council

Kentucky Horse.org

June 2009

The KentuckyHorse.org
is a publication of the
Kentucky Horse Council.

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Kentucky
Horse
Council



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The Kentucky Horse Council's office is located on the UK Coldstream Research Campus, in the Lexel Building (white building in the picture). The Lexel Building is located at the corner of Newtown & Citation, just south of I75 & I64.

OUR MISSION: The Kentucky Horse Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated, through education, to the protection, growth and development of the equine industry in Kentucky.

We are a collaboration of horse owners and enthusiasts within the state of Kentucky who realize that much more can be accomplished as a group of interested equestrians and owners, than any one of us can do alone.

The Horse Council is multi-breed and multi-discipline oriented; we support and assist every equine endeavor and breed from miniature horses to draft horses; race horses to backyard pets; 4-H and Pony Club participants; and individuals who are professionals in an equine business as well as those who enjoy their horses for a hobby and relaxation.

Whatever your interest is in Kentucky horses, we are there for you! We depend on membership to carry our organization and we return your membership fees in the form of scholarships, grants and benefits to horseowners.

Notes from the KHC President

There is much on my mind these days and as I have had plenty of time mowing, I have also had plenty of time to organize my thoughts enough to share some with you.

Lately there has been a great deal of media coverage about excessive spending, especially credit card use, by directors and boards of non-profits. Let me assure there is no danger of that with the Kentucky Horse Council. I have a KHC credit card as do Ginny (Executive Director) and Essie (Director, Education and Welfare). My card is used primarily when I travel to Washington, DC every June and to the fall State Horse Council Advisory Committee meeting. Occasionally I also use my visa for meetings or to pay expenses directly related to horse council events.

Ginny and Essie use their cards for hotels and meals while traveling and expenses as required for seminars, etc. I review the credit card statement every month and can assure you that I look at every line

item. I also sign checks generated by the KHC bookkeeper and compare those amounts to the budget. I take my fiduciary role very seriously and welcome your questions should you have any.

I also have been thinking about the classes we offer to our members. We are presenting some excellent classes yet they are not always well attended. I recently participated in a program on marketing and was disappointed to have fewer than half a dozen in attendance.

Are we selecting programs not of general interest or are we offering them at bad times or locations? We put 100% of membership dollars back into programs for members including newsletters, directories, classes, etc. Are those dollars being put to the best use for you? Please let me know.

Have you seen our new DVD *HorseSmarts: Essential Advice for Today's Horse Owner*? It is airing on KET affiliates throughout the state and can be purchased on our website. If you know of a place in your area where it should be sold, please let us know.

And finally, it is with regret that I advise you of the loss of two members of our board of directors. Time restraints keep them both from continuing their work with the KHC. LaTonna Wilson has been an asset to the welfare committee. She's also been instrumental in the development of the Kentucky Large Animal Rescue group. Dr. Bob Coleman has also found that demands on his time preclude active engagement with the Kentucky Horse Council. Bob, as I am sure you know, has been very involved with the development of the UK Equine Initiative and as it is a thriving program feels his attention must be focused there. We sincerely thank both of these outgoing board members and will look forward to working with them again time permitting. Now – back to riding – the mower that is!

Madelyn Millard
KHC President

From the Director's Chair...

HORSES ARE LIVESTOCK? NO THEY AREN'T! YES THEY ARE!



Anyone in the horse business has no doubt in their mind that horses are livestock. And here's what the dictionary says: "*–noun (used with a singular or plural verb) the horses, cattle, sheep, and other useful animals kept or raised on a farm or ranch.*"

I had an interesting experience the other day. It reminded me, in painful reality, that the horse industry has a NAME and IMAGE problem – with our own Agricultural brethren.

I was in a meeting involving representatives of a number of food animal interests. (You know, cattle, dairy, hogs, chickens, beef...) The Kentucky Horse Council is participating in this group because we know that many farm issues that affect food animals affect horse farmers as well. But in discussing the name for a new program, the word LIVESTOCK was used, and the (food animal) person sitting next to me said,

"But that will leave out the horses"

To which I replied "No it won't."

HIM: "Yes it will, if we use the word livestock."

ME: "Horses ARE Livestock."

HIM: "No they're not."

ME: "Yes they are."

HIM: "Well, not according to the laws of Kentucky."

ME: "It depends on which law you're looking at."

And therein lies the rub.

Horses are UNDOUBTEDLY livestock. How could they be anything else when they live in a barn or pasture [not our homes], produce a lot of manure, require animal husbandry to manage, are a production animal, and horse farms consume all the products and services of any livestock operation: buildings, equipment, feed, transportation....

I am preaching to the choir in this newsletter. But we have a lot of work to do with our friends in the food animal business.

Do they see us as "one of them", who can be a powerful ally in fighting the threats to farming?

Do we need to change our attitudes as well, and look at cattle, goat, sheep and chicken farmers as "one of us" who can assist in keeping the equine industry alive?

Now back to mucking stalls.

Ginny Grubb
Executive Director

Meet Our Members



Dancer, Denise, & Kira

KHC Members: Be a part of "Meet Our Members!" Email your pic & info to: info@kentuckyhorse.org with the subject line of: "Meet Our Members."



Morgan & Moonstar

Member's Name: Denise Anderson
County: Warren
Horse's Name: Evil's Moonlight Dancer ("Dancer")
Age of Horse: 13
Breed: Tennessee Walking Horse/Spotted Saddle Horse
What do you like to do with your horse: Trail riding, groundwork, just hanging out and playing together
Horse's Favorite Springtime Activity: Grazing & getting scratched
Fun Fact about your horse: Bananas are his all-time favorite treat and some of his best friends are dogs (even though some of the dogs clearly feel he's a bit large to be their close pal)

Member's Name: Morgan Jeanette Askins (Morgan)
County: Warren
Horse's Name: Timid Moon Star
Age of Horse: 16
Breed: Quarter Horse
What do you like to do with your horse: Trail ride, 4-H shows, 4-H horse camps, open horse shows, American Ranch Horse Shows, & teach friends to ride
Horse's Favorite Springtime Activity: Camp & Trail ride with Mom, Annette Stansbury, & Jessie Stansbury
Fun Fact about your horse: She always tries her hardest & loves to participate in Obstacle Trail Classes.

KHC Association News

RAINHILL EQUINE FACILITY – BRIDGET'S STORY: A BEAUTIFUL MARE FINDS A HOME WITH THE HELP OF THE KENTUCKY HORSE COUNCIL.

Bridget's story starts out like so many stories you hear in the news today. Horses abandoned or in Bridget's case, stolen. Marcella Harris, Harlan County Humane Society, became involved with Bridget, then called Black Beauty, as a cruelty case in March 2008. The blind mare had been stolen from her home and hidden across a ravine after walking on a swinging bridge. When Black Beauty was found, she was very thin since the thieves had been feeding her cabbage leaves. In an attempt to walk her back over the bridge, she fell off the bridge and back down into the ravine. She had cuts over her body, but fortunately had not sustained any broken bones. However, the cuts were severe enough that the vet recommended not moving her for at least two weeks. The legal owner of the mare surrendered her to the Humane Society.

When Black Beauty was ready for a new home, Marcella called the Kentucky Horse Council inquiring about any rescue organization that would accept a blind horse. Essie Rogers referred her to Karen Thurman at Rainhill Equine



Facility. Rainhill, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is a 185 acre farm in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The facility specializes in blind and other physically handicapped horses. Marcella immediately contacted Karen who agreed to take the mare. A friend of Karen's, Elisabeth Arvin, paid for the gas and a truck rental to bring Black Beauty to the farm.

Needless to say, on her arrival at Rainhill, the black mare was not a beauty and so, after her experience with a bridge, the mare was renamed Bridget. She was still thin and clearly afraid of what was happening to her now. Her face told the real tale of her experience. You could read the look to say "where am I now and what is going to happen to me?". Bridget was placed in a stall in the main barn. Day by day you could see her relax and again her face told her story. Fear was replaced by hope and then hope replaced by happiness and joy. She was also fortunate to meet Jim Webb the day after arriving at the farm. He immediately decided he wanted to sponsor the mare. To Jim Webb, she is a true beauty and to her, he is her knight in shining

(Continued on Page 7)

Industry News



UPDATES FROM THE AMERICAN HORSE COUNCIL

Action alert: The AHC needs your help to save the Recreational Trails Program: The AHC is working to preserve the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program. If Congress does not take action this year this program could no longer be available to recreational riders. The RTP provides funding directly to the states for recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. It was created in 1991 as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. The RTP will have to be re-authorized in the next national

surface transportation program bill if it is to continue.

The AHC urges all recreational riders to contact Congress and voice support for this program and let them know this program is important to the horse community. You can download a sample letter from the AHC website that can be used as a starting point for a letter to your Representative and Senators. You should personalize it with information about yourself and your state trails. Please Fax or Email it to your Representatives or Senators because regular mail must go through a long security process. Contact information for your Representatives and Senators can be found at <http://www.house.gov/> and <http://www.senate.gov/>. Please send copies of any emails, letters or faxes you provide to your Representatives or Senators to the AHC at bpendergrass@horsecouncil.org or fax to 202 2961970. If you have any questions please contact the AHC.



AHC Issues Forum to Focus on Welfare of Horse: The Forum, which will feature speakers from segments of the horse community as varied as competition, sport, work and entertainment, will be held June 16, 2009 in Washington, DC as part of the AHC's annual meeting. More information on this Forum and the entire AHC annual meeting, including registration and hotel information, can be found on the AHC's website, www.horsecouncil.org.

American Horse Council
Phone 202-296-4031 · Fax 202-296-1970
Email: AHC@horsecouncil.org · Web Address: www.horsecouncil.org

UPDATES FROM THE ALLTECH FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES



Alltech FEI
World Equestrian Games
Kentucky 2010

2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games Launches vineyard vines® Tie To Benefit Kentucky Horse Park Foundation: The Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games Tie by vineyard vines®, commissioned by Louisville retailer Parallel 38, launched during the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. The tie is available for purchase at Parallel 38's retail store in Louisville.

The custom tie features the repeated design of the exciting horse head from the 2010 Games logo and a horseshoe. Available in red, royal blue, pink and green, the tie will sell for \$95 with \$10 from the sale of each tie benefiting the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation. Supplies are limited, so customers may pre-order ties now by calling 1-866-392-9375 or visiting www.parallel38.com. For more information about the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation, please visit www.khpfoundation.com.



Reining Test Event Kicks Off 2010 Activities : The World Games 2010 Foundation will begin activities for the much anticipated 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games this summer when the Kentucky Cup Reining –the official test event for the discipline of Reining—will slide into the new indoor arena at the



Shawn Flarida and Tinsel Nic
2006 FEI Masters Champions

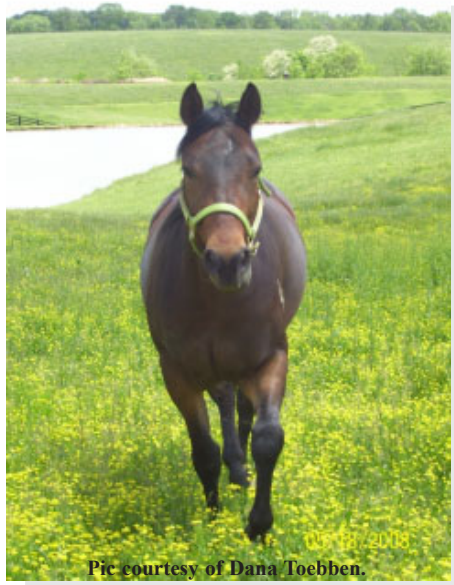
Kentucky Horse Park this July. The Kentucky Cup Reining will be held this July with the Nation's Cup competition scheduled for July 21st and the Individual Final scheduled for July 23rd.

Nations expected to field teams include Brazil, Canada, Dominican Republic, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Switzerland and the United States. Additionally, many nations are anticipated to send athletes for the individual competition, including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, The Netherlands, France, Spain, and Uruguay. Reining superstars like Tim McQuay, Rudi Kronsteiner, Shawn Flarida, Duane Latimer, Pete Kyle, Matt Mills, and Craig Schmersal are currently qualifying for their national team.

Continuous Learning

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS FROM THE KENTUCKY HORSE COUNCIL

The Kentucky Horse Council is pleased to offer the following courses:



So You Want to Own a Horse? is a two hour overview of the considerations to be made before purchasing a horse and responsibilities involved with horse ownership. Taught classroom style and offered at no charge to groups of 15 or more.

Is Your Horse too Fat? is a two and a half hour hands-on class which teaches participants how to use the Henneke Chart for assigning body condition scores to horses. The first hour of the class is in the classroom with PowerPoint presentations. Participants will have the opportunity to practice determining body condition scores using the Henneke System. Minimum of 10 participants, maximum of 25 (for hands-on portions). Fee for the class is \$10 KHC members, \$15 non-members.

Trail Etiquette is a thirty minute seminar that includes strategies for safe, fun trail riding for riders of all ages and abilities. There is no charge to KHC Association Members for the Trail Etiquette course.

Identifying Equine Neglect is a two hour seminar which covers the volunteer role in supporting law enforcement efforts to investigate equine neglect. Participants learn about strategies for working with law enforcement officers, re-feeding the starving horse, and veterinary care for the neglected horse. 10 participants required to hold the class. Fees are \$15 each as part of a group booking, \$20 all others.

Classes can be held at almost any location and will be publicized to KHC members and the local media by the Kentucky Horse Council.

To schedule a training in your area or for more information please contact Essie Rogers at erogers@kentuckyhorse.org or 859-367-0509.



Health & Welfare

ASK THE EXPERTS

Q “With construction and thus the availability of wood shavings down (and concomitant increases in price), I am looking for good bedding alternatives.

Environmental friendliness is a serious consideration, together with availability here in Kentucky and, of course, price. What are some of our choices and what are their pros and cons?”

Denise in Bowling Green

A Dear Denise,
For many horse owners, the bedding of choice will reflect what is readily available and cost effective. In parts of Kentucky the availability of wood products is very good because of the local lumber industry. Horse owners may use shavings or sawdust from a local mill. In some cases all the horse owner needs to do is go and pick the material up from the mill. Which bedding you would use may be based on your personal preference or just what is available. There are companies that will deliver bulk loads of bedding but that means the horse owner needs suitable storage to take a large load.

Bagged shavings are also an option but this has been in limited supply due to the reduction in the construction industry and the cost has gone up.

Other bedding alternatives that could be considered are the pelleted wood products which work well and may not require as much of the material when bedding a stall. This reduced daily use can result in some cost savings. Horse owners may be surprised at the amount needed to bed a stall.

Other alternatives are the different paper or cardboard bedding materials. These products are dust free and very absorbent. Determining how much to use and a source of this material will be something horse owners will need to look into.

The bedding choice is going to come down to what is available that is absorbent, easy to use and cost effective. How can you dispose of the soiled bedding will also come into the decision. Most products can be composted but the amount of time required for the muck to break down will be a factor of the bedding type. Some of the newer alternatives have not been looked at in regards to composting.

The choices in Kentucky range from the traditional straw, or the various wood products, paper or cardboard or peat moss. What is available locally and what will work in your barn becomes the most critical components of your decision. For disposal of the muck horse owners should consider composting and they can contact their local extension office for information on how to compost horse muck.

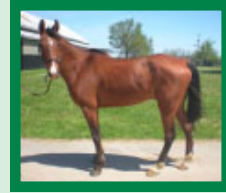
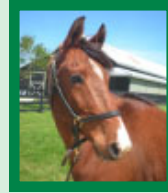
Bob

MEET THE EXPERT



Dr. Bob Coleman is the Extension Horse Specialist for the Department of Animal and Food Sciences at the University of Kentucky. He is responsible for the Equine Extension Program in the Department which encompasses adult education activities such as Horse College.

The Adoption Corner



Domani is a very fun horse who gets along with other geldings. He is very easy to handle and groom. He is a beautiful mover and has been ridden while at KyEHC. Domani is very willing to please but he will require an experienced rider.

Saddlebred • Gelding • Bay

6-Year-Old • 15.2 hh



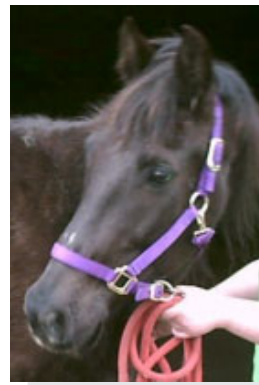
Every horse has an owner. Every owner has a responsibility.

Farm Hours:

3rd Saturday of Each
Month from 10am to 3pm
or by Appointment

www.kyehc.org

(Rainhill Equine Facility: Bridget's Story: Continued from Page 4)



armor. During every visit, the love between them grows. Bridget now lives in a paddock with a best friend, Shorty. But as soon as Mr. Webb arrives on the farm, all he has to do is call her and she makes her way to the fence for her treats of apples, carrots, and of course Little Debbie Oatmeal Pies. Today, Bridget is a beautiful, healthy, and very happy mare with friends, both equine and human.

Without the help of the Harlan County Humane Society and the Kentucky Horse Council, her story might not have had such a happy ending.

Many of the horses at Rainhill Equine Facility have similar stories. But at Rainhill, each horse is just as special as any champion show horse or winning race horse. Each is loved and cherished. Come visit the farm and feel the love in the air. You will not be sorry you made the trip. To arrange a tour, please contact Karen Thurman at 270-777-3164 or Sandra Webb at 270-784-1874. More information on the facility can be found at rainhillrescue.com.

Health & Welfare



- Adoptable Horses from Local Rescue Organizations
- Live & Silent Auction
- Food & Entertainment

**Saturday,
June 27, 4:30PM
Kentucky Horse Park**

KENTUCKY HORSE PARK

John Henry Memorial

EQUINE ADOPTION FAIR



All proceeds will benefit the Kentucky Horse Council's "Save Our Horses" fund which provides emergency food and veterinary care for Kentucky's homeless and at-risk horses.

859-259-4209
KyHorsePark.com

Join the Kentucky Horse Park for the Second Annual John Henry Memorial Equine Adoption Fair!

We'll have adoptable horses representing a variety of breeds from local rescue organizations, a live and silent of auction of merchandise, food, entertainment, a retraining seminar, and a chance to network with lots of equine rescue groups to find the perfect horse for you.

All proceeds benefit the Kentucky Horse Council's "Save Our Horses" (SOHO) fund, which provides emergency food and veterinary care for abused, neglected and at-risk horses across the state of Kentucky.

The public is invited. No admission fee.

We are seeking high-quality auction items. If you would consider donating an item or a service, please contact Judy Miller at hayjude@alltel.net.

Cash donations are also greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible.

Please make checks payable to the Save Our Horses Fund, c/o Kentucky Horse Council, 1500 Bull Lea, Lexington, KY 40511.

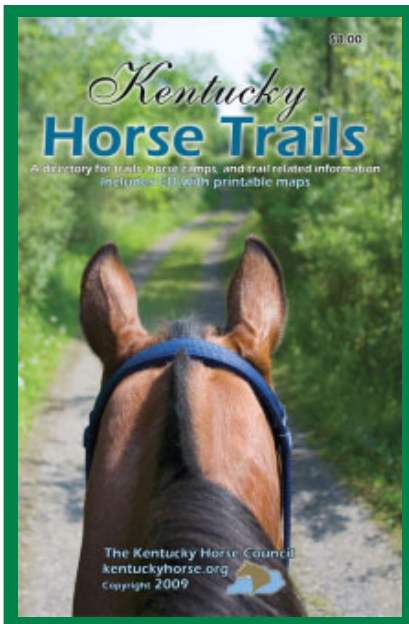
For more information, visit www.kentuckyhorse.org/SOHO_describe.shtml.

Trail News

NEW! 2009 KENTUCKY HORSE COUNCIL TRAILS DIRECTORY

The first 2009 Kentucky Horse Council Trails Directory will be available June 10th, 2009. This equine trails directory is the first of its kind here in Kentucky, and will quickly become a necessary resource for those who wish to ride and enjoy the beautiful trails found across the state.

The trails directory will be broken into regions using the existing Area Development District areas. The directory will also include a CD with printable maps for many of the trails listed.



The cost for the trails directory is \$6.00 for KHC members & \$8 for Non-Members. To pre-order a Trails Directory using a credit card or PayPal account, visit www.kytrailriding.com. Your name will be held in a mailing list and you will receive the directory within a week after they become available.

CELEBRATE KENTUCKY TRAILS JULY 11TH AT GREENBO LAKE STATE PARK

Greenbo Lake State Park is the location for the statewide trail ride to Celebrate Kentucky Trails. Initiated by and supported by the Beshear administration, First Lady Jane Beshear will be joining all who ride that day. Greenbo Lake State Park, situated in the northeast corner of Kentucky, features 300-acre Greenbo Lake and 13 miles of wooded horse trails. If you haven't ridden yet at Greenbo, now is the time to give it a try! Support all of our Kentucky Trails with a good turnout for the Greenbo Lake State Park staff, our First Lady, and the Tourism Cabinet. More event details will be released in June. Sign up for the trails email list at kytrailriding.com to make sure you receive all the information you need, or go to kentuckyhorse.com and look at the trail calendar for more information about the ride.

UPCOMING TRAIL EVENTS:

For more details, visit www.kytrailriding.com.

June

6: NATIONAL TRAILS DAY. COMPREHENSIVE LISTING OF TRAIL ACTIVITIES ON THIS IMPORTANT DAY ARE LISTED BELOW. If your event is not listed, please send it to us at trails@kentuckyhorse.org.

6: Mammoth Cave Equine Trail Riders Association Benefit Trail Ride: Maple Springs Campground at Mammoth Cave National Park.

6: Shaker Village of KY Adventure Day: includes Trail Ride hosted by Fort Harrod Back Country Horsemen, and Lunch & Learn hosted by the Kentucky Horse Council, featuring Buck Winburn with the topic "Don't Leave Home Without It: What to Carry on the Trail".

6: American Red Cross Mid-East KY Chapter is hosting a fundraiser trail ride at Murder Branch Trail.

6: Western KY Back Country Horsemen ride at Higgonson-Henry WMA in Union County.

5-6: Broken Trail Horse Club trail ride: Cancelled.

11: Meeting for Clay Wildlife Back Country Horsemen: 7PM at the Vice Center.

11: Fort Harrod Back Country Horsemen Annual Meeting: 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Mercer County Extension Office.

12-14: D BAR K Horse Camp All Cowgirl Weekend.

19-20: The Daniel Boone Distance Riders are putting on The Kentucky Stampede: an Endurance Ride.

19-21: KTRA's Extreme Cowboy Challenge & camping weekend at D Bar K Horse Camp, Mammoth Caves!

19-22: TREK Summer Trail Ride at Mammoth Cave Horse Camp.

27: Jefferson Memorial Forest Trails Work Day, 9-2.

July

3-5: "Independence Day Celebration Campout and Trailride", hosted by The Women On The Edge.

10-12: Northern Kentucky Horse Network Trail Ride & Campout, Midwest Trail Ride, Norman, IN.

11: Poker Run and BBQ! Taylorsville Lake State Park, 10am, \$15.00.

17-18: National Forest Chain Saw Certification Class.

25: Jefferson Memorial Forest Trails Work Day, 9-2.

Send your trail ride listings to trails@kentuckyhorse.org.

SELECTING A RIDING INSTRUCTOR

If your child is begging you for horseback riding lessons, or if you are in need of some lessons yourself, please read on.

There are many factors to consider when choosing a riding instructor, the first of which is clarification of your goals. Are you interested in learning about all aspects of horsemanship, or just actual riding? Is your dream to trail ride with your friends and family, or have a successful career in showing horses? Do you want to ride English or Western, do you want to jump, perform dressage or reining patterns, run barrels.....the possibilities are seemingly endless. Make sure the instructor you choose is proficient in the discipline you are interested in pursuing.

One way to evaluate a potential instructor is certification. There are several organizations that certify riding instructors, some of them very discipline specific and some more generalized. All certification programs involve some level of evaluation by professionals in the equine industry, with different levels of proficiency assigned to the instructor. Look for certification programs that stress safety and correct education. Ask for documentation of certification and follow up on the validity with the organization that issued it.

Consider the age of the instructor. Your thirteen year old neighbor might be an experienced rider, but may lack the maturity and judgment necessary to keep riders safe. Most certifications have the minimum age for riding instructors as eighteen.

In addition to age, experience is an important factor. Many knowledgeable instructors have gained "experiential learning" along the way and have developed very effective teaching techniques as well as sound safety protocols. It is a reasonable question to ask how long a person has been teaching riding and whether they do it full time or if it is a side business. While not always indicative of excellence, if they have been at it for a long time they probably have some measure of competence.

Depending on your goals, you will want to decide if you want an instructor or a coach. The difference is: one will teach you in many aspects of horsemanship and one will help you hone your skills for a show career in a specific discipline. If your calling is the thrill of the show world the coach's previous successes will be important to look at. While producing preceding winners doesn't guarantee your lessons will lead to a place on the Olympic team, it might help prove an established record of success with the right talent on the part of the rider. If, on the other hand, you dream of the joys of a mutually satisfactory relationship with your horse while meandering down the trail, or perhaps using riding as an enjoyable exercise, you should seek out an instructor who can teach you without the pressures of success, but rather accomplishment. The personality of the instructor must be a good fit for the student for it to be a successful endeavor-pay close attention to how the instructor interacts with you or your child during introductions.

One of the most important aspects of riding should be safety. Inquire about a prospective instructor's accident record. Ask other clients about it and request to observe some lessons. If your instincts tell you it looks unsafe then it probably is. While there is an inherent risk in all equine activities, a good instructor has taken strong measures to mitigate the potential for injury and their safety record and reputation will reflect this. Ask if they carry liability insurance and if they are certified in 1st Aid/CPR.



Member Amy Keach, from Keach Performance Horses in Bagdad, KY, sent this picture in of Drew and Zip.

If you are traveling to the instructor's facility for lessons take a close look around. Is it in good repair and clean, neat and void of junk? Is the arena suitable for the lessons taught in it (small enough that beginners can't get too far away from the instructor, large enough for the advanced rider to perform faster maneuvers), free of unused obstacles, constructed of suitable materials and of a suitable height (at least 3 ½ feet tall for beginners)? Do the horses appear healthy, in good flesh and well cared for? Are there horses that are suitable in training, size and disposition? Is the tack (saddles and bridles) suitable in size and clean, in good repair and stored in an organized fashion?

The level of professionalism of an instructor is an important factor to consider. Do they return emails/phone calls; do they refrain from cell phone use during lessons; does their appearance and presentation encourage your confidence?

As with any business, you should ask for references and check with the Better Business Bureau. Also ask for a written policy about cost, cancellations, refunds, lesson rescheduling, attire requirements, release forms and rules.

Selecting a riding instructor for you or your child is an important decision and it is advisable to take your time to find just the right one. While instructor certification does not guarantee a perfect fit for you, it is an assurance that he or she has been evaluated by other professionals.

Polly Haselton Barger is the Program Director for the Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA). The purpose of CHA is to promote excellence in safety and education for the benefit of the entire horse industry by certifying instructors, accrediting equine facilities and publishing educational resources. You can visit their website at www.CHA-ahse.org for more information or search www.CHAinstructors to find a certified instructor in your area.

KHC Business & Farm Members

Byars Equine Advisory, LLC

Dr. T. Douglas Byars, DVM, Dipl ACVIM, AVECC

2183 Iron Works Rd
Georgetown, KY 40324

TDByarsEqA@aol.com

Cell: (859) 621-0223

Office: (502) 867-7299 or (877) 867-7299

Fax: (502)867-7285 or (877) 867-7285



McGuire Training Stable

Reining Horses

Training • Sales • Lessons

860 E. Leestown Rd.
Midway, KY 40347

Phone: (859) 846-9446

Fax: (859) 846-9765

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Volunteers

Interested in volunteering?

The Kentucky Horse Council, along with other equine organizations, are looking for a few good men! And women! And children!

A new webpage has been created on the KHC website to help people with the desire to serve connect with an organization with the need for volunteers. Also, volunteer needs will be listed in this newsletter.

If you are a KHC organization who would like to recruit new volunteers, please email info@kentuckyhorse.org with the subject line of "Volunteers," and we will be happy to add your request to our website and to our next newsletter.

Volunteer Opportunities:




The Luci Center is a therapeutic riding program located in Shelby County. Volunteers are needed to assist in class with riders and for general care and maintenance of the barn and grounds. All volunteers must attend training. Please visit our web site to learn more www.thelucicenter.org or call 502-220-4308.

Upcoming Events

Kentucky Horse Council Upcoming Events

- June 27** Second Annual John Henry Memorial Adoption Fair sponsored by the Kentucky Horse Park in partnership with the Kentucky Horse Council. 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. The adoption fair features sound, trainable, adoptable horses from equine rescues throughout Kentucky. Horse related items will be available for purchase through live and silent auction to raise funds for SoHo. This is the inaugural event at the Kentucky Horse Park's NEW indoor arena. Contact Essie at erogers@kentuckyhorse.org.
- Nov. 14** KHC Annual Conference & "Your Future with Horses" Equine Education Fair: Will be held at the Scott County High School in Georgetown, KY. For more information, visit www.kentuckyhorse.org.

Kentucky Horse Council Members' Upcoming Events

- June 1-6** Egyptian Event at the Kentucky Horse Park. Visit www.pyramidsociety.org for more details.
- June 6** Edmonson County Saddle Club Spring Horse Show in Brownsville, KY.
- June 6-7** Natural Horsemanship Clinic with TJ Clibborn: 9-5 at Raintree Ranch: Pendleton, KY 40055. Contact Judy: (502) 500-6251.
- June 7** Northern KY Horse Center Hunter Schooling Show: For more information, visit www.nkyhorse.com or email info@nkyhorse.com.
- June 24** Kentucky Horse Park Cross Country Schooling Days: www.kyhorse.com.
- June 27** University of Kentucky's Equine Initiative presents: 2009 Equine Field Day, 9- 3 at UK's Maine Chance Equine Campus. Admission is free and lunch available for purchase. Visit: www.ca.uky.edu/equine.
- July 11** Blue Grass Cowboy Church Fun Day. Email: horsinaround@bellsouth.net or (859) 473-1880 or www.bluegrasscowboychurch.org.
- July 17-19**  Breyerfest Birthday Bash: 20th Anniversary Celebration! At the Kentucky Horse Park. For more information and to order tickets, please visit: <http://www.breyerhorses.com/breyerfest/>.

For more events, visit www.kentuckyhorse.org.



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