



OFQHA NEWSLETTER

April 2008

President's Message

I hope everyone has noticed that spring is just around the corner! I know that because the multiflora roses are beginning to bud and the pigeons are back in the barn. The babies have started to hit the ground and the stallions are pacing in the stalls. Yep, spring is here!

By the time you get this newsletter the Equine Affaire will be under way. The committee is doing an excellent job of putting this together and we need to give them a great big hand.

We are expecting a really great show season this year with changes that are both people and horse friendly. We hope that by moving our Sunday open show to Saturday we will encourage more people to attend. Our Sunday will be quite a bit shorter allowing folks to get home and get some rest before its back to work on Monday.

We will also miss our annual spring sale this year, but since the horse market has not improved measurably, we felt that one sale in the fall devoted to the best horses we can find will probably help the consignor to get the most for them.

Last but certainly not least was the banquet. It amazes me that horse people, who spend 75% of the time in the barn, are such great cooks, but they sure are. I think everyone had a great time and the food was superb. If you didn't make it to this one, put it down on your calendar for next year. It helps with the winter doldrums seeing all our Foundation friends to talk horses, shows and clinics. Keep abreast of all the latest happenings by checking into our website often.

Larry Still, President

Awards Banquet Pictures



Equine Affaire

Equine Affaire will be held this year on April 10th thru 13th. The OFQHA booth will be in the same location as prior years, in the Voinovich building, across from the demo ring. Debbie Gosnell still needs volunteers to help with booth take down on Sunday. Takedown will start at 5:00 on Sunday. Anyone who can help can call Debbie724-588-8844 or just show up at 5:00. All help is greatly appreciated.

AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse World Show

The Four Sixes Ranch stallion, Sixes Pick, and rider Chance O'Neal won this first ever event held during the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in Denver, Colorado. Horses needed 4 points to qualify for the first world show. O'Neal believes conformation comes first in looking for a versatility prospect. Athletic prowess is also a consideration. He says there are plenty of horses that have one trait or another, but finding a horse with the complete package isn't easy. "It's a lot more difficult than it appears to fans sitting in the stands," he says. I've had some that were better in the cow horse than the cutting, or the other way around. Some are gentle in nature, but not the most athletic. It's a tough balance for a horse to be able to handle it all."

The youngest competitor in the show's open class was Jacelyn Watt of Sidney, Nebraska. She rode Watts Twisten Badger to an eighth-place finish. The oldest competitor was Bill James of Abilene, Kansas. He claimed ninth place with Real Smart Mate.

Condensed from the Western Horseman, April 08

Legendary Ranches

The latest Western Horseman Book explores the cowboys, horses, history and traditions of North America's greatest ranches. The cowboys and ranches featured have been ranching in time-honored ways for more than a 100 years. The featured ranches are: Babbitt, Draggin Y, CS, Four Sixes, Crago, Adams, Pitchfork, Haythorn, Waggoner, ORO, Gang, Stuart and Bell. The book can be ordered by calling toll free, 800-874-6774 or online at: westernhorseman.com.

How Many Riders Does it Take to Change a Light Bulb?

Western Pleasure Riders: Oh, MY GOD, someone fix that bulb. I have to have light so that my silver and spangles all glow to their best and so that all the highlighter on Old Peanut Head makes his nose look so smooth and sparkly, and oh, my diamond studs have to flash in the light you know, so oh, someone has to fix it—Oh, maybe you without all the silver on your saddle, obviously you can't ride, you can fix it.

Dressage Queen: Change a light bulb? Are you joking? I couldn't possibly be expected to subject myself to such a menial task. Change it yourself. Oh, and wash your hands when you're finished. The very thought!

Classical Dressage Queen: These things cannot be rushed, but must be approached slowly, with great patience and adherence to the principles laid down by the classical masters, otherwise the light bulb will not attain it's true potential, but will forever just be a shadow of it's true self. Never, ever, use any type of gadget when changing the light bulb. That is an offense to the principles of classical light bulb changing.

Everter: Wuss! As soon as my arm is out of this sling, broken after falling off at that large stone wall while riding Hell Bent for Leather cross-country, I'll change it. Until then, deal with the dark. It'll put hair on your chest.

Natural Horseman: You must instill respect in the light bulb, so that it sees you as the Alpha light bulb, using "Light Bulb Dynamics" (Video set available at \$179 on my website). Once you have done this, you will find that there is really no need to change the light bulb at all, but that the light bulb will, with very little coaxing from you (using patented "light bulb coaxer" designed by me—\$99 each and for an extra \$49.99 you get an introductory video thrown in) will behave as all good light bulbs should.

Foxhunter: If you liad out all your kit the night before the hunt, you wouldn't need to worry about the light bulb—you'd be on your way..Forget the light bulb-ain't got no time to worry 'bout no light bulb-HOUNDS ARE RUNNING! Load in the dark (In August), unload in the dark (In December)- What's the big deal? (But please don't forget that flask and Snickers Bar!)

How Many Horses Does it Take to Change a Light Bulb?

- Warmblood: Light bulb? What light bulb?
- Saddlebred: Sorry, just had my hooves and mane done.
- Quarter Horse: Let him do it. You can pet me while he's busy.
- Trakhener: Light bulb? Light bulb? That thing I just ate was a light bulb?
- Arab: That's what we pay the help for. I'll just chew on his shirrtail while he's at it.
- Connemara: We'll just be after havin' a nip of the Bushmills, we will, and then we'll not be noticin' the light.
- Clydesdale: Och, and ye'll just be usin' up the lectricity, ye will, better tae use a wee bit of candle....better yet tae not waste either and just gae tae sleep when the sun goes doon....lectricity is verra dear.
- National Show Horse: Lights? Lights? Where? Do you want me to pose? This is my good side....no wait, let me get my mane straight. No wait, this angle is all wrong. No, wait, maybe this is my good side. Do you want dramatic...or bold...or maybe sensitive?
- Shire: (Yawn). Who cares?

May 18th Roping Clinic with Aaron Puskarich

A roping clinic with Aaron Puskarich will be held on Sunday, May 18, 2008 at the Guernsey County Fairgrounds. Cost of the clinic is \$50 and the clinic is limited to 20 participants. Start time is 9:00 am. If you wish to participate please contact Patty Fish at fish.patricia@gmail.com.

New Additions to the OFQHA 2008 Schedule

- Sunday, July 20th: still open but we are looking for a clinician.
- Sunday, August 24th: Ranch Cutting and Team Sorting
- Saturday, September 20th: Fall Horse Sale
- Sunday, October 5th: Fall Trail Ride, potluck and October meeting at Barkcamp.

Cards Are Welcome

Jane Belew has been in the hospital and will be recovering for an extended period of time. If you would like to send her a card I am sure she would appreciate it. Her address is P.O. Box 2620, Mansfield, OH. 44906. Best wishes for a speedy recovery Jane!

2008 OFQHA Schedule—All Events and Meetings

- May 17:** OFQHA Open Ranch Horse Show and May meeting. Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- May 18:** Roping Clinic with Aaron Pushkarich
- June 21:** OFQHA Open Ranch Horse Show and June meeting. Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- June 22:** AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse Show (Pending AQHA Approval)
- July 19:** OFQHA Open Ranch Horse Show and July meeting. Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- July 20:** Undecided. Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- August 23:** OFQHA Open Ranch Horse Show and August meeting. Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- August 24:** **Ranch Cutting and Team Sorting.** Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- September 8:** OFQHA meeting, 4:00, Perry Twp. Firehouse
- September 20:** **Fall Horse Sale.** Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
- October 5:** **Fall Trail Ride, Potluck and October meeting, 10:00 at Barkcamp.**
- November 2:** OFQHA meeting, 4:00, Perry Twp. Firehouse
- December 7:** OFQHA meeting, 4:00, Perry Twp. Firehouse