



OFQHA NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Sign Up For The Roping Clinic Sunday May 18, 9:00 am!

- Space is still available!
- All skill levels are welcome!
- Very Reasonable cost: \$50 Per Person
- Aaron Puskarich is an excellent clinician. All reports on his previous OFQHA clinic were positive!
- Not many of us have the opportunity to practice on live cattle. Don't pass up this chance!

It's easy to sign up! Just email Patty Fish: fish.patricia@gmail.com

Equine Affaire

Jenny Smallridge, Teri Zachariah and Pat Badgero participated in two Ranch Roping clinics, conducted by Montana cowboy, Bob Blackwell. The first clinic on Saturday was ranch roping basics; learning to build different loops, and practicing roping a dummy with the loops we had learned. On Sunday there was more practicing of loops but cattle were used this time and things got a little more exciting. The clinic was held in Cooper Arena, and the crowd was small but very enthusiastic!

Larry Still and Carol Palmer had 2 of their stallions in the barn on Stallion Row and from all reports they were quite busy. They also hauled in one of Carol's mares to occupy the display stall and made separate trips to haul the OFQHA trailer to and from Zanesville to Equine Affaire and back. Thank you Larry and Carol!

Debby Gosnell and Ann Pearson arrived from Pennsylvania on Wednesday to set up the OFQHA booth. They stayed for the duration of Equine Affaire and worked very hard during the 5 day period. Thanks to Debbie and Ann and all the OFQHA members who donated their time to work in the booth! Also, thanks to everyone who brought a horse for display in the breed stall!

The worse a person rides, the more likely he is to blame it on the horse

CORRECTION IN AQHA RANCH HORSE VERSATILITY SHOW DATE

The AQHA Ranch Horse Versatility show will be held on **SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2008**. There was some confusion (mostly on my part) about the date for this show. The Ranch Cutting and Team Sorting activities have been moved to Sunday, June 22, 2008. The OFQHA 2008 schedule in this newsletter is now correct.

Foundation Quarter Horses

If your horse won't:

1. Place in a halter class
2. Cut a cow
3. Catch a calf
4. Follow a steer
5. Weave through poles or chase a can
6. Cross the 1/4 mile line ahead of the rest
7. Spin on a dime
8. Baby sit your children
9. Have the heart to do it all again

You don't ride a Foundation Quarter Horse!

Bonnie Bennett, Foundation Quarter Horse Breeder

Are You Having Fun with Your Horse?

I have recently discovered that there are some people out there who have no idea that you can actually have fun on a horse. The barn where I board my horse has changed from a family oriented farm to a dressage training barn. There were two dressage schooling shows scheduled for March and April and I was asked if I could set up a trail class just for fun. I thought that was a great idea! The first trail class was a very easy course but there were only 3 entries. The second class did not go as well. Once again there were 3 entries. One participant made some derogatory statements regarding the placings and the course. As far as I could tell, only one woman "had fun". The 4 boarders who still ride western refused to participate for various reasons, one of which struck a chord with me. The stated reason was that "I didn't buy my horse to participate in shows". Now I can understand that, but for Pete's sake, we're talking about having fun here!

If you were lucky enough to have a horse as a young person you may recall exactly what it meant to have fun on a horse. Remember swimming horses in ponds? Remember trying to see how high your horse would jump or how fast he could run? Well, my theory is showing can be fun too!

I am by no means innocent here! I used to show halter and pleasure horses and I have to admit I am a pretty competitive person. It has taken me a long time to forget about being so competitive, to stop complaining and learn to enjoy and have fun on my horse. I want to take the show classes for what they are: another opportunity to have more fun! Prior to last year I never showed in Break Away Roping or Steer Daubing. These were my negative thoughts: My horse will be afraid of the box, I'm not a good roper and I'll never catch a cow, I don't want to run "flat out" trying to daub a steer, and last but not least; I'll make a fool out of myself. For the first time I tried both classes last year and I actually believe that they are more fun that anyone should be allowed to have! I can truthfully say now that it doesn't matter much at all if I place in a class. It doesn't matter if I do make a fool of myself as I am at least trying, and having fun in the bargain. Yep, it took me a long time to change my attitude. It took a lot of work, and at each show I had to remind myself that I should no longer complain about the judge when I didn't place (that one took a lot of reminders!) and I'm not sure I am totally cured yet, but I'm getting there! I still get nervous, but then I make myself think about the fun involved and I just try to do my best. I want to set a good example for the youth that show with us. It has been an immense help to me that most of the folks and members who show in the Open OFQHA shows are so supportive, kind and understanding. They provide an excellent support group and cheering section! I guess the moral of this story is that if we are not having fun, it may be our attitude, not our horses fault, or the judges fault or anybody else's fault. I know that because I've been there and sure enough, it was my fault!

Lets have some fun at the OFQHA shows this summer!

Pat Badgero

Fuel is too High Priced To Go To The Horse Show, Right?

Read On And Do Some Thinking!

- The truck you're driving now either costs \$40,000 Plus or will cost that to replace it
- The trailer you're pulling to the horse show costs how much????
- Add up the \$\$ invested in just your truck and trailer
- How many show saddles, High \$\$\$ show headstalls, bits, bosals, blankets, sheets, and misc. related horse show stuff are in your trailer.
- Now, how much tack and other stuff is sitting in your barn?
- Do you have any vague idea whatsoever what you have invested in tack and related accessories?
- Now, what did the horse you're hauling actually cost?
- How much is currently invested in this horse with the trainer?
- To shoe that horse may be costing \$1,000 per year.
- Now take a head count how many others are you feeding in the hope that they might be a show horse some day maybe?

Six years ago a 500 mile round trip @ \$2.50 per gallon was \$104 +/- for the round trip.

Right now that \$4.00 gallon fuel on the same road trip is just another \$62.00

What the heck is \$62 more compared to what you have invested???

Let's face facts.....Horses are a disease. We are addicted.

From the Horse Circuit News. Jay A. Wicker

Everyone enjoyed the Equine Affaire and thanks to all you helped esp. Debbie Gosnell who organized it this year.

We received thank you cards from the 2008 Ohio Quarter Horse Queen and the Congress queen.

The OQHA queen wrote: " I just wanted to let you know that I had a blast at Equine Affaire this weekend! You ladies were so much fun, not to mention knowledgeable about the Foundation Quarter Horse! I was very impressed! You convinced me that steer daubing just might be for me! Thanks again and I'll see you around! "

Take Care

Jessica West

The Congress queen wrote:" Thank you so much for sharing your time and booth with us at the Equine Affaire. You were so kind to pass out the OQHA flyers while Jessie and I had a chance to visit, peruse the shopping and watch a Tim Grubb over fence presentation. It is a shame the weather was less than cooperative but it appeared to have deterred no one on Saturday judging from the crowds. Jessie told me she had a wonderful time with all of you. We hope to bring Grandma next year (the one that started all of this horse scene) She would truly enjoy meeting all of you.

Thanks again

Cindy West

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:	Ranch Cutting and Team Sorting. Guernsey Co. Fairgrounds
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:	AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse Show. 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

Thanks to our 2008 sponsors:

McBride Performance Horses

Deer Creek Motel

Grizzle Ridge

Weaver Leather

Newton Asphalt