



OFQHA NEWSLETTER

February and March 2009

President's Message

Get well soon wishes go out to Larry Still. From the latest report he is at home, impatiently recovering from a mild heart attack. Take care of yourself Larry and we will see you at the banquet!



FUN!

FOOD!

AWARDS!



SILENT AUCTION!

Don't forget to mark February 21st on your calendar as the day of the Annual Awards Banquet! Festivities start at 6:00 pm at the Perry Township Fire House. There will be a silent auction so please bring any items you wish to donate. Once again dinner will be a potluck. We could all use a social function toward the end of a long hard winter! Congratulations in advance to all the year-end award winners! Hope to see everyone there!

Clinics, the Extreme Cowboy Race, and the OFQHA Booth at Equine Affaire 2009

The dates for this year's Equine Affaire are April 2—5, 2009. The deadline for nominating your horse for a clinic is February 9th. Previous experience has shown that some of the clinicians are looking for participants long after the deadline date. Last year Jenny Smallridge, Teri Zachariah and Pat Badgero participated in the Ranch Roping Clinic at the last minute and were offered reductions in the clinic costs to participate. Clinic costs run from \$65 to \$125 and that includes admission to Equine Affaire, clinic instruction, and stabling. The following trainers are looking for participants:

Monty Roberts, Craig Cameron, Mark Rashid, Julie Goodnight, Steffen Peters, Tommy Garland, George Williams, Barbara Schulte, Sterling Graburn, Nicole Carswell, Angela Moore, Jennifer Moshier, Mary Midkiff, Chris Cassenti and Kristi Weltner-Redd and Dan Weltner.

Applications for the clinics are available at www.equineaffaire.com. Questions can be addressed to Nicole Taylor at 740-845-0085, ext. 123 or via email at ntaylor@equineaffaire.com.

Information on the Extreme Cowboy Race can be obtained at www.craigcameron.com or by contacting Nicole Taylor

OFQHA and OQHA will have a booth at Equine Affaire this year. If you would be able to help with set-up on April 1st, take-down on April 5 or just work in the booth for a few hours or longer, please contact Debby Gosnell at 724-588-8844 or deb@advntr.com. All help is greatly appreciated. Thanks to Debby Gosnell for taking over this large and time consuming job!

Curt Pate's Cowboy Horsemanship Tips

Throughout the Home Ranch program Curt discussed horsemanship from the perspective of a ranch cowboy-turned clinician. Here are a few ideas he shared.

- "There are two approaches to horsemanship. One I call the vitamin-C approach, similar to the one we take in trying to prevent a cold. The other is the penicillin approach to horsemanship—when you fight the cold you already have. Why not take the vitamin-C approach and stop a wreck before it happens? The best hands working horses or cattle always stop something before it happens, rather than wait for the wreck and try to fix things afterward. Preventive horsemanship is seeing ahead, trying to set up a situation so it works to your benefit or to see a potential problem before it happens."

- “Every time you saddle him, your horse should get a little bit better to handle and ride. Pretty soon he’s up to your level of horsemanship, and that’s when you must increase your level of expertise. Then your horse must get a little bit better again. That’s all you need to do: Try to be a little better each day.”
 - “A cowboy’s horse is an endurance horse, a dressage horse and a cutting horse. To improve your cowboy skills, watch what endurance riders, cutters and dressage riders do to improve their riding.”
 - “There are six things you should be able to do horseback: upward and downward transitions, move your horse’s back end to the left and right, and move his front end to the left and right. If you can do those six things, you can work cattle with your horse—or do anything you need to do for that matter.”
 - “Although you need to know how to move your horse’s front and back ends, the greatest thing about being a cowboy is that you always have a destination. You focus on a spot and ride to it, and that’s really where a horse’s straightness and drive come from. He learns to go to something.”
 - “I really believe it’s good to work a horse on cattle because you must ride your horse to a precise place and at a precise time and do it a clam, efficient manner. When you try to put a cow into a pen, you’re not riding precisely if you lose the cow. So you think about getting the job done—and your horse relaxes. He has something to focus on too, and his mind is on the cow. He has a place to go and a job to do.”
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2009 Dues are Due!

Don’t forget to pay your OFQHA dues! Save a stamp and pay them at the Year-End Banquet in February! If you wish to mail your dues please send them to OFQHA, PO Box 2506, Zanesville, OH. 43702-2506. Single memberships are \$20 and family memberships are \$30. Year end award point accumulation begins the day you join, so join early!

New Website Address

OFQHA has a NEW web address. The new address is **www.ohfqha.com**. Susan Elliott is working very hard to get everything up to date on the website. If you wish to email her something for the website you can go to the website, click on “Contact Us” button and send her an email.

Thank you to all our 2008 Sponsors!

- Deer Creek Motel, Cambridge. 1-800-637-2917
 - Grizzle Ridge Arena, Jerusalem, 740-926-9208
 - Horse Health USA, 800-321-0235
 - McBride Performance Horses, Mount Sterling. 614-519-5969
 - Newton Asphalt Paving Inc. Strasburg. 330-578-5648
 - Rocking Horse Chaps, Utica. 740-892-2602
 - Weaver Leather, Mt. Hope, 800-932-8371
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Horse Phrases and Sayings

Horse Sense: Most likely refers to the accumulation of knowledge about horses acquired by humans, not to the intelligence of horses. In order to buy, care for, train, handle, breed and work with horses, one must know a great deal about them.

The appreciation of such knowledge about horses was evident even by the fourth century B.C., when the Greek writer Xenophon wrote his treatise *The Art of Horsemanship*, which covered such topics as how to avoid being cheated when buying a horse, and how to train, groom, mount, ride and stable a horse.

Horsepower: a unit of power needed to lift 165 pounds, 27" high in one second. The average horse is actually 10 to 13 times stronger than that, meaning that one horse normally is capable of producing 10 to 13 units of horsepower.

Get off your high horse: During the Age of Chivalry, a knight was considered chivalrous if he was adept at riding a horse in full armor, which is not easy when the armor and rider together weighed around 440 pounds. Telling someone to get off his high horse probably originated from the fact that knights had to ride specially bred large horses because of the enormous weight of their armor. Nobles would ride through town quite literally looking down on others from their tall horses. Later on politicians paraded in ceremonial processions on unusually large horses. A Scottish proverb incorporating a reference to one's "high horse" was cited by James Kelly in 1721. Come off it is also derived from this saying.

Hell bent for leather: Originally meant that a person who was riding as fast and hard as possible would put a lot of wear and tear on his leather saddle, bridle and stirrups. Rudyard Kipling may have been the first to coin the phrase in 1899 when he wrote "The Story of Gadsbys".

Riding roughshod over someone: To disregard the person's physical and mental welfare. A horse is roughshod when the nails are left protruding out of its shoes so that the animal does not slip and fall. Being ridden over by a roughshod horse would be agonizing. In 1790 Robert Burns wrote about "a rough-shod troop o' Hell", and Thomas Moore used the term in its modern metaphorical sense in his 1813 *Intercepted Letters* when he wrote, "Tis a scheme of the Romanists, so help me God! To ride over Your Most Royal Highness roughshod."
Sandra L. Olsen

Associate Curator in the Section of Anthropology at Carnegie Museum of Natural History

2009 Tentative Show Schedule

The show committee met prior to the OFQHA meeting in December and proposed the following show dates. Please keep in mind that these are **tentative** dates!

May 16 and 17, 2009

June 20 and 21, 2009

July 18 and 19, 2009

August 22 and 23, 2009

Also, the committee recommended that we hold one AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse Show, date to be determined based on availability of show manager, AQHA approval, judge availability, etc.

2009 OFQHA Meeting Schedule

Saturday, February 21st: Year End Awards Banquet and February meeting 6:00

Sunday, March 1st: March meeting, Perry Township Fire House, 4:00

April: To be announced. Usual date is during Equine Affaire

May: To be determined
