FEBRUARY 2019

CONTENTS • Vol. 29 • No. 6

For the love of horses & ponies!

Mid-South Horse Review
Equus Charta, LLC
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6220 Greenlee #4
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Deadline for March issue: FEB. 22

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Subscriptions to the Mid-South Horse Review are available by first class mail for $35 annually. To subscribe, send payment to: P.O. Box 594, Arlington TN 38002-0594. Phone: (901) 867-1755

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We greatly thank all contributors to this issue and to our advertisers who make this publication possible! Please patronize our advertisers and let them know that you appreciate their support of the Mid-South Horse Review.

On the Cover:
At the Liberty Bowl Rodeo, 3-year-old Darby Duncan of Rossville, Tenn. on her Mini, Bouncer, stole the show in barrel racing. She may not have had the fastest time, but she got the most audience applause! (photo by Nancy Brannon)

The Jaeckle Centre in Thompson’s Station, TN hosted three indoor shows in January: IEA, Jumper, & Hunter Shows. (photo by Carissa Ramsdell)

Plenty of bucking action at the Liberty Bowl Rodeo, Dec. 28, 2018 at the Show Place Arena, Memphis, TN. (photo by Nancy Brannon)

The “Young Guns” had their time at Battle in the Saddle, Tunica, Miss., a fundraiser for Safe Harbor ministries. (photo by Gary & Carol Cox)

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In the Middle Are the Horsemen

Review by Nancy Brannon

In the Middle Are The Horsemen, by Tik Maynard, is a compilation of Maynard’s journal entries (some of which were published in Gaitpost and some in the Chronicle of the Horse) from his three years as a working student with several of the top riders/trainers in the world. In the horse industry, working students aspire to become professional riders or trainers and willingly trade their labor for hands-on education. Being a working student entails hard work and long hours, but Tik emphasizes the learning process; here he records his lessons learned on the way to becoming a horseman.

“This story is about learning, writing, running, getting hired, and getting fired (a few times). It is about other things, too. Most of all, this is a story about horses,” Maynard writes.

Maynard, from Vancouver, Canada, is the son and grandson of prominent equestrians. His dad, Rick Maynard, is a Grand Prix show jumping rider and was coach of the Canadian National Pentathlon Team. His mother, Jennifer, is a Grand Prix Dressage Rider. His brother Jordan manages the family farm, Southlands Heritage Farm, and his brother Telf manages Southlands Riding Club. Tik had been coached by his parents since he began riding, and he was involved in Pony Club, becoming an A graduate. He was on a national winning Pony Club Games team that won the Prince Phillip Cup. He competed in Tetrathlon in Pony Club and later competed in the Modern Pentathlon at the Pan Am Games in 2007.

In 2008, 26-year-old Maynard faced a crossroads. A university graduate and modern pentathlete, he broke his collar bone at the World Cup in Mexico City, ending his pentathlete career. With all this equestrian background, he still wanted try something new with horses, so he decided to contact the best horse trainers in the world and become a “working student” for a year. This one year turned into a three-year stint, working for some of the best horsemen and horsewomen in the world.

His working student positions first took him to Germany to work for dressage great Johann Hinennmann, also the first job from which he was fired. “It would be years before I thought about the difference between riding a horse and understanding a horse,” he wrote. But it was Ingrid Klimke who helped him learn the understanding.

Quotes from Klimke: “I see two ways to build confidence in horses. One is to keep having positive, successful experiences. The second is to go through something difficult, but to come out okay on the other side.” “To become a great rider, one must ride great horses.”

Moving from dressage to eventing, he went to work for David and Karen O’Connor. “The O’Connors started all their horses using methods similar to those taught by American horseman Pat Parelli...starting to build a relationship with a horse from the ground with a rope halter.” David and Karen O’Connor had a partnership with Pat and Linda Parelli for years. Here Tik begins pondering the question of how “natural horsemanship” is different from “horsemanship,” and what exactly is “horsemanship” anyway? David O’Connor explains that so often people learn to compete before they learn to ride and learn to ride before they understand horses. It’s the understanding that must come first. And “David and Karen O’Connor were proving to me that treating others with kindness was more rewarding in the long run. Respect fosters loyalty and hard work.”

He works for other renowned figures in the horse world such as Ian Miller and Anne Kursinski and gets to learn from Anne’s mentor, George Morris. Another from whom Tik learns a lot is Anne Kursinski’s barn manager, Asa Bird.

But for something completely different, he goes to Loving, Texas to work for Bruce Logan. Logan has learned from Pat Parelli, Craig Johnson, and Ronnie Willis. And those traditions root from the teachings of Ray Hunt and Tom Dorrance. “The way a horse learns is, number one from confidence, then understanding, then the achievement, the result,” Logan says. With horses, honesty and consistency are key, Tik learns. It’s from Logan that the title of the book comes when he says: ‘Over here are the ‘natural horsemen.’ And often there is nothing natural about what they do. And over there are, well, whatever the opposite is – the people who don’t take into account the horse and what its capabilities and tendencies are. In the middle, though, are the horsemen.”

Throughout his journey Tik studied the horse, and human nature, and how the two can find balance. Tik’s goal was to become a great horseman – the kind of person a horse would choose if a horse had the option. Working for Sinead Halpin for a weekend turned out to be a fateful meeting; Tik chronicles their romance and eventual marriage.

Tik is now married to eventer Sinead Halpin and his horse training combines 3-day eventing with horsemanship. Find more about him at http://tikmaynard.com/ and on facebook Tik Maynard Company.
In January, the PBS program “Nature” aired a two-part series on the horse, titled “Equus: Story of the Horse.” Part 1 “Origins” aired on January 16 and Part 2 “Chasing the Wind” aired on January 23, 2019. Anthropologist Dr. Niobe Thompson, with other equine experts, embarked on an adventure around the world and throughout time to discover the origins of the horse.

The program informs about the earliest member of the equus family, a 45-million-old ancestor of the horse – the Dawn horse. It was the size of a dog, its complete skeleton embedded in a fossil. Scientists use computer animation to illustrate how the animal looked and moved.

Equine experts in the program explain how the modern horse is structured, and of particular interest is the relationship between breathing and galloping, and how the physiology of the horse allows an enormous amount of stamina.

It was fascinating to see how horses “read” human expressions and react to them. Through a series of experiments led by animal psychologist Karen McComb, horses are shown very large photos of humans – either smiling or snarling – to demonstrate how horses read and understand not only fellow horse expressions, but also human expressions. Horses use 17 different facial expressions to communicate their own feelings.

Trainer Jimmy Anderson was filmed showing his remarkable relationship with his horse Maverick, who did all kinds of maneuvers – from following to spins and more – with Anderson using just his own body language. He also demonstrated how quickly colt training can occur using the gentle methods of “natural horsemanship” with “Shiver.”

The episode also travels to the Seer Horse Reserve in the Gobi Desert, Mongolia, where Przewalski horses were reintroduced into the wild and are having success in surviving in the wild. This part also explores the social structure of the herd.

Episode 2 focuses on the relationship between humans and horses, and seeks to answer the question of when humans first domesticated the wild horse. Horses are the most frequent animal depicted in Ice Age art, as we see on the walls of Chauvet Cave in France.

When humans first adapted horses to their use, their primary use was in war. This episode shows an interesting segment on a working replica of a 3000-year-old chariot, driven by horse archer Mike Loudes.

This episode shows how horses have adapted to the most extreme living conditions – from the coldest inhabited place on Earth, the Verkhoyansk Mountains of northeastern Siberia, home of the Yakutian horses, to the hottest: the scorching sands of the Arabian Desert, home of the spirited Arabian horse.

This episode takes the viewer to Canada’s Sable Island, where the world’s only truly wild horses live. Here a population of 500 horses has been living for at least 40 horse generations.

This episode again features the Thoroughbred: the breed of super-specialized sprinters, all of whom are descended from one of three 18th-century stallions. The Thoroughbred has been a closed Stud Book since the early 1800s. Irish geneticist Emmeline Hill has discovered a genetic code in Thoroughbreds that reveals their racing potential: the “speed gene.” In addition to thoroughbreds on the race track, this episode shows Thoroughbreds trained for the Blackfoot Indian Relay Race.

To find more information about this program or to stream it, visit: www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/tag/equus
Books Available

Copies of the book Ivory Pal, will be available for purchase at the Dunlap Equine Services seminar on February 11, 2019 at the Eads Civic Center in Eads, Tennessee. Books are only $15 and $5 from each book sold will be donated to the Animal Response Foundation.

This golden palomino champion Tennessee Walking Horse stallion, owned, trained, and loved by Rafael Valle, is an extraordinary performer and partner with exceptionally great temperament. Ivory Pal performs bitless and barefoot. He has his own book, his own original theme song, and a music video. And his Facebook page now boasts over 100,000 fans!

The book tells the story of a young palomino Tennessee Walking Horse who refused to respond to the “Big Lick” training techniques, using weighted, padded shoes and chemicals that burned his sensitive coronary bands, plus ankle chains.

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Find more information about Ivory Pal at: www.ivoryknollranch.com; see him on Facebook at Ivory Pal; and read about the book on Amazon.com or GoodReads.com.
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The American Farriers Journal hosted the 16th annual International Hoof-Care Summit – one of the largest farrier events in the U.S. – on January 22-25, 2019 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Summit offers extensive hoof care education through informative sessions, practical classrooms, roundtables, and how-to clinics. Jeremy McGovern, Editor/Publisher of American Farriers Journal said the summit had the “world’s largest equine footcare trade show with 333 exhibitors. The roundtables were a highlight, too! Hundreds of farriers discussed 16 separate topics on footcare.”

The summit is truly international, with 16 countries represented at this event. The program featured 40 top-notch farriers, veterinarians, and researchers delivering the latest innovative ideas about hoof-care. This collection of experts included:

Jay Tovey, a Bedfordshire, England farrier with over 20 years of farrier experience. He was farrier for the 2012 Olympics in London and has been awarded Farriery examiner and judge by The Worshipful Company of Farriers.

Dr. Simon Curtis, practicing farrier and lecturer from New Market, England with 40 years of hoof-care experience. He received his doctorate for his project studying the development of the foal’s hoof. He has also completed a six-year Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program at the University of Central Lancashire. He was the first farrier to be awarded an Honorary Associateship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. In his Better Basics, Better Results Lecture, “Diseases and Conditions of the Hoof Capsule,” Curtis mentioned that the average horse generally has the same thickness of sole as it does hoof wall.

Mike Wildenstein, one of only four people in the world to have passed the distinguished Fellow of the Worshipful Company of Farriers examination in the United Kingdom “with Honors.” For 19 years he has been resident farrier and adjunct associate professor at Cornell University. Also an International Horseshoeing Hall Of Fame member, Wildenstein delivered the Burney Chapman Memorial Lecture, in which he suggested evaluating limb deviation from above to help farriers determine the appropriate fault.

Paso Robles, California researcher John Craig went over how new artificial intelligence techniques are transforming hoof measurements. Photographs and radiographs of the hoof that are well-taken, properly calibrated and carefully measured are invaluable for analyzing changes in the hoof and as a basis for trimming and shoeing options. Artificial intelligence techniques that have recently been introduced can automate much of the calibration and measurement tasks.

Yorkshire, England, farrier Steven Beane made an interesting analogy: the same arches that we utilize with bridges can be found in the horse’s foot. When the arch in either is compromised, they can fail. The coronet and the bars are good indicators to watch to ensure the foot remains strong.

There was a series on “Better Business” topics; an “Innovative Footcare” series exploring gait analysis and its impact on foot care with Albuquerque, New Mexico farrier Jodi Vertz; and the Summit included a Vetech Clinic.

Inductees for 2019 into the International Horseshoeing Hall Of Fame and the International Equine Veterinarian Hall Of Fame were announced. This year’s inductees into the International Horseshoeing Hall Of Fame included Mike Savoldi (California), Don Gustafson (California) and the late John Boyne (Ireland). The new inductees for the International Equine Veterinarian Hall Of Fame included Melvin “Tookie” Myers (Virginia), Duncan Peters (Kentucky) and Lars Roepstorff (Denmark).

Mary Barker and Mike Barker of Life Data Labs Inc. were recognized for their contributions to the farrier industry with the G.E. Forge & Tool Award. Mike explained the significance of this award: “The award was created by the American Association of Professional Farriers with the purpose of recognizing an individual or couple, who are not a farrier or veterinarian, for their willingness to improve the farrier industry through education, and for their willingness to go out of their way to help farriers and/or veterinarians. It is well respected by other members of the farrier industry.”

Mike remarked about their relationship to the Summit “Life Data Labs has participated in the Hoof-Care Summit from the beginning. As an educational partner, it gives Life Data an opportunity to interact with farriers from all parts of the world. The Summit has one of the largest farrier Trade Shows and is packed with educational opportunities for the farrier.”

Steve Foxworth, a Loveland, Colorado farrier, closed out the Summit with a motivational speech that was sure to fire up the participants as they returned home. He said, “Life begins at the end of your comfort zone.”

Much more information about the Summit is available at the American Farriers Journal website: https://www.americanfarriers.com/ihcs and on facebook: International Hoof-Care Summit.
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Winter Respiratory Health

By Dr. Eleanor Kellon, staff veterinary specialist for Uckele Health & Nutrition

Horses with respiratory issues actually breathe easier in cold, dry air. However, this winter advantage is lost when horses are confined to a poorly ventilated barn where humidity and particulate matter in the air is high. When the winds are up and temperatures drop we want our horses to be comfortable and protected. Nestling into a cozy stable may seem like a good solution, but there are health risks lurking in a tightly closed up barn.

An elevated concentration of irritants in the air causes measurable lung inflammation in all horses. There may or may not be a true allergic component. Continued exposure can lead to IAD (inflammatory airway disease) or RAO (recurrent airway obstruction) in susceptible horses. These conditions have a considerable impact on the horse’s comfort and performance. There may be increased risk of infectious lung disease or irreversible damage in chronic cases.

A variety of airborne substances have been implicated. Ammonia from bacterial breakdown of urea in urine is a well-documented lung irritant in a variety of species. “Organic dust” is also an offender. This includes microscopic particulate matter from mites, plant material (e.g. beta-glucans), feces, bacteria and their products (endotoxin) and fungal spores.

A critical first step in reducing airway irritation is to guarantee good air circulation through the barn. High moisture levels indicated by window condensation suspend the irritating substances, and reduced air turnover allows their concentration to increase. Other measures to take, especially if you have symptomatic horses, include:

- Pick out stall wet spots frequently and consider stall deodorizers (such as PDZ) for ammonia control
- Store hay in a separate building
- Use wood or paper bedding rather than straw
- Do not clean stalls or sweep with horses in the barn
- Wet hay and bagged feeds before feeding
- Turn the horse out as much as possible

These measures will go a long way in reducing risk of developing lung disease and reducing breathing difficulty in horses that already have it but they cannot completely eliminate exposure and some horses will need more help. Several supplement ingredients can help with maintenance of normal lung function in the face of these temporary challenges:

- Spirulina assists in the maintenance of a normal, balanced immune response and stabilization of histamine releasing cells.
- MSM supports a controlled inflammatory response.
- Research has documented low levels of antioxidant vitamin C in IAD/RAO lung fluid and supplementation can help restore this.
- Jiaogulan (Gynostemma platensis) is a Chinese adaptogenic herb which supports normal airway dilation for good air flow.

The reaction to the airborne irritants and allergens generates considerable oxidative stress. All living things are equipped with the ability to produce a range of antioxidant defenses, but these can be overwhelmed. When that happens, plants offer a rich source of antioxidant phytochemicals to help maintain homeostasis. These include all berries, grape seed and skins, citrus bioflavonoids which work with vitamin C, Boswellia, Turmeric, Ginger and Ginkgo.

N-acetyl-cysteine supports the horse’s ability to manufacture glutathione, an important antioxidant. As an additional benefit, it assists in maintaining a normal, watery consistency to mucus so that it can be moved out easily.

IAD and RAO are common equine respiratory conditions caused by environmental irritants. Fortunately, there are many things horse owners can do to reduce exposure to irritants, as well as supplements to feed that help the body maintain normal lung function.

Controlling exposure to lung irritants greatly reduces your horse’s risk of developing chronic lung disorders.

Winter Respiratory Health

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Editor’s Note: This is the first of a two-part series we will publish in Equine Respiratory Health and Diseases. Next month we will have a report on Dr. Jennifer Dunlap’s seminar on “Respiratory Disease in the Horse.”
Tennessee Equine Hospital Expands Again

In addition to Tennessee Equine’s main hospital in Thompson’s Station, Tennessee, and a satellite in Eads, Tennessee, near Arlington and Memphis, Tennessee Equine Hospital announced in January the addition of a second satellite location in Gallatin, Tenn. Dr. Mathew W. Lovell and his team at Lovell Equine Clinic are joining the Middle Tennessee team. The clinic is located at 1781 Airport Road; phone number is (615) 452-7789.

Dr. Lovell has over 30 years of equine experience and is highly respected in the equine veterinary medicine community. Lovell Equine Clinic, which will now be called Tennessee Equine Hospital North, is a three-stall facility designed to provide outpatient, ambulatory, hospital, and emergency care for horses, 24/7. “This collaborative effort will provide our team of equine specialists another convenient location to easily serve northern Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky,” said the press release from TEH.

For more information about TEH’s medical, surgical, reproductive, or lameness services, call 615-591-1232 or visit their website: www.tnequinehospital.com

Super Fiber Feeds for Winter Energy

There are two obvious facts about winter, it is cold and the days are short. Winter presents two problems. One is the need to increase energy intake to help maintain body temperature and the other is to do this when there is less feeding time. Overnight, horses tend to eat less or stop altogether, so they need to eat more energy over the shorter day.

Providing a super fiber, in the form of Speedi-Beet or Fibre-Beet, gives a threefold benefit for winter feeding. First, the fiber in these products is far more rapidly fermented by the hindgut microbes than grass or hay, providing more energy as a continuous release that helps maintain normal body temperature. Second, products have pre-biotic properties and can improve the breakdown of the forage fiber. Secondly, fermentation generates heat, more heat is generated by the use of super fibers and deep core body temperature is aided by this source. And, thirdly, by providing Speedi-Beet, Fibre-Beet or one of Emerald Valley mixes as a warm, soaked material, there is a further warming effect and hydrating the horse with warm water also reduces the need of the animal to warm cold drinking water.

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Southern Equine Expo Lecture Speaker Line-Up

Part of the Southern Equine Expo, February 22-24, 2019 at the Miller Coliseum in Murfreesboro, Tenn., is devoted to educational seminars. Following is a portion of the speakers and topics to be covered at this year’s event.

**Mounted Patrol and Self Defense on Horseback**, offered by The Rutherford County Sheriff’s Mounted Patrol Unit. The unit consists of deputies paired with six Percheron horses, both of whom undergo rigorous training, allowing them to handle diverse situations. The Mounted Patrol talks are:

“Techniques for Crowd Control on Horseback” and “Self-Defense from Horseback”

**Pet Assisted Therapy with Minis**, by Andrea Gibson, who trains miniature horses for equine assisted therapy and activities. Andrea incorporates natural horsemanship methods to develop respect, trust, and confidence in miniature horses used for interactions that take place in nursing homes, Veterans’ homes, rehabilitation centers, treatment facilities, etc. Gibson also conducts seminars and clinics for those interested in becoming registered therapy teams through Pet Partners, a national organization supporting pet therapy.

**Stable and Pasture Management** with Dr. Bob Coleman, an Associate Professor at the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Equine Extension Specialist. His areas of interest include: 4-H advisor, equine clubs and teams, equine education, equine extension, equine research, equine science and management degree, extension. His topics are:

“Forage and Horses – Use Pastures the best you can” and “Where does your horse live?”

**Saddle Fitting** with Terry Pieper, a certified saddle fitter who educates riders on the importance of proper saddle fit, how it affects the horse’s performance, behavior and ultimately horse and rider health. She gives individual saddle fit evaluations, interactive seminars and presentations. Her topics are:

“Is Your Saddle Helping or Hurting?”

“Equine Anatomy Relative to Saddle Fit,” and “Does Your Saddle Fit Your Horse?”

**Yoga-Body, Mind, Equine** by Cathy Woods, whohas been leading yoga programs to horse lovers and non-equestrians for nearly thirty years. Her Yoga & Equine programs teach the parallels of the two practices. Body, Mind, Equine is about how to use yoga principles (not just yoga postures) to improve horsemanship from ground to saddle and become a more aware, conscious rider. Cathy’s presentations:

“The Parallels of Yoga and Horsemanship,” “Good Yoga Stretches for Riders,” and “Using Yoga to Improve Horsemanship.”

**Equine Genetics** by Dr. Rhonda Hoffman, a Professor and the Director of the Horse Program at Middle Tennessee State University. She has been teaching about horse science for over 20 years. Classes taught at MTSU include equine nutrition, horse genetics, horse production, and others. Dr. Hoffman earned board-certification as a Diplomate of the American College of Animal Nutrition in 2007. Her topics are:

“Horse Genetics – A Tapestry of Coat Colors,” and “Horse Genetics – Desirable vs. Deadly.”

**Equine Fitness and Selection** with Dr. Holly Spooner, Associate Professor in Agriculture at Middle Tennessee State University and Director of the M.S. in Horse Science Program. Dr. Spooner teaches courses in exercise physiology, equine selection and evaluation, stable management, and more. Dr. Spooner’s research interests focus on nutritional and exercise interventions to improve performance in the equine athlete. Her presentations are:

“Monitoring Fitness - Is Your Horse Ready to Ride?” and “Considerations For Purchasing A Youth Horse.”

**Safety and Emergency Preparedness** by Teresa Spencer author and presenter for horse safety and evacuations. She is founder of EquestriSafe, whose products focus on identification and safety for equines and owners. She helps design and build safe and efficient equine facilities. Teresa’s presentations are:

“How to Help Prevent Barn Fires” and “How to Be Prepared For Emergencies and Evacuations.”

**Equine Dentistry** with Dr. Johnny Whittaker, retired Director of the Horse Science program at MTSU. Dave taught at MTSU and judged horse shows for over 35 years, and was an AQHA carded judge for over 25 years. He has judged eight World Championship Shows and the American Quarter Horse Congress. Dr. Whittaker’s talk is: “Equine Form to Function: the Foundation of the Equine Athlete.”

Find more information at: www.southernquineexpo.com and on facebook: Southern Equine Expo.
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A Peak Equine Productions, LLC event
Laura Graves and Verdades Win Grand Prix Freestyle at Global Dressage Festival 3

By Deirdre Sullivan for Jennifer Wood Media, Inc.

Wellington, FL - January 25, 2019 – U.S. dressage stars, currently ranked number two in the world, Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades performed a beautiful test and earned a score of 84.935% to win the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI-W, on Friday, January 25, at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) in Wellington, FL. Week three of AGDF concluded on January, Thursday, 25th but the AGDF continues through March 31.

“This freestyle was nice. This was the second time I’ve ridden to this music. I’m definitely feeling a little more comfortable with it,” commented Graves, who has captured medals at the Olympic Games and World Equestrian Games with Verdades, her 17-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding by Florett AS. “I’m glad to add another good score to qualifying [for the World Cup Finals]. In a normal year we’d be qualified by now but we have one more show to do so we’ll be back at the end of February. I believe, to hopefully qualify.”

Kasey Perry-Glass (USA) and Goerklintgaards Dublet, a 16-year-old Danish Warmblood gelding by Diamond Hit owned by Diane Perry, came in second with a score of 82.425%.

“The weather was great for Dublet. He loves the cold weather,” said Perry-Glass of her 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games team silver medal-winning partner. “It really gets him a little bit more amped. I’m just very proud of him for this show, to come out and score a personal best in Grand Prix. I had a little bit of a spook coming in, so that kind of put me a little behind my music. I felt a little rushed, but he nailed everything.”

Shelly Francis and Danilo (USA), a 15-year-old Hanoverian gelding by De Niro x Annabella owned by Patricia Stempel, earned a score of 80.535% and came in third place in the freestyle.

Judge at C Michael Osinski, pointed out - and it was confirmed - that for the first time in a dressage competition in the U.S., the top three earned above 80%. Osinski commented, “It just was an honor to watch all three of you, such elegant, harmonious, beautiful riders. It was just great, and I wish them all the best.”

Katie Perry-Glass and Goerklinngaards Dublet (Susan Stickle photo)
Laura Graves and Verdades (Susan Stickle photo)
Shelly Francis and Danilo (Susan Stickle photo)

Laura Graves: 2018 USEF Equestrian of the Year

Laura Graves (Geneva, Fla.) was awarded the Robert P. Strub Trophy as the 2018 USEF Equestrian of the Year at the Pegasus Awards presented by Adequan® during the US Equestrian Annual Meeting, January 9-12, 2019 in West Palm Beach, Florida. Graves has been a valuable member of the U.S. Dressage Team for many years and her numerous contributions to the sport of dressage on the international stage and at home in the U.S. make her an impressive force in the sport of dressage.

2018 was a record-breaking year for Graves and her and Curt Maes’s 16-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding Verdades. Not only did the combination contribute to The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team’s silver medal at the FEI World Equestrian Games™ (WEG) Tryon 2018, but also made history in the Grand Prix Special as the first American combination to earn an individual silver medal at a world championship. Their success at the WEG boosted Graves and Verdades to the number-one spot on the FEI Dressage World Ranking List in October, marking the first time a U.S. dressage combination has been ranked as world number one.

“I come from a family of athletes, and it wasn’t until I settled into equestrian sport that I really became comfortable with myself. If it weren’t for the family I found in equestrian sport, I would be just an uncoordinated awkward girl without very many friends, so thank you all for being my friends,” said Graves.

Eight equestrians were recognized for their competitive achievements in 2018 and honored with the following trophies:

- Norman K. Dunn Trophy – Bruce Griffin III
- C.J. “June” Cronan Trophy – Victoria Gillenwater
- Barbara Worth Oakford Trophy – Jody Strand
- Bill Robinson Trophy – Eugene Sweeney
- Vaughan Smith Trophy – Wendy Potts
- William C. Steinkraus Trophy – Laura Graves and McLain Ward
- Emerson Burr Trophy – Victoria Calvin
- George Green (Morgan Mill, Texas) was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for her undying commitment to the Morgan breed and elevating excellence in breeding, governance, and sport.

Green made history as the American Morgan Horse Association’s first female president.

Isabela de Sousa (Lexington, Ky.) was awarded the Ruth O’Keefe Meredith Memorial Trophy as the 2018 Junior Equestrian of the Year for her passionate work retraining off-the-track Thoroughbreds.

The Intercollegiate and Interscholastic Dressage Team Awards were presented to seven teams that demonstrated their excellence in USEF-affiliated collegiate and scholastic organizations in 2018.

The following awards are bestowed annually to equestrians for their service to the sport. This year’s recipients were:

- USEF/EQUUS Foundation Humanitarian Award – Steuart Pittman
- Walter B. Devereux Sportsmanship Award – Anne Gribbons
- Richard E. McDevitt Award of Merit – Harry Chapman, Yum Kee Fu, E. Hunter Harrison, Michael Rheinhemier, and J. Richard Wilkinson
- Pegasus Medal of Honor – Ellen DiBella, Janine Malone, Debbie McDonald, and Robert Ridland
- Ellen Scripps Davis Memorial Breeders’ Award – Allyn McCracken
- Sallie Busch Wheeler Trophy – Anne Kursinski

Laura Graves and US Equestrian President Murray Kessler (photo: Taylor Pence/US Equestrian)
Six Ways You Cannot Tell If Your Saddle Fits

By Terry Peiper, Fit Right Saddle Solutions

1. **Sweat as an indicator.** You cannot tell if your saddle fits by the amount of sweat on your horse’s back. There are many possible sweat patterns depending on weather conditions, your horse’s hair coat, the length of time and type of riding you do, and the material your saddle pad is made of.

   If you use a rubber non-slip pad on your horse (which I would never do) and it is 90°F and 90% humidity, you are likely to have a lot of sweat on the horse’s back, regardless of whether the saddle fits or not. If you are riding in the same saddle and pad on a 50°F day and 50% humidity, you will likely have no sweat. There is absolutely no way to tell if the saddle is a good fit by the lack of sweat.

   Where did this idea about sweat come from? A few years ago I was looking at saddles at the Fort Worth Stock Show. I found one that I thought was pretty, so I sat in it. The salesperson approached, so I was curious to see how he would answer my question: “How do I know if it’s going to fit my horse?” He asked, “What kind of horse do you have?” Answer: “I have a Quarter Horse, 15 years old, about 15 hands.” His answer: “Ah, it will fit.”

   Question: “But how do I know?” He answered, “Just ride around for a little bit and if you have good, even sweat, it fits.”

   If you do a small dry area or an uneven sweat pattern on your horse’s back after you ride, it should alert you that something might be amiss with your saddle.

2. **Not riding in the saddle.** You cannot tell if your saddle fits by trying your saddle in place while riding on a relatively smooth, flat surface; your saddle probably does not fit.

   The rigging or billets also have a huge influence on the saddle’s movement while you ride. If you need a big rubber pad or a breast collar to keep the saddle in place while riding on a relatively flat surface, your saddle probably does not fit.

3. **Not riding in the saddle.** You cannot tell if your saddle fits without riding in it. It is very important that the primary rider rides the horse in the saddle that is being evaluated. A saddle can fit a horse, but if it doesn’t fit the rider, it will not work. A rider could overweight the front or rear of the saddle because he or she is not comfortable in the saddle. Or if a rider tries to squeeze in a saddle that is too small, there won’t be enough tree surface or rigidity to distribute the rider’s weight.

4. **Trying a friend’s saddle.** You cannot tell if your saddle fits by trying your friend’s saddle. Saddles are handmade, so it is very hard to find two exactly alike. Even within the same manufacturer and model, there can be different materials used, and different saddle makers creating saddles with the same name can still be essentially different.

5. **The three finger test.** You cannot tell if your saddle fits by using the three finger test. When I was growing up, the only thing I was taught about saddle fit is that you need to have three fingers between the top of the horse’s withers and the bottom of the pommel or swell. I now feel so bad for the (continued on p. 21)
The Jaeckle Center followed up its Jumper show with the two-day Snowflake II Hunter Show on January 26-27, 2019. The show offered a full array of hunter and equitation classes, plus Children’s Hunter Pony, Pony Hunter, and the MTHJA Medal classes. The show attracted 815 class entries, with 17 in the MTHJA Medal classes.

Children’s Pony Hunter Champion was Hollywood’s Blue Comet, ridden by Kati Borah.
Children’s/Adult Hunter Champion was Nurejev, ridden by Jaclyn Fisher.
Jr./Amateur Hunter Champion was Halloodan, ridden by Ava Lindley.
Pony Hunter S-M-L Champion was Hopscotch, ridden by Amy Krebs.
Pre Children’s/Adult Hunter Champion was Tootsie, ridden by Gabel Gawthorpe.
Short Stirrup Champion (12 & Under) was Gentle Persuasion, ridden by Sophia Branscome.

Special Hunter 2’6” Champion was Magic Money, ridden by Chloe Desjarlais.
Walk/Trot Champion was Hot Fudge Sundae, ridden by Anna-Kate Akers.

The Jaeckle Center Snowflake V Hunter series continues on February 23-24, 2019. This is followed by the Spring Classic on March 15-17, 2019.

On January 28, 2019, Sterling Essentials, maker of scented natural leather cleaners and conditioners, announced the launch of their new collegiate Sponsorship Program.

The Program is open to college equestrian teams of all disciplines and already has several inaugural members, including the Stanford University Equestrian Team, University of Oregon Equestrian Team, University of Kentucky Dressage Team, and University of Arizona Equestrian Team.

College equestrian teams face many challenges, so Sterling Essentials wants to lend a hand to help keep teams thriving and to support these up-and-coming athletes, the future of equestrian sports. Teams interested in learning more about the Program are encouraged to contact Teal Shoop, Sterling Essential’s CEO, at customerservice@sterling-essentials.com.
TJC Jumper Show

Photos by Carissa Ramsdell

The Jaeckle Center started its 2019 Snowflake Series with the Snowflake I Jumper Show on January 19, 2019. The “local indoor” show attracted nearly 100 (92) entries. The majority were in Beginner and Hopeful Jumper, with ample entries in the Pre Children’s/Adult Jumper, Low Children’s/Adult Jumper, and Low Schooling Jumper divisions. Official photographer for the show was Carissa Lynn Photography.

In Beginner Jumper, Ashley Holcombe, riding Grande Latte, and Riley Jones, riding Senor Santana, tied for the Championship.

In High Children’s/Adult Jumper, Orrin Krebs, riding the Jaeckle Centre’s Adonis D Astlan, was Champion, with Ava Lindley the Reserve champion on Kunta Kinte Van Orshoff.

In Hopeful Jumper, Erin Le Compt, riding Heather Dunham’s Lady Jane Gray, and Julia Ware, riding Givenchy, tied for the Championship.

In Low Children’s/Adult Jumper, Hannah Duke was Champion on Limited Edition. Abby George was Reserve champion on Diamond Street.

In Low Schooling Jumper, Ava Lindley and Kunta Kinte Van Orshoff took the Championship. Lauren Patterson, riding Julie Metz’ TwoTwenty, was Reserve champion.

In Pre Children’s/Adult Jumper, Abby Wall was Champion on Kid’s Double Feature. Amy Krebs was Reserve champion on Hopscotch.

The Snowflake IV Jumper series continues on February 16, 2019.
The Mississippi Hunter Jumper Association (MHJA) premiered a redesigned horse show January 4, 2019 at the Rankin County Multipurpose Pavilion in Brandon, MS. The MHJA New Year Premier Horse Show was a three-day, one ring horse show that featured special new classes and awards, along with trainer incentives, hospitality events and low show fees. Exhibitors didn’t have to worry about the weather; the venue features two rings, a heated grandstand, show office, stabling and wash areas—all under one roof.

The show kicked off on Friday with the open hunter divisions. Baby Green Hunters were first, followed by 3' Green, 3'6” Green, and 3'3” Performance Hunter division. Horses competing that day had the option to enter the $500 Friday Hunter Classic, sponsored by Mid-South Elevator.

After a course change it was on to the Jumper Divisions, ranging in height from .65m to 1.20m.

The show hosted a Mexican Fiesta themed exhibitors party during the Friday night Jumper classics. A nearly full house gathered in the stands to watch the evening entertainment, starting with the $2,000 "Take your own line” Child/Adult Jumper class, sponsored by The Rankin County Multipurpose Pavilion.

Ten Jumps were set in the ring, each able to be jumped in either direction, and each had to be jumped once after crossing the start timers. The competitor with the best time, without faults, won. During the course walk, riders and trainers discussed strategy for the shortest distance between the jumps and tailored a plan to best suit each individual horse and rider. Creativity was key, and in the end Heidi Crappell, trained by Tricia Rabalais of Lafayette, Louisiana claimed the victory aboard her horse Leonidas.

After the awards ceremony and the Victory Gallop, horse show manager Jack Nash led the jump crew in setting the course for the final class of the day, The $5,000 Five Bar Open Jumper Classic.

Five jumps were set in line down the middle of the ring at ascending heights, starting at .65m. Each horse took a turn, and only the horses and riders with no faults could advance to the next round. After several elimination rounds, only two horses remained, having jumped clear over the 1.50m jumps. In the last round, both remaining horses incurred faults, resulting in a final tie for first place between Mackenzie Robards and her horse Cirona, trained by Janet Talmadge of Baton Rouge, LA and Dynasty, with rider/trainer Francesca Senior of Jackson, Mississippi. The exhibitors earned equal prize money and show manager Jack Nash flipped a coin for the ribbon. Francesca Senior won the coin toss.

Saturday started with a very exciting class, the $2,500 Wesley Lutken Equitation Challenge Class. Junior and amateur competitors jumped a single round consisting of twelve jumps, including a combination, with optional equitation tests incorporated into the round. Emerging at the top of the class was Lafayette-based rider Kristin Cobb. A crowd favorite, Sunnertime, whose barn name is "Tino," and Kristin have been training with Tricia Rabalais and collecting wins in the Hunter, Jumper, and Equitation rings for over twelve years. MHJA is very grateful to Mr. Wesley Lutken for generously sponsoring the class.

On Sunday morning, while the crowd was enjoying a pancake breakfast, the $4,500 New Year Premier Hunter Derby got underway. Competitors jumped a first round of jumps, at three feet, with high options for bonus points set at 3'5".

Two USEF "R" judges were on hand, providing individual scores for each horse. Judges Mr. William Sparks from New Orleans, Louisiana and Mrs. Holly Hugo-Vidal of Atlanta, Georgia called back the top twelve riders for a second handy round. The horses carried over their scores from the first round and, after receiving the handy round score, top call went to Regan Felder’s Cigalus with rider Brittany DeSalvo in the irons, for trainer Patti Wright-Shoemaker of Winterview Farm in Flora, Mississippi. The same Derby format was used for the $1,500 MHJA Lil’ Derby, in which horses competed at a lower fence height, and the $1,000 Voltaire Design Pony Hunter Derby.

Winner of the MHJA Lil’ Derby was Mary Grubbs Garner’s In the Nik of Time, a Baby Green Hunter showing in a Derby for the first time, who bested a twenty-three horse class.

Junior Rider and rising pony phenom Hailey Guidry, riding for Honor Hill Farm in Poplarville, MS, won top honors in the Voltaire Design Pony Hunter Derby, riding HHF Jack Sparrow to the win and claiming fourth and fifth with her other two rides, Charmier and Whispering Marquis, with trainer Hanley Morrison. Saddle Rep Britt Perry presented the awards for the French Saddle-maker Voltaire, sponsor of the Pony Derby.

Julia Miller, on her horse Kildalton DeSalvo, won the MHJA Medal Class. Julia was also second in the $4,500 MHJA New Year Premier Hunter Derby, and was the highest placing Junior/Amateur rider.

The winner of the MHJA Pony Medal was Kelsey Clay, riding Edna Curry’s Tea For Two. She finished second in the MHJA Horse Medal on her own horse Winston. Kelsey trains at Blue Ribbon Riding Academy in Canton, MS.

The Show Jumping Style Award, sponsored by CWD Sellier, was given to the jumper rider who best embodied the classical American style of equitation. The riders were judged over two days of jumper competition and the winner was announced on Saturday. Junior rider Mackenzie Robards of Baton Rouge, Louisiana received the award, along with a $500 gift card from CWD.

The Best Turned Out Award, sponsored by Bridles and Britches’ Tack Shop of Folsom, Louisiana, was awarded to the best turned out rider among those competing in the $4,500 New Year Premier Derby. Winning the award was rider Olivia Walt on Amigo, owned by Sarah Clay of Jackson, Mississippi and trained by Trey Bennett.

The Best Child Rider Award was sponsored by CWD Sellier. The top six junior riders were selected by the judge on Saturday and given arm bands to wear in their classes on Sunday, signifying their eligibility for the Best Child Rider Award. When the classes were over, the two judges conferred about which of the "super six" would be named Best Child Rider. Lily Rhoden won the prize: a $250.00 CWD gift certificate. Lily trains with Patti Wright-Shoemaker at Winterview Farm.

The winner of the $500 Under Saddle Invitational Championship was As You Wish, owned by Ashley Runnels of Jackson, MS and trained by Patti Wright-Shoemaker.

Find more information about MHJA at: https://mhja.info and on Facebook: Mississippi Hunter Jumper Association Official.
Young Riders

Jaeckle Centre IEA Show

Photos by Carissa Ramsdell

The Jaeckle Centre in Thompson’s Station, Tenn. hosted its annual Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) show, for both high school and middle school teams, on January 12-13, 2019. The teams competing at this show are in IEA Hunt Seat Zone 4, Region 12. The show attracted eight high school teams from around middle Tennessee and nine middle school teams. Obviously, the home team had the advantage, as the Jaeckle Centre teams swept both categories both days.

The IEA supports equestrian competitions for middle and secondary school students across the United States in both English and western riding disciplines. Classes are offered in four ability levels: beginner, novice, intermediate, and open. Membership is open to public school, private school, or barn teams. Riders in grades 6-8 are eligible for Middle School Teams; riders in grades 9-12 compete on High School Teams. And riders do not have to own their own horse to compete at IEA shows. Find more information at www.rideiea.org.

Find more information about Jaeckle Centre shows on facebook at: The Jaeckle Centre.

Saturday Results:

High School Teams:
The Jaeckle Centre – 42 points
Keywood Meadows Farm – 21 points
Anchor Way Farm – 17 points
Summer Hill Farms – 11 points

Sunday Results:

High School Teams:
The Jaeckle Centre – 33 points
Keywood Meadows Farm – 23 points
Anchor Way Farm – 19 points
Sycamore Hills – 16 points
Mountain View Farm – 11 points

Equestrienne Darby Duncan

By Tommy Brannon

Diminutive three-year-old Darby Duncan of Rossville, Tennessee is an experienced rider and barrel racer, well – as experienced as one can be at age three. She was literally riding before she was born. Her mother Sarah Duncan and her grandmother Carla Paratore are both trainers, and Sarah admits that she was riding horses up to three days before Darby was born.

Darby not only has all of the experience that time has allowed, she also has the use of a very experienced horse, with the drive and spirit that helps a young and energetic rider compete. Darby’s barrel racer, Bouncer, owned by the Duncan’s neighbor Mollie Carter, is a 13-year-old Miniature horse, who Sarah said, “Has taught more children to ride than we can count. He has a feisty side, though; you might say, a ‘little man’ syndrome.” Bouncer was Mollie’s first horse and Mollie is the one who now is training Darby on Bouncer. Sarah commented that, although she started Darby riding, “Mothers can’t train their kids like other trainers can, because Mom is not cool anymore.” Sarah gives all the credit for Darby’s success to Mollie and Mollie’s mother Karen Carter, who is also a trainer. Darby rides a couple of times a day in the summer and four to five times a week in the winter.

Rodeo competitors and spectators at both the Liberty Bowl Rodeo, held December 28, 2018 at the Shelby Showplace Arena, and Rodeo of The Mid-South, held January 19, 2019 at the Landers Center in Southaven, Mississippi, were able to watch Darby and Bouncer run their barrel pattern. They are a real crowd pleaser, with Bouncer’s little legs flying around the arena and Darby concentrating and confident. At the Liberty Bowl Rodeo they were just about five seconds off of the winning time! It was pretty evident to most horse folks that Darby is not just a passenger on Bouncer. She rides that Mini! She has recently been asked to ride a barrel race demonstration at the RFD TV American Rodeo, taking place in March in Arlington Texas.

Barrel Racing is not the only horse activity Darby does. Loretta Peimberton of Mountain View Farm – 2 points
CF Topflight – 1 point

Darby was the Rodeo Sweetheart at the Rodeo of the Mid-South

Milan, Tennessee has been teaching Darby to do some trick riding. She is learning how to ride standing on her horse and to do the “Indian Hideaway” (or Apache Hideaway) a trick in which the rider lays out on the near side, parallel to the horse, while the horse goes around the arena.

In addition to barrel racing at the Rodeo of the Mid-South, Darby partici-
Breeding

Broodmare Checks

By Dr. Thomas Lenz in The American Quarter Horse Journal

Now that cold weather has moved in, many broodmares are out to pasture, gestating until their expected foaling dates next spring. Unfortunately, each year, up to 15 percent of broodmares who were checked safe in foal at 45-60 days lose their pregnancies by late fall. It’s a good idea this time of year to recheck all of your mares by ultrasound or palpation to confirm that their pregnancy is progressing normally. Too often, a mare owner doesn’t know a mare lost her pregnancy until she doesn’t foal in the spring. This is often so late in the breeding season that there is not sufficient time for a veterinarian to determine the cause of the lost pregnancy, treat and correct the problem, and rebreed the mare. The owner loses an entire year.

Protect Your Investment

Once your mare is confirmed safe in foal, there are a number of things that you can do to protect your investment and improve the odds of producing a healthy foal next spring. Many mares drop in body condition at the start of fall and winter because of decreased availability of good pasture and the onset of cold weather. The demands on the mare by the fetus won’t require an increase in feed until the last one-third of pregnancy, but the energy required to keep warm will increase. Research has shown that broodmares in moderate to fleshy condition will be better prepared to provide adequate milk for their growing foals and will breed back quicker than thin mares. A mare should have at least a body condition score of 5. She should have a level back and slight fat cover over the ribs, and fat should be evident along the sides of her neck and behind her shoulders. On the other hand, a mare should not be rolling fat because fat mares tend to produce less milk than moderately fleshy mares, and their foals gain less weight. In the last trimester, the un-born foal’s growth accelerates, as do the mare’s nutritional requirements. Her feed ration should increase accordingly. On average, a healthy mare in good flesh will gain 9-12 percent of her original body weight during pregnancy. For example, an 1,100-pound mare should gain roughly 100-130 pounds during the course of her pregnancy. She should gain roughly two-thirds of the weight in the final three months prior to foaling.

Develop a Plan

Once your mare is in good flesh, check her vaccination and deworming schedule. Deworming and vaccination schedules vary according to your region, but a general recommendation is that mares should be dewormed every 60 days throughout their pregnancy. They should be vaccinated for tetanus and encephalomyelitis (sleeping sickness) four to six weeks prior to the expected foaling date. Every mare should be vaccinated against West Nile virus, as well as eastern and western sleeping sickness. In addition, pregnant mares should receive rhinopneumonitis (rhino) vaccinations during mid-to-late pregnancy. A typical rhino vaccination schedule is to vaccinate pregnant mares during their fifth, seventh and ninth months of pregnancy. An alternate program is to vaccinate every other month once the mare becomes pregnant. Other common vaccinations that might be necessary in some parts of the country include strangles, Potomac horse fever, rabies and influenza. Contact your local veterinarian about a good vaccination program for your area of the country.

Lights

If you want to hasten the transition to estrus in open mares or slightly shorten the gestation length in bred mares, start lighting programs on or before December 1. The lights should be bright enough so that you can easily read a newspaper in the stall. They should provide at least 16 hours of total daylight. Be aware that mares will begin to shed their hair in about 90 days after going under lights. If you live in a cold climate, be prepared to blanket them.

Other Concerns

If your mare will be on her way to a broodmare farm or across state lines to be re-bred, this is a good time to ask your veterinarian to draw blood for a Coggins test for equine infectious anemia. EIA is a non-treatable, often fatal disease that can only be managed by preventing exposure to infected horses. A negative Coggins test and health certificate are required by most states and broodmare farms. Too often, mare owners are not aware of this requirement and learn of it only when they are ready to ship their mares.

Make decisions regarding management of your mares, especially if they are on tall fescue pasture or receiving fescue hay.

Fescue is a common pasture in most parts of the country and is relatively harmless to adult horses. Unfortunately, it can be infected with an endophyte fungus (Festuca arundinacea) that causes prolonged gestation, lack of milk production and foaling problems in pregnant mares. Remove pregnant mares from fescue pastures 60-90 days prior to their anticipated foaling date. If removing the mares isn’t possible, provide them with plenty of good-quality hay the last few months of pregnancy and, if feeding fescue, consider administering domperidone daily. Domperidone helps counteract the effects of fescue toxicosis during the last 25-30 days prior to foaling. Because an affected mare, even following preventive treatment, might not produce adequate amounts of colostrum, it’s a good idea to have some frozen colostrum on hand for the newborn foal.

Finally, this is a good time to inventory foaling- and breeding-related supplies and equipment to ensure that they are available when your mare foals. Develop an emergency plan with your veterinarian for your foaling mares, and review the three stages of the normal foaling process to ensure that you are able to recognize problems early enough to get help. Place emergency phone numbers near the phone in your barn and evaluate foaling areas to make sure there are no hazards that might injure the mare or newborn foal.

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Florida Driving

By Wanda Chancellor

Joanna Wilburn won the Preliminary Single Pony Combined Test (dressage and cones) at the Nature Coast Driving Trial, January 11-13, 2019, driving Wanda Chancellor’s pony Rollingwoods Movin’ on Up. The was the first show of 2019 at the Black Prong Equestrian Center in Bronson, Florida, the winter home to combined driving. In addition to the combined test, Black Prong also offered a CAC – a pick a test in each of the three driving competitions (dressage, cones, marathon). Competitors can pick any dressage test from the offerings, cones at their chosen level (training, preliminary, intermediate, advanced), and marathon at their chosen level.

Friday was the Dressage Test, with Marathon and Obstacles taking place on Saturday. The Cones course was run on Sunday. Joanna won the Dressage portion of the trial with a score of 64.3%. She completed the combined test on a score of 63.11, taking first place.

Another mid-south competitor, Brenda Rachor driving her Morgan pony Bunny, also competed in the Preliminary Single Pony Combined Test. Brenda had a good dressage score, 57.6%.

Black Prong Equestrian Center is a 250-acre equestrian facility located in the heart of the 53,000-acre Goethe State Forest. The center offers combined driving events, horse and dog trials, and there is an extensive trail system through Goethe State Forest for bird and wildlife viewing, hiking, horseback riding, driving, and pinicking. Black Prong also offers a variety of cabins and apartments, horse stabling, RV hookups and camping options. Find more information at their website: http://blackprong.com/ and on Facebook: Black Prong Equestrian Center.

Saddle Fit (continued from p. 15)

IEA Awards

New to the Pegasus Awards celebratory evening, the 2018 Intercollegiate and Interscholastic Equestrian Team Awards were presented on January 10, 2019 at US Equestrian’s Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, FL. US Equestrian’s Pegasus Awards honor some of the great men and women of equestrian sport, including the Lifetime Achievement Award, Equestrian of the Year, Junior Equestrian of the Year, Youth Sportsman Award, and other prestigious honors.

The 2018 Intercollegiate and Interscholastic Equestrian Team award winners demonstrated their excellence in USEF-affiliated collegiate and scholastic organizations in 2018, and were recognized for their achievements during Pegasus night.

• ANRC National Intercollegiate Equitation Overall Team Champion: Savannah College of Art and Design
• IDA National Championship Team: Intermont Equestrian at Emory and Henry
• IHSA Collegiate Cup Hunter Seat Team Champion: Skidmore College
• ISSRA Championship Team: University of Kentucky
• NCEA National Championship: Auburn University
• USEA Eventing Championship Team: Auburn University

This team earned a 2018 Interscholastic Award: IEA Champion Upper School Hunter Seat Team: Lucky C Stables

Recipients of 2018 Pegasus Awards are:
• USEF Lifetime Achievement Award: Georgie Green
• Walter B. Devereux Sportsmanship Award: Anne Gibbons
• Richard E. McDevitt Award of Merit: Harry Chapman, Hunter Harrison, Yum Kee Fu, Michael Rhenhemier, and J. Richard Wilkinson

Pegasus Medals of Honor: Ellen DiBella, Janine Malone, Debbie McDonald, and Robert Ridland

Ellen Scripps Davis Memorial Breeders Award: Allyn McCracken

Youth Sportsman’s Award: Clea Cloutier

Brenda Rachor of Franklin, TN competed at the Nature Coast CT, driving Bunny, her Morgan pony. Beautiful turnout driving her 4-wheel Phaeton Presentation carriage.

Coming up: Black Prong will host two carriage races this year: February 23 and March 30, 2019.
Rodeo

Article & photos by Nancy Brannon; photos by Gary & Carol Cox

On a chilly last Friday in 2018 (December 28th), over 3,000 rodeo and Liberty Bowl fans filled the Show Place Arena in Memphis, Tenn. for an exciting evening of fast-paced equestrian action at the 31st annual Liberty Bowl Rodeo.

“We always have an excellent crowd, which is a mixture of folks in town for the AutoZone Liberty Bowl game and local rodeo fans,” said Sue Lynn Perry, chairperson of the ALB rodeo committee.

“Because of the uniqueness of our audience, we have a number of spectators that may be seeing their very first rodeo, and we take seriously the responsibility of making their first rodeo experience a great one.”

This IPRA Professional Rodeo attracts some of the top rodeo performers from around the country. The Coyote Run Drill Team from Mason, Tenn. wowed the crowd for both the opening ceremony and the intermission performances. Miss Rodeo USA 2018 Summer Weldon graced the arena at the opening ceremony. And Ansley Harden, Miss Autozone Liberty Bowl 2018, was on hand for photos and autographs.

This year, the rodeo welcomed professional rodeo announcer Ty Miller and music director Carli Caven. Full of bad jokes and corny humor, second-generation Native American rodeo clown Greek Ellick, Jr. prodded the crowd to clap, sing, keep time with the music, and when it was bull riding time, climbed into his barrel to verbally taunt the bulls.

The stock contractor was MFJ Productions (Mark Johnson).

Photographer Dan Wireman was on hand to capture the Liberty Bowl action. “Dan Wireman comes nearly every year of his own accord and takes photos. He is an excellent action photographer,” said Perry.

In Bull Riding, there was only one qualified ride: Tyler Lewis stayed on for an 80-point ride. For the rest of the cowboys, the bulls had the top scores, and inflicted some injuries on three cowboys.

In Barrel Racing four young ladies rode some very fast, very close times, with only tenths of seconds separating them. But the “star” of the barrel racing event was 3-year-old Darby Duncan from Rossville, TN on her Mini Bouncer. She got, by far, the loudest cheering from the crowd.

Results:
1. Kindyl Scruggs – 14.263
2. Taycie Matthews – 14.327
In the Saddle Bronc event, it was broncs 7, cowboys 0.

In Team Roping results:
1. Coy Rahlmann & Douglas Rich – 4.8
2. Quinton Parchman & Justin Pruitt – 5.1
3. Seth Driggers & Kelsey Parchman – 5.1
4. Andrew Livingston & Douglas Rich – 6.1
In the Down Roping, Jason Dement and Brian Hart were just 0.1 second apart with equally precise performances. Results:
1. Jason Dement – 10.4
2. Brian Hart – 10.5

In Steer Wrestling, Jesse Kaysaer led the way, taking down his steer in just 4.1 seconds. Results:
1. Jesse Keysaer – 4.1
2. Caleb Little – 5.9
3. Troy Smotherman – 6.0
In Bareback Bronc riding, Josh Cragar turned in an 80-point ride, followed closely by Jacob Raine. Results:
1. Joshua Cragar – 80
2. Jacob Raine - 74

3-year-old Darby Duncan, on Bouncer, rounded the barrels and galloped out of the arena - all with a big smile on her face. She was having such fun!

(all photos by Nancy Brannon)
On a frigid Saturday evening, January 19, 2019, with snow predicted, Lecile Harris’ Rodeo of the Mid-South attracted a large number of rodeo fans who braved the cold to come to the Landers Center in Southaven, Mississippi.

The Stock Contractor for the rodeo was Smith, Harper & Morgan, with sub-contractor Stace Smith Pro Rodeos. Rodeo secretary was Donna Austin. Officials were Joey Jobe and E. J. McKellips. Timers were Tonya Lovelace and Donna Austin. Announcer: T.C. Long. Specialty act: Rider Kiesner. Bullfighters were Cody Emerson and Cade Parks. Lecile Harris was the Rodeo Clown and barrelman. The Flankmen were Scotty Lovelace and Red Lemmel, with Chute Boss Scotty Lovelace. The Pickup men were Jeremy Mercer and Josh Deweese. Official Photographer: was Robby Freeman. And Music Director was Randy Mayer.

Find more information about the Rodeo of the Mid-South on facebook.

Rodeo results:

All-around cowboy: Wyatt Cole Muggli, $912, tie-down roping and team roping.


Steer wrestling: 1. Jason Tapley, 17.2 seconds, $489; no other qualified runs.

Team roping: 1. (tie) Ryder Ladner/Alex Caudle and Clint Wallace/Heath Williams, 7.7 seconds, $543 each; 2. Wyatt Muggli/Jace Harris, 8.0, $310; 4. Adam Wallace/Skylar Reynolds, 8.7, $155.


Bull riding: *1. Gray Essary III, 81 points on Smith, Harper & Morgan’s No. 4R1, $1,429; no other qualified rides. *(all totals include ground money).

Total payoff to the rodeo entrants was $10,035.
Battle in the Saddle

Article & photos by Nancy Brannon

Safe Harbor hosted its Battle in the Saddle barrel race for the fifth year in Tunica, Mississippi on a blustery winter weekend. But the steadily dropping temperatures and high winds didn’t seem to affect the determination of the riders to round the barrels in their fastest times possible. Even Saturday evening’s snow flurries didn’t deter folks who were settled in Tunica for the weekend.

The show offered a total of $13,500 added money, with $4,000 added to Friday’s, Saturday’s and Sunday’s Open 4D; $1,000 added to the Open 4D Average; and $500 added to the Young Guns 3D Average. The show was both BBR & WPRA approved.

In addition to entry fees raising money for Safe Harbor and Lighthouse Ministries, there were other fundraisers at the show. A cake auction brought in another $1,075. They sold barbequed Boston butts, hickory smoked whole turkeys, and more delicious meats. Several people made individual donations to Safe Harbor.

Lipscomb & Pitts Insurance and Rockin Diamond Ranch were two of the main sponsors of this event. Other sponsors were MetalFab Livestock Solutions, makers of the Drag Queen arena drag; West Nashville Wrecker Service; Steel Summit; Jackson Tire and Alignment; Shared Hospital of Nashville; Twin Med; Waverly Wood; Krebs Brothers Restaurant Store; and Tractor Supply Co.

There were several vendors at the show including JHA Saddle & Tack, Dana’s Bargain Box, Bling for Horses, Trail’s End Western Wear, and OE Nutraceuticals.

On Saturday afternoon at the Big Drag 100, Battle in the Saddle offered a Kid’s Foot Race for children ages 10 and under. Every participant got goody bags.

Brent Puhl and Puhl’s Photography were on hand to photograph every run. So if you didn’t get your photo at the event, you can still order them online at www.puhlsphotography.com or call 419-343-8044.

President of Safe Harbor Memphis, Pastor Brad Bowie was hoping this event would raise between $10,000 and $15,000 for Safe Harbor Ministries. “This is the biggest fundraiser we have each year,” he said. “We plan to use the money to buy 128 twin size Tempur-Pedic® mattresses for the Memphis facility. A good night’s sleep is worth a lot!” Safe Harbor serves the homeless population, and helps rehabilitate folks with drug and alcohol addiction. They also have a 6-month residential program for those just coming out of prison or on parole. They help with recovery and life skill classes. They offer drug treatment for those court-ordered to undergo drug treatment, and they go out into the community to find jobs for their residents. “It’s all about recovery and success,” Bowie said. “If you can put them in an uncontrolled environment and they can still control their behavior – you have success!”

Bowie has been with Safe Harbor for 20 years. He said that last year they had 12,000 participants in their programs. They have locations in Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, Clarksville, Erin, Tennessee, and Little Rock, Arkansas. They also have a women’s facility in Memphis.

“The demand for women’s services is huge,” Bowie said. “It takes more care. Most have children or are trying to get their children back.” Safe Harbor has 400 beds, ministry-wide, Bowie said, and they are staying full.

Bowie also talked about the impact the opioid crisis has had. “We’ve lost more people [to opioids] than we did in the whole Vietnam War.”

The folks at Safe Harbor were grateful to all who attended the barrel race. “We also want to thank all of you for the moral boost you gave our clients of Safe Harbor, who were able to attend the show to set barrels, help with shavings, set up and tear down the arena, and everything in be-
Arkansas Cowgirl Crowned Miss Mid-South Rodeo 2019

By Sue Lynn Perry

SOUTHAVEN, MS Jan. 19, 2019 — Paige Thompson of Crossett, Arkansas won the title of Miss Mid-South Rodeo Queen 2019 at The Landers Center in Southaven, MS, as part of Rodeo of the Mid-South 2019, sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

Thompson is an 18-year-old senior at Crossett High School in Crossett, Arkansas, with plans to become an occupational therapist someday. She is the daughter of Willie and Dana Barker.

In addition to riding her horse, Thompson enjoys kayaking, hunting, fishing and volunteering for the Timberlane Health and Rehab Center in Crossett.

Other pageant winners were:

Teen Miss Mid-South Rodeo Miranda Reed, 17, of Roland, Arkansas, who also won the overall horsemanship award.

Junior Miss Mid-South Rodeo Caroline Wilson 13, of Athens, Alabama.

Mid-South Rodeo Princess Harlee Ausmus, 6, of Malvern, Arkansas.

In addition to taking the crown, Miss Thompson also won the Highest Silent Auction Sales Award, which was a shadowbox of memorabilia from professional bull-rider Chase Outlaw.

The Spirit of the Mid-South Award, voted on by the contestants, went to Miranda Reed. She received a Montana Silversmith Breast Cancer Awareness pendant, sponsored by Jerry and Connie Nanney of Austin, AR.

The Best Photo Award went to Miranda Reed. She received a custom engraved 8 x 10 wooden frame, provided by pageant director Sue Lynn Perry of Millington, TN.

Rodeo tickets sales contest winner was 3-year-old Darby Duncan of Rossville, TN. She received a gift certificate for a pair of Justin Boots, provided by rodeo producer LeCile Harris.

All winners were awarded a tiara, trophy buckle, banner, flowers by Lynn Doyle Flowers, a custom bronc halter by Van’s Leathercraft of Byhalia, Mississippi, a gift certificate to Cowboy Corner in Southaven, Mississippi, and a gift bag of handmade items. The winner of the Miss age division receives a scholarship award.

The pageant offered competition in five age levels, including the Miss division, ages 18-25, the teen division ages 14-17, the Junior division, ages 10-13, the Princess division ages 6-9 and the Sweetheart division ages 3-6.

Contestants were judged in the categories of horsemanship, personality and appearance. The Miss contestants also took a written test about the host event, the Rodeo of the Mid-South.

Pageant winners will represent the sport of rodeo for one year, appearing at other rodeos, civic events, schools, parades, award programs, cook-offs, dances, banquets and similar activities.

Pageant sponsors include Van’s Leathercraft of Byhalia, MS, Cowboy Corner of Southaven, MS, Lincoln Glass and Nurre Glass of Memphis, TN, Lynn Doyle Flowers of Memphis, TN, Jim and Susan Hudgins of Drummonds, TN, Trena Street of Collierville, TN, Home Towne Photography of Memphis, Reed Bullock of Piperton, TN, Sandy Simpson of Byhalia, MS, Trena Street of Collierville, TN, Lecile Harris of Collierville, TN, and Jerry and Connie Nanney of Austin, AR.

Find more information about the Mid-South Rodeo Queen Pageant, on Facebook at Mid South Rodeo Queen Pageant email: rodeotenn@aol.com.
The Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) Stock Horse Team is a student club organization in which MTSU students compete and host American Stock Horse Association (ASHA) certified shows and ranch shows. Andrea R. Rego is the Coach for the Stock Horse Team, as well as an Instructor in the Horse Science Dept.

Regular ASHA events combine a clinic and a competition, with the clinic scheduled one day prior to the competition. The ASHA clinics offer sessions in all four ASHA events – pleasure, trail, reining, and working cow horse. Clinics are geared towards helping riders and horses of all ages and levels of ability.

ASHA competitions offer the four ASHA classes of Pleasure, Reining, Trail and Working Cow Horse. For more information about ASHA shows, visit americanstockhorse.org. The MTSU team is also affiliated with the Tennessee Stock Horse Association.

This year the MTSU Stock Horse Team is offering three shows. The shows are open to anyone interested in the reining, cowhorse, pleasure, and trail type events. The team also offers affordable clinics before each show. Following are the 2019 show dates with locations (more dates may be announced):

March 9, at Hurricane Creek Ranch in Lebanon, Tenn.
August 16, at the Wilson County Fairgrounds in Lebanon, Tenn.
November 15-16, at the Miller Coliseum in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The following riders and horses earned Year End High Point Awards for 2018 MTSU shows:
Open Champion: Andrea Rego and Twenty Eleven Twister
Non-Pro Champion: Lisa Jones and Hallmarks JB
LTD Non-Pro Champion: Lucas Brock and Shakers Cowgirl
LTD Non-Pro Reserve Champion: Diane Kendrick and Star of Texata
Novice Champion Collegiate Rider: Patricia Wingate and Izzie Tornado
Novice Reserve Champion Collegiate Rider: Caroline Blackstone and Chrome Plated Sugar
Novice Champion Non-Collegiate Rider: Darlene Green and Bringing Home The Pesos
Novice Reserve Champion Non-Collegiate Rider: Kristen Regula and Golden Bueno Dan It
Green Horse Champion: Brittany Malinoski and Mister Smoken Diesel
Green Horse Reserve Champion: Kimberly White and No Guns On Easter
Youth 14-18 Champion: Taylor Meek and Dunnie Smokin
Youth 14-18 Reserve Champion: Jordan Martin and Gunador
Youth 8-13 Champion: Morgan Curry and Hallmarks JB
Youth 8-13 Reserve Champion: taylor Meek and Dunnie Smokin

If you are an MTSU student and would like to join the team, please contact Coach Andrea Rego at 615-904-8319 or email Andrea.Rego@mtsu.edu. For more information, visit www.mtsustockhorse.org and facebook: MTSU Stock Horse Team.
The 2019 Hobart Ames Memorial Field Trial began January 14, 2019 with the All Age Stake, followed by the Derby Stake. A preliminary field trial to the National Championship, there were quite a few National Championship veteran dogs in the running and 30 dogs in all competing in the All Age Stake. The action got going on a chilly, cloudy Monday (in the 40s), followed by more chilly days, with a few brief glimpses of sun on Wednesday.

Randy Anderson had several dogs running in the All Age Stake: Hush Money and Valient, owned by Jay McKenznie; Touch’s Spaceman, owned by Matt Griffith; Touch’s Blackout and Touch’s Adams County, owned by Ric Peterson; Aberdeen’s Paid In Full owned by Matt Griffith; and Lester’s Jazz Man, owned by Dan Hensley.

Steve Hurdle handled Game Bo for Dr. Fred Corder; Stardust Chaz for the Craigs, John Sayer and Scott Kermicle; Southern Cross Bandilla for Edwin Gott; Motorcity Rock Star for Paul Tutro; Button Up for Julie Roach; Coldwater Thunder for Doug Arthur and Rachel Blackwell; and Blackhawk’s Diana for Larry Esterline.

Larry Huffman had several dogs in the All Age running: Las Animas Fancy, owned by Dale Bush; Whippoorwill Mayhem, owned by Ric Peterson; Whippoorwill Justified, owned by Ronnie Spears; Misty Morn Masked Man, owned by Joey McAlexander; Game Sport, owned by Earl Connolly; Whippoorwill Assault, owned by Jim and Stephanie Bickers; and Whippoorwill Blue Blood, owned by Keith Wright.

Betty Shearhouse ran her Shearjoy’s Unforgiven.

Weldon Bennett handled Coldwater Odyssey for Debra and Andrew Agnew; Coldwater Spectre for Gary McKibben; and Coldwater Stoner for Dr. Lee Butler. Matt Cochran handled his Whippoorwill Forever Wild.

Larry Smith ran his two dogs: SF Saltwater and SF Stetson.

David Williams handled his three dogs: Rebel Dreamer, Rebel Maiden, and Rebel Survivor.

Winners of the Hobart Ames Open All Age, announced Wednesday January 16, 2019 were:

1st: Whippoorwill Justified, owned by Ronnie Spears; handled by Larry Huffman
2nd: Valiant, owned by Jay McKenzie and handled by Randy Anderson
3rd: Coldwater Thunder, owned by Doug Arthur; handled by Steve Hurdle

Derby

There were 26 Derby entries, which started on Wednesday, January 16, including these “new kids on the block.”

Billy Blackwell’s Ransom’s Jack Flash, handled by Steve Hurdle
Keith Wright’s Touch’s Grey Street and Touch’s American Doll, handled by Ike Todd

Winners of the Hobart Ames Open Derby, announced Wednesday January 16, 2019 were:

1st: Caladen’s Yukon Cornelius, handled by Ike Todd
2nd: Ransom’s Jack Flash, handled by Steve Hurdle
3rd: Touch’s Grey Street, handled by Ike Todd/Keith Wright.
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Gray Attempt Wins Smarty Jones Stakes

Photos by Coady Photography

Hot Springs, AR (Friday, Jan. 25, 2019)

Dwight Pruett’s Gray Attempt earned his third straight victory with his front-running win in Friday’s $150,000 Smarty Jones Stakes before an opening day crowd of 20,000.

Ridden by Shaun Bridgmohan, Gray Attempt went straight to the lead from his far outside post and led the field of eight through fractions of :23 and :46 4/5 for the first half mile. Long Range Toddy and Boldor raced in close pursuit, but were never able to pass the winner, finishing a neck back in second and third, respectively. Winning time for the one mile was 1:36 4/5 over a fast track.

“He left there like we thought he would,” trainer Jinks fires said. “I knew with Steve (Asmussen) having three in there, he’d send at least one of them. Our horse had just enough speed to overcome it. We’re staying right here and if all goes well, we’ll go in the Southwest.”

Six Shooter was fourth, followed by Sleepy Eyes Todd, 3-2 favorite Bankit, Super Steed, and Forloveofcountry.

“Obviously, I’m disappointed in Bankit, but Long Range Toddy and Boldor both ran solid,” trainer Steve Asmussen said.

With the win, Gray Attempt also earned 10 points toward Kentucky Derby eligibility and is now ranked 11th on the Kentucky Derby Leaderboard. Second-place finisher Long Range Toddy, who earned 10 points for winning the Remington Springboard Mile in December, earned an additional four points Friday to move into fourth place with a total of 14 points. Boldor earned two points for third and Six Shooter earned one point for fourth, but neither are currently in the top 20 on the Leaderboard. The Kentucky Derby is limited to the top 20 points earners.
Greener Pastures

Birds: By The Numbers

By Nancy Brannon, with information from Mitch Robinson

Strawberry Plains Audubon Center (SPAC), Holly Springs, Mississippi, began the New Year with their first Christmas Bird Count on Saturday January 5, 2019. This SPAC bird count is part of the national Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count (CBC), which is the nation’s longest running community science bird project. Occurring annually in over 2,500 locations across the Western Hemisphere, this winter marked the 119th CBC, and 37 people came to SPAC for their first ever Christmas Bird Count. Hosted by the staff and friends of SPAC, this all-day count was held in lieu of their annual Winter Bird Count, and expanded the range beyond SPAC’s sanctuary boundary to a 15-mile diameter circle centered about 5 miles southeast of SPAC. The count’s location was chosen to provide opportunities to find birds among Marshall County’s varied habitats (e.g., Hudsonville grasslands, Chewalla Lake Recreation Area, Duck Pond, Holly Springs National Forest, as well as SPAC). The CBC also provides a great opportunity to engage and educate participants on winter bird species, while highlighting the importance of community science projects for measuring long-term trends in species’ abundance.

Mitch Robinson, Conservation Education Manager at SPAC said that the bird count was by far the largest Christmas Bird Count at SPAC, viewing 86 species of birds, with 5,176 individual birds counted. “Some unique bird species of note included the blue-headed vireo, all three nuthatches (white-breasted, red-breasted, brown-headed), Le Conte’s sparrow, and the American woodcock.”

Why is counting birds in the winter so important?

Robinson says, “A new study shows that there is a large discrepancy between the number of birds migrating in the fall and spring, meaning winter habitats are possibly declining across the Americas, or development in Latin America is rapidly depleting former over-wintering habitat. Audubon just published an article on this at: https://www.audubon.org/magazine/winter-2018/how-many-birds-disappear-between-migration.”

In addition to the Christmas Bird Count, there is also the Great Backyard Bird Count, which is February 15-18. This backyard bird count is important because, Robinson explains: “No single scientist or team of scientists could hope to capture information about birds across the United States and Canada in four days. The CBC is only possible thanks to the help of tens of thousands of people counting birds in more than 15 countries during...”
the same period every year. The more people who participate, the better record we will have of this year’s birds. Scientists can use the information to track the ups and downs of bird populations and to learn more about their migratory movements. Scientists can use the information to track year-to-year changes in the abundance and distribution of birds. They learn about the complex patterns of winter bird movements. And they can look for trends that indicate how well birds are faring through environmental changes such as urbanization, global climate change, and disease.

Why do birds matter?
If you read the article “Why Birds Matter,” by Jonathan Franzen with stunning photographs by Joel Sartore, the featured article in the January 2018 edition of National Geographic, you learn that birds benefit all of us. Franzen concludes: “Beyond the sheer joy they provide, birds play a vital role in the environment, pollinating plants, dispersing seeds, controlling insects, and removing rotting flesh. ‘The future of birds, and us, are intertwined more than we know,’ writes photographer Joel Sartore in Birds of the Photo Ark. ‘We soar, or plummet, together.’”

If you would like to attract birds to your back yard, what types bird feeders and what types of bird seed attract what types of birds?
Mitch Robinson advises: “There are literally thousands of different seed mixes you can buy. At SPAC, we keep it simple and cost effective by shopping at our local bi-county CoOp and buying 50 lbs. bags of Black Oil Sunflower Seed.

“Another great addition is Suet. “Place the feeders in places you want to watch birds. It’s as simple as that! For example, place a feeder outside a window, but be sure to keep it a minimum of five or so feet from the window, or you might get window strikes from birds.

“The suet can be put directly onto the sides of trees or anything in your yard, as the peanut butter makes it adhesive.

“The seed will attract several sparrow species, nuthatches, goldfinch, chickadees, titmouse. The suet attracts all sorts of birds year round, but in the winter usually nuthatches, brown creepers, Woodpeckers (red-bellied, downy, hairy, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker) and anything else looking for some good carbs and protein. “

Owls
Northern Saw-whet Owls have arrived at SPAC. This tiny owl, weighing roughly

amounts of surface water left in their reservoirs after their crops are harvested. Delta Wind Birds’ idea was to find farmers willing to pump some of this water onto their fields after crop harvest, to create habitat for shorebirds during fall migration.

Fall flooding of crop fields has been shown to create decent shorebird habitat, but previously was done with precious groundwater, which also has the disadvantage of being cold and relatively devoid of organisms. As such, groundwater, now on the surface, usually takes weeks to be colonized by sufficient invertebrate animals to provide high-quality food for migratory shorebirds. Delta Wind Birds hoped that re-using surface water would not only save groundwater, but also would provide high-quality habitat more quickly, since the water is warmer and is pre-inoculated with populations of invertebrate animals.

Their experiment seems to have worked. Delta Wind Birds partnered with Mr. James Failing, a crop farmer near Indianola, Mississippi, and tried this strategy on some of his fields last fall, from late September through October, 2018. Mr. Failing put the first water onto his fields on September 20th. When Delta Wind Birds staff first checked for birds on September 30th, the site was already attracting hundreds of shorebirds, and they estimate that the site provided habitat for upwards of 2000 shorebirds, at least 13 species, through the month of October. Delta Wind Birds is grateful to Andy Bell and Jeff Harris for conducting regular monitoring of the site, and to Mr. Failing for being willing to work with Delta Wind Birds. The organization hopes to expand this conservation strategy in fall 2019, if we can raise sufficient funds.

Here is a link to one of Jeff Harris’s eBird checklists, including quite a few nice bird photos: ebird.org/view/checklist/S49027466

Visit Delta Wind Birds on facebook. Keep up with events at SPAC at: http://strawberry.audubon.org/
Forage and Grassland Council Conference

Tennessee ranks 12th in the nation in the use of farmland for the production of hay or for actively grazing livestock, especially beef cattle. In early March landowners will gather to discuss this lucrative, but sometimes misunderstood agricultural commodity, and University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture experts and an expert from Auburn University will be on hand to explain industry trends.

The Tennessee Forage and Grassland Council will hold a forage conference at the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center in Jackson, Tenn. on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. The conference will focus on practices that livestock producers can use to be more efficient in their forage programs.

The meeting will begin with a dinner at 5:30 p.m. CST, with the program starting at 6 p.m. Speakers and topics for the conference include the following experts and topics:

- Using alfalfa in tall fescue and bermudagrass, presented by Renata Nave Oakes, UT Department of Plant Sciences
- What information can you get from a forage test? presented by Gary Bates, UT Department of Plant Sciences and director of the UT Beef and Forage Center
- Mineral content of forage crops, presented by Kim Mullenix, Auburn University Extension specialist
- Which is best: a 45-, 60- or 90-day breeding season? presented by Justin Rhinehart, UT Department of Animal Science
- Using forage test results, presented by Jason Smith, UT Department of Animal Science
- Top money eaters in cow-calf production, presented by Andrew Griffith, UT Department of Agricultural and Rural Economics
- Registration for this meeting is $25, which includes dinner and a one-year membership in the TFGC. For more information contact Gary Bates by email at gbates@utk.edu or by phone at 865-974-7208.

ELCR New Informational Articles

Lexington, Ky. – January 23, 2019 – Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) is pleased to announce several new articles that are now available in our website library, covering a variety of topics that are of interest to individuals, horsemen and women, and communities as efforts are made to protect, create, enhance and maintain the lands, facilities and trails that are critical to all equine activities.

“A Look at Backyard Horsekeeping” looks at aspects of and regulations for keeping horses on small farms and residential properties. Zoning regulations and availability of equine services and supplies, assessing a property for horse-keeping and best management practices (BMPs) to employ are covered. The article also explores many of the backyard horse communities in the US, looking at the zoning, facilities and trails that help to support equestrian activities. https://elcr.org/a-look-at-backyard-horse-keeping/

“Working with Parks for Equine Access – Master Plan” is in two parts. Part 1, “Master Plan”, describes the reasons for and process of creating a master plan for a municipal park, and the advocacy role that the equine community must play. Part 2, “Master Plan Illustrations” is a tour of equestrian-based master plans in communities around the US. Produced by experienced designers, community planners and parks personnel with public input, the illustrations look at master plans for equine centers and facilities. elcr.org/working-with-parks-for-equine-access-master-plan-part-1/

ELCR serves as an information resource and clearing house on conserving horse properties, land use planning, land stewardship, best management practices, trails, liability, and equine economic impact.

For more information about the ELCR visit www.elcr.org or call (859) 455-8383.
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**Senator Joseph D. Tydings Memorial PAST Act**

**Information from Congressmen Kurt Schrader and Ted Yoho**

Washington, D.C. January 22, 2019 – In a truly bipartisan effort, Co-Chairs of the Congressional Veterinary Medicine Caucus, Congressman Kurt Schrader (D-OR) and Congressman Ted S. Yoho (R-FL), today, January 22, 2019, introduced the U.S. Senator Joseph D. Tydings Memorial PAST (Prevent All Soring Tactics) Act to amend the Horse Protection Act of 1970, ending the abusive practice known as horse soring. This is the third consecutive Congress that Reps. Schrader and Yoho, both large animal veterinarians for more than 30 years and two of only three veterinarians currently in Congress, have introduced the PAST Act.

Soring is the practice of intentionally injuring the hooves and legs of Tennessee Walking Horses to exaggerate the leg motion of these high gaited horses. Even though it’s been illegal for over 50 years, it’s still widely practiced.

“Horse soring still runs rampant even though laws have been on the books for decades banning this cruel practice,” said Rep. Schrader. “We gave them a chance to self-police but the practice continued. Our bill will strengthen and improve current regulations by improving USDA enforcement, increasing civil and criminal penalties, and banning incentives to sore horses. It’s time for Congress to act and put an end to this abusive practice.”

“I am honored to join my fellow veterinarian, Rep. Kurt Schrader and various organizations who support the end of horse soring. As a veterinarian and lover of animals, we must continue to keep the pressure on a select group of bad actors in the Walking Horse industry. They must comply with existing law and stop this illegal practice for good,” said Rep. Yoho.

Senator Steve Cohen was honored for his work to end soring at the National Press Club on Jan. 15, 2019. “I’m honored on behalf of all who oppose animal cruelty,” said Cohen (D-TN). “Tennessee Walkers are beautiful horses who don’t need to be horrifically ‘trained’ to be appreciated.”

The bill is named in honor of Senator Joseph D. Tydings of Maryland who served in the Senate from 1965-1971. Sen. Tydings sponsored the Horse Protection Act of 1970 and devoted his life working to end the practice of soring. Sen. Tydings died on October 8, 2018 at age 90.

Last Congress, the bill received the support of 290 bipartisan cosponsors. The legislation is also supported by more than 280 organizations, associations and groups, including both veterinary advocates and horse industry professionals.

The PAST Act is supported by the American Horse Council, American Veterinary Medical Association, American Association of Equine Practitioners, United States Equestrian Federation, National Sheriff’s Association, and veterinary medical associations from all 50 states.

(left) Large animal veterinarian U.S. Senator Ted Yoho with a horse.
### Mid-South Horse Review Calendar of Events

**FEBRUARY - MARCH**

**Agricenter Showplace Arena**

- **FEB. 8-10:** USTRC Muddy River Classic
- **FEB. 22-24:** IBRA Super Show

**Marshall Co Fairgrounds**

- **FEB. 16:** Outlaw Series barrel racing
- **MAR. 16:** Outlaw Series barrel racing

**Mississippi Horse Park**

- **FEB. 3:** Winter Barrel Series - CANCELLED
- **FEB. 8-9:** Rotary Classic Rodeo
- **FEB. 17:** Winter Barrel Series
- **MAR. 17:** Winter Barrel Series

**Roane State Expo Center**

- **FEB. 23-24:** East TN Cutting Horse Assn.
- **FEB. 26:** Trick Swap & Open Ride
- **MAR. 1-2:** NCA Pro Rodeo
- **MAR. 7-10:** TQHA Celebration Circuit
- **MAR. 15-16:** 4-H Clover Classic
- **MAR. 22-24:** TN Reining Horse Assn.
- **MAR. 30-31:** East TN Cutting Horse Assn.

**Tennessee Livestock Center**

- **FEB. 2-3:** Top Flight Classic Horse Show
- **FEB. 15:** Block & Bridle Show
- **MAR. 9-10:** Stones River Pony Club Spring Combined Test & Dressage Show

**Tennessee Miller Coliseum**

- **FEB. 9-10:** Intercolligate Horse Show
- **FEB. 22-24:** Southern Equine Expo
- **MAR. 2:** Lone Star Rodeo
- **MAR. 9-10:** TN Paint Horse Show
- **MAR. 15-17:** Southland Circuit AQHA
- **MAR. 22-24:** IBRA Preferred Show

**Tri-State Exhibition Center**

- **FEB. 23-24:** Ranch Horse Clinic
- **MAR. 2:** TAGDEA Level 1 Comb. Test & Dressage Show
- **MAR. 3:** Greystone Dressage
- **MAR. 9:** TN National Barrel Horse Assn.
- **MAR. 16-17:** Dressage Clinic
- **MAR. 30:** Western Dressage Show

**Tunica Arena & Expo CNTR**

- **MAR. 2-3:** Mid-South Quarter Horse Show
- **MAR. 8-10:** Jx2 Team Roping
- **MAR. 20-24:** Ala. All Arabian Horse Show

**Ut Martin Ag Pavilion**

- **FEB. 8:** Skyhawk Equestrian at Auburn, AL
- **FEB. 14-17:** Equestrian team competition
- **MAR. 16-17:** WTQHA Show
- **MAR. 21:** Skyhawk Equestrian vs. UT Martin

**Williamson Co Ag Expo Park**

- **MAR. 15-17:** USTRC Tenn. Team Roping Championships

**Ishamia Horse Shows**

- **FEB. 2-3:** Rome, GA. Berry College. Zone 5 Region 2 IHSA hunt seat & western shows
- **FEB. 16:** Marion, AL. Judson College. Zone 5 Region 2 IHSA western show
- **FEB. 17:** Tuscaloosa, AL. Univ. of Alabama. Zone 5 Region 2 IHSA hunt seat show
- **FEB. 23:** Auburn, AL. Auburn Univ. Zone 5 Region 2 IHSA hunt seat show
- **FEB. 26:** Auburn, AL. Auburn Univ. IHSA Regional show

**Mid-South Horse Review® Calendar of Events** lists horse shows and other equine events. We attempt to keep listings current, however, we cannot guarantee the completeness or accuracy of any item. Please contact the individuals listed for additional information and to verify dates. To submit your event, call (901) 867-1755 or e-mail the information to: midsouthhorsereview@yahoo.com or editor@midsouthhorsereview.com. All submissions are subject to editing by MSHR staff to meet format and length restrictions. Entries must be received by deadline date to ensure inclusion in the print edition.

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**ENDURANCE**

| MAR. 2-3: Forest, MS. Shockaloe Ride. |

**Field Trials**

| FEB. 2: Blue Mountain, MS. Hell Creek WMA. Alabama Open All-Age. |
| FEB. 7: Fisherville, TN. Cedar Hill Amateur FTC |
| FEB. 23: Dancyville, TN. West TN Open All-Age |
| FEB. 28: Hickory Valley, TN. Wolf River Amateur |
| MAR. 7: Columbus, MS. Black Prairie WMA. Prairie Amateur |
| MAR. 9: Hickory Valley, TN. National Amateur Derby Championship |
| MAR. 14: Dancyville, TN. Fayette Co. FTC |
| MAR. 28: LaVerne, TN. Percy Priest WMA. Minnville FTC. |

**FOXHUNTING**

- **FEB. - MAR.: Holly Springs, MS. Lodge Farm. Oak Grove Foxhunting season. Info: Amanda McGee (901) 606-2119

**Hunter/Jumper**

- **FEB-MAR. 31:** Wellington, FL. Palm Beach International Equestrian Center. Winter Equestrian Festival. Info: pbieevent.com
- **FEB. 16:** Thompson's Station, TN. Jacek Centre Snowflake III Jumper Show. Info: www.jacekcentre.com & facebook
- **FEB. 23-24:** Thompson's Station, TN. Jacek Centre Snowflake IV Hunter Show & TJC Hunter Derby. Info: www.jacekcentre.com & facebook
- **MAR. 1-3:** Memphis, TN. Show Place Arena. MegFord Horse Show
- **MAR. 15-17:** Thompson's Station, TN.
Jaeckle Centre Spring Classic Hunter/Jumper. www.jaecklecentre.com
MAR. 30: Germantown, TN. CHHS Arena. WTHIA Schooling Show. Info: Barney Mallace: BMallace721@gmail.com

PAINT/PINTO
FEB. 3-4: Jackson, MS. Kirk Fordice Equine Center. Dixie National Paint-O-Rama. Info: www.missphc.com
MAR. 9-10: Murfreesboro, TN. Miller Coliseum. TN Paint Horse Club show. Info: https://tpchonline11.homestead.com
MAR. 30-31: Meridian, MS. Lauderdale Co. Agri-Center. PHBA & Pinto Show. Info: Helen P. Fleming (662) 871-1976; helenfantiques@aol.com

QUARTER HORSE SHOWS
MAR. 9-10: Lebanon, TN. Hurricane Creek Ranch. MTSU Stock Horse Team show. www.mtsustockhorse.org
MAR. 16-17: Fayetteville, AR. Univ. of Arkansas. Whitacker Animal Science Center. Ranch Horse clinic & show.

STOCK HORSE/COW HORSE
MAR. 9: Lebanon, TN. Hurricane Creek Ranch. MTSU Stock Horse Team show. www.mtsustockhorse.org
MAR. 16-17: Fayetteville, AR. Univ. of Arkansas. Whitacker Animal Science Center. Ranch Horse clinic & show.

RACING/STEEPLECHASING

RANCH HORSE

REINING
FEB. 14: Jackson, MS. 2019 Dixie National QH Show. Info: Heidi Lane 719-320-6355; heidi@peak-equine.com
MAR. 22-24: Harriman, TN. Roane State Expo. TNQHA Spring Celebration. www.tqha.org

RODEOS & BULL RIDING
FEB. 8-9: Murray, KY. Expo Center. Bull Blowout 2019 - Pro Bull Riding. Barrel Racing, Calf Scramble, Mutton Busting. 8pm nightly. Call Feb 4, 4-10 pm @ 731-642-8346. Info: 731-644-5665
MAR. 2: Murfreesboro, TN. IPRA 2nd Sanction. www.lonestarrodeocompany.com
MAR. 9: Buchanan, TN. Milam’s Horsebarn, Hwy 218. Pro and Non-Pro Bull Riding. Mutton Busting. 8pm. Call Monday, Mar. 4, 4-10 pm @ 731-642-8346. Info: 731-644-5665

ROPEING
FEB. 8-10: Memphis, TN. Show Place Arena. USTRC Muddy River Classic
MAR. 8-9: Tuniac, MS. Expo Center. Jx2 Team Roping. www.jx2events.com
MAR. 15-17: Franklin, TN. Williamson Co. AgExpo Center. TN Championships. www.jx2events.com

PARTING SHOTS
Gary & Carol Cox graciously sent us photos from the Liberty Bowl Rodeo and the Battle in the Saddle. Enjoy!

DEADLINE
DEADLINE for March issue: Feb. 22 5 pm
A nutrient-dense, textured feed designed to provide optimum nutrition to pregnant & lactating mares and young, growing horses up to 2 years of age. Offer to pregnant mares at the beginning of last trimester to ensure the nutritional demands of pregnancy and lactation are met.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS
• Highly palatable formula for the nutritional needs of gestating & lactating mares.
• Promotes optimum foal development & immune health through age 2.
• Balanced calcium & phosphorus, copper & zinc support bone growth.

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