



MONTANA WALKING HORSE NEWS

Tennessee Walking Horse Exhibitor's Association of Montana

A letter from the President

Rick Wies

Hi All, I hope your Summer was a nice one. We certainly have had some super nice weather to enjoy the horses. Wife Cathy and I always enjoy a few Fall day rides into Glacier National Park. We recently rode some of the trails around Lake McDonald, Avalanche and McDonald Creeks and into the Trout Lake area where the Robert Fire of 2003 burned over 57,000 acres. After a full day on the trail we enjoyed a nice dinner at the Lake McDonald Lodge where we started and ended our ride. During the peak season I am sure parking here would be frowned upon. We also enjoyed introducing the Lake McDonald ranger station Ranger to his first ride on a Walking Horse for which he wrote a positive report to his supervisor.

I am setting Executive board meeting dates for Sunday November 16, 2008 and January 11, 2009 at 7 PM MST. (no meeting during the holidays) These will be conference call meetings and all current members may attend. I will again be using a service provided by powwownow.com and the call in number is 1-641-715-3777 and password is 786858. Please call in from a quiet location with a good connection remembering that it will be heard by all online.

No one from Region #3 volunteered to serve as Director. At this point I have elected to leave the position open, however I do have the option to appoint an at-large director. No one volunteered to head up or serve on a trail committee.

TWHEAM membership seems to be up with around sixty-five. Up from about thirty-eight at this time last year. However, nationally membership is at 105 down from 122.

Thanks to Amy. Not only does she do a nice Newsletter, she is cooperative and easy to work with.

I have included a horse show report and information and eligibility requirements for the newly developed Scholarship.

Your President, Rick Wies

TWHEAM SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The Tennessee Walking Horse Exhibitors' Association of Montana will award a scholarship each year in the amount of \$250 (based upon the availability of funds). Scholarship application deadline is April 1 and will be awarded at the annual meeting. The scholarship will be awarded based on academic performance (1/3), extracurricular activities (1/3), equine involvement (1/3). Scholarship recipients are eligible to use the award for undergraduate educational expenses at the College, Junior College, University or Trade School of their choice.

Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) Applicant or applicant's parents must be a member of TWHEAM for 2 consecutive years prior to application deadline: April 1.
- 2) Cannot apply for the scholarship before junior year of high school.
- 3) Cannot be over the age of 22. Note: Scholarship information and eligibility subject to change.

Rick Wies in Glacier National Park

Club Officers

President
Rick Wies
(406) 849-5067
rickwiesstables@centurytel.net

Vice President
Brooke Curnow

Secretary
Barb Jennings

Treasurer/Show Director
Pat Nikrasch

National Director
Roberta Brady

Show Director
Lauri Kress

Region 1 Director
Bobby Norton

Region 2 Director
Sandy Jankowski

Region 3 Director
Open

Region 4 Director
John Gonitzke

Newsletter Editor
Amy Yalon



CLUB NEWS

It's official - it's a tradition

2008 Montana Rendezvous and Versatility Show - Rick Wies

In what has become a Summer tradition, the Tennessee Walking Horse Exhibitors Association of Montana held its 2008 Rendezvous and Versatility show at the gorgeous Sapphire Event Center, marking its eighth year.

With 235 entries making the gate call, we were very pleased and relieved to see this turnout. Although, not the largest show we have experienced, it was slightly ahead from the previous year. Travel (gas prices) being the reason for some to forego the trip. We were glad to have many new exhibitors from Idaho and Washington states and we welcome them as new members. To quote Dr. Rasmussen from Idaho, "This is the most fun our family has had at a show and we will be back." It was nice to see the youth participation up with most classes filling. It was great to see several fun folks from the Billings area, and in conversation, about the travel expenses, with Marlene Raymond, "Yeah, but it is just so much fun." Thanks to all exhibitors!

We did surely miss a few Wyoming members and at least one close to the WY/MT border who had planned on showing, butnot to mention names, but Brook, Renee, Jan, and Debbie. We, also, missed the Standing Rock horses, (who had other commitments) which I believe has shown every previous year. Sure hope you guys will make it next year.

A very special thanks to all that donated their time, and / or sponsored to help out the show. The gate attendants, ribbon presenters, ring stewards, show secretary, show committee, show sponsors, etc. are truly what make this show possible.

The blue ribbon count found My Texas Beau for Pat Nikrasch with twelve at the top. Clever Debutante was right on his heels and went home with eleven for owner Bill Cody. Youth rider Megan Auch's new horse Beau's Go Boy collected seven big wins. Totally Grand for the Rasmussen's and Pride's Dark Sin for Barb Jennings each earned five blues. RJW's One Extra Dollar collected four for owner Robert Walsh. Triple blues went to Ben Pushing for Gold for Diane Clark and Megan Auch's Bessie Gone Gal. Multiple blues went to Match the Magic and the Rasmussen's and Lou's Capital Gain for Barb Jennings.

Showcasing the breed

Brooke Curnow

In May of 2008 the Boot and Bottle Club located in Cody, Wyoming hosted the first annual horse fair. At the fair many different breeds of horses were represented, along with demonstrations of different horse disciplines and events. It was a great turn out with breeds such as, quarter horse, arabian,

SHOW WINNERS

- Hi Point Adult Rider - Barb Jennings
- Hi Point Youth Rider - Megan Auch
- Hi Point Junior Youth Rider - Ben Rasmussen
- Hi Point Plantation Horse - Beau's Go Boy shown by Megan Auch and Rich Wies, Owned by Megan Auch
- Hi Point Light Shod Horse - My Texas Beau shown by Pat Nikrasch & Rick Wies, owned by Pat Nikrasch
- Hi Point Trail Pleasure Horse - Master in Command shown by Sally Suk, owned by Suzanne Miller



Winners at the the Show. Standing Left to Right - Nancy Stoverud (accepting for Hi Point Trail Pleasure Horse for rider Nancy Stoverud and Dunrovin Ranch), Barb Jennings, Pat Nikrasch, Judge Dee Dee Sale (accepting for Junior Rider Ben Rasmussen). Kneeling: Megan Auch.

shires, paint, morgan, thoroughbred, appaloosa, belgian, lusitano, mustang, paso fino, peruvian paso, fox trotter, racking, spotted saddle, and of course the tennessee walker. Some of the demonstrations that were represented are, mounting shooting, medieval jousting, dressage, driving and much more.

MEMBER NEWS

Mountainview Walking Horse Ranch located in Clark, Wyoming represented three of the breeds; racking, spotted saddle and tennessee walker. We had one of our 10 year old tennessee walking horse mares named Cinderella Diamond Beauty display the true flat walk, running walk and canter. She also showed the versatility side of the breed with her jumping ability. Mikes Spotted Design one of our racking horses displayed the difference between a rack and a running walk.

Next we demonstrated a reining pattern on Thriller's Summer Spirit a 3 year old double registered spotted saddle and tennessee walker gelding. Then later in



Thriller's Summer Spirit Bowing

the day he showed off his trainability by doing some tricks from, smiling, to bowing, to laying down. Everyone at the horse fair was amazed at how versatile our breed can be. Also a bit of history was told about each breed and how they originated into today's horses.



Thriller's Summer Spirit Laying Down

The horse fair was a big success and they are already planning next years event. It was a great time had by all who attended, learning about different breeds of horses, meeting new people and making new friends.

A Wyoming Loop

Dan and Emily Aadland

Although ranching duties keep summers awfully busy for us, Emily and I were able to slip away on a quick mountain trip during August with camper and horses in tow. First we headed to the Bighorn Mountains, climbing the infamous 10% grade of Highway 14A east of Lovell, Wyoming, and settling in a camping spot I knew from earlier hunting trips. The scenery was gorgeous, and so was a short ride on our young geldings Partner and Scooter. Just before dark, when the campfire started crackling, three huge mule deer bucks appeared on the ridge to the west, spotted us, and cleared out. The largest was in the 30" plus class.



Emily and Scooter view Pilot Peak

The next morning the beautiful weather was gone. A wind so strong you could hardly stand against it roared through the pines. We pulled up stakes and headed west to Cody, drove up the spectacular

Chief Joseph highway, and settled at the Pilot Peak trailhead, which features a pipe corral and plenty of parking room. We had



Dan and Partner

the place to ourselves.

Our ride to the shoulder of Pilot Peak, up a trail featuring tracks of a grizzly sow and cub, was one we won't soon forget. The trail led through velvety second-growth pines, sprung up since the 1988 fires. Pilot and Index peaks have a very different appearance when viewed from the south, close up, than on the very familiar postcard views we often see.

A couple of notes for anyone planning horseback trips into the Cooke City area: some trailheads don't allow overnight camping and, conversely, most of the campgrounds don't allow horses. This makes for a bit of a dilemma. Secondly, this is true grizzly country. Be prepared and be watchful. Happy Trails!

MEMBER NEWS



Slush Creeks Triple Jet is an 8 year old mare born in Montana. She showed at the International Grand Championships and the World Versatility and did very well! For example, at Internationals, she won Youth and Amateur Championship Title in TWH over Fences, Amateur, ridden by Victoria Bennett, Victoria is 16. Jet is currently owned by Patty in Florida but she was born and raised at Slush Creek Walkers here in Montana!! We are so proud. Photo courtesy of Heidi Rockhold.

- Shellie & Mark Pacovsky

TWHEAM Newsletter
Amy Yalon - Editor
501 Blaine
Missoula, MT 59801



Dear fellow walking horse enthusiasts,

Well, this year we are the proud new guardians of two beautiful walking horse fillies. Our Kodachrome mare, Penny, gave birth to a beautiful bouncing filly nicknamed Belle (left 2 photos) on May 9, 2008 at approximately 2 am. Everything went smoothly, and she is so beautiful. Our Pusher mare, Shady, gave birth to another bundle of joy on June 18, 2008 at approximately 1 pm in the afternoon. It's another girl and her nickname is Sassy (right two photos). They both look so much alike! This is most likely due to the fact that they both have the same sire, a 6x WGC from Tennessee called JFK's Delight. We couldn't be happier with them both, and as far as personality, they are both real mellow and love being around. Hope everyone had fun riding this summer and have been enjoying the beautiful fall weather!

- Bobby and Carolyn Norton

