

Free - Please
take one
& pass it
around!

Where there are rivers,
There are valleys,
There are horses,
And...

All Breeds,
All Disciplines,
All the Time!

September 2012

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

Your resource for equestrian news, events and information

Girls and Their Horses: What to Do When College Nears



Inside this issue:

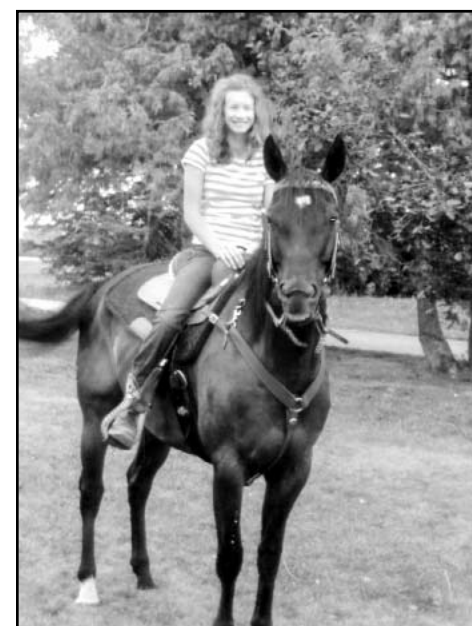
- National Drought Affects Local Hay Prices
- *Tribute to Jobe* by Tammy Finney
- *Joker* with Kathy Grimes
- *Riding the Brand* by Charles Schaal

Barrel Racing: Not Your Typical Sport

This may not be your typical sport, but to these girls it is still all about the competition, and they take it very seriously. Like other athletes, they train for their events and have special equipment – but that is where the similarities end. Their training and equipment are just as unique as their sport. They are barrel racers.

Barrel racing is a timed rodeo event where the fastest time is what matters most. Girls compete in the arena against each other and the clock.

For the barrel racing event, the arena is cleared and three barrels are set up at different marked locations. The riders then enter the arena to begin their run. They take off at full speed, quickly rounding each barrel in a cloverleaf pattern and then exiting where they entered. A stopwatch or timer



Courtesy Photo

Wanting to be like the fast riders she has watched at other events, Alyssa has been busy with her horse, Cash, training for the local barrel races and play-days. The MayPort Arena Association sponsors several events from spring through fall at the Portland Equine Park.

is used, registering down to a hundredth of a second.

Speed is what it is all about in this event. The riders steer their horses as close as they can to the barrels, trying to shave precious seconds off the clock. For each barrel they knock over (which happens sometimes) a five-second penalty is assessed to their total time. Leaving the barrels standing and ripping through the course is every barrel racer's goal.

Under 15 seconds is generally a winning time in this event, but this will vary with the size of the arena, as not all rodeo arenas are the same.

An arena located at the Portland Equine Park in Portland, N.D., is home to many aspiring barrel racers, and these three local girls are no exception. Shelby Braaten, Alyssa Eichhorn and Mackenzie Holkesvig are competing in their chosen sport, chasing their dreams, one barrel at a time.

Shelby, daughter of Randy and Michelle Braaten of Portland, is a 17-year-old senior at MPCG. She has been riding for over five years, starting out on a "loaner" horse at the Sliding Stop Ranch, rural Portland. "I started with Alias, a quarter horse gelding. He was my summer project," she was quick to point out. They worked together, with private lessons and by attending barrel racing clinics, to get her started. "I have loved horses all my life. I learned a lot off their training horses," Shelby said.

She gained the knowledge and confidence from that former roping horse, and during her freshman year, she acquired a horse she could call her own.

Getting that first horse wasn't easy. Shelby made a deal with her dad: She had to stay on the honor roll one whole year. Her hard work paid off, and her parents helped make her dream a reality. That horse was Cash, a red dun quarter horse gelding. He taught Shelby a lot, and from there, her "need for speed" increased, as did her desire to compete at the next level. So she upgraded her "equipment" and finally ended up with her current competition horse, Porscha, a 10-year-old tri-paint mare.

Porscha was a seasoned barrel horse, originally owned by Amy Paul of Galesburg, N.D. Shelby has owned her for a couple of months, and things are working out well for the two. They compete at the MayPort Arena in the United Barrel Racing Association (UBRA) events, and she plans on competing with her at the upcoming Grand Forks UBRA event. The farthest Shelby has traveled to compete is Warren, Minn. Her fastest competition time, so far, is 17.83 seconds.

All of her competing has come at a cost, as this can be an expensive sport. "I pay for most of it myself," Shelby says proudly. She babysits and cleans stalls to help pay her boarding costs. Plus, she helps her dad at his business and will be working in the office at her high school. With help from her dad, Shelby even bought her first trailer this summer. "Everything has fallen into place," she says.

The expense of owning a horse is not only financial, but can also be social. "There are not a lot of girls doing this around here," she says. She has given up a lot of the typical social aspects of a 17-year-old



Courtesy Photo

Shelby and her 15.2-hand, tri-colored paint horse Porscha show what it takes to compete at a local barrel racing event. Before a barrel run, Shelby tries to focus on the technical aspects of her sport. Afterward, she likes to review her performance through videos her parents take at her events.

girl by choosing to own a horse, but was quick to point out that it was worth it. She gave up "traditional" sports like volleyball and dance, but still plays hockey.

Shelby feels her horse experience has helped her be a better student, learn to open up and be more confident. When asked if horses would be a part of her life forever, she beamed. "Yes, they will definitely be there." She added, "If your kid wants a horse, get them one. It opens up a lot of doors and opportunities." Her favorite part of owning a horse? "They are never mad, they are always there no matter what and that makes for an awesome day." Shelby is planning on attending NDSU or University of Minnesota-Crookston after high school with the possibility of becoming a vet tech.

Another local barrel racer from the MayPort Arena Association (MPAA) is Alyssa Eichhorn, daughter of Alan and Karen Eichhorn of rural Portland. This 14-year-old eighth-grader has been around horses most of her life. Her dad rode when he was younger, and she wanted to follow in his hoofprints.

Alyssa started her horse career a little differently than Shelby. Alyssa began riding a pony named Princess when she was eight years old. As her skill level – and confidence – increased, so did the size of horse she rode. Starting on that first pony, Alyssa moved to a slightly larger 1/4 pony and then on to a full-sized horse, Cash, a 15.3-hand black gelding that she has been riding for about seven months.

Alyssa works very hard with Cash, as he was not a seasoned barrel horse. With the help of trainer Krista Montgomery of Manvel, N.D., Alyssa and Cash are learning the specifics of this sport. "My mom thought we should learn together," Alyssa said.

When asked if it made her mom a little nervous, she responded with a big grin. "Yeah, kinda." She added, "The best thing Krista taught me was control and starting out."

As does Shelby, Alyssa realizes a lot of work goes into having a horse. She is responsible for helping feed her horse twice a day, and likes to just "hang out" with him. She also felt that owning a horse has made her a better student. Not having a lot of horse friends outside of the arena association didn't seem to be a big deal to Alyssa. Her favorite thing about Cash is his personality. "He likes the attention, and he's very friendly," she said.

All of that attention and hard work with the trainer has been paying off. Alyssa is the proud recipient of two buckles, courtesy of her winning times in youth barrels and poles at the MPAA UBRA barrel series held this summer in

Portland. So far, her fastest barrel time is 19.3 seconds.

Not only does she enjoy competing at the UBRA events; she likes riding at home, trail riding with her dad and attending the local play-days sponsored by the MayPort Arena Association. Her favorite event is the barrel dash; her favorite thing about horses – bonding with them; her least favorite thing – falling off.

Alyssa is looking forward to a lifetime



Photo by Laurie Olson | Tribune Above: Alyssa Eichhorn, Mackenzie Holkesvig and Shelby Braaten, all members of the MayPort Arena Association, share a common love of horses and competition. All three girls are competitors in the local UBRA circuit and plan on competing at an upcoming Grand Forks event.

with horses and maybe going to school to be a vet tech.

Mackenzie Holkesvig, daughter of Wendy and Jason Holkesvig, rural Portland, is another young girl with barrel fever. This 13-year-old Northwood eighth-grader is no stranger to horses. Like Alyssa, she has been around them all her life, riding as long as she has been walking, according to her mother.

"My dad grew up on horses. He was able to teach me a lot," Mackenzie said. "Having an indoor arena and a horse made riding easy for me."

Her horse life began on a little pony (now retired from active duty) named Comanche. That was at the early age of two. And just like the other girls, as Mackenzie's abilities grew, so did the size of her horses. Mackenzie moved on to her dad's old roping horse when she was just seven. From there, she rode a paint horse named Rain,



Courtesy Photo

Mackenzie, with her horse Angelica, is grateful to have the Portland Equine Park facility so close to home. She feels it has been vital to her being able to compete in so many local events.

Continued on page 9

Nov. 1-3, 2012

Thursday, Nov. 1
Maturity Show • Noon

Friday, Nov. 2
Futurity Show • Noon
Main Event Social • 8 p.m.
Country Inn suites, lower level banquet room

Saturday, Nov. 3
Futurity Show • 8 a.m.
Sale to follow one hour after show • 3 p.m.

Anita Edwards Baumgartner 2011 ©

The 2011 Grand Champion: Sweet Radical Dreams
Owner/Rider: Nichole Mathiason, St. John, ND
Breeder: Kelly & Ruby Stuart, Eriksdale, MB

The 2011 High Seller: Myte Famous Invite
Buyer: Brian Rushinka, Brandon, MB
Breeder: Kelly & Ruby Stuart, Eriksdale, MB

North Dakota's Premiere Horse Sale & Futurity

NDSU Equine Center

5180 19 Ave. N, Fargo, ND 58102
1.5 miles West of I-29 on 19 Ave. N.

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

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Newspaper

What's in This Issue?



PG.10 The 8th Annual Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer, held Aug. 18-19 in McLeod, N.D., raised thousands of dollars for the Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo, N.D., with the help of hundreds of volunteers and riders who make a point to come out year after year, rain or shine. Left: Riders gather around the big water trough in the Sand Hills.

PG.13 Riding for the Brand, by New VEN columnist Charles Schaal

PG.14 Hay Shortages and the Drought

PG.2 Barrel Racing: Not Your Typical Sport

PG.6 NDCHF: Building the Herd

PG.8 Dr. Getty on Manuka Honey

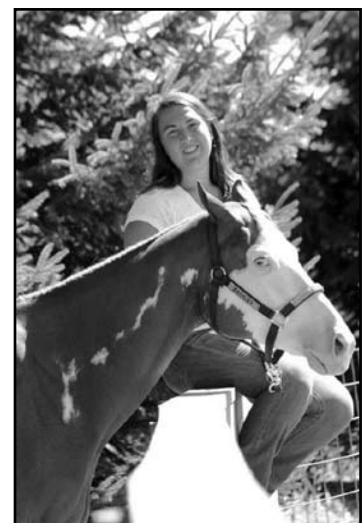
PG.9 Charles Wilhelm: Socializing A Horse Boarded at Home

PG.12 Kathy Grimes & Talking Horses is back with "Joker"



PG.16 The Outhouse: Auf Wiedersehen

About the Cover



This month's feature is about difficult decisions. If I have to leave home for college, do I cut ties with an animal that has become a part of the family and help it get a new job with a new rider, or move it into semi-retirement? The dilemma is compounded if the owner does not have property and must pay a stable fee for care and upkeep. If they are able to stay at home, what changes do they see happening? Regardless, life will not be the same for anyone. Baihley Jorgenson of southern Minnesota is one of many young ladies whose love of horses has affected their life decisions. Baihley is photographed here with her sorrel overo Paint gelding, Toby. Read more about Baihley on page 14.

Editorial Information

The Valley Equestrian, printed monthly, welcomes free-lance articles, cartoons, artwork, poems, photographs, etc. that we might use in the publication. We accept no responsibility for the material while in our hands. Materials will be returned if sent with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Photographs or graphics electronically submitted should be in color and must be at least 280 DPI resolution and four inches wide.

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Advertisements published in The Valley Equestrian do not constitute endorsement or recommendation of such product or service. The Valley Equestrian does not condone the alteration of horses in any photograph that appears in advertisements in the newspaper and accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the photographs used in the advertisements supplied by others than its own staff. The onus is on the reader to satisfy themselves about the appearance or conformation of a horse before making a financial decision.

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Publisher's Clipboard

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Charles Schaal to the position of National Sales Director for the Valley Equestrian Newspaper. In this role, he will be responsible for expanding national sales, developing sales campaigns, working with regional teams as new VEN branches are implemented, and formalizing sales forms, contracts and marketing specialist agreements. As we implement branches of the Valley Equestrian News in other locations, Charles will assist in hiring and will provide supervision of interns and other staff in those regions.

Charles and his wife Viki are both native Texans. They live near Rochester, Minn., where Viki is a cardiac-care RN with the Mayo Clinic. Charles is the founder and chaplain for Minnesota Cowboy Ministries. Charles and Viki own the registered paint "Partee-At-Six," with whom they have competed in western pleasure, hunter/jumper and dressage. Charles brings a strong history of successful sales experience in the newspaper industry, as well as experience with the western working horse, classical dressage and hunter/jumper events.

Olympic Recap

Nice Olympics, right? Did you love watching all the swimming, gymnastics, more swimming, volleyball and your other favorite sports on the NBC coverage on your TV, cell phone or the internet? Yes, I did, too. But where were the equestrian sports? Why was there not more variety? I love to swim, but could that have been recapped a little? It was because Phelps garnered 22 medals. But really, are there no other sports? What other sport requires the willing cooperation of two mammals?! Oh, yeah, the relay teams.

Well, maybe you were able to watch some equestrian events on your terrific internet connection; USEF Network had full coverage of the Olympics online. NBC did televise some equestrian events on the weekend. I was able to watch a couple events but was heartily disappointed, and our Facebook fans seemed to agree. Fortunately, if you have a good internet

connection, you can still see the 2012 Olympic equestrian highlights at <http://www.usefnetwork.com>

What to expect in this month's VEN? In this issue you will read about three young horsewomen heading off to college, each making the tough decision about how to deal with their horse. Some schools offer great programs where you can bring your horse along. Read on page 15 to find if they also were able to bring their special companions.

The VEN sponsored a couple events that culminated in success this month. One was the annual Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer, the proceeds of which go to the Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo, N.D. Read all about it and see some great photos taken by Fargo Commissioner Ken Pawluk.

The Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation (MHARF) also hosted its annual Trainers Challenge. They offer a rescued horse to each qualified trainer who accepts the challenge. The trainer takes the horse to his or her own stable for three months and trains it. You may remember reading stories about two of the trainers in the last couple issues of the VEN. Chris Vinson was featured in the July issue, page 6. Karen K. Lee was featured in the August issue, page 8.

The MHARF challenge was a great success. We saw many wonderful horses, which were auctioned during the event via silent bids. The winning horses and trainers are featured on page 19 of this issue, where you will also find photos of the other talented and generous trainers who gave of their time and resources to help train these horses for a new job with a new "forever family." Good luck to all the new owners, and thank you to Drew Fitzpatrick and the entire MHARF volunteer staff for the work they do each and every day to help the critters find their way to happiness.

There's lots more packed in these pages. Thank you for picking up this issue of the Valley Equestrian News. Please patronize the advertisers on our pages, who make the paper possible.

Godspeed and happy trails always,
Ley Bouchard, Publisher

Where Do You Read Your VEN?

Easy to tuck and take, the Valley Equestrian News travels well!

Take your copy with to read the action and info wherever you are.

Take a photo to show us where you read your VEN!

6TH ANNUAL Minnesota EquiFest

October 13-14, 2012
Minnesota State Fairgrounds
St. Paul, Minnesota

Region's Premier Fall Equine Event

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COWBOY POETRY WITH ORV

FILLING A THIRSTY STEAM ENGINE

THE THRESHING CREW'S YOUNGEST MEMBER
At what age can a young lad join the threshing crew?
Depended upon the age and how fast one grew.
They needed ev'ry fam'ly member and hired hand
To make sure each threshing duty station was manned.
The huge steam engine was a very thirsty beast;
It held 500 gallons of water at least!
Some considered the youngest lad, as a flunky,
And when needed, they yelled for the 'water monkey'!

THE WORKER WAS A PRIMATE, BUT, NOT A MONKEY
The youngest lad asked if the rooster was awake?
(Knowing it was 5 hours until the lunch break.)
His right hand was wrapped around a hand water pump;
It held 300 gallons to get 'over-the-hump,'
But, surprise...it's like 'uphill' for the last half tank,
And just a 'swallow' when the thirsty steamer drank!
The lad chafed at being considered a flunky,
A pump or carrier but not a 'monkey'.

PUMPED FROM THE NW CORNER OF THE WELL
A year before, he had a pony hitched to a cart
When he played a small but very essential part.
Hauling a cream can of fresh drawn, cold, well water,
A welcome sight, as the afternoon got hotter;
He passed the dipper to ev'ry hot, thirsty guy,
And ev'ry 'thresher' watched for the water supply!
This year, unappreciated, just a flunky;
They yelled for water, from the 'water monkey'.

THAT WEEK WAS UNIQUE, IT SPRUNG A LEAK
There was a roaring sound coming through the trees;
It didn't sound like a refreshing summer breeze.
The gruff and raspy sound of the Fireman's voice
He was telling him, he no longer had a choice.
The bearer of bad news and with sad tones he'd speak,
"That monster of an iron horse had sprung a leak!"
Now he would pump faster and sweat like a donkey;
They needed more water, pumped by the 'water monkey'.

GETTING POOPED FROM PUMPING
Luckily he'd fed, watered and harnessed two teams;
The big steam engine was dry, but the Fireman 'steams,'
"Get the water pump handle, a side-to-side pull!"
It was 4 a.m. and the crew's good mood was shot;
'Cause the steamer was cold and the Fireman was hot.
By then, the early crew stood and watched this flunky;
Huffing and puffing, he was the 'water monkey.'

NOT ACCUSED OF MONKEYING AROUND
It took four strong horses to haul the water tank;
And each of those gallons the thirsty monster drank.
This pumping job made him a few coins richer,
Than if he was a 'spike' or 'bundle' pitcher.
A center of attention made each muscle ache,
And that happened before the chickens were awake!
"A miserable day more scorned than a donkey,"
Was how my Dad recalled his work as the 'monkey.'

Surprised, he found the 14-year-old lad,
between horses, while harnessing them.
Twenty-five cents an hour for pitcher, team and hayrack.

© Orv Alvshere, Fargo, ND 1995

NDCHF Launches "Building the Herd" Campaign

Mandan, N.D. - The North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame (NDCHF) board of directors was approached by Stan Hausauser (Dickinson), Jeff Kling (Halliday) and Bill Lowman (Sentinel Butte) about starting a new fundraising campaign; we have titled it the "Building the Herd" Campaign.

The concept is similar to the days of old, drawing a connection with the Great Western Trail which brought millions of herds of cattle and horses to the Great Plains. We are very aware of the drought impact affecting the cattle industry, but to help us kick off this new program, we are asking you to help us build our herd.

The launch of the NDCHF "Building the Herd" Campaign is to establish a virtual cattle herd for the NDCHF through the collaboration and partnership

of North Dakota's all-important cattle ranches. This idea is to promote North Dakota's legendary western heritage and cowboy culture, as well as to provide financial support to the NDCHF.

As a North Dakota rancher, we ask you to gift one calf (or more), designating it as a NDCHF "branded" calf via special ear tag. It will be raised with your cattle, but will be affiliated on our website as part of a NDCHF "virtual" herd. At market time, the proceeds of that calf's sale will be presented to the NDCHF Endowment Fund.

Your contribution will be tax-deductible, since the NDCHF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. You will also be able to deduct the costs of raising the calf within your ranch operations.

Please complete the form below and return to the NDCHF

before September 15, 2012. We want to track the size of the herd, via the internet, as this trail nears the market. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Happy Trails!

Raymond S. Morrell
Executive Director -
North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame
Center of Western Heritage & Cultures: Native American, Ranching and Rodeo
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701-250-1835 (fax)
701-623-2000 (Medora Center)

Building the Herd Campaign - 2012
North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame
Preserving Yesterday and Today for Tomorrow

By establishing the North Dakota branch of the Great Western Trail Association, the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame (NDCHF) - Center of Western Heritage & Cultures: Native American, Ranching and Rodeo, our award-winning, signature interpretive center in Medora, serves as a trail marker of the great western trail in which a million longhorn cattle and one million horses traversed through nine states between Mexico and Canada.

The launch of the NDCHF "Building the Herd" Campaign is to establish a virtual cattle herd for the NDCHF through the collaboration and partnership of North Dakota's all-important cattle ranches. The idea was brought to the NDCHF board of directors this spring by a handful of ranchers wanting to promote North Dakota's legendary western heritage and cowboy culture as well providing monetary support to the NDCHF.

The NDCHF asks your help in building our endowment program by gifting a calf (or more) and "Build our Herd". The NDCHF is a 501(c)(3) organization, which means your contribution is tax deductible. You can also deduct the costs of raising the calf within your ranch operations.

Complete the form below and return to NDCHF or email the information before September 15, 2012. We want to track the size of this herd through our website as the trail nears the market. Feel free to contact Ray Morrell if you have any questions.

Happy Trails!

----- Tear-off Form -----

Building the Herd 2012

North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame
Corporate Office
105 3rd Avenue NW
Mandan, ND 58554
Phone: 701-250-1833
Fax: 701-250-1835
E-mail: info@northdakotacowboy.com

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Signature _____

Breed _____
Special markings _____
Ear tag # _____
Year Bred _____
Ranch Name _____

HERMANSON/KIST All-Breed Fall Horse Sale



Friday, Saturday, & Sunday,
Oct. 5, 6, & 7, 2012
(Sale time is 8 am on Friday & Saturday,
and 10:00 am on Sunday)

Tack Sale - Thursday, October 4th at 5:00 pm at Kist Livestock Auction, Mandan, ND

Auctioneers: Allen Odden & Trent Ward

Pedigree Readers: Robbie Rainer & Gary Lohman

Expected are about 1200 head consisting of the following:

- 650 weanling colts—mostly colored & foundation bred
- Large selection of barrel prospects
- Large selection of well broke geldings
- Several dispersions of mares including Neidhardt's Tobiano Paint mare dispersion
- Complete dispersion of 15 paint mares —13 with colts at side and all bred back
- 16 hand 8 yr old black & white overo stud, double bred Jack N Around
- 11 yr old daughter of Frenchmans Guy out of daughter of Razjon—runs barrels & head steers—safe to breed
- 16 yr old daughter of Smart Chic Olena out of Doc O Lena mare—show trained & in foal to Wimpys Melody Step
- 2 yr old sorrel stallion—son of First N Kool out of daughter of The Signature. Hasn't been tattooed or raced, rode at stockyards for 3 months—Barrel lovers dream,
- 5 yr old daughter of Azoom out of daughter of Easily Smashed. AAA winner of \$20,957. Make a barrel horse or back to track
- 5 yr old gelding by King of the Mall out of daughter of Mr Eye Opener. AAA, a real barrel prospect
- 11 yr old gelding, son of Streaking La Jolla out of daughter of First Down Dash. AAA finished barrel & rope horse
- 5 & 6 yr old percheron gelding team—1800 pounds—well broke, been used at Dixie Stampede, Branson, MO — will also sell harness set, along with several other teams,
- 4 yr old daughter of Corona Up out of daughter of Champs Best 999. AAA started on barrels
- 5 yr old daughter of Okey Dokey Dale out of daughter of Champs Best 999. AA started on barrels
- 5 yr old daughter of Okey Dokey Dale out of daughter of Champs Best 999. AAA started on barrels
- 4 yr old gray daughter of Eysa Special Race ROM bred to Greedy Azure
- 8 yr old ROM daughter of Streaken LaJolla out of daughter of Roll The Cash, bred to Greedy Azure
- 6 yr old bay gelding son of First Down Dash out of daughter of Tolltac. Barrel prospect
- 6 yr old son of First Wrangler out of daughter of Barrera TB. Barrel prospect
- 8 yr old daughter of Bono Jazz, daughter of Pritzi Dash. Bred to Greedy Azure
- 10 yr old daughter of Chicks Beduino out of daughter of Merridoc. She is a race winner bred to AAA son of Mr Jess Perry
- 12 yr old daughter of Beduino out of daughter of First Dawn Dash. She has ROM, bred to AAA son of Dash for Cash
- 1995 daughter of Young Gun out of daughter of Cal O Lena, bred to Kuakin Gun son of Play Gun
- 1999 daughter of CD Olena daughter of Doc's Hickory bred to Shake Shiver & Shine by Shining Spark
- 2004 daughter of Play Gun, out of daughter of Especial. Full sister to earners of over \$700,000. Finished cutting mare
- 3 yr old black & white tobiano stud, son of Lil Lewis Long Legs—winner of \$43,000 cutting, along with other mares bred to him
- 12 yr old daughter of Chicks Beduino out of daughter of First Dawn Dash. She has ROM, bred to AAA son of Dash for Cash
- 12 yr old daughter of Leaving Memories out of Seattle Slew bred mare, Race ROM, bred to son of Royal Shakem
- 5 yr old daughter of Dash To Fame out of daughter of Top Avenger. barrels and is in foal to Obsessed With Corona, SI 99 son of Corona C Runs artel
- 5 yr old AAA daughter of Brimmerton out of daughter of Special Effort, bred to Born To Be Famous—son of Dash To Fame
- 7 yr old ROM stallion, son of First Dawn Dash out of daughter of Rare Form. Stands 16 hands & good looking, produces enough semen to breed 20 mares a collection
- 6 yr old AAA daughter of Southern Cortel out of daughter of Duel Fuel. Bred to Gold Coin—a chocolate palomino son of Dash To Fame that is setting the barrel world on fire
- Yrlg stud colts by Coronas Leaving You out of AAA mares
- Yrlg studs & fillies by Viva La Zoom out of daughter of Holland Ease & Seperatist
- Yrlg stud colt by Big Time Favorite, daughter of Dashin Eye, winner of over \$28,000. A real prospect.

For more info call:

Dave Hermanson at 701-663-6006 or 701-400-8188 or Kist Livestock Auction 701-663-9573.

Email for catalogs: kistlivestock@yahoo.com or visit www.kistlivestockauction.com to download catalog after September 3rd.



Show Us Your Winners! Send Us Your Photos!
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Take it to the barn - Share with Your Horse - Spread the Pride!

Dr. Getty Suggests Manuka Honey for Its Healing Properties

By Dr. Juliet Getty

As any horse owner knows, horses get their share of cuts and scrapes. If you're inclined to reach for something natural, consider honey. Honey has been used for centuries because of its antimicrobial properties. In raw honey, the enzymes are still active and work well as a topical first aid. Because of its high sugar content and low pH, honey kills microbes by making the environment more acidic, while also drawing water out of cells.

of wound, and amount of proud flesh produced. Manuka honey can be applied in its natural state, but it is messy and attracts flies; therefore, it requires bandaging. Commercial dealers offer a medicinal gel form that also promotes healing while being easier to apply. Consider including it in your horse's medicine kit.

Dr. Juliet Getty has taught and consulted on equine nutrition for more than 20 years. The Getty Equine Nutrition website (www.GettyEquineNutrition.com) offers a library of helpful articles and previous teleseminars as well as a nutrition forum. Subscribe on the website to her free and informative monthly e-newsletter, "Forage for Thought." Dr. Getty's comprehensive nutrition resource, Feed Your Horse Like a Horse, is available for purchase through her website or at Amazon.com. Dr. Getty serves as a distinguished advisor to the Equine Sciences Academy and her articles on equine nutrition are internationally published. She is available for individual consultations. Contact Dr. Getty directly at gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com or (740) 663-2333 (Eastern time zone).

Manuka honey is especially effective. Collected from the Tea Tree manuka bush native to New Zealand, manuka honey has a higher enzymatic activity, making it more potent than other forms. When eaten, it helps alleviate seasonal allergies that affect the skin and respiratory system. When applied to a wound, it has been shown to speed healing: When researchers at the University of Sydney's Veterinary Science and Clinical Training Unit compared healing time of open leg wounds over a 12-day treatment period, they found a significant improvement in the honey-treated group in reduction in healing time, size

2012 Team USA Equestrian Olympic Results

Greenwich, UK - It was an historic day at Greenwich Park. Less than 24 hours after the British Show Jumping Team won it's first Olympic Team Gold medal in 60 years, the British Dressage Team won it's first Olympic medal ever, and it was Gold. They finished on a score of 79.979 to win Gold over Germany. The Netherlands won Bronze. The U.S. Dressage Team made a valiant run at a Team medal at Greenwich Park with some strong performances, but it simply wasn't to be and they ended up sixth on a score of 72.435, behind Great Britain, The Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Denmark. Steffen Peters led the way for Team USA scoring 76.254 percent to place seventh overall in the Grand Prix Special with Ravel.

Peters (San Diego, CA) rode last for the U.S. Team and he did everything he could to fight back into Team contention. Together with Four Wind Farms' 14-year-old Dutch gelding, Peters was fourth Individually at the 2008 Olympic Games, he will look to do better than that in the Freestyle on Thursday, which will decide the Individual medals.

One mishap marred an otherwise lovely effort by the veteran pair in the Grand Prix Special, when Ravel stumbled at the end of the test after the first canter pirouette meaning he started his one-time changes late. Peters managed to pull off the movement despite the mis-step.

"Without that (stumble) it would have been right around a 78 percent which is right about where he has been (in this test) his whole life," said Peters.

The rest of the test was textbook Ravel. The veteran went to work and moved through the test with ease.

"He was right on," said Peters. "The half-passes felt great, I pushed the changes a bit more than I did the first day and the pirouettes felt really good. The piaffe even felt better than it did the first day. I'm just so excited that he still wants to do it after all these years."

Ravel has been undefeated in 2012, but Peters knows that to win an Individual medal in the company they're keep-

ing at these Olympic Games will be no small feat. He also knows that Ravel is close to the end of his career although no official announcement of his retirement has been made. Peters has no expectation for the freestyle other than the hope that Ravel can put in one

69.302 percent for their lead-off test.

"I'm really happy with it, I wish the scores were a little bit higher," said Ebeling after his ride. "She felt good - she's been really good all week, she's peaking and I'm really happy. She's given it



Steffen Peters and Ravel

more test of a lifetime.

"This might be the last time Ravel goes down centerline," said Peters. "I hope I can get one more really exciting freestyle out of him... he doesn't owe us anything, but we owe him everything."

Tina Konyot (Palm City, FL) preceded Peters into the ring on Calecto V. This pair have had a long career together and although they have a great track record, a few small mistakes kept them from the scores of which they are capable.

The 14-year-old Danish Warmblood stallion is co-owned by John Byrialsen.

His test suffered from a mistake in the one-tempi changes and a transition from piaffe to passage that wasn't as good as Calecto's capabilities. They scored 70.651 percent for 25th place.

"We had some mistakes but there were some very nice things," said a visibly disappointed Konyot after her test.

Jan Ebeling got the day started on Amy Ebeling, Beth Meyer and Ann Romney's 14-year-old Oldenburg mare Rafalca. They put in another consistent effort, scoring

her all."

Because of the involvement of Romney, whose husband Mitt is making a presidential bid, Rafalca and Ebeling have been at the center of a flurry of media attention for the sport of dressage. Ebeling is pleased with the fact that the profile is on the rise.

"I think having Mrs. Romney and having a visibility of the mainstream media report on our sport so much has really been a good thing," said Ebeling. "If just one young kid picks up riding and makes it to the Olympics, hey, I've done my job."

The Freestyle is the last Equestrian competition of the Games. Peters and Ravel are one of 15 combinations going forward to the freestyle.

Times and results are available at <http://www.london2012.com/equestrian/>. For more information about the U.S. Olympic Equestrian Team visit <http://usefnetwork.com/featured/Olympics2012/>

Charles Wilhelm: Ultimate Foundation Training from Start to Finish Socializing a Horse Boarded at Home

We all have busy times when we can't work with our horses as much as we would like. Family, illness, work and weather can prevent us from working our horses consistently. Particularly with young horses, it is important that they get some type of exercise. Whether you board your horse at home or in a stable, turn the horse out every day or so. Try to find someone to help you if you cannot do it. It is important that all horses get some kind of exercise. If you put a young horse in with other hand-picked horses, you can also socialize your horse. Being with another horse will help him learn how to act around his own kind. Socialization with their own kind, another baby or an adult horse, is very important and should be part of a young horse's training program. Socialization can affect the emotional and mental development of your horse and make for a more well-rounded horse.

When I first bought my horse Tennison at 18 months, he had never been exposed to any kind of socialization. It took him several years to learn how to "be a horse" -- to romp and play and rear and bite and chase other horses in a pasture or corral. Horses are just like people in that if they are not socialized enough, they do not know how to act around their own kind. With socialization, a horse learns how to accept pressure and leadership. An adult horse will educate a youngster. Any time a puppy comes to the ranch, my dog Max, who is four-years-old, seems to think it is his job to teach the puppy manners. An older horse does the same thing. I use mares for this because they are usually good teachers.



adopted or bought rescue horses with lameness problems to provide companionship for horses boarded at home. This way, not only can you save a life by adopting a horse who normally wouldn't be adoptable, but you can also make your horse happy. I have also had clients who have gotten a goat to provide companionship for their horse and have seen the two animals romp and play together.

Since not every horse is a good match and you don't want your horse hurt, you do have to be careful which other horse you match your horse up with. When a horse comes to the ranch for training, we regularly match horses and I have never had any major problems or accidents other

than a horse giving or getting a nip here and there. I actually have seen more horses get hurt by themselves than when they are with others. We try to match up two to three horses in the large turnout so that they get plenty of socialization.

If you board out, it is important to pay attention to what goes on and to speak up when the situation isn't good. Even the most conscientious ranch or stable owner can get busy and not see everything that is going on. You can't assume that when you board your horse out, anyone but you is going to routinely see that everything is going well. Know your horse well in terms of behavior, soundness and personality.

Internationally known and respected horse trainer Charles Wilhelm is the creator of Ultimate Foundation Training which combines the best of traditional, classical and natural horsemanship. This method is applicable to every riding discipline. Charles is one of the few clinicians who is known for his superb skills in communicating with and motivating people as well as horses. His training methods reflect his motto, "It's Never, Ever the Horse's Fault". Charles' warm and relaxed demeanor has made him a favorite at regional and national clinics and demonstrations. His training center in Castro Valley, California is among the top equine educational facilities in Northern California. Charles offers extensive hands-on learning programs for every level of horsemanship.

Barrel Racing

Continued from page 2

and eventually progressed to her current horse named Angelica.

Angelica, a 15.3-hand, paint/apaloosa cross, was a seasoned, all-around horse for sale by Brianna Brock of Valley City, N.D. "I found the ad and bugged her about it," said Wendy, knowing that Mackenzie needed a horse to take her to the next level of competition. After the Holksevigs responded to the ad, Brianna agreed to haul Angelica to the Portland Equine Park for a test ride.

Mackenzie took her for a run. "She was a little 'hot' and I was very cautious," recalls Mackenzie. Beaming with pride, Mord added, "They were just beautiful the first time they rode together."

They have been working together well, running barrel times in the 16.50s and claiming a winning buckle at the same MPAA UBRA event as Alyssa. Mackenzie has also competed with Angelica at a jackpot barrel racing event in Jamestown, N.D., and plans to attend the upcoming Grand Forks UBRA event, providing her cast is off - Mackenzie broke her arm at the Portland Equine Park a couple of weeks ago. She stressed that it wasn't that big a deal, having fallen off a few times before.

Mackenzie's social circle does include a few friends who share her interest of riding. And like Shelby and Alyssa, she thinks horses have made her a better student and a better person. It also keeps her in shape for cross-country and track.

"I always see horses in my future," she says. "I like being able to go out and ride and just be with [Angelica]." Wendy Holksevig is quick to point out, "These girls are all very talented riders. Being talented is enough to have fun, but it becomes more competitive than that." She adds, "They need the right equipment to compete: a fast horse."

These three girls and their horses are not only talented athletes; they are genuinely wonderful young girls with goals,



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8th Annual Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer in McLeod, N.D., Another Huge Success

Three hundred and thirty-nine registered riders, people who have ridden for many years, some riders coming out for their first time, and one family who drove eight hours from Wisconsin to take in the 8th Annual Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer held Aug. 14-15 in the beautiful Sand Hills of McLeod, N.D. -- together they raised more than \$52,000.

The volunteers fed 778 people a beef supper made by Cy Mauch; the potatoes were made by Paul and Leila Ptacek, and salads were made by the CU volunteers. The Duner Saloon hosted a dance with

Silverado performing Saturday evening. Many more activities occurred during the two-day event.

The annual Cowboy Up festivities have grown out of family tragedy, as cancer has impacted many of the volunteers and others who participate in this event. They work year-round with various fun fundraising events with the proceeds benefiting the Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo, N.D.

Karen Haugen, a long-time volunteer for the speaks on behalf of the organizing committee. "A huge thank you goes out to all the sponsors, riders, people that came to



Above right: A very unique double saddle: who custom-made this? Who are the riders? Let the VEN team know, and we'll share in the next issue. Right: Gene Johnson rides in his 8th Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer. Middle: Riders of the 8th Annual Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer ambling the Sand Hills of McLeod, N.D. Lower left: A table of paints used by riders outside the Duner Saloon in McLeod, N.D., to decorate their steeds before the Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer.



Photos by Ken Pazoluk



town to play some bingo, buy a book, play some games at the kids' carnival, participate in the Extreme Race, or have dinner. We could not do this without your support. Thank you to the 100plus volunteers that step up every year to help us out. The event would not be what it is today if it were not for all your help." Even the weather cooperated, for the most part. Haugen said, "We had a bit of rain during the supper hour on Saturday. Our volunteers used garbage bags as rain gear and kept on serving."

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Individual Silver, Team Bronze: Dual Medals for Chester Weber at Driving World Championships

Reisenbeck, Germany (August 21, 2012)

-- Combined Driver Chester Weber, the nine-time USEF National Four-In-Hand Champion, is sporting an Individual Silver medal around his neck following a successful weekend at the 2012 FEI Four-in-Hand Driving World Championships. Weber took the Championships by storm, driving away with the Individual Silver while he and his US teammates, Jimmy Fairclough and Joe Yoder, captured the Bronze Team Medal.

Weber made a name for himself in 2008, when he became the first American to ever win an individual medal in the Four-in-Hand division at the World Driving Championships. Weber won the Individual Silver that year, and returned this weekend intent on defending his title - which he did with brilliance.

"It was great to be back on the medal podium," Weber said. "The horses were fantastic the entire weekend. They had the best show of the year."

Weber spent the summer competing in Europe with his team, turning in one successful dressage test after another to become known as "Mr. Dressage." Weber maintained his "Mr. Dressage" title at the World Championships, winning first place with a score of 33.41. Boyd Exell, of Australia, placed second in dressage, although ultimately Exell took home the Individual Gold.

"My team has really shown a remarkable improvement in dressage and it is thrilling

that we continue to drive away with the best scores," Weber said.

During the World Championships, Weber went into the cones, the final phase of the competition, standing in second place. A nearly flawless cones test helped him secure the Individual Silver. During the cones, Weber drove his own Horus du Bois and Para along with Jane Clark's Splash and Uniek.

"Michael Freund, Ed Young and the entire team of horses and people who participated in the World Championships have clearly shown that the US driving program is becoming a force to be reckoned with," Weber said, following the excitement of the weekend. "I am honored to be part of such a competitive group."

Weber said he and Clark are now working on plans to compete at the World Equestrian Games in 2014 in Normandy. "We will likely show in Kentucky this fall also," he said. "We will be bringing Ringo and Boris along with that in mind."

As one of America's most driven and decorated competitors, Weber entered uncharted territory earlier this year when he won the USEF Four-In-Hand Championship for the ninth time. The combined forces of Team Weber and Team Clark has also proven to be a brilliant move and a positive step for American four-in-hand combined driving. For more information on Weber and his combined driving team, visit their website at www.chesterweber.com.



Photo: Chester Weber and his team take a victory lap following their success at the 2012 Driving World Championships in Reisenbeck. (Photo courtesy of My Elisabeth Weber)

Talking Horses

- Joker -

By Kathy Grimes

It was a beautiful day for a ride, so I thought I would go out and see the new home of one of my clients. She had recently called and told me her dream had come true and she wanted to show it to me.

Her new place was on three and a half acres. It had pine trees on one side and open space in the back. It had belonged to a woman who had died. As she was showing me her new flower garden, I could hear and feel something coming up behind us. I turned and saw a horse. She immediately introduced me to Joker, her dream come true. Joker had belonged to the woman who had died. She had never ridden Joker. I knew my client was an animal lover. Over the last four years, I have worked with her three cats, two small dogs and a variety of fish, but I never knew she had wanted a horse. The subject had never come up.

As I watched and listened to her, I could tell that she was in love with this beautiful creature. However, Joker was not sure about her. He looked at me and asked me, "Do you know where Mimi is?" To his surprise, I asked my client, "Who is Mimi?" Mimi was his former human. I asked her if anyone had explained to Joker that Mimi had died. She had not, and did not know if anyone else would have even thought of it.

My client decided to leave the two of us alone for a while so that we could talk. At first, Joker did not want to trust me or any other humans. He was angry that people came and took Mimi away. He was also mad that he could not protect her from them. I just stood there, sending him loving energy. Finally, he asked, "Do you know where Mimi is?" I said, "Yes, I do." He ran around and came close enough to look me in the face. "Where is she? When is she coming back to stay?"

Explaining death to an animal is not an easy thing. I began showing him mental pictures of when she was sick and needed to go to her "human vet," that she was actually very sick and that she died. Joker ran around, came back and looked at me, and then ran around some more. I just stood there and sent him loving energy. He was so sad. Finally, he came back to me and

said, "Mimi is alive. I see her. She doesn't feel like she did before. What did they do to her? I want her to stay."

Many people believe that when we die, or "cross over," as some people call it, our souls or the divine part of us remains alive. For a time, our souls carry with them our human imprint, so often, people and animals feel or see their loved ones who have died. I often work with dogs and cats that see their former humans who have crossed over. They often just sit very still and stare out into space. It did not surprise me that Joker might see Mimi.

My client came back to see what was going on. I asked if she ever noticed Mimi's spirit around. Joker very nicely told me that my client did not know Mimi and, of course, he was right. My client decided to have me spend more time with Joker to help him adjust. My client, Joker and the dogs gave me the grand tour of the place. Joker pointed out to me one of the areas where Mimi appears to him. It was where her vegetable garden was and where Joker would be given treats. I asked him if he would like my client to give him treats here, and he said no. He wanted his new treats closer to the house because my client likes doing things around the house. Actually, the truth of the matter was that she had not had time to get out there. She was too busy with her other gardens. I told Joker that I would be coming back to talk to him and that he could tell me more about Mimi. Joker did not respond.

I am so blessed to have horses like Joker in my life. He really cared for Mimi. Until next time, happy trails.

Kathleen Grimes has been doing both animal communication and energy work since 1990. She studied animal communication with Carol Gurney and Morning Star. As an energy worker, she uses various techniques; among them are Quantum Touch and Healing Touch for Animals. Learn more about her work on her web site: www.brotherwolfandfriends.com. Direct questions to Kathy Grimes, anonymously if you wish, to (952) 270-4306 or email her to have your questions answered in the Valley Equestrian at: kgrimes@brotherwolfandfriends.com/

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Bestselling Author Tami Hoag's Youngest Dressage Star Wins High Score of the Show

Moorpark, CA (August 3, 2012) -Mitt and Ann Romney aren't the only celebrities with a winning dressage horse. New York Times bestselling author Tami Hoag's string of upper level dressage horses are often headliners, but it is her youngest star, Highlife's Aria that continues to steal the spotlight in the show ring in California where she is racking up very impressive scores. At the Spirit Equestrian Center Dressage in late July, Hoag's five-year-old Oldenburg mare strutted her stuff and took the High Score of the Show honors with a 74.06%. Aria was shown and trained by Charlie Pinneo, a Grand Prix competitor and USDF gold, silver, and bronze medalist.

"Aria and I had a great ride this weekend at Spirit Equestrian Center," said Pinneo. "She's a great young horse with an excellent mind and beautiful gaits. Despite this being only her second show, she got down to business and proved herself to be a winner." Pinneo went on to say that he and Tami are aiming Aria at the 5-Year-Old Futurity classes during the California Dressage Society Championships in October. "I'd like to thank Tami for the opportunity to train and show such a talented young horse. I can't wait to see what the future holds," said Pinneo

Hoag purchased Aria as a three-year-old during a breeder's auction in Florida. She was the horse that everyone thought was a "vodka purchase". While Hoag hadn't

her." Maybe everyone else thought Hoag had too much free vodka, but she saw something very special in Aria, and the mystery writer's hunch and her keen eye for dressage horses proved to be a winning combination.

Hoag said she knew when she purchased Aria that she would send her to Pinneo in California. "As soon as I bought her I sent her to Frank Barnett in Ocala for a month to get started and handled, then I put her on a van and shipped her out to Charlie in Moorpark, California. Charlie has been bringing her along slowly and carefully for almost two years now," she said. "Eventually I plan to bring Aria back to Florida and show her myself. I'm very happy with her progression under Charlie's tutelage, and I am excited for her future."

Hoag is a highly accomplished grand prix dressage rider who competes on the Florida winter circuit in the Grand Prix. She spends her summers riding in the mornings and writing well into the night at her home base in Wellington, Florida. When she is not horsing around, Hoag is known for her suspenseful page-turning novels and has 16 consecutive New York Times bestsellers to her credit with more than 35 million in print in more than 20 languages worldwide. She has two equestrian themed novels that have thrilled the horse world, Dark Horse and Alibi Man. For more information on Hoag, visit her website at www.tamihog.com.



planned on definitely purchasing a horse at the auction, a few had caught her eye, Aria included. "My decision to buy her seemed like more of a whim than it really was because I hadn't talked about buying anything at the auction," said Hoag. "But after seeing her again I decided to buy

Highlife's Aria, owned by Tami Hoag and ridden by Charlie Pinneo, were the high score of the Spirit Equestrian Center Dressage show in California with a 74.06%. (Photo courtesy of Mitch Weiss)

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Riding for the Brand

By Charles Schaal

The Father's DNA

I tuned in to as many of the Olympic equestrian events as possible. Whether it was eventing, dressage or show jumping, I saw the results of years of work and investment that both the rider and mount had made in each other.

Horses and riders alike displayed great courage as they charged over jumps knowing there was a 10- or 15-foot drop directly on the other side. I was amazed watching the teams soar over multiple jumps and land, ready to do it again in 5 to 10 seconds. Dressage, which is my favorite because it is only one of the three that I can ever hope to do at even a lower level, left me speechless as horses elevated across the arena, floating from one expectation to the next.

But when you get to the level of horsemanship that we saw in the Olympics, you begin to think that The Father gave horses a little bit extra in their DNA. Maybe during the Creation, part of the glory of God leaked onto that first herd of horses.

I spend many weekends at local horse shows. Many of the riders and horses travel the same circuit. Through the years I've enjoyed watching these equine teams mature and improve their skills. After a while, the fear of entering the arena to be judged is replaced with the fun of being there and sharing the time with their families and their saddle partners.

I think I often see some of the same courage, trust and desire for teamwork at these local shows as I witnessed at the Olympics. Maybe the level of artistry isn't there, but the opportunity to see the glory of God expressed during those moments is just as real.

The beauty of God's plans for us is that He gives so many opportunities to discover who He is and how much He loves us. Sometimes the opportunities and expectations are clear. There are other times when the path appears a bit muddled and what we're to get out of it is a bit confusing.

Those difficult times often seem to work out, like when He told Martha, the sister of Lazarus, "Didn't I tell you . . . you would see the glory of God?"

In the show arena, unlike in life, only one person can get the blue ribbon. Isn't it encouraging that just by entering the arena of life, we are promised that there is a way to see the glory of God? Each of us is entitled to a blue ribbon - not because we are better than someone else, but because we simply had the courage to ride into the arena and tell the judge, "Here I am. What do you have for me?"

At that point it's about a relationship. It's not about how hard we worked or how much we spent on the saddle and outfit. It is about how much trust we put in God's love for us.

Love is at the heart of God's DNA. When we finally break through and begin to experience a relationship with Him based on His love, then we will see the glory of God.

Charles Schaal is the founder of Minnesota Cowboy Ministries. This organization is based out of southeast Minnesota in Kasson, Minn. Charles is committed to partnering with the western and equine community of Minnesota to provide a wide variety of chaplaincy services to individuals and groups as requested. Since the beginning of 2012, Charles has served as a chaplain for bull-rides, PRCA rodeos, open horse shows, horsemanship clinics, "Cowboy Church" as well as one-on-one and family ministry sessions. He can be reached at chas@mncowboymministries.org.



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Drought, Fires, and the Economy Create High Hay Prices

By Ley Bouchard

Many people are finding their annual hay bill increasing by more than 50 percent. It can make for a difficult situation if you feed a lot of head and don't hay it yourself. We talked to people across the nation about how they are meeting their hay needs and what services are available in their region for this month's article.

Minnesota and North Dakota are certainly in a better position than Missouri. A drive through Missouri in the middle of August showed dried up fields of corn, beans and hay crops. Much of the corn was being baled. Cattle were grazing on dried fields of grass. It was sad and beyond the point of where a couple rainfalls would put life back into the crops.

Mike Holte from the Red River Valley in Minnesota says "Price per ton has gone up quite a bit this year, because of the shortage of hay south and west of here. You get into South Dakota and the price will increase 50 dollars a ton. We ship mostly to Waverly, Minn., and have local dairy farmers for customers. The quality of the hay tested was high; 180 relative feed value, 21 percent protein, on the first cutting; the price of alfalfa is \$160. a ton. The latter and last cuttings are 160 RFV and 21 percent protein. We don't cut after Sept. 10 so the crop can grow a little more before winter sets in."

Bill Scebbi, Executive Director of the Colorado Horse Council spoke about hay prices recently. "They are high; drought is bad; it's a phase we all are going through. All of us need to work together to find hay for each other. I got a call from someone who can't afford to buy hay but doesn't want to give up their 3 horses. The prices here vary between \$12-15 a small bale. Some are finding hay at auctions; some hay dealers have been fair and keeping their prices same as last year. The wild fires have not affected hay prices, fires happened in mountains where hay is not grown. The prices run the gambit, they are different in every area; people with horses have to do the best they can and ask for help when they need it. The bottom line is next year when we have a great snowfall and wet spring it could all be history- no one has a crystal ball."

Dale Heidelberger of Heidelberger Farm Equipment in Pine City, Minn. holds a hay auction every Thursday. He said the hay quality has been very good and he sees prices around \$47. for an 800-pound round bale, or \$4.75 for a small bale of mixed grass and alfalfa. "Guys call from No. Iowa or Illinois and we have sent a couple loads down there but not much. We sell out every week." He added that most farmers in his area are getting two cuttings this year due to dry conditions.



Above: A dried up pond is indicative of dry conditions throughout the Midwest as drought conditions continue to affect farmers, growers and livestock.

Below: CRP acreage has been opened for haying to fill the need for hay to feed livestock as many states plan ahead to a winter following the season's drought.



Difficult Decisions

Difficult decisions - If I have to leave home, do I cut ties with an animal that has become a part of the family and help it get a new job with a new rider or move it into semi-retirement? The dilemma is compounded if the owner does



Above: Baihley Jorgenson with Toby; below: Kirsten Nordstrom with Cody.

to get my equine riding instructor degree along with my business degree and maybe even study Psychology. My horse's name in Timeless Eternal but I call him Toby; he is a sorrel overo Paint gelding and is six years-old. I have had Toby for two

years now and I show him almost every weekend in the spring and summer. I show Toby in Halter Showmanship, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, English Pleasure, English Equitation and this year we have even tried Western Discipline. I purchased Toby when he was four and I have done all of his pleasure training so we have spent countless hours together; I feel like I know him better than I know some people. Toby was not my first horse, but I do still have my first horse. His name is Socks and I have had him since I was eleven. He is the horse I would say I have the strongest bond with just because of how young I was when we got him. What really got my attention when we were looking to buy Toby was his personality. He was only four years-old but he was so laid back and seemed so comfortable around people. He is the kind of horse that would much rather spend time with a person than with other horses. He is such a trustworthy horse and I do not even hesitate to put little kids on him. This summer, two little girls showed Toby at an open show and he did wonderful for them. He even got a first place trophy for one of them. I am lucky enough to be able to keep horses at home and since I will be living and working from home while in school, I am able to keep my horse."

"I have always loved Minnesota and I don't think I could see myself anywhere else. I don't want to do one thing for the rest of my life and that is one of the reasons why I want to go into the horse industry, there are so many things I could do. I could go into training, breeding, therapy or even just keep teaching lessons. I am also getting multiple degrees so I have options. Horses have definitely affected my choice in a future

degree. I have heard people say 'don't mix business with pleasure' when asked about why they did not get a job in the horse industry but for me, why wouldn't I want to work with horses for living? To me, it's getting paid to have fun and help others learn more about horses. I have been teaching lessons for a few years and I don't really think of that as working, I get to hang out with little kids and teach them about horses; getting paid is a bonus. Horses have also made me much more confident and that has allowed me to try many new things."

Kirsten Nordstrom from Trabuco Canyon, California is studying Equine Science at Colorado State University where she has brought her quarter horse gelding, Cody. "I guess it was never really a question for me if I was bringing my horse or not. I knew I would find a way to make it work financially and I knew I needed to bring him. My horse's name is Cody; he is a three-year-old

not have property and must pay a stable fee for care and upkeep. If they are able to stay at home, what changes do they see happening? Regardless, life will not be the same for anyone. My brother Kenny sold his horse Poncho when he got his driver's license; he replaced his hooves for wheels. I think many boys do this as they become men. Girls leaving home for college are another deal entirely. For girls, it's like leaving your best friend behind. How can you leave your pal, your buddy, your confidant? How can you let your horse know what's going on with you so you and your horse can adapt to the changes to come? It was a busy summer schedule of showing in 4-H and open shows, trail rides and moments of bonding for Baihley Jorgenson a senior at Kasson-Mantorville, Minn., high school but for more than a year Baihley said, "I have been taking PSEO classes at RTC. I am currently taking some equine, business and psychology classes. I want

Continued on Page 15

Events for September and Beyond

Call before you haul -- contact information is included in each event listed.

Sept. 7-9: MPtHA September Celebration at Red Horse Ranch Arena in Fergus Falls, Minn. www.minnesotapinto.com/shows.htm

Sept. 7-9: MPHA, MN Paint Horse Futurity Show at the MN Equestrian Center in Winona, MN www.minnesotaequestrian.com

Sept. 8: 9th Annual Cancer Benefit & Houck Finals Weekend at 10 a.m. in North Branch, MN www.houckhorsecompany.com

Sept. 8: JJ Arena fun show (at 9:30 a.m.) and UBRA Barrel Race (not before 1 p.m.) at Balsam Lake, WI; www.balsamlakewi.com/Events_All.php

Sept. 7-9: MN Pinto Horse Association at the Red Horse Ranch Arena in Fergus Falls, Minn. www.redhorserancharena.com/events

Sept. 9: St. Croix Riders WSCA Game Show at 8 a.m. in Baldwin WI; www.stcroixriders.com

Sept. 14-16: MAHA, MN Arabian Futurity Show at the MN Equestrian Center in Winona, MN www.minnesotaequestrian.com

Sept. 14-16: JP Bell Cutting Horse Event at the Dirt Floor Arena in Proctor, Minn. www.proctorarena.com

Sept. 15: Hay Creek Valley Saddle Club open show at 8 a.m. at Ellsworth, WI; www.hcvsc.com

Sept. 15: GF Jackpot Barrel Racing Series at Grand Forks Fairgrounds in Grand Forks, N.D. 218-791-8834 218-791-8835

Sept. 15: 3rd Annual WSCA Qualifying Show for 2013 at 10 a.m. at Houck Horse Company in North Branch, MN., www.houckhorsecompany.com

houckhorsecompany.com

September 22 & 23 - Northern Prairie Shootout, Twin Valley Riders Club Arena, Twin Valley, MN; more info at www.wildrice-peaceakers.com.

Sept. 22 & 23: Hunter/Jumper and English/Western Dressage show at the North Dakota Horse Park, Fargo, ND. www.aeerfargo.org

Sept. 28-29: UBRA Grid Iron Futurity in Huron SD. www.ubra.org/2012/TourSchedule.html

Sept. 28-30: Charmayne James Barrel Clinic Show at the MN Equestrian Center in Winona, MN www.minnesotaequestrian.com

Sept. 29: GF Jackpot Barrel Racing Series at Grand Forks Fairgrounds in Grand Forks, N.D. 218-791-8834 218-791-8835

Oct. 5-7: MN Saddlebred Futurity at the MN Equestrian Center in Winona, MN www.minnesotaequestrian.com

Oct. 6: GF Jackpot Barrel Racing Series at Grand Forks Fairgrounds in Grand Forks, N.D. 218-791-8834 218-791-8835

See the VEN website for their home page scrolling event calendar: theveonline.com.

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Difficult Decisions: continued from page 14

quarter horse that I have had since he was a yearling. I'm going to Colorado State University. It's so amazing up here in Fort Collins. I am planning on using Cody in versatility ranch horse this year while I pattern him on barrels and then hopefully make the rodeo team my sophomore or junior year. No one else will ride my horse; neither VRH or rodeo team require that you share your horse. There may be circumstances where I would have to lose my horse, but I don't see any of them happening, hopefully. I am an equine science and agricultural business double major."

Mattie Richardson, from Sheldon, N.D., started her second year at school in Nevada, MO. "I have two horses now. Spike, 22, a Standardbred, and Sunny, four, a buckskin quarter horse. I've had him for about five years now. I am 18 now and going to school at Cottey College which is about 750 miles from where I live. I am mainly doing generals now, but I am thinking about becoming a high school English teacher or perhaps an English professor with more school. That's what I'm hoping to do after college, but I always want writing and horses to be a part of my life, too, and am thinking about being a part-time author and horse trainer.

"Spike and I do lots of things ... mainly just trail riding but also some shows in the fair and stuff. Spike is my first horse. I tried to sell him one time," Mattie continued, "before I went to college, because I

was worried about having not enough time and money to keep the two horses, but I called the buyer, crying, before the meeting, to tell him it was off. I love Spike too much and just couldn't sell him. My parents and I worked it out so that my siblings take care of him and help with expenses, and in exchange they are allowed to ride him whenever they want while I'm in college. I am one of the few lucky ones. With 7 siblings at home, there is always someone around to care for the horses. I was lucky



A younger Mattie Richardson with her horse, Spike, and some of the ribbons they earned together. To read more about this young lady see the Nov. 2011 issue of the VEN online at <http://www.theveonline.com/issue-back.html>

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From the Horse's Mouth: Industry News

Minnesota Horse Council Offers Scholarships, Grants, Funding and Awards

The Minnesota Horse Council announces several funding programs available this year. These are made possible by the success of the Minnesota Horse Expo.

Scholarships: the twenty-sixth annual MHC/Tony Gasser Memorial Scholarships are offered for both high school seniors & undergrads, and for grad students (considered separately), to be used toward education that would further the applicant's career in and contributions to the horse industry in Minnesota. Applications are due by November 1st. At least ten \$2000 scholarships will be presented at the MHC annual meeting next January. For more info, contact Trina Joyce at 612-729-7798 or TrinaJoyce@earthlink.net for questions.

Grants: of a maximum of \$7,000 are given to Minnesota charitable/non-profit equine-related organizations as 'seed money' to inspire new projects or capital improvements, or for expansions of existing projects or services. Applications are due by October 1st. Grants are presented at the MHC annual meeting next January. Funds will be paid out as your project progresses. Contact Tim Bonham at 612-721-1007 or Treasurer@MnHorseCouncil.org for info.

Direct Funding: The Minnesota Horse Council offers direct funding assistance (up to \$500) to any non-profit horse related organization that develops or organizes any public clinic, program activity, or publication that advances the goals of the Minnesota Horse Council. Applications accepted at any time during the year, responses

generally within 30 days. Contact: Mark Ward, MarkWard@windyridgeranch.com, 651-436-6557.

Other Awards Available (different time schedules):

Horse Person Award: Each year, MHC honors someone as the "Minnesota Horse Person of the Year", and places his or her photo in the Horseman's Hall of Fame at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. The Council is seeking nominations of people for this award. This person should be an outstanding person in the horse industry -- someone who stands above the rest for long-term contributions to many areas of equine activity. Nominations are accepted all year, but must be received by November 1st to be considered this year. The person selected will be announced at the MHC annual meeting next January. Contact: Dawn Moore, dmoore834@comcast.net, or 952-949-6659 with any questions.

Pioneer Award: This award is given to a deceased person who was a Minnesota horse pioneer -- someone who led others to horses. Nominations are due by March 1st each year. Contact: Dawn Moore, dmoore834@comcast.net, 952-949-6659.

Further info about any of these programs, including application info, is available from:
 - the Minnesota Horse Council web page at www.MnHorseCouncil.org.
 - by writing to Minnesota Horse Council, P.O. Box 223, Plato, MN 55370-0223.

Find Hay in Annual Directory

LAKEWOOD, Colo. -The Colorado Department of Agriculture publishes the Colorado Hay Directory annually to help connect hay producers with buyers. The 2012 edition of the directory is available to the public at no cost.

"Demand for hay is especially strong this year with drought conditions nationwide," said Wendy White, marketing specialist for the Colorado Department of Agriculture. "The directory is a great way for producers to market their hay and it is an important resource for buyers across Colorado and the nation."

The 26th edition of the Colorado Hay Directory features producers and brokers of hay as well as companies that provide hay-related products and services. Categorized by region, each listing includes the type and amount of hay available, bale type and size, whether or not laboratory analysis is available, certified weed free status and identifies organic hay.

The Colorado Hay Directory is published by the Colorado Department of Agriculture in cooperation with participating Colorado hay producers, Colorado State University Extension, and with support from Ag Biz Solutions, LLC, Colorado Hay Service, Green Colorado, Hutchison Incorporated, ProAG-Morris Industries Inc. and Scimetrics Ltd. Inc.

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The Outhouse Auf Wiedersehen

By Tammy Finney



All I heard from Ed for three solid months was "What were you thinking?" Well, gals don't think twice, or for more than a split second, when it comes to horses -- especially when there's one that needs rescuing. I told Ed I'd feed him up a bit, and if he ever made me mad, I'd find him a new home.



He was thin -- OK, really, really thin -- and had lost three of his four shoes. It was the eyes that got me. One look and I was toast -- and penniless.

Everyone needs a good old gray Arab gelding. I'd already had two in my lifetime, so this little guy was real easy to fall in love with.

When he arrived with the title of Jobe, I figured there was no way I could go wrong.

Making a few inquiring phone calls as to his history, I had a nice visit with the owner before last. Cindy said she picked him up at a horse sale down south when he was dropped off to sell "as is." End of history. If only horses could talk!

I'm glad Cindy took a chance on him, though, as she found out he was well broke, and her family used him as a cattle

horse for a couple years. That was a good thing, as we had a few cows at the time and, believe me, if an older (especially Arabian) horse has never seen a real honest-to-goodness cow before, you better be hanging on tight but also have the nerve or common sense to bail off.

Barrel racing was Jobe's second job/family, and I think they overdid it just a bit. Note to that family: Feed horse before engaging in extra-stressful activities.

An extra-small blanket hiding ribs and hip bones gradually turned into a medium, and when spring arrived, Jobe made it known to the entire farm that he was the most beautiful horse from here to there. OK, so maybe I overdid the feed a bit, as

his coat was so slick and shiny it was hard to keep a saddle on him. Holy cats, was he fun to ride, though, and smooth as butter! The fun thing about getting a new horse is finding out its personality and quirks. Jobe was scared of death of walking on dandelions but stared down a badger and backed him into his hole on one of our rides.

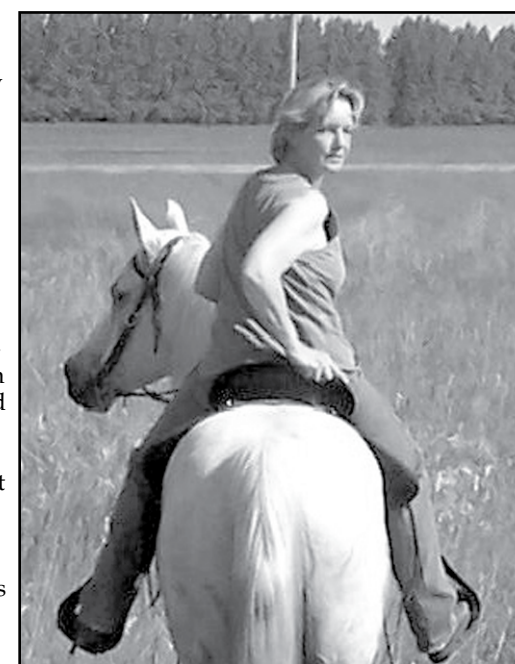
A free-choice salt block in his pasture wasn't used much. Instead, he would lick a person's hands and face for hours -- even Ed's! I received some pretty interesting stares in

town after petting my horse goodbye in the morning. Green-slime-tattooed cheeks just weren't quite in yet.

Obsessed with stall latches, that horse could outdo David Copperfield with his hooves tied behind his back. While taking care of a friend's fancy-dancy thoroughbred filly for a week while she went on vacation, I was horrified to see two open stall doors one morning and tracks leading out the driveway. I yelled for Ed, the dog and even the cat to help, and we followed the horse's tracks for hours, around the section and down one dang steep ditch that Ed had a little malfunction with. I would have laughed harder as he flopped around in the water at the bottom if it wasn't for two lost horses that could be in big trouble. I would be the one on trial if anything happened to the spendy filly!

As I was just about ready to call in an airplane search, here came Jobe, the dog, the cat and the filly, walking up the driveway to greet us, looking for their morning feed. Ed and I pretended it was just a normal day.

What happens on the farm, stays on the farm. Getting to know him a little more, I found out Jobe had a fetish for trailers. Anywhere we went,



The author, riding Jobe.

that horse was like a two-year-old kid. Turn your back for an instant and he'd disappear into any open horse trailer around. One time he loaded himself up next to a donkey. Holy crap, was that hilarious! Jobe had seen cows but had never heard a donkey hee-haw! That kind of cured him from wandering into places he wasn't supposed to.

Getting on in years and diagnosed with a heart condition, Jobe let me know it was time to let him go. That good old gray



gelding carried me for many, many years, and I will carry him in my heart forever. He never once made me mad.

I let Jobe pick his own place and, wouldn't you know it, there were no dandelions for acres around.

"So long, farewell, Auf Wiedersehen," my friend...

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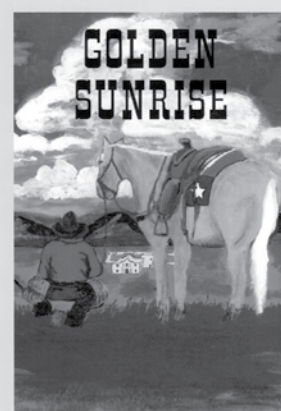
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Brothers Zacharias Win the MHARF Trainer's Challenge in St. Paul



Above: Zeke and Sid Zacharias, Grand and Reserve Champions at the MHARF Trainer's Challenge.

Photo courtesy of MHARF webmaster

What to do with the unwanted horses that herd into the Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation? Drew Fitzgerald, the founder and director of MHARF, figured it out with the annual MHARF Trainer's Challenge. Regional trainers are asked to sign up, accept the challenge, pick up a horse they select to work with and take it to their stable for three months of training. All this activity concludes at the event Aug. 25 at the Leatherdale Equine Center on the University of Minnesota Campus in St. Paul, Minn.

The trainers bring in the horses and exhibit what they have accomplished in their training program. During the various classes, including halter, pleasure, trail, freestyle and a vet and farrier check, audience attendees make silent auction bids on the horse(s) they wish to purchase. And voila!, each of the formerly unwanted horses gets a new home. Well, at least that's the way it is supposed to work. In these economic times, it doesn't happen

that way necessarily. However, on this Saturday, nearly half of the horses did find new, qualified homes.

Horses that were adopted that Saturday are listed with the trainer's name first: Zeke Zacharias/Sangria, Tiahna Flemming/Slippery, Karen Lee/Maryea, Chris Walz/Gretski, Hannah Welch/Rojo, Brandon Pribula/Special Effects, Beth Ash/Kjor Sievert, Rachel Walker/Black Magic, Britany Langager/Houston, Brooke Teste/Pia, Renne Walker/Phantom, and Melissa

Crep/Chackotay. Some of these horses were adopted by their trainers who will pay their adoption fee in trainers bucks (training another MHARF horse) valued at about \$4,000. As an added bonus, the trainers receive exposure and a chance to win cash prizes for the Champion and Reserve Champion. The Zacharias brothers won the top cash prizes in this year's event. Two Lipizzaner horses were included in this MHARF Trainer's



Newspaper and Cinch Chix. MHARF would like to thank all who participated: trainers, volunteers, judges, Jr's #19 BBQ and, of course, all who attended.

Left bottom: Brooke Teske riding Pia; Center left: Chris Walz on Gretski; Above: Tiahna Flemming on Slippery.

Photos by Ley Bouchard

Challenge. Maryea was trained by Karen Lee and purchased by her for \$1,000. "Seleena, the other Lippy, is now in training with Karen Lee," explained Fitzgerald. Adoption fees for the other horses that were not adopted on Saturday are starting at \$650 and will go up from there, depending on the individual horse. Colonel will stay in training with Sid Zacharias; his adoption fee is now 1,200."

The day was packed with activity, including a silent auction of donated items. Proceeds of each event were as followed: Art Auction, just over \$1,000; MHARF store, \$1,100; admission, \$1,000; and three and a half, 55-gallon barrels of food that were delivered to the Princeton Food Pantry.

The event was sponsored by the Valley Equestrian



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1998 Elite 3 Horse GN 8'X24'X7' Dlx w/10' Solid Oak LQ, Sofa, 6 cu Refg, 2 Burner Stove, Microw, AC, Ducted Furnace, Neo Angle Shwr w/Glass Dr, Lg Hanging Cies w/Drws, Walk-Thru Door, Escape Dr w/Drp Dwn Fd Dr, Drp Dwn Drs Rump Wall & Rr Load Dr, Padded Dvdrs, 2 Mangers w/Access Dr, Carpeted Rr Tack w/3 Saddle Rcks, 3 Swing Out Blanket Bars, 2 Brush Trays, Awning, New Electric Jack. Sale Price: \$32,900.00



2006 Cherokee GN Tomahawk 3H w/8' Solid Oak LQ, Sofa-Sleeper, Sm Refg., Microw, Flat Scrn TV w/DVD Player, Shower, Sep. Stool, AC, Owen Grntr, Walk-Thru Dr, Escape Dr w/Drp Dwn Fd Drs w/Fld Dwn Brs, Std Dvdr 1st Still, Padded Dvdrs, Collap. Rr Tck w/3 Post Saddle Rck, Bridle Hks & Bush Tray, Blnkt Br, 3 Rf Vnts. Sale Price: \$29,500.00



1993 Featherlite GN 8'X27'X7' 3H w/12' LQ 2' to 6' Mid Tack, Dinette, Ck Top, Refg, Micro, AM/FM/CD Stereo, Stainless Steel Sink, Vanity Sink & Cabinet, Sep. Stool, Shwr, Walk-Thru Dr To Mid-Tck w/Shelves, Hat Rck & Cloth Bar, Lined & Insulated Rf & Side Walls Horse Area, Padded Dvdrs, Rr Tck, Generator, Drp Dwn Fd Drs, 10' Hay Rck, Dual Jacks. Sale Price: \$23,500.00



2004 Exiss Event SS400 4H GN
Finished 4' to 8' Solid Wd Drss Rm, Dinette Wndw, Camper Vent, Dinette w/Table, Counter w/Cbrnt, Ovhd Cbrnts, 110 Volt Plug-Pkg, Wstrm Hardware & Lights, Camper Dr w/Scrn, Escape Dr, Drp Dwn Fd Drs w/Fld Dwn Bars, Rump Wall Wndws, 4 Rf Vents, Spring Loaded-Slam Latch Dvdrs, Dble Rr Drs w/Wndws & Cham Latches, Collaps. Rr Tck w/4 Post Saddle Rck. Sale Price: \$17,900.00



2001 Exiss GN Event SS400 4H
4' to 8' finished Drss Rm, Camper Dr w/Scrn, Oak Cabinets/Counter, 110 Volt Pkg, 12 Volt Battery Pkg, Radio, Boot Bench, Walk-Thru Dr, Escape Dr, Drp Dwn Fd Drs w/Fld Dwn Bars, Fd Bags, Stud Divider 1st Stall, Slam Latch Dividers, Dble Rr Drs w/Wndws, 4 Post Saddle Rack, Collaps Rear Tack, Lined-Insulated & Rubber Side Walls Of Horse Area. Sale Price: \$17,500.00



2008 Exiss STC24 GN Tail Stock/Combo
4' Drss Rm, Camper Dr w/Scrn, 4 Post Saddle Rck, Bridle Hks, 5' Cloth Rod, Bridle Hks, Escape Dr, Full Open Rr Dr w/Half Slider, 1 Center Gate w/Slam Latch, Interlocking Extruded Floor w/2'X4' I/Bears on 10' Centers, Rbbr Mats, 1 5/8" X 3" Side Posts, 7,000 lb Axles, 235/65R16 10 ply Radial/Spare Tire, 2 Air Cracks w/Plexiglas, New Brks & Bearings. Sale Price \$15,500.00



1996 Exiss GN 7'X17'X7' Extreme 3H, 3' to 7' Drss Rm, Crpt GN-Drp & Fir, 5' Clth Rod-GN Wndws, Saddle Rck Setting, Blnkt Br, Bridle Hks, 3 Drp Dwn Fd Drs w/Wndw Scms, Slam Latch Dvdrs, Lined & Rubber Side Walls, 3 Rf Vnts, 3 Rump Wall Wndws, 40/60 Rr Drs w/Wndws, Collap. Rr Tack, 3 Post Saddle Rck, Bridle Rck, New Tires, Spare Tire, Brakes, Bearings, Lights Serviced - Ready To Go. Sale Price: \$10,500.00



1997 4 Star GN 7'X14'X7' Dlx 2H GN w/4' to 8' Drss Rm, Carpet Drp Flr, Cloth Rod, Saddle Rack Setting, Bridle ok, HD Drp Dwn Fd Drs, All Lined-Insulated & Rubber Side Walls Horse Area, Rump Wall Wndws, Rf Vent, Padded Dvdr, Collaps. Rr Tack w/2 Saddle Rck, Brush Tray, Bridle Hks, Like New Tires, Brakes -Bearings-Serviced. Ready To Go. Sale Price \$11,500.00



1995 Sundowner GN 6'8'X24'X7' 4H Executive
6' to 10' Finished Dress Rm, Boot Bench, 6 Saddle Racks, Bridle Hks, Side Tack, Rear Tack, Escape Dr, Drp Down Feed Drs, Excellent Tires, Serviced Out-Brakes & Bearings, No Rust. Very Good Conditions. Sale Price \$6,900.00

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