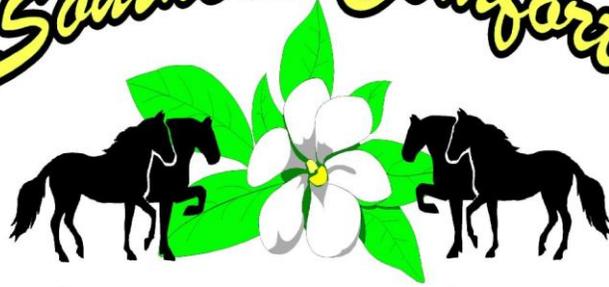


Southern Comfort



Gaited Horse Club

April, 2011

Officers

President – Phil Carroll
Vice President – Sandy Young
Secretary – Kellie Case
Treasurer – Dottie Green

Committees

Trail Rides – Audrey Hult
Sunshine – Kathy Haynes
Membership – Sharon Prindel
Education and Clinics – Nya Bates, Sandy Young
Ways and Means – Dottie Green
Historian/Newsletter – Margaret Carroll
Website – Kathy Johnson, Margaret Carroll
Liability Insurance – Nya Bates
Calendar – Linda Hamilton

IDAHO HORSE COUNCIL PRESENTS THE 25TH ANNUAL
IDAHO HORSE EXPO 2011
APRIL 15, 16 & 17
Friday 10-9 · Saturday 9-9 · Sunday 9-6
at the Idaho Horse Park, Nampa Idaho

Celebrating Silver

Featuring
Chris Cox
and
Richard Shrake

- Stallions on Parade
- Round Pen Challenge
- Private Treaty Horse Sale
- Equine Seminars
- Vendors from around the Northwest
- Stick Horse Races
Sponsored by Miss Rodeo Idaho
- Youth Activities
- Breed Challenge (Friday)
- Ranch Sorting (Saturday)
- Supreme Cowboy Race (Sunday)

Clinics & Demonstrations
by Local Clinicians
Jeff Spencer, Dee Craig,
Alice Trindle, Shannon Allison
and Randi McCallum

Idaho Horse Council
www.idahohorsecouncil.com

1-208-465-5477
idahorse@juno.com

Southern Comfort will be hosting a booth at the Horse Expo and also seminars on Gait Recognition and Achieving Gait. Check out the Website:

<http://www.expo.idahohorsecouncil.com> for all the information on the Expo.

Next Meeting

Monday, April 11th at Sandy Young's home, 6800 E. Greenhurst Road, Nampa ID 442-9445 or c. 867-4084. Directions to Sandy's home: From the intersection of Greenhurst Road and Robinson Road turn east on Greenhurst. Go approximately 1/2 mile and turn north onto a private drive. This private drive is the first drive to the north when driving east from the Greenhurst/Robinson Road Intersection. There is a white sign with red letters that says Paso Fino horses by the driveway. Their driveway is also across the street from a white house. Follow the road to her house. You'll go past her barn and over the railroad tracks prior to getting to her house. 6:30 PM, potluck, bring your favorite dish, 7:00 sharp meeting begins.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 8 – Eddie Riggle

April 23 – Gabe Recla

April 7 – Jan McEnroe

And all other APRIL birthdays!



Calendar

April

- 10 Easter Egg Hunt, WRC Clubhouse Time TBD
 11 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sandy Young's
 16 Tough Sucker Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID
 15-17 Horse Expo—Booth & Gaited Breeds Seminars, Idaho Horse Park, Nampa ID
 30 Orienteering Training Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, Celebration Park, Melba

May

- Weiser River Wagon Train Ride, Friends of Weiser River Trail
 7 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
 7 Eagle Spring Fling, Eagle Foothills, SWITDR
 9 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD
 14-15 Dental Clinic (Info, Nya,
 15 Diabetes Trail Ride, Eagle Foothills
 21 2011 Parade America, Nampa
 21 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
 27-29 Owyhee Fandango, Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID

June

- 4 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
 11 Eagle Fun Days, Eagle
 11-12 Silver Spurs Show. Idaho Center Horse Park
 13 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD
 18 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
 18 Poker Run Fundraiser & Ride, Bogus Basin, possible overnight
 24-26 Whoop'em Up Horse Camp, Idaho City

July

- Twilight Ride, Western Riding Club, TBD
 9 Weiser River Trail Poker Ride, SWITDR, Weiser (See below, could be combined)
 9 Weiser River Trail Poker Run, hosted by Friends of Weiser River Trail
 16 Snake River Stampede, Nampa
 13 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD
 23 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD

Calendar

Continued.

August

- Playdays, Western Riding Club, TBD
- 6-7 Pink Flamingo Camping Trip and Endurance Ride, Cascade
- 8 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD
- 20 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
- 20 Buckskin Challenge, Pocatello, ID, SWITDR
- 24-26 Fir Creek Campground, Stanley, WRC

September

- Day Ride, Western Riding Club, TBD
- 3-4 Old Selam, SWITDR, Centerville, ID
- 10 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
- 12 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD
- 24 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, TBD
- 9/27-10/1 Owyhee Canyonlands, Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID

October

- Trail Challenge, Western Riding Club, TBD
- Poker Ride & Raffle, Southern Comfort, TBD
- Poker Ride & Raffle, Rough Riders, TBD
- Playday, Southern Comfort, TBD
- 10 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD

November

- Turkey Hunt, Western Riding Club, TBD
- 14 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD

December

- Christmas Party, TBD

Please Note: The calendar is a work in progress, please email me with any changes or additions you would like to see on the calendar.

Club Members Linda Hamilton, Jan Gibson, Andrette Goudreau, Chris Saige, Judie Daniels , and Barb and Gabe Recla attended the Desensitization Clinic sponsored by the Treasure Valley Whips on Saturday March 26 at Al Birt Arena in Nampa. Here are some pictures from the day.



NEWS, . . .

- ✓ Idaho Mounted Orienteering will have their training ride at Celebration Park in Melba, on Saturday, April 30th. Jan and John McEnroe will be available to ride with and answer questions about IMO.
- ✓ A reminder to all that Southern Comfort will have a booth at the Horse Expo on April 15-17, and also seminars on Gait Recognition and Achieving Gait.
- ✓ Nya has announced that the Diane Sept Clinic planned for April 30-May 1 has been cancelled. Let her know if you are interested in a clinic from Diane later in the year.
- ✓ Nya has arranged a Dental Clinic for May 14-15 with two locations to be determined by available facilities (volunteers for Nampa and Eagle locations would be nice) Eight to ten horses a day could be accommodated. Club member charge is \$100 for basic mouth (wolf teeth/bit seats are \$25 extra) and \$135 for non-club members. Please call Nya at 495-1606 for more information.
- ✓ Our condolences to Sue Baughman who lost her mom in March.

If you are interested, a DVD on " Ride Safely on the Trail" is available free when you purchase a Weaver Leather product featuring the new Ride Safely on the Trail hang tag. The tag will give you instructions for filling out a form located on www.weaverridesafely.com. For a dealer near you, visit our [dealer locator](#) or call 800-932-8371. This is valued at \$50.00.

Club Member Kathy Johnson is in Peru. Here is what she wrote and some pictures:

"Here are some pictures. These are from a breeding Hacienda we visited. This isn't where the owner lives this is just where he has his horses and where he invites his guests for big parties. He fed all 19 of us lunch that day. Wonderful spread and a wonderful host. We ate lunch while he showed us his horses. We have been cheering him on at the National show and he does very well with his horses. I attached a picture of his gaited mule just for Phil.

I'm having a wonderful time and will probably be coming home with a full set of very nice Peruvian Tack. Shopping is great here, everything is so inexpensive."



Stormy Leads to Kalaupapa (by Phil)

We heard a careful safety briefing about the trail down by Buzzy, the mule man. He covered characteristics of the trail, steps down the 1,700 foot cliff in about three miles to Kalaupapa, the leprosy colony. This mule's name is Makani, the Hawaiian name for wind, not for her speed but rather for the experience of the mule and rider behind her on the trail. "Who wants to ride this mule?"

This first time equestrian decided she would rather ride on Makani than behind her so she volunteered. One by one



Buzzy & Makani



Makani & protégé

Buzzy assigned mules to riders. Guides adjusted stirrups. Buzzy noted that I might have been on a horse before because of how far I used the stirrup. Apparently his experience test is that folks like Makani's protégé push in their whole shoe.

The ride started along the highway where we'd seen a "WATCH FOR MULES" sign. Buzzy's nephew lead the way with my mule, Smokey, second. We rode through a gate traveling along a trail through tropical trees and plants

I thought, how neat, mile markers. The guide asked me to pass him and went back with the other riders as we came to a place where the surface changed. We started down, but someone had thoughtfully carved steps to make it

until we came to a sign at a bend in the path with a "1".

easier for the mules.

Soon the views of the ocean and Kalaupapa

were breathtaking on first the left and then the

right and every time the trail switched back another "mile

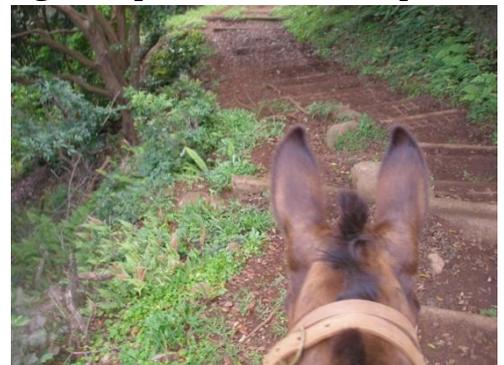
marker" told Stormy that she was leading her sisters and

we riders the right way. The switchback numbers reached

26 at the bottom of the 3.2 mile trail. The acrophobic

vista was great from either the right or the left side as we

worked our way to the bottom of the trail.



Stormy's ears frame stairs to Kalaupapa



Stairs to Kalaupapa in distance

Continued

Near the bottom, the trail flattened out again and we could see the surf on the north side of the island and hear it roar. Suddenly two of the guides came trotting past me. While I'd signed the "hold harmless agreement" agreeing to not try to canter or trot my mule, I discovered that same seat cues that ask Timer for a transition, worked fine on this nice little mule and my fellow guides just grinned. The bus tour of Kalaupapa is another story and the ride back up was even more fun.



Destination & stairs



I highly recommend this trip to riders experienced or novice as long as they keep their various phobias in check and learn to trust the little long eared equines that take this trip every day.

Ready to go back up

Trail Riding is just around the corner.

Here are a few safety tips taken from the list we've had in years' past. For a complete list visit the website under "links."

Stay Alert - It's easy when you're plodding along, chatting to your riding buddies on a beautiful day on the trail to forget you're supposed to be actively" riding" your horse. You may become a bit of a back seat passenger. This can be very dangerous as your reaction time will be delayed by critical seconds. Stay alert and attentive at all times while riding. Not tense - but constantly aware of the environment - your riding surface, your peripheral vision, your distance in relationship to other riders, your horses responses to your cues -- much as you would (or should be) while driving.

- Elect someone who knows the trails as trail boss.
- Wait until all riders are mounted to move off.
- Do not pass the trail boss.
- Don't take off galloping, leaving other riders with bolting/bucking horses. The trail boss maintains the pace and is considerate of others when increasing speed.
- Fast speeds on the trail are unsafe. Ride at safe gaits.
- Keep the pace down when returning to camp.
- Only go as fast and as far as the most inexperienced rider and/or horse in the group can handle.
- Ride single file unless the trail is wide enough to ride at least one horse length distance from the horse next to you.

▪ Continued on Website.