

Southern Comfort



Gaited Horse Club

August, 2013

2013 Officers

President – Shawnda Kasma
Vice President – Phil Carroll
Secretary – Deb Haake
Treasurer – Margaret Carroll

Committees

Trail Rides –John Franden
Sunshine – Sue Harwell
Membership – Jan Gibson
Education and Clinics – Nya Bates, Sandy Young
Ways and Means – Shawnda Kasma
Newsletter– Margaret Carroll
Website, Calendar–Margaret Carroll, Barb Recla
Liability Insurance – Nya Bates

Camping at the Cowboy Campground in Idaho
City, August 17-18

Call Lois Murphy at 863-8126 if you are planning on
going - \$15 a nite..

This and That

- ✚ Next meeting, August 12, at Sunrise Café, Middleton. 7:00 pm
- ✚ Spotlight for August - Phyllis and Craig Steveley, Kristi Adams
- ✚ Article on the Spanish Breed Demo, Heidi Young
- ✚ Peruvian Tack by Liane Keriting-Vick
- ✚ Photos from The Spanish Drill Team Demonstration at the Idaho Center (Photos compliments of Susan Browning)



Next Meeting



*August 12 , Sunrise
Café Middleton,
Idaho, 200 E. Main
St. 585-9700.*

*Meeting at 7:00 PM,
come earlier if you
want to eat.*



Happy Birthday
August 7 – Nya Bates
August 7 –Curtis Harwell
August 10 – Shawnda Kasma
August 27 – Barb Recla



From Heidi Young:

On Thursday, July 18, several of us met at John Franden's place in Eagle early in the morning. We rode in a section of the foothills we don't often see. Shown are John, Jan Gibson, Debby Haake, Joan Zachary. I was behind the camera.

Then we enjoyed some ice tea and the lovely view and surroundings from John's deck. Thank you John and Janet !!

Spotlight - Kristi Adams

1. Tell us about your first horse? Breed? Age? Your Age? (Child, Preteen, Teen, Young Adult, Mature,)

Welch Pony named Shorty. My Grandpa Lytle bought him for me unbroke. The first time I sat on Shorty I was around 5 years old and cried the whole time because I didn't want to sit on him. After my Uncle broke him for me, Shorty and I did not part until my feet were almost dragging the ground in 7th grade. Rode him bareback most of the time. On family pack trips I would of course have to put on a saddle for the miles of riding in the back country. Shorty was one tuff cookie and thus made me one tuff girl. Shorty could also pack an adult and his fair share on a pack saddle if need be on hunting trips. Needless to say I'm proud of that little brown horse with black mane and tail who passed at the age of 30.



2. How did you get involved with gaited horses?

A distant relative raced standard breeds on the Canadian cart tracks. He raised them in the Clearwater River area and my Uncle and Grandpa would buy the cart horses that didn't make the race track. When I was in high school my Dad bought me an Appaloosa mare that would do the Indian shuffle. Rainbow was her name. Dad perfected her gait when rounding up our cattle from summer range in the Elk City area. She could keep that smooth gait

all day. She spoiled me with it and then my oldest son who

got to ride her until her death at the age of 29. She was my playday horse, my pack trip dependable, and my queening horse. Also taught her to pull a cart of which she took to like she had done it all her life.

3. What are your favorite types of riding? What is your favorite event to participate in with your horse? Your favorite Southern Comfort Event?

Trail Riding is my fav. next comes trail challenge events, speed events, and sidesaddle.

4. How long have you been a southern Comfort Member? Why did you join? Not even a year. It's nice to be part of a group and the friendships.

5. How many horses own you? Tell us something about them we have not heard before.

Seven horses and a mule own me. My horses are bred for trail. Sure footed, athletic and a mind to want to know what's over the next mountain and a not give up and die attitude when things get tough. Then there is the mule, Baylor. He is out of a TW mare and is 16 hands. He is a pack mule at this point in time but going thru training to also be a riding mule. He may get his 2 bells on his tail but I don't know if he will get his 3rd for driving. He is a good boy but a big dork. He thinks he is a lap dog!

6. Tell about one of your favorite horses. What makes him or her special. Describe the horse. Size? Color? Age? Breed? Sex? What does the horse do well?

I think you all know the answer to that question, that would be Chivas. We have done everything together and my old man is now 20. Everytime we go on a pack trip I think, "this is it, our last one, the old man is getting old and won't be able to climb these mountains much longer" but no, he has

slowed a little and a little more watchfull when going thru really rough terrain but he has not lost any of his heart. Of which is bigger than he is. We have shown together and done well when he was 5-6 years old, he pulls my sleigh in the winter and cart in the summer, we have had great fun at play days, trail classes, herding cattle, of course many trail rides and pack trips, he is my work partner when training colts and teaching babies to lead, he is the herd boss and keeps everyone in line, he has taught Dan how to ride and many others, and the list could go on.....



7. If your horse could describe you what would (s)he say? What makes you a good human? What would your horse want you to do more? Less?

I like to play hard, go hard, but give kind, considerate loyal care in return. Horses like to have a job and if you are someone who likes to do, they are right there withya ready to be with you and be a part of what you wanna do.

*

8. If you could ride anywhere in the world, where would you ride? Why?

On the beach and in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Never rode on the beach and been to the Bob once, was a kid. Wanna go back. I have promised Chivas I would take him, hopefully next summer but only if he tells me he can still do it.



9. Your name

Kristi Lytle Adams



Orienteering ride at Lois and Bill Murphy's Home in Horseshoe Bend – Terry Young giving the riders instructions – view from the patio during the potluck.

Spotlight - Phyllis and Craig Steveley

1. Tell us about your first horse? Breed? Age? Your Age? (Child, Preteen, Teen, Young Adult, Mature,)

My first horse was a 5 year old Appaloosa mare. I was 17 years old, living in Wisconsin at the time.

2. How did you get involved with gaited horses?

I have a friend that has gaited horses and he introduced me to the TW breed approximately ten years ago. I was reacquainted with the gaited breeds at the Horse Expo two or three years ago where I met Nya Bates!

3. What are your favorite types of riding? What is your favorite event to participate in with your horse? Your favorite Southern Comfort Event?

Casual trail riding. No particular events come to mind!

4. How long have you been a southern Comfort Member? Why did you join?

Craig and I joined earlier this year 2013.

5. How many horses own you? Tell us something about them we have not heard before.

We own one Tennessee Walker named Patton. Patton is a former field trial horse!

6. Tell about one of your favorite horses. What makes him or her special? Describe the horse. Size? Color? Age? Breed? Sex? What does the horse do well?

The only horse we have right now is Patton and therefore, he is our favorite. Patton has a great disposition and is very willing to please. Patton is a Tennessee Walker gelding, about 13 years old, black and 15hh. He is very comfortable to ride.



7. If your horse could describe you what would (s)he say? What makes you a good human? What would your horse want you to do more? Less?

Patton would say that Craig and I go above and beyond to make sure he is comfortable and happy. I'm sure he would want us to allow more pasture time and more riding and less food restriction!

8. If you could ride anywhere in the world, where would you ride? Why?

The beach....it's cool.

Calendar

August

- 6-10 City of Rocks, SWITandDR
- 12 Club Meeting 6:30 Social and 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 16-18 Southern Comfort Trail and Camping, Cowboy Campground, Idaho City
- 17 IMO Dry Buck Sweet Area TBD
- 20 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 29 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

September

- Aug 31-1 Old Selam, SWITandDR, Centerville, ID
- 7 IMO TBD
- 9 Club Meeting 6:30 Social and 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 14 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 17 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 21 IMO TBD
- 26 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 28-29 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena

October

- Roughriders Poker Ride TBD
- Blazer Poker Ride TBD
- 6 Southern Comfort Poker Ride TBD
- 14 Club Meeting 6:30 Social and 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 19 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 22 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 31 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

November

- 2 Playday, Al Birt Arena
- 11 Club Meeting 6:30 Social and 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 16 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 19 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

December

- Christmas Party, TBD

Hi everyone,

Here is the article about our drill demonstration. I hope you all had a good time; I know I sure did.

Other places I have sent the article:

Northwest PF assoc and should show up on their website one of these days

(<http://www.nwpfha.com>).

National PF assoc was nice enough to let me get it in just before their deadline so there's a chance it could be in the fancy Paso World magazine for their fall issue (<http://www.pfha.org/>).

The Valley Times (covers the Eagle, Meridian, Star areas) and will be in their July

29th edition: www.valleytimesidaho.com/subscriptions.html.

I have asked the Twin Falls paper and the Boise Statesman paper if they'd like to have it.

Just Horses has published it, August, Page 11.

Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club: Equestrian Drill Team Demonstration **By Heidi Young**

The Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club, in the Boise, Idaho area, was founded back in 2002, as a drill team. Think of a marching band playing at a football game, now remove the instruments. Then put those folks up on horseback, and lastly, do the formations at SPEED. Now you have a picture of an equestrian drill team.

For many years, the club performed in parades, drills and demonstrations showcasing the various gaited breeds in the club: Paso Fino, the Peruvian Horse, Tennessee Walkers, Rocky Mountain Saddle, Kentucky Mountain and Missouri Foxtrotters. In 2009, the drill team morphed into a gaited horse club, recognizing a need for an organization for gaited horse riders and owners. We now sponsor a variety of events including camping trips, trail rides, training clinics, and fun day competitions.

Recently we were asked to provide some entertainment at the Idaho State Drill Team competition. Many drill teams, each with dozens of riders, were competing all day long. Near the end of the day, they needed some entertainment for the crowd while the judges conferred. We rose to the occasion, resurrected the club's drill team roots and provided some high-stepping action with some of our Spanish gaited

horses. These horses have a rather showy way of moving that's very pretty to watch; and yet still is done without the typical bounce that most horses would have.

I distinctly remember being asked to participate and trying to decline. I thought the big arena and crowds would overwhelm my horse. Frankly, when he's scared; he can be really act out. But I wasn't going to get off so easily as the response was "but he'll look so good doing it!" Our gaited horses surely DO look good, and it seems they look good no matter what they're doing.

Our performance began with two columns of riders coming out of the gate to Spanish-style music with guitars and a strong drum beat. You couldn't help but want to keep a beat with the South American-inspired music. Down the center line of the arena went our pairs of horses, splitting apart at the center of the arena to ride to the rail, then rejoining at the far end of the arena. There we came down the center line in pairs again, showing off our ground-covering gait. And around the arena we went, carving out paired circles, opposing circles, intersecting figure eights, hearts and chevron designs. We finished with a huge circle to showcase each horse and owner.

The local crowd applauded loudly for each horse as they were introduced and we each felt their generosity.

Of course we had a 'moment' or two at the beginning of the demonstration; a horse skidding out of formation (that would be my horse) or stalling out in a corner. Most of these horses had never been in a large arena with the applauding crowds, huge banners and music coming out of the loudspeakers right above us. After a hiccup or two, things proceeded quite nicely.

We had two Peruvian Horses in our group: Liane Kerting-Vick and Phil Carroll wearing the traditional garb of a Peruvian Chalan equestrian with white shirt and pants and wide-brimmed straw hat. The rest of our 9-member group were on Paso Fino horses: team leaders Lawrance Valdez and Sandy Young; followed by Andriette Goudreau, Jan Gibson, Debby Haake, Susan Browning and Heidi Young. We wore the traditional Spanish-style black hat, black pants and white shirt and added some snazzy sequined vests.

We had lots of help getting prepared for the event. In only four practices, Paula Vanhoozer, an experienced drill team rider, drill master, and drill competition judge; coached us through our 3-minute drill pattern. Imagine our group of inexperienced drill team riders learning proper spacing, keeping a good pace, carving corners, following a very specific path. Now add the challenge of remembering 22 different parts of the pattern; all on horseback. During one practice on a particularly hot day, we lined up again to run through the routine. The music was cued up and our horses perked right up, ready to go again. I thought "wow, it sure is nice to have a horse that is so willing to go, so willing to do the work, over and over again."

We also had Linda Hamilton, an experienced drill team rider herself. She

kept us organized, coordinated and helped us look like a real team. We also availed ourselves of our local gait expert, Nya Bates. She came in and helped each of us get the best out of our particular horse with her technical expertise. It's amazing how some small changes in our seat and hands can really bring out the best in your horse. Many other club members helped support us at this event too: Judie Daniels, Barb Recla and John Garro. Our club is full of wonderfully generous people and we all enjoyed the process.

An upcoming event will be a natural horsemanship clinic by Lawrance Valdez at the Birt arena in Nampa, Idaho on [Sept 28-29](#). Several times a year, Lawrance comes to the Treasure Valley all the way from Rupert and holds these weekend clinics. He teaches and refines natural horsemanship skills, helping owners connect with their horses, and develop harmony and willingness. He will also be presenting at the Idaho Horse Expo in April, 2014 and will surely impress the crowd yet again as he did in 2013. Many on our drill team have worked with him and have become a better horseman.

Then the club sponsors the annual Poker Ride on [October 6th](#) at Eagle Island State Park. A portion of the proceeds benefits F.O.S.H. (Friends of Sound Horses), committed to ending the abuse of gaited horses. We also donate funds to the Idaho Humane Society Rescue Ranch. Come and have some fun and help support these fine organizations this fall.

Finally, on [Nov 2nd](#), the club sponsors a Fun Day competition, also held at Birt Arena. It will include rail classes for gaited and non-gaited horses, some extreme trail classes, lots of game events and a four-man drill class. It's a casual competition with supportive folks out having some good, old-fashioned fun on their horses.

Information about our club is at www.gaitedhorseclub.com

Pictures from the Spanish Breed Demonstration

(Practice outside before the demo)



From Liane Kerting-Vick - Peruvian Tack

The saddling starts with the jerga , (saddle pad), topped with Corona and then the saddle. For show, exhibition or parade, strappings, called “retrancas”, hang around the back legs, just above the hocks and buckle to the saddle on both sides. In the back of the saddle, a crupper is always used which helps to keep the saddle from sliding forward by encircling the dock of the tail. The decorative tail piece called a “floron,” or large flower, covers the crupper and hangs part way down the tail. The entire system of straps, crupper and tail cover is called the “guarnicion,” meaning garnish. One school of thought is that the strappings are adapted from the armor on the Spanish war horses, while others suggest the system teaches the horse to not be concerned by bushes or other things brushing against its back legs. Others believe it also helps the horses' gait. One of the likely explanations suggests that it originated from the old harness that kept a saddle from sliding backward on the horse. Junior riders do not have to use the full guarnicion in shows--only the crupper.

The headgear is called jato or terno in Peru and it consists of three pieces: the halter (bosal or bosalillo for when the horse starts to get accustomed to the bit); the headstall and reins; and, the eye cover (tapa ojos) and strap. The trainers, “chalans,” use the tapa ojos when training young horses, especially to block the horse’s vision upon mounting them for the first time. The headgear can be a working headgear which is very plainly made and usually does not have metal decorations, and the show (de lujo) headgear which is finely made and adorned with metal pieces to give it a more elegant appearance. Sometimes a gamarrilla is utilized to keep the pressure off of the mouth. (I have not seen one used, nor have I used one, so don't know how it works.)

The bit is a stainless steel, leverage bit with a small port and either one roller on either side of the port or three rollers on either side of the port. For show, exhibition or parade, a black rug-like, wool blanket called a “pellon” is sometimes placed on the saddle and the rider sits upon it. It has practical uses, as to keep the rider’s clothing clean or in earlier days, if the rider needed a make-shift bed or a cover to keep warm, the pellon would be utilized. The traditional show stirrups are made of hardwoods and have silver or stainless pieces added on, although a leather bell or tapadero stirrup is often used for everyday riding.

THE ATTIRE OF THE CHALAN

- a. The Dress – white shirt and trousers
- b. The Half-boots
- c. The Neckcloth
- d. The Horseman's Hat - palm hat with large or medium brim.
- e. The Poncho (for shows, some people wear jackets here in the U.S.)
- f. Spurs (optional)



Pictures from the Spanish Breed Demonstration

July 13, 2013



