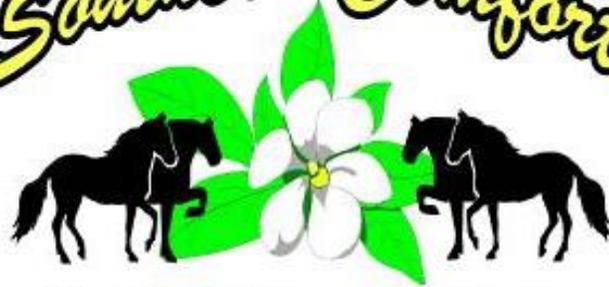


Southern Comfort



Gaited Horse Club

January, 2014

2014 Officers

President – Sandy Young
Vice President – Barb Recla
Secretary – Deb Haake
Treasurer – Anne Martin

Committees

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

This and That

✚ Next meeting, February 10th, 7:00 pm at
Sunrise Café, Middleton

FACEBOOK NEWS –

For those of you who joined the Facebook Group, Southern Comfort Gaited Horses, Heidi Young has graciously created a new Group, *Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club*, where members can post pictures, and find out about events of the club. If you joined our original group, please find your way to the new group and join. The original group will go away eventually so please join the new group.

Next Meeting



*Monday, February
10th, Sunrise Café
Middleton, Idaho,
200 E. Main St. 585-
9700.*

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

Dues for 2014 were due in January. The Application and Hold Harmless Agreement are at the bottom of the newsletter. Thanks to all of you who have turned in your applications. We have received renewals from most of our members. If you forgot please bring it to the meeting or send it to Anne Martin. Everyone must fill out an application each year.

February Spotlight: Deb Hake

Chubiola was my first horse, a little quarter horse from the "Poco Quarter Horse line". She was fun, quick and sharp as a whip. Although we had spent most of my high school years in Missouri, my senior year in high school, we had located to Bosque Farms, New Mexico right outside of Albuquerque. By then, Chubby and I were well acquainted, and I knew that she was a high-spirited horse with a mind of her own. My Dad arranged for my siblings and I to take riding lessons from a very good trainer. She was wonderful and made my horse and I a team.

That year I found myself riding along the banks of the Rio Grande (spectacular), all over Bosque Farms and on the Indian Reservation that was right behind our house. It was a unique experience.

In 2006, after many years of talking about horses and reminiscing about the wonderful time that my brothers and sisters and I had with our horses (it is a miracle that we lived to tell our stories!) and after raising 4 children, my husband bought me my Paso Fino, Princesa.

At the time we lived in Belleville, Illinois and I had read a couple of newspaper articles about the paso

fino farm, Red Fox Acres just north of Belleville. I had never heard of Paso Finos and I went to investigate. I couldn't believe these horses!! They were entirely toooooo much fun! And the gait!! Wow!!!

In December of 2006 Princesa became my horse. The first two years that I had her we rode always with the trainer, Pedro. (And let me just say that I thought I knew a lot about horses and riding—we will come back to this point.) We showed her several times during those two years. I watched other riders in the show ring and tried to discern what made a winner. And although we did win, I knew I was missing something but I couldn't identify the missing pieces (respect and relationship). I rode several times a week on the 250 acres available to us and enjoyed it immensely.

We moved to Boise in January 2009 and Princesa arrived in February of that year. I became acutely aware that when she arrived she had absolutely no regard for me!! I realized that the only respect that she had for me at Red Fox Acres was because we were always with the trainer. When I saddled her up and began to lunge her for the first time, she was a bucking bronco and I wondered who was going to ride this horse?

I keep her out at Jill Kohler's place at the end of Eagle Road and it so happens that Megan Pugh trains out there as well. When I explained what issues I was having, Megan smiled and said those would be "respect" issues and yes I can help. I have had great training with Megan. When I said earlier that I thought that I knew a lot about horses, I really knew how to stay on and that was about it. As I have ridden my horse and worked with her, she was probably more horse than what I should have started with—but she has been a challenge and I have loved every minute of riding her, working with her and training her. And yes, she continues to be a challenge. We have come a long way together and I would say that now we have a relationship and I definitely have her respect. Every time we conquer an issue she finds a new one. I don't expect her to change!

There is always a new adventure or a new story—like the time I lost her out at Avimor last fall. Yes, for three very long hours. How? You ask? Perhaps a little embarrassing but I will tell the story.

Our group started with Jan, Susan and John and myself. Susan and John had to leave and so they left and Jan and I continued. We were on a little trail and of course, Jan and her horse (Contesa, I think.) scurried around the edge of the trail (there was a little drop off). My horse said "no" and proceeded to go over the top of a large rock—to which I said "no"—and I thought it quite reasonable to get off of Princesa and send her through. It was rocky and not level and when I got off I didn't have the reins because they were attached to the martingale. (Do you see where this is going?) Bottom line she turned away from me and started walking in the opposite direction. Do you know how much more ground a horse covers when she walks as opposed to a human?

Jan and I spent the next two hours trying to track her down. We would see her on the far ridge and then she would disappear over the other side. I was sick. After two hours we went back to the trailer (I was on foot) hoping that she would be there. No, she wasn't there. So I drove my empty horse trailer to the sales office at Avimor and asked them if they had a program in place for people who had lost their horses. (Surely I couldn't be the only or the first!) I could tell by their blank stare that they didn't. However they were so sympathetic and helpful.

One of the gentlemen offered to take me in his truck and we back tracked for a bit—but to no avail. I was studying the map (and at this point, I must say that God is so good!) and I told him that we had been on Broken Horn Trail. He lit up and over we went to the part of the trail just below the water tower. He proceeded to show me where Broken Horn Trail turns into Dry Creek Road so that Bob and I could come back the next day and continue to search for my lost horse. Augh!!!!

We drove another half mile and there was a woman in front of her house holding a be-draggled horse. When we pulled up, she said, "I hope you

are looking for a horse!" What a happy sight!!!!
The woman said that Princesa was walking up and down the fence trying to get past it. Since it was in the southwest corner of Avimor I think that she was headed back to the barn but couldn't get any farther. I rode her a couple of miles back to Avimor, put her in the trailer and home we went!

These experiences always come with a lesson and I learned a lot. I will always ride with a halter and a rope. A very difficult way to learn a very simple lesson.

I joined Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club 4 years ago (I think) and I have enjoyed the friendships that I have made. I have enjoyed riding in the Eagle Foothills, Avimor (yes, I will go back) and Wilson Creek and hope to ride many more places.

God is good and I am blessed.

Debby Haake

Calendar

February

10 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
22 Bombproofing Playday, Treasure Valley Whips, Al Birt Arena

March

10 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton

April

5 Tough Sucker Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID
5-6 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena
14 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, TBD
18-20 Horse Expo, Nampa ID
26 Tough Sucker II Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID

May

11 Clinic, Al Birt Arena, TBD, Southern Comfort
12 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
18 Diabetes Trail Ride, Eagle Foothills
23-25 Owyhee Fandango, Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID

June

7-8 Thistle Creek Ranch Novice Challenge
9 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton

14 Buckskin Challenge, SWIT &DR
14-15 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena
28 Silver City Ride, SWIT & DR
28-29 Thistle Creek Ranch Open Challenge

July

10 Oregon Coast, Nahalam State Park, Southern comfort
14 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton

August

9-10 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena
11 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
30-31 Old Selam, SWITDR, Centerville

September

8 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
27-28 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena

October

5 Southern Comfort Poker Ride TBD
12 Playday, Western Riding Club
13 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
28 Trail Horse and Challenge, Western Riding Club

November

1 Playday, Al Birt Arena
8 Owyhee Chills No Frills, Oreana
10 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton

December

8 Christmas Party, TBD

TBD Impromptu Rides monthly to:

Bogus Basin
Eagle Foothills
Avimor
Wilson Creek/Hardtrigger Canyon

TBD Camping, Idaho City Cowboy Campground

Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club

Check One:

_____ New Membership

_____ Membership Renewal

Name (print) _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____ City/ST/Zip _____

Email Address _____ Birthday (month/day, Optional) _____

Emergency Contacts _____

Life Flight Member Yes _____ No _____ If yes, which Provider _____

Veterinarian Name and Phone Number _____

Your Horse's Name _____ Breed _____

What kinds of equestrian events are you interested in: _____

I agree to comply with Club By Laws and will help promote the Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club. I understand that the officers of the Club shall make all final decisions on Club policies. I understand as a member I may request to review club records and policies.

Please note the club calendar of events is published on the web site www.gaitedhorseclub.com

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian if under 18 years of age _____ Date _____

Please fill out Hold Harmless Agreement on reverse side

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS

Effective Calendar Year _____

NOTICE: This Document is a Legally Binding Contract Limiting Your Rights to Recover for Injury or Loss!

Nothing in this agreement is intended to limit the effect or replace the limitation of liability provided by Idaho's Equine Activities Immunity Act, Idaho Code 6-1801 et. Seq. This agreement is intended to extend greater protection to Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club. By signing this document you waive your rights to bring any legal claim to recover compensation or obtain any other remedy for injury or death to yourself, your spouse, your children, or others for the loss or damage to property, however caused, arising out of the negligent or other tortuous acts of the officers or agents listed below, now or at any time in the future, caused by their actions or failure to act, or otherwise. You also agree to protect, defend, and indemnify the officers or agents listed below against all claims for injuries you caused to others in connections with any of their activities.

1. Definitions. Herein "SCGHC" means Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club, its officers, agents, activity coordinators, activity leaders; "I" means the undersigned individual, all heirs, and the members of their family, including any minors whether or not accompanying the individual, and the personal representative, executors, and administrator of the individual.

2. Release and Waiver of all Claims and Covenant not to Sue. In consideration of participation in the activities of SCGHC by me, by my spouse, children and other dependents, I irrevocably waive and release SCGHC and the owners of all facilities, equipment, and land used in SCGHC activities from, and WAIVE MY SUBSTANTIAL RIGHT TO ASSERT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CLAIM OR DEMANDS OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER, including but not limited to, any claim of negligence, which I may have or acquire in the future against SCGHC on account of personal injury, property damage, death, or accident of any kind, arising from my involvement in SCGHC activities, however the injury or damage is caused, including, but not limited to, the negligence of SCGHC. I contractually release SCGHC and agree to hold SCGHC harmless from any and all liability for any claims, demands, damages, actions, causes of actions or suits of any kind or nature whatsoever, which result or may result in the future from activities sponsored by SCGHC or coordinated by SCGHC members. This release applies to all SCGHC activities in the future in which I may participate. This release shall be effective and apply to all my heirs and the members of my family, including any minors, whether or not they accompany me and my personal representative, executors and administrators.

3. Legal Actions Limitation. If SCGHC has to take legal action in relation to this Agreement, and SCGHC is successful in the action, the unsuccessful party shall pay SCGHC, in addition to all sums that the unsuccessful party may be called on to pay, a reasonable sum for SCGHC's attorney's fees and court costs. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Idaho. Venue for any dispute or litigation arising out of this Agreement shall be in ADA County, Idaho District Court. Any modification of this Agreement or additional obligation assumed by either party in Connection with this agreement shall be binding only if in writing signed by each party or authorized representative of each party. There shall be no oral amendment or modification of this Agreement.

4. Acknowledgment of Risk. I hereby acknowledge and agree that activities of SCGHC are frequently inherently dangerous and have a high degree of risk. I acknowledge that by execution hereof, I am waiving and releasing all claims against SCGHC for any injury whatsoever. I agree to participate as a common adventurer, being personally responsible for my own safety and not looking to any others to protect me from harm.

5. Statement of Capacity and Understanding. I will not undertake any activity of SCGHC without becoming fully aware of the nature and extent of the risks inherent therein. By participation, I am voluntarily assuming the risks. I will not engage in the activities unless I am in good health and have no physical limitations, which could preclude my safe participation. I understand I am responsible for my own instruction in safety and providing for my own safety. I am of lawful age (18 years or older) and other wise legally competent to sign this agreement. I understand that the terms of this agreement are contractual and legally binding. By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I have carefully read this agreement, and sign of my own free will.

XSignature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

If above named individual is under 18 years of age: Parent or Guardian Consent: I as parent or guardian of the above named minor under 18 years of age, hereby consent to the terms and conditions set forth in this Release and Waiver of Claim form. I authorize his or her signing it, and covenant not to sue. If any provision or provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal, unenforceable or in conflict with law of any jurisdiction, the validity, legally and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

XSignature _____ Date _____

Print Your Name _____