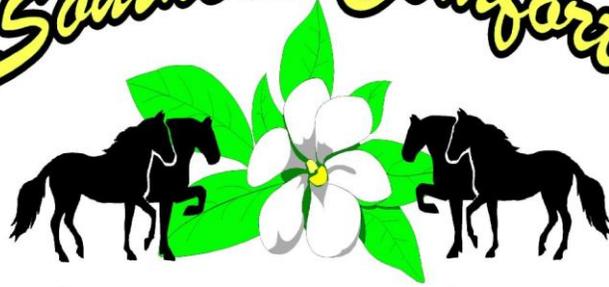


Southern Comfort



Gaited Horse Club

May, 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

Do you need something to do on Saturday, May 7th – well, we have some suggestions for you.

- ✓ *Eagle Spring Fling, Eagle Foothills, SWITDR*
- ✓ *Breakfast and Poker Ride, Eagle Island, Western Riding Club*
- ✓ *Orienteering Ride, Hell's Kitchen, Grandview, IMO*

Check website for times, and info.

Next Meeting

Monday, May 9th 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.

Dr. Patricia Pence DVM will be present at the May 9, 2011 SCGHC meeting to be held at Sandy Young's.

Dr. Pence will be discussing Dental Care and other conditions which can be prevented with proper dental management such as nutrition, colic and mouth discomfort. Dr. Pence is a published author on Equine Dentistry and has a local practice for equines and small animals in Nampa.

Due to the large response of interested parties with several horses we will schedule the clinics and locations accordingly to insure availability and ease in holding these clinics. The cost will be \$100 per horse (member) and \$135 per horse (non member) which is a considerable savings of Dr. Pence's regular charges and ranch call fees.

Please contact either Nya Bates (495-1066) or Sandy Young (867-4084) with questions or scheduling needs.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 7 – Linda Hamilton
May 14 – Peter Jensen
May 19 – Margaret Carroll
May 21 – Roy Phillips

Calendar

May

Weiser River Wagon Train Ride, Friends of Weiser River Trail

Dental Clinics TBD

7 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, Hell's Kitchen, Grandview

7 Eagle Spring Fling, Eagle Foothills, SWITDR

7 Breakfast & Poker Ride, WRC, Eagle Island, Eagle

9 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sandy Young

15 Diabetes Trail Ride, Eagle Foothills

21 2011 Parade America, Nampa

21 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering Chalky Butte, Murphy/Reynolds Creek

27-29 Owyhee Fandango, Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID

June

4 Orienteering Ride, Idaho Mounted Orienteering, Oreana Area

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

17-19 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

13 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Dottie Green

16 Snake River Stampede, Nampa

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, Rough Riders, TBD
- 1 Poker Ride & Raffle, Southern Comfort, Eagle Island
- 29 Playday, Southern Comfort, Al Birt Arena
- 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.

Kathy Johnson spent several days in Peru in March. Here is her adventure in her own words.

Adventure in Peru

“My love of the Peruvian Horse gave me a good excuse to take a trip to Peru to watch the National Peruvian Horse Show in March. Mimi Busk-Downey with Crescent Moon Tours has been involved in the breeding of Peruvian Horses since 1974 and has been going to Peru for many years. Every year she organizes a tour around the National Horse Show. I did not know Mimi before I went and thought her tour was a wonderful opportunity to see Peru and also go the National show. I know I had a few friends that questioned my sanity going to Peru alone and meeting up with a group of people I did not know. It turned out to be a wonderful adventure. Mimi was well prepared - she works with a tour company in Peru and even sent a picture of the person that would be picking me up at the airport. Upon arrival in Lima, Peru after 15 hours of travel, I had no problem locating the person to take me to the hotel in Lima.

The next morning our group of 19 headed off to Southern Peru. We stopped to visit Inca Ruins in Tumbalo Colorado and then to our hotel. Since it was a long day of travel, we did not want to stop and find a place to eat so the tour guide called ahead to our hotel and asked if they would prepare dinner for us. The hotel was perfect – a nice small little hotel. They greeted us with a Peruvian drink called Pisco and were in the midst of barbecuing our dinner. I think our group took almost every room in the place. The barbeque dinner was fabulous.

The next day we headed to the Tacama winery and found that the Peruvian horse is the mode of transportation for the workers to attend to 200 acres of grapes.



The winery was originally founded by monks in the 1500's. They still have the original wine press. After the winery we then traveled to Inca for a dune buggy ride in the Actama desert. It was like a roller coaster ride. The dune buggy holds nine people and six of those people were women. There was a lot of screaming in our buggy. To add to the excitement of the dune buggy ride, we got to sand board down the sand dunes. Now these are not little sand dunes. Most dunes were 100 to 200 feet high. I wasn't too sure that I wanted to sand board them but I decided I did not come all the way to Peru to miss out on the opportunity to do something as unique as this. So away I went on my stomach on a snow board down a pretty steep sand dune. Even though it looked really scary it was a blast and we rode down about four other hills. The next day we checked out of our hotel and went to Paracus to take a boat out to the island of Ballestas which is home to hundreds of different birds and sea lions. There are so many birds that the guano is harvested every 5 years. After a nice lunch in Paracus we headed back to Lima visiting a few places on the way back. The next couple of days we spent touring Lima and learning its history and also visited Jorge Villacorta's breeding Hacienda.

On Monday March 26th, we went to the first of several days spent at the Horse Show at Mamacona. The horses were beautiful and well cared for. They had many booths selling all the Peruvian horse gear for both the rider and horse. Needless to say I ended up buying a whole set of tack. It was an unbelievable deal for equipment that is all made by hand. I didn't care if I ever used it. It's just beautiful to look at.

On one of the days we took a tour of a tack factory and there wasn't anything that was made by machine. It's a trade that is passed from generation to generation.

On one of our last days we visited an absolutely beautiful hacienda owned by Peruvian Breeder Elsa Pugas. I was in horsey paradise. She was a very gracious host and there wasn't one person in the group who didn't want to just stay there

forever. The day was perfect and we even got to ride some of her prize horses. Getting the opportunity to do this was something that most tourists don't get to do. In fact since Mimi knows many of the people in Peru who breed Peruvians she wasn't short of invitations to visit their haciendas. At one hacienda I felt a little out of place to be there because most of the guests were very wealthy Peruvians and Argentines that breed Peruvians. We got a glimpse of the life of a wealthy Peruvian and saw some very nice horses as well as served a wonderful dinner.

In the twelve days I was there I never was bored. These are just some of the highlights of the trip. I could practically write a small novel about all that I experienced. I learned a lot about the uniqueness of the Peruvian breed and would definitely do it again if I have the opportunity."



On Target Training – Gait Recognition, by Nya Bates

All gaited horses are born with a natural gait tendency that can and will vary through the gait spectrum regardless of their specific breeds. There are many different names for the gaits that these horses are able to do which, although they will reflect the language of their country of origin, they are basically the same gaits. Most gaited horses will have a natural gait thread in which they are able to perform an easy gait at a certain speed and, when they can no longer travel in that gait (or gear), will alter their gait.

In defining the intermediate gaits one must use footfall sequence, footfall timing, hoof support sequence and weight transfer.

The ordinary Walk (which all horses perform) is an even timed four beat gait as each hoof lifts and sets down at even and separate intervals and is the basic gait for all of the easy gaits. The footfall sequence is right hind, right fore, left hind, left fore. Even pick up and set down of hooves. Walking step front and rear.

The Flat Walk is identical to the ordinary Walk but is faster and has a longer stride. The flat foot walk is a bold four beat gait with reach in every stride from both front and rear legs. There is an over stride of the front track with the rear legs. The horse should move with no sense of cramped motion or laboring from the hocks. The footfall sequence is right hind, right fore, left hind, left fore. Even pick up and set down of hooves. 4/6 mph.



The Running Walk has the same footfall and timing as the Flat and ordinary Walk with more over stride and speed. To create the proper timing, a hind foot is always one half stride behind the front foot. The rear legs track straight over the tracks of the front feet and must appear to move effortlessly. The horse appears to pull with the front legs and drive from his rear legs. There is an over stride of the front track with the rear legs with no sense of cramped motion or laboring from the hocks. The footfall sequence is left hind, left front, right hind, right front. Even pick up and set down of hooves. Running step in front and walking step behind. 7-10 mph.



The Rack has the same footfall and timing as do the ordinary, Flat and Running Walks with more speed and a shorter length of stride. The rack is often referred to as a Single Foot as it has a four beat gait where each foot hits the ground in a moment of individual action. The footfall is one foot down and three feet in various stages of elevation. Leaping step with weight transfer in mid-air, front and hind. Speeds can go up to 25 mph



Diagonal Gaits

The Trot is a two beat gait in which the diagonal legs lift off and set down at the same time. Even diagonal pick up and set down. Weight transfer in mid-air so the transverse pairs are never on the ground at the same time. There is a moment of suspension when all four feet are off the ground. 6 mph (more for racing).



The Foxtrot is a broken diagonal gait in which the hooves set down at separate intervals. The horse should appear to be walking with the front legs and trotting with the rear legs with a sliding action. The foxtrot is a two-foot, three-foot support sequence.

Diagonal uneven pick up and set down of hooves. It has a walking step in front at slow speeds with a running step in front at faster speeds with a trotting step behind. 6-10 mph.



The Lateral Gaits

The Pace is a two beat gait in which the lateral legs lift off and set down at the same time. There is a moment of suspension when all four feet are off the ground between the set down of each set of lateral legs. The sequence is left fore and rear leg and then right fore and right hind legs. The weight transfer is in the air and transverse leg pairs are never on the ground at the same time. Speed can be as much as 10 mph (more for racing).

The Step-Pace is a broken lateral gait in which the hooves on one side of the horse lift off at the same time but the hind feet set down just ahead of the fore feet. There is no suspension which makes this gait smooth. This is a two-foot, three-foot support gait. Weight transfer is walking step at slow speeds and a running step at faster speeds. 4-10 mph

Nya and Rocky Bates operate Bates Gaited Horses in Melba, Idaho. Nya has been actively involved with horses all of her life and, specifically with Tennessee Walking Horses since 1974. The Bates offer training, gait clinics for all gaited breeds. Their focus is pleasures horses for trail and rail, driving field trial and hunting. An active member with FOSH (Friends of Sound Horses Nya was awarded the Trainer of the Year as well as Breeder of the Year for 2010.

We have the following to share with other members of the club – many issues of *Horse Illustrated* and *Trail Rider*. If you would like to borrow some of these magazines, please email us. We have some horse books that we will add to the list next month. If you have items you are willing to share with the club, email us before the next issue and we will print it.

Horse Expo 2011

The Idaho Horse Council held their Horse Expo April 15-17, 2011. Friends of Sound Horses and the Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club had a booth promoting all sound gaited horses and their versatility. There were members of both groups on hand to speak to the public regarding their missions.

On Friday and Saturday Nya Bates and Sandy Young gave presentations on gait recognition and achieving gait through use of Judging and other educational media. All of the gaited breeds were discussed relating to gaits and riding influencing said gaits. These seminars were well attended and many folks had questions which were answered by the presenters.

Overall, there were many interested parties that benefitted from both the booth volunteers and the presentations held.

Club member Sue Harwell participated in the All Breed Challenge on Friday Evening. Congratulations to Sue for doing a wonderful job of showing off gaited horses.



WILSON CREEK

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 23, RIDERS MET AT WILSON CREEK AND TOOK A WONDERFUL RIDE IN THE SUNSHINE (YES IT FINALLY CAME OUT FOR A DAY). HERE ARE SOME PICTURES.

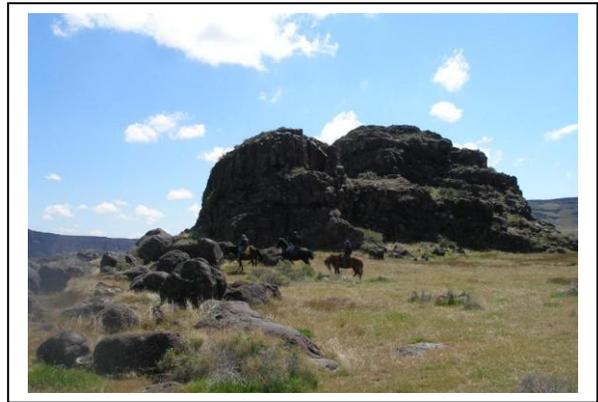
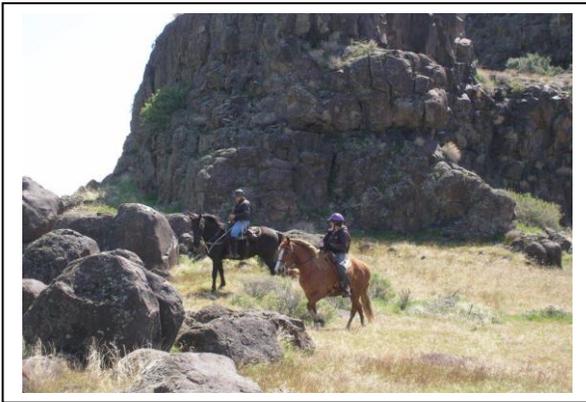


IMO CELEBRATION PARK

ON SATURDAY APRIL 30TH, IMO HELD ITS TRAINING RIDE AT CELEBRATION PARK. IT WAS A COOL, BUT SUNNY DAY AND EVERYONE THAT ATTENDED HAD A GREAT TIME.



.....AND MORE



This email was sent to Linda Hamilton and I'm passing the information on to you. 3K's website is <http://www.3kranch.com/>

HENRY NABEL

PROFESSIONAL HORSE TRAINING

Dear friends,

We hope this email finds you well. I'm sure you're all looking forward to warmer weather this spring.

I wanted to make you aware of some improvements that are coming to ***3K Ranch and Training Facility.***

In the next few months we are looking forward to all stalls being fully covered and additional stalls added. There will be a Classic Mountain trail course stretching over several acres laid out for training and competition, including water crossings, bridges, trenches, gates, logs, etc... Many clients have expressed interest in this kind of equine activity and I'll be glad to serve you in this area as well.

I also am continuing lessons and clinics. The first clinic will be held Sunday, May 1st starting at 10:00 am to 3:00 with a lunch break and the cost is \$45.00 per rider. I will be covering legging up, collected canter, preparing your horse for lead changes, speed control, and fencing. As usual, there will be time for additional questions and specific horse needs. If you have suggestion or something specific you would like to cover contact me or stop by my booth at the Idaho Horse Expo this upcoming weekend. I'll be glad to answer your questions.

Looking forward to riding and working with you this spring and summer.

Sincerely,

Henry
208-922-8245