

Junior Exhibitor Jumble

Kentucky

Hello Everyone! It has been a great start to this New Year. To kick off this New Year many attended the UPHA Convention, Young Horse Preview, and the ASHA Youth Conference in Lexington, Ky. We will fill you in on the happenings at those events next month. Good luck horse shopping!

The phone has been ringing off the hook at The Good Habit. Martha and Barb have been working hard to get their new shop back in order. It remains at the same location but with a new twist – they have expanded. They are just finishing up and would love to see everyone again this year.

Rider of the Month

Name: Foster Roberts

Age: 13

Horse: It's A Wonderful World

Division: 13 and Under Show Pleasure

Family: mom – Jennifer, dad – Steve, brother – Ward, and dog – Jack

School and Grade: I go to Georgetown Middle School and am in the 8th grade.

Special thanks and appreciation to: My aunt for giving me the opportunity to succeed and perform in the saddle horse industry.



Where you ride: Mallard Farm in Georgetown, Ky.

When you started riding: I started riding at age six and have been hooked ever since.

Most exciting win: The KASPFA May Classic Horse Show.

Most memorable horse show moment: The first year in open classes and going to the ten and under finals.

Other interests besides riding horses: I play baseball and basketball for my school.

How riding has helped you become a better student: It has taught me patience and being able to work with others.

Future goals: To win a blue ribbon at Louisville.

If your horse were a person what would he or she be like: He would be a successful hard working citizen.

What is your favorite thing about your horse: He gives 100% every time he steps out of his stall.

Congratulations to Foster on all of his successes in his early start in the Saddlebred business. Good Luck to you in all your shows and events in your life in the Future.

A poem to enjoy...

In the Pasture

By Erin Ellert

Horses run and run

In the pasture

Manes flowing

Tail trailing behind them

Sweat glistening their coats

Stallions gallop around,

Keeping track of their mares

Foals bucking and playing

Mares graze softly

In the pasture

And when their time ends

They will go

In the pasture

In the sky

As many know

Horses will gallop

Into our hearts

Forever...

Good luck to everyone this coming season. We wish you all the best.

Please send any ideas you have for this column, new horses in the Kentucky region, information, and tips, etc., to:

Jackie Schutt and Shelby Eriksen
likearocket06@hotmail.com

Midwest

This month, I had been thinking about the less fortunate horses in the world. What do we know and what are we used to? We're used to expensive and high quality show horses, healthy and beautiful, loved, and many even spoiled. Have you ever thought about horses that are not cared for, are neglected, or are abused? There is a whole new world out there, and most do not see it.

Here is a story that I found on the Internet (this story was found on, Stories, Marco; it has been shortened for this article).

Of all the things that could happen to a perfect horse, a highly trained Arabian stud, his fate became sealed when a lady bought him in trade for some other. Just a few miles away, the trailer doors opened and he faced his new home, a dirt paddock in the middle of a collection of broken house trailers, used refrigerators, rusted panels and piles of accumulated trash. The lady never fed him, never lifted a finger to attend to his needs. He wandered the paddock, searching for a blade of grass, finally eating the bark off a lone, scraggly tree and, when the hunger became more than he could bear, chewing on the wood fence and swallowing the small pieces his loose teeth could tear off.

His worst nightmare came when the lady killed another horse as he watched. A new, pregnant mare had come a few days before. One afternoon the mare had colic, but rather than call a vet the lady decided that she'd deliver the baby by cutting the mare's abdomen open. Of course, the mare and the baby both died. The lady then half buried the mare with her head and feet above the ground, leaving the remains for Marco to see as he wandered his paddock searching for food.

Late one afternoon, a schoolgirl caught a glimpse of Marco's thin body while she walked home from school. She called Habitat for Horses and a few days later, we walked onto the property with three different police departments and seized 58 various animals and ordered the lady to court on animal cruelty charges.

Besides being covered in lice and filled with intestinal worms, his teeth were loose and his hooves were in terrible shape. The rehabilitation transformation took place slowly, but week-by-week Marco grew stronger until most of his lost weight returned...

Marco is now in a happy home with a family and children who love him. There are so many stories similar to Marco's story, and most do not have a

Junior Exhibitor *Jumble*

asb.punkin@yahoo.com

happy ending. It's a sad story, but what can we do about it? Most of us can't start an organization and save hundreds of horses or adopt rescue horses yourself. So how can we help, then? We can DONATE. There are hundreds of charities that you could donate to, and each and every one would tell you that they need more donations. Even in the Saddlebred world we have our own rescue, Saddlebred Rescue. PLEASE DONATE. Even if it doesn't seem like much, every bit counts. Please keep this in mind as we continue through this year.

For the month of February, I interviewed **Donna Finch**, owner of Three-Gaited World Champion Our Charming Lady.

How would you describe Our Charming Lady?

Grace is so funny! She makes us laugh on a regular basis. Mary Marcum Orr says she just likes to do things her own way and in her own time. She has come to know her "job" in the show ring, and she seems to love to perform. She is a real friend.

What were the first thoughts that crossed your mind when they announced that Our Charming Lady was the new Three-Gaited World Grand Champion?

The feeling at the moment of the announcement can best be described as electric! It is very difficult to describe the moment that a dream comes true. There is a surge of emotions, ranging from shock to incredible joy.

What does it feel like to own a World Grand Champion?

There is such tremendous pride in ownership of Grace. The phrase "a once-in-a-lifetime horse" becomes very meaningful and real.

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

Jack and I would like to express our appreciation and thanks for the outpouring of support and well wishes from our Saddlebred-loving friends. Grace has brought us many blessings, the best being the people we have come to know and those that have shared in our celebration of this wonderful mare!

Thank you, Mrs. Finch, for doing that interview with me, and best wishes to you and Our Charming Lady in the upcoming year.

Have a great month!

Haley Cymbalak

Missouri

Happy Valentine's Day everybody! February is filled with fun things to do! If you have a new horse, you are probably learning more about each other every day. There is also Valentine's Day! Many state associations have their end-of-year awards banquets this month too, where you can catch up with all of your horse show friends you haven't seen in awhile. Our Missouri Horse Show Association (MHSA) banquet will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7th in Columbia, Mo. If you are not familiar with the MHSA, it is a great association that sponsors horse shows, awards, scholarships and equitation finals in all breed areas. If you are not already a member, you may want to check out their website, . We'll be covering the Missouri awards banquet in our March article.

For now, we want to talk about some fun things to do with your horse or favorite lesson horse on Valentine's Day: You can remind them that they are loved by making them this yummy treat.

Special Apples:

Ingredients: Apple, 2-3 peppermints, molasses.

Slice the apple and core the middle. Crush peppermints. Dip one end of the apple slice into the molasses. Sprinkle crushed peppermints on the apple so it sticks to the molasses.

Even if it's not your day to ride, try and visit your favorite horse. Give them some special attention — grooming, ride them or take them out to graze.

These are some of the many things you can do with your horse. Well that's all for this month. Email us if you have any suggestions.

"A horse gallops with its lungs, perseveres with its heart, and wins with its character."

— Tessio

Krissy Torkelson
krissytorkelson@gmail.com

Lauren Brannon
zeromotel85@aol.com

Gateway Manor Holiday Party

The weather was just right on December 6 at Gateway Manor Stables for their holiday party. There was plenty of food and fun to go around for everyone who attended. There was no shortage of carrots, peppermints and other treats for all of the horses in the barn. It was also a good chance for people who don't always see each other as much, because show season has ended, to catch up and barn friends to hang out and see their favorite horses. Old friends also dropped in to visit and share old stories and memories. Even the siblings of the riders had a good time playing games in and around the barn. Later, there was a short video put together of pictures from shows, camp and other fun times throughout the year.

