

Southeast Mountain Horse Club

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4 Al Prewitt Memorial Horse Show, March 9-10, 2007 Asheville, NC 's [Southeast Mountain Horse Club Board of Directors:](#)

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2006 Club Fall

Trail Ride/Meeting Uwharrie National Forrest Troy, NC

This years annual fall trail ride and annual membership meeting were held at Uwharrie National Forrest and 4-B Farm in Troy, North Carolina. The trail ride had a wonderful turnout of twenty-seven Mountain Horses and riders. The group made quite a spectacle moving out of the campground and onto the trails on Saturday morning. The day was beautiful, just cool enough to keep you from breaking a sweat. There were riders from Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and points beyond. The trails were full of lots of beautiful Mountain Horses, some even fresh off the show circuit. Larry & Helen Blackburn, owners of 4-B Farm, led us on an exciting but not too challenging trail ride up through the mountains of Uwharrie. We left out of camp around 10:30 that morning. After a steady climb up the mountain we took a couple of breaks throughout the morning. Larry brought us back down the other side of the mountain to a beautiful spot beside the enormous Baden Lake. The view was gorgeous. Several boaters even drove over to the banks where we ate lunch to check out our horses.

Evening time brought us back into camp around 5:30 that afternoon. Just in time for us to unsaddle our horses, clean them up, prepare for evening feeding and then on to the Chapel at 4-B Farm for our annual membership meeting. The meeting was lively with discussion about the upcoming elections and show season. Several new members joined the club and old members participated in the voting process. Show Committee Chair, Martiza McVicker presented the suggested show dates and gave information for the 2007 show season. After much discussion about the past decisions for sanctioning shows, it was decided and voted on by the members present to sanction our 2007 shows with all Mountain Horse organizations, in hopes of pleasing all members who show with different Mountain Horse organizations. Helen Blackburn and Lee Ann Kimble volunteered to help Stanley Hall with the 2007 trail ride schedule and gave several new ideas about trail rides. A new Board of Directors was nominated and voted on by the membership present. The new board members are as follows:

Stanley Hall, President

Dave Yarber, Vice-President

Martiza McVicker, Secretary
Dick Fox, Treasurer
Michelle Nichols, Member-at-Large
Cyndee Breslin, Member-at-Large
Don Kite, Members-at-Large

Everyone was very excited about the upcoming season and what the new Board of Directors have planned to implement changes to our show and trail ride schedules. It was strongly suggested by the membership in attendance that the club spend more effort educating the general public about Mountain Horses. Jamie Hall gave a report on efforts to work with the North Carolina Horse Council through their grant program to sponsor an educational program in conjunction with the club's show circuit to promote Mountain Horses and their versatility for a variety of equine activities. The meeting closed with a very excited group of members who are looking forward to what the upcoming year will bring.

2006 UMH Regional High Points Awards

The Cape Fear Trail Riders included the UMH regional classes in their show circuit this year. With more Mountain Horses in the UMH classes than most of the other classes combined, these four shows quickly became a big attraction for local Mountain Horse owners in 2006. CFTR will be holding their first meeting of the year on January 8th at 6:30 p.m. in Wade, NC. At this time Jamie Hall will request that they include the same regional classes in their show circuit again in 2007. This circuit includes four shows. The UMH 2006 High Points Awards banquet will be held in Lexington, KY on January 13th. Along with the CFTR shows, the UMH World Show's regional classes will be included in the high points system. For more information, see the club's website, www.SMHClub.com for high points listings.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Thank You to all the volunteers who helped out with club functions this year. There are too many to name. You all know who you are. A special thanks to Melanie & Irv Perry for their announcing skills and ringmaster skills throughout the year. Also, a great big thank you to Michelle Nichols for presenting ribbons at every single SMHC horse show in 2006. A thank you also to Mitch and Susan Elliott for always stepping in and helping out wherever they are needed and for their continuous support at the horse show and trail rides.

Al Prewitt Memorial Show March 9-10, 2007 Asheville, NC

The first show of the season is just around the corner. The Al Prewitt Memorial is the most well attended horse show of the year. Everyone who knew and loved Al Prewitt make it a point to attend this show and spend time with other Mountain Horse owners who continue to honor Big Al's memory each year.

For additional information, please see the show schedule at www.SMHClub.com or contact Martiza McVicker at martiza@peoplepc.com

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Gaited Horse Dressage

By: Carolyn Kenton

Something exciting will happen at the new United Mountain Horse, Inc. (UMH) Equestrian Center in Winchester, Kentucky on Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22, 2007 – one week before the Kentucky Rolex Three Day Event in Lexington. Gaited horses will compete in their own First Annual United Mountain Horse "three day event."

The "three day event" or three phase event will be modeled on the program and rules used by the US Eventing Association (USEA) in the Olympics and the Kentucky Rolex Three Day Event, with one exception, the competition will be for easy gaited horses, ALL REGISTERED EASY GAITED HORSES!! The program will include a dressage component, a timed cross country course with pre-designed obstacles covering 3 to 5 miles and a stadium trail obstacle performance. There will be an award for the best combined score of all three events and for the combined score of dressage and stadium trail obstacle in addition to awards and paybacks for individual classes.

The UMH dressage tests were written by a new and enthusiastic convert to gaited horses who has enjoyed a forty year career in dressage. Her goal for the beginning novice test was to encourage riders unfamiliar with the discipline of dressage to take a plunge and participate. In addition to the UMH dressage tests, tests approved by Friends of the Sound Horse and the National Walking Horse Association will also be available with a minimum of four participating riders .

The cross country course will include up to 15 judged obstacles over a 3 to 5 mile course with a veterinary check to confirm the fitness of the competing horses. Distance and difficulty will increase according to the experience level or division. The stadium obstacle phase will include elements similar to those used in other trail obstacle competitions.

Information on competition rules, entries and accommodations for people and horses are available on the UMH web site, www.unitedmountainhorse.org.

Famous Quotes:

“Horses change lives. They give our young people confidence and self-esteem. They provide peace and tranquility to troubled souls. They give us hope!” – Toni Robinson