



NORTHEAST KANSAS HUNTER ASSOCIATION

RINGSIDE REVIEW NEWSLETTER

2008 NKHA Show Schedule

March 8, 2008- Hunter Show

K&K Shows- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Kathy Childs- 785-862-6506 Kate Fowler- 785-478-3376

March 9, 2008- Hunter Show

K&K Shows- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Kathy Childs- 785-862-6506 Kate Fowler- 785-478-3376

April 12, 2008- Hunter Show

Fort Leavenworth Riding Club- Fort Leavenworth

Dean Armstrong- 913-651-7307

April 13, 2008- Jumper Show

Vermillion Valley Equine Center- Belvue

Ann White- 785-456-2743

April 26, 2008- Hunter Show

Flint Hills Pony Club- CiCo Park- Manhattan

Laurel Littrell- 785-770-0194

May 24, 2008- Hunter Show

Mary Ann Funk- Ashwood Farm- St. George

Mary Ann Funk- 785-341-1789

June 14, 2008- Hunter Show

Fort Leavenworth Hunt- Fort Leavenworth

Cathie Kornacki- 816-546-3396

June 28, 2008- Hunter Show

Vermillion Valley Equine Center- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Ann White- 785-456-2743

June 29, 2008- Jumper Show

Vermillion Valley Equine Center- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Ann White- 785-456-2743

July 12, 2008- Hunter Show

Topeka Round-Up Club, Topeka

Kathy Childs- 785-862-6506

July 13, 2008- Jumper Show

Topeka Round-Up Club, Topeka

Kathy Childs- 785-862-6506

August 2, 2008- Hunter Show

Flint Hills Pony Club- CiCo Park- Manhattan

Laurel Littrell- 785-770-0194

August 3, 2008- Jumper Show

Flint Hills Pony Club- CiCo Park- Manhattan

Laurel Littrell- 785-770-0194

August 30, 2008- Hunter Show

Fort Leavenworth Riding Club- Fort Leavenworth

Dean Armstrong- 913-651-7307

September 13, 2008

Hidden Acres Farm- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Carol Wilson- 785-484-3570

September 14, 2008

Hidden Acres Farm- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Carol Wilson- 785-484-3570

October 18, 2008- Hunter Show

K&K Shows- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Kathy Childs- 785-862-6506 Kate Fowler- 785-478-3376

October 19, 2008- Jumper Show

K&K Shows- Kansas Expocentre- Topeka

Kathy Childs- 785-862-6506 Kate Fowler- 785-478-3376

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As horse show season draws near, it is time to dust off the cobwebs and get back in the saddle! NKHA has an exciting year planned with many opportunities to further our riding skills and our relationship with our horses including great horse shows and a fun and educational clinic. I began my showing career at NKHA shows in the mid 1980's and am pleased and proud to serve an organization whose principles and standards have given many horses and riders a positive experience in the show ring. I am looking forward to seeing new and old faces at the shows this year and hope to see many of you in a few weeks at the Expocentre!

Good luck and happy showing

Kati

Meet Your NKHA President, Kati Bennett

Although Kati is in her first term as NKHA President, she has had a long history with this organization. Kati began riding in 1983. Three years later, the NKHA was formed and Kati began showing her pony, Court Jester, at these shows. She went on to compete on the "A" circuit in the Junior Hunter, Equitation, and Jumper divisions. However, she never forgot the NKHA and now, twenty two years later, has come back to serve as NKHA's President.

Kati says that she loves horses for many reasons. However, she particularly enjoys the overall barn atmosphere and the camaraderie in the horse world. Kati feels that horse showing is very special, especially the success stories that come along with showing. Whether it is the first blue, the first medal trip, or an adult's first show, Kati feels that these successes are what help make horse showing so extraordinary.

When not doing horsey related activities, Kati works at a veterinary clinic. Kati is married to Jeremy Bennett. She is quick to explain that her husband is the best horse hauler, holder, and horse show gopher. Kati and Jeremy have one daughter, 5 year old Hannah. Hannah rides and sometimes competes in the lead line class. In no time, Hannah will be following in her mother's footsteps as she begins to show regularly on the NKHA circuit. When the family isn't frequenting horse shows, they enjoy spending time at the park and at the swimming pool.

Congrats to the 2007 NKHA

Year End Champions:

Hunter:

Beginner Rider Hunter and High Point Horse/Rider Combination

18”- Amazing Grace, Hanna Dickey

Non-Pro Equitation and Intermediate Equitation- Anna Novo-Gradac

Baby Green Hunter- Devin, Ryann Chapin

Pony Hunter- Cowboy Up, Misty Redd

Schooling Hunter and Jr-Amateur, Sec A- Everybody Loves Texas, Katherine Martin Training Hunter- McDreamy, Kate Sundbye

Jr-Amateur, Sec B and Low Hunter- Mr. Fancy Pants, Melissa Failing

Advanced Equitation and NKHA Equitation Challenge- Hayley Banister

NKHA Medal- Lisa Oliver Open Hunter, Working Hunter, High Point Horse/Rider 3’, High Point Horse/Adult Rider

Combination- Hemingway, Natalie McAllister

Open Equitation- Natalie McAllister

High Point Horse/Rider Combination 2’- Smoke Signal, Anna Novo-Gradac

High Point Horse/Rider Combination 2’6”- Hezekiah’s Treasure, Sarah Waxman

Jumper

Pony Jumper- BraveHeart, Brianna Peddicord

Hopeful Jumper- McDreamy, Kate Sundbye

Novice Horse Jumper, Novice Rider Jumper- Honor Guard, Teri Vonderschmidt

Child/Adult Jumper, Schooling Jumper, NKHA Mini Prix, High Point Horse/Rider Combination

Jumper, High Point Mini Prix Horse/Rider Combination- Hemingway, Natalie McAllister

Training Jumper- The Instigator, Alice White

EquiFest of Kansas 2008:

World Class Clinicians, Shopping, New & Exciting Equine Entertainment!
EquiFest press release adapted by Carol Wilson

Exhilarating equine entertainment, a terrific trade show and first-class clinicians, will be the highlights of *EquiFest of Kansas 2008 presented by Shepler’s*. This celebration of horses, now in its eleventh year, will be held February 29, March 1 and 2, at the Kansas Coliseum in Wichita, Kansas.

EquiFest of Kansas 2008 presented by Shepler’s, will feature a wide variety of unusual and exciting equine entertainment. Back by popular demand, the evening performance of the Equine Extravaganza will present Al Ragusin and his Dancing Horses providing precision movements, singing and lighthearted entertainment to music, while Regina Ware and her Friesian horses offer sophisticated syncopation, dancing to music. The entertainment will take a step back in time as Hanlon-Lees presents the pageantry of 14th Century Jousting! Costumed steeds, authentic weaponry, and noble knights in shining armor will highlight the action.

Horse enthusiasts at EquiFest can also explore a giant equine trade show that fills an entire building. Rows of commercial booths will offer clothing, tack, feed, equipment, gifts, horse trailers, and countless equine products and services.

Lecture and workshop topics at EquiFest will cover a wide range of topics, including trail riding, theft prevention and tracking including freeze branding and microchip demos. There will also be presentations on Bits and Biting, Stall Flooring, Is It the Horse Or Me?, and How a Horse Learns, among other topics.

EquiFest of Kansas 2008 officials have announced their full line of world-class clinicians to appear, from all over the U.S., including: Curt Pate teaching *General Training and Horsemanship*; Cleve Wells with *The Basics of Winning*; Jimmy Driver and *Training Through Trust, Trust Through Training*; Jane Armour giving *Hunter & Jumper* clinics; Sandy Hotz teaching *Dressage*; and Bob Jeffreys with Suzanne Sheppard presenting *Teaching Two as One*; Steve Edwards, teaching about *Mules*; and a special clinic with Al Ragusin.

NKHA members will likely enjoy presentations by Jane Armour, who will present the Hunter and Jumper Clinics at EquiFest. Jane is a certified British Horse Society Instructor. She came to the United States on an Extraordinary Ability Visa as a "Trainer of Trainers". Jane has competed internationally in Dressage, Eventing and ridden in Show Hunter classes. Her empathetic teaching style empowers riders of all levels to work progressively towards their goals. Jane believes in the strong emotional connection between horse and rider helping riders to create a 'bond as strong as armour' with their equine partner.

Jane will give three presentations during Equifest, including: *The Approach and Get Away from the Fence*; *Gymnastics to Improve the Horse Jump Technique*; *Using Weight Aids to Ride the Jump-Off Turns*.

Hours for the equine exposition are: Friday, February 29, from 10am to 8pm; Saturday, March 1, from 9am to 8pm; and Sunday, March 2, from 9am to 6pm. General admission tickets cost \$12.50 for adults, \$6 for children aged six through twelve, and children five years and under get in free. Tickets are on sale through Select-A-Seat at www.selectaseat.com or 316-755-7328. Tickets may also be purchased at the door (cash only).

For more information about EquiFest, visit the EquiFest web-sites at either www.equinepromotions.net or www.kansashorsecouncil.com or contact: Equine Promotions at (765) 655-2107 or jjcloe@equinepromotions.net; or the Kansas Horse Council at (785) 776-0662 or e-mail ksequifest@equiventurepromotions.com.

NKHA Web Site:
www.nkha.net

Heads Up!

As all the exhibitors and horses arrive the morning of a show, there's a great deal of excitement and anticipation in the air. Riders begin to unload their horses and head to the ring to get in a last minute school before the competition starts. The open schooling in the ring before the show starts can be the most stressful and slightly dangerous part of the day for both competitors and trainers. There is a high amount of stress that comes along with getting your horse in the ring before you have to show them. Riders want their horses to be perfect and want to get in as much practice as possible before they are judged. Trainers want their riders to be perfect and want to make sure horse and rider are both 110% ready before the start of the show. The situation would be easy if there were only one or two horses, riders, and trainers in the ring. However, we all know that this is never the case. Usually, there are 10-15 horses, riders, and trainers in the ring, all trying to make things perfect before the show starts. Needless to say, the ring prior to the show can be very intense!

In order to keep the ring safe, especially for the younger kids, there are certain rules all riders and trainers need to follow:

1. Give less experienced riders the priority. Stay out of their way; don't make them stay out of yours.
2. Pass left to left. This means, when you are riding towards a horse going in the opposite direction, you should pass him so that your left shoulder is closest to the left shoulder of the rider you are passing. If you pass correctly, your left shoulder should always be closest to the horse you are passing.
3. Talk! Use your voice and tell others what you are doing. If you are going to stay to the outside of a passing horse, say "outside". If you plan to stay on the inside, say "inside". If you are going to canter down the diagonal line, say "heads-up diagonal line". This way, everyone knows where you are going.
4. Listen! Just because a rider says "heads-up" does not mean that everyone heard. We all need to make a conscious effort to listen so that we know where people are going.
5. Think! If there is someone in the middle of a line that you want to jump, ask them to move- don't jump the line and run into them. We all need to be courteous to one another. If we are courteous, the ring will be a much safer place!
6. Relax! Even if you and your horse don't get things perfect before the schooling session ends, don't worry. Shows are a time to test yourself but also a time to learn. If you don't get all of the practice in that you wanted, use your first class as practice. In the end, we do this sport for fun. Let yourself relax a little during schooling; it's not the end of the world if you don't get to jump one line.

NKHA By the Numbers

- 2007: 186 NKHA Members, 122 registered horses
- 1997: 105 NKHA Members, 140 registered horses

- 16 Shows held in 2007
- 4864 total entries in 2007
- 571 total classes offered in 2007
- 31 high point year end awards offered

- Increased numbers in the 18" classes, equitation classes, 3' classes, and jumper classes

- MARCH 8, 2008: first 2008 NKHA Show

- 6 different horse show facilities will be used in 2008

Now is the Time to Register with NKHA!!

As the 2008 horse show season begins, it is now time to renew both individual NKHA memberships and horses' NKHA memberships. NKHA members are eligible for exciting year end awards as well as a great member benefit program.

We are proud to offer fabulous year end awards. However, both you and your horse must be registered with NKHA in order to be eligible for a year end award. In addition to year end awards, members can enter any class at a NKHA show for \$10. Non-members must pay \$15 per class. If you plan to do more than four NKHA this year, you will save money by registering!

NKHA membership renewal forms can soon be found online at www.nkha.net. Forms should be sent to Amber Kozak.



NKHA
Ashley Foster
526 Stone Pointe Drive
Manhattan, KS 66503

Check Us Out on the Web – www.nkha.net

Visit www.nkha.net to find all the information you will need for the 2008 show season! You'll find a variety of info on the Web site including: schedule of shows/events, current list of members and registered horses, the NKHA rulebook, membership and horse registration forms, newsletters and show bills.