

Southeast Endurance Riders Association

SERA NEWSLETTER

The Standardbred Issue

March
Volume 1, issue 4



Patricia Clark
Riding her Standardbred, East Meets West

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A Word from our President~ Dr. Ike Nelson

Hope all of you have had an opportunity to go to a ride this season. Weather has not been kind to any of us so far this winter. Seems like it has been cold or rainy, or both at most of the rides, or at least part of the ride. Things should be getting better! The daffodils are in full bloom at home now and most of the trees have buds. Spring will be welcomed at my house this year!

I would guess that most of you by now have heard about the tragic accident where one of our members' horses was killed by a car. Our hearts are heavy because we know that it can happen and it may be my horse next time. We work so hard to make sure horse welfare is paramount at the rides and then something like this happens anyway. I would just ask each of you to examine how you "stable" your horses at a ride to minimize the risks associated with what we do.

Having mentioned horse welfare, I want to take this opportunity to let you know that I am now a member of the AERC Veterinary Committee. Dr. Duane Barnett, in North Carolina, is also a member of the committee. Dr. Jay Mero, who is the chair of the committee, tells me that welfare of the horse issues will be topmost in our discussions this coming year. If you have any input or questions about the veterinary committee please let me or Duane know.

SERA is helping to sponsor the NETC (National Equestrian Trails Conference) being held in Rockhill, SC this July. If you can make it to this meeting you will find that trail issues are affecting all equine disciplines, and we can all make more of a difference if we work together. We are also supporting the AHA Distance Nationals ride being held in Illinois this year. Having said that, don't forget that the Red Barn Run has the Region XII AHA 50 mile Championship ride this year. This can help you qualify for the AHA Distance Nationals.

Coming up are a number of SERA rides where you can boost you standings! Get ready for Charlotte's Web, Red Barn Run, Spring Fling, Biltmore, Leatherwood, Camp Osborn Summer Slam, and Broxton Bridge Summer Fundraiser. We may have LBL on here as well soon! I have it on good authority that the Camp Osborn Summer ride has the finish line in the lake!! Should be fun!!

And remember, if you can't ride for whatever reason, the ride managers of these rides would be happy to put you to work helping those who are riding! See you down the trail!! Or in ride camp!!

Featured Breed ~The Standardbred Horse

By Patricia Clark

When considering an endurance prospect that will be successful in AERC rides, there are many characteristics that must be evaluated. Many people have asked me what it was that drew me to choose a Standardbred as my primary endurance mount. *Why a standardbred for endurance?* I could have easily jumped on with everyone else and rode an Arabian but my background is much more diverse. Over the years, I have trained quarter horses, owned and ridden Appaloosas, Arabians, Rocky Mountain Horses, Pasos, Tennessee Walkers, Racking Horses and a variety of other breeds. As a lover of gaited horses, I wanted a horse that had a gentle temperament, athleticism, and the potential to have a variety of gaits. I found all of those in East Meets West. He has legs of iron from years of jogging on the racetrack. He can trot for hours at 10-13mph and his bursts of speed dazzle the imagination. His arsenal of gaits include a 5mph walk, the trot, the pace, the stepping pace and a slow rack. His disposition endears him to everyone.

The modern Standardbred exists as the preeminent harness racehorse throughout the world. They derived their name from the fact that individuals had to meet a certain speed “standard” in order to be registered with the United States Trotting Association. It is typical

today for most standardbreds to break a 2 minute mile. They all descend from a Thoroughbred stallion named Messenger that came to the New World in the late 1700s. His pedigree traces to the Godolphin Arabian, Byerly Turk and the Darley Arabian. He was bred to a variety of New World bloodlines including the Morgan horses and Narragansett Pacers. It was their bloodlines that created the unique ability of most Standardbreds to gait, pace and trot.

East Meets West has been my endurance partner since 2009. He embodies many of the hardy characteristics of the Standardbred horse. They have exceptional stamina and are often used by the Amish as hard working driving horses if they do not make it on the racetrack. Their legs are exceptionally durable and they seldom have lameness issues. The same holds true for their hooves which are well structured with thick hoof walls. Eli's dam raced over 100 times and never had any soundness issues. In fact, she is now in her 20s and is ridden as a pleasure horse. Typically, most Standardbreds are bay in color but they also come in chestnut, sabino, black and grey. They range from 14.3 to 17hh with an average being around 15.3hh. They are often cited as having a rather plain head, but that varies according to their pedigree. Some families have refined heads and others may be a bit course.

The durability of the Standardbred makes them an ideal choice as an endurance mount for any distance. Standardbred aficionados also cite the wonderful temperament and work ethic of the breed as

reasons for choosing them as companions and competitors. Standardbreds are breaking out of their traditional stereotype as harness horses. They have long proved their prowess as riding horses in the Appalachian mountain region as they are often used as the bloodstock for some of the best gaited horses on the East coast. They historically provided a strong foundation for the Tennessee Walking Horse, Missouri Foxtrotter, Spotted Saddle Horse and almost all North American gaited breeds. The pure Standardbred serves as the fount of speed that Speed Racking lovers have relied on for generations. So, the misconception that they are only good as driving horses has long been proven false.

One of the most successful Standardbred partnerships in AERC are Fiddle and Aarene Storms. Aarene is a noted contributor to Endurance News and is an active member in the Pacific Northwest. She relates how she acquired Fiddle.

“After my senior standie mare died in December 2006, it took less than a week for Diana at [Greener Pastures](#) (BC Standardbred Horse Adoption Society) to call me. "I heard about Story," she said. "You did the right thing...you were really brave...*I can't help noticing that you've got an empty stall.*"

Diana was trying to find a place for a 2002 mare whose adopter had been diagnosed with aggressive brain cancer. The lady was going in

for surgery, and the mare needed a home--fast. "Keep her for the winter, bring her back in the spring if you don't like her," I was told. That was more than 6 years ago. Fiddle has completed 350 endurance miles (we took time away from competition for surgery and vital farm projects) and has worked many more miles as a trail building horse, toting me and a bunch of trail tools around the Naches Ranger District to prepare trails for the Renegade Rendezvous ride.



Aarene Storms and Fiddle

While Fiddle is a bit of a dragon with other horses, she is a genius on narrow single-track trails, completely sensible about her speed and absolutely perfect about where she places her feet. She can go fast (I clock her #8 trot at about 16 mph...I'm too cowardly to go faster than that!) but she's easy to rate, and will drop from a gallop to a flat-footed walk with a touch of the reins. She's turned out to be good with leading young horses on their first trail rides, demonstrating the way that a Sensible Horse approaches water, bridges, and obstacles in the trail. She also served as one of the "photo model" horses for *Endurance 101*, because the photographer knew that Fiddle would do all that "endurance stuff" like standing in a river to be sponged for as long as it took to get the pictures we needed. Best of all, she's a smooth ride--something to appreciate at mile 50 and beyond!"

The 2012 AERC/USTA Standardbred Endurance Horse of the Year is Steady's Bad Boy and Nancy Salazar. They have finished the ride season with 410 Endurance miles and 75 LD miles. Nancy also has another Standardbred named Peanut that had 105 Endurance miles and 235 LD miles. For the year 2012, there were 12 full blooded Standardbreds competing in AERC. Trina Romo and Cecily G. are another exemplary team. Trina and Cecily have over 500 Endurance miles and have two attempts on Tevis. Unfortunately they were over time on their first attempt and had a rider option last year. My gelding, East Meets West, has also been doing very well. He was the 2011

AERC/USTA Standardbred Endurance Horse of the Year. He has earned 510 Endurance miles and 340 LD miles, including two 75 mile completions. He completed all of that by the time he was 7 years old. Sky Evans and Cricket in the Pacific Northwest also have over 450 Endurance miles and 2 Best Condition awards. Finally, Terri Tinkham's half Standardbred, Oliver Twist, has proved an amazing endurance horse. He has 9115 Endurance miles and is 210 for 214 starts. He is the epitome of durability and soundness.

My horse Eli, started his career as East Meets West, a Standardbred pacer under the reins of Archie McNeil. He is sired by the Western Hanover son, Western Paradise and is bred royally through and through. He raced 21 times but proved to be less than profitable on the racetrack. Owned, bred and trained by Mr. McNeil, Eli was chosen to go to New Vocations Racehorse Adoption to find a new career rather than fall through the cracks of harness racing. I saw a short video clip on youtube.com of Eli under saddle and knew that I had to have him. I notified Dot Morgan, the director of New Vocations, and Eli was mine within 4 hours of having been put up for adoption. His quality, his regal air and his athleticism illustrated all of the attributes I was seeking in an endurance prospect. Many great endurance prospects could be adopted from New Vocations for small fees. I paid \$300 to adopt Eli. New Vocations and other adoption

agencies make it a reality to own impossibly expensive horses for almost nothing.

It never failed when I first attended an endurance ride with my Eli, someone had to look him up and down and say, “*what kind of horse is that?*” I hope that we have helped to educate not only our region but other regions as well on the amazing qualities of the Standardbred and their great potential as endurance horses. If you are looking for a larger horse with a big way of moving, kind attitude and exceptional durability, then please consider giving the hard working Standardbred a chance.

Below, East Meets West aka Eli, showing the great conformation of a Standardbred.





Sand Wars

Success in the sand box

There are many times that we endurance riders may be wary of traveling to a part of the Southeast region that contains footing that is not what our horses have been trained to handle....yes sand. This concern is a warranted one. If you are riding a young horse that may not have “stone hard” tendons, a horse that is not efficient at cantering for many miles, or a horse that may be coming back from some type of soft tissue injury, sand may not be for you. But we have such a varied type of footing in the SE region, that it is a real shame to limit ourselves to only rides that we and our horses are “conditioned to”.

The SE region is lucky to have several one day 100 mile rides. There are some regions in the United States that have way less opportunity to compete in 100's and not have to travel many, many hours to get to a competition. With the great fortune that we have been granted to have more rides than any one of us can do during the ride year, it can be fun to branch out and experience rides in

different states, different terrain, and yes, different footing and still come home with a sound, healthy and happy horse.

The following is some advice from various riders that live in the SE region. They are riders that live in terrain that is NOT sand. Yet, they have successfully competed in sand conditions, coming home with the awards to prove that, yes, it can be done !!!

“ I try to work with what we have-soft newly plowed field will work, mainly walking through it until they get use to it, then trotting and learn to canter in it. I think you are more likely to hurt a conditioned hill horse running them in the sand than you are conditioned sand horse running them in the mountains. AND the injuries will be more serious-tendons etc. There really is no substitute for finding some soft footing to get them in and working.”

Dr. Nicki Meuten

“If they are in good shape and you can read your horse, you can do anything. It’s just a lot tougher on the horse than you think since the humans ride seems softer/smoothier...sort of like a duck on a pond, with padding like hell underneath. If the sand is deep- walk or

canter, depending on your horse's abilities. Sand is hardest at the trot. That light colored sand also heats them up with the sun overhead more than yo thing, so electrolytes may be more needed and lots of water, both on and in the horse. I have been pulled for scratches in the sand, so be sure to take extra measure for preventing those issues. Also, because sand rides tend to be flat rides, the pace is usually faster. So if your horse isn't prepared for a faster paced ride, not only will the sand tire them, but also the pace. I would never do a sand ride as my horse's first ride, or any horse that has suspensory issues as a come back ride."

Dr. Teresa Carroll

"My horses condition at home on slick red mud with ample rocks and rolling terrain, the closest thing to sand I have is the edge of plowed up fields that have clumps of mud in them and is slick feeling on the bottom.

Sand still scares me, every sandy ride I go to I wonder if this is "the time" that it is going to bite them in the suspensories...but so far it has been okay. My pulls in sand have not been "sand related" unless you count the time I let Sonny roll during an hour hold and

didn't get his back clean enough after. He had sand on his back and made for a nice friction rub, pulled after the next loop.

My basic approach to sand is to blast through it with my eyes closed and pray for the best---just kidding folks.

On what I consider a fit horse I do a lot of collected canter work through the average sand, I try to never, ever make any major gait changes in the deep stuff. If I see a big deep patch coming up, I actually will walk through it or maybe a super collected job, but prefer to walk it. I absolutely hate to come around a corner and b in 3 to 4 strides into a deep patch before I realize what has happened. In that case, I will try to make a gradual collection effort WITHOUT changing whichever gait we were already doing. I NEVER let the horse do a big extended trot in the deep stuff. I save that for the harder packed roads. In the past few year, I have decided that the big extended trot is not really a good choice and I prefer my horses to go ahead and roll off into a canter. I think the big trot is the downfall of many endurance horses—puts too much strain on the legs, even high level dressage horses only do that gear on the diagonal and go back to a working or collected trot on the corners.

All of my horses have also learned to travel in tire tracks I the sand if at all possible, amazing the difference of just using the better packed tire track versus the edges.

Starting a new, not quite fit horse in the sand is a little different-I will then demand that they walk through the deep stuff, no jobbing or jigging allowed. I try to mix up their gaits through the average stuff, some collected canter and some medium trot and some collected trot work. I am starting a new big guy right now, and so far, he has been fine with tight legs the next day using this theory.

Don't be afraid to go to these nice sand rides. When you don't have sand to train in, just ride accordingly and be smart in the deep stuff. Remember, it can't be deep forever, and the time you take to walk that section will help out in the long run."

Lynn Kenelly

So, go out and see what fun it can be to challenge both your horse and yourself in the strange land of sand. Chances are, you will expand your horse's base and abilities and your experience level.

Consistent Condition Award~Just what is it?

By Angie McGhee

SERA has an award that is exclusive to our organization known as the “Consistent Condition Award”. There is often confusion as to what this award entails. If I recall correctly Nina Warren originally came up with the idea to reward a horse rider team that not only looks great at the end of *one* competition, but also *consistently* places in the top ten and looks great at the finish.

THIS IS NOT A BEST CONDITION AWARD and should in no way take away from the accomplishment of horses which win Best Condition. The Best Condition horse is chosen by a formula that counts time, weight **and** veterinary score. The Consistent Condition award ONLY uses the veterinary scoring section of the BC exam, completely ignores weight and the only time requirement is that the team finish in the top ten so they are allowed to stand for BC. If you happen to be a featherweight rider who is at a disadvantage in the weight department, or if your horse has moved up into top ten status, but you’re a bit too conservative to run for the front; this is a year-end award that you may feel comfortable choosing as a personal goal.

So, how do you shoot for the Consistent Condition award? First, you have to finish top ten in an open division so that you are allowed to stand for BC. Then, you have to STAND. Often when riders are well behind the winners

and know they have no chance for the BC award they simply opt to go back to the trailer rather than stand for BC. If Consistent Condition Award is your goal you stand anyway. The “High Vet Score” gift certificate awarded by Running Bear Farms at rides where Teddy is present has encouraged more riders to stand on a ride-by-ride basis, but many don’t realize Running Bear also sponsors the year-end Consistent Condition award honoring the horse/rider team, which achieves the high vet score award on a regular basis.

Perhaps this wasn’t your horse’s best day and you don’t think you have a chance at high vet score. It might be wise to go ahead and stand anyway, since you have to stand for BC at least five times during the year. Your horse isn’t the only one that occasionally has an interference marks at the end so one low score may not ruin your chances. If you manage to get another higher score later and still have five you can always discard the low score.

Once this award became my goal I started paying a lot more attention to how veterinarians score on the veterinary section of the BC exam. My three high scores in 2012 came from three different veterinarians, but my highest score of the three was the one where I did not win High Vet Score that day; I believe my horse placed third. Again, a sign that it pays to stand since some vets naturally use a slightly higher grading scale and it may that *their* lower grade is higher than another vet’s *high* grade. Decimals are multiplied by 10 in vet scoring, so a .5 can be the difference at year-end!

NEW IN 2013

For anyone who has nominated in the past, SERA has made two small changes to the Consistent Condition Award. ALL five scores will be averaged, and the award is for the HORSE (more than one rider may compete on the horse).

From SERAonline.org website:

Horse must have at least 5 Open Distance Top Ten completions

- ◆ Only Open Distance rides qualify
- ◆ Only the Vet Score is used
- ◆ The best 5 Vet Scores are averaged
- ◆ Rider must self-nominate by December 15 with supporting documentation, including the 5 BC Vet Scores Hint: Keep all of your BC score sheets!



Angie McGhee and JA Hallys Eclipse: SERA Consistent Condition Award winner 2010 and 2012.
Photo Credit: Jessica Willis



Competitive Endurance Swimming???

A Tale from Blazing Saddles

by Lucas Blankenship

About a month prior to “Blazing Saddles” a good friend of mine and fellow endurance rider Fred Myers from down in Louisiana gave me a call and asked a favor, “Lucas would you be interested in riding my horse Sonata in the 30 miler down in Laurel? I would like to be able to ride myself but I’m still recovering from this recent surgery and I trust you with my horse.” In my opinion, when a person is given such a complement from a comrade it makes turning them down near impossible. With that in mind, I said what anyone would do for a friend in that situation, “Fred it would be an honor”.

The majority of SERA members know me as the guy that rides the only “Foundation Blue Roan Quarter Horse” in the southeast on the endurance circuit. I have ridden a few Arabians, Anglo-Arabians and other breeds in the past but my preference has always been the American Quarter Horse due to its durability and versatility. I am partial to the breed that I grew up with and have competed on through the years so each of you understands where I am coming from. I’ve ridden this particular Arabian mare, Pechkas Sonata, of Fred’s on a few conditioning rides on the trails at Raptor Run in Northern Alabama in the past. That being the case, I knew her mannerisms therefore I felt rather confident that we would make it through the course without a problem unless the weather /terrain turned into an issue.

About a week prior to “Blazing Saddles 2013” I was sitting in the den flipping through the channels as I crossed the Weather Channel. Apparently the Laurel/Hattiesburg area of Mississippi was in the process of being hit with the dual punch of a flash flood warning and a tornado that had just touched down. I thought to myself after seeing the extended forecast calling for even more rain, “This should make things interesting” and “Terry and Jack may have their hands full”. Throughout the next few days flash flood watches and warnings held in the area of base camp near Laurel and my concerns grew.

The first thing I noticed driving into camp Friday prior to the ride was the amount of water standing in and around the area; not overly bad at that time. The sandy soil drained relatively well and I was optimistic that evening until about 6:30 PM; that’s when the fun began. As dinner was being served and the ride meeting kicked off the lightning and the deluge began. Throughout the night the rain continued without hesitation; as I stepped out the next morning in the 50 degree air to get tacked up, our camp site was sitting in approximately 3 inches of water along with the majority the surrounding area.

I began the LD that morning in my typically fashion, a nice slow warm-up at first then stretching into a faster pace. I paired off with Jim Austin of Jackson, Mississippi, due to the pace he was traveling on his mount which worked well with Sonata; both horses seemed to feed off of each other and we were making relatively good time despite the conditions. The trail wasn’t really an issue in many areas due to the efforts of ride management and the fact that we were running towards the front of the pack. We did cross multiple

creeks that held water up to breast collar in-depth in certain spots; those crossing areas however had great footing with rock bottoms that presented no problem.

About a third of the way through (RED) the second loop Jim and I met up with Jack Price, Ride Management, heading towards us back to camp. Jack said that the trail was flooded just ahead and he was going back to camp to re-route the red loop as a precaution. The group he was with had made it through by swimming their horses and that it was doable if we were confident in our ability to swim. Jim and I looked at each other and I said, "If they were able to do it I am willing to try if you are." Jim said let's give it a shot and so we did. We got to the flooded section of trail and it looked like a lake had swallowed up the whole area with no dry land within sight. The first section of the water crossing was between 20-30 yards wide and I estimate at between 7 – 9 feet in depth. Jack had said, ride straight through it till you make it to the other side that is where the trail will be. At that point with a small prayer I dismounted and removed my running martingale eyeing the water. No current in the water that I can see Jim; I think I'm going to give it a try. Sonata and I moved into the water slowly breast collar deep only a few feet in and deeper yet as we ventured further into the swamp. Suddenly I felt her lose contact with the ground and down we went. I slid off the saddle, reins in left hand and the back of the saddle in the right as she swam to a point where I could actually reach bottom. Jim yelled are you ok? Yes, I'm

good, the water is COLD but I'll survive; Jim followed through much in the same fashion.

At that point we thought the worst was over; little did we know that around the next turn was an area larger than the first that had to be crossed as well. Chuckling we went through the motions once again of removing portions of tack as a safety precaution and then into the coffee colored abyss we went again, this time crossing another 20-30 yard section of water which was deeper than the first. I know this to be fact because I could not reach bottom when I bailed off for my second swim once Sonata submarined unexpectedly again. I looked back to see Jim's eyes as large as dinner plates peering from the brackish water as his horse followed us with him in tow.

As we hit dry ground the process of wringing out clothing, pouring water out of boots and re-tacking began. We still had 8 miles to ride according to the GPS and the thought of dry clothing and a finish near the top of the pack was a short distance down a south Mississippi dirt road. I've ridden at Blazing Saddles for the past three years and the ride management crew always does an excellent job. Simply put, it is a ride I would not miss come neither hell nor high water, haha. I highly suggest those of you that have yet to experience it to make plans to attend next year if possible. I extend my great appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Price, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gage and all the others that make this event one of the tops in the southeast.

Editor's Note: If you think you are going to be in a situation where your horse may have to swim, be SURE to remove any martingales or tie downs, and arrange or unsnap your reins so that your horse will not become entangled and drown.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF

SERA'S AWARDS FOR THE 2012 RIDE SEASON

LAWTON JOHNSTON AWARD

Eric Rueter

100 MILE CLUB

Ruth Anne Everett Jumpin' Jax

Stephen Rojek Chi-Hi

Karen Bell Prince Sam

BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD 100 MILE AWARD

TM Cade and Josie McGhee (Bronze Level)

JA Hallys Eclipse and Angie McGhee (Bronze Level)

Jumpin' Jax and Ruth Anne Everett (Bronze Level)

Hal Bents Jaz and Claude Brewer (Bronze Level)

FYF Dutch and Nicki Meuten (Bronze Level)

Prince Sam and Karen Bell (Bronze Level)

BEST CONDITION – OPEN DIVISION

Emmanuel Battyr owned and ridden by Terry Wyatt

CONSISTENT CONDITION – OPEN DIVISION

(Sponsored by Teddy Lancaster and Running Bear)

JA Hallys Eclipse owned and ridden by Angie McGhee

BEST CONDITION – LIMITED DISTANCE DIVISION

(Sponsored by Land Between the Lakes Ride)

ABA Kamaals Zarafe owned and ridden by Ike Nelson

MILEAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- OPEN DISTANCE MILEAGE CHAMPION - Fine Tune
- OPEN DISTANCE RESERVE MILEAGE CHAMPION- Cherwona
- LIMITED DISTANCE MILEAGE CHAMPION - TLA Monkey Bzness
(Sponsored by Jana Smith, in Memory of Steffanie Waddington)

DIVISION AWARDS

- **TOP TEN OPEN DIVISON**

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Cheryl Van Deusen | 6. Becky Bunnell |
| 2. Stephen Rojek | 7. Theresa Carroll |
| 3. Ruth Anne Everett | 8. Vic Stine |
| 4. Deborah McClary | 9. Nicki Meuten |
| 5. Clare Summers | 10. Terry Wyatt |

- **TOP FIVE LIMITED DISTANCE DIVISION**

1. Lorena "Nana" Truett
2. Margaret Clower
3. Scott Carroll
4. Susan Reid
- 5T. Amy Dedafoe
- 5T. Ike Nelson

FRESHMAN RIDER OF THE YEAR

(Sponsored by Foster Olson and Lela Nielsen)

Amy Dedafoe, riding Maverick

FRESHMAN HORSE OF THE YEAR

(Sponsored by Red Barn Run Ride – Steve and Cheryl Perry)

Maverick, owned and ridden by Amy Dedafoe

JUNIOR AWARDS

- GRAND CHAMPION
(Sponsored by Christo and Lori Dinkelmann) Taylor White
- OPEN DISTANCE CHAMPION Stephen Faryadi
- LIMITED DISTANCE CHAMPION Lily Turaski
- 4TH PLACE Miranda Bellah
- 5TH PLACE Michael Bishop

MILESTONE RECOGNITIONS

- **10 CONSECUTIVE FINISHES**
 - Angie McGhee and Fadjurs Talisman
 - Josie McGhee and TM Cade
 - Miranda Bellah and Imua de Heddy
 - Chance of Freedom and Lily Turaski
 - TLA Monkey Bzness and Lorena "Nana" Truett
 - Masterpiece Vlad and Mallory Caps
 - Fine Tune and Vic Stine
 - J-S Marshall Dually and Vance Stine
 - Nazeefs Pinot Noir and Cheryl Van Deusen
 - MD Virgo and Diane Hawthorne
 - WA Love Letters and Lee Myers
 - Cherwona and Nelia Rueter
 - Rushcreek SUV and Tamra Schoech
 - Chosen Ballast and Stephen Faryadi
 - Aliya Jewel and Margaret Clower
 - BR Jubaleigh and Becky Bunnell
 - Maverick and Amy Dedafoe
 - TLC Chatta and Peggy Clark
 - Rocket and Ruth Anne Everett
- **350 MILES IN A SEASON**
 - Taylor White on Ebony Cassanova
 - Stephen Faryadi on Chosen
 - Tina Cochran on Genavee
 - Lynn Kenelly on Basha Bada Bing
 - Becky Bunnell on BR Jubaleigh

- Ballast
- Lily Turaski on Chance of Freedom
- Tara Wyatt on Suriat
- Foster Olson on Koweta Madison
- Diane Hawthorne on MD Virgo
- Jane Larrimore on TLC Kopper Kadin
- Mallory Capps on Masterpiece Vlad
- Peggy Clark and TLC Chatta
- Anna Ayers on Koweta Vincentt
- Vance Stine on J-S Marshaldually
- Farzad Faryadi on Hot Desert Knight
- Amy Dedafoe on Maverick
- Johnny Petras on CM Morrocco
- Clare Summers on Mardi Gras Tuesday
- Clare Summers on Dream Chance
- Theresa Carroll on More Than Faith
- Lara Worden on KF Leprechaun
- Deborah McClary on Psyches Traveller
- Ruth Anne Everett on Jumpin' Jax
- Karen Bell on Prince Sam
- Trish Harrop on LT Bright Patch Joker
- Angie McGhee on JA Hallys Eclipse
- Terry Wyatt on Emmanuel Battyr
- Cheryl Van Deusen on Nazeefs Pinot Noir

● **MILEAGE MILESTONES**

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------|
| ○ Cheryl Newman | 5,000 | ○ Stagg Newman | 8,000 |
| ○ Nelia Rueter | 5,000 | ○ Trish Harrop | 9,000 |
| ○ Joni Buttram | 6,000 | ○ Joe Schoech | 9,000 |
| ○ Ruth Anne Everett | 6,000 | ○ Amy Whelan | 10,000 |
| ○ Kyle Gibbon | 6,000 | ○ Cheryl Van Deusen | 10,000 |
| ○ Leslie Anderson | 7,000 | ○ Claire Godwin | 10,000 |
| ○ Angie McGhee | 7,000 | ○ Connie Caudill | 17,000 |
| ○ Clare Summers | 7,000 | ○ Stephen Rojek | 22,000 |
| ○ Bud Davidson | 8,000 | | (140 1-day 100s) |

Interesting and Educational weblinks

Interesting view of how the horse digests feed, and the flow of the nutrients through the horse's system:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=maWXVKI-gq4

Nice discussion on Tying up, feed recommendations and exercise:

www.thehorse.com/articles/31322/exertional-rhabdomyolysis-not-just-tying-up-anymore-aaep-2012



The Endurance Adventures of Ms. Sera

~Jody Rogers-Buttram



SERA AWARDS

THANK YOU to our SERA Year end Awards Sponsors

SERA would like to thank the following for their generous sponsorships of our awards:

New Sponsors

Jana Smith - in Memory of Steffanie Waddington - sponsor of the LD Mileage Champion

Foster Olson and Lela Nielsen - sponsor of the Freshman Rider of the Year
Red Barn Run (Cheryl and Steve Perry) - Freshman Horse of the Year
LBL endurance Ride-LD Best Condition

Current Sponsors

Running Bear/Teddy Lancaster - Consistent Condition

Christo and Lori Dinkelman - Grand Champion Junior

Please remember that some SERA awards require nomination by December 15th
for more details, see SERA's website at: www.seraonline.org



WHY SHOULD I JOIN SERA?

Remember we are on
the Web:
www.seraonline.org

SERA Board

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Sanctioning Director

Susan Kasemeyer

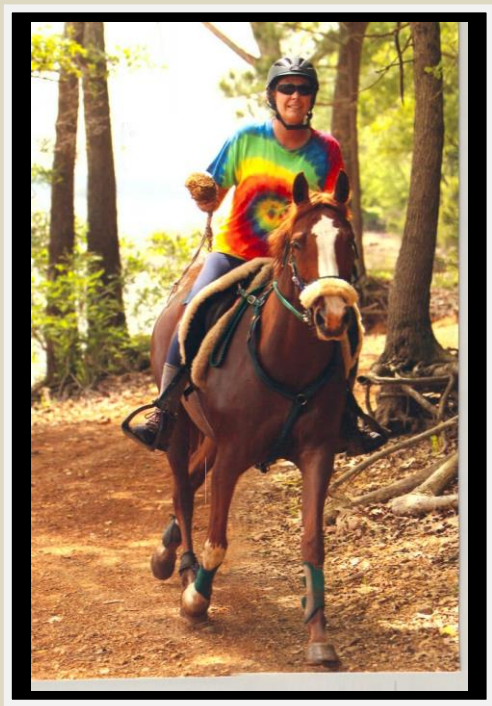
Director

Joe Schoech

In the Southeast region of the **AERC**, teamwork is synonymous with **SERA**. The Southeast Endurance Riders Association was founded when endurance riding in the Southeast was in its infancy. Today endurance riding in the Southeast is only behind the West region in number of opportunities for our members to participate in the sport. In the Southeast there are riding opportunities for riders interested in all aspects of our sport from LD to Multi-days. While the opportunities for riders to participate in the historically foundation of endurance -the one-day one hundred mile ride - have declined to an alarming low level in the rest of the country, **BUT** the Southeast has maintained a steady number of eight over the last 10 years. **SERA** has been a big factor. **SERA** promotes endurance riding, supports riders and ride managers. The **SERA** team is the members that ride the rides and the managers that sanction their rides through SERA. In addition to the horse scales, a speaker system, flood lights and blood analyzer, SERA will have at many rides their projector and screen available to display whatever you want the riders to see pre- ride (trail maps, ride schedule, etc.) and/or post-ride (awards, etc.). If you have pictures (from previous years, or of the ride-site facilities or of significant trail intersections, or photographer), we can put up a slide show during registration and/or the meals, for example. You can email Joe Schoech what you want to display beforehand or put the data on a thumb(zip)-drive at the ride. Documents can even be scanned directly into a display at the ride site. We can also hook the projector up directly to your laptop, if you wish. If you want to show movies, just provide the DVD (no Blu-ray) and we can have a "night at the movies", if you like. We just need a little setup time and then we can make all or any of this happen. Please contact Joe Schoech for the A/V availability. If you want to be a part of the team that promotes the growth of endurance riding opportunities - you should join **SERA**. If you want to have the access of resources, scales to monitor your horse's weight and a blood analysis machine to help you understand the metabolic capabilities of your horse so you can better manage your horse you should join **SERA**. If you want a stable system of quality trails for not only running endurance rides but also for training and just hacking around you should join **SERA**. **SERA's** goal is to make endurance riding in the Southeast region the best it can be. If this is what you want you should join **SERA**.

CLASSIFIEDS

For sale: Offering up a fantastic home bred and raised mare. Petit Jets Legacy, aka Squirrel. She would make a wonderful CTR/LD/Trail/Sport horse in hand show prospect. She has done a limited amount of LD's and one 50 endurance ride. Due to an injury I don't think she will make a fast/hard 50+ mile horse. Trust me, I would love to keep her myself, and if she doesn't sell, I will and ride her slow. Perfect conformation, coming 10 yearsold in the spring, 15 hands, registered 7/8 arab, 1/8 paint. Petit Jets Rose is her Granddam, Jets Gaelic Storme her dam, I have raised both of them. She is suitable for an intermediate child to ride, no bad habits and very nice on the trail. Just the perfect horse. Contact Jody Buttram at 256-476-7339 or email for more pictures/video at 3jfarm@earthlink.net.



Please be sure to make THIS newsletter YOUR newsletter !!!!

Send in any pictures, articles about upcoming rides, best way to get the word out about your rides guys!!! Stories of rides in the past that are informative and fun. Advertise you items, such as horses, tack, etc. that you have for sale free.

Send to: 3jfarm@earthlink.net



Outta here till Next time !!!!