South Carolina

Horsemen’s Council

Summer 2012 Newsletter

Don’t miss the AHA Beach Ride, Oct. 31-Nov. 5
See inside for details

www.schorsecouncil.org  schorsecouncil@aol.com
The Southeastern Equestrian Trails Conference in Lexington, Ky. presented a wealth of information for trail riders. Topics included advanced trail design and sustainability, trail towns as tourism destinations, understanding public lands, and an emphasis on conservation and respecting the environment. “Leave No Trace” is a major component of recreational riding.

Several SC horse council members toured the famous Kentucky Horse Park, Three Chimneys Farm (shown at right and below), and KESMARC, a sports medicine and rehab center for horses.

Several SC horse council members toured the famous Kentucky Horse Park, Three Chimneys Farm (shown at right and below), and KESMARC, a sports medicine and rehab center for horses.

The stallion barn at Three Chimneys is the epitome of fine housing for horses.

Jane Beshear, First Lady of Kentucky, outlined that state’s efforts to market itself as the horse capital of the country. Everyone loved the presentation from Bob Hoverson (US Forest Service) that showed mules hauling materials to build a bridge in a remote mountain region.

Dr. Susan Stormer, psychologist-turned-trail designer, explained Nature Deficit Disorder, a term to describe the depression that sets in when people are stressed from living in concrete and asphalt worlds. Horseback riding is widely recognized as a stress reliever.

Darley Newman, the creator of “Equitrekking” and a two-time Emmy winner for the popular TV show on PBS, was one of the featured speakers. A native of Myrtle Beach, Darley showed many behind-the-scenes photos and videos of her adventures around the world. The most thrilling shot was that of a huge bull elephant charging Darley’s horse as they were filming in Africa.

The conference, which started in South Carolina in 1998, has evolved into a national conference. It will be held in Rock Hill on July 18, 19 and 20, 2013. Bill Steele and Dr. Gene Wood are co-chairs.
Treasurer Donna Patterson reminds us that dues provide a major source of funding which enables us to promote the equine industry in South Carolina and to communicate with our members.

The new/renewal form is included. Please be an extension of our Membership Committee by reaching your friends and contacts who are not members. Ask them to join because there is strength in numbers.

We will be glad to send a complimentary copy of our newsletter if you give us a name and address of anyone desiring to know more about SCHC. You can also refer them to our website. We are financially sound and growing because of your continued support and we thank you. We also solicit your input as to how we can improve.

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Individual $20 (1 vote)  
Family $30 (2 votes)  
Farm $35 (3 votes)  
Commercial $55  
Add link to SCHC website $25 (web address)

SEND TO Membership Chair **DIANA HUNT**  
254 Harrow Circle, Aiken 29803
Elizabeth Suthards of Trade Smart Inc came to Florence to film a hog hunt with the Pee Dee Cowboy for an upcoming reality show.

**Horse Tales TV celebrates anniversary!**

*By David Grant, the Pee Dee Cowboy*

It has been a busy first year for Horse Tales: 26 shows in our first year! From rodeos to Horse Council Expo, Clemson to Hilton Head, to Chesterfield County to the sandy beaches of Myrtle Beach, the Horse Tales crew trotted all over the Palmetto state to cover 26 very exciting equine events. And, oh yeah, we filled in for a "potential reality show trying to crack the market" that took us into the river bottoms of the Pee Dee, hog hunting!!! If we are lucky we may be seen on prime time, if only for one episode Our show has been well received by the public and the potential is very encouraging. The list of shows lined up continues to grow.

Horse Tales has been touting the amount of revenue that equine and equine related function add to our economy in S.C. We have begun to stress this to our political allies here and around the country.

One of Horse Tales’ many goals is promote all breeds and disciplines and for all involved to realize the importance of uniting our voices.

Thank you S.C. for a first wonderful, humbling year!!!!!!!!!!

Lights… Camera…. Action!

See you around the barn-- """"NEIGH!!!!!!!!!BORS!!!!!

---

Contact membership chairman Diana Hunt

Huntress1@bellsouth.net
American Heart Association Beach Ride

Wednesday, October 31st to Sunday, November 4th.

Lakewood Camping Resort
5901 S. Kings Highway
Myrtle Beach, SC 29575

This five day/four night event, held at Lakewood Camping Resort, will host over 1,100 participants all riding to fight heart disease and stroke.

Join horse lovers from throughout the United States in one of Myrtle Beach’s most exciting events AND the only ride of its kind on the East Coast. While the event is highlighted by Saturday’s beach ride in which you can choose your distance up to 20 miles, the fun includes events both you and your horse are sure to love, including camping oceanfront with your horse at the beautiful, first-class Lakewood Camping Resort.

Event highlights include:
- Horse Parade and Costume Contest
- Poker Run
- Chili Cook-Off
- Nightly Entertainment
- Silent Auction
- Vendor Row
- Educational Horsemanship Clinics

All adult participants are required to raise $150 to attend, which includes five days of riding on the beach, all activities in the campground, and a 31st Annual Beach Ride t-shirt. In addition we will provide lunch on the beach for all riders during the Saturday Ride and dinner during our Awards Ceremony Saturday evening.

Contact: Sara Nelson at 866-915-6238 or email: Sara.Nelson@heart.org

AHABeachRide.org

The South Carolina Horsemen’s Council

was formed by equestrians to promote all breeds, all disciplines, and the interests of horsemen across the state. The council is devoted to a future which includes horses, horse sports and equine-related businesses in South Carolina.

The board of directors and all committees are composed of volunteers. Call or email us at schorsecouncil1@aol.com and let us know how you would like to become involved.

. Check out our current information (www.schorsecouncil.org).
Have you ever dreamed of galloping with zebras?

New season of *Equitrekking* begins in September

*PBS travel series hosted and created by SC native Darley Newman travels to Africa, Central America, Canada and the USA*

New episodes of *Equitrekking*, the travel TV series hosted by South Carolina native Darley Newman, will begin Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7 pm on ETV and on The South Carolina Channel on Saturdays at 4:30 pm starting Sept. 22.

The *Equitrekking* TV show follows host and adventurer Darley Newman as she travels the world to get an in-depth, eco-friendly look at a destination’s natural surroundings, culture and history. In two new episodes from Botswana, Africa, Darley takes safaris to view unique wildlife, hikes with one of the oldest tribes on the planet, camps out on one of the world's largest salt pans, goes fishing in a hippo pond and gets charged by an elephant!

“The Botswana episodes are some of our most exhilarating and visually stunning episodes to date,” said Darley. “Viewers will feel like they are traveling right along with me as I gallop through the largest inland delta in the world, the Okavango Delta, and camp out on the peaceful Makgadikgadi Pans— the best star-gazing destination I’ve ever visited.”

Following the two Africa episodes, viewers can journey to Belize, Costa Rica, Southern Quebec, Texas, Arizona, Utah, and Kentucky.

*Equitrekking* is the Emmy Award-winning lifestyle television series that takes viewers on global travel and horseback riding adventures. *Equitrekking.com* features everything visitors need to research and plan their travels, including video clips, expert tips, travel articles and the *Equitrekking.com Vacation Guide*. A second website at *EquitrekkingTravel.com* presents exceptional equestrian vacations.

http://www.equitrekking.com/articles/entry/equitrekking_botswana_bloopers/
Pam Mulvaney
is a new board member for Region 1

“My lifelong dream came true seven years ago when I bought my first horse. I’m a trail rider and love to camp with my horse and friends. I ‘retired’ from professional work 13 years ago when I became pregnant with triplets, but I was in advertising sales for radio stations prior to retirement,” Pam says. Currently she is involved in various volunteer activities and stays home with the children, two great danes, nine chickens, a Norwich terrier, and a beloved cat who was the companion to her first horse. “(Husband) Mick had a hard time understanding why I went to buy a horse and came home with a cat. It was a package deal,” she explained.

Trisha Dingle

Trisha is the co-barn manager of Whitehaven Plantation, an all-breed boarding and training facility in Bishopville. Through Whitehaven she also runs her own training business, Egyptian Rose Sport Horses, which specializes in starting and training horses in dressage, jumping, and endurance and teaching riders in those disciplines. While Trisha is known for her experience with Arabians and half-Arabians, she has extensive knowledge of multiple breeds and disciplines. In addition to being a Region 2 director for the SCHC, she sits on the board of the SC Dressage & Combined Training Association. Trisha is the co-chair for the 2013 SC Horsemen’s Council Expo.

Jennifer Breaux Howe

Jennifer Breaux Howe is pleased to announce the opening of DeMint Howe, P.A., a general practice law firm located in downtown Greenville. Jennifer grew up as an avid rider in the hunter/jumper circuits and also competed on the Clemson University Equestrian Team. She brings a unique perspective and insight to legal equine needs and loves being involved in the equine community.

Jennifer is the legal counsel for the South Carolina Horsemen’s Council and regularly speaks on equine law and liability. Her equine legal services include, but are not limited to the following: personal injury, releases and waivers, sales contracts, boarding/breeding/training agreements, loose horse liability, premise liability and risk management.

If you have any questions or legal issues please give Jennifer a call at 864-214-0161 or email at jhowe@deminthowe.com
Jeanie Sabbagha

Send information on upcoming events to:
jeandunlap@hotmail.com

Jeanie Sabbagha

worked for BellSouth/AT&T Advertising & Publishing Co. for more than 21 years, using her corporate skills to design effective ads and work with computers.

She has been riding horses since 1959 and has been a member of the Camden Hunt for 20 years.

She and her husband Andrew own Powderkegg hunting preserve in Kershaw County.
http://www.powderkegg.org/id19.htm

Wanda Wood

A horse enthusiast for over 45 years, Wanda has lived most of her life in York County. She and her husband Ted are owners of Lakewood Farm Arabians in Smyrna. Wanda has been affiliated with the SC Horseman’s Council since 1993 and is president of Equestrian Ministries Saddle Club and Equestrian Ministries Drill Team. She has completed courses at UGA in Artificial Insemination, Farm Management and Stallion, Mare and Foal care.

A trained Chaplin through the SC Baptist Association, Wanda has worked closely with SCARE and with horse welfare. Her most noted achievement is her work on the Agri-tourism Guide for York County. She enjoys Competitive Trail Riding, when time allows, and her dream is to use the family’s farm as a place for people to enjoy not only horses but nature at its best.

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Equine Legal Strategies You Should Know About

By Jennifer Breaux Howe

There are many things that horse and farm owners can do to minimize their legal liability when it comes to horses. This article is a good reminder of how to protect yourself, and for those individuals who are new to South Carolina, this is an introduction to South Carolina law.

#1 – Become familiar with the equine liability immunity statute in your state. South Carolina’s equine liability immunity statute is § 47-9-720 which can be found at http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t47c009.php. This statute provides that generally you are protected from injuries resulting from the inherent risk of equine activity. There are four exceptions to this statute that waive the immunity granted by our state and you should pay careful attention to these. We will study this statute more carefully in the next article.

#2 – Be sure that you post warning signs as mandated by your state legislature. South Carolina law is very specific that the warning notice must be in black letters that are at least one inch in height. There is language for these warning signs that is specific to each state. South Carolina’s warning sign language is set forth in § 47-9-730(B), and can be found at http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t47c009.php. It states:

**WARNING**

Under South Carolina law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in an equine activity resulting from an inherent risk of equine activity, pursuant to Article 7, Chapter 9 of Title 47, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976.

You can purchase these signs from the South Carolina’s Horsemen’s Council at http://www.schorsecouncil.org/gift-shop.

#3 – Know where the warning signs belong. Under § 47-9-730(A), these signs must be placed in a clearly visible location on or near stables, corrals, or arenas where the equine professional or the equine activity sponsor conducts equine activities. These signs will be most visible at the entrance used most often.

#4 – Purchase good equine insurance. Insurance will not prevent a law suit but it will protect your home and assets. Your legal defense alone could easily cost thousands to tens of thousands of dollars depending on the severity of the law suit. Please note that your homeowner’s insurance does not cover your horse(s).

#5 – Use liability releases/waivers drafted by an equine attorney that includes the warning language above. Be careful using form contracts as they are unlikely to be state-specific and even less likely to have been prepared by an attorney familiar with the law in your state.

#6 – Be sure to keep your barn, land, fences and other property in good repair. If you know of an issue have it repaired as quickly as possible. In the meantime, be sure to warn guests, friends, workers, etc. of any potential hazards and post a sign warning of the hazard until it can be repaired. The quicker you have it repaired the less time someone has to get injured.

#7 – Always use good common horse sense. Clean and inspect tack regularly and replace faulty tack immediately; train your employees thoroughly and make sure they practice all barn rules; fully evaluate riders, their abilities and the horses to avoid unnecessary risks; and address potential problems immediately. For example, if you know children from the neighborhood are feeding horses over the fence (or worse – entering pastures) then that issue needs to be addressed as soon as possible.

If you would like to see an article on a specific topic, please email suggestions to Jennifer at jhowe@deminthowe.com.

**DISCLAIMER:** This article does not constitute legal advice and there is no attorney/client relationship between the readers and the writer of this article. Please consult a knowledgeable equine attorney for more information regarding your legal equine needs.
District 1 News : Submitted by Merry Roberson, Board of Directors

Horse Day @ Tractor Supply, Hwy. 276, Mauldin, SC  
Sept. 15, Sat  10am – 2 pm  
Horse Health & Nutrition  
Discussions with Vets, Equine Dentist, Chiropractor, Massage Therapist, Cowboy Church, Amy Gee, plus a slide show on training and showing mules. Visit the SCHC booth to get the word out there on our mission.

Pet Day @ Mauldin Tractor Supply,  
Oct. 20  10am – 2 pm.  
Among other booths on pets, we have arranged with Dr. Tomas Gimenez for two Large Animal Emergency Rescue demos at 10 am and 1 pm. Tractor Supply is donating 10 bags of Dumor Equibase Feed - 14% pellets - to give away in a drawing. SCHC members get 2 tickets for the drawing!!  
Please join us for some very informative information on Large Animal Emergency Rescue.

Hoofin for Heroes ride is Oct. 5-7 at H. Cooper Black  
The Wounded Warriors are sponsoring their annual Hoofin’ for Heroes Ride at H. Cooper Black on 5-7 Oct this year. Gates open at 9 am on Friday the 5th. Friday is ride on your own with a DJ that evening. Saturday ride has staggered departures, lunch on the trail and clubhouse, Cowboy Mounted Shooting demonstration, vendors, BBQ dinner and live band. There will be a poker ride, 50/50 ticket sales and a silent auction. All water/electric sites are taken but there are plenty of primitive spots (two bathhouses).  
Cost is $55/ rider for the full weekend which includes all events listed above. For further information, contact Diane Dillon, Founder/Director of Hoofin' for Heroes. Cell: (803) 236-4976 or www.hoofinforheroes.com

Don’t miss the 43rd Colonial Cup on November 17  
The Colonial Cup is a set of prestigious horse races that attracts an international audience. The featured race has a purse of $100,000, and horses come from around the world to compete. This is the premier steeplechasing event in the U.S.  
The Carolina Cup Racing Association will host its annual “Saluting our Military” tribute, which includes:

- A swearing-in ceremony for US Army recruits  
- Parachuting exhibition by Carolina Skydiving  
- Military equipment on display  
- Patriotic music  
Complimentary tickets for military, active and retired, are available the day after Labor Day, Sept. 4. Learn more at www.carolina-cup.org
Join SC Horsemen’s Council
at Aiken Steeplechase on Oct. 27
This is the third year the Aiken Steeplechase Committee has invited the SC Horsemen’s Council to be present in the Paddock Playground. It is quite an honor. We have been fortunate in the past to be loaned plants and straw bales by Home Depot and Aiken Saddlery to liven up our area. The children seem to enjoy making “Strutting your Colors” sashes, giving their parents a little down time. Our teenage volunteers have been outstanding and we are looking to have some of them back this year. Once again it should be a fun day.

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The SC State Fair is Oct. 10-21.

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Thanks to the SC State Guard for assisting with parking for the 2012 Equine Expo
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Southeast Equine Monthly Magazine
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Linsey Perrow
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An International Horse Park for Aiken?

The people will decide on their next step

By Marsha Hewitt

The much-awaited feasibility study on an international horse park in Aiken recommends that the community proceed cautiously on the $100 million project. A phased approach to building a multi-purpose venue is key to the project’s success.

While the intense, multi-year study is positive about the benefits of a horse park, it also warns that a vital factor is developing a master plan. Commissioned by the Aiken Greater Chamber of Commerce after an initial suggestion from Tourism Development International in 2008, the project has a great deal of support from the Aiken community. About 65 percent of the people are in favor of the park, while 10 percent oppose it and the rest are neutral.

“If an international horse park in Aiken is to survive and prosper, it must employ strategies to create a multi-functional facility that generates revenue from within and outside of the equestrian facility,” according to an executive summary of the 54-page document.

The study was conducted by the SmartState Center of Economic Excellence in Tourism and Economic Development at USC, chaired by Dr. Simon Hudson. A group visited six major international horse parks, five in the U.S. and one in England, to do a comparative study. Data shows that a mixed-use venue is far more sustainable than one hosting only horse events.

Since the horse park could cost upwards of $100 million, the committee recommends a phased-in approach that includes activities other than horse-related events. The new center would need to offer entertainment opportunities such as music festivals, trade shows and other events that would appeal to locals as well as visitors. An outdoor amphitheater was cited as one of the key amenities.

Expanding the scope of horse activities was also mentioned. In addition to popular jumping, dressage, polo and steeplechase events, the park should serve broader interests such as fox hunting, pleasure riding, rodeos, hunters, and endurance, to name a few.

Major concerns about the horse park are fears of losing the flavor and character of Aiken, and the potential cannibalization of existing horse businesses. “Aiken is extremely proud of its equine heritage and there is an overwhelming demand to preserve that heritage,” the study says. To keep from competing with an already saturated horse market, the horse park needs to reach an international audience as well as host non-horse events.

A few of the multi-purpose uses are walking and biking trails, track and field competitions, and mountain biking. “Empty facilities generate no revenue, and if the proposed park is to succeed, it must look to maximize revenue through multiple event days,” the study says.

The most popular proposed amenities include an amphitheater for multi-use events; an indoor arena for jumping, dressage, polo and rodeo; an outdoor pavilion for reining, rodeo, and carriage driving; and a cross country course for eventing and combined driving. Also mentioned are a
visitors’ center, restaurants, boarding for horses, RV hook-ups, parking for trailers, and veterinarian services.

According to J. David Jameson, President/CEO of the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce, an editorial in the *Aiken Standard* concluded, “Now we wait and see if there are people who want to invest. The possibilities are exciting.” Jameson agrees.

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**SCHC President’s Note**

By Bill Steele  
August 24, 2012

I want to express my sincere appreciation to all members of the South Carolina Horsemen’s Council. Your involvement in this organization shows your commitment to the betterment of horses of all disciplines and breeds in our state. Please help us grow the organization by inviting others to join us. The larger our organization becomes, the greater positive impact we will have in improving the equine industry in South Carolina.

The SCHC Board of Directors met in June and voted to host next year’s SCHC Expo at the SC Equine Park in Camden on February 9, 2013. This will be the 20th Anniversary celebration of the SC Horsemen’s Council.

The 2013 National Equestrian Trails Conference will be held at the Baxter Hood Conference Center in Rock Hill on July 18, 19, and 20, 2013. The SCHC will be the host organization. This will bring national exposure to the SCHC and provide networking opportunities for our industry. The theme of the conference will focus on the land where we ride our horses. It will provide insight into the state and federal laws that determine which public lands welcome equine activity and how the agencies are limited by these laws. I invite you to attend and interact with our partners from other states.

Please give us your thoughts on any topics at schorsemenscouncil@gmail.com. Thank you for your love of horses and all the joy they bring to so many people.
2012 South Carolina State Fair Youth Scholarship
sponsored by the SC Farm Bureau Federation and
The South Carolina Horsemen’s Council

Important Information

The South Carolina Horsemen’s Council provides scholarship funding to outstanding young equestrians in SC through our Youth Scholarship Program. The SC Farm Bureau Federation will provide a $2000 scholarship to the top scoring individual. The SC Horsemen’s Council will provide a $1500 scholarship to the second highest scoring individual. The contest will be held on Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20, 2012.

The application form, entry forms and guidelines are available on the SC State Fair website http://www.scstatefair.org/fair/competitive-exhibits/youth-and-open-horse-department/index.php

The riding portion for the scholarship will be held on Friday, Oct. 19th and the written test and interviews on Saturday, Oct. 20th.

Applicant must be an exhibitor at the South Carolina State Fair Youth Horse Show and must participate in at least one class. Entries for this show must be received by September 1, 2012.


8. Scholarships will be awarded to the applicants with the highest and second highest combined scores in the following areas:
   a. 100 points -- Resume & Cover letter
   b. 100 points – Knowledge Assessment: written test covering various aspects of equine husbandry and the equine industry.
   c. 200 points – Skills Assessment: participation in two contest events - showmanship and horsemanship. Applicant is to provide the horse. The same horse must be used for both events
   d. 100 points - Interview by a selected committee of three industry professionals.
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Board Member Profile:  
**Susan Sorenyi-Sander**

Susan has served as a SCHC District 4 Board member since 2009. Her riding background is classical. Her husband, Istvan, was a Royal Hungarian Riding and Driving Master who served on the Hungarian Olympic Dressage Team and was the Venezuelan Olympic Jumping Team Coach. A retired educator who now enjoys her horses and her farm, Susan is an avid supporter of equine rescue organizations. She lives in Aiken.

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The South Carolina Horsemen’s Council
would like to express appreciation to the
SC Department of Agriculture
for its excellent support of our council and to the equine industry in the state.

Visit our website
www.agriculture.sc.gov

Marsha Hewitt, Equine Marketing Specialist
803-734-0106
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mhewitt@scda.sc.gov

State of South Carolina
Department of Agriculture

Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner

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FX: (803) 734-2192
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The S.C. Equine Promotion Foundation
was pleased to host the SC Horsemen’s Council Expo
in 2011 and 2012,
and we look forward to the
2013 Expo on Feb. 9.

We have built this park for all, with pride and care to serve all equine disciplines.
The SCHC thanks our many supporters for their generous donations to the 2012 Expo Silent Auction and Tag Sale.

Southeast Equine Magazine

**CHESTER**
- Cox Veterinary Laboratories
- Dr. Rebecca Reid-Taylor
- Olde English District Commission

**Rock Hill**
- Judy Harris Bauer
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- Betty Rankin
- Hill Place Farm
- Jeanne Rutherford
- Carol Deacon
- Three Dog Farm
- Bob Hasselle
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- Doug Robinson Perfection Salon
- Tractor Supply
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- Rock Hill/York County Tourism Office
- Museum of York County
- Carole Bale
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- Mane Street Horse & Pet

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- Diana Hunt
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- Aiken Steeplechase Association
- Boots, Bridles & Britches
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- Aiken Electric Cooperative
- Susan Sorenzi-Sander
- Security Federal Bank
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- Banks Mill Feed
- Weeks Farm Supply
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- Screen Print Factory
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- Racing Hall of Fame

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- Wonderful Week-end in Ward,
- William Bell, Jenny Bell

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- Kaye Watkins

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- Turkey Creek Riding Academy at Whitehaven
- Mike Stine/Equine Dynamics
- Whitehaven Plantation
- Susan Mathis

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