

2012 Equine Expo

We just completed a great Expo Saturday, May 5. Unlike some of our previous Feb. dates, it was a beautiful sunshiny day. The beautiful weather and other competing events dampened our crowd somewhat, but we still had several hundred participants to enjoy the festivities.

The clinicians (Richard Shrike, Brock Griffith, Elisha Griffith, Lillie Ward, and Trisha Dingle) put on great exhibitions on various aspects of horse training. Dr. Rebecca Gamines gave an excellent presentation on emergency large animal rescue. We had Dr. Keith Stafford speak on Performance Horse Therapies, Dr. Dee Weichsel speak on Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy, and Dr. Kate Echeverria speak on Cushing's Disease. These presentations were very informative and received high marks for the presentation and information shared.

Mike Stine, Farrier, gave a presentation on Equine Dynamics, and Shelby Friml gave a demonstration on proper saddle fitting. These were very interesting and informative for all horse people.

In addition to the clinics, seminars, and demonstrations, there were numerous vendors of all types occupying Vendor Village. Our own Betty Rankin coordinated another successful auction and tack sale that raised money for some of our activities such as the youth scholarship fund, youth activities (such as 4H and FFA), and the horse welfare fund.

The Parade of Breeds was, as always, the highlight of the day with various breeds being showcased and their specialties being demonstrated by their riders and handlers. All were beautiful and performed to the crowd's delight.

BB Weavil, formerly of Mt. Pleasant, SC, was recognized as the SC Horseperson of the Year. President Terry Boger presented the award to her, citing BB's many contributions to the SC Horsemen's Council, the Horse Welfare Program, and the overall equine industry. BB was very appreciative of her award and praised her Horse Welfare Committee for all the work that they did. To learn more about this dynamic program, go to www.schorseouncil.org.

The Annual SCHC Meeting was held. The minutes were approved. The financial health of the organization was reported on as very solid. Outgoing Board members Jim Edwards, Mary Quarles, Kaye Watkins, and Cecil Watkins were recognized for their service. Terry Boger, outgoing President, was presented a plaque and gift in appreciation of her service. The Election of Directors and Officers was conducted resulting in Bill Steele becoming the new President and adding six new Directors: Lellie Ward of Aiken, Jeanie Sabbagha of Cassatt, Merry Roberson of Fountain Inn, Wanda Wood of Symrna, Pam Mulvaney of Indian Land and Julia Fisher of Hartsville.

We appreciate the members who renewed their membership and all of those who joined our organization for the first time. We appreciate all of the spectators and participants. We owe a special thanks to General Chairman Kaye Watkins and a host of Board members and volunteers who worked many hours to make the Expo happen.