



Dan Colson and his Percheron "Mac" at #7, and their first ACTHA competition.



Trail competitors had to negotiate a total of 8 trail obstacles on the 2 1/2 hr. ride at TRHP.

Wrapping up for July 2009

American Competitive Trail Horse Association members from all points of Texas and beyond were busy tacking and grooming in the early hours of July 11th. A cool breeze blowing across Texas Rose Horse Park's lake made the upcoming ride even more promising despite the July heat. The 50+ competitors and "Buddy" riders gathered for the pre-ride briefing over coffee and doughnuts in the TRHP Cantina overlooking the indoor arena. Competitors were given an outline of the riding requirements for each of the 8 trail obstacles they would have to successfully negotiate to garner the points needed to be in the running for the many cash awards and prizes. Just last month the ACTHA announced their \$25,000 cash prize end-of-year awards program. Stampede Feed & Ag Supply of Tyler, a sponsor at Texas Rose Horse Park, added to the excitement by providing an additional \$525.00 in cash awards specifically for the winners at this event. At 10:00 AM, Mules, Morgans, Percherons,

Arabians, Quarter Horses, Appaloosa's & more, with riders of all ages, from all walks of life, headed out for the 2-3 hour trail ride meandering over the 1700 acres of rolling hills, twisting creek bottoms, coastal meadows and towering woods that make up the grounds of Texas Rose Horse Park. The #8 obstacle, the last obstacle, proved to be a favorite for everyone – a brief ride into the cooling lake with horses happily splashing and drinking deeply. No mishaps, except perhaps when one rider decided to "practice" at #8 after the competition and her horse decided that it was time to "get down", and did! A dripping wet horse and laughing, very wet, rider resulted.

One of the participants, Atwood's/Tyler store manager Dan Colston and "Team Mac", event first-timers, were hard to miss. Dan's imposing steel-grey Percheron towered over most of the other competitors, as Percherons do. Raised in far West Texas, a little town by the name of Floydada, Dan was around

horses from an early age. Now, a very experienced rider, Dan liked big horses and decided that he wanted a big one he could just "cruise around on". Dan found his "cruiser", up in Arkansas where he had been trained and used as a search & rescue mount. In addition to "Mac", Dan and wife Lisa own yet another Percheron because they have learned to enjoy the kind and unflappable dispositions of these gentle giants.

Dan was looking for something more challenging to do with "Mac" and the ACTHA, seemed to be just the ticket. According to Dan, "Mac" only balked at one obstacle on the course – the dreaded hanging vines, (which were not really vines, but construction tapes) – but, which in "Mac's" world too closely resembled the electric tape used around his corral at home. Even a donkey knows you do not walk through electric tape! Dan says they are going to do a little cross-training at home to correct this issue before the next competition.

News Flash/ August & September, Just Around the Corner...



Pam Fowler-Grace, not your typical Dressage Clinician

American Competitive Trail Horse Association (ACTHA), has just scheduled their next event at TRHP, Oct. 17, 2009. Check their website for details, www.actha.us

Pam Fowler-Grace returns to TRHP August 14-16th for another of her popular **Dressage Clinics**. Working with such a seasoned Dressage rider and experienced competitor, participants can count on walking away with a new understanding

of themselves and their horses. Pam is a big believer in positive and constructive teaching methods. All levels of riders are welcome. Since Pam herself has ridden in the full range of equestrian disciplines, she can easily help riders in disciplines other than Dressage to understand and apply the basic techniques needed to vastly improve their rides. Call early to assure a spot in the clinic at TRHP - Events page.

NTHJC/Wagon Wheel Show at TRHP returns August 22-23rd. This is the perfect show for all levels of riders. This is one of the few shows that caters to the youngest in our sport - the "Leadliner". At one end of the prize spectrum, The Wagon Wheel's \$100 prize purse has got to be a great incentive for all serious beginners, at the other end is the \$1000 mini-prix for the experienced rider.

TRHP begins preparing in earnest for the **Texas Dressage Classic**.

(Texas Dressage Classic I&II, cont.. from page 1)

Top riders and horses from across Texas and beyond are expected. As year-end nears, many exhibitors will be seeking to add to those all important national point standings. Lloyd Landkramer and his crew will again be orchestrating the event at TRHP.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to celebrate in style, (and for a good cause), with an arena-side table for 6, gourmet goodies to munch on while you enjoy the competition, in three arenas, the \$10,000 Musical Freestyle "extravaganza", live and silent

auctions - all to the benefit of Azleway, an organization that does a super job helping the youth of Texas.



For those that have never attended a Dressage competition,

this is the one to start with. Dressage, can be an "event" unto itself. Riders in top hats and tails, gleaming coated horses strutting proudly into the arena with tack polished to a mirror finish, music wafting across the grounds, with the sun setting behind the hills - well you get the picture....

For a change of pace, **Barrel Racing at TRHP** is definitely catching on with those in the know - who doesn't want to run when there is that "added money" to sweeten the pot. October 17th. is **Texas Rose's own Burn & Turn** with \$500.00 + added money!



Friesian Champion mare Kyra Von Foster, owned by Lynda Bergeron-Langston, shown by Erica Danque.

TRHP Welcomes - Valley View Stables

Trainers Dorothy Cox and Sandy Strack have moved their Hunter/Jumper operation to Texas Rose Horse Park. For those of you not familiar with Valley View Stables, they offer instruction and training in Hunters, Jumpers and equitation.

Do drop by and say hello, they are located in the Rose Barn.

"Dot" and Sandy bring years of experience that will benefit their many clients at TRHP.

Though they do not have a website yet, you can contact them at: Sandy/713-503-6892, Dot/917-783-8670



Sponsor Spotlight - Acco Feeds

Brunson Equestrian Center at TRHP, has been getting some really good results feeding "Safe & Sound" by Acco Feeds. Like all horse people we like to share what has worked for us, and what has not. It's interesting that the Acco brand has been known primarily as a regional brand. Cargill, the manufacturer, just recently announced their intent to begin introducing the Acco brand nationally. (Could this be because of the type of results we have experienced?)

The manufacturer, Cargill, unlike many of the other feed manufacturers, is not just a US concern, it is a world-wide organization focused on varying aspects of agriculture, animal husbandry & animal nutrition across the globe. They are well respected for their in-depth product research and development. Safe & Sound product testimonials found on the Acco website are impressive. So what makes this feed so different?

Safe & Sound is a low-starch, high fiber feed. It is designed to

encourage the proper assimilation of hard to digest carbohydrates therefore helping to reduce the risk of digestive upsets. Of course, it also has all of the nutrients to support and promote the development of structural tissues, a must for all horses.

Now, through August 31st. 2009, Acco is running a special promotion for Safe & Sound - "**Buy 4 get 1 Free**". Check with Stampede Feed in Tyler or check for your local dealer at www.accofeeds.com



Experience winning.



American Competitive Trail Horse Association 7/11/2009

Open Division

- 1st. Deanne & Miracle
- 2nd. Shirley & Rowdy
- 3rd. Steve Reyna & Dusty
- 4th. Charlie Liles & Dual Featheray
- 5th. Cindy & Hottie Berry
- 6th. Dennis McAdams & Jane

Pleasure Division

- 1st. Vernon Martin & Cherokee
- 2nd. Mark Catlin & Ace
- 3rd. Bill Wortman & Revlon
- 4th. Barcus Laursen & Zippos Dandy
- Scotch
- 5th. Taylor Copenhagen & Jamaica
- 6th. Kayla Keplay & I Needa Paint Fix

Junior Division

- 1st. Adriana Guardiola & Jadis
- 2nd. Cody Funderburg & Moe
- 3rd. Rachael Watts & Jimmers Old Gold



This "anonymous" horse thoroughly cooled himself, and his rider, by rolling in the TRHP lake - NOT recommended as standard procedure at ACTHA events

Acco - Tips for Keeping Your Cool

Dr. Jim Ward, D.V.M., Equine/Nutrition Consultant - Cargill Animal Nutrition has helped us to identify how we can best help our horses to deal with the summer heat. Horses really suffer during extremely hot weather. Their thermal neutral zone is lower than ours. We are most comfortable in the 50's thru 70's whereas horses are best at 20-30 degrees lower. When horses are outside their thermal neutral zone they must burn more energy to warm themselves in cold weather and cool themselves in hot weather. The problem is that in the Southwest horses are usually operating at high ambient temperatures particularly with all of our summer-time activities. Heat stroke can occur in horses and every attempt should be made to prevent this. If one suspects a horse is overheated the first thing to do is to take the body temperature.

If it is very high, 104 degrees, it should be treated as an emergency and the vet called. While waiting for the vet, immediately allow the horse to drink cool fresh water, followed by a cool water bath and placing the horse under a fan. Rectal temperature should be checked frequently to gauge the cool-down progress.

Performance horses do acclimate, so go slowly during the start of summer to get a horse to adapt. Exercise should be done in the early morning hours. Turn out times should be in the evening or morning hours. Horses outside should be provided shade; in many cases a shade tree is preferable to a hot poorly ventilated barn.



Use good sense; when you are feeling the effects of hot weather, chances are your horse will be affected even worse. Keep plenty of fresh cool water available and maintain good ventilation. Use fans where appropriate. Water cooled fans are now available and can really provide relief to a hot horse.

Texas Rose Horse Park

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