

# Junior Exhibitor **Jumble**

## Midwest

Merry Christmas! Snow is (or should be;-) on the ground, Christmas lights are everywhere, the malls are packed — Everyone and everything is in the Christmas spirit! This is my favorite time of year. I love EVERYTHING about Christmas — family, the gifts, all of the decorations, but most of all, the real meaning of Christmas.

Even with all of the holidays, though, our horses are still a major part of our lives and we will make sure that we have time for them no matter what:) Because they're such a big part of our lives, to keep the holiday spirit going, I have decided to give you some fun things you could make for your horse and give your horse for Christmas, or any time of the year!

Part of what makes Christmas so great is the food! Everyone pulls out their favorite recipes for the holidays, so why don't you pull out some great food for your horse? Here is a fun recipe that you could try: Peppermint Apples (makes enough for two horses).

You will need: A large apple, a shredded carrot, 1/2 cup oats, 1/4 cup of honey, 5 tablespoons of sugar, 1 tablespoon of salt, and 3 crushed peppermints.

Cut the apple in large chunks. Set aside. Mix the honey, peppermints, sugar, and salt in a bowl, then mix the oats and carrots in a separate [small] bowl. Next, coat the apple chunks in the honey mixture and roll in the oat mixture. Place on a plate or sealed container and refrigerate until you feed it to the horses. *Do not let the recipe sit more than two days.* It's guaranteed that your horse will enjoy this dessert and will soon be begging for more!

Every year we go through many victories, losses, wonderful times, and memories that will last a lifetime with our horses. They deserve a little something here and there, so why not get them a Christmas gift? Here are some great ideas that you and your horse could enjoy: A horse treat dispenser with a jolly ball. This is a great way to keep your horse occupied, yet it acts like a treat all of the time! Your horse can play with the ball when he's bored, but instead of just getting treats when you're there to visit him, he can have the flavor of the treats all of the time (in apple, carrot, molasses, and peppermint flavors!!)

A jolly ball. You can get a regular ball or an apple or peppermint scented ball that your horse will love! When he's bored, he can kick it around, throw it in the air, and even spook himself! This ball can entertain them, and even you, for hours!

Though these may be things that you can give your horse and that your horse may love, nothing could be better than a kiss on the muzzle and a hug. Though it may last only a few seconds, it will be treasured for a lifetime.

I hope that you have a fun time trying out the Peppermint Apples and horse shopping! Have an AWESOME Christmas and stay warm!! Merry Christmas!!!

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## Missouri

Hi everyone! Wow, what a year it has been, full of victories, heartbreak, and surprising moments. By now the American Royal is a cloudy memory and the ribbons and trophies from the Midwest Regional Academy Finals are already beginning to collect dust. Winter

is upon us—which means it's time to start preparing for 2008!

Congratulations to all of the competitors who showed at the American Royal. Here's hoping that the first-ever "Pink Ribbon Class" was a huge success, as well as the dance on Saturday night. I'm already looking forward to next year!

The 5th Annual Midwest Regional Academy Finals were held on October 28, in Columbia, Mo. Managed by Janet Thompson and judged by Lisa Waller, the Finals welcomed riders from Greenwood Stables (Stefanie and Rob Kritzler), Cheradon Acres (Cheryl Dorff), Sonny Sutton Stables (Terry Edens, instructor), Wild Venture Farm (Maggi Montgomery and Ashley Budde, instructors), and Kris Randall Stables. "We would like to thank those who attended this year, as well as our judge, Lisa Waller, who gave her time and talents to ensure that those who are starting in the horse world have a great experience and continue to experience the world of horses," said Janet Thompson. Congratulations to all the champions in the Walk/Trot and Walk/Trot/Canter Saddle Seat, Hunt Seat, and Stock Seat divisions!

Also at the Janian horse show, I was fortunate to go in the middle of the ring and practice judge as part of the American Saddlebred International Youth Program's Level 3 requirements. The "real" judge was Don Bridges of Smithfield, Ky. Mr. Bridges taught me a lot during the day, including how important it is for a horse to have a correct gait, and what he looks for in saddle seat equitation and stock seat equitation riders. Thanks to Mr. Bridges and Janet Thompson for letting me judge!

Just this past weekend (November 3rd) I rode in Nealia McCracken's clinic at Stephens College, in Columbia, Mo. I learned a lot just watching the other riders' lessons from Nealia (who is also the driving force behind Saddlebred Rescue, Inc.). I rode a horse named Gambler, who had a really sensitive mouth. I had a lot of fun riding and just hanging around at Stephens all afternoon. Thanks to Nealia McCracken for coming down from New Jersey to have the clinic, and a huge thank you to Ellen Beard (saddle seat instructor at Stephens) for letting us come to ride!

Well, that's all for the month of December. I hope you all have a fun and safe winter practicing and preparing for an even better show season in 2008. See you on the rail next year!!!

*"It makes you feel good that you made them, rather than bought them."*

-George Knight about **WGC Along Came A Spider**

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## Northeast

This month I have a cool topic. It's actually a lesson. I think it's almost the most important lesson you have to learn when riding equitation.

I think this is a great lesson to learn especially if you want to become an equitation rider. Actually I even do this. It is a lot of fun. If you aren't comfortable with your horse doing this activity then maybe try it on an older horse. The greatest lesson that any rider can ever learn is to *Keep Your Heels Down*. Practice-Practice-Practice. You really just have to keep your mind on your heels until it becomes your physical nature to have them so dropped that it is excessive. It helps if you can have

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someone lunge you on a horse, so that you do not have to hold the reins or steer. Practice riding without reins, at the walk, then trot, then canter. While you are riding, put your hands on your waist; then on your shoulders, then head, then straight up in the air over head, then straight out from the shoulder, then you can become very fancy, and touch opposite hip side or knee side, and eventually the toe of the opposite leg. To maintain position doing this exercise, **YOU MUST KEEP YOUR HEELS DOWN**, or you will pop out of the saddle and always be fighting your position and balance.

For treats for your horse or pony check out these recipes:

## Nightlight's White Winter Trail Mix

- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 4 teaspoons salt
- 1 cup Cheerios
- 1/2 cup uncooked oatmeal
- 1 cup corn
- 3 teaspoons brown sugar

Put everything in a zip lock bag, close the bag, and shake for 10 seconds. This treat is great for the trails!

— Victoria

## Jacob and Sage's Christmas Eve Surprise

- Tupperware
- Apples, large or small, any amount
- Molasses, any amount
- Cinnamon, heavy or light sprinkle
- Oatmeal or bran, optional

Chop apples into pieces. Place in Tupperware. Pour molasses over apples. Add cinnamon. If your horses don't like molasses, cinnamon sticks to apples well. Cover Tupperware and shake. Sprinkle with bran or oatmeal and shake again. Serve chilled or unchilled. A guaranteed bowl licker!



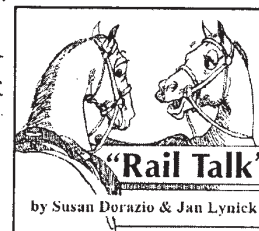
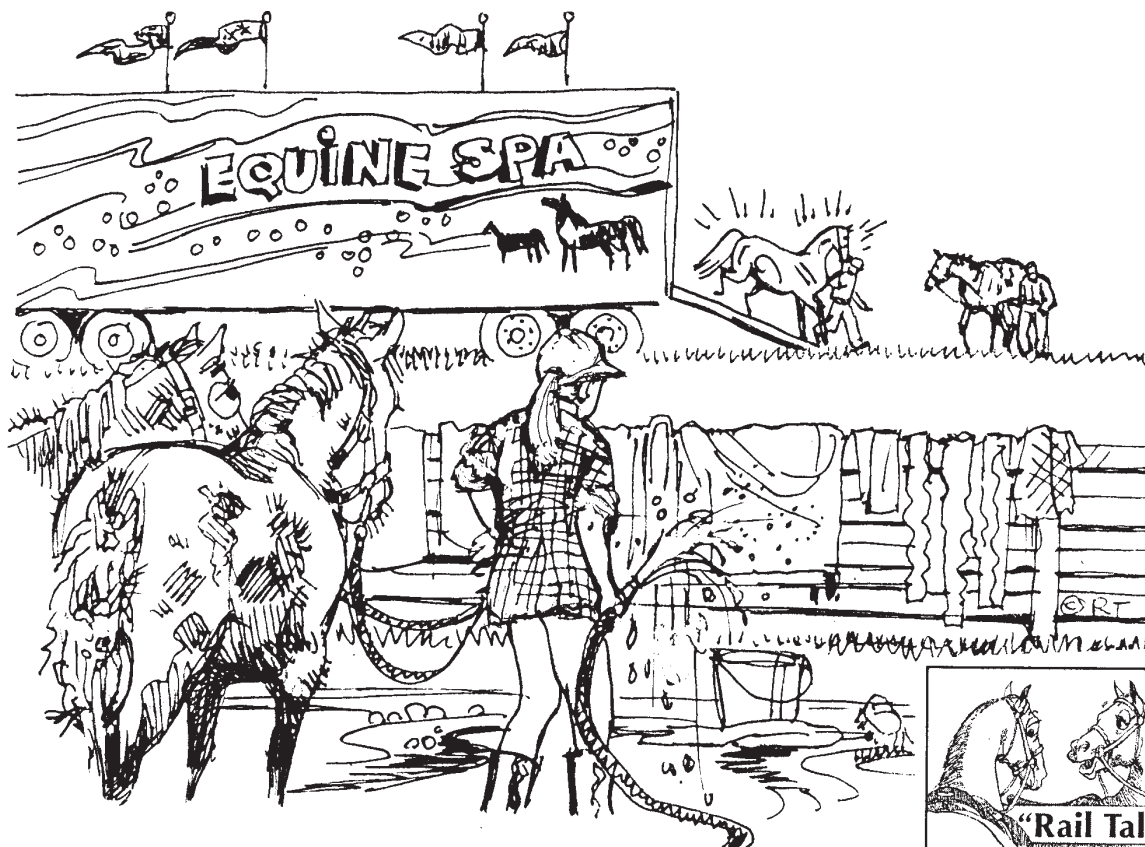
— Abby

I hope you have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
*Horses lend us the wings we lack.*

— Author Unknown

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There's clean , and then there's CLEAN !

## Adult Horsemanship Camps at Mercer Springs Farm

Mercer Springs Farm will hold its second annual Adult Horsemanship Camps January 10 – 13, 2008 and January 31 – February 3, 2008. Camps will be geared toward the amateur/owner/trainer and reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. For further information, please contact Smith Lilly at 304-952-9368 (cell) or 304-384-8800 (barn).

## Biggins Stables Offers Adult Camp

Openings are still available for Biggins Stables Adult Riding Camps for 2008. The camps will be held Feb 8-10 and March 7-9 at Biggins Stables In Simpsonville, Ky., near Louisville. The annual riding camps, known for their quality instruction and fun atmosphere, attract adult saddle seat riders of all skill levels, from all parts of the country.

Intensive riding instruction is the central focus of the Biggins Adult Camp. Coordinator Renee Biggins tailors the program to the ability and goals of each rider. Beginners through advanced riders can sharpen their horsemanship and showmanship skills on a wide variety of horses, including five-gaited Saddlebreds. All participants benefit from the accumulated knowledge and experience of an instructor who produced numerous world champions.

In addition to the riding instruction and training techniques, campers have the opportunity to visit a local Kentucky barn. This is always a favorite experience among the campers and instructors. Last year the camps visited Tré Lee at Prospect Lane Farm and Alliance Stud for two amazing showcases of the American Saddlebred.

The campers are also visited by a veterinarian and farrier who give insightful talks about horse health. Massage therapist Aaron Strode visits to pursue camper health. Biggins adult campers work hard, taking two lessons each day of the three-day camps. There are also evening activities for the campers to unwind. They will be enjoying the company of their fellow horse enthusiasts at spirited dinners where new skills and horse backgrounds will be shared at local restaurants two evenings during the camp.

Campers have the run of the farm and the instructors' undivided attention, as regular lessons and training schedules are suspended for each weekend.

It is so educational and so much fun – come join us!! We look forward to seeing you.

Space is limited and the camps fill quickly. Please call Renee Biggins at 502-722-5068 for more information or to request a registration

form. Please make your hotel reservations for Biggins Adult Camp '08 at the Best Western Motel 502-633-4400.

## American Saddlebred Museum's 2008 Exhibit to Feature Children and Saddlebreds

The American Saddlebred Museum is asking for your help in locating film footage, photographs, artifacts and memorabilia for the 2008 special exhibit *For the Love of a Horse: Children and Saddlebreds*. We are searching for photos and memorabilia that feature children interacting with Saddlebreds, specifically those taken outside of the show ring. We need items pertaining only to those who have aged out of the juvenile division, not photos of current junior exhibitors. Of course, the more historic the photo the better.

The goal of this exhibit is to show the public that the Saddlebred is not only the "peacock of the show ring", but also is a trustworthy "gentle giant" with children. Images showing children of all ages riding, grooming, playing and just hanging out with Saddlebreds will really help to get this message across. We are not opposed to using some ring shots, but they should show something unique or particularly spectacular.

The exhibit will kick off on February 15, 2008 with an opening party during ASHA's Annual Meeting and will run through December 30, 2008. We are asking for either a loan of items for the duration of the exhibit and/or copies of photos that can become part of our permanent collection. We all know the saying "Saddlebreds make good kids" so please help us mount an exhibit that celebrates children and their Saddlebred friends!

The American Saddlebred Museum, located on the grounds of the Kentucky Horse Park, is open daily 9-5 from March 15 - October 31 (closed Mondays and Tuesdays November 1 – March 14). Tickets purchased for the Museum also include admission to the entire Horse Park. For more information, contact Museum curator Kim Skipton at 859-259-2746 ext. 312 or [Kim@asbmuseum.org](mailto:Kim@asbmuseum.org).

## Voyagers nach Deutschland

Bud Butler has accepted an invitation from Dr. Martin Gueldner, to winter in Germany. He will be accompanied on the journey by his friend and associate, Lawrence Warford.

Dr. Gueldner, is known best in the United States for his thrilling five-gaited stallion, Blackie's Rising Star, bred in Germany by Lisa Heres-Rosenberger, and capably trained by Redd

Crabtree. The Gueldner family breed and show American Saddlebred and Icelandic Horses, and are looking to hone their riding skills and knowledge of American training methods at their Guggenberg Stable in Freudenberg, Germany under Bud's tutelage. Additionally, Dr. Gueldner is the President of the American Saddlebred Horse Association of Europe. The members of the ASHA of Europe plan to benefit from the knowledge of the American duo.

Bud Butler has a lifetime of experience in the Saddle-Horse business. Blue Lakes Farm, Reata Horse Farm, Beaverkettle Farm, Beallgrove Farm, Hy-Tyre Farm, Americana Stables and Glenmore Farm, have all benefited from Bud's expertise with Saddlebreds. Like a champion Saddlebred horse, Bud's lineage carries talented horseman, after talented horseman. Bud's tutelage began under his father, Tom Butler, known for horses such as; WGC CH Reata's Virginia Wolfe, WGC CH Glenview's Radiance, Reata's Iron Duke, Lily Vanguard, WC Casindra Beaverkettle and Stonewall Supreme's Rita, to name a few. Bud's uncle, George Brown, was a prominent trainer and influence on Bud's Saddlebred education as well, training the likes of Spring Promise, Tambarina's Jewel, WGC CH Tashi Ling and a host of others. Another uncle, Wm. "Bulgia" Brown, worked for Stoddard Young for years, and there, gaited RWGC Admiration Of The Nation, later shown by Frank Bradshaw.

Of course, Bud has marched to the blue with bloodstock such as; WC Sultan's Great Day, WGC CH Shadow's Creation, RWC Symbol's Wild Honey, WC Shadow's Somethin' Else, WGC Sire Supreme's Shadow, Man Of The Hour, Symbol's Love, WC sire Casindra's Sultan, RWC Sultan's Casindra, WC CH I'm Sultana!, Commander's Lady Love, RWC Anastasia, Forever Elegant, WC CH Uncork The Magic and more.

Larry has been involved in the Saddlebred industry for the vast majority of his life. As a younger man, he worked for Tom and Donna Moore and later at Blue Lakes Farm, with Redd Crabtree, Barney Reardon and Bud Butler. A quarter of a century ago, Larry and his wife, Pam, built and opened their own West Star Stables in Akron, Ohio. Legendary trainer Junior Seay operated from their farm for several seasons. Larry ultimately chose a career in the hospitality industry, but, he and his family continued breeding and showing American Saddlebreds on the Ohio/Pennsylvania circuit.

Both men are featured on the website: [www.blackhorsemen.com](http://www.blackhorsemen.com) and photos and stories documenting their visit to Germany will be available on the site throughout their stay.

The combination of the talents of these two men, and the passion for American Saddlebreds that Dr. Gueldner exhibits, should create a dynamic winter for the Saddlebred horse folks in Germany, and across Europe.