

Horse Judging Seminar

Approximately 200 participants attended the Northeast Texas Educational Horse Judging Seminar & Practice Judging Contest held March 8 at the Texas A&M Commerce campus.

The event covered 7 different classes and 4 divisions. NETHA sponsored the 13 & under division.



NETHA member Jess Lamphere presents a buckle and ribbon.

Competitors came from 26 different counties and 4-H clubs.

Prizes included ribbons, rosettes, buckles and cash prizes for the adults.

Cowboy and author Michael Johnson gave an inspiring presentation to wrap up the event, which will be held again next year.

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NETHA Dates to Remember

*Next NETHA meeting is April 1, 6:30 PM at Ag Worker's Building.

*Texas Heritage Ranch Rodeo, April 2, 7-10 PM at Sulphur Springs Civic Center.

*Red River Riding Club Open Show, April 5 at Sulphur Springs Civic Center, call 903-989-5569

AQHA Show

The AQHA show, which is slated to run for three days — June 13-15 during Sulphur Springs' Dairy Festival — will include everything from cutting to English riding, according to NETHA member Will Woods.



The first day of the AQHA show, Friday, will host competitors in cutting, team penning and sorting, according to Woods.

Saturday and Sunday will include typical show events like halter, pleasure and English events, Woods said. These two days will be "Split-Combined," which means it is a two-day show (half the classes one day, half the next), Woods said. There are two judges both days so competitors get double judged, which translates into double points for qualification to the world show in November.

Judges for the show include Leslie Shaw, Matt Howell and Don Bell. NETHA members will play a supporting role in the AQHA show, which is the first to come to Sulphur Springs in more than 30 years.

Member Spotlight

Want know more about other NETHA members?

Look for our new profile section, coming to the Hoofbeats newsletter in May 2008.

Stallion Auction: Keep bidding

Stallion breedings are still available on the website, www.nethorsemen.com, through June 1, 2008. The cost is 50% of the published fee. To purchase a breeding, contact Kim McCool at 469-667-1030 or email at kim.mccool@texasfirsttending.com

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Got something to put in the
newsletter?

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Horsemen's Association

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Buckles and ribbons from the
March 8 Horse Judging
seminar.

ALL About Bits, Part 2

At our March meeting, Dave Hall ,
trainer and competitor, continued his
program on bits and biting.

This time we were at the Civic Center
Arena where he actually
demonstrated a few of his training
methods.

Dave discussed the action of snaffle
bits as opposed to shank bits (direct
versus leverage.)

He takes his time when bridling and
unbridling, taking care not to bang the
horse's teeth with the bit.

Dave also showed us how he ties a
horse's head around to teach him to
give to the bit, as well as the "trap,"
which teaches vertical flexion.

His training sessions are focused and
relatively short – about 20 minutes, a
horse's attention span.

When questioned about tying a horse
by the reins, Dave explained why he
never does it and how this can result
in not only a trip to the tack shop to
replace the bridle but can also
damage the horse's mouth.

— contributed by Nancy Lamphere

*Dr. J.D. Norris will be the next
presenter — about equine dental care
— at the April 1 NETHA meeting.*