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NWV Chapter Presidents Letter

Hello Everyone.

I hope all of you survived the “interesting weather” that saw out 2008 and are returning to what passes for normal for those with horses in their lives.

I have finally got around to putting up the new calendar. Flipping through the old one I am reminded of the past year, did we really do that much? With that year in the recycling, it is time to look forward to the year ahead and to embrace its possibilities.

Of most pressing concern at the moment is the imminent arrival of opening day for Spring into Dressage entries. At the time of writing we are still without a volunteer co-ordinator. Yikes! I know there must be at least one person out there in our 110 strong membership who has the energy, and time to take on this vital role. Contact myself or Donna if you are interested.

We have added two league shows this year: Summer Daze I & II. They will be held July 11th and 12th at Mount Hood Equestrian Center. Each day will have a special TOC class. On Saturday we will have a Pretty in Pink class to raise money for Breast Cancer Research and on Sunday a Positively Purple class to benefit the Linda Acheson/ODS Education Fund. Start collecting your pink and purple human and equine attire now. Competition will be fierce.

Kathy Darneille is busy organising our Adult Dressage Camp to be held at the end of August. Other activities we have in mind are a chapter camp-out (with horses) and a clipping clinic. Kathy would welcome more ideas.

As you know our Christmas Party was postponed due to some most inclement weather. Marla has graciously agreed to host the postponed party at her house. It will be held on St. David’s Day. For the non-Welsh amongst you that is March 1st. Please bring a potluck dish and your gift for B.E.A.T. We will also look back on our 2008 resolutions and make some belated ones for 2009. Don’t forget to nominate for special awards, these are self nominating and for whatever you feel someone deserves a mention.

Happy trails
Siobhan

NWV Elected Officers:

- **President / Membership:** Siobhan Barker
- **Vice-President/ Activities:** Kathy Darneille
- **Treasurer:** Helen Ferguson
- **Secretary:** Donna Edwards
- **Newsletter/ Webmaster:** Marla Santino
- **Awards:** Nancy Barnes

Hold the Date:

Next Meeting:

February 23 – Last meeting before Spring Into Dressage
Jimmy O's Pizza

March 1 1:00 pm

Christmas Party
(really a **Spring Party**)
Marla Santino's home:
215 N 3rd St Woodburn
RSVP - 503.522.5453

- Pot Luck – Bring a favorite Disk
- Bring a donation for BEAT
- New Year Resolutions

Spring into Dressage

To be held at the DevonWood Equestrian Centre, Sherwood, OR. This show offers Training Level through FEI, Freestyles, IPEC - see also DSHB information regarding Materiale Classes. Official website: <http://ods-nwvchapter.com/>. Contact [Donna Edwards, Manager](#) at 503-349-7576 or [Siobhan Barker, Secretary](#) at 503-324-2907.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED: We do not yet have a volunteer co-coordinator. Please e-mail Siobhan at with if you are able to help or with your INDIVIDUAL availability and preferences. showsec09@haywardfram.com

Clinic Information

Crosby Creek Stables regularly hosts clinic with Bernadine Deirs and Kim Barker. For information on Clinic dates please contact Kathy Darneille at crosbycreek@canby.com or call 503 982-1044.

Chapter Events

Interested in a summer campout and trail ride at Stewart Stubbs State Park – Silver Falls or Timothy Lake? Contact Kathy Darneille at crosbycreek@canby.com - Dates will be selected shortly and be scheduled around shows and the Adult Clinic.

2009 Adult Camp up-date: I am working with Kathryn Daniel of Make Your Mark Stables & Fresh Aire Events in Springfield, OR for the 2009 Adult Camp. This years camp will be open to all adult riders Amateur and Open.

Dates are August 27 - 30. This beautiful facility is just 10 minutes off of I-5 and is nestled along the Mackenzie River. Features are: 80 x 200 Covered Arena, 80 x 135 Outdoor arena, Excellent all weather footing, Permanent Event Stabling, Professional Stadium Jumps, Cross Country Course, Derby Field and Trout Pond.

10 Fun Arena Exercises

If you've fallen into a riding rut, try our 10 basic arena exercises. From the editors of Horse & Rider magazine. These are great exercises that will have you and your horse staying in shape and ready for whatever it is you choose to do when Spring arrives!
equisearch.com/horses_riding_training/training/general/arena_exercises_092508

Keeping Yourself Fit in Winter Weather

BuckskinPaint asks: "So I'm just off of the treadmill and universal out of breath and wondering. What do you do to keep yourself fit for riding when saddle time is limited? I can foresee the treadmill becoming D-U-L-L no matter how many songs I put in my iPod!" [Read More]
forum.equisearch.com/forums/t/43658.aspx

Christmas Party Update – Rescheduled – March 1

Christmas Party was canceled due to the snow ☹ However a few people still braved the weather and arrived and Marla's house with food and donations for BEAT. Thank you to everyone who helped make that day a special one!

Cut out and keep.
HELP! - Those pesky show entry forms.

The show season is almost upon us. The ODS entry forms have changed for 2009. One major change is that you can fill them in online and print it. After much gnashing of teeth Christopher has created forms which should do some of the hard work for you (i.e. the addition!) Following some of the guidelines below may make the secretaries' lives easier when dealing with hundreds of entries. This keeps them happy. Happy show secretaries are a good thing.

1. If you do not have access to the online form and your handwriting looks like a spider entered an inkwell and went for a walk please PRINT . This helps the correct information go to the correct authorities and you may actually receive your confirmation letter rather than it go to someone in Outer Mongolia.

Please use **ink** not pencil, unless of course you don't care what tests you ride. With an eraser to hand a little change here and there would make scheduling so much easier. Just kidding (maybe).

2. The Horse. Name: Every horse must have a name.

- Preferably the name you give the show secretary matches the one you gave USDF and USEF. Likewise its helpful if the name you supplied to USDF matches that you gave to USEF. It causes great confusion for "Noddy" to become "Big Farm's Huge Head" half way through the show (season).

All horses, surprisingly enough, also have a color, a height, a sex and an age.

- Color...I think I have had every color except pink. What color, pray, is B or DB? Be more precise. I'm also a little confused by 'tri' but I'm told this is on account of being foreign and knowing only piebalds and skewbalds not 8 million versions of "paint"...I may have that wrong too.
- Height. This does not need to be precise to the nearest millimeter unless you are competing on a pony in which case get it measured for its pony card. However, all horses are of a height. Thankfully we do not yet have to follow FEI and make them so many cm rather than HH.
- Sex. Memorize this: S for stallion; G for gelding; M for mare. M is not for male, no really. Think about it, what would a gelding be? E for eunuch? A for altered? Perhaps this could be a chapter competition?
- Age. Most of us show secretaries are pretty brainy and can work out that 1999 is the year of birth not age but you never know what may happen in the future given what children (don't) learn in school these days. Best go for age.
- Breed. It's fine if your horse is of unknown parentage, he's probably better for it. However, if you do know the breed could you please spell it correctly..or at least as a breed society agree on its spelling and or abbreviation? Just how many Ns do you want in Hannnovarian, or should that be Hannnervorian? Also, where I come from a Holstein is a breed of cow. By the way Hauptstudbuch is not a name of your horse's ancestor, it translates quite differently. NB. "H" is not a breed so if you put H your horse may just end up at my shows as a Himalayan, very exotic. (I have to confess that I did enter Pony at a league show as a NP, Naughty Pony. Apologies to Gaye.) He has now progressed to EP (Evil Pony)
- While we are on the subject of breed, if you wish your horse's breed registration number to be recorded the secretary needs only the page where important information is located i.e. name and number. She does not need to know its antecedence to the dawn of time nor to file the gazillion pages you have kindly supplied (without anything useful such as copies of USDF/USEF registrations).

3. The Rider. The person who will sit on the horse in the classes entered. The rider has a name and an address. They also have numbers for USDF/USEF shows. Sometimes the names match those numbers...this is great. Sometimes the name is the same with both organizations. Even better. Please decide on a name and stick to it. Computers do not understand that Joe J Soap is the

same as J J Soap, J. John Soap and any other permutation you may come up with. Show secretaries begin to think like computers eventually. Be warned.

- Riders also belong to three groups: Junior/Young; Amateur Adult or Open. If your card does not say Amateur then you are an Open or Junior/Young. The difference is usually obvious no matter how much Botox is involved. Besides, JRs and YRs have to give a DOB. So do not be amazed that you are in an open class if your USEF card doesn't show you as an amateur. There are rules you know. NB. AA designation does not entitle you to membership of the Automobile Association or similarly abbreviated organizations.
- E-mail addresses. Exact please. Not a "I think that's it" or "that's my old one". Many shows now notify via e-mail. Quite a few notifications come back as "undeliverable". Maybe it was your old one?

4. The Owner. The person who is listed as owner with the various organizations. Show secretaries much prefer the owner to be the same (and same name, see above) with all organizations where the horse is registered. FYI how many people do you know named "Same" who also have an address of "Same". No-one? Weird because at least half the horses out there are owned by Same who lives at Same.

While I'm on the subject of Same. If the rider and owner are not the same person then putting *same* for trainer is a little unhelpful.

5. The Trainer. THE PERSON WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HORSE ON THE SHOW GROUNDS. Somebody has to be. Horses are very irresponsible if left to their own devices. It matters not one jot whether or not this person has ever "trained" the horse or rider, indeed they may not know one end of a horse from the other (although this is inadvisable) but should the horse fail the drug test this person will be responsible. Do consult with your instructor before you put their name down as "trainer", more than one has been surprised to learn of their trainer ship on an entry form.

6. Coach. The person who will be instructing you on the show grounds. Not the trainer necessarily. But possibly so.

7. Numbers. These are required. Just because you included copies of your cards (Thank-you) does not exempt you from the tedious task of entering numbers on the entry form. Sorry. Provide as many as you have available.

8. Copies of cards. . .hahahaha. . . Current cards please. Nice to know you were a member three years ago but not really very helpful. Cards pertaining to this particular entry are also appreciated. Again nice to know you own four horses but none of those listed is the one you are entering at this show; unless, of course, there has been a name change (see above).

Or you could go online to the USEF master verification and print that. For the really clever people out there this could just be one page, apart from the three volumes of breed papers. Naturally.

9. Fees. The USEF drug and medication fee is *required* for each horse. Yes really, even if not tested. The ODS awards fee is also per ride not just if you reach the magic 60%. This means both fees are required pre not post competition.

Thank you all so much for the checks you made out to me, I can always do with a little extra cash. Show management will be in touch about their payments due. Check to whom the check should be made out.

10. Stabling. Coupla points. a) Arrival time/departure time. AM/PM will usually suffice. They are important however, I get worried if someone is to show early Saturday morning and by 10 o'clock Friday night has not arrived, I never assume that just because there is no arrival time the

horse won't be here prior to the show. Similarly if you are leaving after the first day let someone know. This avoids calling out the Calvary to search for the lost horse from the empty stall.

b) *Stall with.* Yes, I did have a *stall with shavings* this year. Unfortunately Shavings wasn't coming to the show.

c) Before you make your request to be stabled with someone check they will be attending the show.

11. Emergency contact info. So I'm doing the rounds last thing before turning in and there is a horse in distress. I wish to contact someone but alas and alack there is no 'phone number on the stall. I look on the entry form, call that number but that's the home number in Spokane and naturally no-one is home. Meanwhile said horse is getting worse. You get the picture? If you are staying in a motel give the name at least...like I said I'm quite brainy so I can usually find a number. Likewise if you are in your trailer don't make me knock on every single one, show secretaries can be unpopular enough without waking up half the competitors in the middle of the night.

12. Signatures. I refer you to the dictionary for the word "mandatory" (under M). Those who sign as Rider, Owner, Trainer, should really be the same as the ones listed as such earlier in the entry. Unless a minor. Signatures must also be in ink and not photocopied.

13. Citizenship. How does the show sec know? Quite a few with funny accents are actually US citizens, quite a few not. Besides it's just a little tiny box to fill.

14. Volunteer. Of course all of us are such good eggs we tick all the boxes and are very experienced at everything. Yes?

Have a great show season.
Siobhan.



Photos taken and submitted by Siobhan.

Left: Taken after removing the blanket from Pony and setting this out for a few minutes during that snow storm. It froze pretty immediately. Pony was really toasty under the blanket!

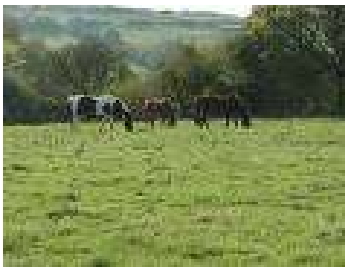
Right: George loves to be outside even when the icicles are forming. Again very warm and happy under the blanket!

Classifieds

84" Weatherbeeta Original blanket, Navy
Medium weight , almost like new
\$40.00
Holly Schlepp 503-692-6166

At Grass (a poem)

The eye can hardly pick them out
From the cold shade they shelter in,
Till wind distresses tail and mane;
Then one crops grass, and moves about
- The other seeming to look on –
And stands anonymous again.



Yet fifteen years ago, perhaps
Two dozen distances sufficed
To fable them: faint afternoons
Of Cups and Handicaps,
Whereby their names were artificed
To inlay faded, classic Junes –

Silks at the start: against the sky
Numbers and parasols: outside,
Squadrons of empty cars, and heat,
And littered grass: then the long cry
Hanging unhushed till it subside
To stop-press columns on the street.

Do memories plague their ears like flies?
They shake their heads. Dusk brims the shadows.
Summer by summer all stole away,
The starting gates, the crowds, the cries –
All but the unmolested meadows.
Almanacked, their names live; they

Have slipped their names, and stand at ease,
Or gallop for what must be joy,
And not a fieldglass sees them home,
Or curious stop-watch prophesies:
Only the groom, and the groom's boy,
With bridles in the evening come.

Philip Larkin

MINUTES: 1/19/09 North Willamette Valley Meeting at Jimmie O's Pizza

The meeting was called to order by President Siobhan Barker at 7:00 PM.

SPRING INTO DRESSAGE UPDATE 3/20, 21, 22/09

We have judges: Melissa Creswick (S) and Anne Appleby (r), TD: Betty Shambrook; Food: Chewy's Kitchen; Vet: Barb Crabbe; Hospitality: Kaye Phaneuf; Program: Sarah Diebert; Motel Accommodations: Best Western in Newberg. Donna looked into EMT and as Devonwood has a preferred vendor situation with AMR, giving a reduced rate of \$23/hr, the chapter agreed to contract with them. Still needed: Farrier on call. Siobhan suggested Phil Smith, Kaye gave us Scott Threlfell's name; volunteer coordinator: Siobhan will contact Shannon Bors and/or Carol Jackson; awards - Donna was given the go-ahead to order the Cobalt Blue Champagne flutes we used last year; and Sponsors/Ads: Siobhan will send at email. *If every member were to sponsor a class the show would pay for itself!*

SUMMER DAZE SHOW – Siobhan introduced Kristine McMahon, who has volunteered to be our show manager for the League Show this summer:

- **Date:** July 10 and 11 (two one-day shows)
- **Venue:** Mt. Hood Equestrian (Boring)
- **Judges:** None selected yet. Discussion centered around finding someone from the L program or a small r judge, preferably someone fairly new. Sally Sovey, Kim Barker, and Francis O'Reilly were mentioned, as was Suzy Ronning. Kristine will look for a judge
- **Levels offered:** Intro through Second Level
- **Special Classes:** **Pink Class (Test of Choice)** a portion of proceeds to go to a breast cancer charity and **Purple Class (also Test of Choice)** – portion of proceeds go to education fund.
- **Dressage Arena:** The Chapter's arena chains, posts and letters are in Kaye's keeping at this time. Kristine will check with the owners at Mt. Hood to make sure that our arena (which uses stakes to hold the chains) is approved for use by them. If not, we will look into renting an arena from another chapter, such as Chehalem Mountain .

ADULT HORSE CAMP – Kathy Darneille reported that she has not had much response to her inquiries at Make Your Mark in Springfield . In addition, she mentions that we need to keep in mind the changes in the economy that might make a difference in people's ability or desire to attend a 3 to 4 day camp. Make Your Mark is a nice facility with some cross country courses and trails but no kitchen or people showers. The cost would be about the same as last year's cost, overall. Kathy is still interested in this being an overnight camping formal with some more stretching and low impact exercises (such as Pilates or Yoga), working with the Training Triangle, cavaletti and poles and possibly even some terrain dressage which would definitely be possible at Make Your Mark. The event is planned for the last weekend in August, which is not the Labor Day weekend this year.

Along with the Adult Horse Camp we discussed a desire to have a Chapter Trail Ride/Camp Out some place like Stubbs Stewart or Nehalem Bay . Kathy will check into this as well.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **MERCHANDISE** – our logo clothing and items need to be inventoried and possibly updated. Siobhan will contact Nancy for a list of what we have and what we can order.
- **ODS AWARDS** -
 - **COST** - Siobhan reports that the program of providing members with the engraved brass plates is no longer paying for itself. Currently, exhibitors pay \$1.00 per ride which is supposed to go for the awards, the engraving on them and the mailing of them to the successful riders. At this point it is costing about \$10.00 for each plate. The Board is wanting members' input. There was a lot of discussion about other ways to fund the program – from raising the fee or having exhibitors keep their test results, send copies in to ODS, along with a fee in order to get their engraved plates to having the NWV chapter subsidizing some, if not all, of the cost for members. Siobhan would like to solicit suggestions from our members to be emailed directly to ODS President, Marsha Williams at Gotothebarn@bendbroadband.com
 - **VOLUNTEER TO ADMINISTER THE AWARD PROGRAM** – John Craven is currently doing this function but is asking for a replacement as he is just no longer to keep up with this in addition to all his other duties. Siobhan is asking if anyone else would be willing to take on the job. It involves the use of Excel, keeping track of the show results (although this can now be done at the end of the year through the USDF website, ordering the plates and engraving, and mailing them out to the recipients.
- **COMPANY MATCHING FOR MEMBER VOLUNTEER HOURS** - Some companies have programs that contribute to non-profit organizations (like ODS Chapters) according to the amount of volunteer time their employees devote to the organization. Many thanks to Helen Ferguson who submitted the appropriate documentation to her employer (PacifiCorp), taking advantage of this program on our behalf.

NEXT MEETING – 2/23/09 (Monday) evening. Time and place to be determined. Purpose: Show Preparation

HOLIDAY PARTY – Marla invited us to her home for our belated holiday party on Sunday March 1, 2009. Details will be in the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - 1/24/09.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Edwards

Rider Profile: Nicole Freeman

Like many horse people, I really can't remember when my love of horses began. It certainly is in my blood. My mom loved horses, but the closest she came to having one was a bridle given to her one Christmas. When she met my dad, Pat D'Auray, he had a crazy Quarter Horse mare named Squirt, and a Shetland pony named Peaches. My grandmother D'Auray allowed both in the kitchen of the house! I guess compared to her eight children, what additional harm could a couple of equines do? Grandpa D'Auray had been a bull rider early in his life, and loved to ride horses (bucking or not). So my horse crazy childhood was probably predestined, but our family lived in the city, so it was rented and borrowed horses for me. I grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado, riding mostly at the Air Force Academy stables and the Garden of the Gods. Western style riding was my only option, but my friends and I tried to teach ourselves how to "post" as we imagined it from books! Basically, we stood up in the stirrups every time we got those rented ponies to trot, which was infrequent and short lived. Probably a good thing.

My first exposure to Dressage was seeing the Lipizzan Stallions perform in 1986. Although I now know they were not the "true" Spanish riding school horses, I loved them. I have never forgotten seeing the rodeo grounds transformed by white stallions. That image of a beautifully muscled horse passaging was buried in the back of my brain for nearly twenty years...

Horses mostly passed out of my life as I finished High School and went on to college and full time work. I rented a horse for an hour every once in a while, usually when I was upset. Nothing comforted me like time on horseback. I decided it was time to live somewhere new in 1993, so I moved to Portland, Oregon. I had an aunt, uncle and cousins here whom I loved to visit, and I wanted to get to know them better. I met the man who would become husband here and we married in 1995. My parents moved to Oregon about 1997. Around this time my mom and I went to see a Monty Roberts demonstration at the Salem Fairgrounds. I had read Monty's book, and he was the first exposure I had to gentle training methods. His demonstrations that weekend benefited a local therapeutic riding institute, and I picked up information about volunteering with them. I had never volunteered with any organization before, and I deliberated a lot before I committed myself. Thank goodness I finally did, because that is how I met Amber Henneck, who is now head trainer at Forward Stride, the largest therapeutic equestrian center in Oregon. I didn't know it then, but Amber loves Dressage!

Through Amber and volunteering, I was able to have horses in my life again, on a whole new level. I learned how to catch a mischievous pony in impossibly deep mud! I groomed and tacked up the horses and ponies, learned to be a side walker and leader in therapy classes, how to handle horses and ponies from the ground in all kinds of situations. When one of the children fell off during a class, I watched Amber comfort the child. To my surprise, she didn't tell the child to "get back on!" She was so gentle and patient, at that moment I decided I wanted to take riding lessons from her. I had been hesitant as my previous riding lessons had been decidedly unpleasant, lots of "kick him harder", "show him who is boss" and yelling at students and horses. I knew I could trust Amber; she was kind with both horses and people.



My birthday present to myself when I turned 30 was my first English equitation lesson with Amber. One of my best birthdays, ever!

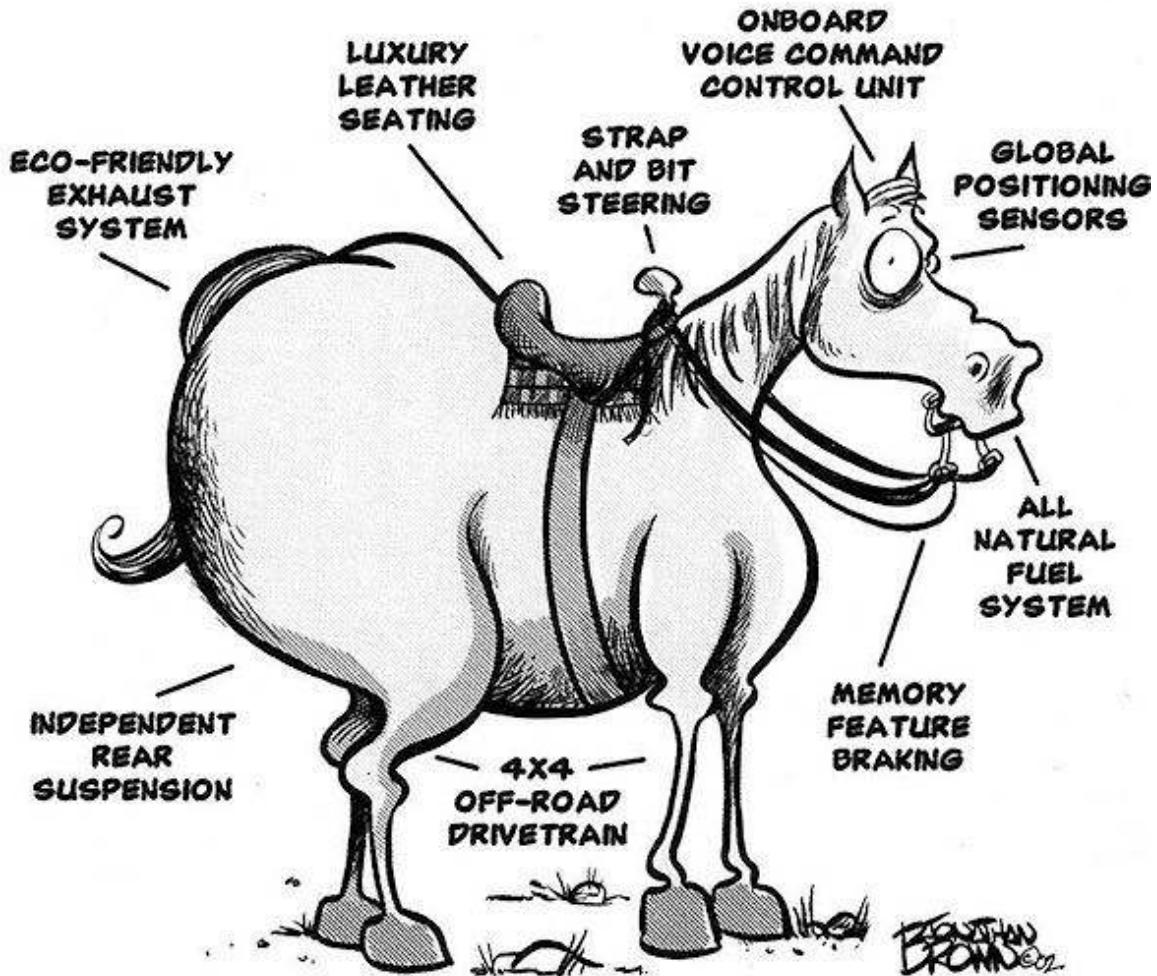
My lessons were not a part of the therapeutic riding program at that time. Amber was both a therapy instructor and an equitation instructor. As her equitation adult clientele increased, it became obvious that she needed another lesson horse for adults. By that time I had been taking lessons from Amber for three years, and I had horse fever really bad! We decided to look for my first horse, which I would half lease to her for lessons. We looked for a “jack of all trades” horse: mentally calm, physically sound and able to do some jumping (I was interested in jumping at the time). We found my horse Tucker (TF Sockett’s Image), a six year old chestnut and white pinto who fit the bill. He is 15.3 hands, mostly Paint/Quarter Horse, with Standardbred mixed in to make things interesting. His Quarter Horse lines are mainly from racing, so he is not built downhill or “bull doggy”. He has good solid bone and is slightly stocky, so he is quite able to balance out my large 5’8” frame.

When I found out that Amber was riding in a horse show, I wanted to support her. I went to watch her ride her dressage tests at DevonWood (I think she was showing First level). There she was, in this beautiful place, doing lateral movements on a white horse! Memories of Lipizzans stirred in the back of my brain – this is what I wanted to do! I loved how her horse’s musculature changed as his training progressed, and this is the thing that I really love about good Dressage. As Tucker and I have continued to train, his body has changed. He is stronger, fitter. He is better able to do all of his jobs – from carrying a 4H teenager over jumps at the fairgrounds, to trail rides at Stub Stewart, to western lessons for adults just getting back into riding horses again. When Amber’s training and lesson business was absorbed by Forward Stride a few years ago, Tucker’s lease arrangement was absorbed too, and he became a part time therapy horse for Forward Stride. They have used him for vaulting and hippo-therapy, in addition to his previous duties. I continue to be a dedicated volunteer and take classes through Forward Stride, as their mission is to help people heal AND grow.

Tucker and I have been showing at Training level for a few years. When our leg yields are better, and I can sit his working trot, we hope to show at First level. He is good at shoulder in, and seems to like the beginning of collected work. My dream is that we can someday piaffe and passage! To me, that would be the ultimate! However, having a horse of my own, being at the barn nearly every day and surrounded by horses is my dreams coming true. Everything else is just icing on the cake!

Original SUV

As our nation's "Big 3" auto manufacturers face bankruptcy, we must go back to the old time basics. Americans will soon need to once again embrace the original Sports Utility Vehicle!



ORIGINAL S.U.V.