

The Power Glide Mason Dixon FIRA

Show Year 2012 3rd Edition

February 15, 2012

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Our Website: http://www.masondixonptha.org/

| Mason Dixon & Regional PFHA Events of Interest | |
|---|----------------|
| Pennsylvania Horse World Exposition | February 23-26 |
| Clinic with Jim Laird—Telford, PA | March 3 |
| Clinic with Rick Shaffer—Taneytown, MD | March 3 |
| Gaited Horse Clinic with Nola Haupert-Keill—Waymart, PA | March 24 |
| "Horsemanship for Amateurs" and the "Trainer's Challenge" | March 24-25 |
| Clinic with Jim Laird—Telford, PA | April 7 |
| Virginia Presidential Cup Show | April 20-22 |
| Gaited Horse Clinic with Nola Haupert-Keill—Waymart, PA | April 28 |
| Piedmont Spring Classic (a.k.a The Carolina Classic) | April 28-29 |
| Mason Dixon May Day Show | May 5—6 |
| Mason Dixon Spectacular Horse Show | June 8—10 |
| PFHA Youth Leadership Camp | June 12-15 |
| Great Lakes Medallion Show | June 15-17 |
| Piedmont Classic—Ashville, NC | June 21-24 |
| Northeast Schoharie Paso Serenade | July 14-15 |
| Great Lakes Swatrz Creek Show | July 27-28 |
| Great Lakes Heritage Show | August 3-4 |
| Piedmont NC State Fair Show | October |
| PFHA Grand National Horse Show—Lexington, KY | October 7-13 |
| Mason Dixon Annual Membership Banquet, Meeting and Election | Nov. 3 |

President's Message

Greetings all! I hope everyone has had the opportunity to go out and enjoy the mild winter we've had so far. I'd like to thank our members who helped support our efforts to spread the word about the Paso Fino at the PA Farm Show, Maryland Horse World Exposition, and the Rutgers Seminar Series. Thanks to events like these, as well as participation in parades, more people appear to be aware or knowledgeable of the Paso Fino. Coming up the end of February is the PA Horse World Exposition. If you've not had the opportunity to come to one of these events, I encourage you to stop by our booth for a chat. Better yet, come spend an hour or so at the booth and help share information and your personal experiences regarding the Paso Fino. It is very interesting talking with people who share the same love and passion for horses at these expositions. Even if they don't own Pasos. I have to admit, I am looking forward to some even warmer weather and time to go enjoy some trail riding. And before you know it, our first show of the year, the first weekend of May, will be upon us. Hopefully you are enjoying the information and stories included in our newsletter. If you have a story you'd like to tell or know of an activity coming up that Our members may enjoy please don't hesitate to share it we us.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER:

Here's a novel concept: reward readers of the PowerGlide for their interest!

Beginning with this issue and continuing through the October Issue, there will be an icon () of this size hidden somewhere after the 3rd page. Be one of the 1st 10 people to email or call me (267-446-6862 / mdpasofino@zoominternet.net) within 10 days following publication of the PG and describe where you found the icon. In return, you will be entered into a drawing for a gift basket valued at greater or equal to \$50. The drawing will be held during the Annual Banquet. You must be present to win. Limit: 1 entry per family per issue.—Diane

Pennsylvania Horse World Expo 2012 February 23-26, 2012

Contact: Lori Wieszkowiak Phone : 570-286-2449

Cell: 570-898-1226

Email kazisimage@aol.com

Hi All,

It's time again to start thinking about next years activities. I would like to invite all of you to get involved with the horse expo's that the Mason Dixon PFHA is participating in.

Last year was my first year to head up the Pennsylvania expo and I think things went pretty well. We had a few bumps in the road but things smoothed out and we had a great time. We had a wonderful representation of all the styles of the Paso Fino breed and would like to encourage anyone who can dedicate the time to consider participating.

Please consider helping staff the MDPFHA booth during the expo. You meet a lot of wonderful, interesting people and get to talk about one of our favorite things, the Paso Fino Horse. Any amount of time is appreciated whether it is an hour one day or a few hours through out the expo.

Please take this as your personal invitation to join the fun! Please contact me if you'd like to volunteer some time to staff the booth. I will take volunteers up till the last minute. Also on the note of people helping, we are only allowed a certain number of floor passes, they will be issued to the people who are able to put in the most time. It is possible that you will have to pay to get into the expo hall even though you are putting time in at the booth. There is nothing we can do to change this situation, so please understand.

Thanks for your time. I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Lori Wieszkowiak

| Stallio | n Demos (3 min.) | Breed Demos (10 min) | Gaited Clinicians: |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 23 Feb 2012 | 4:00 | 12:30 | Jeannie MacGuire |
| 24 Feb 2012 | 12:00 | 6:00 | Anita Howe |
| 25 Feb 2012 | 1:00 | 9:30 | |
| 26 Feb 2012 | 11:00 | 3:15 | |
| I | | | |

Regional News

Northeast DFHA

- Paso Fino's were a big hit at the Skaneateles Music Festival Christmas Party! The event was at
 the farm and over 300 people attended. All of the Christmas trees were beautiful fully lit and
 placed throughout the barn. The guests were ushered through the front entrance of the barn,
 down a red carpet that ran down the aisle way, past the fully decorated stalls, to the arena with
 Dave VanOstrand riding in full tuxedo, up to the second level of the barn to the banquet hall.
- This warm weather in Massachusetts has allowed many of us to get out there and ride, something that most of us (those of us who don't have indoor arenas) don't get to do much in the winter. We have been out riding on a fantastic beach 15 minutes away called Crane's beach in Ipswich. I (Debbie Ramsey) had only be riding on this beach once 15 years ago. With the warm weather we have had we decided to buy a trailer pass for the off season and explore this beautiful natural paradise with rare birds and Snowy Owls!!

Piedmont PFHA

At Asheville ALIVE 2011 – Wayne Williams of "Speaking of Horses" attended and filmed for TV
Production to promote the Paso Fino Horses, Piedmont PFHA and Asheville ALIVE. The air date
is February 8th and runs 5 times for two weeks after that ...on Pegasus Horse TV Network. Best
way to see it is on their streaming Internet service or it will be "On Demand" at
www.speakingofhorses.com starting then as well ... no matter what cable outlet people have, the
show is available online.

Piedmont PFHA is now on Facebook

You will need to be a Facebook member to post and comment. **45** people have "liked" Piedmont's page as of November, many are past members, from other regions, are exhibitors from other areas; it is a good social media to reach out to all Paso Fino friends who have a similar interest – the Paso Fino horse. Admin's at this time are Lynn Gallup, Paulette De-Nault Bryce and Lori West. You do no not need to be a paid Piedmont member to see the page. It should bring more awareness to Piedmont's activities and membership opportunities.

Great Lakes PFHA

• No information available at the time of publication. Please click HERE to get the latest!

Virginia Presidential PFHA

No information available at the time of publication. Please click HERE to get the latest!

"Horsemanship for Amateurs" Clinic and Training Challenge

March 24-25, 2012 Lone Hickory Arena, Yadkinville, NC (just west of Winston-Salem)

This event is an all-breed weekend celebrating the art of horsemanship and knowledge, which makes us all better riders regardless of discipline or breed affiliation.

Come for the competition!!

Watch 3 professional trainers as they work untrained geldings using round pen techniques, with a finale including an obstacle challenge on Sunday afternoon. The champion wins a trophy saddle and other prizes.

Come for the knowledge!!

Learn from some of the best trainers and coaches in the Paso Fino breed, including Helen Frost, Rick Shaffer, Clay Cox in the training challenge, plus Cary Hardiman, Javier Suarez, and many more!! Sessions will be held on problem solving, training for trails, safety in riding, proper equitation, ground work, and many more, all with an emphasis on proper horsemanship principles. Learn what it takes to get a horse properly trained and how to keep it that way!

Come for the practice!!

Bring your own horse for even more detailed one-on-one instruction.

Come for the comraderie!!

Visit with old friends and new friends and have a great time enjoying our wonderful horses. Cheer for your favorite trainer in the training challenge.

Come to support the breed!!

The event can help market our breed to the public as this is an all-breed event. What a great opportunity to share our beloved horses with others.

Cost: \$50 per person and \$75 per horse (includes stall and bedding). Sponsor packages available. Event program ads available.

For more information, visit our facebook page: "Horsemanship for Amateurs" Event managers: Charlie and Milda Minter, mpminter60@aol.com, 336-764-4785.

This event will benefit the Greater Things Outreach Center in Welcome, NC, a food bank serving the local community. We'll have a food drive (all donors of 5 or more items have a chance to win an Amish made leather bridle donated by Rick Shaffer), a silent auction (100% of proceeds to food bank), and spirit button sales to support your favorite trainer (all proceeds to food bank).

Mason Dixon PFHA is NOW Accepting Contributions for the MD Spectacular Auction Table!!!!

If you have an item or two that you'd like to donate, contact Ann Bastian by email or call 484-248-6103.

Trail Riding Parks and Areas We Love

Little did my husband, Ronnie, and I know when we bought our house in Carroll County, MD just over 17 years ago that we were in "Trail riding Heaven". We can put the horses in the trailer and be at one of a dozen places to ride in less than an hour. (Union Mills, Gettysburg, Liberty Watershed, Codorus, Patapsco State Park, Piney Run, Catoctin Mountain, Gunpowder- Bunker Hill area, Sugar Loaf Mountain, Rails to trails, Pretty Boy Reservoir, Micheaux State park).

The closest to us is Union Mills which is less than 15 minutes down the road from us and where we probably go the most often. Union Mills has about everything there is to offer in trail riding. There are 8 miles of bridle trails there with Lots of stream crossings, some wide double track trails and pretty woodsy narrow trails. You can also do some open field riding if that is what you like. There are plenty of nice open trails to do some gaiting. There is just about everything to offer there that you want to do. There are some rocky areas but for the most part you can take your barefoot horse and do just fine.



There are 2 main trailer parking lots, one of which is a nice big parking lot for bigger rigs and plenty of room to turn around....the larger one being Kowomu trail Parking area. There is even a picnic table for a lunch break when you get back. The trails are closed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from Sept 1st till February the 15th for hunting. They are open Tuesday, Thursday and weekends with the exception of being totally closed the 2 weeks after Thanksgiving for firearms season.

Directions to Union Mills north of Westminster, MD.

Union Mills Area Trails – North of Westminster Kowomu Trail Parking Area

- Travel Route 140 West to Route 97 North
- Travel North on Route 97 for 2.5 miles Turn right on Route 496 (Bachmans Valley Road) Travel 2.5 miles Turn left onto Sawmill Road, which turns into Rinehart Rd.• Travel 2 miles Turn left onto Kowomu Trail Travel .1 Mile to Kowomu Trail Parking Area on left

John Owings Road Parking Area

- Travel Route 140 West to Route 97 North Travel North on Route 97 for 3.2 miles
- Turn Right onto John Owings Road Travel .8 Mile to John Owings Road Parking Area

Diablo, Sundance and I would be more than happy to show you the trails anytime you would like to visit Union Mills Just give us a call !! We LOVE to trail ride!!

Terri Moebuis

The Continuing Adventures of Diane & Enrique!

On Christmas Day, the Giddy Up girls got everyone involved and we rode to find the Giant Saguaro's north of New River, Arizona. The fabulous and possibly 300+ year old cactus in a very secluded canyon with springs are over 45 feet tall. Enrique is always ready for a new adventure and the following photos show not only the views, but the great old Saquaro's themselves. It took roughly 2.5 hours to get to the spring area. It is a natural artesian spring and a group of conser-

vationists made troughs to catch the water. The Deer, Elk and Horses (along with the enthusiastic

dog or two) find the break refreshing. There are even Aspen trees there .

Some of the trails along the tight canyons were very narrow and had sheer drop offs. Enrique was all confidence and handled this difficulty with ease. What a wonderful way to spend the Christmas Holiday!

Stay tuned for our farther adventures! We have to make it to the Aqua Fria river and the Superstition

Mountains are also in our plans for January!

Best Wishes from the Desirable Desert Hills Horse Community near Cave Creek, Arizona! Diane & Enrique





Notices

PFHA's First Inaugural Youth Leadership Camp: June 12th - 15th

The PFHA's first inaugural Youth Leadership Camp that will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park. Some of the events we have planned are:

team building exercises leadership seminar

a tour of the Horse Park a tour of Hagyard Veterinarian Hospital

a class on horsemanship pizza party

classes on judging

There will be a small fee of \$75.00 per student. It will also be the responsibility of the students to pay their own way to and from the camp. We will also be looking for several chaperones to help with the camp; their expenses will be paid. Catherine King our Editor will be the staff coordinator for this project. Her email is cking@pfha.org. Please let Don Vizi know if you are interested in helping with the camp and also when schools in your area are out of school for the summer.

Meet Our Members:

Meet... Hacienda Radiante!





A spectacular sunrise over the broodmare pasture at Hacienda Radiante

Hacienda Radiante, which means 'Radiant House' or 'House of Brightness' is a family affair powered by two people – Angel Flores, who provides the expert Paso Fino training, and Karen Spiegelthal who is the book-keeper, horse-spoiler and denmother for all the various types of 2- and 4-legged clientele.

With over 20 years of experience in Paso Finos, and a

lifetime around horses,
Angel has seen virtually
every type of issue a
horse can have and has
a deep understanding of
how to create a mentally
-sound, usable horse
that regular people can
ride. As a young child,



Angel Flores is the trainer for Hacienda Radiante

Angel used to ride out into the foothills of his native Mexico with his father to move cattle to and from pasture. His first training engagement came at age 9, when one of his father's friends bet him that he couldn't start a particularly wild mule. Not only did he start the mule, the friend was so impressed with the work he did that he sent Angel more to start. In his teens, he rode his father's horses in the local flat races, and eventually graduated to racing and training Thoroughbreds. One night after work Angel met a man who told him about the small, finely-bred horses from Colombia and invited him to come and ride one. The first time he got on he was hooked. Angel joined the man's farm to apprentice as a Paso Fino trainer and learn more about working with this fascinating breed.



Karen divides her time between shows and trail-riding Photo Credit: Sheri Becker

Karen came to Paso Finos as a trail-rider. After a thoroughly disappointing experience with a dull Quarter Horse cross, she started looking at gaited horses – Icelandics, Tennessee Walkers, RMHs. Months went by and none of the horses she tried out seemed quite right. Something was always missing from each horse. Then her neighbor showed up with something she'd never seen before – a Paso Fino. The petite mare with the kind and intelligent eyes, willing attitude and smooth gait completely enchanted her and she turned a family vacation in Florida into an expedition to find her perfect Paso Fino. Within a year, she was a convert and several years later she launched her breeding program by crossing this mare with BJ Schuler's stallion, Total Eclipse Centellas to produce her first home-bred foal.

Now Hacienda Radiante is home to upwards of thirty Paso Finos at any given time. There are two breeding stallions on the property; a Nevado son, Juan Miguel del Prado, acquired from Fieldstone Meadows several years ago and Laberinto de la Luisa (aka "Mouse"), a Patrimonio son. The broodmare band includes bloodlines ranging from Castellano and Jibarito to El Chino and Majestuoso, and the mares must prove themselves in the ring before being bred. "We're not looking to produce a huge number of horses, "Karen says. "But we want the ones we produce to be very correct in conformation and gait and sound of



Hacienda Radiante's fino stallion, Laberinto de la Luisa, enjoys some liberty time

mind. We imprint all our babies and handle them regularly so they have good manners. Horses are a luxury and we strive to create horses that people want to be around."

Hacienda Radiante's training facilities include an outdoor arena, covered and open roundpens and 16 stalls, some with private paddocks. An indoor arena is planned. Clients range from trail-riders who are bringing their buddies in for a spring tune-up to Amateur Owners who want to compete at both the regional and national level. The farm specializes in Youth and Amateur riders and boasts

several National champions in the Pleasure Division, but never forgets its trail-riding roots, and in the offseason will frequently shanghai willing victims for trail-rides and breed demos. Nearly every weekend you will



Hacienda Radiante's senior stallion, Juan Miguel del Prado (standing, right) has a semi-retirement job keeping the colts in line in the 'Frat House' paddock



find kids and adults tooling around the property and

through the obstacle course created to challenge riders

Hacienda Radiante and friends on the trail at Lake Anna (VA) in October



...and at the Mason-Dixon show in June where Valerie and Margaux presented "Beech Tree Poeta" in Bella Forma Geldings

As Karen says, "We knew that we'd have some explaining to do when we decided to open our Paso Fino training and breeding facility in the heart of hunter-

jumper-foxchasing-dressage territory but it has been a blast educating people about our very special breed and meeting lots of Pasos along the way."

Hacienda Radiante is a full-service training and breeding facility focused exclusively on Paso Finos. They are located in Warrenton, Virginia, 1.5 hours north of the Lexington Horse Center or 45 miles west of Washington DC. You can learn more about them online at www.pasos4people.com or by calling 703-835-5036.

Simpatico de Ca'Grande is a PFHA Top 10 Gelding for 2011!



When I turned 40 my husband, Jeff, told me to follow my passion and buy a horse. All though he's made my dream come true, I think sometimes he regrets those words since we now have purchased 5 Paso Finos from his relatives, Tony and Devoe Casagrande. They bred many National Champions over the years; Simpatico de Ca'Grande being their final offspring (Caballero Dominante x Alvira de Ca'Grande). Tony, my mentor, sadly passed away 2 years ago of a sudden stroke. Since then I've been blessed with friends and trainers such as B.J. Schuler, Rick Shaffer, Jim Laird, Nick Burgos, and all the Mason Dixon regional members who have helped me achieve winning at a Grand National show.

We purchased Sim when he was 6 months old. We've often said he's more like a pet; loves to be loved and will follow you anywhere. He's fun and full of silly antics such as leading the other horses by their halters. A very spoiled passive Paso!

Simpatico, 4 years old, has surpassed our expectations winning Highpoint, Title of Proficiency, Reserve Amateur Owner 4 year old Pleasure Geldings, 3rd in 4 year old Pleasure Geldings and 4th in Geldings for Gold at the 2011 Nationals. Now to win this prestigious award, Top Ten Gelding, who could ask for more!!

God willing, we'll have a healthy, safe and successful 2012.—Melanie (Mel) Petri

Semper Fidelis

We received an odd email: "Do you have a horse to be in the funeral procession for an 80 year old Marine?" I offered John and Zorro. The Family requested Zorro wear a Western Saddle with boots turned backwards- the sign of a fallen warrior. Zorro was perfectly behaved for the procession from funeral home to the church, then later to the cemetery. Since part of the Marine Cere-



mony includes Bagpipes and a Gun Salute, Zorro's parade and train robbery experience allowed home to keep his composure, as befitting a funeral. The Family has made a donation of \$250 to our local Horse Rescue, Helping Hands Equine Rescue, to thank Zorro for his service. - Susan Data-Samtak

Hey! What Kind of Horse



is THAT?

Yep, MDPFHA members get asked that a lot when they're in the Spotlight

Reading, PA Thanksgiving Day Parade

Participants in the parade included: Nick Burgos, Gail Peluso, Raymond Williams and Darnell Williams.

Red Hill, PA Holiday Animal Parade

Participants in the parade included: Nick Burgos, Gail Peluso, Darnell and Raymond Williams, BJ Schuler, Melanie Petri, Karen Basehore and Diane Dutt.











Pennsylvania Farm Show

Participants in the Farm Show included: BJ Schuler, Melanie Petri, Karen Basehore, Raymond Williams, Darnell Williams, Gale Peluso, Diane Dutt and Lori Wieszkowiak. Photos courtesy of Sheri Becker.











Maryland Horse World Exposition

Participants in the Expo included: Booth Babes: Dick & Lynn Shaffer, Lisa & Keith Gorsuch, Kathy Dell, Dale Williams, Maureen Boskin, Nancy Thomas, Diane Dutt, and Karen Basehore. Riders: Kathy Dell, Lisa Gorsuch, Diane Dutt.

Rutgers University Seminar Series

Susan Data-Samtak provided breed and organizational information during the Horse Management Seminar presented on the 4th of February at the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, NJ. The topic of the seminar was "Responsible Horse Ownership in a Tough Economic Climate." Click HERE for more info.

"Like" us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/masondixonpfha

Mason Dixon Events (shows, clinics, demos, trail rides) as-well-as Photo Albums can be found on our Facebook Page. Visit us TODAY!

Members Current for the 2012 Show Year (Oct 1, 2011-Sept. 30, 2012)

Barbara Adrian Amanda Hamilton **Dorothy Snedden** Rosanne Ashley Ann Howell Maranell and Toby Sonn Karen Basehore Nola Haupert-Keill and Robbie Keill Michaele Srock Ann Bastian Mary Ellen Jepson Ann Stever Maureen Boskin James and Patricia Laird **Nancy Thomas** Nicholas Burgos and Darnell Williams Maribelle MacAlpin, Jessica and Alli-Charles and Margaret Thorne son Brosko Rosemary D'Agostino and Raymond Noelle Vandusen Susan Marshall Williams Randy and Janet Weese **Denise Corcoran** Carolyn Marinko Ron and Joy Weyer Susan Crawford-Charters Gale Peluso Don and Mary Wright Susan Data-Samtak and John Samtak Melanie Petri Tom and Paul Radulewicz Kathy Dell Diane Dutt Toni Roland* Virginia Foster Maryan and George Schlesman Angel Flores, Karen, Laurel, Margaux B.J. and Gary Schuler and Valerie Spiegelthal Tiffany Senseman Raymond Gallagher Dick and Lynn Shaffer * denotes New Member! Diane Gates Beth & Bob Sheldon Keith and Lisa Gorsuch

Membership Classification

Individual membership: one (1) adult (at least eighteen (18) years of age.) Individual memberships are entitled to one (1) vote.

Family Membership: up to two (2) designated adults and any children under the age of eighteen (18) living in the same household. Family memberships are entitled to one (1) vote for each designated adult.

Youth Membership: one youth under eighteen (18) years of age. Youth memberships are ineligible to vote.

Annual Dues: Payable on or before the first day of October each year. Membership year is consistent with PFHA and goes from 1 Oct to 30 Sept.

Adult Membership \$20 Family Membership \$25 Youth Membership \$10

Note: if you renew your membership at either the May Day (Dillsburg) or MD Spectacular (Lexington) show, PLEASE provide Kathy Dell with a copy of your renewal form.

If your name is not on this list, please take a moment to renew your membership. The renewal form is located on page 19. If you feel that your membership status is not represented correctly in the list above, please contact Kathy Dell at <u>Dell@tessco.com</u> or 410-229-1232.



The Reading, <u>PA Pet Expo</u> March 16-18 Greater Reading Expo. Center

TNT Paso Fino Presents:

TNT Paso Fino will present the Paso Fino Stallion, Intocable de Victoria (barn name Paco), at the Pet Expo. Paco is a two time National Champion and a 6 time National Conformation Champion. In the Mason Dixon region of the Paso Fino Horse Association he also holds a Futurity Championship and numerous Pleasure and Performance Championships. Paco has produced a three time National Conformation Champion, which also holds a 3rd National Champion pleasure horse title.

Gaited Horse Clinic with Nola Haupert-Keill

Dates: 18 February 2012 9:00—12:00

24 March 2012 9:00—12:00

28 April 2012 9:00—12:00

Gaited Horse Trainer Nola Haupert-Keill will work one-on-one with horse/rider teams on a variety of topics/issues. Group work at the end of the day. Please RSVP (rono@socantel.net) to reserve your spot. More info to follow. Please contact us if you have any questions. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Bring a packed lunch and a chair. \$50 for horse/handler team, \$20 for auditors.

Subject: SSgt. Reckless---War horse story

Reckless - a Marine Hero!!

This is a very heart warming horse story that should be told.

Reckless was a pack horse during the Korean war, and she carried recoilless rifles, ammunition and supplies to Marines. Nothing too unusual about that, lots of animals got pressed into doing pack chores in many wars.

But this horse did something more....during the battle for a location called Outpost Vegas, this mare made 50 trips up and down the hill, on the way up she carried ammunition, and on the way down she carried wounded soldiers...

What was so amazing? Well she made every one of those trips through enemy fire and without anyone leading her.

Here's her story and photos to prove where she was and what she did.... HERE and HERE



Trainer's Tips



By: Jim Laird

Greetings, MDPFHA Members:

In yet another attempt to deliver high value content to the Mason Dixon PFHA membership, I have asked our member Trainers to submit articles to the Power Glide for our edification. The subject of the article is at the Trainer's discretion as is the frequency of submissions. We hope you and your horses find that these articles improve your equine experience and performance, whether in the ring or on the trail.—*Diane*

Helping Our Paso Fino with Gait

The Perfect Gait—defined quite simply—evenly spaced, 4-beat foot fall that provides a smooth ride.

I feel that the cadence of foot fall should be: Right Rear, then Right Front, then Left Rear and then Left Front. The cadence should be continuous in this sequence at the walk, at the corto and at the largo. If you feel that gait starts with the Left Rear then Left Front and so forth, that is also correct, as long as the movement begins in the rear and moves forward. Let's face it, horses have their engine in the rear. (Who would have thought it! Maybe the Corvair and VW Beetle had the right idea?)

OK, let's get back to gait, but WAIT! What's happening when we feel: Soft Right rear beat—soft right front beat—soft left rear beat—soft left front beat and I feel a little bumpy in the saddle; sometime good when going straight but off-beat in the corners. What is happening to my 4 beat smooth-riding horse? Well, quite simply, your horse is out of balance; out of balance side-to-side. How does this happen? Your horse has gaited since the day he/she was born, even when shown in Bella Forma, and 4-beated up and down the board. How can he/she be out of balance?

Well, the day we start them under saddle; with a saddle on their back, a bridle on their head and later, a bit in their mouth and a person on their back, we begin the process of either helping or hurting their natural balance. Let's add to the formula that most riders are right handed and most horses are left handed. Alas! From the beginning of schooling, we start the games of "tug-o-war" and "pulling". Stop! Let's not take this road. From Day I we should introduce the horse to "right leg" and then "right leg to turn right" as-well-as "left leg" and "left leg to turn left". Whoa! What's wrong with this statement? How many times have you heard that you can't use leg on your Paso; that he's just too sensitive? Well, if your horse wouldn't learn to accept your leg on him to bend around or wouldn't allow you to use your leg to push his shoulder left or right, you have absolutely no way to control your horses shoulders, rear or to ask for a balanced turn. Without the ability to use your legs, you're back to the games of "tug-o-war" and "pulling". This is NOT a place we want to be.

Let's back up. Yes, a lot of our horses are sensitive, alert, brilliant, with lots of Brio (remember, Brio is defined as "controlled fire"). You may think that sensitivity, brio and the rest are what Paso Finos were bred for. Certainly, brilliance and electricity are rewarded in



Trainer's Tips



Continued

in the show ring. It's behavior we need to live and deal with. Sensitive just means we must be gentle and understand how to use basic leg, seat and hand aids, before we learn how to deal with those very young and very sensitive horses.

Having said all of this, the uneven beat I spoke of earlier and the hard beating on the fore can usually be helped, in time, by pushing the shoulder left with your body and right leg, then asking for the head to be just off-center with the right rein. If the uneven beat worsens, reverse your aids and push right, asking for the head to move a little off-center to the left.

I guess I've rambled on long enough for this lesson. Until next time, I hope you can take something good from these words, as I feel with all my heart that they are true.

Your friend,

Jim Laird

Upcoming Clinics with Jim Laird

3 March 10:00—4:00

7 April 10:00—4:00

Where: Hillside Farms, Telford DA

Cost: Horse & Rider: \$75

Audit: \$40

Lunch is included. Contact <u>BJ Schuler</u> for more information and directions.



Looking for inexpensive clothes suitable for the show ring? Several members have shared their sources.

Uniformalwarehouse—tuxedos, shirts, vests, cummerbunds, neckwear, hat bands

Schneiders Tack, Burlington Coat Factory, Salvation Army, Good Will stores and your local tuxedo shop are other great sources.



Are You a Trailblazer?

Members, have you ever wondered about the Mason Dixon and PFHA Recreational Rider Programs? I did. I turned to Susan Data Samtak, our Recreational Rider Coordinator, for answers to some of my questions.

Diane: I confess, I show my horse....... But he's not just a "1 trick pony". We also trail ride, parade and demonstrate the versatile Paso Fino. Our show points contribute to High Point Show Awards, but what about the other hours I spend in the saddle? *Can I earn rewards for my time and effort outside of the show ring?*

Susan: Any time you ride your horse NOT in the show ring, is time allowable toward the next Hours Level. I do not ride in a ring, but any time you are riding, even practicing for competitions, is OK. The entire concept of the program is to get people to ride their horses. It does not have to be in a public place. Parades, trail rides (alone or with a group), time spent working cows, riding in charity rides, practice for trail competitions, just plain riding for enjoyment, all this time is eligible. All the hours spent in the saddle working on "Parelli type" Natural Horsemanship skills, clinic time, all these hours are also eligible. They need to be logged in with the name of the rider, horse, place and time recorded to 1/4 hour.

For example: January 20, 2012 Torbellino Susan Data-Samtak Cow Clinic Saddle Time 1.5 hours

Diane: What if I ride several horses? **Do the hours count for time with each horse or do they accumulate for all of the horses I ride?** For example: I rode my 2 mares 5 hrs. each this week. Did I accumulate 5 hours for each horse and need to ride each mare an additional 45 hrs. to achieve a 50 hr. ribbon or did I accumulate 10 hrs. overall and need to ride 1 or both of the mares a total of 40 hrs for the same reward?

Susan: The hours accumulate on the RIDER for the Trailblazer Program, so you have 10 hours toward the first Achievement Level of 50 hours.

Diane: *Does point accumulation end at the end of the membership year*, causing me to start over every year or does the accumulation continue to infinity and beyond?

Susan: The hours accumulate under the rider's name year after year, as long as you maintain membership in MDPFHA. So, keep riding and recording those hours!

Diane: What is the difference between MD Trailblazers and the PFHA Pasos for Pleasure (PFP) and Ticket to Ride Programs? Can I submit my time in the saddle toward multiple programs?

Susan: MDTB is as described. PFP has some other rules set by the PFHA. See the PFHA website (www.pfha.org) for these differences. Ticket to Ride Program is also defined by PFHA and those details are also on the PFHA website. As an overall statement, usually, the time spent riding is eligible for all programs but has to be recorded and submitted differently.

MD Trailblazer Hourly Awards: Start your collection TODAY!

Note that some awards can be exchanged for alternate awards of equivalent value.













50 hrs 100 hrs

175 hrs

300 hrs

400 hrs

500 hrs

Recreational Rider Programs, continued The two Programs exclusive to Mason Dixon are:

1. TrailBlazers (part of the Recreational Rider Program)

Trail Blazers is very similar to the PFHA's Pasos For Pleasure Program of logging in your hours in the saddle. There is a one time fee of \$10. to join TrailBlazers and your Program membership is valid for as long as you are a member of MDPFHA. Any lapse in membership will cause you to reapply to the Program and begin your point accumulation anew. Click <u>HERE</u> for the TrailBlazer Forms. What hours are eligible? Any time you ride a Paso Fino- trail rides, parades, trail competitions, practice. Show Ring hours are NOT eligible. You must be a member of MDPFHA and a member of TrailBlazers. You do not need to be the owner of the Paso Fino. **The points will be accumulated for the rider.**

ALL AWARD WINNERS WILL RECEIVE THEIR AWARD SOON AFTER REACHING A MILESTONE. AND, THERE'S MORE: WINNERS WILL BASK IN THE APPLAUSE OF THEIR PEERS DURING THE MASON DIXON ANNUAL BANQUET AND GENERAL MEETING, WHEN THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS ARE ACKNOWLEDGED AND CELEBRATED BY ALL IN ATTENDANCE!

2. Year End Non-Show Awards (part of the High Points Award Program)

For this Award, each pleasure activity completed will count as five (5) points. (Organized Trail Rides, Parades, Judged Pleasure Rides, Competitive Trail Rides, Demonstrations/Horse Expos or Exhibitions, Mason Dixon Clinics). At the end of each activity, the Award Form must be completed. The Points are accumulated each membership year (October 1 to September 16) for each category/ division and the awards are given at the annual meeting and banquet. The owner and rider must be a member of Mason Dixon in good standing. **Hours accumulate on the horse.**

Completed forms must be sent to Susan Data-Samtak 131 Somerset Terrace Bedminster NJ 07921 by September 16, 2012.

The different categories for this Award are based on the age of the horse and 1st through 4th place will be awarded in each category:

Horse Age 3 to 6 Horse Age 7 to 9 Horse Age 10 to 12 Horse Age 13 to 15 Horse Age 16 and over

Forms: http://www.masondixonpfha.org/trail.blazers.php
For More Information, contact Susan Data-Samtak: pasovasz@aol.com

Please join me in congratulating Toni Roland and her horse Chinos de Tejas Emparador for winning the Paso Fino Breed Division of the North American Trail Ride Conference, Region 4 (NATRC4). Congratulations, Toni & Bear and WELCOME to Mason Dixon!

MDPFHA Fellow Members,

If you have questions of general interest regarding the Recreational Rider Programs for MDPFHA please submit them to the Editor at mdpasofino@zoominternet.net and I will include them, along with Susan's response, in the next edition of the Power Glide.—Diane

2011 Annual Mason Dixon PFHA General Meeting Synopsis

Members: Below, you will find a synopsis of the UNOFFICIAL minutes from our 2011 General Meeting, held 5 Nov 2011. This information is provided for your situational awareness as it's been a while since we've met. The Final Minutes will be voted on during the 2012 General Meeting and posted to the website. I hope to see you there. My thanks to Kathy Dell for providing the notes.—Diane

- Financial Status and Budget: President Karen Basehore informed the group that Beth Webb had resigned as Treasurer of Mason Dixon as of Saturday, November 5, 2011. The board met before the meeting was called to order to discuss the resignation and appointed BJ Schuler as the interim Treasurer until the elections in 2012.
- ◆ Lisa Gorsuch discussed the **May Day Show** in Dillsburg dates for 2012 are May 5 and 6 and opened the floor for discussion on making Dillsburg a joint show with the Rocky Mountain horses or the Northeast Paso Fino Region. Keith Dane is a judge for both breeds Lisa Gorsuch is going to contact Keith and see if he would be willing to judge both days at the show. There was discussion on a joint show with another region but uncertainty remained regarding how would you distribute the proceeds of a joint Paso Show. The opinion of the group was to show with the Rockies and travel to other Regions to support their shows. There was also discussion regarding making the Dillsburg Show USEF certified and the cost involved to Mason Dixon and the folks showing. The group agreed to stay as we are and visit the USEF certification at a later date.
- ♦ BJ Schuler reported on the Lexington Show the dates this year are June 8-10 2012. BJ reported that the fees have gone up for the Virginia Horse Center. The group discussed moving to the smaller arena. Several members shared their experiences showing in the smaller ring. The group decided to stay with the large arena and Nick Burgos will handle the decorations for Lexington in 2012. The group discussed a **special trail ride** on Saturday with possibly wine and cheese after the ride or some type of dinner and offer special rate for trail horses to spend one night. There will be further investigation on the cost and possible interest to add to this years show.
- ♦ Jim Laird discussed the **Harrisburg Show**. The new dates for Nationals in 2012 are expected to coincide with the Harrisburg Show. No one wants to give up the dates. Jim Laird and Lisa Gorsuch will attend the meeting in Harrisburg to see what they can do to keep the dates and the Paso Fino show alive at Harrisburg. There is much discussion on where Nationals will be in 2013. Jena Shaffer helped with the Harrisburg Show and a big thank you to her for her assistance as the show ran very smoothly .
 - ◆ UPDATE: The National Show will be held Oct. 7-13. The Keystone International Livestock Exposition (K.I.L.E.) (Harrisburg Show) is scheduled for Sept. 29—Oct. 7. with the Paso Fino show usually held on the last day. As of 2/15/2012, it appears highly unlikely that Mason Dixon will be having a show during K.I.L.E. since Oct. 7 is the only date available to us. The coincidence of K.I.L.E. and Nationals suggests that it is unlikely that Mason Dixon could bring enough horses to make the show worthwhile. The Board is investigating alternatives to the K.I.L.E. show and welcomes the input of the membership. Please send your suggestions to the Secretary, Kathy Dell, who will compile them for discussion during the upcoming Board Meeting.
- MD Futurity discussion with Lisa Gorsuch and BJ Schuler leading the discussion. No one is breeding horses with the economy being so poor. There was discussion at last years meeting to freeze the fund. A motion was made to freeze the Futurity fund for one year. There was a second and the motion was passed.
 - ♦ WHAT THIS MEANS TO FUTURITY PARTICIPANTS: Please refer to the letter on page 24 of this edition of the PowerGlide
- Other Activities. There was discussion on having a fun day show to get the recreational riders involved and have the opportunity to meet them. A judged trail ride was discussed to include 10 obstacles and all 10 would be judged with points and door prizes awarded.
- Annual Meeting and Banquet: TBD would someone in the group be interested in coordinating next years meeting and banquet.
 - ◆ **UPDATE:** BJ and Gary Schuler have generously offered the use of the banquet facility on the 2nd floor of their restaurant, <u>The Rising Sun Inn</u>, as the site for the 2012 General Meeting. Details to follow.

MASON DIXON CLASSIFIEDS

-there is no charge for ads placed in this section – 4 line maximum length-Send entries to : mdpasofino@zoominternet.net

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7 y/o PF Chestnut Gelding – 14.2 hh, great trail horse, great disposition, UTD on all shots—\$3000. Call 484-256-4625.

9 y/o PF Bay Gelding—gentle in hand but with controlled brio, Pleasure show or Performance—\$7000. Call 484-256-4625.

11 y/o Bay Stallion—Inquire . Call 484-256-4625.

Tack for Sale

Albion Saddle: Lightly used. Appraised at \$1100. Asking \$1000. Size: Medium/Wide, 16". Call 717-993-9686 for additional information.

Miscellaneous Articles

2002 BMW 325i: 300K highway miles; engine, cooling, exhaust sys., replaced at 132K mi. All leather, 5-speed, 6-cyl, Premium Pkg. New springs, thermostat & sensors + more. Asking \$4700. Runs well. Call 717-993-9686.



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Mason Dixon Paso Fino Horse Association

www.masondixonpfha.org

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Regional Shows

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Lisa Gorsuch

Lexington, VA

B.J. Schuler

Harrisburg, PA

Jim Laird

Trail Blazer Program Representative

Susan Data-Samtak

(H) 908-725-9649

E-Mail: pasoVasz@aol.com

<u>PFHA Regional News</u> <u>Reporter</u>

Carolyn Marinko

(H) 908-725-9649

E-Mail: solar.206@verizon.net

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Tiffany Senseman (H) 240-626-9165 tiffany8957@gmail.com

Futurity Program

Lisa Gorsuch

(H) 410-848-9532

(O) 410-876-1088

E-mail: middlefieldfarm@verizon.net



Uncle Sam wants YOU to Volunteer!

In search of . .

Sponsorship Chair

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Mason Dixon Paso Fino Horse Association

Membership Application 2011 - 2012 1 October 2011 - 30 September 2012

Membership Fees:

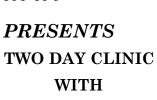
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| Cell | ; Fax | |
| E-Mail | Address | |
| Website | 9 | |
| | Please list all names | under your Family Membership (if applicable) |
| | Name | Date of Birth (Youth only) |
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Please complete the above application, make a check payable to the

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RICK SHAFFER March 3 & 4, 2012

Start Time

Sat 9:30am/Sun 8:30am

Accepting 8-10 Horse/Rider Pairs Per Day Rick covers it all behavior, gait, trail & show

Paperwork Required: Current Coggins Out of State participants must have a current health certificate...Executed Release of Liability at check-in

<u>Cost:</u> Horse/Rider \$85.00 per day includes stall for day w/bedding. Horses staying over night Sat add \$20 fee

Horses available to lease for a horse/rider session—call Lisa for details prior to clinic

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February 10, 2012

TO: All Participants In Futurity FROM: Futurity Committee

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the participants in our Breeders' Futurity for the last several years both Stallion Owners and Offspring Participants.

As many of you know keeping programs such as the Futurity program viable and moving forward, it requires sponsorships and participation year after year.

Clearly, if you look at the statistics for new registrations at PFHA and many other breed organizations, the economy has clearly impacted the number of foals that breeders are producing over the past several years.

With the economic down turn, all the Futurity Programs have seen a large decrease in the number of nominations going into the programs the past couple of years. With fewer Stallions entering into the program and new offspring being nominated over the past couple of years, the futurity payouts have been drastically reduced.

After discussion with the membership at the annual meeting, the Mason Dixon Futurity Committee has decided to put the futurity program on hold for the year 2012 and not hold the 2012 Futurity classes in June.

The committee will explore new sponsorships and other avenues that will allow the Futurity program to continue perhaps in a different format.

The current offspring that have been nominated and Stallions that are in the program will not lose their eligibility for any future program.

Again we would like to thank everyone for their support over the past several years.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gorsuch Chairperson, Mason Dixon PFHA