



January 2010

Horsefeathers

**Appleatchee Riders Association
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

In my final President's Message, I would like to say "thank you" to some of the people who made this a successful year despite all of the challenges we faced at the start. First, thank you to Perry Williams, Jack Nystrom and the rest of the grounds crew. Those guys worked their tails off, and I thought the facility looked great this year. Perry was particularly helpful in keeping work schedules arranged so there was coverage for weekend events, and yet overtime expenses were minimized. I hope everyone will thank Perry and the guys for all their hard work.

Second, I would like to thank Susan Ward, Becky O'Brien, Shannon Fadden, Terri Howard and all the other volunteers who helped get things done in the office when we really needed it. From the beginning of the year when we needed help getting bills paid to the end of the year when we needed help crunching budget numbers, it seemed like there was always someone stepping up to the plate. This is exactly what Appleatchee is all about, and I feel those people should be recognized for their efforts.

Third, I would like to extend a big thank you to the membership. Most of you probably realize that this year I felt my mission was to ring the bell very loudly about the need to balance the club's annual budget and stop draining the club's investment fund. It would have been much easier to just cruise along and not bother making a fuss about the budget. Instead, I chose to hammer away at the budget issues all year long, and yes I managed to ruffle some feathers (even with some board members) with all my talk about the need to increase stall rents. But at the annual meeting in November, I felt the members demonstrated very clearly once again that they DO understand the problem and they ARE willing to address the situation even if it isn't always particularly pleasant. Thank you to the membership for being willing to make the sacrifices necessary to adopt a balanced budget for 2010.

Finally, I would like to thank Conrad Schoessler for agreeing to take on the role as President in 2010. His role will be particularly difficult given the annual budget that was adopted. Yes it's a balanced budget which is good, but it's also a very tightwad budget which will require serious management on a day to day basis. Without a doubt, the number one hardest thing will be the slashed payroll expense. It will very hard indeed for Appleatchee to get everything done all year long with such deep payroll cuts. We have decided to go without a general manager at least for now, and the only way this will be possible is if someone like Conrad is willing to step in and function like a manager. In 2009 I was the person who filled that role, and I can assure you it is more time consuming than you think. Conrad deserves all the thanks and appreciation we can give him. He will certainly earn it.

Brian Huber, President

FROM THE OFFICE:

There are a few trailers parked in the lot below F barn. They need to be moved ASAP as we use that lot for snow storage. If you have a rented space, please use it. If you need one, contact the office for an available space and to complete the paperwork. They need to be moved as they will soon be blocked by snow.

We have already had problems with frozen water. Barn renters please check for ice when feeding. If you have a problem, please put in a work order or call the office. If they are taken care of timely we avoided the water line freezing below ground and creating a larger problem and inconvenience of not having water.

With the cold weather and snow comes a lot of extra time outside working to maintain the paddocks. The entry door to the show office next to the business office will be unlocked during the times that I am in the office working, usually noon to 5pm Monday thru Friday. The room will be available to use for warm up.

If you use the office please clean up before leaving as this office is frequently used for meetings and needs to always be ready and clean.

BOARD MEETING ACTIONS:

Agreed by Deb Purcell to serve a one year term as Trustee so that her Trustee position will fall in line with our new by-laws. Each Board member is elected to a two year term.

Agreed by the Board to allow Jane Hoxsey to use part of the grounds next to the portable stalls, to begin composting on a larger scale. Using this area will put her closer to water and electricity.

Your new Board Members for 2010:

President:	Conrad Schoessler	Vice President:	Deb Walk	Secretary:	Susan Ward
Treasurer:	Terri Howard	Sgt of Arms:	Mary Sawyer	Trustee:	Brigette Ranne
Trustee:	Debbi Funke	Trustee:	Brett Matthews	Trustee:	Thera Judd
Trustee:	John Lemkuhl	Trustee:	Deb Purcell		

At the Membership General Meeting, 11/30/09, it was voted on and passed that the Appleatchee dues payment schedule from monthly, quarterly, half year or full year be changed to half year or full year only.

All dues need to be paid no later than January 30th or they will be assessed a late fee. At the end of February, if dues and late fee haven't been paid, then the member will lose membership in the club. Current yearly dues are: 262.50 for individuals and 367.50 for families.

~Division Reports~

Barns Division:



Barns Division would like to remind everyone to check their paddock gates after manure and snow removal. The grounds crew have had a lot of loose horses recently. If the gates need repair or safety chains they need to put in work orders or call the office.

Also, be sure to clean up behind yourselves after hay deliveries. The hallways can get pretty cluttered with loose hay but a quick raking is usually all it takes to make things tidy again.

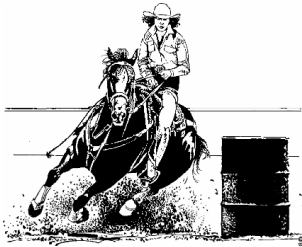
For those of you who weren't at the General Meeting it was voted and passed to raise stall rents by \$10.00 per month starting January 1, 2010. The old Gold Barn stalls will cost \$110.00 per month and the new Gold Barns will cost \$140.00 per month.

Barns Division: continued:

If you are using the Frost Free water spigots at the end of the barns, remember to turn them off completely. Also, don't leave a hose on the spigot after use during freezing weather. Leaving it on will cause the spigot to freeze and we will have broken pipes. Be aware that even though the day time temperatures have been mild the night time temperatures have been freezing. While we're talking about freezing temperatures, remember to check your water troughs daily. If they are frozen please let the office/grounds people know right away. *Joye Delabarre, Co-Chair – Barns Division*

Games and Barrels Division:

Hi there everyone. I hope you had great Holidays with Family and Friends. We have lots of new kids that are coming out and learning the games events. It is great to see. The weather has really cooperated for us and not being to cold or to snowy.



We want to send out our condolences to the Jagla family who recently lost a dear and wonderful horse named Soupy. He was a great addition to their family. He would run supreme times with Nancy and Danny in their events and then turn around and walk, trot Janelle in her events. He was truly a great part of the family and our games family.

Well time to go back out and turn my horse out to keep her in shape for the new year to come. If you have any questions about practice nights or anything else with the games division. Please do not hesitate to call or email me.

*Till next time
Jill*

Performance Division: I would like to schedule our next meeting (and be able to use the Clubhouse) on Wednesday, January 6th 2010 at 7:pm. We will be holding our monthly Performance Division meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Please email me back at your earliest convenience to let me know if these new dates work for you!



Our small but very dedicated group of individuals met recently to work on our ***Appleatchee Bowl Trail Challenges*** for 2010. We are very excited to be building on the successful competition that we had last September and at our January 2010 meeting we will be discussing our course and obstacle designs and forming our committees.

We've selected the judges for next year's Schooling Shows, 4-H Shows and our WSH Open Shows. We hope to finalize the list when we meet in January. As always, we are looking for volunteers to help with the shows. It's our members who help to make these shows a success. Join us at our meeting in January to learn how you can help. We are looking for ideas as well as volunteers.

Roping Division: We are practicing on Tuesday Nights at 7:00PM. The fee is \$10 for members and \$15 for non- members to practice. We are roping inside for the rest of the winter. There will be no roping practice on Thursday night, until we can go outside next spring.



Our dates for January Ropings are:

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|-----------------------|--|
| Friday night Jan 1st | Saturday Jan 2nd New Years Play Day |
| Friday night Jan 8th | Friday night Jan 15th |
| Friday night Jan 22nd | Sunday Jan 24th "beginners only" roping school |
| Friday night Jan 29th | Sunday Jan 31st |

We are having another series for our Friday nights in Dec and January, giving away some nice awards to 1 – 1 1/2, 2 – 2 1/2 , 3 and over ropers. Good Luck Ropers!

Roping Division; continued:

Roping Schools

Appleatchee Indoor Arena

Clinician: Hughie Reynolds

January 24th 2010, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sat, Feb 27th and Sun, Feb 28th, 9:00AM to 5:00 PM

Introduction to Roping for Beginners, \$60.00 For Beginners and Low # Ropers, \$120.00 for both days - * Basic Ground Work * Horsemanship * Hot Heels * Roping Cattle * Lots of Fun * Free Lunch *

More info and to sign up, contact: **Terri Tincher: 509-662-1357**

ARENA ETIQUETTE: During the winter weather we are all looking for time and space to ride in the indoor arenas and that means usage goes way up. Is now is a very good time to discuss some arena etiquette?

- First: **KNOCK** on the arena doors when entering and give a holler if you are about to open the door to leave. Even if the arena looks empty from the view port, knock anyway. The rider could be out of view. This is a safety issue and done for the courtesy of green horses and/or riders.
- Second: ***Don't stop at the rail and hold private conversations with folks on the other side.*** Lot's of riders use the track on the rail for training. Be aware of the other activities in the arena. Don't ride into another rider's circle, lesson or cut someone off if avoidable. It's like driving a car in traffic. Look around before changing direction.
- Third: If your horse is acting out or otherwise misbehaving and the arena is crowded, be respectful. Don't ride in a crowd with an un-controlled horse. And, be patient and courteous with other riders. Take any re-occurring problems to the office. ***Don't be a policeman.*** Use common sense when in a crowded arena. Better to ride another time than risk a wreck on a green horse or with a green rider.
- Fourth: **NO LUNGEING** in the indoor arenas without permission of the other riders. You may always lunge a horse in the indoor arena or warm-up arena, if no one else is using it. **Likewise riders,** you should respect someone who is lunging their horse if they were already in the arena when you arrive.
- Fifth: **Turn-out in the Warm Up arena is 15 minutes during inclement weather.** (Nov thru April). Do not leave your horse unattended. Rider's, don't expect a turned out horse to be held so you can enter the south end of the large indoor arena. Use the North end entrance of the large arena.
- Sixth: Riders: don't expect a turned out horse to be taken out of the warm up so you can ride. **Respect the limited turnout available during inclement weather. Likewise,** members shouldn't expect a rider to relinquish the warm up arena so that you can turn out if they had the arena first.
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Mission Statement:

Appleatchee Riders Association is a member owned and operated equestrian complex. It is dedicated to the encouragement, development and promotion of horse related activities that are of interest to its membership and that are supported by member involvement and by efficient use of Appleatchee's resources.

Adopted January 8th, 2006

SERVICES:

EQUESTRIAN CONNECTION-Complete connection to your equine partner. Instruction: Dressage, Jumping, Horsemanship, School Horse Lessons, Seat Lessons. Experience: 20 years of instructing, 10 years of dressage competition. Awards: USDF Bronze and Silver and Gold Medalist, USDF "L" Program graduate. Contact: Andrea Parker at 662-4120 or cell 670-2251.

Lynette Smith Photography: Are you looking for a photographer who has a unique eye that can capture that stolen moment, glance or unique pose? Your pet has a special place in your heart and home. Whether it's a horse, dog, cat, or other animal, a photograph can capture the spirit, love and loyalty of your beloved pet. It is a privilege to combine my life long love of animals and horses with my passion for photography. From traditional to creative shots, my goal is to create lasting memories that you will cherish for generations. Along with photographing equestrian events I am also available for senior photos, weddings and special events. Photography sessions can be arranged at a location of your choice. Visit www.lynettesmithphotography.com to view our work or call 509-679-3499 for your next photography event.

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