



# OFQHA NEWSLETTER

**June 2007**

## **President's Message**

Hello Everyone,

Time sure does fly by doesn't it? When Pat wrote to remind me that she needed this month's message written, I couldn't believe it was that time again so soon. Our first show was great. So many new faces and some really good runs were put forth. I was at the roping clinic and I thought it was just great. Aaron took his time and really tried to help all that attended. I know by watching from morning until he stopped the improvement in the students was just outstanding. I didn't get to the clinic at the fairgrounds, but by what I heard it was really good too.

I would like to bring something up that is very important to all of us in the horse business. The closing of the horse packing plants in this country is having a devastating effect on our market. If you are really concerned about the horse business then your congressman and senators need to hear from you loud and clear. Their uninformed decision is and will cost us millions if not billions down the road. Please stand up and have your voice heard.

Well, I guess I need to stop rambling and go bale some hay. I just wish it would rain soon!

Darrell Gartrell

---

## **Editorial**

I am out of ideas for this column! For the next several issues I will include stories from my solo two month camping trip though the west in 2001. I had several fun, scary and exciting adventures. I hope you enjoy it.

---

## **Reminder of Eligibility for OFQHA Year End Awards**

In order to be eligible to receive year end awards, you must be a member and you must donate 4 hours of work or service to the association. OFQHA points will start accumulating on the date your membership is paid.

---

## **OFQHA Improvements to the Fairgrounds**

Work continues on the cattle chutes at the fairgrounds. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to the following people who have worked and donated materials and generally made these improvement possible. There is still work that needs to done and any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated!

Rick Read- who contacted David Hill Inc. in regard to the pipe casing needed for the cattle chutes and holding pens. He also cut the pipe into shorter lengths so it could be put in a trailer.

Bob Sims- who picked up the pipe and delivered it.

David Hill Inc.- who donating the 4" pipe casing to OFQHA

Clark Howell and Pepper Sullivan- who cut the pipe into sections that was used for posts, etc. Clark and Pepper also worked with Rick Moore in getting the gates and panels up and in place.

Rick Moore- who provided the equipment, drove the posts in the ground and helped set up the gates and panels.

Karen Boehm- who coordinated all this with the Guernsey County Fair Board.

## Report on the Reining and Cattle Working Clinic

Shaun McBride conducted a very informative clinic. In the morning instruction included turns and lead changes. He offered several solutions to each individual that was having trouble with flying lead changes. In the afternoon instruction centered around boxing of a cow, running the cow down the fence and turning the cow. Participants went one at a time and received individualized suggestions on improving their performance. Almost everyone who participated commented that they had learned something new and enjoyed the clinic!

---

### Important Reminder!

For the OFQHA shows, **PLEASE remember to fill out your entry form in its entirety!** A completed entry form benefits you and enables OQHA to tabulate placings, point accumulation and year end awards.

---

### Wanted!

OFQHA is seeking a reasonably priced cargo trailer in good condition. The trailer should be approximately 7' x 14' with a ramp. There is a great need to store (in one place!) and transport all the show equipment to our Ranch Horse Shows. Remember that OFQHA is a non-profit organization (through the IRS) If you have a trailer and are in need of a tax deduction, this is a great opportunity! If you know of or have a cargo trailer that fits the description above, please contact Linda Yoder at 330-852-4345.

---

### Check out [www.ofqha.org](http://www.ofqha.org)!

The OFQHA Rule Book and By-Laws are available and can be printed out on the website. Also available are printable copies of show bills and the show schedule for the season. Stallion information is a new feature! Also, the February/March, April and May newsletters are available! If you haven't visited the website it really is great! Thanks to Michael and Patty Fish who created and continue to update and enhance this wonderful website!

---

### Regarding the Newsletter

In the very near future OFQHA will begin sending an email to all members for whom we have email addresses, indicating the monthly newsletter is available on the website, [www.ofqha.org](http://www.ofqha.org). The newsletter will not be mailed to you. This move is being made to attempt to save on monthly postage costs. Some of the email addresses that are on file are old. If you have changed your email address or have never provided an email address please contact Joy Sims at 740-872-3138. If you do not have access to a PC, please contact Joy and indicate you need to have the newsletter mailed to you.

---

### The West Part 1

On July 6, 2001 I left for a two month solo camping trip in the west. My mother threatened a nervous breakdown because I was going alone. At least she agreed to keep my cat. The truck was loaded with camping supplies, clothes, coolers and all the necessary stuff to live out of the truck for 2 months. I wasn't afraid. I was so excited I could hardly stand it! I didn't have my route mapped out, I would decide at the end of each day where I was going next. I avoided freeways and took back roads for the entire trip. Total mileage was 8,000 miles.

July 6: Columbus to Peoria, Illinois. Corn as far as the eye could see with no fences in sight for miles. A trail rider's nirvana if it wasn't for all the darn corn!

July 7: Arrive in Anita, Iowa. Stopped at the Buffalo Bill Cody Museum in the small town of La Claire. Who would have guessed that Buffalo Bill was born in La Claire? I sat on the banks of the Mississippi River, ate lunch and marveled at my new found freedom! I arrived in the afternoon at Anita Lake State Park to camp for the night. It was 102 degrees with no wind moving! I was drenched in sweat by the time I got the tent up. The showers were the pull-chain variety and hot water was the only thing available; I was drenched in sweat again before I got out of the shower! Not much sleep that night.

July 8: Iowa to Nebraska and South Dakota. Still 102 degrees and the National Weather Service is calling Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota the Ring of Fire! I stopped in Walnut, Iowa, a small town with a ton of antique shops. Found a wonderful

cowboy saddle made in the 1920's or 30's and stamped with the maker's name, Hernandez. They said it was made in Salt Lake City. It had a high cantle, huge, overlong and wide swells and matching saddle bags. It was in excellent condition. They came down to \$495. I regret to this day that I did not buy that saddle!

Nebraska: Huge skies here. Saw a violent storm coming from miles away. The sky was black and blue and red. It rained torrentially for 20 minutes and immediately back to 102 degrees, now coupled with higher humidity!

All the towns, no matter how small, have a city campground but most don't have showers. I desperately needed a shower! Found a small "mom and pop" motel for the night with air conditioning! Three nights away from home and 2 nights in a motel. The budget is suffering.

7-9,10, 11: The Badlands. Now I'm finally getting into the west! Camped at a KOA just outside Badlands National Park in a lovely spot, next to a river. Unfortunately the camping fee included hordes of mosquitoes. The wind rose in the evening, the mosquitoes fled and the torrential rains arrived. Lightening was all around the campground. At 9:30 the campground owner woke me up and said to move my truck to higher ground. Of course a sane person would have moved the tent too, but I was too afraid to spend much time outside surrounded by lightening. Crashing thunder all night long. It was a little scary to realize all that separated me from the storm was the thin wall of a small nylon tent! No sleep that night. Cell phone tells me "no service". Rain stopped in the morning and but the tent was a sodden mess. Threw it in the truck and headed for Wall, South Dakota. Rain and storms predicted for tonight. ARGH!!!!

Motels in Wall were very expensive. I stopped at a rest area and they suggested I head for Hill City, in the Black Hills, where cabins are more reasonably priced. Found some old but homey cabins in Hill City. The storm and I arrived at the same time. It was late but as I talked to the cabin owner I attempted to look as pathetic as possible which wasn't hard. I think it worked as she came way down on the normal price, gave me a large cabin for \$47 (originally \$75 for a small one!) a night for 2 nights. The cabin backed up to rock cliffs and the smell of all the pine trees was heavenly! To add to the ambience, there was a huge yellow lab sound asleep on the cabin steps! The rain finally stopped for a couple of hours and I had a chance to dry the tent out.

The next day the rain let up and I headed for a place called the "Wild Horse Sanctuary", advertised as a ranch where wild horse bloodlines are preserved. The ranch was incredible. 11,000 acres of the most beautiful land I have ever seen, pine forests, cliffs, mesas, canyons, petroglyphs and caves. The Cheyenne River winds its way through the ranch. On the tour we saw a sacred place where the Souix Indians still hold their annual sun dance. There were several sweat lodges and a prayer pole. We were not allowed to enter the sacred circle. There was a 360 degree view of the world from there. The "wild" horses were a different story. They had a few wild mares that had been adopted many years ago from the BLM. We walked among them. They have a registered paint stud turned out with the wild mares and all the babies are by this stud. When I mentioned this on the tour they were not happy I brought that up! So much for preserving the wild bloodlines! They sell all the colts as weanlings, \$250 to \$950 depending mostly on color. It appeared to me they are involved in false advertising and when I mentioned that they indicated they had another herd of truly wild horses somewhere up on the mesa. Sure you do!

Part II next month: Custer National Park, Deadwood (Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane), Little Big Horn Battlefield, more storms, Crazy Horse Monument and Cody, Wyoming.

---

### For Sale

Small, 12 year old AQHA mare. Playboy and Thoroughbred breeding. \$2,000. Call 614-833-1717

### Wanted

OFQHA is looking for a cargo trailer in good condition. Trailer should be 7' x 14' with a ramp. Please contact Linda Yoder, 330-852-4345.

## 2007 OFQHA Schedule—All Events and Meetings

All clinics, shows, sales, etc. will be held at the Guernsey County Fairgrounds unless otherwise noted.

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>June 9</b> (Saturday)       | AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse Show. June meeting after show.                                  |
| <b>June 10</b> (Sunday)        | OFQHA Open Versatility Ranch Horse Show  |
| <b>July 21</b> (Saturday)      | Jackpot Cutting and Sorting. July meeting after show   |
| <b>July 22</b> (Sunday)        | OFQHA Open Versatility Ranch Horse Show  |
| <b>August 18</b> (Saturday)    | Ranch Rodeo. August meeting after show   |
| <b>August 19</b> (Sunday)      | OFQHA Open Versatility Ranch Horse Show  |
| <b>September 9</b> (Sunday)    | September meeting, 4:00  |
| <b>September 22</b> (Saturday) | Fall Horse Sale  |
| <b>October 28</b> (Sunday)     | Fall Trail Ride and Potluck. Location to be announced. November meeting after ride at 3:00pm |
| <b>November 4</b> (Sunday)     | November meeting, 4:00   |
| <b>December 2</b> (Sunday)     | December meeting, 4:00   |

## OFQHA Officers and Directors Contact Information

|                |                  |              |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| President:     | Darrell Gartrell | 740-686-2410 |
| Vice-President | Susan Elliott    | 740-683-7435 |
| Secretary:     | Bonnie Braden    | 740-584-5900 |
| Treasurer:     | Joy Sims         | 740-872-3138 |
| Directors:     | Pat Badgero      | 614-447-8966 |
|                | Ed Boehm         | 740-872-3032 |
|                | Debra Collopy    | 740-674-6395 |
|                | Patty Fish       | 740-254-9229 |
|                | Greg Gessner     | 330-204-1317 |
|                | Linda Hren       | 740-922-2490 |
|                | Christy Little   | 740-844-0274 |
|                | Carol Palmer     | 740-743-3989 |
|                | Dick Stewart     | 419-589-9637 |
|                | Larry Still      | 740-743-3989 |
|                | Bob Weiser       | 740-452-7942 |
|                | Linda Yoder      | 330-852-4345 |