

Happy New Year

January 1, 2024

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The Best of 2023



We have so much for which to be thankful here on the farm. Our families, friends, and horses are well. With each passing year, we learn and grow realizing there is always a new goal or dream to pursue. We overcome sadness and celebrate the joys. We teach others and take opportunities to share. We continue to meet new folks who are awesome, and we celebrate those folks with whom we share our lives. It is time to take a look back, and remember all the good times we had . . .

pleted newsletters and sent out the invoices. Ruby went to school and started track practice. Erin continued working with her yarn, fiber and headbands. Planning was going on for the RMHA Banquet. There was a slow start getting the calendar published for the new year. Everyone was biding their time for the weather to break and for schedules to be worked out. We were excited for McKayla and William



when Marlee Kate was born on the 27th! It was a very good month! In February, Bob and I headed south to enjoy some warmer weather with his cousin in Avon Park. We also visited Rachel and had a fun day with her at Disney. We



offered up prayers for Susan Heuslein who suffered a broken leg when she slipped on the ice at home. We had the RMHA banquet at the Bluegrass Stockyards. There was a great turn-out. Tables were



placed in the foyer and we were treated to an Italian meal. The fellowship was fantastic as always. Later in the month, additional shows were added to the calendar, and we began to plan. Charlie suggested two shows a month and decided to have some clinics for the fall. Olivia Warner began riding for at SRF and suddenly it was March. We contin-

River went to the World Horse Expo in Pennsylvania. They did a beautiful job. Bob, Charlie, Bryan and Donnie Eades worked on stall repairs on one of the warmer days. Show horses were brought back in the barn and there was lots of riding to do. April was upon us before we knew what was happening. Charlie continued to work with young horses started in the fall as well as getting horses ready for show season. Julie T., Mary K. and I headed north to the Equine Affaire to shop and enjoy the clinics. KHBIF vouchers were mailed. Ruby and Erin went to Myrtle Beach for a track competition. Martha Gilly sent five horses for Bob to work, including Zoie who was expecting a mule! We celebrated a wonderful Easter with family and friends. We attended Page McCarty's baby shower. We congratulated Sarah and Joel Richardson on the birth of their little boy, Wyatt. Julie and Barbara went to Asbury for a trail obstacle competition. Unfortunately, Barbara suffered a broken ankle stepping down off Mindy. We had joy but sadness as well. Steve and Susan lost their sweet mare, Blueberry Wine due to her COPD. Martha Gilly also lost her mare, Daisy Crockett due to seizures. It is so hard to see them go. In May we had our first shows of the season. We went to the Spring Kickoff where Chicago Blues (owned by Steve & Susan) was the winner of M/G Trail Class and Black Market Diamond won the Stallions CTP class.

For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning."
T.S. ELIOT

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."
ANNE BRADSTREET

The Year in Review

January of 2023 was cold, as to be expected. Horses outside kept their head buried in the hay rolls. They were ridden with the less when it was necessary to keep them from sweating on especially cold days. There was more ground work training when possible

Life here continued. Charlie trained horses and watched out for his cows at home. I com-

Welcome to the 2022 Awards Banquet Ceremony
RMHA
Kentucky Horse Shows Association

ued to have erratic weather. It was cold then wet and muddy - typical Kentucky bipolar weather. Dr. McVey came for vaccinations to make sure our horses had as much protection from viruses as possible. Julie Tucker and

As long as we have memories,
Yesterday remains.
As long as we have hope,
tomorrow awaits.



Remembering (con't)

We celebrated our older horses here on the farm - all were 20+. That included Sundown Special, Barb's Stormy Knight, Gaitway's Jasmine Joy, Pepper's Just Plain Pretty, SRF's Silver Sundown and One Chance Fancy. What special horses they are! Charlie also went to the



RMHA Youth Camp held at Cowtown as a clinician. Martha's mare had her foal - such a cute little mule, Stanley, only 9 days after he went home. How cute! We bred several mares. We congratulated Page and Nick McCarty on the birth of their little girl, Zelley.

June was another busy month for SRF. Gloria Mendoza came from Florida to work with Charlie and her mare, Summer. She brought her trainer and his fami-



ly as well. It was a great week. Our second RMH show was the Carter County Shrine Show. It was awesome. Olivia showed with us for the first time placing 3rd in the Youth CTP class with DMH's Bella Angel (owned by Julie Tucker), and she won the Youth CTP Championship. In like fashion, Ruby won the Youth Show Pleasure class with Diamond Broker (owned by Melissa Sharkey) and placed

2nd in the Youth Championship. Black Market Diamond was first again in the Stallions CTP class. We celebrated Leah Palmquist who graduated from Nursing School and moved to Lexington. We're so glad she as well as Olivia are now part of our show family. Ruby showed her calf for the first time and did very well. She continued to show her throughout the summer. Charlie and Erin went to Bowling Green to pick up Ron and Elsie's Black Market Diamond colt, Mosby, who was to be shown at the International. The final show of the month, the Pink Show, was held in Jeffersonville this year. Steve and Susan came. Bob and I, unfortunately, were not able to attend due to his family



reunion. Melissa wasn't able to come either. They had Jimmy John's subs again (thanks to Julie B.) and Julie T. helped get the entries made. It was a memorable show! Leah showed Axel for the first time placing 4th. Steve got a blue in the Jack Benny class with Chicago Blues. Mary Kelley won the Open Pleasure Championship with her mare, WOF's Glamour and Style. We also participated in the first of several Virtual Trail Obstacle Competitions that month. I learned how to upload videos to YouTube. Woo Hoo

July brought several eventful happenings. Julie Tucker participated with the Old KY Saddlers group at Breyer Fest. They looked awesome! We always love the



Owigsville Lions Club Horse Show! The horses did well. Olivia won both her classes with Angel. Black Market Diamond won Western and WOF placed reserve. Ruby got 2nd in both her classes with Broker. The following weekend was the Tollesboro Lions Club Show. Simon showed for the first time this year and placed 2nd in Open Trail and 2nd in the Open Show Pleasure Championship. Ruby won with Broker and Olivia won with Angel. Leah got 2nd in the Amateur class. Ann and Melissa were able to make a long weekend of showing and headed out to pick blackberries at Charlie and Erin's. Then is was on to Harrison County where Black Market Diamond won both his classes. Red River Diamond showed strong with Mary Kelly placing 3rd. Ruby won with Broker. Bob won Trail Obstacle with Duncan. Earlier that day, a group went to Cowtown to participate in a Trail Obstacle Competition. Barbara, Julie T., Julie B. and Bob all competed. Leah and I cheered everyone on!

What a month! In **August**, planning was well under way for the International "Greatest Show on Earth". We were getting excited to go back to the Kentucky Horse Park. We had fifteen horses to go (including Ember and Ally). Julie and Mary Kelley made the trek to White Pine, TN with Red River Diamond and WOF's Glamour & Style where they did quite well. Julie T. placed 4th in a strong Amateur class. Mary Kelley placed 3rd on Reo and she won the Trail Pleasure Championship with her mare. Woo Hoo! Charlie and crew showed at Carter County again and did well. Black Market Diamond won in the CTP Stallions class and Melissa won

on Broker in the Amateur Show Pleasure class. Then it was on to the Bill Corey/Red Neck Barn Show where Mary Kelley won the M/G Show Pleasure class with Axel for Julie B. Leah placed 2nd with him in Ladies Show Pleasure and Julie B. placed 3rd in the Amateur Show Pleasure. Ruby and Sierra placed 2nd in both their classes. Olivia won both



her classes with Angel and Mary Kelley won with her in the M/G CTP class. Ruby won with Broker in the qualifying class and placed 2nd in the Youth Championship. Melissa also placed 2nd in the Amateur class. Mary Kelley won Ladies Trail with her mare and Leah won with Julie B.'s mare, Ally,



and she won with Julie T.'s mare, Angel. It was a great show! We were all really thankful that Charlie was ok after someone rear-ended him while

*Believe in yourself and all that you are.
 Know that there is something inside you
 that is greater than any obstacle.*



he was hauling a wagon load of hay behind his truck. The guy had an open lane beside Charlie on the By-pass but he didn't even apply his breaks. He just rammed into the wagon. We're so glad nobody was hurt! As we were getting ready for the International, I was so thrilled to have everyone offer to bring food and volunteer. I was really appreciative of the donations everyone made that contributed to the \$3,350. We couldn't have the International without folks like you who are so willing to give. It was in late August that Bob had severe problems with his shoulder and scheduled surgery. Prayers went out to James Sharkey who lost his mom. It is so sad to lose parents!



September, arrived and it was time for the International! We were all excited about the horses and what we thought they could accomplish. Charlie had worked hard and had them at their peak performance level. Our kids had worked during their practices as had our amateur riders. It turned out to be a great show for us. I don't even know where to begin recounting everything that happened. In many classes, SRF was first and second. For example, in the

professionals support and help each other every step of the way. We also congratulated



Ann Day for having a great show on WOF. She actually had to show in a work-out for her 10+ CTP class. She was also in the CTP Amateur Grand Championship with her boy, Wolfie.



Ann had ordered a new jacket and it didn't arrive at my house until after the International started. She sure looked beautiful in it! She placed 4th in a huge class. Congratulations! Olivia with Angel and Ruby riding Sierra had so many classes where they placed first and second as well. Youth Western, Youth CTP, Equitation, etc. They had such a great show! Olivia won the Sara Gwisdalla Youth Versatility as well as the Eddie Moreno Memorial. . . Such awesome accomplishments! Ruby won the Youth Show Pleasure Grand Championship won DHS's Diamond Broker which was one of those teary grandma moments. Olivia won the Youth CTP Grand Championship and the Youth Western



Grand Championship on DMH's Bella Angel. We were really thrilled for these girls. They worked so hard this past sum-



mer. Olivia had never ridden gaited horses before this year, and it was Ruby's first year to show in Show Pleasure. The girls showed the highest level of respect for each other and sportsmanship was in evidence every day! We're really just so proud of them. Broker made some awesome shows at the International



Melisse received reserve placings in Ladies Show Pleasure and the Amateur Show Pleasure Grand Championship (with 19 entries!). Charlie won the Geldings Show Pleasure

Championship with him. Sierra was the little engine that could winning the Rea Swan Versatility Award as well as the High Money Horse (saddle as well) and the Black Hawk Reo Memorial Award. For the first time, we had a horse win the Youth and Adult Trail Obstacle classes! So happy for Steve and Susan on the horse's accomplish-

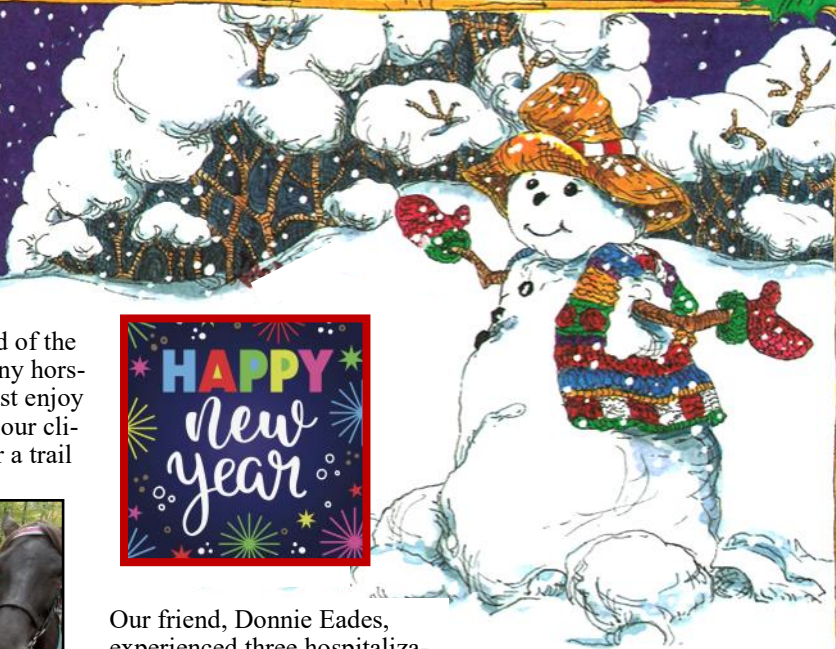


**May you look forward with confidence and courage giving wings to your dreams living life to the fullest.
 Happy New Year!**

ments. Another highlight was Rebel Ridge Mosby that Charlie showed for Ron and Elsie Hatcher and his win in the Yearling Conformation class. He sure takes after his sire, Black Market Diamond who was the Open Conformation Reserve Grand Champion. We were so excited for Julie and Bob when Red River Diamond won his 4-5 Y Stallion Trail Pleasure class. HCR's After Midnight looked magnificent at the International. Mary Kelley did a super job in her classes - 3rd Show Pleasure Championship and 6th in the Show Pleasure Grand



*May 2024 be filled with joy,
laughter, and success for family and
friends... Happy New Year!*



Championship. Julie B. made a great ride in the 10 + Amateur Show Pleasure class placing 2nd. Julie knew her International might be cut short because of her daughter's pregnancy. Sure enough, little Ava made her arrival and Julie got there just in time! One of the most fun classes (and the



most work at the show) is the Costume Class. Melisse simply goes all out! No detail is too small. Congratulations on the third straight win! Thank you to Melissa (Broker), Ann (WOF), Leah (Ally) and Ruby (Sierra).



It is impossible to say how appreciative we are of the help from everyone! McKayla, Page, Cole, Mary K., Donnie, clients and friends who came. Folks helped decorate. They brought food and joy. We work together like a family! So much work (103 classes) but so much fun! Shortly after the International, Charlie and Erin headed to South Carolina for Charlie's Clinic. I understand they met some great folks and helped several horses while they were there.



October put on a fantastic display of color this year. It was the most beautiful fall I can ever

remember. With the end of the show season for us, many horses were turned out to just enjoy being a horse. Some of our clients did get together for a trail



ride at Cave Run: Melisse on Broker, Ann on WOF, Mary Kelley on Reo, Leah Palmquist on Ember/Axel, Olivia on Angel and Amanda Gouch joined these ladies. Julie Tucker took several trips with her horse, River. Charlie had some new horses move into the barn. One was She's All Mine who belongs to Brenda Watson. Brenda fell in love with Mindy and bought her from Barbara Hopper. Silver's Diamond Dealer (Dilly) owned by Julie and Bob by Tucker, AJ owned by Julie Brown, and Melissa Walters mare, Journey, came in for training, too. Charlie also added three mature horse for training. It gradually got pretty busy. Nancy Copland came to visit bearing gifts of tack, a couple of saddles, and supplies she no longer needed. We had a fun time with friends and clients gathered around the fire ring (dodging the raindrops, of course) when we had a fun gathering at SRF. Julie B. and Barbara went to Cowtown's Halloween Obstacle Challenge and did very well. Ruby went to Homecoming, showed her calf, and competed in Cross Country (Her team was Region 4 Runner Up!). **November** 2nd Julie T. had rotator cuff surgery. Back last January she was emptying a large water trough and injured her shoulder. Bob also had surgery in November to do a reverse shoulder replacement.



Our friend, Donnie Eades, experienced three hospitalizations but is doing much better now. We hope they will all be good as new (even better than new) by spring. In November, all the information was sent in the KHBIF for our trail obstacle competitions and Award of Excellence for Ruby and Olivia were sent in. We'll be looking forward to those announcements on March 2, 2024 at the RMHA Awards Banquet. We celebrated Thanksgiving with families. Julie B. and Gary went to that sweet grandbaby - what a blessing. The Secretariat Park was dedicated in Paris, KY and the statue unveiled. It was a great event. If you haven't visited our cute little town, I promise, you'd love it. **December** brought all the preparations for Christmas, and a time to pause and be thankful for the Lord's blessings. Ruby rode Pepper along with her friend, Shelby and her horse, in the Bourbon County Christmas Parade. It was a misty night but everyone still had a great time! Pepper just did the best! The RMHA announced the High Point Awards (see Dec. newsletter or the web site). Congratulations to all. Ruby rode Pepper in an additional two Virtual Trail Obsta-

cle Competitions and did well. Erin continued her circuit of festivals and had a very successful fall.

As we look back over the year, a lot of what is in the newsletter is about the wins and how the horses have excelled. Certainly, that is cause for celebration. However, we also need to look at how much We have all grown and what we've accomplished in our lives and in our horsemanship. It has been wonderful to see clients gain confidence and make strong connections.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for another wonderful year!

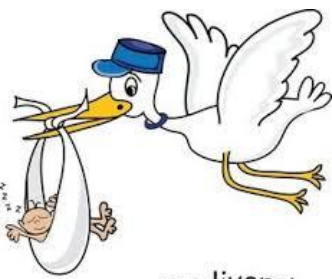
Looking Forward to a New Year in 2024



Important Dates

- Jan. 1** - New Years Day
- Jan. 13** - RMHA Board Meets
- Jan. 15** - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Feb. 14** - Valentine's Day
- March 2** - RMHA Membership meeting (5 pm) and Awards Banquet (6 pm) DoubleTree Hilton, 2601 Richmond Rd., Lexington, KY

Happy New Year!!!



Special Delivery!

Exciting News in 2024!!!

We are looking forward to a new addition in May of 2024. Page and Nick McCarty are expecting another little girl. Zelly is going to be a big sister at one year of age. The girls will be almost exactly a year apart. Exciting times are ahead for this family!

Prayers Please

Earlier in the week, I got news that Luka Bowman had a serious health issue that turned out to be a brain tumor. She had surgery and is now home.

Susan Heuslein took a fall while out with the horses and broke her hip. She was taken to Rochester, where she had surgery. When I talked to her on the phone she said she was doing well with the help of a crutch when needed. We're so sorry this happened. Please continue to pray for Bob and Julie T. as they recover from their shoulder surgeries. The road to recovery is a long process. Also, Shawna Smith, RMHA Registrar, who lost her mother this week due to lung cancer. Please lift her and her family up during this sad time.

RMHA Membership Meeting and Awards Banquet



SRF Versatility Awards

Julia Tucker - Gold
Julie Brown - Bronze



SRF KHBIF Horses



Several clients here have signed up for KHBIF dollars through the KY Race Horse Commission. Sign-ups are in June each year.

Black Market Diamond*
Chicago Blues
DMH's Bella Angel
DHS's Diamond Broker
Elite's Hallelujah
HBF Furious Revenge
HCR's After Midnight
Mindy Marcum
My Sweet Sydney*
Pepper's Just Plain Pretty
Red River Diamond
River on the Rocks
Simon Barjonah
SRF's Silver Sundown*
Sundown Sierra
Sydney's Little Honey
WOF's Glamour & Style
WOF Wind Commander
* Stallions and Mares Program (Oct. sign up)

After Thoughts

As I'm reflecting back over this newsletter, I see there are a few things I forgot to mention.

~ If you haven't renewed your membership and it's due, don't let it expire. You will have to become a new member if that happens. I just renewed mine. With the holidays, I got pretty close to missing the deadline.

~ I want to thank Leah. She made the greatest video of SRF. It covered most of the shows. Let me know if you haven't seen it and we'll get a link to you.

~ We are really excited about all the horses that participated in the KHBIF Show and Trail Obstacle Programs. I don't have placements yet but will let you know.

~All KHBIF nominated horses who showed will automatically be included in the tabulations. Trail Obstacle competitions were sent in to Wendy in November.

~KHBIF Vouchers are usually mailed in February. Watch for those and send them back to the Race Horse Commission.

~I'm not really big on surveys but if there is something you'd like to see more of in the newsletter (or less of), let me know.

~I'd like to handle ribbons differently at the shows in the future. I plan to go ahead and get them all marked so you can take them home the night of the show and enjoy them. There's no need to have to wait on me.

We are looking forward to good times. Winter can be bleak. I know we need time to renew but I can't wait for longer days, warmer barn time, friends and shows!! Love you all. *Lyngle*

*You are cordially
invited to the
Rocky Mountain Horse
Association
Membership
Meeting at 5 p.m.
and the
High Point Awards
Banquet
at 6 p.m.
March 2, 2024
DoubleTree Hilton
2601 Richmond Rd.,
Lexington, KY*

