



*Pennsylvania Saddlebred
Horse Association
December, 2004*

www.pa-saddlebred.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear PSHA Members,

Another year is drawing to a close and I want to wish you all a joyous holiday season.

A huge "thank you" goes out to Shelly Stine and Brook Sweigart for the party held for the Good Hands Finalists at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show. The event was a great success and it left the exhibitors, their parents and their trainers very impressed! For those who did not make the cut or receive the ribbon they hoped for, the party was the highlight of their Pennsylvania National experience. Our website has a list of the sponsors who; helped make this event possible so, if you haven't visited the website lately, this is a good reason to check it out. The Saddlebred community stepped up to the plate and I am extremely proud and grateful to them. Should the Good Hands return to Pennsylvania National, I believe it will be safe to say that PSHA's efforts were a factor in the decision. Should it locate somewhere else, that show will have a tough act to follow!

A couple of reminders: our banquet is February 20 so mark your 2005 PSHA calendars (they will be on their way to you this week). Also, a reminder for auction items—we will repeat last year's format with both a raffle and a live auction.

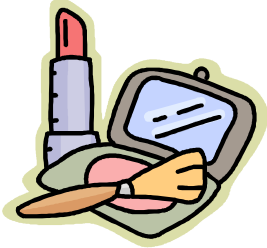
If you have not responded to Tara with high point discrepancies, please do so as she needs to complete the final points tabulations before ordering the ribbons and trophies.

We are still seeking members interested in running for the Board of Directors. You may respond to me via phone or email.

Your Association had a tremendous year in 2004 and I am looking for PSHA to reach higher and farther in 2005.

Happy Holidays!

Curt Melick



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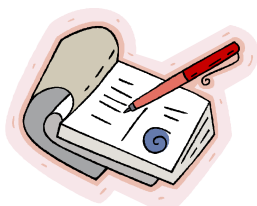
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Upcoming Events

- Dec. 16:** **Deadline for
changes to high
points**
- Jan. 20-23:** **Horse World Expo,
Timonium, Maryland**
- Feb. 20:** **PSHA Banquet,
Allentown, PA**
- Feb. 25-27:** **Horse World Expo,
Harrisburg, PA**



HOLD THIS DATE! FEBRUARY 20, 2005

**PSHA 2004 AWARDS BANQUET
ALLENTOWN, PA**

**Schedule & registration will be in next newsletter
(early January 2005)**

**IF YOU HAVEN'T CHECKED OUT PSHA'S
WEBSITE LATELY, IT'S TIME TO LOOK
AGAIN!**



PSHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**JANUARY 12, 2005 AT the Quentin Riding Club
SNOW DATE: January 26**

Optional dinner 6:00 PM, Meeting 7:00 PM
Contact: Curt Melick at (717) 303-1764/huntasb@aol.com
if you would like to attend

PSHA HOSTS BEACH PARTY FOR NHS GOOD HANDS FINALISTS AT PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL HORSE SHOW

A beach party in Harrisburg...in mid-October no less? Riders entered in the NHS Good Hands Finals at Pennsylvania National may well have thought they were seeing things when invitations to just such an event arrived in their mailboxes. But on Thursday afternoon, with the preliminary round out of the way and music blasting from the Small Arena, it became clear that just such an event was taking place.


The Small Arena, located next to the barn where all the Saddlebred entries were housed, was transformed into an indoor beach with the addition of palm-tree decorated volley ball nets, lawn darts and beach balls, popcorn and slushy makers and a DJ. The effect was enhanced as riders received grass skirts and colorful leis on their arrival.

The music was loud, the dress purely casual, the food picnic-themed and the focus was on providing a fun-filled break from the pressure inherent in competing at such an event as well as welcoming the riders, their families and their instructors to the show.

Riders took breaks from the volleyball game as their names were called for a variety of door prizes including items as diverse as a DVD player, a gift basket of locally-made Hershey's, a basket of deluxe body lotions and a delightful stuffed horse with a body created of quilted horse show ribbons. Raffle winner or not, every rider received a gift bag (actually a backpack styled picnic carrier with an insulated pocket at the bottom for cold beverages) filled to the top with a host of items including, but definitely not limited to, photo albums, cosmetics and skin care products, snacks, autographed copies of Carson Kressley's new book *Off The Cuff* and, in keeping with the beach party theme, visors and flip-flops.

The event received rave reviews from those who matter most: the riders themselves and their families and instructors. Whether they made it to the final round or not, whether they received a ribbon or not, the enjoyable time they all had was a hot topic of conversation for the rest of the weekend, with riders commenting that the "party really made the show for me" or "this was something I will always remember". As a group, the competitors graciously signed a "thank you" card to Shelly, Brook and PSHA for making this event happen.

The party was hosted by the Pennsylvania Saddlebred Horse Association (PSHA) with the help of a lot of their friends in the local Saddlebred and business communities. The brain-child of coordinators Shelly Stine and Brook Sweigart, who are both on PSHA's Board of Directors, the party and gifts would not have been possible without the generous sponsorships provided by members of the local Saddlebred community and donations from companies in or related to the equine industry. Special thanks to Brook and Shelly for all the hard work in making this event a success and to nationally-known horse show announcer and ringmaster Bob Kleinfelter and his wife Deb, who spent their first wedding anniversary munching pizza and spinning tunes at the party instead of having a romantic dinner for two so that "Bob K the DJ" could provide background music!



PSHA would like to thank all the sponsors who helped us make the Good Hands beach party a success and who contributed to the gift bags and/or the door prize drawing:

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SADDLEBREDS TO BE REPRESENTED AT TWO HORSE WORLD EXPOS

For the last five (5) years PSHA has introduced thousands of people to the American Saddlebred at the Horse World Expo in Timonium, Maryland – yes, that’s right, in the heart of “Hunt Country”! We have received increasingly enthusiastic responses to these efforts – and answered a lot of questions ranging from “What IS a Saddlebred anyway?” to “They’re so beautiful, how can I learn more about them –and how much do they cost?”

For 2005, Horse World Expo will be holding two multi-breed expo events: Timonium, Maryland (January 20-23) and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (February 25-27). PSHA is returning to Horse World Expo 2005 in both Maryland and Harrisburg.

PSHA is seeking volunteers to work in the booth for both the Harrisburg and Maryland events. PSHA will again publish a directory designed to help newcomers to our breed find trainers, riding lessons, sale horses and all the related services (saddle seat clothing, tack, etc.) Last year, PSHA’s calendar and directory were two very hot items – these attracted lots of attention and were great promotional tools for our breed and our state Association. Ultimately, about 800 copies of both the 2004 calendar and the directory were distributed to potential Saddlebred enthusiasts at the Maryland and Harrisburg Expos.

If you are interested in participating in Horse World Expo or just would like more information – contact Chris Rupnow (717-303-1764 or huntasb@aol.com) or visit Horse World Expo on the internet at www.horseworldexpo.com..

CELEBRATE THE SHOW SEASON AT THE 2004 AWARDS BANQUET

***WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE IN PICTURES?
BECOME A PART OF
"PSHA'S GREATEST HITS, Volume 2"***

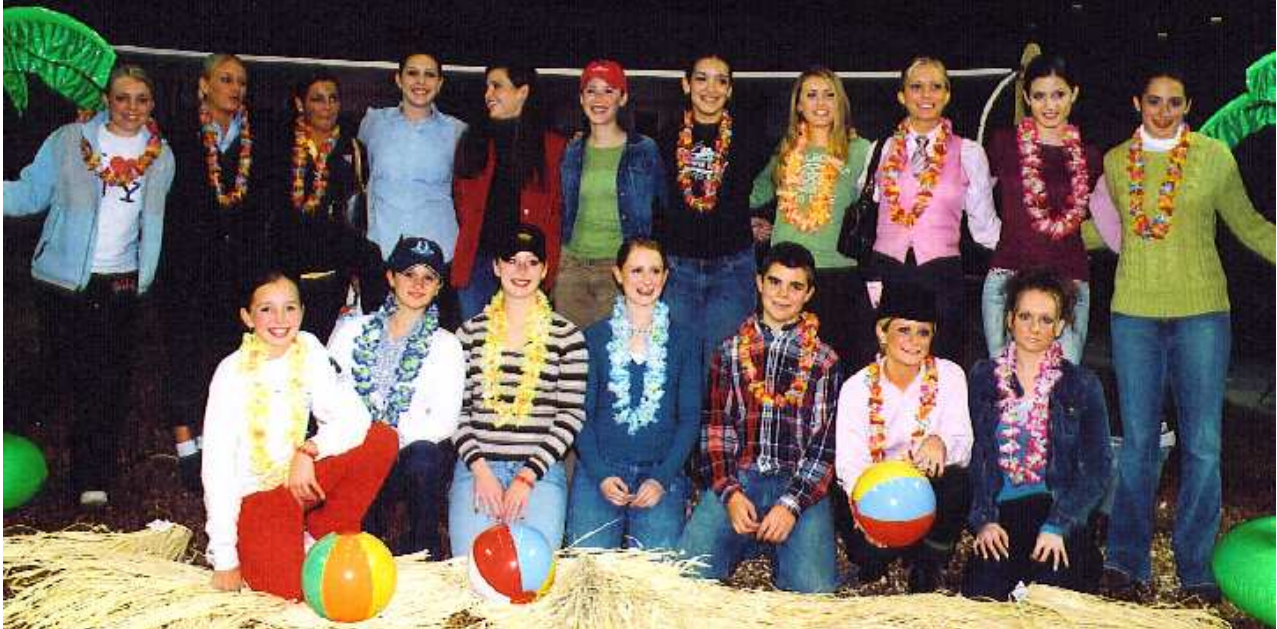
If you attended the PSHA Awards Banquet last year, you saw the great slide show of photos celebrating the 2003 show season, that R. T. Custer put together for that event.

R.T. Custer has graciously offered to put together a slide show and CD ROM celebrating the 2004 show season for the upcoming awards banquet. R. T. is collecting photos, preferably already scanned and in a JPEG format, of ALL PSHA members and their horses, not just award winners, as well as other memorable photos from the show season.

To join in and help us all relive last year
(and remind us that show season is NOT that far away!)
Send photos electronically to Steve Custer (scuster@farmjournal.com)

OR send hard copies (yes, they will be returned) to
R. T. Custer, 777 Gouglerstown Rd., Sinking Spring, PA 19608.

Riders in the 2004 NHS Good Hands Finals at Pennsylvania National Horse Show took a break from the tension of competing at a national level championship at the beach party hosted by PSHA, other area associations, individual members and businesses. All competitors are present in this photo except Rachel Crystal. See related articles in this newsletter.



ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

PSHA members may advertise for items they want to sell, or buy, at no charge.

Commercial ads may be inserted for six issues of our bi-monthly newsletter at the following rates: business card \$25 OR double business card (app. 4 in. X 6 in.) for \$50.

Ads will also be accepted on a single insertion basis at the rate of \$40 per page.

Ads which are purchased for the newsletter will also be included on our website at no additional charge.

Send ad copy (with check made out to PSHA for the appropriate amount) to:

Chris Rupnow 226 Hummel Ave. Lemoyne, PA 17043
email: huntasb@aol.com

CONTACT YOUR PSHA BOARD MEMBERS

- President:* *Curt Melick* *717-303-1764* *huntasb@aol.com*
- Vice-President:* *Bobbi Jo Beck* *717-249-0975* *histpn@aol.com*
- Treasurer:* *Steve Custer* *215-557-8974* *scuster@farmjournal.com*
- Secy/Newsletter:* *Chris Rupnow* *717-303-1764* *huntasb@aol.com*
- High Points:* *Tara Wentz* *484-347-9597* *queeny1066@aol.com*

- Membership:* *Carolyn Constantine*
610-391-9189 *CConstantine@BCC1929.org*

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- Linda Coffin* *610-965-2687*
- Mary Miles-Kinnaird* *610-614-0304* *mmilestogo@yahoo.com*
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- Shelly Stine* *717-865-0857* *luckymud@highpines.net*
- Brook Sweigart* *717-336-2327* *sweigartstables@dejazzd.com*
- Marlene Sweigart* *717-336-2327* *sweigartstables@dejazzd.com*

IF YOU HAVE CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS TO YOUR HORSE'S POINTS RECORD, REMEMBER TO SUBMIT THEM TO TARA WENTZ BY DECEMBER 16.

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Lemoyne, PA 17043
(717) 303-1764
Email: huntasb@aol.com