



**Southern Obstacle
Challenge Association**

**Where you and your
horse can have fun!**

March 2013 Newsletter

Yahoo!!



Colt Creek State Park was the site of another great SOCA event!

Colt Creek State Park Obstacle Challenge

Despite a very cold and windy day, 49 riders turned out for the SOCA Obstacle Challenge at Colt Creek State Park. Thanks to everyone who participated and volunteered, you are all super and we appreciate you more than we can say! Complete results are on the attached and can be found on the SOCA website. Pictures will be published next month! Congratulations to all!!!

Youth

1. Dana Fleming on Destiny
2. Shelby Ratliff on One Tuff Cowgirl
3. Stephanie Walters on Mr. Kandlelight & Roses
4. Mikayla Moore on Miss Face It

Novice

1. Robin Coleman on Harley
2. Beverly Hartely on Emerald
3. Heather Juhl on Jasmine Sue Zan
4. John Tyson on Phat Daddy
5. Joyce Tyson on Scooter
6. Danielle Martin on Montana

Non Pro

1. Dakota Rose Hodges on Sonny's Busy Lady
2. Phala Wriston on Winn Blue Pardner
3. Melissa Townsend on Barbo
4. Jami Robinson on Texas Genuine Jet
5. Vicky DeCaro on Roxie Rose
6. Debbie Howell on Dakota

March 23rd Extreme Cowboy Race, Gaffney, SC

Our next event is an EXCA Race. Make your plans for the March 23rd Extreme Cowboy Race at Green River Farms in Gaffney, SC. Joel and Barbara Mobley are always great hosts and the course is one of the best in the country. We hear that Joel is building some new obstacles for this year!

Remember that the order of go is determined by entries – The first to enter is the last to ride and vice versa.....If you sign up late, you go first! We already have over 40 entries, so don't wait any longer!

Flyer and entry form is attached.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

**April 27th at the Florida Horse Park is
the next SOCA Obstacle Challenge!**

3/2/13 Obstacle Challenge Results (Cont'd)

Pro/Posse

1. Rebecca Adams on Generator's Tall Paul
2. Connie Lloyd on Chance
3. Cathy Ulm on Spirit
4. Rebecca Adams on A Texas State of Mind
5. Sandra Vann on Spirit
6. Sharon Carty on Kitty's Fantasy

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SOCA Will be hosting the EXCA National Championships in Shelbyville, TN on May 24th and 25th!!

April 27th Obstacle Challenge at the Florida Horse Park!!

Make plans to attend a fun-filled day at the Florida Horse Park! SOCA has been approved to host an obstacle challenge on Saturday, April 27th. The obstacle challenge will be in the western arena. Sign up early to get a good spot in the order of go – Then enjoy the great trails of the Florida Horse Park while we tabulate scores.

Details and entry forms are on the attached flyer. Hope to see everyone there!

Thanks to our SOCA judges!!

We're proud that they took training, use their experience and provide the best judging possible. It is a thankless job, but we appreciate all of the competitors that thank our judges and volunteers....this means more than we can say!

Dates, details and previous months newsletters can be found on the SOCA website at

www.southernobstaclechallenges.com

Trophy Halters will be given at SOCA events this year – Make sure you compete & win one!

2013 Events

- 1/19-20/13 – RO Ranch in Mayo, FL – Obstacle Challenge & Extreme Cowboy Race.
- 3/2/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Colt Creek State Park, Lakeland, FL
- 3/23/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC (Flyer Attached)
- 4/27/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Florida Horse Park, Ocala, FL (Flyer Attached)
- 5/25/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race National Championships – Celebration Grounds, Shelbyville, TN (Flyer on website)
- 6/22/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race – Pontotoc County Agri-Center, Pontotoc, MS (Flyer on website)
- 9/7/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL
- 9/28/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race SE Regional Championships - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC (Flyer on website)
- 11/16/13 – Obstacle Challenge Championships – Rocking Horse Stables, Altoona, FL

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SOCA Member Spotlight

Meet your fellow SOCA Members!

Wayne Van De Walker



Horse's Name: Alen's Big Thunder (SSH, TWH) – "Boomer"
Number of Horses owned and breeds: 6 Total: 3 SSH/TWH & 3 TWH
Occupation: Retired from The Walt Disney Company after 37 ½ years
Family: Wife - Janie, Golden Retriever – Bailey, and 3 cats that adopted us.

Other Activities besides SOCA (horse related and non-horse related): Boomer and I try to go to all of the SOCA events and any clinics offered. We show on the rail in the Spotted classes with the Sunshine Racking, Walking, Spotted Horse Association, as well as the versatility classes at these shows. Boomer is a great horse for trail riding, so we go whenever we can. My wife, Janie, always wants to go on these rides on her spotted horse, Oreo, so it is something we can do as a family.

Other interesting facts about you and/or your horse (what you like to do, anything you've won, goals, etc.): We were always city dwellers before retiring and moving to the country. We fulfilled the "city slicker" role at a couple of Dude Ranches out west before taking the leap into horse ownership. We sampled country living when we bought 80 acres and ran some cattle on it. Janie was still working at the time, but she drove out on the weekends to pet the cows and tend her vegetable garden. We realized country living was for us, sold the 80 acres (too much work!), and found a home on 40 acres. We kept a few cows for awhile, built a barn and bought our first horse to put in the barn. (We actually had 1 horse already in training at a local barn.) You can't have just one horse at home in your barn, so we bought a companion horse for him and showed both horses in Walking Horse Shows. Pretty soon, another spotted horse came into our lives, and then another Tennessee Walking Horse. At some point in the collection of horses, we decided to breed our spotted mare and "Boom" was born. What a great experience to raise one from a baby! We love our herd of horses, cats and dog!

Lisa Wood



Horse: "Caesar" (Echo's Gold Caesar C is his registered name), Missouri Fox Trotter
In addition to SOCA we enjoy trail rides, hunter paces, and we show occasionally.

Caesar is a pretty versatile guy. We also volunteer with the Posse in Broward. Away from the barn I do a lot of training with my puppy, Paisley, a cattle dog mix (Agility, Tricks, Obedience, Flyball). My Mom and I serve as a foster home for kittens too small for adoption for the Humane Society of Broward County. We raise and socialize them and send them back in when they are big enough.

Occupation: I am a Lieutenant at Miami Dade Fire Rescue, currently bid in on the Venom Response Team (a specialty unit dealing with snakes and animal rescues).

Other interesting facts about you and/or your horse (what you like to do, anything you've won, goals, etc.): My Mom lives with me in Davie with two more dogs and two cats. My favorite place to be is in Altoona, at my cottage on the hill. From there it's a very short walk to the forest and the trails there are so serene. My plan is to retire there and immerse in the horse community. So many different things to do and see, almost every weekend "in season", and I hope to spend the summers horse camping and seeing the rest of the country. High priority goal is to ride Caesar in the Redwoods. What an adventure that will be!



SOCA Member Spotlight

Meet your fellow SOCA Members

Shawna Davenport



Horse(s) Name: Charlie

Number of Horses owned & breeds: One Appaloosa, Charlie, and One Spotted Saddle Horse, Domino.

Other activities besides SOCA (horse related and non-horse related): I spend a lot of my time trail riding and training with the horses. I follow Clinton Anderson and am always working on something! When I am not riding, I like to collect antiques, scrapbook, make jewelry, and play video games. I pretty much like any kind of craft and love to re-purpose junk into something cool and useful. I love to drive tractors and big trucks, and love to travel! I am a member of ACTHA and the American Stock Horse Association, the Aphc, and EXCA.

Occupation: Senior Financial Analyst at St. Thomas Health in Nashville TN.

Family: I have a husband, a dog, and a cat. My animals are my children!

Other interesting facts about you and/or your horse (what you like to do, anything you've won, goals, etc.): I grew up on a farm as an only child. I was very fortunate to have parents that were open minded and taught me how to operate farm equipment, raise hay, and raise beef cattle. I have ridden horses all my life, whether it be my own or someone else's. I thought I was a good rider until Charlie came along. I prefer spirited horses (I am half crazy myself) and when I tried him out for the first time, he reared straight up in the air and threw me off. I told his owner I'd take him, lets load him up! After spending a few days with him I quickly realized that I didn't know everything like I thought I did, and combined with 10 years of inconsistent riding after moving away from home, I wasn't in the best shape to be riding an opinionated Appaloosa. A friend introduced me to Clinton Anderson, and I began learning natural horsemanship and working through some of the communication issues I was having with Charlie. It took about three months for us to finally work out the kinks, and ever since then we've had the best relationship I could have ever asked for. Since then I spend a lot of time learning new methods and trying new events with both my horses for fun. Charlie and I have done well locally competing in pole bending and western pleasure classes. My goal is to eventually make it to the EXCA World Championship with him. Domino and I are working on her strengths and finding her favorite job. I plan on barrel racing with her and working her into the obstacle challenges soon.

Melissa Bailey

Horse(s) Name: A Royal Silver Design, Capriole and Today's JFK

Number of Horses owned & breeds: Three TWH's

Other activities besides SOCA (horse related and non-horse related): I do nothing else but shovel horse crap and take care of old people (my parents!).

Occupation: Molecular cytotechnologist

Family: Have a family,....you can have them!!!

Other interesting facts about you and/or your horse (what you like to do, anything you've won, goals, etc.): Me and my horses just chill and I talk to them.



Please send your information for the Member Spotlight!
Email to: southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com



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**Where you and your
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2013 Buckle Series

In 2013, buckles will be awarded for the high point obstacle challenge winners in the following divisions: Novice, Youth, Non Pro, and Pro/Posse.

Points from each of the 2013 SOCA Obstacle Challenges will be totaled, with double points at the obstacle challenge championship in November. The horse/rider team with the most points will be awarded the buckle.

Regional Championship buckles for the Extreme Cowboy Races will be determined by points accumulated at SOCA events only. The horse/rider teams accumulating the most points at each SOCA EXCA race, with the triple points at the regional championship race on 9/28/13, will be awarded the high point buckle in the following divisions: Pro, Non-Pro, Ride Smart, Novice, Youth, and Non-Pro.

Purpose of SOCA

OBSTACLE CHALLENGES

- Divisions for all levels of horses and riders
- Open to all breeds
- Payback in all classes, prizes, and ribbons
- Ten to fifteen obstacles
- Some events will be in arenas – others will be on the trail

EXTREME COWBOY RACES

- Sanctioned Extreme Cowboy Races with divisions for: Pro, Non-Pro, Novice, Ride Smart, Youth, Young Guns, & Green Horse
- Open to all breeds
- Payback, prizes, and ribbons

CLINICS/SCHOOLING DAYS

- Learn to negotiate obstacles
- Schooling days will allow you to practice obstacles with the help of others, and without the pressure of competition.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!!!

SOCA would like to thank our corporate sponsors

Rick & Jane Peniston

Stellar Marine

Walker Pond Farm

Darby Oaks Stables

Linda & Jerry Harrington – Trailhead Ranch

SOCA would like to thank our buckle, division and ribbon sponsors:

Janie & Wayne Van De Walker * Bernie Duncan

Tony & Claudia Gilstrap * Electric Supply - & John Steele

Jim & Tami Karr * Ocoee Animal Hospital

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Three
choices in
life:

Give up,
give in,
or give it all
you got!

Can we add you to the list!?!?

Check the SOCA website for sponsorships information.

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