

ECAHS Member News

News from Windt Im Wald Farm

Although we are extremely disappointed that the Crabbet Celebration was too far away for us to attend and to share our exemplary Crabbet-bred horses, we are proud to report that we have had some successes with our newest Crabbet-bred, WIW Imageofchoice (WIW Windys Choice x Bur-Dals Ginanah), foaled April 8, 2007. You may recall from a previous story that this is the youngster whose 22-year-old dam bypassed idyllic 80-degree temperatures to foal during an Easter Sunday blizzard and then go into apparent shock. **(insert image.jpg here)**



At any rate, though Gina did not settle this spring, she is doing very well and we are working to get her into good flesh for the 2008 breeding season. Imageofchoice was weaned in mid-July and attended his very first halter show on August 18 at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea, Ohio. The youngest entry of the 13 participants, Icky showed off beautiful form with his tail over his back as he trotted gloriously away from the judge, putting me into a full run on a gimpy right knee. He set up obediently and never inched forward on me as the judge patiently assessed all the entries. When she came to view us, she asked Icky's age and volunteered, "Oh, aren't we just lovely?" Yes, yes, I thought, he is indeed lovely! Instead, I just quietly thanked her for her comment, which put a song inside my heart. We walked away with a fifth place ribbon, which Icky started to eat when I attached it to his halter for a picture. So much for fame and vanity!

On September 3, WIW Imageofchoice made another appearance, this time at the Geauga County Fairgrounds in Burton, Ohio. He was less eager to trot this time, but when he at last made the decision to do so, he again put his tail over his back, and I found myself keeping up at an outright run. Again he set up nicely with ears forward and rear leg extended. He was alert and paid attention to me. Again the judge admired his conformation and color. Within the field of entries were two magnificent adult Morgan horses who could really motor and who obviously deserved first and second place! When it was all over, we still took third place and attracted a great deal of attention from the rail! Icky learned a great deal from his second experience, especially when the eight draft hitches thundered past him. At first startled, he calmed down immediately and took it all in stride like the adaptable individual that he is!

Admirers always identify him as a purebred Arabian with his broad jibbah, refined muzzle, and arrogant tail. I am proud to announce his Crabbet-related breeding, and I believe he will continue to be a wonderful ambassador of our breed! Perhaps I will be fortunate enough during one of the upcoming ECAHS Celebrations to share this boy with the rest of you! Our appearance at the Celebration would be the fulfillment of a wonderful dream.

*Diane Jones
WINDT IM WALD FARM
Auburn Township, OH*

A Spooky Day with the Bobbs!

At the invitation of Pat Bobb and Buzz Moore a small, but intrepid, group of horses and riders gathered at Whispering Hope Farm in Columbia, Virginia, for a half-day of "spooking". ECAHS was represented by Sandra Cox and her gelding WH Vanzee That (under saddle) and by Buzz Moore, Noelle Braun, Debra Prior and the 2-year old stallion FFC Dundee (in hand).

A series of spooky items had been set up for each horse to experience, conquer, forget, re-experience, re-conquer and eventually come to ignore and move through or by. These items included: umbrella, post-box, water hazards, "car washes", noisy mosh pit, cavelletties, teeter-totter, spray canister, hanging ghosts, tarp tunnel and bridge, side-pass logs, noisy pull bags, and safety cones.

I must say that I was very impressed by the confidence that each horse exhibited at the introduction of each new item. Sandra Cox's patience with "That" was very touching to behold. Never once did "That" let her down and he seemed to look forward to the next item. The trust between those two was nearly palpable and something I would very much like to establish with my next horse.

Then there was Dundee, a very confident young stallion, with a spooky degree of intelligence. I'm not altogether sure that he was not "playing" us by the end of the day. He would approach an item, and although he may have flinched now and then he never refused to go through or by an item. Again, I observed a willingness to move forward to the next item and trust in his handler, whether it was Noelle, Buzz or myself.

I can see the benefits of this type of "training" for not only the horse, but also the rider or handler. Hopefully it will become possible for more members to set up and participate in such Spook Days. If you have questions on how to set up a spook course, you may contact Debra Prior at: kafa007@cs.com.

On the Celebration XIV Front! 50/50 Raffle Benefits Youth Challenge

A 50/50 Raffle was held this year for the first time to benefit the John W. (Jack) Sims Youth Challenge. The Youth Challenge Committee would like to thank everyone that participated and supported this event. The Raffle netted \$88. This money will be placed in the Youth Challenge account to be used to award prizes to the Youth Challenge participants. With your help, we can make this program a success.

A very nice thank you note!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for a wonderful Crabbet Celebration! This was my first experience w/ your show and to say that I was impressed would be an understatement. You and the entire office staff were amazing to work w/ and the show had that wonderful small show/family atmosphere going for it like no other that I have attended. Your barn manager, John Bobb, was very accommodating. I, like many other "horse people" show on a shoe string budget, attending only a few small shows per year w/o alot of money for extras. Although not what I originally had planned to do, Mr. Bobb very kindly allowed me to stable my two horses together making the trip away from home much easier on me and my thirty-one year old gelding who was very happy to have my six year old mare who is his constant companion close at hand. The show was so low stress and I had such fun that I would definitely like to come back if the show is held in TN again.

Thanks again,
Hope