

THE NORTH TEXAS EVENTING ASSOCIATION

# CROSS COUNTRY NEWS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3      AUTUMN 2009

## FROM THE TRAILER OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members, Families,  
Riders, and Horse  
Enthusiasts:

Fall is here and brings with it some cooler weather! The leaves will soon be changing and the holidays are fast approaching. Accordingly, the theme of this letter is *Thanksgiving*. I am thankful to be involved in this organization which has allowed me to stay close to a sport so dear to my heart and I am even more thankful of the blessing I've been given to compete in it once again on a darling new horse! We are all so incredibly lucky to be part of the sport of eventing and should be thankful for the friendships made, the camaraderie of our fellow competitors, the family memories in the making, the smiles of children, the support of our understanding spouses, and most of all, for the magnificent creatures – our horses – who make this all possible for us.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude at the blessing that has been bestowed on this organization this year by way of a hard working and ambitious board. Over the past months since our last newsletter, NTEA has been working diligently on preparations for our 2009 awards banquet and for our 2010 activities. Please mark your calendars for our Annual Awards Banquet on the evening of December 12, 2009!

Finally, I am so proud to announce that February 5-7, 2010, NTEA will be hosting the first state-side clinic with Lucinda and Clayton Fredericks – winners of Rolex, Badminton and team silver medalists in Beijing! For more information on the Fredericks, please visit their site at [www.teamfredericks.com](http://www.teamfredericks.com) and for more information on the clinic, please stay tuned to our website at [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net)! We

are thrilled about this opportunity and cannot wait to share details regarding the exciting clinic weekend NTEA has in store as we welcome Lucinda and Clayton to the U.S. in true Texas style!!

If you have not renewed your membership for 2009, do so quickly so that you don't miss out on what NTEA has to offer – it is not too late to reap the benefits of the awards and scholarship programs for this year! And, as always, please do not hesitate to contact me. Keep your prayers said and your ponies fed.

Meg Johnson, Esq.

President, NTEA

## NTEA FALL 2009 CALENDAR

## October 2009

- October 3-4                      Open Schooling/Horse Trial ***Curragh Equestrian Center***
- October 10-11                      **USEA Horse Trials**— Meadowcreek Park, Kosse Texas  
www.meadowcreekpark.net
- October 17                      Combined Test ***Flower Mound Equestrian Center***
- October 24-25                      **USEA Horse Trials**— Holly Hill, Benton LA
- October 31                      Brazos Valley Hunter Show
- October 31– Nov 1                      Horse Trials and Open Schooling—***Quail Run Farm***

## November 2009

- November 14-15                      Open Schooling/Horse Trial Denton Creek Farms
- November 14-15                      **USEA Horse Trials**— Corona del Sol Baird, TX
- November 20-22                      **USEA Will Coleman Clinic** at the Texas Rose Horse Park, Tyler, Tx. Contact information: www.itsallaboutthehorse.com or csmurray@itsallaboutthehorse.com
- November 21                      Schooling Combined Test/Cross Country Schooling  
Texas Rose Horse Park info@texasrosehorsepark.com
- November 21-22                      **Open Schooling and Equestrian Fair.** Vendor opportunities.  
Lazy Dog Ranch. Contact Cheryl Oliver.  
Cheryl@lazydogranchtx.com

Do you have an event you'd like to add to our calendar? Let us know!  
mandyandkuma@gmail.com  
Check out our full, up-to-the-minute online calendar at www.nteventing.net

# 'Round the Ranch



## with the Lazy Dog

by Cheryl Olivier

This newsletters article is about horse show safety. Shows can be loads of fun; but they can also be nerve racking. Sometimes riders will do things they would not do normally; or they are exposed to situations they are not normally in. When this happens, often safe practices are not followed. So, let's look at some things to remember to make sure your show is all fun!

Start before you leave home. Make sure to pack with things going wrong in mind – because they will. Be sure to bring your current coggins, and signed liability release. These things are not to inconvenience you; they are required and necessary for rider, horse, and facility. Have your pertinent medical and contact information written down, available, and most importantly, make sure someone else knows where it is. Also, be sure to check if the facility has a policy about bringing dogs on their property. Broadstone Equine Insurance reports that their largest number of claims involve dog bites.

Other items that need to be in your

packing list are first aid kits for both humans and horses. Make sure you have buckets and water if at all possible. Water and towels can be the most helpful item you have if there is a human or horse injury. Having clean water will also help to keep your horse healthy. Horses drinking from community troughs is a can get or leave behind illness. Another important item to pack is a spare halter and lead rope.

Most importantly, when you are riding and stabling away from home your horse will be on edge. He will do things that will seem out of character. Keep your head on a swivel and think like he does. The worst horse show injuries to both animals and humans usually occur when not mounted. Always practice safe horse handling skills when in the stables, and getting to and from the show area. When waiting for your go; don't become too relaxed and distracted watching others. There will be a lot of activity around your horse. Activity with a high potential to startle him, and create a bolting or kicking hazard.

Hopefully these ideas will help make your time with your horse happier. Do you have any genius horse ideas you would like to share? Send them to us and we will include them in a future article! [Cheryl@LazyDogRanchTx.com](mailto:Cheryl@LazyDogRanchTx.com)

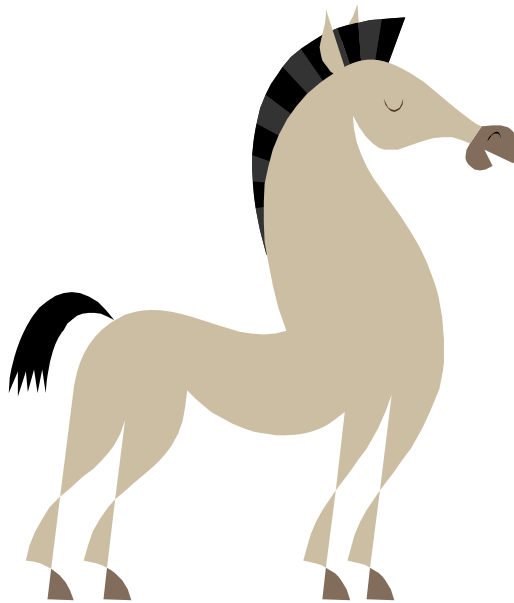
## Equine Liability Common Misconceptions...and The Reality Behind Them

Meg Johnson, Esq.

In our last newsletter, we discussed a common misconception regarding homeowners insurance coverage in the event of a horse related accident on home-territory. However, in my experience, the number one most common misconception in equine law is related to what the Texas Equine Activity Liability Act *actually* says. In this series, I hope to shed some light on the reality behind the laws involving equine activities.

### **PART 2:**

**Misconception:** Texas has a law that limits liability for equine activities, so I cannot be sued if someone sustains a horse-related injury on my property.



**The reality:** Yes and no. The Texas Equine Activities Liability Act *is not a zero fault law*. The act provides that a person is not liable for damages arising from the personal injury or death of a “*participant*” in an equine activity if the injury or death results from the dangers or conditions that are an inherent risk of an equine activity. However, there are several exceptions to the statute, from which most litigation ensues. Further, the injured person must have been a “*participant*” pursuant to the definitions set forth in the act (i.e. a person riding, han-

dling or assisting a rider with a horse). Accordingly, spectators and event volunteers may not be considered “*participants*” under the act and could, depending on the circumstances, have a viable cause of action. The statute also requires the visible display of “*clearly readable*” warning signs that alert participants to the limitation of liability by law. The Texas equine liability law may provide a defense in the event of an equine incident and subsequent lawsuit, but *it will not prevent you from being sued* and incurring

litigation expenses. Even if you are fortunate enough to win a lawsuit under this law, as we discussed in the last article, you will undoubtedly incur substantial legal expenses in defending the suit, unless you have proper liability insurance coverage which provides you a defense to the lawsuit and covers your legal expenses. The full text of the Texas Equine Activities Liability Act can be found in

the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/CP/htm/CP.87.htm>.

Our firm, **Touchstone Bernays**, handles the defense of farms and ranches, defense of vehicular accidents involving equine transportation, and defense of equine equipment failure as well as sales, breeding, training and boarding agreement preparation and litigation. [www.touchstonelaw.com](http://www.touchstonelaw.com)

## **Putting it Together... Behind the Scenes at a Combined Test**

**Amanda Harp  
Texas Rose Horse Park**

It is no secret that show organizers all put in long hours to bring us a fun, safe and efficient horse show. Until put in that position none of us can truly realize how much effort is truly put in behind the scenes. It starts off with simple things such as putting together a flier, advertising, booking your judges and volunteers. Then the list seems to grow and grow and then grow a bit more! I found that separating everything into categories and focusing on one thing at a time worked much better than trying to do everything at once. It also helps if you get comfortable delegating items out then checking to make sure it was completed, this I did not learn until during the combined test!

Having a knowledgeable person to get advice, bounce ideas, and then accept corrective criticism from is key to success. My saving grace was Jan Michie, she devoted much of her time to answer the smallest questions as well as telling me something needed to be done differently.

A huge eye opener for me was sitting down in front of my computer with all the entries two days before the horse show to put times together. I had thought that this task would be a simple job. I thought very wrong! It took me quite awhile to organize and then I still needed to triple check it. Closing dates are meant to be at least a week out, not three days prior!

Another eye opener for me was how much volunteers make up a show. For years I have helped out at various horse trials, schooling shows, and other activities but I never truly realized how each individual is a piece of the puzzle, without them all is chaos!

It meant a lot to me that my friends, family, and clientele devoted their free time with a smile to assist me in achieving a successful show. Seeing the smiling faces, meeting new people, and watching everything come together was one of the most rewarding feelings I have ever felt in my life. I am so excited and feel very blessed to have the opportunity to help promote eventing at Texas Rose Horse Park.

*\*\* If you would like to volunteer to help at any NTEA schooling show or USEA recognized show, we'd LOVE to have your help! Contact any board member - our contact information is on the home-page of our website at [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net)*

## NTEA CLASSIFIEDS

**TACK FOR SALE****Saddles**

**BLACK COUNTRY QUANTUM JUMPING SADDLE** for sale. Size 17.5 seat, regular flap, medium tree, front and rear blocks, color dark brown. Saddle is in next-to-new condition. Bought new in September, and lightly used through December. Very comfortable and puts the rider in a great position. Reason for selling is because I am no longer jumping. Paid \$2800 new. Asking \$2000 or best offer. Please e-mail Rachel for pictures or additional information at [rmzent@yahoo.com](mailto:rmzent@yahoo.com).

**COURBETTE CLASSIC JUMPING SADDLE** for sale. Size 17 seat, medium tree, black. Forward flap. Saddle has hardly been used! Great starter saddle or addition to your lesson saddles. \$400 or best offer. Contact Mandy for pictures or more information [mandyandkuma@gmail.com](mailto:mandyandkuma@gmail.com).

**ALBION JUMPING SADDLE** size 17, brown. Medium tree. Excellent condition! \$900. Contact Mandy for pictures or more information. [mandyandkuma@gmail.com](mailto:mandyandkuma@gmail.com)

- **Jorge Canaves Trail all purpose trail saddle**, black, 19 inch seat, medium tree; Excellent condition-used once. Asking \$600.00. Contact Mary-Ruth at 940-367-3503 or [mrjunk@pwhome.com](mailto:mrjunk@pwhome.com)
- **Passier close contact saddle**, brown, 17 inch seat, medium tree; well loved and worn. Asking \$200.00. Contact Mary-Ruth at 940-367-3503 or [mrjunk@pwhome.com](mailto:mrjunk@pwhome.com)

**\*\* more saddles and pictures of these items on [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net) \*\***

**Misc Tack & Clothing**

- 50 inch brown leather overlay all purpose/jumping girth good condition \$20  
50 inch brown canvas all purpose/jumping girth fair condition \$8  
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or [mrjunk@pwhome.com](mailto:mrjunk@pwhome.com)
- Charles Owen Safety Vest, green, child's XL. Excellent condition. (used once by petite woman) Contact Mary-Ruth at 940-367-3503  
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or call Peggy Friauf @ 817-875-7411

**If you have some tack, a trailer, stalls available, or a horse for sale/lease... put it in the NTEA Classifieds!**

**Listings are published online at [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net) in addition to our quarterly newsletter.**

**Email Mandy Kelly if you'd like to place an ad.**

**[mandyandkuma@gmail.com](mailto:mandyandkuma@gmail.com)**

# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR NTEA BUSINESS MEMBERS



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## THE NORTH TEXAS EVENTING ASSOCIATION

NTEA  
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For enquiries about this newsletter:  
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For membership enquiries:  
nteamembership@gmail.com

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CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!  
[WWW.NTEVENTING.NET](http://WWW.NTEVENTING.NET)

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### The NTEA needs volunteers!

Have fun and help out at a local NTEA event.

Check the calendar and more upcoming events at [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net) for ways that YOU can make an impact on the sport of eventing in North Texas!

Have a safe and successful 2009 season!



Attention all Members!  
Get involved with NTEA!

Next NTEA Board Meeting  
**Will be announced on the [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net) homepage—or email any board member for more**

**information! (Our contact information is on the [www.nteventing.net](http://www.nteventing.net) homepage).**

For directions and to RSVP to a board meeting please contact Mandy Kelly at 214-563-2640 or [mandyandkuma@gmail.com](mailto:mandyandkuma@gmail.com).



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