

MMOHSC

Mid Michigan Open Horse Show Circuit

March 2008

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to All:

I have enjoyed the many emails and phone calls I have received from both old and new members. If the enthusiasm I am feeling from these members is any indication the 2008 show season should be better than ever! Our Teddy Bear Show is only 2 months away, can you believe it? Hopefully, the snow will be gone as well as the mud.

I know our barn is already bustling with activity preparing for the upcoming show season. I have officially retired my old Minnie horse and am hoping to show one of the 3 young horses we purchased over the winter. I am keeping the area's newest trainer, Matt Langley, very busy!

This year the Board has decided to offer work saddles for our champions from the 13 & under, 14 – 19, 20 – 39 & 40 – 54 age divisions. The prizes for the remaining divisions will also be very exciting. Our year – end prizes catalog is going through an overhaul and I think you will love the wide variety of choices the new version will hold! As you can tell, I am also keeping your Board of Directors very busy!

See you at the shows,

Deana Bickel

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: You can advertise on the Mid Michigan Open Horse Show Circuit. For things you need to sell, buy and/or trade. For text ads it is only \$5.00 and for a photo and text ad it is only \$10.00. How do I do this, well just send the information to one of your board members and we will be glad to have it posted on our web.

Upcoming dates to remember:

April 26 is the date for the **Teddy Bear Show!**

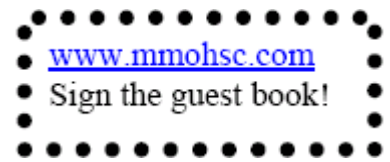
Class Sponsorships can still be taken until June 1.

You must have your membership paid by May 24 to qualify for year-end points.

We will be doing the Team Tournament at the June 7th show in Ithaca.

Camping for all Ithaca shows will be \$10.00 per night & Stalls will be \$15.00 per day.

NEWSLETTER



Board Members

President:

Deana Bickel

Vice President:

Billie Jo Willoughby

Secretary:

Lahren Bickel

Treasurer:

Amy Reinhardt

Point Secretary:

Lynne Ash

Publicity Chair:

Mary Karl

General Board Members:

DeAnn Denton

Sue Catterfeld

Becky Buxman

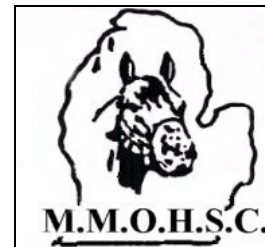
Emily Pittman

Youth Reps:

Amber Daniel

Kyle Kedzeirski

We would like to encourage member or potential members to join us for our monthly meetings. Just give Deana a call for the time, place and date.



Horse Show Prayer

Dear Protector of Horses and Fools,

When that intelligent, hardworking, honest judge finally sees what I see in this horse I've worked so hard and long with, help me to accept my win with grace and dignity. And, when that blind, clueless idiot -- I mean judge -- somehow fails to see what a fine job we've done, (well, at least better than the so-and-so he placed ahead of us!) help me to accept my defeat with some of that same grace and dignity.

Lord, you alone know how I've sweated blood over this horse, the hours I've spent getting her ready (and Lord, are any of them ever ready? You (and probably only you!) understand why I've spent good money on this animal -- money I could've spent on lots of other things -- things that just might have afforded me a little more pleasure and a lot less frustration. Lord, tolerate my disappointment when I lose, and help me keep it all in perspective. Help me remember that when some horse show judge gives me the gate, it's not as if St. Peter just gave me that pearly one.

Lord, clear my eyes and help me see, before I open my big mouth, that the so-and-so with the cow-hocked, pony gaited dink walking out of the pen ahead of me is actually a fellow exhibitor who has also worked hard, maybe even sweated blood over his horse too, and probably deserves to enjoy this moment to its fullest while it lasts.

Lord, you know there are sometimes -- but not nearly as often as I tend to suppose when I lose -- such ugly things as Politics, Prejudice, and Unethical Practices, which may cause my horse to get beaten unfairly -- sometimes. Help me, then, to remember that several wrongs won't ever make a right, and that none of the wrongs gives me an excuse to act like an idiot.

You know I'm a competitor, Lord; I make no bones about that. I love to win and I hate to get beat. There are few things more abhorrent to me, Lord, than placing sixth out of six. If I didn't love to compete, I'd stay home and knit afghans. But then, there are probably afghan shows, and people who hire professional knitters with high-tech knitting machines, and most likely there are afghan show judges who raise sheep whose wool goes into some of the winningest afghans, and there I'd be -- still frustrated, still getting beat, and without a horse to share half the blame.

This year, Lord, help me to have a little more faith in my fellow horse folks, and for Heaven's sake, help me win, or lose, with a little class.

Amen.

MMOHSC
918 S. Grey Road
Midland, MI 48640

2008 Brochure inside!!