



# The BEA Hub Summer News Edition



## Upcoming BEA Fundraising

The BEA is hoping to schedule a fundraiser for early next year. How do you and your family enjoy Basketball? Ever consider combining Basketball with your enjoyment of riding horses; or perhaps riding Donkey's?? Well we're hoping to schedule a Donkey Basketball game as a fundraiser. We are talking to a professional company that has a team of very well trained Donkey's that they would bring for the teams to use. The company provides not only the Donkey's but also a lot of support in the planning and ticket sales. We are hoping that this would be a fun and enjoyable activity to participate in but also to

watch. We think our whole community could come out and enjoy this event and help us raise money for the continued activities that our organization would like to support.

We will be working to reserve a facility over the next several weeks. All of the Donkey's come equipped with sneakers and it's guaranteed not to harm any floor that we play on. Hopefully this will be a profitable day for the organization and an opportunity for everyone to participate and enjoy a day of fun.

We will continue to keep everyone updated on how our

planning is going and when we have a confirmed date and location

We look forward to your thoughts and suggestions!

Thank you :-)



Horses and young children make a perfect match

### Inside this issue:

Fundraising 1

President's Corner 1

Breed Spotlight 2

Upcoming Events 2

More BEA News 3

## Presidents Corner—A message from the Board President

Ten months have passed since the idea for an equine group became a reality. The Bedford Equine Assoc. has established itself as the association promoting equine activities in the area regardless of breed or discipline style. We are entering the

final phases of achieving our goal of building a framework that will enable today's and tomorrow's youth many opportunities to learn and reach personal plateaus with their equine friends.

Members and Officers are now working towards reach-

ing out to the public by planning events and activities that will enable us to spread the word of the BEA. Volunteers will be needed to help with these events as they come about so please consider donating your time

Cont. pg. 4

### Special points of interest:

- Fund raising
- Future Activities
- Membership
- Presidents Corner
- Breed Highlight
- Follow the Bedford Equine Association on Facebook
- Useful Equine Web Links

## Breed Spotlight—The Arabian

The Arabian is the oldest recorded breed dating back 4,500 years. They were long prized by the Bedouin people and originally used as great war horses. Presently the Arabian horse is one of the top ten most popular breeds in the world. First recorded breedings date to the 7th Century AD in the Persian Gulf area. Muslim warriors introduced them to North Africa and Spain and during the Crusades of 1095 many were captured and taken to Europe. Catherine the Great founded her own breeding

operation around 1772 and Queen Isabel II of Spain created the Spanish Stud Book in 1847. The most famous breeding operation in Europe, Crabbet Park Stud was founded in 1878.

George Washington used 2 Arabians during the Revolutionary War, one was obtained from the Sultan of Morocco. In 1906 an American Breeder purchased several mares &



Arabian mare and foal

stallions directly from the Bedouin for breeding in America. At the end of WWII the US brought Arabians captured in Europe to the Kellogg US Army Remount Station in California. The US Army became the largest breeder of Arabians in American until the end of the Calvary.

Now Arabians are used all over the world for every type or riding discipline and are much loved family members.

## Introduction to Harnessing a Success

The July 28th member's meeting was topped off with a great demonstration on harnessing a single horse and team. Marshall Cofer a local Bedford, VA horse trainer and breeder brought Bill and Barney, a beautiful pair of black Percheron gelding's to the meeting and allowed members to get some hand's on experience. Member's were allowed to work with Marshall to ground drive the team around the arena.

The meeting was hosted by Stormie Shelton at the Astride with Pride Farm. Stormie also provided her great Haflinger gelding Bobby and provided cart rides. This was a great opportunity for club members to get out and have a hands on experience with these beautiful animals.



## Upcoming Events

### Tractor Supply Equine Day—October 24, 2009

The BEA is partnering with Tractor Supply in Bedford to host their horse events from 10am—4pm. This is a great opportunity for the BEA to get more recognized out in the public and for you to display your horses and advertise your farm or business. We are cur-

rently planning the events for the day and are looking for people to participate and volunteer. You do not have to be a BEA member to help out or participate.

Possible Activities:

Parade of Breeds—all types of equine breeds

Pony Rides, Wagon Rides and perhaps a visit from the 14th VA Calvary

We are also hoping to arrange for some clinics throughout the day.

Please feel free to share your thoughts, suggestions and ideas with us. Please e-mail us at, [mail@bedfordequine.org](mailto:mail@bedfordequine.org) or for more information please call Missy Wade, 540-330-5481

## Upcoming Events, Continued

**Bedford Christmas Parade, December 5th.** The BEA would like to present a nice float for the parade and would like to have as many people to ride and drive representing the BEA as possible.

We will be meeting further on the parade as the time gets closer. There may also be an opportunity for some fundraising for this event. We've discussed the possibility of selling hot chocolate or other items along the parade route.

Please bring your thoughts and suggestions to the next members meeting

### BEA T-shirts and Window Decals

Please make sure if you have not already purchased a t-shirt or a window decal you stop by the BEA booth at an upcoming event and show your support. Each member of the BEA receives one window decal for free, 2 if it's a family membership.

### Board Member Elections

During our November meeting we will hold elections for the 3 upcoming open board positions.



## BEA Joins the Internet "Social Networking" World

The BEA now has a group on Facebook. If you are a Facebook user please be sure to join our group. We are listed as Bedford Equine Association.

Please add your favorite photos and join the discussions. Please feel free to post comments or suggestions about other things you would like to see coming out of the association.

We are working to add everyone's

events to the FB group and share as much information as possible.

The internet is a great resource for information and networking and hopefully we will be able to expand our membership base and meet new friends.

### BEA Board Officers

President—Richard Toms,  
rwt322@aol.com

Vice President— Stormie Shelton,  
Astridewithpride@aol.com

Secretary—Shelby Cross,  
Kazaam1001@aol.com

Treasurer— Missy Wade,  
drafts@royalknightshires.com

## Membership Has It's Benefits—Come Join the BEA!

BEA Membership!

Our membership continues to grow and for that we are thankful.

If you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member please share our information with them

Applications can be obtained on line at, [www.bedfordequine.org](http://www.bedfordequine.org) and can be mailed to; BEA PO Box 1470, Bedford,

VA 24523 or sent via e-mail;  
[mail@bedfordequine.org](mailto:mail@bedfordequine.org)

### Membership Fees

Single \$15

Youth \$10

Business \$50

Family \$25



Come make new friends

## President's Message Continued

In the future.

We have assisted with the recent horse rescues and provided care for a number of these animals. Many thanks to the members who made contributions of their time and donations from their hearts; this could not have been the success it has without your generosity.

As we look forward to our goals and the next challenges we face, we ask for your continued input and dedication to the association. Our equine community will only be stronger because of each mem-

ber.

Sincerely,

Richard Toms

President, Bedford Equine Association



## Handy Links for Future Reference

[www.mydrafthorse.com](http://www.mydrafthorse.com)

Draft Horse Supply

[www.sstack.com](http://www.sstack.com)

Schneider's Saddlery (specializes in a lot of Arabian tack but cover's most everything)

[www.buytack.com](http://www.buytack.com)

General tack supply

[www.smartpakequine.com](http://www.smartpakequine.com)

Tack, Clothing, Supplements, etc.

[www.statelinetack.com](http://www.statelinetack.com)

General tack supply

[www.DoverSaddlery.com](http://www.DoverSaddlery.com)

Specializing in English Riding

[www.horse.com](http://www.horse.com)

General tack supply

[www.crazyhorsetack.com](http://www.crazyhorsetack.com)

General tack supply

[www.miniaturehorsetacksupply.com](http://www.miniaturehorsetacksupply.com)

For the little guys



In memory of Patrick Swayze

A Great Friend of the Equine Community!