



Mustang and Burro Trails on Delmarva

November-December 2006

A newsletter from the AMBA, Delmarva Chapter.

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2006 MID-ATLANTIC WH & B SHOW

The 2006 Mid-Atlantic Wild Horse and Burro Show was a huge success in spite of torrential rains on the Friday before the show. Chapter members were a bit concerned about the rising fuel prices and the wet weather the east coast had been having. Fuel prices began to slip downwards just in time and in spite of the sloppy weather 25 animals and their owners who represented every Mid-Atlantic state were able to participate. For many participants, this was their very first show and we are happy to say they had a great time.

We were pleased to have Patti Colbert from the "Mustang Foundation" join us and she was an invaluable help in organizing contestants that were entering at the gate.

We had originally planned to use the outdoor ring but because of muddy conditions, we moved all events under cover. Happily, both Saturday and Sunday were clear and dry.

WINNERS WERE:

Grand Champion Halter

Claudine Smith and Airborne

Reserve Champion Halter

Cheryl Glasker and Smokin' Mocha

In Hand

Elizabeth Palmer and X-Caliber

Youth

Kyle Bailey and Tang

Green Horse

Barbara Conner and Margarita Bella

Amateur

Claudine Smith and Airborne

Open

Corinne Rudell-Deans and Mission Impossible

Games

Corinne Rudell-Deans and Mission Impossible

High Point Burro

Joe Gregorio and Felix

High Point Mustang

Claudine Smith and Airborne

Congratulations to all participants and especially to the winners for a job well done.

NEWS AND NOTES

Chapter members were pleased to participate in the Tuckahoe Equestrian Center's "Outlaw Days," held at the Center in Tuckahoe State Park near Ridgely, Maryland. One mustang and burro were on exhibit in "breed row" while Alycia Hovey, Ashley Harrell, Cathy Kirby, Corrine Rudell-Deans, Elizabeth Palmer and Ashton Rudell did demonstrations in the arena. Mike and Pam Callahan were volunteer photographers. This event usually draws between 2,000 and 5,000 spectators.

Chapter members were invited to attend a demonstration by California clinician, Brian Neubert held at the Rock Creek Equestrian Center in Washington, DC. on September 29. The demonstration was sponsored by the Washington, DC Park Police Mounted Division. All animals used by the mounted division have been donated and are under training on a continual basis. Brian is a protégé of Ray Hunt and Tom Dorrance and has demonstrated techniques for gentling mustangs at the National Wild Horse and Burro Show in Reno as well as at other BLM satellite adoptions in the west.

On the evening of September 25 a conference call took place between Patti Colbert (TX) of the Mustang Heritage Foundation and members of AMBA in the northeast (Brenda Hedges, VT; Sue Booth, NH; Alycia Hovey, DE; Connie Lundquist, DE.; Ellie Miller, MD and Mark Davis, DE). The call was initiated by Patti with the intention of seeking input as to how the Foundation and AMBA could work together to promote the adoption of mustangs and burros. The Mustang Heritage Foundation is based in

Bertram, Texas and is a 501 (c) 3 public charitable non profit organization dedicated to promoting the BLM adoption program and increasing the number of successful adoptions. Their web site can be viewed at: www.mustangheritagefoundation.org

On October 6, Mark and Marge represented the Chapter at the Salisbury Elementary School in Gap, Pennsylvania. They gave a brief overview of the BLM adoption program and distributed a BLM lesson plan booklet to each teacher along with adoption brochures. The children were then taken outside in groups to see a burro. "Buttercup" (Mark & Marge's burro) was subsequently petted, hugged, and kissed by some 400 children, grades K through 6.

The BLM held an adoption in Lorton, Virginia on October 13 -15. The Chapter set up a display table that included pictures from the September show. The idea was to illustrate what the wild horses and burros could become with proper care, love and training.

The Delmarva Chapter along with AMBA members from New England have arranged for a booth in the breed barn at the Massachusetts Equine Affaire to be held in West Springfield on November 9-12. Brenda Hedges (VT), Sue and Jon Booth (NH), Mona Jerome (ME), Kurt and Kerry Comisky (CT) and Kim Dore (CT) have been planning the booth decorations as well as mustang demonstrations. The National office of AMBA, the Delmarva Chapter, and the New England groups have all contributed funds to make this possible.

The 2007 Mid-Atlantic Wild Horse and Burro Show is scheduled for September 15-16, 2007.

The location has yet to be decided as it appears that we may have outgrown "Tailwinds Farm."

Mark your calendars!

The Stuff of Legends Kiowa (2)

In the September-October 06 issue of the this newsletter, it was noted that the blue roan mustang, Kiowa (c.a. 1873), was owned by Miguel Otero who lived in Colorado.

Kiowa and a purebred English bulldog named Duke were inseparable companions. During the winter

Kiowa was staked out on a 125 ft. long hair rope where there was good grass. Whether staked out or in a stable, Duke was always with him.

One day while tethered outside the iron stake came out of the ground and Kiowa followed a passing herd of horses bound for Indian Territory. There were no fences in those days. A search was made and no trace of Kiowa or Duke could be found. About 10 days later some freighters that were passing through reported having seen a blue roan horse dragging a stake and rope following behind a herd of horses. What really surprised them, though, was a bulldog pulling on the end of the rope. Otero was just about to ride out to find Kiowa when he saw Duke and Kiowa coming across the prairie. Duke was in the lead and was carrying the lead rope in his mouth. The evidence was that Kiowa had traveled 150 miles before Duke persuaded the roan to change his mind and go home.

When Kiowa was about 10 years old his master moved to New Mexico and broke his horse to pull a fancy red wheeled buggy. He delighted in pulling this buggy at a dead run but at a word from Otero he would slow down and stop. Kiowa would happily stand anywhere without being hitched--except in front of a saloon. (He must have had considerable experience waiting in front of saloons.) If Otero went into a saloon without tying the horse, Kiowa would shake his head as soon as Otero disappeared in the door and go home to his stable where he would stand and wait unhitched and unharnessed!

Miguel Otero relates the story of Kiowa in "My Life on the Frontier,"

NOTE

The Chapter holds no meetings in November and December. The next Chapter meeting will be on January 22, 2007. We wish you all, in advance, a Happy Thanksgiving (and we have much for which to be thankful) and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year .