

2009 SC Horsemen's Council Annual Meeting and Expo

Annual Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting was held at the Circle M Ranch in Pelzer, SC on Feb 7, 2009. Highlights of that meeting are as follows:

- Revisions to the By-Laws were approved that will allow for the application of 501-3-C Tax Exempt status
- Officers and Directors were elected with several new horsemen and horsewomen coming on the Board
- Special recognition was given to:
 - Jim Edwards for outstanding service as Chairman of the 2008 Southeastern Equine Trails Conference
 - Ellen Hutto for outstanding service as Chairman and organizing the 2007 & 2008 Equine Expo's at the Circle M Ranch
 - Kaye Watkins for outstanding service as Chairman of the 2009 Equine Expo
 - Terry Boger for outstanding service as Co-Chairman of the 2009 Equine Expo
- Special thanks was given to Merry Worsham Roberson for her continuing support of the Equine Expo and SCHC
- Special thanks was given to Mary Ellen Tobias for her support of the Equine Expo, the SETC, and other SCHC activities
- Special thanks was given to Chris Prindle for her assistance with the SETC and the Equine Expo
- Special thanks was given to the McCleer family for the use of the Circle M facilities
- Special thanks were given to all sponsors, vendors, donors, participants, members, workers, and spectators

Equine Expo

We had an outstanding program of diverse speakers, demonstrations, and breeds this year. Some of the highlights were:

- The program started with the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance provided by the Equestrian Ministries Drill Team and a stirring rendition of the National Anthem was sung by the *Cactus Cuties*.
- Mike Kinsey gave an excellent demonstration on his "Start 'em Right" program that emphasizes the need for the horse to respect its handler. He demonstrated different equine behaviors and how important it is for the handler to recognize and deal with the various behaviors.
- Charlotte Cannon brought several of her students who put on a dazzling display of horsemanship during her "Parelli for Kids" presentation.
- The Equestrian Ministries Drill Team put on an excellent display of various mounted equine drill exercises.
- Mark and Anne Kennedy coordinated the "Stick Horse" competition for the youngest equestrians. They participated in their own Stick Horse Parade of Breeds and each entry took home a blue ribbon. They were all winners.

- The Parade of Breeds may have been the best ever with 25 entries ranging from miniature donkeys and horses to the large Friesians and extra large Drum horses.
- We had the vendor area stuffed to the brim with an assortment of vendors, clubs, and equine organizations
- Numerous door prizes were given to the lucky participants whose numbers were drawn
- Our silent auction and used tack workers raised over \$2000 to add to our scholarship fund

A lot of hard work by the Board of Directors and volunteers went into this year's event. The annual meeting and Expo was a great success, and it was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to everyone for turning out and supporting the Horsemen's Council.

