



Missouri Draft Horse & Mule Association, Inc. Newsletter

January 2016

Volume 17 Issue 1

www.missouridrafthorse.com

the weather was unbecoming. They plan on scheduling earlier next year. We did a couple benefit wagon rides with Lilly and Comet who both behaved well and were neatly braided by Shelby. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in the spring and to another fun filled year with our 2 and 4 legged friends!

See you down the road!

Art and Robyn Holtgrewe

ARH Farms



MDHMA Officers 2014-2016

President Billy Meyer 573-796-2324,
Vice President Robyn Holtgrewe 314-803-8969
Secretary/Treasurer Cassie McKerlie 816-769-5392

MDHMA Directors

Joseph Carter, Marshall 660-886-8527
Jim Cunningham, Columbia 573-442-8417
Neal DeVasher, Warrensburg 660-909-4738
Art Holtgrew Sullivan 314-803-8968
Hope Redeker, Grover 636-458-6440
Jim Sheehy, Starkly City 417-472-3163
Bobby Wright, Marceline 660-226-5698

A Note from our President:

Hello everybody, hope all are in the Christmas mood as I write this, it has been blur around here. As most everyone knows, Elsie was diagnosed with Renal Sarcoma Cancer on the 1st of October. She had surgery Nov. 24th. It went great and they got the cancer, but now she has a bowel leakage so they had to open her back up and put a bag on her for awhile to see if it heals on its own. So at this time she is doing pretty good and is at home giving orders and directions.

Also keep Jim Cunningham in your prayers as he had more skin cancers removed.

I would like to thank everyone for all your prayers and cards, you don't realize how many friends you have until something like this happens. I want to THANK each and everyone of you from the bottom of my heart!

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In the spirit of teamwork Billy and Elsie

A Note from our Vice President:

Well we have reached the end of another whirlwind year! I hope that everyone had a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Since the last newsletter we have been to Rick Frye's plowing and had a wonderful time plowing with 3 abreast. So proud of Shelby who took the lines for a couple rounds! We made it to Jody and Gary Moss' plowing which ended up being a great social visit as

A Note from our Secretary/Treasurer

Hope everyone's holiday season went well!

Below are the minutes from the November board meeting. Enjoy!

The meeting was held at Jim and Mila Cunningham's barn in Columbia, Missouri. The meeting was called to order by President Billy Meyer at 10:07am. There were 18 members present.

The previous meeting's minutes were printed in the September 2015 newsletter. Terri DeVasher motioned to accept the minutes as printed, Jim Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The treasury balance was reported at \$1,493.33. Since the last meeting, club insurance was paid as well as the postage and printing bill for the September and November newsletters. Jim Cunningham motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Terri DeVasher seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business

The bylaws that were revised at the May 2015 board



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Horse Association's fall meeting in Iowa. 100+ people showed up to the meeting.

The Boonville Steam Show went well. Jim Cunningham announced he is going back on the MRVSES board there.

The 2018 World Percheron Congress will be in Des Moines, Iowa. The Association has decided to support with jackets like we did at the last Percheron Congress. This cost approximately \$1,500.00 doing 9 jackets and 2 vests.

Looking into supporting the Belgian Congress as well. Neal DeVasher is contacting the Belgian Association to see what we can do to support.

The next board meeting will be on January 23rd at 10:00 am at Jim and Mila Cunningham's in Columbia, Missouri. This will be the last meeting before the Annual meeting on April 9, 2016

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Robyn Holtgrewe, seconded by Terri DeVasher. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Cassie McKerlie, Secretary/Treasurer

19204 E 13th Terr N Independence, MO 64056 The association email is MDHMA.Secretary@gmail.com Call (816)769-5392



A Note from Youth Representative

Hi from your youth representative Shelby.

I had a great time talking to everyone at Bobby and Richards plow days. I was glad when it finally stopped raining. Everybody who plowed got a lot

meeting were reviewed. Mila Cunningham made a motion to approve the revisions, Robyn Holtgrewe seconded. Motion Passed. The President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer signed and dated the bylaws.

Since the club is running low on hats and certain sizes of T-shirts, Cassie will call Iva's Printing (the printing service we used for our last order) and inquire about a reorder including cameo hats. This will be presented at the January meeting to be able to reorder before the Annual meeting in 2016.

Mike Herrell, a long-time member of the board, has decided to step down from his position. We want to thank Mike for serving on the board! President Billy Meyer appointed Art Holtgrewe to replace Mike as a board member.

New Business

The youth representative position is difficult to complete successfully when the representatives are showing their own horses. It was proposed to have a Show Representative instead. Also, giving away a bag, chair, or duffel bag at the shows for the winners of certain youth classes was discussed. The classes that are picked can vary from show to show.

Directors' Reports

Neal reported that the Missouri Plowing Contest at Rick's Plow Days in November went well. There were 65-80 head of horses there, the biggest turnout of this event yet. Ribbons and medals were handed out to the winners of the different plowing contests.

Jim Sheehy reported that Scott's Hay day went well. 250+ people showed up. The teamsters pulled wagons, raked hay and picked up loose hay. A baler was run on a tractor to bale the hay.

Gail Cross' event was cold and windy and not too many people showed up but there was a good cookout.

Bobby's Plowing was good after the rain. The food was good, there was a good turnout of people as well. 12 or 13 teams showed up.

Billy, Elsie, Neal, and Terri went to the Percheron



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plowed in a couple hours. I had a great time at Rick's plow day and was happy to see everyone. We got a new horse in the beginning of December. She's doing really good, and gets along great with Comet. She gave wagon rides the past two weekends in a row with Comet. They were pretty good both times, and I rolled their manes both times. Comet has been an extremely good boy this year and has put up with me braiding him for the past three days in a row.

Can't wait to see everybody at the annual meeting.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! ☺

Your Youth Representative Shelby Holtgrewe



MDHMA Board Meeting



The next Board Meeting will be 10:00 AM
on Saturday January 23, 2016
at Cunningham barn Columbia MO.
Everyone Welcome!

The Annual Meeting will be
Saturday April 9, 2016

Greetings from Bobby and Genny

Here it is, almost Christmas and the grass is green and we had thunder and lightning the other night. Weird weather, but better than ice and wind for sure.

Bobby had a good time along with Mike Ewigman at Kenny Wise's and Rick Frye's plowings. We had the Wright Christmas Gathering the day of Gary and Jody Moss's event, but I'm not sure they were even able to have it. It had been pretty rainy around here and we live fairly close to them. I did get the word that the Boone County Sale is on for March 9-11, 2016.

My sister, Diane, finished up her radiation today and will have chemo tomorrow. She should be done for 3 weeks then and will have 2 chemos left to go. Please keep praying that all this is getting completely rid of the cancer. I truly believe she can come out of this stronger than ever.

We have been getting a few things done around

here, but it sure takes longer than it used to. Exercising 3 times a week is good for us, but takes up a lot of time. I'm hoping we can get our own indoor rower, so we can keep it up even when the weather is bad. Finding a place for it won't be easy, but it can be done. We really need to clean out the basement, but I'm not sure we would actually use it down there. Time will tell!

Our neighbor's wedding was so much fun and it was good to see Joe and Shirley so happy. Her son moved into the house down the hill and we are happy about that.

I have a ticket for "A Christmas Carol" for this coming Saturday at the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre. They always do a wonderful job and we are blessed to live only 60 miles from there. Then, on Sunday, we plan to go to Buckner for the Live Nativity at Frye's. We do keep the tires hot!

This is short for me, but just don't know much else to write about.

May you all have a joyful Christmas and an even better 2016!

Bristle Ridge Percherons Neal & Terri DeVasher

Tis the season-

As we look back into 2015, we were wet and had withdrawal (itching to drop our plows into the ground). The calendar of events were off to a rough start. Once mother nature stopped crying and the sun came up and heated up the ground, we all came out to test the waters.

Some of us had to choose to mow hay or plow with the boys (boy what a tough call), but in the end we stood our ground.... we mowed for two days, plowed the next day, raked and baled next day.

Most of us only got one cutting but I think we will get through the winter if we maintain 40-60 degree range.



I wish to THANK all of my friends and teamsters for words of wisdom, shoulders to cry on,



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sympathy cards and flowers when mom passed away (Dorothy DeVasher). She is now a shining star looking down on all of our fields.

The year 2015 has brought us both sadness of friends and family passing and minor and major illnesses. We also were given joy with the birth of our Great Granddaughter Olivia Sue Pearl Nixon. Plans are in the works to teach her to drive, plow and carry on the tradition.

We keep tight lines to help those around us when needed. Our prayer list continues.....

Joseph Carter, Jim Cunningham, Doyle Prawl, Wilbert Hilgedick, Elsie Meyer and Bobby Wright.

We are brothers and sisters/teamsters strong asking for continued strength.



Crooked River on Dec 20th held the Living Nativity with approximately 200 people visiting. The wise men were Samuel Malchow, Dave Eichman, and

me. I think we did a good job making the club proud. Joseph played by my grandson Cody Nelson and Mary portrait by Cody's classmate Liz Fleur.

This year angels (Shirley Owens, granddaughter and Cassie McKerley) appeared.



What will be added next year?



Advice From an Old Farmer.....
(As seen on Facebook so it must be true!)

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig tight & bull

strong.

Keep skunks & bankers at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plow around a stump. A bumblebee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered.... not yelled.

Meanness don't jes happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge. You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honorable life...Then when you're older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing you do is stop diggin'!

Sometimes you get, and sometimes yet get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a Lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin it back in.

If you get to thinkin' your a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around. Live simple. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll kill you.

Most times, it just gets down to common sense.

Never take life for granted.

Be supportive of each other and know you will be rewarded in the end.



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Wishing each and everyone a personal "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." And God Bless us all.

In the spirit of teamwork

Neal & Terri DeVasher
Bristle Ridge Percherons

Winter Greetings from the Northwest Missouri!

Can anyone complain about our mild Winter?!

Christmas and New Years salutations to all our fellow teamsters and friends! The fall was busy and went fast! On our way to the New London plowing, Larry and I stopped at Wayne Wescott's place and picked up the walking plow that I had bought from him. Thanks for passing on a great plow Wayne. Hope I can uphold its past records! From Wayne's, we spent the night as guest of Kenny and Judy Penton and had a wonderful visit and found out a lot of history of that area concerning Orschlen and Westlake Hardware. Larry and I certainly enjoyed our time spent with them and hope to go again soon.

The New London plowing almost got rained out but ended up being really good plowing. Larry had finally talked me into hitching a 3 up and of course Dunny, Okie and new to the game Dutch did terrific. Think that is how our sulky plowing will go from now on but Dutch was upset at Rick's plowing when he got left behind when I switched to the walking plow! Thanks to Deb Vering for a great pic of my 3 up!

November 7th, Larry and I both took teams and wagons and gave rides for a benefit for a Christian camp for abused children . All the events of the day raised \$ 1700 for the camp, We were glad to be a part of such a good cause.

Had good fun and fellowship at Rick's as usual, Becky knows how to feed a crowd and we always enjoy seeing the Illinois folks too! You could have knocked me over with a feather when I received the award for best "Multiple Hitch", very humbling considering all the good hitches that were there. Elsie and Billy Meyers came this way on her birthday and left an inherited sleigh for Larry to work on.

We always enjoy the time spent with them and are thankful Elsie is doing well. Doyle Prawl continues to do well after his heart surgery despite some severe bouts

of cabin fever.

We have been doing carriage rides for Duncan Carriages this fall. Sometimes we use our teams and sometimes we use one of his teams. I have discovered that beta is not as flexible in cold weather and it takes much longer to harness when its cold! During a 9 hr stint of rides we were followed by a drone hovering over us. Did you know horses don't like drones? Well we do now! Has anyone else had that experience? Security was alerted but by then it was gone. We wonder if PITA was watching us, really creepy!

Larry and I did our first Old Fashioned Christmas parade and had an awesome experience! We saw Mike and Sue and Bobby and Jenny there too. Of course the weather was exceptional which helped make it a good time. All in all we have had a good 2015. November 22 marked the sixth year that my husband Ron Engelken DVM passed away. I had just gotten my first Fjord and wonder what he would think about all that I have done with them. I think he would be surprised. Got to have all 5 of my sons home for the holidays and I feel very blessed.

Wishing everyone the best in the New Year and remember the gate here is always open.

Keep the furrows in your life & fields straight.
Valerie & the E7 critters

From WitnessTree Land & Livestock Farm--

This time I was determined not to miss the deadline! Hope this finds all of you in good spirits as the year wraps up. Is it just me, or did this year go by like a bullet train? Can't believe 2016 is just around the bend.

We are ending the old year with 12 baby goats born in the last week, with one more doe to go, and she will probably have twins. So grand total of likely 14 within a span of 2 weeks. If you need a dose of "Happy", just watch a bunch of baby goats for a few minutes for some real entertainment.

Went through my animal records a few weeks back just to make sure I had everyone's paperwork up to snuff and realized that my two Brabant girls and my Percheron molly mule are now 20, 22, and 25. Daily routine and familiarity have a way of fooling you into thinking that things are pretty much the same as



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[Newsletter articles are due 20th of Feb, April, June, August, Oct. and Dec.](#)

always. But my girls are now senior citizens and although that shouldn't have been a surprise to me, it WAS! And two of my dogs are now 12 and 15. One of my cats is 18. It was a rude awakening that time does indeed pass whether we are paying attention or not. Each additional day, I get to share with these wonderful creatures, who ask so little, is made a bit more intentional now and certainly more reflective.

A bucketload of thanks to everyone who partook in our October event. Long-range planning is a crapshoot at best, as you never know until that very weekend what the response will be, what the weather will be, if all the ducks will be in a row, etc. etc. etc! I am so grateful to all of you who carve out time to be here. There really are no words sufficient to acknowledge the effort you put forth to help make this shindig a success. The MDHMA is truly a special group of people and although we may not see each other but once or twice a year, it always seems as if we just talked over the fence yesterday, and that speaks volumes for the character of our members and the friendships gained along the way. Incredibly enough, next year will be the 20th anniversary (Oct. 1 & 2), so dig out those 2016 calendars and pencil us in!

I hope the New Year brings wonderful things for each of you, and look forward to seeing everyone at the awesome annual meeting!

In the spirit of teamwork,

Gail & Dennis

2016 MISSOURI DRAFT HORSE & MULE ASSOCIATION EVENTS CALENDAR

Compiled by Genny Wright

660-226-5698 grwright@cvalley.net

Circumstances could change dates, times and/or places.

Some dates are based on last year's so please call or check websites.

Don't forget Coggins' tests and health papers

Pro Horse Pulls Joe Miller 573-682-0048 Wayne
Duncan 816-390-5298 Savannah, MO
Virgil Buffington 660-868-0159
Dan Gray 712-826-8114 Ray Smith 573-641-5209

JANUARY

Thurs-Sun 21-24 National Western Stock Show
Denver, CO www.nationalwestern.com 303-299-5525

Thurs-Fri 21-22 Draft Halter

Fri-Sun 22-24 Draft Performance

Fri-Sun 22-24 Draft Pulls

Sat 23 10:00 am Director's meeting at
Cunningham's Columbia, MO **Everyone welcome**

FEBRUARY

Mon 1 Special Workhorse Sale, Kalona, IA 319-656-2222

Tues-Fri 23-26 Mid-America Draft Horse Sale
Gifford, IL 217-268-3444 Gordyville

Fri-Sun 26-28 Equifest of Kansas Kansas Expo
Centre Topeka, KS 785-776-0662

MARCH

Fri-Sat 4-5 Show-Me Draft and Driving Horse Sale
Barnett, Mo 573-378-4335

Wed-Fri 9-11 Boone City Draft Horse and Mule
Sale, Sedalia, Mo State Fairgrounds

Jody Moss 660-651-6506 Gary Moss 660-342-5308

Tues-Fri 15-18 Topeka Spring Draft Horse Sale
Topeka, IN 260-593-2522

Fri-Sat 18-19 White's Draft Horse and Buggy Sale
Diamond, MO 417-325-4141

Sun 27 Easter Sunday Celebrate the Resurrection of
our Lord!

Tues-Fri 29-April 1 Waverly Midwest Horse Sale
Waverly, IA 319-352-2804

APRIL

Sat 2 Spud's Memorial Plowing Greenview, IL Jim
Buzzard 217-821-5930

Thurs-Sun 7-10 Equine Affaire Columbus, Ohio
740-845-0085

Fri-Sat 8-9 Kingman Draft Horse & Mule Sale
Kingman, KS 620-538-2333

Sat 9 Annual Meeting Carry in dinner at noon at
Cunningham's Barn 573-442-8417

Linchpin & Member of the Year will be awarded-
Bring Auction Items & be ready to bid

Sat 9 Fox Valley Farms Auction Marengo, IL 815-739-3703



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Thurs-Sun 11-21 Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA

www.iowastatefair.org

Fri-Mon Aug 26–Sept 5 Nebraska State Fair Grand Island, NE www.statefair.org

SEPTEMBER

Thurs-Mon Sept 1-5 Old Thresher's Mt. Pleasant, IA 319-385-8937

Thurs-Sun 8-11 Missouri River Valley Steam Show Boonville, MO

Fri-Sun 9-18 Kansas State Fair Hutchinson, KS

www.kansasstatefair.com

Sat-Sat 10-17 SEMO Fair Cape Girardeau, MO 573-334-9250

Wed-Sat 14-17 Central Wisconsin Horse Sale

Neillsville, WI 715-238-8088

Thurs-Sun 15-18 NE Mo Old Thresher's Shelbina, MO Jim Peters 660-291-9596

Thurs-Sun 15-25 Oklahoma State Fair Oklahoma City www.okstatefair.com

Thurs-Sun 22-25 State Corn Husking Marshall, MO 660-886-2233

Fri-Sat 23-24 Baumli's Draft Horse & Mule Sale Maryville, MO 660-652-4454

MAY

Fri-Sun 6-8 Neal's Plowing Warrensburg, MO 660-909-4738

Sat 28 Driving Horse Sale Centerville, Iowa Eli Gingerich 641-658-2227

JUNE

Sat 11 Bruce Adam's Mow Day Kidder, MO 816-294-1230

Fri 17 Draft Horse Pull 7:00 Lathrop, MO Jim Plowman 816-528-3511

Fri 17 Topeka Summer Carriage Auction Topeka, IN 260-593-2522

JULY

Fri-Sat 1-2 Horse Progress Days Howe, Indiana 717-940-4412

Thurs-Sun 7-10 Mark Twain Old-Thresher's Paris, MO Angela Fields 573-721-5705

Pro Pull on Saturday at Paris at 5 P.M. Joe Miller

Sat 9 Prairie Home Draft Horse Events Contact Billy Meyer 573-375-0134

Fri 22 Pro Horse Pull 8:00 Macon, Mo Flywheel Reunion

Danny Primm 660-385-3539

Thurs-Sat July 28–Aug 6 Ozark Empire Fair Springfield, MO 417-833-2660

AUGUST

Mon 1 Special Workhorse & Driving Horse Sale Kalona, IA 319-656-2222

Fri-Sat 5-6 Show-Me Draft and Driving Horse Sale Barnett, MO 573-378-4335

Sat 6 Mule Show Lathrop, MO 816-528-3000 during show www.lathropantique.com

Thurs-Sun 11-21 Missouri State Fair Sedalia, MO

www.mostatefair.com

Wed 17 Draft Horse Pull Missouri State Fair Joe Miller 5:00 Mathewson Center

Thurs-Sun 11-21 Illinois State Fair Springfield, IL

OCTOBER

Sat 1 Crooked River Sorghum Day Buckner, MO Rick Frye 660-238-5197

Sat-Sun 1-2 Mid-Mo Horse, Mule & Ox Farming Days Gerald, MO 573-764-2629

Tues-Fri Oct 4-Oct 7 Waverly Midwest Horse Sale Waverly, IA 319-352-2804

Fri-Sun 7-9 Living History Show Lathrop, MO 816-528-3000 during show

Mon-Tues 17-18 Kalona Fall Draft Horse & Carriage Sale Kalona, IA 319-656-2222

Sat 22 Rural Heritage Day St. Genevieve, MO Luann Miller 314-330-6160

Tues-Fri 25-28 Topeka Fall Draft Horse Sale Topeka, IN 260-593-2522

Sat Oct 29 Richard Ray-Bobby Wright Plowing New London, MO 573-985-3225 or 660-413-2332

NOVEMBER

Thurs-Sun 10-13 Rick Frye's Plowing Buckner, MO 660-238-5197



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DECEMBER

Sat 3 Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade Lawrence,
KS 11:00 A.M.

Elaine VanDeventer evandeventer@embarq.mail
785-856-4437

Sun 18 Crooked River Live Nativity Buckner, MO 2
to 6 P.M. Rick Frye 660-238-5197

Sun 25 Christmas- the birthday of our Savior

2018 World Percheron Congress Des Moines, IA
State Fairgrounds Oct 8-13 So glad it will be
close to us again!

Results for Duos

Terri DeVasher

(Answers for Nov. Puzzle)

Hoof	Snaffle	Apple
Farrier	Filly	Dressage
Lasso	Cavesson	Stall
Headstall	Pommel	Currycomb
Gallop		

R E M I N D E R

If you have items for sale or looking for an item,
ADVERTISE for FREE HERE in our
newsletter.

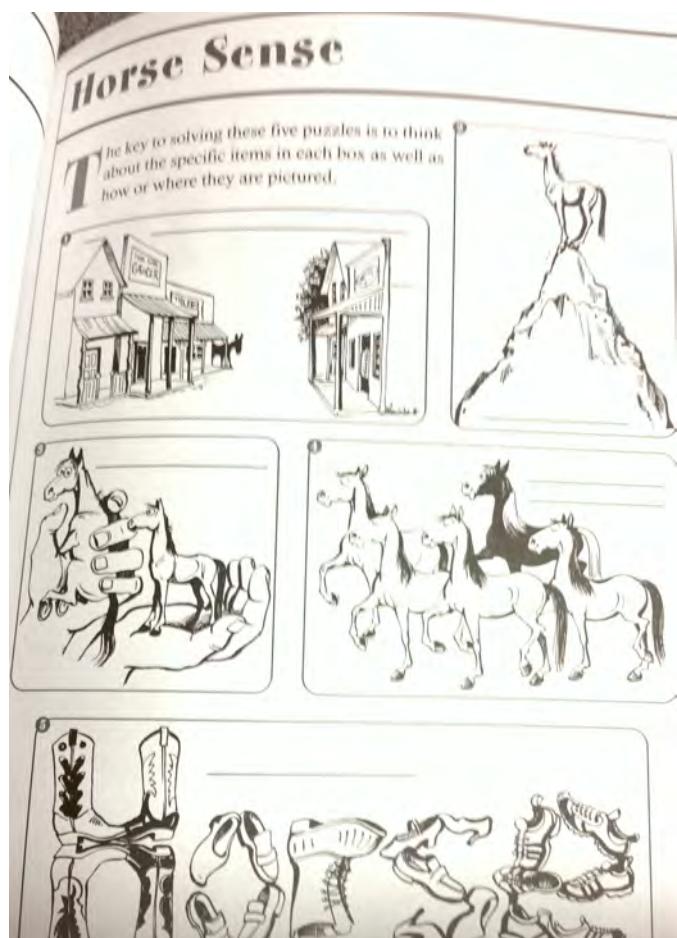
Congrats to Jack Phillips: the highest bidder for



the Spring
Door
Decorations
HOSE Wreath
which was a
raffle from
Crooked River
Working Horse
and Mule
Plowing.



The key to solving these 5 puzzles is to think about the specific items in each box as well as how or where they are pictured.





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Congrats 2015! AGAIN!!

Blue Ribbon Days was successful in winning the North American Six Horse Hitch Classic Series for the **second time in two years**. Twelve six horse hitches from all across the US and Canada qualified and competed for the coveted award held at the Oklahoma State Fair in September.

Each of the top three hitches won during the three day, three judge event. At the end of the third day, Blue Ribbon Days surfaced to win the award again in 2015.

About 200 six horse hitches compete throughout the show season which runs from September 1st thru August 31 each year. Points are accumulated and four Percherons, four Belgians and four Clydesdales/Shires come together to determine the Championship. Besides ribbons, trophies and other awards, Blue Ribbon also picked up a check for \$10,000.

The black Percheron mares were the first mares to ever win the prestigious event in 2014. A repeat Championship was beyond our wildest dreams said Albert Cleve who resides in Farmington, MO.

The performances were video taped and have appeared on Gentle Giants which airs on RFD TV. It should repeat sometime during the winter months.

