



newsletter

room for expansion ~ a means of support

May / June 2012

Message from the prez...

The NCC is history.

We ponder on the past, hope for the future and live in the present. As soon as the present happens, it's the past. So the question arises, "How important is the past?"

What has passed is considered history. History is often defined as any event that is notable or important. For the members of WSFA, the Northern California Classic (NCC) definitely fits into that category.

This year's NCC can never be reproduced. The conversations, interactions and events as they happened cannot be repeated in exactly the same way, ever again.

History can also be defined as acts, ideas or events that shape the future. The WSFA is one of these parts of history. Now we have added the NCC Jay Sharp Memorial to our list of historic events.

The 2012 NCC was a special tribute to master farrier, Jay Sharp, his life and influence on the people in the farrier industry. We are so fortunate that Jay's family allowed us to honor him in this way.

If you missed this NCC, you missed an opportunity to be a part of your own and your industry's history.



Although this year's event marked the end of an era let it also serve as the beginning of a new era for the NCC, what it stands for and for what it can become.

All we need is for each and every one of us to do our **PART**—Participate And Really, Try.

During the contest, Shane Carter commented that there are times when we need to step up to the plate and support our trade. Not just our group or association, but the industry itself. If the craft of shoeing horses is an important part of your present and it holds hope for the future, then it's time for you to step up. Step up and make a difference. Do your **PART**.

As for the NCC itself, most of the members do not really know what goes on behind the scenes to make sure that "what's happening" does indeed happen.

There are two special people who should be singled out for their continuing

support and effort.

First—Don Gustafson. He may have once played the part of The Cowardly Lion in Wizard of Oz but, this year he was 'Donald the Lion Hearted' for the NCC. Many, many hours of his personal time were spent coordinating the structure to guarantee that this year's NCC came off without a hitch, and make it a part of our personal history.

Second—Alice Johnson. I know that most of you will agree with me that if you were asked to name only one person that exemplified the WSFA, that person would have to be Alice.

Alice gives her heart and soul to the world of the farrier. She is consistently there to prod, push, provide and pick up the pieces for anything the WSFA ever needs or does. Just think of what a unique and great association we would have if we could all emulate her.

In addition, special recognition and thanks must also go out to everyone who gave their time and resources for this year's event.

So, all I can do at this point is to say "Thank You" to all of you, who helped make this year's NCC the success that it was.

ThanxChisham

WSFA

Board of Directors

President:

Mike Chisham
707-396-0012
P.O. Box 82
Petaluma, Ca 94953
Forgingafuture@live.com

Vice President:

Walt Neel
559-783-3956
494 So. Plano
Porterville, Ca 93257
neelfamily@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:

Danny Love
P.O. Box 113
Knightsen, Ca 94548
925-628-5814
dwlforging1@gmail.com

Treasurer / Board Member

John Gorton
1695 Joaquin Str.
Chino, Ca 91710
johngorton@msm.com

Board Members

Larkin Greene
610 Andres Ct.
Roseville, Ca 95678
lgreene@vettec.com

Jeff Bostrom
13007 Mayflower Dr.
Nevada City, Ca 95959
Jbostrom28@gmail.com

2012 NCC looks back and moves ahead

By Don Gustafson

The 27th Annual Northern California Classic (NCC), held May 9-12, 2012 at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds in Placerville, California, was a success from start to finish. Dedicated to the life and legacy of Jay Sharp, memories of him filled every aspect of the four days.

Matt Fatchen did a wonderful job organizing and running the Certification on Wednesday. He reports that about a dozen farriers stepped up to test their skills, and Joel Sheiman is our newest Certified Farrier. In addition, Clint Woods passed the CJF Practical and Bar Shoe, while just missing on the written exam. Several others passed parts of their exams and will continue to study and develop their skills.

A special "Thank You" is due to Matt Fatchen, Bob Mederos (AFA Examiner), Raleigh Desiato, Dreis Pruis and Mike Tannehill (Testers). Jay would have been pleased to see farriers choosing to challenge themselves to study hard and work to learn and develop new skills. Thanks, Jay, for setting that example.

The Competition took place on Thursday (Forging Classes); Friday morning (Live Shoeing); and Saturday morning (Team Draft Horse Shoeing). A full report of the results appears elsewhere in this newsletter, but here are some of the highlights: Jacob Rexius (DIV I), Clint Woods (DIV II), and Travis Koons (Open Div) were the Division High Point Buckle Winners, with each one winning the shoeing in their respective Division. Raleigh Desiato, Jason Smith and Kelly Vermeer Vella won the 3-Man Team Draft Horse Shoeing.

Shayne Carter did a wonderful job designing a contest that challenged farriers to break out of their comfort

zones and expand their skills horizons. The shoe making, tongs, poker and the shoeing classes all reflected values and techniques that Jay believed were important. Shayne also did a great job in an open-judging format, explaining what he saw in the shoes presented to him and how they compared to the standard he had clearly described earlier. Jay would have been proud of the efforts made by all and the professional manner exhibited by Shayne.

The afternoons of Friday and Saturday were devoted to demonstrations and lectures. Shayne, always with an eye toward what Jay preached and practiced, did a wonderful job on several demos. He did a masterful job shoeing a foot, highlighting where competitors had come up short, and how they might improve on every horse, every day. He ably demonstrated a process of "deconstructing" a shoe, breaking down the finished product into smaller segments, to determine how to build the desired project.

He emphasized coming up with two or three plans to make the shoe, then making it each different way to deter-

mine which one works the best. By making a fireplace poker he demonstrated a broad range of blacksmithing skills, emphasizing hammer control and developing your "eye" for lines and flow in artistic projects, and making the connection of those skills to building or modifying horseshoes in everyday work. Finally, he talked about his recent venture into the world of bladesmithing and knife making.

Jay was always a student and an adventurer, learning to make bits and spurs and trying his hand at any other project or test that caught his roving eye. Shayne's version of that is making knives. He has recently passed his "Journeyman" Test. Looking at the Damascus blades he is working on, there is little doubt he will soon achieve his goal of becoming a "Master".

Our long-time friend and special guest from Canada, Marshall Isles, spoke eloquently regarding Jay Sharp's influence on the development of the farrier contest at the Calgary Stampede into the World Championship Blacksmith's Competition. Jay's ceaseless quest for more skill, knowledge and understanding, and his belief in competition as a means of testing one's progress, helped shape the philosophy of the WCBC Committee and the evolution of that competition.

It is not much of a leap to chart the influence of Jay Sharp and the World Championship on the development of today's WCB and their emphasis on education through competition. Jay would have been keen to express his opinions on the current state of Calgary and the WCB, but his bright eyes would sparkle at the continuing progress of both. Thank you, Marshall, for sharing your perspective of this





they put forth to assemble this once-in-a-lifetime look at Jay's work..

We should also say "Thank You" to Alice Johnson. The "museum" was her idea and her efforts, primarily, made it happen. If you

missed this display, you likely never get another chance!

unique aspect of Jay's influence in the world of farriery. Any event hoping to honor the life and legacy of Jay Sharp would have to include an exhibition of his life's works. The NCC featured the largest collection of Jay Sharp memorabilia ever displayed in one place at one time. Provided primarily by Jimmie and Jamie Sharp (his son and daughter-in-law) and the Shayne Carter Family, with notable contributions from individuals WSFA members, this museum-quality collection included a mind-boggling array of tools; shoes; blacksmith projects; bit and spurs; miniature tools and shoes; 1000's of photographs; an Eagle Eye Contest trophy won by Jay in the late 1970's and even a gate made by Edward Martin during at clinic at Jay's shop in Salmon, Idaho.

The Auction on Saturday evening, so wonderfully orchestrated, once again, by the irrepressible Ada Gates, proved that farriers have big, warm and generous hearts. Raising nearly \$6,000, the WSFA Auction, "pound for pound", rivals any other in the country. Ada was ably assisted by the lovely Vince Vella, and the charming Claire Edwards. Wait a minute, perhaps those names should have been listed the other way around.

The Banquet featured plenty of delicious food, presented and served by Selina Galick and Mike Chisham. I doubt anyone went away hungry. Selina also prepared and served wonderful lunches on Friday and Saturday, assisted by Mike, Walt Neal, and a host of other helpers. (Thanks to all who contributed.)

The Awards Presentation, as usual, produced lots of smiles and a few looks of disappointment. As an "open-judging" format was used this year, there weren't very many surprises in the forging classes. The shoeing and draft-horse shoeing, however, made up for any lack of suspense. There were gasps and cheers as the final placings were read.

We congratulate all those brave souls who were willing to have their work scrutinized by Shayne's keen and exacting eye, and open to view in this very public format. You, your horses and your clients are all

"winners" in the long run.

Perhaps the very best part of these four days of certification, competition, teaching and learning, fun and fellowship was the most human. Friday evening was devoted to a time of sharing memories and stories of our life and times with a demanding, but great, student and teacher. Some stories seemed to be unique to the teller and gave the group a new look at someone we thought we already knew. Others were well-known to many, or shared a universal theme common to many of our experiences with Jay.

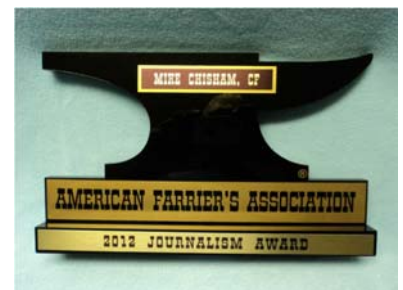
There were many delightful moments, lots of laughter and wonderful exclamations of recognition or remembrance. There were also quite a few tender moments and eyes brimmed with tears. While not every person he encountered loved Jay Sharp, it is safe to say he touched every one of us in a profound and lasting way. I can only hope that he would have been glad to be so well-remembered by so many.

Thanks for everything, Jay.

He's a winner...

Mike Chisham was presented with the 2012 AFA Journalism Award in recognition for articles he has written, teaching and information he has passed on to others, the newsletter and it's articles and sharing of information.

Pretty nice, huh?





Our Staff

Don Gustafson - our coordinator, working endless hours and so many phone calls
 Shayne Carter - Judge and Clinician for an excellent job, much of his time was donated as well, and for providing a treasure trove of Jay Sharp tools and memorabilia for display
 The Shayne Carter Family for their support of and love for Jay Sharp and help at NCC
 The Jimmie Sharp Family for sharing their father, stories, info and an amazing collection of Jay Sharp tools, knives, shoes, bits, spurs, blacksmith items & memorabilia with us
 Alice Johnson for her endless helpfulness and the idea and support of the Jay Sharp Tribute and Museum as well as photos and displays
 Margie Lee Gustafson for her "do anything to help" attitude and work as contest announcer
 Ada Gates for organizing the awesome auction
 Rusty Brown for making the Division buckles
 Anonymous for the Draft Shoeing Buckles
 Selina Galick for doing the lunches and serving banquet -help from Mike Chisham
 Dave and wife Richison auction Secretary
 Claire Edwards and Vince Vella - auction Vanna's
 Shelee Lyon - Sales/Registration /help
 Dusty Simmons - Sales/registration/help
 Bob Mederos - Certification Examiner
 Matt Fatchen - Certification Chairman

Our Cash Sponsors:

Horseshoe Barn, plus contest steel, cut and bundled
 Harry Patton HS Supplies
 ThoroBred, Inc. Western Saddlery
 Vettec Horseshoe Mart
 Shoein' Shop. Auntie Em's Horse Spray
 Farrier Images Castle Plastics
 Durasole Sierra South H S School

Our product and auction donations from:

Rusty Brown Enterprises	Nature Farms
Life Data Labs	Flatland Forge
Nordic Forge	GE Tool
Equine Innovations	Delta/Mustad
Anvil Brand product	N C Tool

FPD
 Hawthorne
 Shayne Carter
 Bob Mederos
 TeaLa Yohe

Doug Butler Books
 Horseshoe Barn
 Kelly Vella
 Farrier Images
 WSFA members & others

Our WSFA Board

Mike Chisham	WSFA President
Walt Neel.	WSFA Vice President with "do whatever you need" attitude
Jeff Bostrom.	WSFA Director
Danny Love.	WSFA Director
Larkin Green	WSFA Director
John Gorton	WSFA Treas./ Registration and auction "Banker"

The Competitors for making the 2012 NCC Competition possible

SDCFA for great support for the 2012 NCC
 Travis Koons for providing the work station for all of Shayne Carter's demonstrations

Our Marketplace

ThoroBred, Inc.
 Rusty Brown
 Farrier Images
 GE Tool
 Horseshoe Barn
 Castle Plastics
 Cloudy Draw Forge
 Vettec
 Delta Mustad
 FPD

Special thanks to Ollie Connolloy the young Scotsman here in California on the AFA Cultural Exchange Program who competed at this year's competition. He had a great attitude, gave the other competitors a run for their money and willingly pitched in to help whenever asked to.

2012 Northern California Classic Results

Intern Division

- 1) Claire Edwards
- 2) Eddie Marcus
- 3) Russell Murphy

"Jay Sharp Jackpot"

(shoe made from a Phoenix horseshoe)

- 1) Jason Harmeson

Two-man Tongs Class

- 1) Travis Koons and Jason Job
- 2) Kelly Vermeer Vella and Raleigh Desiato
- 3) Jason Harmeson and Kasey Kinkade

Two-man Poker Class

- 1) Jacob Manning and Cody Bunderson
- 2) Claire Edwards And Vince Vella

Eagle-Eye Elimination

Round one

- 1) Jason Harmeson

Round Two

- 1) Brian Bonnel

Round Three

- 1) Brian Bonnel
- 2) Jason Harmeson
- 3) Ollie Connolloy

EEE Champion

Brian Bonnell

Three-Man Team Draft Shoeing

- 1) Raleigh Desiato, Jason Smith and Kelly Vermeer Vella
- 2) Jason Job, Travis Koons and Robbie Mederos
- 3) Juan Marcos Escabi, Kasey Kinkade and Jason Harmeson
- 4) Ollie Connolloy, Marissa Hewitt and Nick Rossi
- 5) Don Davis, Jayes Gradney and Tim Martin
- 6) Luis Delgadillo, Don Gustafson and Marshall Isles

DIVISION ONE

Class One

- 1) Adam Estel
- 2) Luis Delgadillo
- 3) Jacob Rexius
- 4) Charlie Parks
- 5) Juan Marco Escabi
- 6) Lance Yohe

Class Two

- 1) Juan Marco Escabi
- 2) Jacob Rexius
- 3) Lance Yohe
- 4) Luis Delgadillo
- 5) Adam Estel
- 6) Charlie Parks

Class Three

- 1) Jacob Rexius
- 2) Adam Estel
- 3) Juan Marco Escabi
- 4) Luis Delgadillo
- 5) Charlie Parks
- 6) Lance Yohe

Shoeing

- 1) Jacob Rexius
- 2) Juan Marco Escabi
- 3) Charlie Parks
- 4) Luis Delgadillo
- 5) Lance Yohe
- 6) Adam Estel

Division One High-Point

Jacob Rexius



High Point Winners

Division One, Two and Three

DIVISION TWO

Class One

- 1) Ollie Connolloy
- 2) Clint Woods
- 3) Marijke Ellert
- 4) J D Downs

Class Two

- 1) Ollie Connolloy
- 2) Clint Woods
- 3) J D Downs

Class Three

- 1) Clint Woods
- 2) Ollie Connolloy
- 3) J D Downs
- 4) Marijke Ellert

Shoeing

- 1) Clint Woods
- 2) Ollie Connolloy
- 3) J D Downs
- 4) Marijke Ellert

Jason Morgan Perpetual Trophy

(best hoof prep score in Div II Shoeing)

Tie: Ollie Connolloy and Clint Woods

Division Two High-Point

Clint Woods

DIVISION THREE

Class One

- 1) Travis Koons
- 2) Jason Harmeson
- 3) Brian Bonnel
- 4) Kasey Kinkade
- 5) Jacob Manning
- 6) Bill Merfy

Class Two

- 1) Travis Koons
- 2) Brian Bonnel
- 3) Kasey Kinkade
- 4) Jason Harmeson
- 5) Bill Merfy
- 6) Jacob Manning

Class Three

- 1) Travis Koons
- 2) Jason Harmeson
- 3) Kasey Kinkade
- 4) Brian Bonnel
- 5) Jacob Manning

Shoeing

- 1) Travis Koons
- 2) Jason Harmeson
- 3) Kasey Kinkade
- 4) Jacob Manning
- 5) Brian Bonnel
- 6) Jason Job

Division Three High-Point

Travis Koons

John Wipfli Overall High-Point

Travis Koons

Classic Views...



AFA Vice President's Report

By Margie Lee Gustafson

The American Farriers Association (AFA) convention was very successful this year. There were more than 400 paid attendees and about 125 marketplace vendors. We were very pleased with this turn out in such hard economic times. All the lectures were well received. The contest had over 70 total competitors from as far away as Canada, Japan and Great Britain.

AFA Member benefits :

We have been producing our newsletter *NoFootNoHorse* every two months since November. It is coming out on time with some very nice articles. If you would like to post an event contribute an article, or share news email Deb@afacommcomm@gmail.com

At this time the association doesn't have the \$25,000 per issue it costs to produce a printed magazine but I am very happy to say we do have an online magazine. The first issue went live on April 15, 2012.

Dick Booth's Boca Publishing are producing the *Professional Farrier* bi-monthly at no cost to the AFA. We also have a chance to earn 20 % of the proceeds from the advertising. We went live on April 15. The magazine has now been sent out to over 10,000 email addresses on Dick's emailing list. Dick also publishes two online veterinary magazines that you can view for free.

Boca Publishing's Website is: <http://www.bocapublishingonline.com>

AFA has also been sending out e-blasts. These updates are sent bi-weekly to weekly about AFA news and happenings. The e-Blasts are also archived on the website so you can review the information easily.

The AFA Certification Study Guide is now available in a PDF format, you can email the office and request a PDF

of the guide - or a printed copy at a cost of \$15.95.

It is now mandatory to hand in pattern "feet" for your front/hind shoe modifications. You can make your own pattern to the study specs or buy them from the AFA.

Committees:

Deb Ash took over the chair of the Communications Committee. The committee is now divided into five sections with a designated section chief.

1. Eblasts - coming out regularly thanks to AFA office staff and John Blombach
2. Newsletter - Deb Ash
3. Facebook- Philip Box is working hard on this
4. Online Magazine - produced by Boca publishing
5. AFA Website - Jeremiah Harris is working to improve our website.

To contribute an article to any of our AFA communication sources send it to afacommcomm@gmail.com.

Alan Larson and his Budget Committee did a great job last year, tightening our belt and positioning us for a very positive outlook regarding our income and expenses. The budget goes from committee to the Board for a vote mid June.

On the Mend...

Steve Collins had shoulder replacement surgery on May 30th and will be back home June 9th. He will be out of work for the next four months. His phone number is (530) 265-0136 and address 11963 Banner Court Nevada City, Ca. 95959. Please contact him if you would like to help out financially or with shoeing some of his horses.

Sam Durham had back surgery May 18th, he will be laid up until mid July at least. Sam would love to hear from ya, and he especially wanted to thank the many guys who have been, or will be helping him out. You can reach Sam at 5433 Roblar Road, Petaluma, Ca 94952, 707-483-1384, or durhamfarrierservice@gmail.com



Board of Directors:

An adhoc committee was formed consisting of Buck , Steve Eastman and myself. Our goal is to bring forward a five year plan and we are now reviewing John Blombach's five-year plan. The Board asked the committee to select five goals from this very comprehensive plan to focus on and move forward with in the near future.

The Certification Policy was approved. This included the exploration of the Moodle online program, to assist us in greatly improving the Certification process. Gerard Laferty is pursuing this - some really exciting educational opportunities are available from this model.

Elections chair, Don Gustafson, brought forward the Completed Policy for the Elections Committee, fully outlining the AFA elections process.



P.O. Box 82
Petaluma, Ca. 94953

Return service re-

WSFA 2012 Calendar of Events

Aug 4th -SDFA Mitch Taylor Dissection clinic at The Shoein Shop,
Yucipa CA Contact: Dannette Harmeson 619 445 9942
jkharmeson@netzero.net

Sept 21st and 22nd -Edward Martin Perpetual Contest and Clinic with
Craig Trnka at the Draft Horse Classic, Grass Valley CA contact Jean
Meneley 775 233 9937

Oct 20th and 22st SDFA Fall Forging, certification, contest, and clinic
with Chris Gregory, San Diego CA www.sdfa.org

