

SPRING
**Horse
Times**
MAGAZINE

2026
YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE

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Hunts & Clubs
Prizelists
Point to Point
Hunter/Jumper
Western & Dressage
Show Calendar
News & Updates
Interesting Stories
Pony Times for Kids

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On the Cover

It's the Year of the
Fire Horse and the
first time in 16 years,
a photo hasn't graced
the cover. We thought
it would be easier not
to set a horse on fire.
Art by Bryan Fleming



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svern.org

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April 25 Kimberlea Gilbertson
May 9 Kristen Campbell
May 24 Dede Shumate
Aug 22 Kevin Freeman
Sept 13 Mark Wonderly
Oct 10 Christopher Webbi

*Must Attend 4 Of The 6 Shows
 To Qualify For Year End Awards*



Schooling 7:30am Show 8:00am
 Grounds/Office Fee: \$20
 Classes: \$20
 VHSA Equitation Classes \$25
 Jackpot Classes \$20
 Non-Showing Fee: \$25
 Show Manager: Megan Magaha
 540-931-4560
 mmagaha2316@gmail.com

VHSA, BHSA, & TIP Sanctioned

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Schooling Hunter Course A – 2'6 or 3' <i>BHSA</i> 2. Schooling Hunter Course B – 2'6 or 3' <i>BHSA</i> 3. Schooling Hunter Under Saddle <i>BHSA</i> 4. Children/Adult Hunter Course A 2'6 or 3' <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 5. Children/Adult Hunter Course B 2'6 or 3' <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 6. Children/Adult Hunter Under Saddle <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 7. Children/Adult Equitation 2'6 or 3' <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 8. Thoroughbred Hunter Course A 2'6" or 3' <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 9. Thoroughbred Hunter Course B 2'6" or 3' <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 10. Thoroughbred Hunter Under Saddle <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 11. Green Horse Hunter Course A 2'6" <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 12. Green Horse Hunter Course B 2'6" <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 13. Green Hunter Under Saddle <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 14. Limit Rider Hunter Course A 2' <i>BHSA</i> 15. Limit Rider Hunter Course B 2' <i>BHSA</i> 16. Limit Rider Hunter Under Saddle <i>BHSA</i> 17. Child/Adult Horse Pleasure W / Trot <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 18. Child/Adult Horse Pleasure Walk / GAYP <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 19. Child/Adult Horse Pleasure Walk / Trot / Canter <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Schooling Break not before 11 am</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Lead Line - 100% Rider Equitation 21. Lead Line - 100% Mount Suitability 22. Lead Line - 50% Equitation / 50% Suitability <i>BHSA (only 25)</i> 23. Pre-Short Stirrup Equitation - Walk <i>BHSA</i> 24. Pre-Short Stirrup Equitation - Walk/Trot <i>BHSA</i> 25. Pre-Short Stirrup Equitation - W/T/Jump Position <i>BHSA</i> 26. Short Stirrup Equitation Walk, Trot <i>BHSA</i> 27. Short Stirrup Equitation Walk, Trot, Canter <i>BHSA</i> 28. Short Stirrup Equitation Course A 18" <i>BHSA</i> 29. Short Stirrup Hunter Course A - 18" <i>VHSA</i> 30. Short Stirrup Hunter Course B - 18" <i>VHSA</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 32. Long Stirrup Equitation Course A – 18" <i>BHSA</i> 33. Long Stirrup Equitation Course B – 18" <i>BHSA</i> 34. Long Stirrup Equitation Under Saddle <i>BHSA</i> 35. Student Equitation Course A - 2' <i>BHSA</i> 36. Student Equitation Course B - 2' <i>BHSA</i> 37. Student Equitation Under Saddle <i>BHSA</i> 38. Jr/Adult Amateur Equitation on the Flat <i>VHSA & BHSA</i>
 (Children may ride ponies, Class may be split 14 & under, 15-17, or Adult) 39. Pony Pleasure Walk / Trot <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 40. Pony Pleasure Walk / GAYP <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 41. Pony Pleasure Walk / Trot/Canter <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> <p style="text-align: center;">15 min Schooling break to follow Pleasure classes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 42. Low Hunter 2' Course A <i>BHSA</i> 43. Low Hunter 2' Course B <i>BHSA</i> 44. Low Hunter Under Saddle <i>BHSA</i> 45. Pony / Green Pony Hunter Course A - Sm 2'; M 2'3"; Lg 2'6" <i>V & B</i> 46. Pony / Green Pony Hunter Course B - Sm 2'; M 2'3"; Lg 2'6" <i>V & B</i> 47. Pony / Green Pony Hunter Under Saddle <i>VHSA & BHSA</i> 48. Pony Equitation - Sm 2'; M 2'3"; Lg 2'6" <i>VHSA & BHSA</i>
 Will split Green and Pony Hunter with 3 in each class <p style="text-align: center;">Division will be held on the Grass at the conclusion of the sand ring</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 49. On the Grass Course A - 2' to 2'6 50. On the Grass Course B - 2' to 2'6 51. On the Grass Under Saddle |
|--|--|



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USDA Postpones Implementation of Horse Protection Amendments

Contact: horseprotection@usda.gov • aphis.usda.gov



WASHINGTON, D.C., January 28, 2026—

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) today announced that it will postpone the effective date for the Horse Protection Amendments final rule. Previously scheduled to take effect on February 1, 2026, several provisions of the rule have been vacated by the courts, and the non-vacated provisions will now become effective on December 31, 2026. This postponement follows ongoing legal developments and legislative directives aimed at providing regulatory clarity for the horse industry and federal inspectors.

The final rule, originally published in May 2024, was designed to strengthen the Horse Protection Act (HPA) by replacing the industry-led inspection model with USDA-authorized Horse Protection Inspectors (HPIs) and implementing stricter prohibitions on soring—the cruel practice of using chemicals or mechanical devices to induce an exaggerated gait in horses.

However, recent events have required further extension of the implementation timeline:

- **Judicial Vacatur:** A January 2025 decision by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas vacated several key provisions of the 2024 rule, including the prohibition of pads and action devices and the proposed replacement for the “scar rule.”
- **Ongoing Litigation:** A June 2025 lawsuit challenged existing HPA regulations, including a policy prohibiting noncompliant horses from competing in subsequent classes and the current scar rule standards. A preliminary injunction granted in August 2025 has created a piecemeal regulatory environment, making it impractical to implement the surviving 2024 provisions at this time.
- **Legislative Direction:** In November 2025, a House Committee Report accompanying the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations package directed APHIS to withdraw the 2024 final rule.

“Moving forward with a partial implementation while key provisions are under litigation would result in an unworkable patchwork of rules,” said APHIS Deputy Administrator Bernadette Juarez. “This delay ensures that APHIS has the time to identify the most appropriate next steps to effectively end the practice of soring while providing clarity and regulatory certainty to exhibitors, managers, and owners.”

The delay also relieves horse show managers from new recordkeeping and reporting requirements that were slated to begin in February.

APHIS remains committed to ending soring and enforcing the Horse Protection Act. The agency will use this period to evaluate potential new rulemakings or revisions that align with court rulings and Congressional intent.

For more information regarding the Horse Protection Act and current enforcement standards, please visit the APHIS website.

LSU Vet Med Researchers Investigating Equine Herpesvirus

December 19, 2025

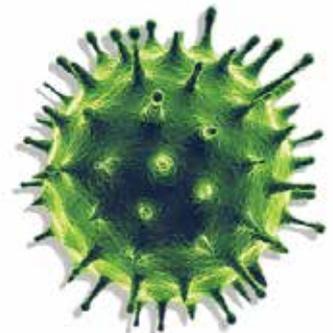
In November 2025, there was an outbreak of Equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1), which predominantly causes respiratory signs but can cause issues such as neurologic disease and abortion in pregnant mares. LSU School of Veterinary Medicine researchers are investigating EHV-1 to determine where the virus resides in the body during latency. This could help develop a vaccine for the neurologic version of the virus (there is currently a vaccine for the respiratory version).

LSU Vet Med Department of Pathobiological Sciences faculty members Udeni Balasuriya, BVSc, Ph.D., professor; Côme Thieulent, Ph.D., assistant research professor; and Mariano Carossino, DVM, Ph.D., associate professor of veterinary pathology, were awarded a Charles V. Cusimano Equine Health & Sports Performance Research Grant to investigate the “Rapid detection of latent equine respiratory herpesviruses in peripheral blood mononuclear cells and peripheral tissues by multiplex one-step dPCR assays.”

This project focuses on improving how veterinarians detect latent EHV-1. One major challenge is that herpesviruses can become latent, meaning they hide inside a horse’s cells without causing clinical signs. The virus can be reactivated by several factors (e.g., stress, immune suppression) and the virus can then spread to susceptible horses. Outbreaks can be difficult to predict or control, as we saw in November 2025. These researchers working to develop a rapid, highly sensitive molecular

digital PCR assay to detect these hidden infections before they lead to disease and new outbreaks. This tool will be invaluable for vaccine development as researchers gain a better understanding of exactly where the virus resides during these latent periods.

EHV-1 outbreaks can halt competitions where horses are present, affect breeding operations, and lead to severe illness. By giving veterinarians a clearer picture of the virus during latency, this project could improve animal health and welfare and disease control for horses.



2026 SHOW *Calendar*

SHOW CIRCUIT & USEF BEVERLY: VIRGINIA
WINTER EQUESTRIAN FESTIVAL: FLORIDA



MARCH 21, 2026
MARCH 28, 2026



MARCH 14, 2026
APRIL 25, 2026



MAY 16-17, 2026



JUNE 27, 2026
JULY 18, 2026
AUGUST 22, 2026



SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
OCTOBER 10, 2026



OCTOBER 3-4, 2026



NOVEMBER FINALS



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Virginia Horse Council 2026 Educational Seminar & Annual Meeting

Maryland-Virginia Veterinary College,
Virginia Tech, March 21

The Virginia Horse Council (VHC) is happy to announce that the 2026 VHC Educational Seminar & Annual Meeting will return to the Virginia-Maryland Veterinary College at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA on Saturday, March 21. Along with outside equine experts, this year's Educational Seminar sessions include participation by Virginia Tech Veterinarians, instructors and students.

Three separate ongoing tracks will take place during the Seminar, giving attendees flexibility to choose topics pertinent to them and their interests. Sessions include Optimizing Horse's Physical and Mental Health and Updates on Equine Diseases from ticks to EHM (equine herpes virus).

A separate Youth Track (adults welcome!) will highlight careers working with horses and include professionals from a wide variety of career paths as well as Veterinary Students. This is a must attend for any student or adult considering a career with horses, it's your opportunity to talk with a wide array of equine professionals.

Registration and additional information about the event, including a detailed agenda, can be found online at www.virginiahorsecouncil.org. Breakfast and lunch are included, as are tours of the Farrier Building and labs, demos, silent auction, door prizes and more. Please register by March 12 to guarantee reserved lunch. For more information, call 1-888-467-7882. We look forward to seeing you there!

SAVE THE DATE! 2026 VIRGINIA HORSE COUNCIL EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR & ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, March 21st

Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary
Medicine at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- EQUINE NUTRITION
- DENTAL HEALTH
- GASTRIC ULCER RISK & PREVENTION

- UPDATES ON ANAPLASMA, LYME, AND NEW TICK SPECIES IN VIRGINIA

- MANAGING EQUINE HEALTH EMERGENCIES
- YOUTH TRACK
- AND MORE!

FEE: \$35 MEMBERS/
\$55 NON-MEMBERS
(*INCLUDES '26 VHC
MEMBERSHIP)/\$10 YOUTH
(*LUNCH INCLUDED)



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4TH ANNUAL CLARKE/FREDERICK OPEN HORSE SHOW SERIES 2026

SHOW DATES:

Sunday, April 19
Saturday, May 9
Sunday, June 7
Saturday, July 25
Sunday, Aug 16
Saturday, Sept 12

Frederick County Fairgrounds
250 Fairground Rd. Clear Brook, VA



START TIME: 9am

WARM-UPS: Un-judged - all day

CLASS FEES:

\$10 Office Fee per horse/rider combo
\$12 Class

WATER: Yes **FACILITIES:** Bathrooms

SCHOOLING AREA: Grass

Must Attend 4 Out Of 6 Shows
For Year-End Prize Qualifying

1. Hunter Showmanship – Youth
2. Hunter Showmanship – Open

15 Minute Schooling Break

Hunter W/T Youth Division

3. Pleasure
4. Go As You Please
5. Equitation on the rail

Hunter W/T Open Division

6. Pleasure
7. Go As You Please
8. Equitation on the rail

Hunter W/T/C Youth Division

9. Pleasure
10. Go As You Please
11. Equitation on the rail

Hunter W/T/C Open Division

12. Pleasure
13. Go As You Please
14. Equitation on the rail

The following classes will not start before 11 AM 20 Minute Lunch/Schooling Break

15. Halter Miniature Horses
16. Halter Horse Geldings
17. Halter Horse Mares
18. Miniature Horse Showmanship
19. Beginner Showmanship
(Any Discipline in their first 2 years of showing)
20. Youth Western/Ranch Showmanship
21. Open Western/Ranch Showmanship

Lead Line Division

22. Pleasure (100% horse)
23. Rider (100% rider)
24. Horsemanship (50% horse, 50% rider)

Miniature Horse Division

25. Miniature Horse Hunters
26. Miniature Horse Versatility
27. Miniature Horse Trail (will be held outside main arena)

Small Fry Division

- (Rider any discipline 12 years old & under,
cannot enter lope/canter classes)*
28. W/T Pleasure
 29. Go As You Please
 30. Equitation/Horsemanship on the rail
 31. Miniature Horse Pleasure Driving



Beginner Division

(Rider any discipline in their first 2 years of showing)

32. W/T Pleasure
33. Go As You Please
34. Equitation/Horsemanship on the rail

Green Horse W/T, W/J Division

(Horse any discipline in their first 2 years of showing)

35. Pleasure
36. Go As You Please
37. Equitation/Horsemanship on the rail

Green Horse W/T/C, W/J/L Division

(Horse any discipline in their first 2 years of showing)

38. Pleasure
39. Go As You Please
40. Equitation/Horsemanship on the rail

Silver Stirrups Division

(Any Discipline, riders must be 40+)

41. W/T or J Pleasure
42. Go As You Please
43. Equitation/Horsemanship of the rail

Western W/J Youth Division

44. Pleasure
45. Go As You Please
46. Horsemanship on the rail

Western W/J Open Division

47. Pleasure
48. Go As You Please
49. Horsemanship on the rail Western

W/J/L Youth Division

50. Pleasure
51. Go As You Please
52. Horsemanship (Pattern)

Western W/J/L Open Division

53. Pleasure
 54. Go As You Please
 55. Horsemanship (Pattern)
- Ranch Classes not to start before 2 PM

Ranch W/J/L Open Division

56. Pleasure
57. Horsemanship (On the rail)
58. Ranch Riding (Pattern)

Held outside the main arena from 11 AM – 2 PM

59. Mounted Trail
60. In-Hand Trail

For more information contact:

Corey 716-213-3715 • Rose 540-877-4935

Proceeds from the shows to benefit the Clarke and Frederick County 4H Horse Programs.



Every Lunar New Year brings with it a shift in energy — a new zodiac animal, a new element, and a new cultural rhythm that influences the way many people around the world think about luck, success, and the year ahead. In 2026, we'll enter the Year of the Fire Horse, one of the most dynamic and powerful combinations in the Chinese zodiac cycle.

If you've ever heard that Fire Horse years are rare, intense, and full of bold change — you've heard right. This year's energy, governed by both the passionate element of fire and the independent nature of the horse, promises movement, transformation, and courage. Let's explore what to expect from this remarkable year — from its astrological influences to its cultural and personal meaning.

The Horse in Chinese Astrology

Symbolism and Traits

The Horse is the seventh sign of the Chinese zodiac, associated with freedom, vitality, confidence, and action. Horses are considered natural leaders: adventurous, passionate, and driven by a deep desire for movement — both literal and symbolic. They hate stagnation, crave excitement, and are often found galloping toward new challenges or opportunities.

In the zodiac, people born in Horse years are often described as energetic, sociable, ambitious, and courageous. However, their strengths — enthusiasm and independence — can sometimes turn into restlessness or impatience if not balanced with reflection.

Horse Years

The most recent Horse year was 2014 (Wood Horse). Prior to that, 2002 (Water Horse) and 1990 (Metal Horse) had their own distinct energies. The Fire Horse cycle, however, is much rarer — appearing only once every 60 years. The last Fire Horse year was 1966, and the next will be 2026.

The Element of Fire

In Chinese cosmology, each zodiac sign cycles through five elements: Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal, and Water. Fire is the most powerful and passionate of them all — linked with vitality, intensity, and transformation. When paired with the Horse, fire enhances the animal's natural dynamism and drive. It amplifies charisma, confidence, and a bold pioneering spirit. Yet, it also increases volatility — making this a year of dramatic highs and potential setbacks if energy isn't channeled wisely.

The Yin-Yang of Fire Horse Energy

- Yang (Active Energy): Courage, innovation, rapid progress, leadership, and creative breakthroughs.
- Shadow (Excess): Impulsiveness, burnout, conflict, or risky decisions driven by passion rather than reason.

The Personality of the Fire Horse

Fire Horse individuals are among the most magnetic personalities in the zodiac — fiercely independent and intensely driven. They love freedom, challenge conformity, and often blaze trails where others see obstacles.

However, in traditional Chinese culture, Fire Horse women were historically considered “too strong-willed,” leading to unusual social myths, especially in Japan and China, where 1966 saw a drop in birth rates due to superstition. Today, those beliefs are widely dismissed, and Fire Horse energy is instead celebrated as symbolic of empowerment, creativity, and transformation.

Core Fire Horse Traits:

- Strengths: Courageous, passionate, persuasive, innovative, decisive.
- Challenges: Impatient, rebellious, quick-tempered, sometimes self-centered.
- Best Approach: Balance enthusiasm with discipline, emotion with strategy, independence with collaboration.

Global Themes of the Fire Horse Year

1. A Year of Bold Innovation

Expect an acceleration in technology, renewable energy, and creative industries. Fire fuels invention, while the Horse's energy pushes for forward motion. 2026 may bring technological leaps and pioneering breakthroughs in AI, sustainability, and exploration (especially space and transportation).

**CLARKE
COUNTY
RURITAN
HORSE
SHOW
SERIES**



Sunday April 12th, Dede Shumate
Saturday June 27th, Kimberlea Gilbertson
Saturday August 29th, Diana Cappellanti

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds
890 W. Main St., Berryville VA, 22611

Office Fee: \$15 Classes: \$15
Non-Showing Fee: \$25

Warm-Up In Ring: 7:15-7:45am
8:00am

Leadline Division open to riders 8 years & under

1. Leadline - Judged 100% on Rider Equitation
2. Leadline - Judged 100% on Mount Suitability
3. Leadline - Judged 50% on Rider & 50% on Mount

Adult Leadline

Walk Trot Division for riders under 12 years old

5. Judged on the walk
6. Judged on the walk & trot
7. Judged on the walk, trot, and jump position

Short Stirrup Division for riders 12 years and under

8. Under Saddle - Walk, Trot, Canter
9. Over 4 fences, Not to Exceed 18"
10. Over 4 fences, Not to exceed 18"

Long Stirrup Division open to junior riders age 13-18

11. Under Saddle - Walk, Trot, Canter
12. Over 4 fences, not to exceed 18"
13. Over 4 fences, not to exceed 18"

Pony Hunter Division

Small, medium ponies to jump four fences at 2'
 Large ponies to jump four fences at 2'3"

14. Under Saddle - Walk, Trot, Canter
15. Over four fences
16. Over four fences

Pleasure Pony

20. Walk, trot
21. Walk, trot, and go as you please
22. Walk, trot, canter

Pleasure Horse

23. Walk, trot
24. Walk, trot, and go as you please
25. Walk, trot, canter

- Schooling Break

26. Puddle Jumpers Costume Class

Baby Green Division for horses and ponies in their first year of showing.

Adults may ride ponies.

27. Walk, trot, canter
28. 4 fences at 18"
29. 4 fences at 18"

Low Hunter Division

30. Walk, trot, canter
31. Four fences at 2'
32. Four fences at 2'

Open Hunter Division

33. Walk, trot, canter
34. 6 fences at 2'3" or 2'6"
35. 6 fences at 2'3" or 2'6"

Adult Student Division Open to Adult riders in a Lesson Program

(English or Western) (Horse or Pony)

36. Walk, trot/jog/pleasure gait
37. Pattern on the flat

Hunter Equitation Classic

38. 8 fences at 2'6"
39. Walk, trot, canter on the flat

Hunter Derby Classic

Open to horses and ponies to jump 2' or 2'6". Open to riders of all ages. Each Horse or Pony may only be ridden by one rider per Show. The Finale Classic will take place at the last show of the series for the top 8 rider/mount combinations with highest accumulated points throughout the series.

Trail Class Division 10am-1pm

40. In Hand (Outside)
41. Mounted (Outside)



goodepets@gmail.com • 540-398-0706 • Manager: Cindy Goode

ClarkeCountyFair.org Facebook: Clarke County Ruritan Show Series

2. Leadership and Rebellion

Fire Horse energy amplifies leadership but also challenges authority. Politically or socially, it can be a year of bold reforms, passionate activism, and outspoken movements. People may feel empowered to question outdated systems and seek independence from constraints.

3. Rapid Change and Transformation

Like a wild gallop across shifting terrain, the Fire Horse year rarely sits still. Expect fast-moving developments — both exciting and unpredictable. For businesses, adaptability will be essential; for individuals, flexibility and courage will open doors that fear might otherwise close.

4. Emotional Intensity and Passion

On a personal level, emotions may run high. Relationships could flourish under the warmth of fire’s passion — or clash under its heat. This is a year to communicate clearly, act decisively, but also practice empathy and patience to maintain harmony.

5. Environmental Awakening

The element of fire can symbolize both creation and destruction. The Fire Horse year may bring renewed awareness of climate-related challenges, spurring new commitments to sustainable growth and resource preservation.



How to Navigate the Fire Horse Energy

For Individuals

- **Embrace Change:** The year rewards the brave. Taking a calculated risk— like launching a project, changing careers, or moving— can yield big payoffs.
- **Stay Grounded:** Fire Horse energy can be impulsive. Meditation, exercise, and work-life balance are crucial to avoid burnout.
- **Strengthen Relationships:** Independent energy may tempt some to pull away; instead, choose collaboration and mutual growth.
- **Follow Passion Wisely:** Use your enthusiasm to create lasting results, not just quick wins.

For Businesses and Teams

- **Encourage Innovation:** Creativity will thrive; let employees experiment and take ownership.
- **Manage Risk:** Quick decisions can create breakthroughs — or missteps. Balance visionary thinking with sound planning.
- **Motivate Through Purpose:** Horses follow leaders with conviction. Inspire teams by aligning them around meaningful goals.

Love and Relationships in the Year of the Fire Horse

Romance under the Fire Horse is dynamic, adventurous, and fiery. It’s a year for deep connections but also for testing boundaries. Couples may rediscover passion, while singles might meet partners through unexpected adventures or bold new experiences.

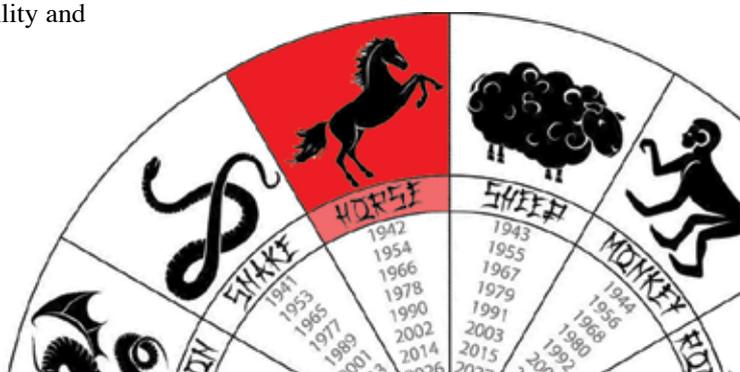
However, because both Fire and Horse elements prize independence, emotional balance will be key. Relationships built on mutual respect for freedom will thrive, while overly possessive or controlling dynamics could falter. This is also a year ripe for self-love and personal reinvention — embracing your individuality and creative vitality.

Lucky Signs and Compatibility

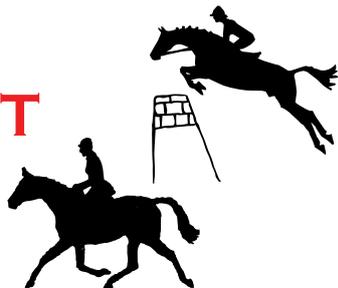
The Horse pairs harmoniously with Tiger, Dog, and Goat, sharing similar zest for life and integrity. It can clash with Rat and Ox, whose energies prefer stability and predictability over speed and spontaneity.

Lucky Elements & Colors for 2026:

- **Colors: Red, Coral, Gold, Orange** — to harness fire’s passion.
- **Numbers: 3, 7, and 9** bring fortune.
- **Favorable Directions: South and southwest**
- **Lucky Months: March, July, and November**



CLARKE COUNTY FAIR BENEFIT HORSE SHOW



**Saturday, August 15th, 2026
8:00am**

**Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds
890 W. Main St., Berryville VA, 22611**

**Office Fee: \$15
Classes: \$15
Non-Showing Fee: \$25**

**Warm-Up In Ring: 7:15-7:45am
Judge: Kimberlea Gilbertson**

Leadline Division open to riders 8 years and under

1. Leadline - Judge 100% on Rider Equitation
2. Leadline - Judge 100% on Mount Suitability
3. Leadline - Judge 50% on Rider & 50% on Mount

Perpetual Trophy - Harry and Barbara Jones

4. Adult Leadline

Walk Trot Division

4. Judged on the walk
5. Judged on the walk & trot
6. Judged on the walk, trot, and jump position

Short Stirrup Division for riders 12 years and under

7. Under Saddle - Walk, Trot, Canter
8. Over 4 fences, Not to Exceed 18"
9. Over 4 fences, Not to exceed 18"

Long Stirrup Division for riders 13-18 years of age

10. Under Saddle - Walk, Trot, Canter
11. Over 4 fences, not to exceed 18"
12. Over 4 fences, not to exceed 18"

Small/Medium Pony Division

13. Under Saddle - Walk, Trot, Canter
14. Over four fences, 2'
15. Over four fences, 2'

Large Pony Division

16. Under saddle - Walk, trot, canter
17. Over four fences, 2'3"
18. Over four fences, 2'3"

Perpetual Trophy - "Uncle Jack" Thomas

Pleasure Pony

19. Walk, trot
20. Walk, trot, and go as you please
21. Walk, trot, canter

Clarke County Pleasure Pony (English or Western)

22. Walk, trot/jog, and go as you please

Perpetual Trophy - Anne Clay Arnold

Pleasure Horse

23. Walk, trot
24. Walk, trot, and go as you please
25. Walk, trot, canter

Clarke County Pleasure Horse (English or Western)

26. Walk, trot/jog, and go as you please

Perpetual Trophy - Lewis M. Allen Riding Club

- Schooling Break

Low Hunter Division

27. Walk, trot, canter
28. Four fences at 2'
29. Four fences at 2'

Thoroughbred Division

30. Walk, trot, canter
31. 6 fences at 2'3"
32. 6 fences at 2'3"

Perpetual Trophy - Awesome Guy

Open Hunter Division

33. Walk, trot, canter
34. 6 fences at 2'3"
35. 6 fences at 2'3"

Adult Student (English or Western) (Horse or Pony)

36. Walk, trot/jog/pleasure gait
37. Pattern on the flat

Perpetual Trophy - Iona Pillion

Hunter Equitation Classic Division

38. 8 fences at 2'6"
39. Under Saddle

Hunter Derby Classic

Open to horses and ponies to jump 2' or 2'6".

Open to riders of all ages. Each Horse or Pony may only be ridden by one rider per Show.

The Finale Classic will take place at the last show of the series for the top 8 rider/mount combinations with highest accumulated points throughout the series.

Trail Class Division 10am-1pm

41. In Hand (Outside)
42. Mounted (Outside)

Perpetual Trophy - TF Red Rambo Award

Proceeds go to the Clarke County
Fire & Rescue Companies:



goodepets@gmail.com • 540-398-0706 • Manager: Cindy Goode

ClarkeCountyFair.org

Facebook: [Clarke County Ruritan Show Series](#)

Historical Context: The Last Fire Horse Year (1966)

The last Fire Horse year, 1966, was globally turbulent yet culturally transformative. It saw the rise of new social movements, artistic revolutions, and political upheaval. From the space race to civil rights activism, that year embodied independence, rebellion, and reinvention — all key Fire Horse themes.

While 2026 is a different world, its spirit may echo that same call for creative expression, justice, and fearless reinvention.

Final Thoughts: Riding the Energy of 2026

The Year of the Fire Horse is not one for the timid. It gallops in with heat, motion, and unrelenting energy — favoring the brave, the visionary, and the adaptable. It's a time to act boldly, think creatively, and pursue dreams with passion and precision.

Yet, just like riding a spirited horse, success in 2026 will depend on balance and control. Harness the power, but don't let it run away with you. The fire that lights your path can also burn you out if unmanaged.

If you approach the year with courage, humility, and wisdom, the Fire Horse will reward you with breakthroughs, freedom, and transformation unlike any other.

In short: 2026 — the Year of the Fire Horse — will be a year of movement, innovation, and rebirth. It invites us to break free from routine, spark new beginnings, and ride boldly toward the future with passion and purpose.



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JUMPER

April 18

Robin Wood

May 16

TBD

July 18

Robin Wood

Sept 19

TBD

HUNTER

April 19

TBD

May 17

TBD

July 19

TBD

Sept 20

Robin Wood

GRAY HORSE FARM

Schooling 7-8:30am • Show 9:00am

Grounds/Office Fee: \$15

Classes: \$25 Post-Entry \$30 Hunter \$65

Concessions available

SHOW MANAGERS:

Courtenay Baber & Erin Mitchell 804-241-3377

Show Secretary Erin Mitchell 434-882-4635

ghfhorseshow@gmail.com

2766 Ballsville Rd Powhatan Virginia 23139

HUNTER

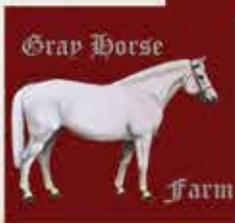
Check GrayHorseFarmVirginia.com or Facebook For Entry Information

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Leadline | 21. Pony Pleasure – GAYP | 40. Special Hunter -O/F 2' 2'6" |
| 2. Pre-Short Stirrup – Walk | 22. Pony Pleasure – W/T/C | 41. Special Hunter -O/F 2' 2'6" |
| 3. Pre-Short Stirrup – Walk/Trot | 23. Jr. Pleasure Horse – W/T | 42. Special Hunter U/S |
| 4. Pre-Short Stirrup – Obstacle Course | 24. Jr. Pleasure Horse – GAYP | |
| 5. Short Stirrup Eq. – W/T | 25. Jr. Pleasure Horse – W/T/C | 15 Minute Schooling Break |
| 6. Short Stirrup Eq. -W/T/C | 26. Adult Pleasure Horse – W/T | 43. Children's/Adult Amateur |
| 7. Short Stirrup Eq. – O/F 18" | 27. Adult Pleasure Horse – GAYP | Equitation VHSA/ BHSA –O/F |
| 8. Short Stirrup Hunter O/F | 28. Adult Pleasure Horse – W/T/C | 44 Children's /Adult Amateur |
| 9. Short Stirrup Hunter O/F | 29. Equitation on the Flat VHSA/BHSA | Hunter – O/F 2'6" 2'9" |
| 10. Short Stirrup Hunter U/S | | 45. Children's/ Adult Amateur |
| 11. Long Stirrup Equitation W/T | 15 Minute schooling break | Hunter O/F 2'6" -2'9" |
| 12. Long Stirrup Equitation W/T/C | 30. Pony Equitation O/F VHSA/BHSA | 46. Children's / Adult Amateur |
| 13. Long Stirrup Equitation O/F | 31. Pony Hunter – O/F | Hunter/- U/S |
| 14. Long Stirrup Hunter O/F | 32. Pony Hunter – O/F | 47. Green Hunter O/F 2'6" |
| 15. Long Stirrup Hunter OF | 33. Pony Hunter – U/S | 48. Green Hunter O/F 2'6" |
| 16. Long Stirrup Hunter U/S | 34. Green Pony Hunter O/F | 49. Green Hunter U/S |
| 17. Student Equitation – W/T | 35. Green Pony Hunter O/F | 50. Thoroughbred Hunter – O/F 2'6" |
| 18. Student Equitation – W/T/C | 36. Green Pony Hunter U/S | 51. Thoroughbred Hunter – O/F 2'6" |
| 19. Student Equitation – O/F 2' | 37. Limit Rider Hunter – O/F 2' | 52. Thoroughbred Hunter – U/S |
| 20. Pony Pleasure – W/T | 38. Limit Rider Hunter – O/F 2' | 53. Working Hunter – O/F 2'9" |
| | 39. Limit Rider Hunter – U/S | 54. Working Hunter – O/F 2'9" |
| | | 55. Working Hunter – U/S |

VHSA Associate Show • BHSA Show • TIP Horse Show • GRHSA Shows

JUMPER

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Tadpoles Course A poles on the ground optimum time | 21. Novice CH/AA Jumper 2'3"- 2'6" |
| 2. Tadpoles Course B poles on the ground optimum time | 22. Open Jumper 2' 6" |
| 3. Tadpoles course C poles on the ground optimum time | 23. Open Jumper 2' 6" |
| 4. Cross rails Course A 18" optimum time | 24. Open Jumper 2'6" |
| 5. Cross rails Course B 18" optimum time | 25. Low Jumper- 2'6"- 3' |
| 6. Cross Rails Course C 18" optimum time | 26. Low Jumper- 2'6"- 3' |
| 7. Puddle Jumper – 2'- 2'3" | 27. Low Jumper 2'6"- 3' |
| 8. Puddle Jumper – 2'- 2'3" | 28. Thoroughbred Jumper – 2'6"- 3' |
| 9. Puddle Jumper 2'- 2'3" | 29. Thoroughbred Jumper – 2'6"- 3' |
| 10. Pre Novice Jumper 2'- 2'3" | 30. Thoroughbred Jumper 2'6"- 3' |
| 11. Pre Novice Jumper 2'- 2'3" | 31. BHSA Children Adult |
| 12. Pre Novice Jumper 2'- 2'3" | Equitation 2'6" 2'9" 3' |
| 13. Pre-Novice Children's Adult Jumper 2'- 2'3" | 32. Ch/AA Jumper- 2 6 - 3 3" |
| 14. Pre-Novice Children's Adult Jumper 2'- 2'3" | 33. Ch/AA Jumper - 2 6 - 3 3 |
| 15. Pre-Novice Children's Adult Jumper 2'- 2'3" | 34. CH/AA Jumper 2 6 - 3 3 |
| 16. Novice Jumper – 2'3"- 2'6" | 35. Schooling Jumper- 3 - 3 6" |
| 17. Novice Jumper – 2'3"- 2'6" | 36. Schooling Jumper- 3 - 3 6" |
| 18. Novice Jumper 2'3"- 2'6" | 37. Schooling Jumper- 3 - 3 6" |
| 19. Novice Ch/AA Jumper – 2'3"- 2'6" | 38. Modified Jumper – 3'6"- 4' |
| 20. Novice Ch/AA Jumper – 2'3"- 2'6" | 39. Modified Jumper – 3'6"- 4' |
| | 40. Modified Jumper – 3'6"- 4' |



Welcome Clyde SVERN's Latest Rescue This is What Real Rescue is All About!

By: Claire Summers, DVM • Dog & Pony Show Equine Vet

Meet Clyde the mini hinny. Clyde was seized by Shenandoah Animal Control due to severe neglect, and triaged by a veterinarian on the scene, who thought there may be hope for him, if he could be placed with **Shenandoah Valley Equine Rescue Network**.

When we initially saw a photo of him, we were very concerned about the potential for a lower limb fracture or dislocated joint, and knew he needed immediate attention, and x-rays to assess the situation. As difficult as it may have been, we were prepared to shower him with bunches of love, affection and yummy treats before ending his suffering, humanely, if necessary.

However, we were incredibly excited to see that he had not suffered a catastrophic injury. Rather, without proper farrier care, his hooves had become severely overgrown and

distorted. The right hind, especially, had become so twisted and deformed, that he was no longer able to bring his lower limb forward, and was walking on his fetlock, instead of his foot. As a result, his quadriceps and gluteal muscles are severely atrophied, which has undoubtedly lead to compensatory strain on other parts of his body.

With the help of anesthesia, and anti-inflammatories, we were able to use a combination of power tools and farrier tools to remove the excess hoof, allowing this tough little guy to walk normally for the first time in (probably) years. Just look at how squarely he is standing in the hind end now!

Once his muscles have had a chance to adjust to his dramatic change in posture, he will have another joint visit with the farrier who can continue to trim and balance his feet, even better. Don't let his cute face and crazy hair fool you, this little dude is feisty, now that he is feeling better and can actually move!

We knew he must have a fighting spirit to have made it this far!

If you would like to help support Clyde's recovery and rehabilitation, or to learn more about helping or adopting horses through **Shenandoah Valley Equine Rescue Network**, please visit **SVERN.ORG**.



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We specialize in helping riders find their perfect match.
Browse our horses and ponies for sale sections to see what we have available!

Molly

Adorable, fancy, quiet, easy,
Reg Connemara large pony hunter prospect!
Lovely mover, great canter, natural lead
changes and such a cute jump. Very kid
friendly and straightforward.
14.1 h, 3 yr old, born broke!
She's going to make a fabulous rated show
or all around pony.
Shown in hand, she has off property mileage
and also rides out.
Registered and chipped with ACPs, color panel
A/a n/Cr e/e R/R.



Rendezvous Z

Handsome, 10 yr, 16.3 h, imported Zangersheide gelding.

Beautiful mover, fantastic jump, easy changes, big step, kind, honest 3' hunter with 3'6" scope and step.

"Evan" is a fun, comfortable, athletic horse that started this season with a reserve champion in Ocala in the adults and great ribbons in the pregreens with his 19 year old amateur.

Outstanding Derby, A/O, JR, or Adult/Children's Hunter.



Helios

Striking, black, 17 h, 13 year old,
Dutch WB gelding. Wonderful jump,
honest, straightforward,
impeccable manners, little prep,
never needs to see the jumps,
no vices, loves to hack out.

"Iggy" is the 2'6" - 3' horse everyone
has been searching for!

He is happy to step into the equitation ring
and be competitive or safe for an
adult or children's who is looking to dabble
in the hunters, equitation, jumpers,
and also ride out anywhere.

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HUNTER DATES

April 12 Robin Wood / Davera Ackenbom
 May 3 DeDe Shumate / Katie Petronelli
 May 17 Laura Batts / DeDe Shumate
 June 28 Kim Gilbertson/ Christopher Webb
 July 19 Laura Batts/ Robin Wood
 Aug. 2 Davera Ackenbom/ Jane Nordstrom
 Aug. 30 Christopher Webb/ Katie Petronelli
 Sept. 13 Robin Wood / Jane Nordstrom
 Oct. 4 Katie Petronelli/ Christopher Webb
 Oct. 18 DeDe Shumate/ Kim Gilbertson
Halloween show, End of year awards

START TIME: 8am
 Schooling 7-8am
WARM-UPS: \$20 CA
CLASS FEES:
 \$65 Division, \$25 Office
 \$25/\$30 Per Round
 \$25 Non-Showing,
 \$50 Medal
PHOTOGRAPHER:
 Hannah Jones
 Photography
Snack Bar Available

LARGE OUTDOOR RING

Ribbons for 1st-6th Places

1. LOW HUNTER B
 2. LOW HUNTER B
 3. LOW HUNTER B
 4. LIMIT HUNTER B
 5. LIMIT HUNTER B
 6. LIMIT HUNTER B
 7. HORSE PLEASURE V/TIP/B
 8. HORSE PLEASURE V/ TIP/B
 9. HORSE PLEASURE V/TIP/B
 10. JUNIOR/ ADULT AM . EQUITATION ON THE FLAT V/B
 11. VHSA ADULT EQ ON FLAT MEDAL
 12. SCHOOLING HUNTER B
 13. SCHOOLING HUNTER B
 14. SCHOOLING HUNTER B
 15. TB HUNTER V/TIP/B
 16. TB HUNTER V/TIP/B
 17. TB HUNTER V/TIP/B
 18. GREEN HUNTER HORS E V/B
 19. GREEN HUNTER HORSE V/B
 20. GREEN HUNTER HORSE V/B
 21. CHILD / AA HUNTER V/B
 22. CHILD / AA HUNTER V/B
 23. CHILD/ AA HUNTER V/B
 24. CHILD / AA EQ. V/B
 25. WORKING HUNTER V/B
 26. WORKING HUNTER V/B
 27. WORKING HUNTER V/B
 28. VHSA EMO CHILDREN'S MEDAL
 29. VHSA EMO ADULT AMATEUR MEDAL
- *** 20 minute schooling break, not before 1pm
30. PONY PLEASURE V/B
 31. PONY PLEASURE V/B
 32. PONY PLEASURE V/B
 33. VHSA PONY EQ ON FLAT MEDAL
 34. GREEN PONY HUNTER V/ B
 35. GREEN PONY HUNTER V/B
 36. GREEN PONY HUNTER V/B
 37. PONY HUNTER V/B
 38. PONY HUNTER V/B
 39. PONY HUNTER V/ B
 40. PONY EQUITATION V/B
 41. VHSA PONY MEDAL

SMALL OUTDOOR RING

Schooling 7-9am • Start time 9am

42. LEADLINE 100% Rider Equitation
43. LEADLINE B 50% pony suitability / 50% equitation
44. LEADLINE 100% pony suitability & manners
45. PATTERN RIDE Walk/halt thru cone weave & pole maze
46. PRE-SHORT STIRRUP EQ B Walk
47. PRE-SHORT STIRRUP EQ B Walk/Trot
48. PRE-SHORT STIRRUP EQ B Walk/Trot/Sit-Trot/Jump Position at Walk

INDOOR RING

Schooling 7-10am • Start time 10am, typically finishes Noon-1pm

49. NOVICE EQ. Walk/Trot
50. NOVICE EQ. Individual canter
51. NOVICE EQ. Over 2 fences 12" (Trot or Canter)
52. SHORT STIRRUP EQ. B Over 4 Fences: 18" (Trot or Canter)
53. SHORT STIRRUP EQ. B Over 4 Fences: 18" (Trot or Canter)
54. SHORT STIRRUP EQ. B Walk/Trot
55. SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER V/B Over 4 Fences: 18"
56. SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER V/B Over 4 Fences: 18"
57. SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER VB Under Saddle (Walk/Trot/Canter)
58. LONG STIRRUP HUNTER B Over 4 Fences: 18"
59. LONG STIRRUP HUNTER B Over 4 Fences: 18"
60. LONG STIRRUP HUNTER B Under Saddle (Walk/Trot/Canter)
61. STUDENT EQUITATION B Over 4 Fences: 2' (Trot or Canter)
62. STUDENT EQUITATION B Over 4 Fences: 2' (Trot or Canter)
63. STUDENT EQUITATION B Under Saddle (Walk/Trot/Canter)

JUMPER DATES



April 26 Jane Nordstrom
 May 24 Cindy Lytle
 June 14 Jane Nordstrom
 July 15 (4 pm) Robin Wood
 July 29 (4 pm) Robin Wood
 Aug. 12 (4 pm) Robin Wood
 Oct. 11 Jane Nordstrom
Halloween show, End of year awards
 Nov. 29 Jane Nordstrom
Ugly Sweater show, NOT VHSA/BHSA

\$35 per round • \$30 office fee

(Red Gate students add fee to use schoolhorse)

Blue ribbons for clear rounds! (no refusals, no knockdowns)

Ribbons for 1st-6th Division Champions & Reserve

End of year awards will be presented for top 6 TIP jumpers at 2', 2'6", 3', 3'3" with 3 or more shows!

ALL SHOWS VHSA, BHSA, AND TIP

LARGE OUTDOOR RING

Start time: 8 am

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| GROUND RAILS | Clear Round |
| GROUND RAILS | Optimum Time |
| GROUND RAILS | Fastest Clear/Table II. 1 |
| CROSSRAILS | Clear Round |
| CROSSRAILS | Optimum Time |
| CROSSRAILS | Fastest Clear /Table II. 1 |
| 18" Verticals | Clear Round |
| 18" Verticals | Optimum Time |
| 18" Verticals | Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| PRE-NOVICE Puddle Jumper 2' with Oxers | Clear Round |
| PRE-NOVICE Puddle Jumper 2' with Oxers | VBT Optimum Time |
| PRE-NOVICE Puddle Jumper 2' with Oxers | VBT Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| NOVICE Horse 2'3" w/combo | Clear Round |
| NOVICE Horse 2'3" w/combo | VBT Optimum Time |
| NOVICE Horse 2'3" w/combo | VBT Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| NOVICE Ch/AA 2'3" w/combo | Clear Round |
| NOVICE Ch/AA 2'3" w/combo | VBT Optimum Time |
| NOVICE Ch/AA 2'3" w/combo | VBT Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| LOW 2'6" | Clear Round |
| LOW 2'6" VB | Optimum Time |
| LOW 2'6" VB | Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| Thoroughbred 2'6" | Clear Round |
| Thoroughbred 2'6" | VBT Optimum Time |
| Thoroughbred 2'6" | VBT Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| Ch/AA 2'6" | Clear Round |
| Ch/AA 2'6" VB | Optimum Time |
| Ch/AA 2'6" VB | Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| SCHOOLING 3' | Clear Round |
| SCHOOLING 3' VBT | Optimum Time |
| SCHOOLING 3' VBT | Power & Speed / Table II.2C |
| MODIFIED 3'6" | Clear Round |
| MODIFIED 3'6" VBT | Optimum Time |
| MODIFIED 3'6" VBT | Power & Speed / Table II.2C |



Dressage Shows

Sunday, March 29 (9 am start)
 Sunday, May 31 (8 am start)
 Sunday, Nov 1 (9 am start)

VADA/NOVA

Lisa Eagley-DesRosiers
 Dilly Jackson
 Julianne Grace Brownson

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Turner Farm Events

VHSA ASSOCIATE HUNTER SCHOOLING SHOWS

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls, VA 22066

www.TurnerFarmEvents.org



April 18th

May 10th

September 13th

October 10th

Start Time 8:00am

Schooling 6:45am-7:45am

Warm-up rounds Open all day

Office Fee \$25 / Class Fee \$20

Photographer Maddie Santos Photography

Manager Lara McPherson / lulu2mc@aol.com

Secretary karen.washburn@longandfoster.com

Ring 1 8:00 a.m.

50. Open Card Warm-up

1. Schooling Hunter OF (2'6")

2. Schooling Hunter OF (2'6")

3. Schooling Hunter US

4. VHSA Working/Green Hunter OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

5. VHSA Working/Green Hunter OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

6. VHSA Working/Green Hunter US

7. VHSA Children's/ AA Eq (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

8. VHSA Children's/ AA OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

9. VHSA Children's/ AA OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

10. VHSA Children's/ AA US

11. VHSA Jr/Adult Eq on the flat

Schooling break -not before 10:30am

12. Low Hunter OF (2')

13. Low Hunter OF (2')

14. Low Hunter US

15. VHSA Horse Pleasure WT

16. VHSA Horse Pleasure GAYP

17. VHSA Horse Pleasure WTC

18. VHSA Pony Pleasure WT

19. VHSA Pony Pleasure GAYP

20. VHSA Pony Pleasure, WTC

21. VHSA Pony Eq (S 2', M 2'3", L 2'6")

22. VHSA Pony Hunter OF (S 2', M 2'3", L 2'6")

23. VHSA Pony Hunter OF (S 2', M 2'3", L 2'6")

24. VHSA Pony Hunter US

25. Lead Line rider

26. Lead Line pony

27. Lead Line rider/pony

28. Pre-Short Stirrup W

29. Pre-Short Stirrup WT

30. Pre-Short Stirrup WT/Test

Schooling break -not before 2:00pm

31. Long Stirrup Eq. WT

32. Long Stirrup Eq. WTC

33. Long Stirrup Eq. OF (18")

34. Short Stirrup Eq. WT

35. Short Stirrup Eq. WTC

36. Short Stirrup Eq. OF (18")

37. VHSA Short Stirrup Hunter OF (18")

38. VHSA Short Stirrup Hunter OF (18")

39. VHSA Short Stirrup Hunter US



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2026

Upperville Jump 4 Fun Schooling Show

Prize List at Upperville.com

Hunter Day - Saturday May 30th

Jumper Day - Sunday May 31st

New this year: 3' Hunters & 1.10 m Jumpers

Start time: 9:00 am

Hacking until 8:15 am

Entries Open May 1st & Close May 27th

www.horseshowsonline.com



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Entrance Off Of Willisville Road / RT. 623

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2026 SCHEDULE

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Five Ways Artificial Intelligence Is Impacting the Horse Industry

By: Georgia Andrews

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming nearly every sector of modern life — and the horse industry is no exception. From breeding and veterinary care to training, safety, and business management, AI technologies are revolutionizing the way equestrians, breeders, and veterinarians care for and interact with horses.

While the equine world has long valued tradition, AI is helping merge centuries of experience with cutting-edge analytics. The result is a more data-driven, efficient, and welfare-focused industry. Below are five of the biggest ways AI is reshaping the horse world.

1. Smart Breeding and Genetic Analysis

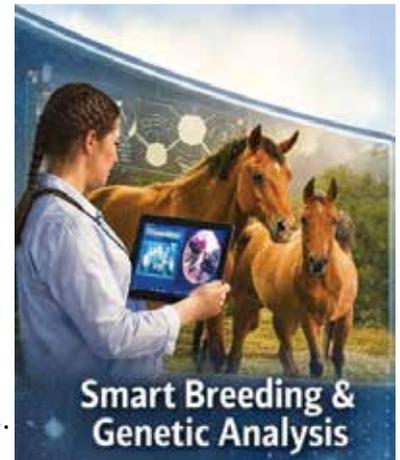
Precision Breeding Through Predictive AI

Traditionally, horse breeding has relied heavily on expert intuition and pedigree records. Now, AI models can analyze genetic data, historical performance records, temperament scores, and health profiles to predict the outcome of specific mating combinations with remarkable accuracy.

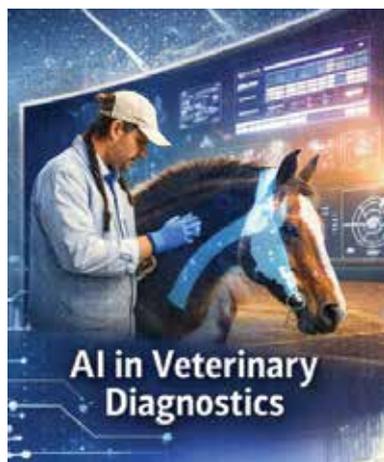
Sophisticated algorithms identify genetic traits linked to speed, endurance, bone density, fertility, or even disease resistance. This means breeders can make data-supported decisions that were once driven largely by experience alone.

Benefits

- Healthier Foals – Early genetic screening reduces hereditary disorders.
- Better Predictability – Breeders can forecast qualities useful for disciplines like racing, dressage, or show jumping.
- Ethical Improvements – Avoiding high-risk breeding combinations lowers mortality and injury rates among mares and foals.



AI-driven tools like equine genome mapping software and machine learning pedigree analysis are already being used in sectors such as Thoroughbred racing and sport horse breeding programs across Europe and North America.



2. AI in Veterinary Diagnostics and Preventive Care

Smarter, Faster Medical Decisions

One of the most transformative impacts of AI in the horse industry lies in veterinary science. AI-powered diagnostic tools analyze imaging scans, sound patterns, and movement data to detect early signs of disease or injury before visible symptoms occur.

For example, computer vision systems can analyze thermal imaging or radiographs to identify subtle bone or tendon changes that might indicate early laminitis, arthritis, or fractures — allowing intervention before a major breakdown occurs.

Common AI Veterinary Applications

- Lameness Detection Systems – AI locomotion trackers measure gait asymmetry to detect subtle irregularities.



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- Respiratory Health Analysis – Machine listening tools analyze breathing patterns for early detection of airway conditions.
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Benefits

- Reduced recovery times.
- Improved longevity and performance.
- Early detection saves costs and prevents suffering.

In the past, diagnosing lameness or joint issues could take weeks of observation.

With AI, it now takes less than a second to detect abnormalities from a single video clip.

3. Enhanced Training and Performance Analytics

Smarter Riding and Coaching Systems

AI is helping riders and trainers understand equine performance and biomechanics on a granular level. Using wearable sensors, motion-capture technology, and advanced analytics, AI can track every stride, jump, and transition.

By processing thousands of data points—from heart rate variability to muscle tension—AI systems provide coaches with actionable insights about a horse's fitness, mood, and workload tolerance.

Examples include:

- Smart saddles and wearable sensors that measure rider balance, saddle pressure, and horse symmetry.
- Computer vision tools that evaluate jumping angles, stride rhythm, and reaction times.
- AI video assistants that provide feedback on a horse's movement quality without the need for a human judge.

Benefits

- Improved training efficiency through customized exercise routines.
- Reduced risk of overtraining or fatigue.
- Enhanced rider-horse communication through data feedback.

For disciplines like dressage, eventing, and racing, these insights are game-changers. Trainers can refine techniques not just based on intuition, but on quantifiable performance data that directly corresponds to improved outcomes.

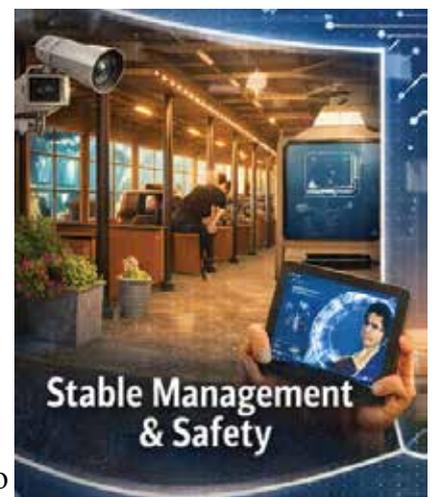
4. Stable Management and Safety Automation

Intelligent Monitoring Systems

AI is also revolutionizing stable management through automation and predictive maintenance. Smart cameras and connected devices monitor horse activity 24/7 — detecting behavioral changes, restlessness, or abnormal movement patterns that could indicate discomfort or illness.

Many modern stables now employ AI systems that track:

- Feeding patterns and ensure consistent nutrition delivery.
- Real-time movement to detect early signs of colic or lameness.
- Environmental metrics like air quality, temperature, and humidity to maintain optimal living conditions.





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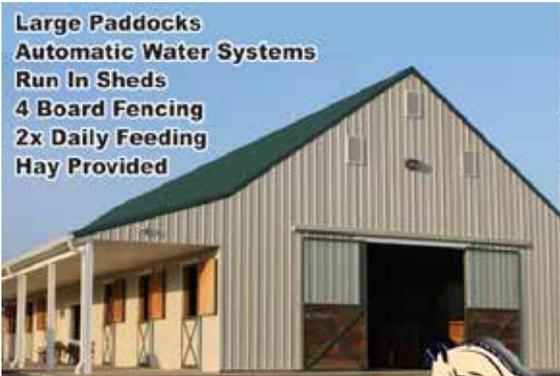
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Eileen Wilson

Photo Credit: Douglas Lees

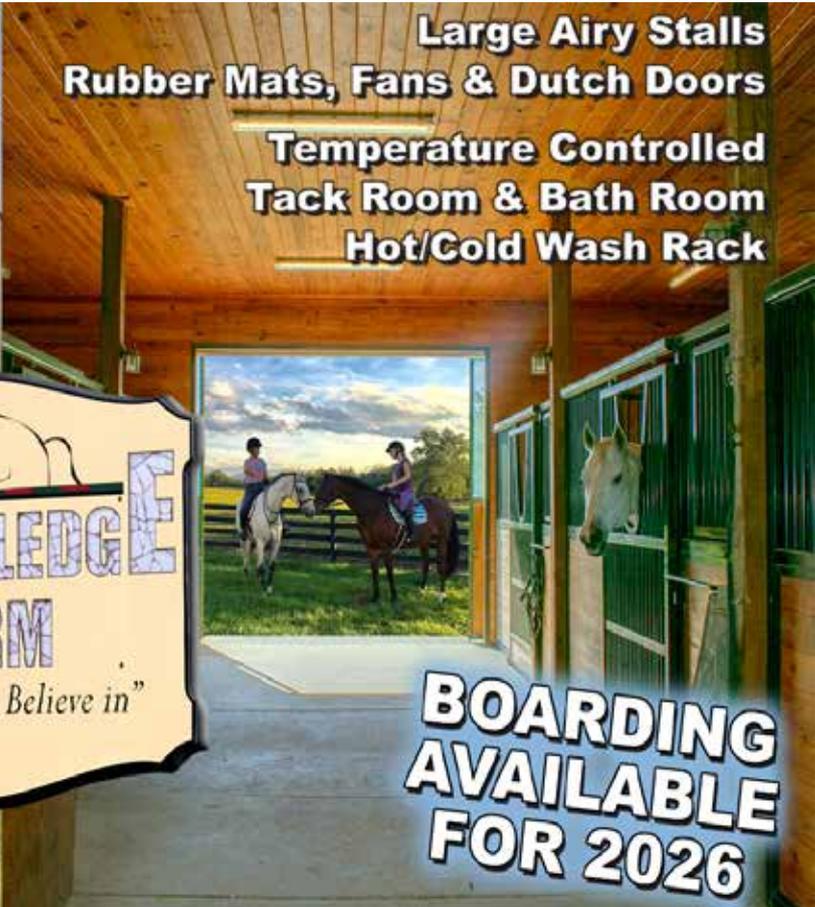


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Jump & Dressage Fix-A-Test
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APRIL 5

CDCTA Spring Recognized
Horse Trials at Great Meadow

APRIL 7 (TENTATIVE)

XC Schooling Day

APRIL 19

Dressage Seat Equitation
clinic at RideFauquier Horse
Park, Warrenton

MAY 2

XC Combined Test at WinGreen

MAY 14

Thursday Afternoon Dressage
at Great Meadow

JUNE 16

Tuesday Afternoon Dressage at
Great Meadow

JUNE 17

Wednesday Recognized
Dressage at Great Meadow

JUNE 18

Thursday Fix-a-Test with
Debbie Rodriguez S Judge

JULY 9

Thursday Afternoon Dressage
at Great Meadow

AUGUST 13

Thursday Afternoon Dressage
at Great Meadow

SEPTEMBER 6

CDCTA Fall Recognized Horse
Trials at Great Meadow

SEPTEMBER 8 (TENTATIVE)

XC Schooling Day

SEPTEMBER 20

Sunday Dressage at
Great Meadow

OCTOBER 31

Saturday Halloween Schooling
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Predictive Alerts

AI systems analyze months or years of stable data to forecast potential problems — from hoof abscess likelihood to injury risk based on exercise patterns. Some smart barns are even integrated with voice-activated control systems that allow stable managers to adjust lighting, ventilation, and feeding schedules remotely.

Benefits

- Reduced risk of medical emergencies.
- Lower operational costs.
- Greater welfare through personalized care and oversight.

With safety as a key priority in equine operations, these smart monitoring systems are rapidly becoming standard in elite training centers, breeding facilities, and even private barns.



5. Data-Driven Decision-Making in Business and Sports Management

AI in Equine Economics

The horse industry is also big business — from racing and breeding to sport and leisure sectors. Artificial intelligence is enabling stakeholders to make smarter financial and operational decisions using predictive analytics and marketing automation tools.

For Racing and Betting:

AI models analyze vast datasets including historical race times, track conditions, genetics, training logs, and jockey performance to predict outcomes and reduce uncertainty. This is transforming not just training strategies, but also the economics of horse racing.

For Equestrian Events and Organizations:

Event organizers use AI to forecast attendance, optimize scheduling, and improve logistics. Insurance firms employ AI to model loss risk from equine diseases or accidents, creating fairer and more accurate pricing structures.

Benefits

- Smarter investment decisions based on performance metrics.
- Improved predictions in auctions and bloodstock valuations.
- More transparent and data-backed industry practices.

Sustainable Management

With growing emphasis on sustainability, AI tools are also helping farms monitor resource consumption — from water to feed usage — and optimize waste management. Smart resource monitoring reduces environmental impact while improving profitability.

The Ethical Considerations

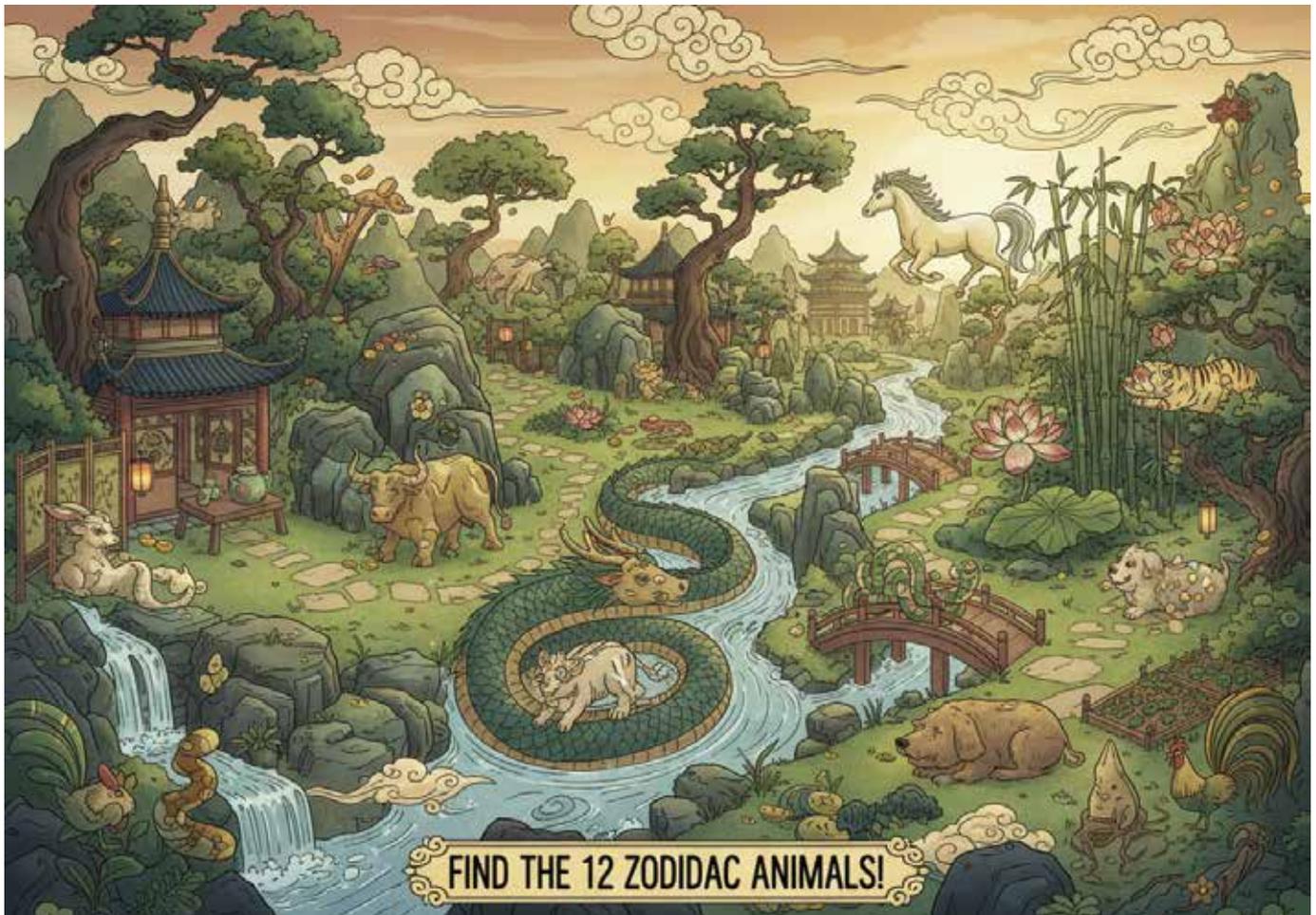
While AI offers tremendous promise, it also brings challenges. Concerns around data privacy, overreliance on automation, and animal ethics must be carefully navigated. For instance, using AI purely for performance optimization without considering equine welfare risks undermining the moral fabric of horsemanship.

Industry organizations are working to develop guidelines to ensure technology serves the welfare of the horse first — supporting, not replacing, human intuition and compassion.

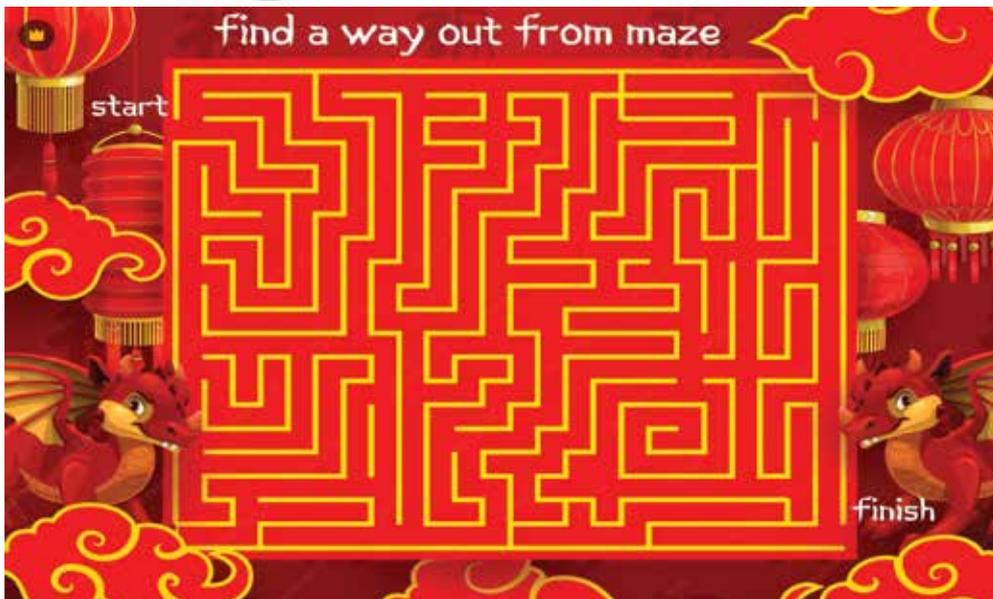


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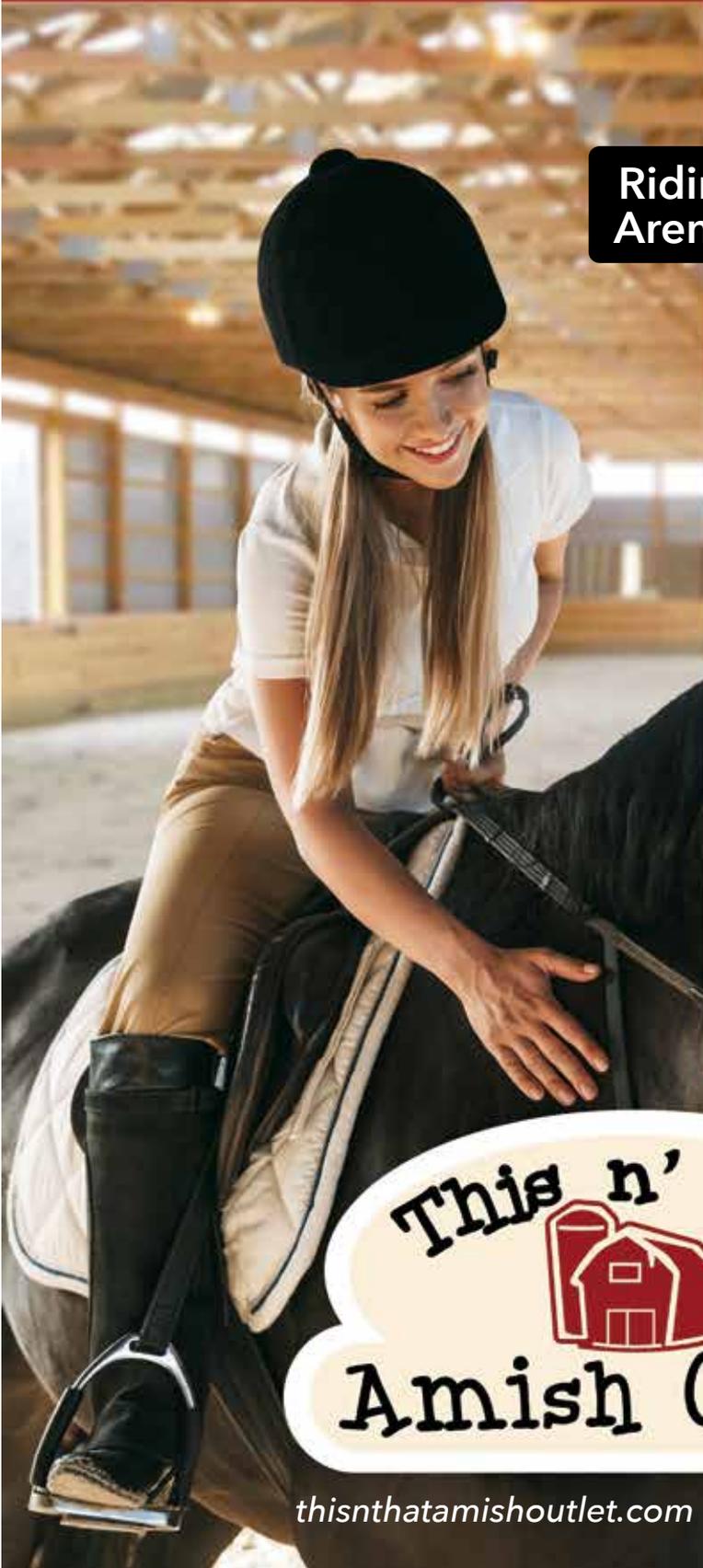


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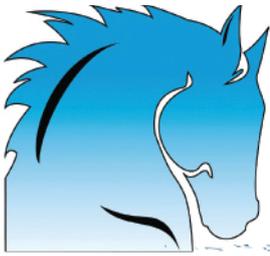
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Looking Ahead: The Future of AI and Equitation

The integration of artificial intelligence in the equine world is accelerating at a gallop.

In the coming decade, we can expect:

- Virtual reality simulators using AI for rider training.
- Global equine data sharing networks for improved welfare standards.
- Personalized “digital twin” models that mirror each horse’s biological and behavioral traits.

Ultimately, AI doesn’t aim to replace the bond between horse and human — it strengthens it by enhancing understanding, safety, and welfare. The best horsemen and women of the future will be those who combine timeless horsemanship with the best that technology has to offer.

Conclusion

Artificial intelligence is driving a quiet revolution in the horse industry. By improving breeding accuracy, veterinary diagnostics, training precision, stable management, and business intelligence, AI is enabling a new era of welfare-driven, data-enhanced horsemanship.

The essence of equestrianism — trust, empathy, and respect between horse and human — remains unchanged. What AI adds is knowledge: the ability to see what was once invisible, predict what was once uncertain, and perfect what was once instinctive.

With careful ethical stewardship, AI has the potential to make the horse industry not only more efficient but profoundly more humane — a future where technology and tradition truly ride together.



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The Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg Now Offers H-FIRE

Andrew Mann • andrewfjmann@vt.edu



A revolutionary non-thermal tumor ablation procedure originally developed through Virginia Tech's collaboration between veterinary medicine and engineering. Horse owners battling stubborn sarcoids and melanomas have a new option: a tumor-destroying technology that allows most horses to remain standing during treatment, eliminating the violent muscle contractions induced by other treatments that previously required general anesthesia. The equine medical center is one of only two facilities in the United States offering high-frequency irreversible electroporation (H-FIRE) for equine patients.

"Sarcoids and other tumors are unpredictable and frustrating to treat," said Elsa Ludwig, clinical assistant professor of equine surgery at the center. "There is every chance that the tumor may recur or be particularly aggressive in the future."

Ludwig brings experience with H-FIRE to Virginia. As an equine surgeon at North Carolina State University — the only other U.S. facility offering the treatment — she worked with H-FIRE researchers to treat clinical cases of horses with sarcoids, melanomas, squamous cell carcinomas, and rare skin tumors such as myxoma, achieving what she described as great success.

Why conventional treatments fall short

The challenge with equine tumors extends beyond the initial diagnosis. Current treatment options have a low success rate for complete resolution, and when sarcoids recur, they often return more aggressively than when they first appeared, making subsequent treatments even more difficult.

The standard treatment approach combines surgical excision with local chemotherapy, but intra-lesional chemotherapeutic drugs are poorly absorbed by tissue. Veterinarians must use high concentrations of medicine to achieve efficacy, which can result in tissue necrosis and damage to surrounding structures. Horse owners and caretakers must exercise ongoing caution when handling animals after chemotherapy treatment. Even with these precautions, success remains uncertain.

How H-FIRE works

The science behind H-FIRE involves using electricity to improve chemotherapy uptake. Electrical pulses create holes in tumor cell walls, allowing more chemotherapeutic drugs to enter and destroy the cells. This means the least amount of medicine is required, which is safer for horses and for those handling them after treatment.

The engineering breakthrough — delivering electrical pulses in quick, intermittent bursts rather than sustained charges — eliminated the muscle contractions that once required general anesthesia. Virginia Tech biomedical engineers developed the technology starting in 2011, and veterinary researchers began equine clinical trials in 2013. The team included Rafael Davalos, then a biomedical engineering professor; Michael Sano, now an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina/NC State; and John Robertson, professor emeritus with appointments in both the College of Engineering and the veterinary college.

The majority of horses can now be treated while standing and sedated, with only local anesthesia at the treatment site. General anesthesia may occasionally be necessary depending on the horse's temperament or the tumor's location.

Beyond immediate tumor destruction, emerging evidence suggests H-FIRE may also boost the horse's natural immune system, helping the body recognize and attack tumors if they develop elsewhere.

Treatment protocol and outcomes

Following surgical excision and initial H-FIRE treatment, equine patients typically return monthly for two to three additional treatments combining H-FIRE and chemotherapy. Complications are minimal, and horses are not out of work for long, particularly after follow-up appointments. For horse owners, this translates to fewer emergency stall-rest situations, and faster returns to competition, training, or regular activity.

The technology has proven to be what Ludwig called a "game-changer" for managing skin tumors, improving complete resolution rates. By reducing the number of veterinary visits and lowering chemotherapy drug usage, H-FIRE also helps keep treatment costs manageable for horse owners.

Horse owners interested in learning whether H-FIRE may be appropriate for their animal can contact:

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The Changing Landscape of the Local Feed Store

Bryan Fleming

Feed stores have been around as long as feed has been fed to animals. Here in our neck of the woods, however, the feed business has been in constant change and restructuring.

As a child, the feed store was a run-down shack with a railroad track behind it — simple, functional, and full of character.

With the rise of farming and the poor quality of seeds available at the time, farmers began banding together to form cooperatives. By pooling resources, they could develop and procure better seed for planting. Those early cooperatives soon expanded, offering not just seed but nearly everything a farmer might need.

By the mid-1920s, cooperatives were appearing across the country, serving their local regions. As demand grew, so did their footprint. Eventually, most small cities had their own feed store — or were within 30 miles of one.

Independent stores thrived for decades, though many were eventually absorbed by expanding co-ops. Still, some held their independence. Companies like CFC Farm & Home, Southern States, and Rockingham grew significantly between the 1950s and 1980s, expanding across hundreds of square miles.

Then came a shift few feed stores were prepared for.

Indoor malls changed retail. Then Walmart perfected the “one-stop shop” model. Consumers grew accustomed to getting everything in one place. For a time, feed stores were protected by their specialization. Their product mix didn’t easily translate to the general retail population.

But that protection didn’t last forever.

When an established farm supply company applied the big-box model to agriculture, the industry changed again.

Founded in 1938, Tractor Supply Co. opened its 100th store by 1964. Over time, it positioned itself as a one-stop shop for everyone from full-time farmers to hobbyists, hunters, equine enthusiasts, and pet owners. Today, stores typically carry between 15,000 and 20,000 products — from clothing and fencing to lawn tools, home goods, animal feed, and pet supplies. Around 15% of in-store inventory is tailored to each region. Online, the company offers over 100,000 products across numerous categories.

In the five years I’ve been delivering this magazine, I’ve watched cooperative locations close. I’ve seen five small independent stores lock their doors. Southern States sold portions of its operations, giving rise to names like EverGRO and Freedom Ag. Meanwhile, I’ve watched dozens of Tractor Supply stores open — often near existing feed stores.

In 2024, Tractor Supply operated over 2,200 locations, with a long-term goal of reaching 3,000. Whether they ultimately reach that number isn’t the point. We’ve seen this story before — family-run stores in towns across America struggling when national chains arrive.

Tractor Supply has a business model built on scale. Smaller stores often can’t compete with that purchasing power. The past few years have also been difficult for suppliers, with tariffs and rising costs adding pressure. Today, more than half of Tractor Supply’s revenue comes from consumable, usable, and edible products — including feed. With that kind of demand, supply chains tighten. It raises a difficult question: If you aren’t producing your own feed, will you always have reliable access to sell?

Some companies, like CFC Farm & Home and Farmers Cooperative Association, Inc., operate their own feed mills and remain outside the Tractor Supply catalog model — for now.

If you value your local feed store, now is the time to support it. These stores aren’t just retail outlets. They’re places where farmers once gathered, where someone always knew the answer to your question, and where experience mattered.

Getting advice at a local feed store used to mean speaking with someone who understood your land, your animals, and your challenges. That kind of knowledge isn’t always easy to find in a national chain staffed by employees who may not share that lived experience.

The question isn’t whether change will happen. It already has. The real question is whether we will support the stores that built our communities — before they become stories we tell about how things used to be.

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The Lipizzan Horse

A Majestic Equestrian Icon

Georgia Andrews

The Lipizzan horse, often associated with grace and majesty, is renowned for its exceptional intelligence, elegance, and strength. Rooted deeply in European equestrian tradition, the Lipizzan breed, with its

storied past and prestigious reputation, stands out as a symbol of classical dressage.



Origins

The Lipizzan breed traces its origins back to the late 16th century. It was developed at the court stud in Lipizza (now in Slovenia), a part of the Habsburg Monarchy. Archduke Charles II founded the stud farm, importing Spanish, Italian, and Arabian horses. The breeding program aimed to create a versatile horse that exhibited both beauty and strength.

Gaining favor in the imperial courts, Lipizzans were associated with the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, which was established in 1572. The school showcased classical dressage, and Lipizzans became integral to its performances due to their agility and trainability. Their ability to execute complex movements, such as the levade and capriole, captivated audiences.

Physical Attributes

Lipizzans are renowned for their strong, muscular build, which contributes to their powerful movements.

Key characteristics include:

- Height: Typically between 14.2 to 16.1 hands.
- Body: A compact and muscular structure with a deep chest.
- Head: Often described as noble, featuring large, expressive eyes and a straight or slightly convex profile.
- Coat: Born dark, Lipizzans gradually turn grey with age, usually reaching their classic white coat by six to ten years old.

Temperament

Lipizzans possess an even-tempered and intelligent disposition. They are known for their willingness to learn and their strong bond with handlers. Their spirited yet cooperative nature makes them ideal for high-level training and performance.

The Spanish Riding School

The Lipizzan's association with the Spanish Riding School highlights their extraordinary capabilities. This revered institution focuses on classical dressage, emphasizing harmony between horse and rider.

Training is rigorous and includes:

- Basic Training: Starting as early as four years old, focusing on responsiveness and basic movements.
- Advanced Movements: As they advance, Lipizzans learn sophisticated maneuvers like the piaffe, passage, and airs above the ground.
- Long-term Commitment: Training spans several years, honing their skills with patience and precision.

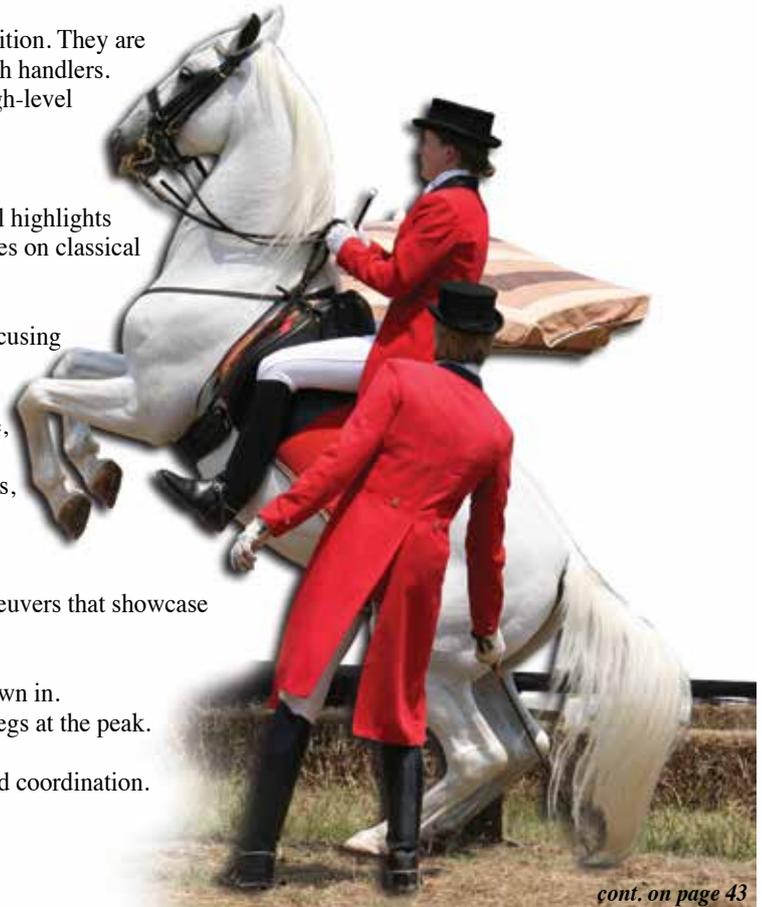
“Airs Above the Ground”

The “airs above the ground” are a set of high-leaping maneuvers that showcase the Lipizzan's agility and power.

These include:

- Levade: Balancing on the hind legs with forelegs drawn in.
- Capriole: A jump where the horse kicks out its hind legs at the peak.
- Courbette: A series of hops on the hind legs.

Mastery of these movements requires exceptional strength and coordination.



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Cultural Heritage

Lipizzans are considered a living part of cultural heritage. Their role in classical dressage and historical significance have earned them a cherished status within the equestrian world. The breed's preservation is celebrated and supported through various organizations dedicated to maintaining genetic lines and training traditions.

Global Popularity

Though rooted in European history, Lipizzans have captivated audiences worldwide. Performances at the Spanish Riding School and international tours have contributed to their global appeal. Furthermore, Lipizzan associations in countries like the United States and Australia work to promote the breed.

Preservation Efforts

Given their historical significance, concerted efforts have been made to preserve the Lipizzan breed.

This includes:

- **Stud Registries:** Maintaining accurate and detailed genealogical records.
- **Breeding Programs:** Ensuring genetic diversity and health through controlled breeding.
- **International Collaboration:** Cooperation between countries to standardize breed criteria and training methods.

Threats and Challenges

Despite their iconic status, Lipizzans face several challenges, including:

- **Limited Genetic Pool:** As a rare breed, maintaining genetic diversity is a concern.
- **Modernization:** Traditional breeding and training practices compete with modern equestrian trends.
- **Funding and Support:** Sustaining historical institutions like the Spanish Riding School requires substantial financial investment.

The Lipizzan horse stands as a testament to centuries of equestrian tradition. Its blend of beauty, strength, and intelligence has not only preserved its role in cultural heritage but also ensured its ongoing appeal in modern times. As long as efforts continue to preserve the breed's purity and celebrate its history, the Lipizzan will remain an enduring symbol of equestrian excellence. Through performances that capture the collective imagination and training that honors time-honored practices, the legacy of the Lipizzan horse is sure to flourish for generations to come.





Operation Cowboy: The Daring Rescue of the Lipizzan Horses

Georgia Andrews



Introduction

In the closing days of World War II, as Europe lay in ruins and the Allies closed in on Nazi Germany, an extraordinary mission unfolded — one that was not about capturing cities, reclaiming lost territory, or defeating an army. Instead, it was about saving a unique symbol of European culture and heritage — the world’s finest war horses. This daring operation, known as Operation Cowboy, was a remarkable collaboration between American soldiers, German officers, and Czech resistance fighters, united by an unusual goal: to rescue the Lipizzan horses from the chaos of war. This operation, a blend of military precision and humanitarian vision, remains one of the most unusual and fascinating episodes in World War II history.

Historical Context: The Lipizzan Horses and Their Legacy

The Lipizzan horses, famous for their performances at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, had long been treasured by European royalty. Originating from the 16th-century Habsburg breeding program in Lipizza (modern-day Slovenia), the Lipizzans were prized for their intelligence, grace, and athletic ability.

By the late 1930s, as war loomed, these horses and other valuable breeds were considered cultural treasures. When Nazi Germany annexed Austria in 1938, control of the Lipizzan studs passed into Nazi hands. The horses were relocated to various sites across Europe, including the Hostau Stud Farm in Czechoslovakia, for breeding experiments and conservation.

Unfortunately, as the Allied advance intensified and Soviet forces approached from the east, the Lipizzans were in grave danger — both from the chaos of retreating armies and from starvation or slaughter.

The Crisis at Hostau

By 1945, the Hostau Stud contained not only Lipizzans but also several other elite breeds, including Arabians, Thoroughbreds, and Russian cavalry horses. The Nazi SS had seized control of the farm and relocated many valuable animals there. Among them were horses from the Spanish Riding School and breeding stock from across occupied Europe.

As the German war effort collapsed, the Hostau region became increasingly perilous. The site was situated in Czechoslovakia, an area soon to be overrun by the advancing Red Army. Soviet forces, preoccupied with vengeance for Nazi atrocities and logistical priorities, were unlikely to spare the horses. Word of their potential destruction began to spread among Allied intelligence networks.

Enter Colonel Hank Reed and the U.S. 2nd Cavalry

In April 1945, Colonel Charles Hancock “Hank” Reed, commanding the U.S. 2nd Cavalry Group (Mechanized), received intelligence from a captured German officer about the horses’ situation. The Germans proposed an extraordinary offer: they would cooperate with the Americans to save the Lipizzans from the Soviets, provided the Americans granted them safe passage.

Reed faced a complex moral and tactical decision. Aligning, even temporarily, with enemy officers during active combat was unprecedented. Yet, the prospect of saving priceless cultural heritage appealed to his sense of duty and humanity. After consulting his superiors, Reed received permission to act — on the condition that he did not jeopardize his men or the broader mission. Thus, Operation Cowboy was born.

The Mission: Crossing Enemy Lines

On April 28, 1945, Reed’s men set out toward Hostau. The operation involved about 350 soldiers, including elements of the 2nd Cavalry and local Czech partisans. What made the mission unique was that German Wehrmacht officers actually assisted in planning it — they shared maps, local intelligence, and logistical support.

Despite language barriers and ongoing hostilities elsewhere, both sides temporarily ceased fighting to focus on the rescue. Facing potential encounters with SS units loyal to Hitler and waves of desperate refugees, the U.S. troops advanced quickly through hostile territory.

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When they reached Hostau, they discovered nearly 400 horses — among them the rare Lipizzan mares and their foals, as well as other breeds intended for Nazi breeding experiments.

The Rescue Operation

After securing the area, Reed's men worked rapidly to ensure the horses' safety. They provided food and water, restored order to the panicked caretakers, and prepared the animals for evacuation.

Tensions were high — the Red Army was only days away, and engagement could have triggered a broader conflict between former Allies. To prevent this, Reed moved quickly to transport as many horses as possible back into the relative safety of American-controlled zones in Bavaria.

The soldiers, many of whom were skilled riders, assisted in herding the horses across treacherous terrain under the cover of night. It was a race against time, and one of history's most unusual military convoys — tanks and jeeps rolling alongside galloping horses.



The Aftermath

The immediate outcome of Operation Cowboy was a resounding success. By early May 1945, hundreds of horses had been safely relocated to United States Army-controlled territory. In total, more than 200 Lipizzans and 400 other breeds were rescued from Hostau. The mission had been completed just days before Germany's surrender on May 8, 1945.

The Lipizzans were eventually returned to their rightful owners after the war, including the Spanish Riding School in Vienna and other European studs. The collaborative effort between German and American forces remained one of the war's most extraordinary examples of shared humanity transcending conflict.

Cultural and Historical Legacy

1. A Symbol of Preservation Amid Destruction

Operation Cowboy stands out in a war largely defined by devastation. It symbolized an act of compassion in a time of brutality, underscoring the importance of preserving cultural and natural treasures even amid global conflict.

2. Last Combat in Europe

The operation also marked one of the final military engagements of World War II in Europe. In fact, some historians regard it as the last cavalry mission involving American horsemen — a poignant echo of an earlier military era just as mechanized warfare replaced traditional mounted combat.

3. A Foundation for Postwar Cooperation

In a symbolic sense, Operation Cowboy offered an early glimpse of the cooperation that would later define postwar Europe. The willingness of American, German, and Czech participants to work together for a shared purpose offered a rare moment of unity at a time when division was the global norm.

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The Role of General George S. Patton

General George S. Patton, a lifelong horse enthusiast and accomplished equestrian, played an important role in endorsing the rescue. When informed of the mission's success, Patton reportedly said, "It is probably the finest thing I have done in this war."

He personally visited the rescued Lipizzans and ordered their continued care, ensuring they would be safeguarded until they could be repatriated. For Patton, who had once competed in the modern pentathlon (which included equestrian events), saving the horses carried deep personal significance.

The Lipizzans After the War

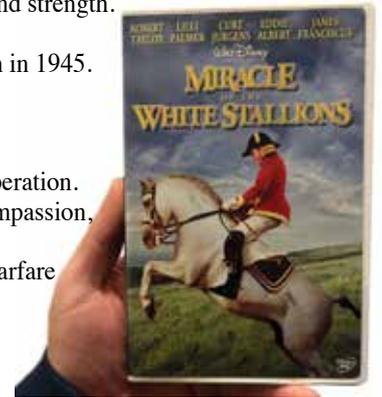
Following their recovery, the Lipizzans resumed breeding and training programs essential to their survival as a distinct breed. Foals born from the rescued mares helped repopulate the famous studs that had suffered wartime losses. By 1950, the Spanish Riding School had resumed performances, delighting audiences once again with its displays of balance, beauty, and strength.

The descendants of those horses continue to represent the living legacy of Operation Cowboy. Each Lipizzan performing today carries the bloodline of animals that narrowly escaped destruction in 1945.

In Popular Culture

Operation Cowboy has inspired books, documentaries, and films. The 1963 Walt Disney movie *Miracle of the White Stallions* dramatized the event, portraying it as a symbol of courage and cooperation. Though the film simplifies some historical details, it captures the spirit of the mission — valor, compassion, and the timeless bond between humans and horses.

Historians and military scholars continue to study Operation Cowboy as a unique moment in warfare history: a mission defined not by conquest, but by preservation.



Legacy and Reflection

Operation Cowboy exemplifies a rare fusion of military skill, ethical courage, and cultural awareness. It underscores the idea that even in the darkest chapters of human conflict, moments of humanity can prevail. The soldiers of both sides who risked their lives to protect animals demonstrated that war, despite its brutality, cannot extinguish the human capacity for decency and respect.

Beyond its military dimensions, the operation provides a powerful lesson in diplomacy, empathy, and shared values. Today, the Lipizzan horses — magnificent living symbols of European heritage — stand as a testament to that brief but brilliant moment when enemies united for a greater good.

Conclusion

Operation Cowboy remains one of the most remarkable episodes of World War II. It was a mission that fused courage with compassion, strategy with sentiment. Amid the destruction of a collapsing warfront, American and German soldiers joined forces not for victory or vengeance, but to save a legacy — a living, breathing symbol of art, discipline, and civilization itself.

The Lipizzan horses, once nearly lost to history, continue to thrive today, embodying the very ideals this mission sought to preserve: grace under pressure, beauty born of strength, and harmony born out of chaos. Through Operation Cowboy, these noble animals — and the men who saved them — remind the world that even in the darkest of times, humanity's finest instincts can still shine through.



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Virginia Hunter Pace & Point to Point

March 7	Snickersville Hounds & Casanova Warrenton Pony Club Pace	Middleburg, VA Warrenton, VA
March 14	Warrenton Hunt Point-to-Point	Sunny Bank Farm
March 20	Snickersville Hounds Stag Hunt	Upperville, VA
March 21	Piedmont Fox Hounds Point-to-Point	Upperville, VA
March 22	Piedmont Fox Hounds Hunter Pace	Moneta, VA
March 27-28	Bedford County Hunt Pace	Boston, VA
March 28	Rappahannock Hunt Point-to-Point	The Plains, VA
March 28	Orange County Hounds Hunter Pace	Locust Hill Preserve
March 29	Bull Run Hunt Spring Hunter Pace	Ben Venue, VA
April 4	Old Dominion Hounds Point-to-Point	Amissville, VA
April 5	Old Dominion Hounds Hunter Pace	Berryville, VA
April 11	Blue Ridge Hunt Point-to-Point & Races	Reva, VA
April 11	Rappahannock Hunt Hunter Pace	Swoope, VA
April 11	Glenmore Spring Hunter Pace	Weldon House
April 18	Blue Ridge Hunt Hunter Pace	Middleburg, VA
April 18	Middleburg Spring Races	Leesburg, VA
April 19	Loudoun Hunt Point-to-Point	Goode, VA
April 24-25	Bedford County Hunter Pace	Warrenton, VA
April 25	Warrenton Hunt Hunter Pace	Charlottesville, VA
April 25	Foxfield Spring Races	Middleburg, VA
April 26	Middleburg Hunt Point-to-Point	The Plains, VA
May 2	Virginia Gold Cup	Hamilton, VA
May 3	Loudoun Hunt Hunter Pace	Amherst, VA
May 8-9	Bedford County Hunter Pace	



Great Meadow
 The Plains, VA

March 15
 April 12
 May 25
 July 5

March 1	Lexington Spring Welcome	H/J	Lexington, VA
March 7-8	SWVHJA Winter Benefit Show	H	Lexington, VA
March 14-15	Fox Run Horse Show I	H	Lexington, VA
March 21-22	Trimble's Ridge Horse Show	H/J	Lexington, VA
March 28	Hollins University Spring Show	H	Roanoke, VA
March 29	Star City I	H/J	Salem, VA
April 4	Chatham Hall Spring Fling Show	H	Chatham, VA
April 5	CVJSA Spring Premier	J	Deep Run Hunt Club
April 11-12	Memory's Hill Horse Show I	H	Waynesboro, VA
April 18-19	Emily Jane Hilscher Memorial	H/J	Blacksburg, VA
April 19	CVJSA Spring Classic	J	Deep Run Hunt Club
April 22-26	Lexington Spring Premiere	H/J	Lexington, VA
April 25	Sweet Briar College Spring Show	H	Sweet Briar, VA
April 26	Star City II	H/J	Salem, VA
April 29-May 4	Lexington Spring Encore	H/J	Lexington, VA
April 9-10	Memory's Hill Horse Show II	H/E	Waynesboro, VA
April 13-17	Keswick Horse Show	H/J	Lexington, VA
April 30-31	Hill City I	H/J	Lynchburg Equestrian
April 31	CVJSA Spring Spectacular	J	Deep Run Hunt Club
June 6-7	Memory's Hill Horse Show III	H/E	Waynesboro, VA
June 13-14	Hill City II	H/J/E	Lynchburg Equestrian
June 23	SWVEP House Mountain Show I	H/J	Lexington, VA
June 24	SWVEP House Mtn Show II	H/J	Lexington, VA
June 27-28	SWVHJA Summer Benefit Show	H/J	Grey Gables Farm
June 28	CVJSA Goochland Challenge	J	Deep Run Hunt Club



**Southwest
 Virginia
 Hunter/Jumper
 Association**





March 29 Green Spring Valley
Cockeysville, MD

April 4 Elkridge-Harford Hunt
Monkton, MD

April 11
My Lady's Manor Races
Monkton, MD

April 12
Mt Harmon-Wicomico
Earleville, MD

April 18
Grand National Steeplechase
Butler, MD

April 25
MD Hunt Cup • Glyndon, MD

May 17
Potomac Hunt Races •
Seneca, MD

May 25
Fair Hill Race • Fair Hill, MD



March 15 Foxhall Farm Cup
West Grove, PA

March 29 Cheshire Hunt Races
Unionville, PA

April 5
Brandywine Hill Point 2 Point
Northbrook, PA

May 9
Willowdale Steeplechase
Kennett Square, PA

May 16 Radnor Hunt Races
Malvern, PA



VIRGINIA HORSE SHOWS ASSOCIATION, INC. Regular (rated)

March 6-8	The Barracks "A"	H/M	Charlottesville, VA
March 12-15	Raleigh Indoors Spring Classic "A"	H/J	Raleigh, NC
March 13-15	McDonogh Spring Classic "A"	H/J/M	Owings Mills, MD
March 19-22	Tryon Welcome 1 "A"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
March 26-29	Tryon Welcome 2 "A"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
March 27-29	W. Gary Baker Classic "A"	H/J/M	Owings Mills, MD
April 1-4	Tryon Welcome 3 "A"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
April 3-5	Glena Wirtanen Spring Classic "A"	H/J/M	Owings Mills, MD
April 9-12	Tryon Welcome 4 "A"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
April 22-26	Lexington Spring Premiere "AA"	H/J/M	Lexington, VA
April 29-May 3	Lexington Spring Encore "AA"	H/J/M	Lexington, VA
April 29-May 3	Tryon Spring 1 "AA"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
May 6-10	Tryon Spring 2 "AA"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
May 7-10	James River Hunt "A"	H/M	Manakin-Sabot, VA
May 13-17	Tryon Spring 3 "AA"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
May 13-17	Keswick Horse Show "AA"	H/B/J/M	Lexington, VA
May 14-17	Triangle Sandhills Spring Classic "A"	H/J	Raeford, NC
May 16-17	Beverly Spring Classic "B"	H/J/M	The Plains, VA
May 20-24	Tryon Spring 4 "AA"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
May 22-24	Maryland Summer Classic "A"	H/J/M	Owings Mills, MD
May 27-31	Tryon Spring 5 "AA"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
June 1-7	Upperville Colt & Horse Show "AA"	H/J/M	Upperville, VA
June 3-7	Tryon Spring 6 (Heritage Show) "AA"	H/J	Mill Spring, NC
June 9-14	Loudoun Benefit Horse Show	H/J/M	Upperville, VA
June 17-21	Deep Run Horse Show "AA"	H/M	Manakin-Sabot, VA



DEEP RUN HORSE SHOW

March 20-21	DRHSA Open Schooling
March 28	Silver Lining CHSA
April 5	CVSJA
April 11	DRHPC Horse Trials
April 18	Silver Lining CHSA
April 19	CVSJA
April 24-26	Central VA Dressage Assoc.
May 7-10	James River Horse Show
May 15-17	Regional PC Show Jumping
May 23	CHSA
May 30	Deep Run Horse Show Assoc. CHSA
May 31	CVSJA
June 17-21	USEF National Show/WCHR Event Manakin-Sabot, VA

Meadow Event Park
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March 20-22
Banquet Shoot

May 8-10
Bloom & Boom

June 5-7
Virginia State
Championship





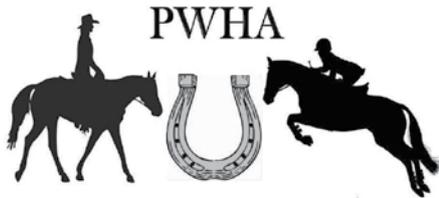
March 7	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/M	Yorktown, VA
March 7	Areion Equestrian	H/E/J	Gloucester, VA
March 8	Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
March 8	The Stables @ Wulf Crest	J	Leesburg, VA
March 14	Beverly Equestrian Show	H/E/J	The Plains, VA
March 14-15	Fox Run Horse Show	H/M	Lexington, VA
March 15	The Barracks	H/E	Charlottesville, VA
March 21	Hanover Heritage Equestrian	H/E/M	Hanover, VA
March 21	Randolph-Macon	H/E/J/M	Ashland, VA
March 21	Luna Blu Show Series	H/E/J	Chesapeake, VA
March 21	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/M	Yorktown, VA
March 21-22	Trimble's Ridge Horse Show	H/E	Lexington, VA
March 22	Hunter Lane Stables	H/E	North Chesterfield, VA
March 28	Silver Lining Farm	H/E/M	Manakin-Sabot, VA
March 28	The Stables @ Wulf Crest	H/E/J/M	Leesburg, VA
March 28	Whippoorwill Farm	H/E/J	Shacklefords, VA
March 29	EKG Stables @ Hill Valley	H/E/M	Spotsylvania, VA
March 29	Brookhill Farm	H/E/M	Charlottesville, VA
April 4	Farmington Hunt Spring	J/E	Free Union, VA
April 11	VRSVA	H/E/J	Gordonsville, VA
April 11	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/M	Yorktown, VA
April 11	Randolph-Macon	H/E/M	Ashland, VA
April 11	Luna Blu Show Series	H/E/J	Chesapeake, VA
April 12	EKG Stables @ Hill Valley	H/E/M	Spotsylvania, VA
April 12	Hunter Lane Stables	H/E	North Chesterfield, VA
April 12	Haverhill Farm	H/E/M	Ashland, VA
April 12	Red Gate Farm	H/E/M	Bluemont, VA
April 18	Silver Lining Farm	H/E/M	Manakin-Sabot, VA
April 18	Whippoorwill Farm	H/E/J	Shacklefords, VA
April 18	Hanover Heritage Equestrian	H/E/M	Hanover, VA
April 18	Four Oaks Farm	H/E	Palmyra, VA
April 18	Turner Farm Events	H/E	Great Falls, VA
April 18-19	Gray Horse Farm	H/E/J	Powhatan, VA
April 19	Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
April 19	Lake of the Woods	H/E	Locust Grove, VA
April 19	Southern Heritage Farm	H/E	Midland, VA
April 25	Beverly Equestrian Show	H/E/J	The Plains, VA
April 25	Haverhill Farm	J	Ashland, VA
April 25	Berryville Show Series	H/E	Berryville, VA
April 26	Red Gate Farm	J	Bluemont, VA
April 26	Woodpecker Farm	H/E	Woodford, VA
May 2	Whitestone Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
May 2	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/M	Yorktown, VA
May 2	Randolph-Macon	H/E/M	Ashland, VA
May 3	EKG Stables @ Hill Valley Farm	H/E/M	Spotsylvania, VA
May 3	Hunter Lane Stables	H/E	North Chesterfield, VA



VIRGINIA HORSE SHOWS ASSOCIATION, INC.
Associate (local schooling)

May 3	Red Gate Farm	H/E/M	Bluemont, VA
May 9	Fox Pointe Farm	H/E	Quinton, VA
May 9	Areion Equestrian	H/E/J	Gloucester, VA
May 9	Berryville Show Series	H/E	Berryville, VA
May 10	Lake of the Woods	H/E	Locust Grove, VA
May 10	Turner Farm Events	H/E	Great Falls, VA
May 16	VRVA	H/E/J	Gordonsville, VA
May 16	Whippoorwill Farm	H/E/J	Shacklefords, VA
May 16	Hanover Heritage Equestrian	H/E/M	Hanover, VA
May 16	Luna Blu Show Series	H/E/J	Chesapeake, VA
May 16-17	Morven Park	H/E/M	Leesburg, VA
May 16-17	Gray Horse Farm	H/E/J	Powhatan, VA
May 17	Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
May 17	Southern Heritage Farm	H/E	Midland, VA
May 17	Red Gate Farm	H/E/M	Bluemont, VA
May 23	Beverly Equestrian Show	H/E/J	The Plains, VA
May 23	Haverhill Farm	H/E/M	Ashland, VA
May 23	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/M	Yorktown, VA
May 23	Stonehouse Stables & CP Horse Show	H/E/M	Manakin-Sabot, VA
May 24	Red Gate Farm	J	Bluemont, VA
May 24	Berryville Show Series	H/E	Berryville, VA
May 24	Hoof-N-Woof Benefit Show	H/E	Free Union, VA
May 30	Hilltopper Horse Show	H/E	Charlottesville, VA
May 30	Whitestone Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
May 31	Woodpecker Farm	H/E	Woodford, VA
June 6	Fox Pointe Farm	H/E	Quinton, VA
June 6	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/M	Yorktown, VA
June 6	Areion Equestrian	H/E/J	Gloucester, VA
June 7	Lake of the Woods	H/E	Locust Grove, VA
June 9	Hanover Heritage Equestrian	H/E/M	Hanover, VA
June 13	Whippoorwill Farm	H/E/J	Shacklefords, VA
June 13	Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
June 13	Randolph-Macon	H/E/M	Ashland, VA
June 14	Southern Heritage Farm	H/E	Midland, VA
June 14	Red Gate Farm	J	Bluemont, VA
June 17	EKG Stables @ Hill Valley Farm	H/E/M	Spotsylvania, VA
June 20	Whitestone Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
June 20	Haverhill Farm	J	Ashland, VA
June 20	Luna Blu Show Series	H/E/J	Chesapeake, VA
June 23	House Mountain	H/E/J/M	Lexington, VA
June 24	House Mountain	H/E/J/M	Lexington, VA
June 27	Beverly Equestrian Show	H/E/J	The Plains, VA
June 27	Four Oaks Farm	H/E	Palmyra, VA
June 28	Red Gate Farm	H/E/M	Bluemont, VA

For Contact Information visit: vhsa.com/Associate-Horse-Show-Calendar



Four Winds Farm
 13550 Vint Hill Road,
 Nokesville VA

Hunter

- April 19 Kimberlea Gilbertson
- May 17 Lisa Powers
- June 21 Dede Shumate
- July 19 Tracy Mullen
- Aug 16 Dora Wynn
- Sept 20 Lisa powers
- Oct 18 Kimberlea Gilbertson

Jumper

- April 12 Edee McGregor
- May 10 TBD
- June 14 Kimberlea Gilbertson
- July 12 Kimberlea Gilbertson
- Aug 9 TBD
- Sept 13 Dede Shumate
- Oct 11 TBD

Retro Hunter Shows
 benefiting
Nadia's Hope Equine Rescue

- April 26 Tracy Mullen
- May 31 Edee McGregor
- August 30 Kimberlea Gilbertson
- Oct 25 Dede Shumate

Maryland International Horse Trials

Loch Moy Farm • Adamstown, MD



The Maryland Horse Trials
 at Loch Moy Farm
 20th ANNIVERSARY
 Home of the Maryland International CCI*

- March 7-8 Think Spring XDerby
- March 21-22 Dover Saddlery MDHT Highland Series
- April 4 Pick Your Time/Test Dressage + Blue Ribbon Rounds
- April 11-12 Dover Saddlery MDHT Highland Series
- April 18-19 LMF Spring Fling Dressage
- April 21-22 SUCCEED® XC 2 Day Master Class
- April 29 Twilight Eventing
- May 2-3 PVDA Dressage
- May 13 Twilight Eventing
- May 23-24 Dover Saddlery MDHT Highland Series
- May 30-31 LMF Dressage Festival
- June 3 Twilight Eventing
- June 13 Pick Your Time/Test Dressage + Blue Ribbon Rounds
- June 26-28 Maryland International CCI 1/2/3/4*-S
 Horse Trials + Young Rider Championship
 USEA YEH Qualifier
 USEA MDHT II
- July 10 USEA YEH Qualifier
- July 11-12 USEA MDHT II

Central Virginia Show Jumping Association

Deep Run Hunt Club • Manakin-Sabot, VA

- April 5 Spring Premier
- April 19 Spring Classic
- May 31 Spring Spectacular
- June 28 Goochland Challenge
- July 12 Summer Sizzler
- August 2 Summer Classic
- August 30 Summer's End Cup
- September 6 Fall Headliner
- October 4 Final Qualifier
- October 18 Mini Prix



Maryland Open Horse Show

Highland, Maryland

April 19 • May 17
 June 20 • July 18
 August 15



WVQHA Winfield Riding Club

Winfield, WV

April 11-12 • June 13-14
 July 3-5 • July 17-19
 September 12-13





Maryland Horse Show Association Rated & Regional Show Calendar

March 6-8	The Barracks March	Charlottesville, VA	R - A; MHSA - HPCFG; L; T
March 6-8	Swan Lake March	Littlestown, PA	R - A
March 7-8	Autumn Grove Stables	Berlin, MD	MHSA - APGHFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T
March 13-15	McDonogh Spring Classic	Owings Mills, MD	R - A; MHSA - HCGFA; L; T; J
March 14	Pemberton Equestrian Sprin	Salisbury, MD	MHSA - APLC; LL, MS, LS, SS
March 21	BEST Horse Shows March I	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
March 22	BEST Horse Shows March II	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
March 21-23	Swan Lake Winter Finale	Littlestown, PA	R - A
March 27-29	W. Gary Baker Classic	Owings Mills, MD	R - A; L
March 28	Snapdragon Spring Fling #1	Queen Anne, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, LS, SS; J
April 3-5	Glena Wirtanen Classic	Owings Mills, MD	R - A; MHSA - HPCGFA; L; T; J
April 10-12	Swan Lakke Stables April	Littlestown, PA	R - A
April 11	BEST Horse Shows April I	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
April 12	BEST Horse Shows April II	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
April 18	Snapdragon Spring Fling #2	Queen Anne, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, LS, SS; J
April 19	Making Strides Show Series #1	Church Hill, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, LS, SS; T
April 19	Morningside Stables H/J Show	Laurel, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, SS, LS; J
April 22-26	Lexington Spring Premiere	Lexington, VA	R - A; MHSA - HG; L; T; J
April 25	McDonogh School April Show	Owings Mills, MD	MHSA - APGLC, LL, SS, LS, T, J
April 29-May 3	Lexington Spring Encore	Lexington, VA	R - A; MHSA - HG; L; T; J
May 2	BEST Horse Shows May I	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
May 3	BEST Horse Shows May II	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
May 6-10	St. Christopher's H/J	Littlestown, PA	R - A
May 9	BEST Horse Shows May III	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
May 10	BEST Horse Shows May IV	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
May 12-17	Keswick Horse Show	Lexington, VA	R - A; MHSA - HPCAFG; L; T; J
May 13-17	Blue Rock Horse Show	Littlestown, PA	R - A
May 16	Snapdragon Spring Fling #3	Queen Anne, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, LS, SS; J
May 22-24	Maryland Summer Classic	Owings Mills, MD	R - A; MHSA - HPCAFG; L; T; J
May 29	Balt Cty Horse Council Benefit	Hunt Valley, MD	MHSA Regional Jumpers
May 30	Making Strides Show Series #2	Church Hill, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, LS, SS; T
May 30-31	Back River Summer Kick Off	Cockeysville, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T
May 31	Morningside Stables H/J Show	Laurel, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, SS, LS; J
June 1-6	Upperville Colt & Horse Show	Upperville, VA	R - A
June 6	Country Hill Farm	Westminster, MD	MHSA - APGLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T
June 13	BEST Horse Shows June I	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
June 14	BEST Horse Shows June II	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; LL, MS, LS, SS; T; J
June 17-21	Swan Lake Summer Kick Off	Littlestown, PA	R - A
June 17-21	Deep Run Horse Show	Manakin-Sabot, VA	R - A; MHSA - G; L; T
June 20	Morningside Stables H/J Show	Laurel, MD	MHSA - LL, MS, SS, LS; J
June 20	McDonogh School June Show	Owings Mills, MD	MHSA - APGLC, LL, SS, LS, T, J
June 24-26	Warrenton Pony Show	Warrenton, VA	R - A; MHSA - CAHFP; L; HB
June 24-26	State College Classic	Furnance, PA	R - A; MHSA - AHG; L; T; J
June 27-28	BEST Indoor Summer Classic	Upper Marlboro, MD	MHSA - APGFLC; T; J
June 29-30	Mt.Nittany Classic	Furnance, PA	R - A; MHSA - AHG; L; T; J



Twilight Polo®
Season Kickoff in partnership with the American Freedom Fund

- May 23 Salute to Service
- May 30 Neon Night
- June 6 Hawaiian Luau
- June 13 Disco Night
- June 20 Hello Summer
- June 27 Wild West

37636 Charisma Lane
Middleburg, VA



April 26
Polopalooza - intro to polo for kids

May 2
Polo Pro Clinic

May 25
Beginner Polo Clinic

July 25/26
Club Summer Tournament

August 22
West Virginia Women's Classic

September 12
USPA Karen Carra Memorial Women's Arena Tournament

October 3
USPA Eastern Circuit Women's Arena Challenge

October 31/November 1
Club Fall Arena Tournament



Rated & Regional Show Calendar

March 6-8	Swan Lake March	Littlestown
March 7	CJL Inc. Horse Show	Elverson
March 14	Brass Ring March @ WyndSOR	Elverson
March 20-22	Swan Lake Winter Finale	Littlestown
March 21	CJL Inc. Horse Show	Elverson
March 28	Swan Lake March Local	Littlestown
March 28	Heritage Acres Spring I	Dillsburg
April 10-12	Swan Lake April National	Littlestown
April 11	Bridge Acres April	Lancaster
April 19	Trails End Farm	Elverson
April 25	CJL April @ WyndSOR	Elverson
April 25	Heritage Acres Spring II	Dillsburg
April 26	Kimberton Hunt Horse Show	Glenmoore
May 2	Brass Ring May	Malvern
May 2	Trails End Farm Ludwig's Corner	Glenmoore
May 6-10	St. Christopher's H/J	Littlestown
May 9	Bridge Acres May	Lancaster
May 13-17	Blue Rock Classic	Littlestown
May 17	Bridge Acres Stable	Lancaster
May 17	CJL May @ WyndSOR	Elverson
May 31	Highfields Farm Derby May	Littlestown
June 6	Heritage Acres Summer I	Dillsburg
June 13	Trails End Farm	TBD
June 14	CJL June @ WyndSOR	Elverson



Western Pennsylvania PHA

March 4-8	Winter Classic Spring Forward	World Equestrian Center Ohio
March 5-8	CVF March A	Chagrin Valley Farms
March 6-8	Swan Lake March	Swan Lake Stables
March 11-15	Winter Classic #14	World Equestrian Center Ohio
March 18-22	Winter Classic #15	World Equestrian Center Ohio
March 20-22	March Winter Finale	Swan Lake Stables
March 25-29	Winter Classic #16	World Equestrian Center Ohio
March 28-29	CVF March Schooling	Chagrin Valley Farms
April 1-5	Winter Classic #17	World Equestrian Center Ohio
April 8-12	Winter Classic #18	World Equestrian Center Ohio
April 10-12	Swan Lake April	Swan Lake Stables
April 17-19	Lake Erie H/J Prix de Villes	Lake Erie College
April 23-26	CVF April A	Chagrin Valley Farms
April 29-3	Brave Horse I	Brave Horse
May 2-3	CVF May Schooling	Chagrin Valley Farms
May 6-10	St. Christopher's	Swan Lake Stables
May 13-17	Blue Rock	Swan Lake Stables
May 20-24	Brave Horse II	Brave Horse
May 27-31	Brave Horse III	Brave Horse
May 30-31	CVF May Schooling II	Chagrin Valley Farms
June 17-21	Summer Kick Off	Swan Lake Stables
June 17-21	Brave Horse IV	Brave Horse
June 20-21	EHSC H/J Summer Series I	Erie Hunt and Saddle Club
June 24-28	State College Classic	State College
June 25-28	Brave Horse V	Brave Horse
June 29-30	Mt. Nittany Classic	State College



United States
Dressage
Federation™

April 4	VADA/NOVA Spring April	Leesburg, VA
April 10-12	Blue Ridge Arab Classic	Lexington, VA
April 11	Dressage at Jericho	Newtown, PA
April 18-19	Loch Moy Spring Fling	Adamstown, MD
April 18-19	Double Edge Dressage Show #1	Natural Bridge, VA
April 22	Dressage at Dunmovin	West Chester, PA
April 22	Scenic in the City III	Alpharetta, VA
April 25-26	Dressage at Deep Run I	Manakin Sabot, VA
May 1-3	WDAVA Spring Fling Show	Wakefield, VA
May 2	Dressage at Blue Goose	Cochranville, PA
May 2-3	Whispering Miracles Spring	Virginia Beach, VA
May 2-3	PVDA Spring Show	Adamstown, MD
May 6	VADA/NOVA Midweek May	Leesburg, VA
May 14-17	Mid-Atlantic Dressage Festival	Lexington, VA
May 23-24	Double Edge Dressage Show #2	Natural Bridge, VA
May 24	OVCTA Spring Dressage	Glenmoore, PA
May 30-31	Loch Moy Summer Festival	Adamstown, MD
May 30-31	Whispering Miracles by Beach	Virginia Beach, VA
May 31	Bucks County Horse Park II	Revere, PA
June 6-7	VADA/NOVA Summer Festival	Leesburg, VA
June 7	Dressage at Jericho	Newtown, PA
June 13-14	Double Edge Dressage Show #3	Natural Bridge, VA
June 17	CDCTA at Great Meadows	The Plains, VA
June 17	Dressage at Dunmovin	West Chester, PA
June 20-21	HITS Commonwealth Park	Culpeper, VA
June 20-21	PVDA Summer Show	Upper Marlboro
June 29-July 4	Region 15 and 16 Championship	Lexington, VA

**Southwest Virginia
Dressage Association**

March 29
Green Hill Park Play Day
Salem, VA

**Maryland Dressage
Association**

Maryland Dressage
Bel Air, MD

April 12 (Sunday)
May 10 (Sunday)
June 14 (Sunday)

May 31 (Dressage and Combined Test) Cedar Creek Stables, Staunton VA
Entries Opening Date: May 10th Closing Date: May 24th

July 26 Toad Hollow Farm • Charlottesville VA
Entries Opening Date: July 5th Closing Date: July 19th

September 13 2026 Finale • Grayson Farm, Scottsville VA
Entries Opening Date: August 24th Closing Date: September 6th



JUMPER SHOWS BlueGrayHorseShows.com



April 19	Season Kickoff Benefit Show @ Saw Horse Farm	Gettysburg, PA
May 3	Saw Horse Farm	Gettysburg, PA
May 10	Gettysburg Riding Club	Gettysburg, PA
May 24	Turning Point Stables @ Gettysburg Riding Club	
June 21	Double Point Benefit Show @ Halcyon Farm	Dillsburg, PA
July 26	Saw Horse Farm	



Thurmont Riding Club • Thurmont, MD	
Hunter/Jumper Show Series:	April 25, May 16, May 30
Ranch Horse Schooling Show Series:	May 2, June 6, August 1
Trail Challenge Show Series:	May 3, June 7, Aug 2
Old Fashioned Pleasure & Speed Show Series:	June 14, June 27, July 18



OTHER IMPORTANT SHOWS

March 7	Morvan Schooling Days in the Park Jumpers Round	Leesburg, VA
March 14	Hunt Club Farms Unrecognized Horse Trials	Berryville, VA
March 21-22	Black-Eyed Susan Horse Show Series	Upper Marlboro, MD
March 26	USA WE East at Frying Pan Farm Park	Herndon, VA
March 26-29	AQHA March to VA & VA Maiden	Lexington, VA
March 28-29	Morvan Park Spring Horse Trials	Leesburg, VA
March 29	Cheshire Races	Unionville, PA
March 31	Morvan Schooling Days in the Park Cross Country	Leesburg, VA
April 8	Rose Mount Horse Show	Spotsylvania, VA
April 11	My Lady's Manor	Monkton, MD
April 11	First Annual Spring Hunter Derby	Fairview Village, PA
April 11-12	Black-Eyed Susan Horse Show Series	Upper Marlboro, MD
April 15-19	HITS Commonwealth National	Culpeper, VA
April 17-17	Old Dominion Equestrian Endurance Org Ride	Star Tannery, VA
April 18	Grand National Steeplechase	Butler, MD
April 18	Hunt Club Farms Unrecognized Horse Trials	Berryville, VA
April 18-19	Gray Horse Farm Horse Show	Powhatan, VA
April 25	Maryland Hunt Cup	Glyndon, MD
April 28	Morvan Schooling Days in the Park Cross Country	Leesburg, VA
May 2-3	Black-Eyed Susan Horse Show Series	Upper Marlboro, MD
May 9	Willowdale Steeplechase	Kennett Square, PA
May 13-17	Equus Events Tryon Spring 3 World Championship Hunter Rider	Mill Spring, NC
May 15	Virginia National Stock Horse Show	Doswell, VA
May 15-17	Old Dominion Miniature Horse Club Spring Thaw	Bloomsburg, PA
May 15-17	Tryon Better Together All Stock Horse Breed Show	Mill Spring, NC
May 16	Radnor Hunt Races	Malvern, PA
May 16	Hunt Club Farms Recognized Horse Trials	Berryville, VA
May 16-17	Morvan Park Summer Show	Leesburg, VA
May 16-17	Gray Horse Farm Horse Show	Powhatan, VA
May 17	All Thoroughbred Benefit	Monkton, MD
May 18	Potomac Hunt Race	Poolesville, MD
May-20-31	Devon Horse Show & Fair	Devon, PA
May 30	Sprouse's Open Horse Show (BRHF & 4-H)	Buckingham, VA
May 30	Tri-State Equestrian Connection Horse Show	Barboursville, WV
June 1-7	Upperville Colt & Horse Show	Upperville, VA
June 9-14	Loudoun Benefit	Upperville, VA
June 11-13	Old Dominion Ride & AERC National Championship	Star Tannery, VA
June 13-14	Black-Eyed Susan Horse Show Series	Upper Marlboro, MD
June 14	Four Nations Cup International Polo Tournament	The Plains, VA
June 19-20	WV Summer Classic	Winfield, WV
June 20	Hunt Club Farm Unrecognized Horse Trials	Berryville, VA
June 27	Tri-State Equestrian Connection Horse Show	Barboursville, WV
June 27-28	Black-Eyed Susan Horse Show Series	Upper Marlboro, MD
June 28	WV Summer Classic	Winfield, WV

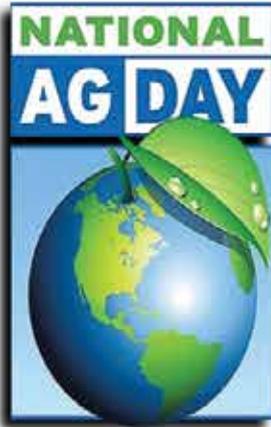
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