



February 2006 Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

April 8, 2006

March 25th Anatomy Clinic—WOW!!!

This was another record turnout for the DFA. Mitch Taylor, CJF—director of the Kentucky Horseshoeing School put on an awesome presentation followed by some real hands on dissection. THEN we setup Mitch's hydraulic press and did some hoof loading studies. We managed to balance the loaded hoof on Duckett's Dot—thus proving Duckett's theory as scientific fact. We also had a home made lasagna lunch served by Super Chef Suzi Bloomer followed by home made Amish apple dumplings made by Lena Hershberger (Abner Hershberger's Wife.)

The response to this clinic was overwhelming and we had numerous requests to do MORE clinics focusing on anatomy.

The DFA would like to thank the following people for contributing to the success of this clinic:

Mitch Taylor—who traveled all the way from Kentucky to educate us.

Dean Roles of D&M Training—for providing his facilities for the clinic. Dean put in a lot of work rearranging his 6-bay garage so that we could have our clinic there. Dean specializes in **Centaur Training** and solving behavior problems for horses and riders. If one of your customers has a horse with a behavior issue, **DON'T RISK BEING INJURED BY AN UNSAFE HORSE**—refer them to D&M TRAINING. (302) 629-8783.

Suzi Bloomer—who AGAIN served the DFA some of superb home made food.

Lena Hershberger—who AGAIN treated the DFA to her superb Amish Apple Dumplings.

Dave Ferguson of Mintvale Forge—Dave do-

nated the leftover cadaver legs from his farrier school so that everyone would have specimens to dissect for the clinic.

Tom Bloomer would like to thank everyone (especially Matt Taimuty) who helped with setting up the tables and chairs, and then along with several other members stuck around to help clean up the mess afterwards.

The DFA would also like to extend a special THANK YOU to Howard Clendaniel of Clendaniel Argi-Sales, LLC. Howard loaned the DFA 13 folding tables and 26 chairs. Without the loan of the tables and chairs, the DFA would have had to rent them, thus increasing the cost of the clinic.

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—OUR NEXT EVENT—

DFA Hammer-in & Certification Demo
Saturday May 6th, 2006 the DFA will be hosting a forging clinic and AFA certification demonstration with Alvin J Beiler, CJF as our clinician. Mr. Beiler is a Certified Journeyman Farrier and an approved Certification Tester for the American Farriers Association. He will be helping DFA members who want to improve their forge work and shoe shaping/building skills. In addition, he will shoe a

horse with hand made shoes in a demonstration of the standards for the AFA farrier certification testing requirements.

For anyone who is interested in taking the AFA certification tests, this is your chance to meet a certification tester, ask questions about the test, and see a horse shod to the standards required to pass the live shoeing portion of the examination.

The DFA is not affiliated with the American Farriers Association. However several of our members have passed the AFA's certification tests and others have expressed an interest in becoming certified. The AFA offers their certification program to farriers who would like to have their skills and knowledge evaluated by taking a series of tests. Passing the AFA examinations requires knowledge of hoof and limb anatomy and biomechanics, the ability to make an assortment of shoe modifications and shape shoes to fit a pattern, and a live shoeing examination where a horse must be shod to a specific standard.

Studying and practicing for the AFA examinations is a good way for a farrier to improve their skills and knowledge. Many farriers take on the AFA examinations as a personal challenge and set goals for themselves to earn their belt buckle.

This clinic offers you the opportunity to find out what is involved in preparing for the tests and how to prepare yourself to pass the test.

In addition, this clinic will provide you with the opportunity to work, hands-on with an expert, on any problems you are having with shoe modifications like clips, square toes, rolled toes, etc.

The clinic will take place at Abner Hershberger's shop in Camden, DE. We will be ordering subs and sandwiches for lunch from Beiler's Store (no relation to our clinician Alvin Beiler . . . well maybe a distant relation . . .)

The cost of the clinic is FREE for DFA members, but bring some cash along to buy lunch, or bring your own lunch . . . and a chair if you want to sit

down on something besides Abner's shop floor.

In the morning, we'll serve Dunkin Donuts and coffee AGAIN—it's a tradition.

Date: Saturday May 6th, 2006

Time: 9:00am till . . . Abner kicks us out!

Place: Abner Hershberger's Shop

Directions to Abner's shop:

**947 Apple Grove School Road
Camden Wyoming, DE 19934**

From locations North or South of Dover, DE follow RT-13 (S Dupont Hwy.) to Camden, DE. Camden is just a few miles south of the center of Dover.

- Turn WEST on E Camden Wyoming Ave [DE-10]
- Continue WEST the road becomes W Camden Wyoming Avenue.
- W Camden Wyoming Avenue ends at a "T" intersection just after crossing the rail road tracks in downtown Camden.
- Turn RIGHT on N Railroad Avenue.
- Take the first LEFT on Grant Street.
- Follow Grant Street WEST out of Camden past Fifer Orchards. Grant Street becomes Albins Mill Road.
- Turn RIGHT onto Apple Grove School Road.
- Abner's shop is on the LEFT—947 on the mail box.

From Annapolis and the Bay Bridge or other areas west of Dover, DE follow RT-301 North to Barclay, MD (about 40 miles from the Bay Bridge).

- Turn EAST on Barclay Road [MD-302]
- Go about 9 miles and turn RIGHT on Marydel Road [MD-454] toward Dover, DE.
- Go about 11 miles. As it crosses into Delaware, MD-454 becomes Delaware RT-8.
- Turn RIGHT onto Rose Valley School Road.
- Turn RIGHT on Hazletville Road.
- Turn LEFT onto Apple Grove School Road.
- Abner's shop is on the RIGHT—947 on the mail box.

If you have any questions about this clinic, please contact our vice president, Phil Anderson at (410) 968-3132

Food for thought — The Delmarva Farriers Association has held 9 (count 'em) NINE farrier education events in two years. Can any other non-profit farrier organization say that?