



# Delmarva Farriers Association

## Newsletter – October 2006



### Recent DFA News

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The DFA had a very good turnout for our hammer-in at Christy Byler's farm on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Dave Crockett brought a horse – which was shod 4 different ways in order to learn the effects of various shoeing methods on the same horse. Alvin Beiler, CJF and Reuben King, CJF jumped in with their practiced skills in the fire and helped shoe a driving horse. The DFA would like to thank Christy Byler for hosting this event at his farm.

Tuckahoe Outlaw Days on September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Keith Fearins and Tom Bloomer, RJF put on a shoeing exhibition on behalf of the DFA. On September 9<sup>th</sup> Tom made up a set of draft shoes for a Pecheron named "Moose." Keith Fearins trimmed "Moose" and applied the shoes. On September 10<sup>th</sup> Keith made up shoes for a big Thoroughbred and Tom trimmed the horse and applied the shoes. Several DFA members stopped by to visit including Troy Mishaw, Cindy Lowe, and Clint Glenn. One of Clint's customers came by with a Halflinger pony that had lost a shoe – so Clint borrowed some tools from Tom and Keith and got the shoe nailed back on.

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, Moose won Grand Champion in a driving show in Georgetown, DE. Moose's owner, Donna Hurst has made a donation to the DFA in appreciation for getting Moose "dialed in" for the show.

### Danny Ward is coming in December!

International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame member and director of the Eastern School of Farriery, Danny Ward is regarded as one of the best farrier clinicians and educators in the world. On Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Danny will be putting on a clinic for the DFA at Abner Hershberger's shop in Camden, DE. Mark this date on your calendar because you won't want to miss this event.

In addition, Abner is donating a brand new set of 14" GE hoof nippers to be raffled off at the clinic to benefit the DFA.

### Clinic Details

- December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 – 9:00am till dark.
- Breakfast and lunch provided.
- Cost - \$50 . . . free to DFA members in good standing.

### Directions to Abner's shop:

947 Apple Grove School Rd  
Camden Wyoming, DE 19934

### From points WEST of Dover, DE - US-301 North or South toward Barclay, MD.

1. From US-301 turn EAST onto MD-302 / BARCLAY RD.
2. Turn RIGHT toward Dover onto CROWN STONE RD / MD-454.
3. CROWN STONE RD becomes HALLTOWN RD / DE-8.
4. Turn RIGHT onto Rose Valley School Road.
6. Turn RIGHT onto HAZLETTVILLE RD.
7. Turn LEFT onto APPLE GROVE SCHOOL RD.
8. End at 947 Apple Grove School Rd on the RIGHT.

### From points EAST of Dover, DE - US-13 North or South follow signs to Camden, DE.

1. From US-13 turn WEST onto E Camden Wyoming Ave. / DE-10.
2. Continue straight onto W Camden Wyoming Ave.
3. Turn RIGHT onto N Railroad Ave.
4. Turn LEFT immediately onto Grant St.
5. Grant St. becomes Allabands Mill Rd.
6. Turn RIGHT onto Apple Grove School Road.
7. End at 947 Apple Grove School Rd on the LEFT.

### Got too many horses to shoe?

Matt Taimuty, CJF is asking for customer referrals. He recently moved to Federalsburg, MD and still has room on his schedule for more customers. Matt's contact number is (410)754-3251. Web site - [www.fairhillforge.com](http://www.fairhillforge.com)

### Wicomico Equestrian Center to host Jim Crew Shoeing School

*Shawn McEntee of WEC has requested that we publish the following announcement in the DFA newsletter. Although this is not a DFA sponsored event, several of our members attended a Jim Crew clinic at WEC this summer and found the information interesting and educational.*

### Posture/Balance Shoeing School with Jim Crew

November 17, 18 & 19, 2006 at Winter Place Park, the Wicomico Equestrian Center in Salisbury, Maryland.

Jim Crew has been shoeing horses for posture and whole-body balancing for more than 20 years. Putting his principles into practice produces horses that are supple, straight, and performance enhanced for all riding disciplines.

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In addition to a lecture Jim assesses each horse and consults with farriers while teaching them to implement his shoeing principles. In this Shoeing School, participating farriers will be shoeing their own clients' horses and may set their shoeing fees during and after the clinic according to their own schedule.

As many as 12 farriers may participate in teams of two over the three day school. After Jim's lecture on the first day of the clinic, a demonstration horse will be shod and that afternoon, participating farriers will be shoeing horses with Jim as consultant. As long as participating farriers guarantee 1 participating horse on Friday and 2 for each additional day of the clinic, there will be no charge to participate.

If you are interested in participating or simply want to know more about Jim Crew, whole-body balancing shoeing or the shoeing school, please contact Shawn McEntee at 410-749-2665 or [sxmcentee@salisbury.edu](mailto:sxmcentee@salisbury.edu). I have a survey and a set of questions designed to identify clients that may be interested in this type of shoeing for their horses. I will be more than happy to help you in anyway I can. Those of us whose horses were shod at Jim's clinic in July of this year have discovered that our progress with our horses is light-years ahead of where we expected it to be because Jim's whole-body balancing eliminates training problems associated with balance and left-handed- or right-handedness. In addition, our horses are stronger, more sure-footed, light, and supple making them far easier to train and fun to ride. As serious riders, it was very important to us to have a farrier who could continue shoeing according to Jim's principles and we are proud to say that Dwayne Nestor is doing a great job. He might be willing to talk with you as well.

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## Mint Vale Forge Education Calendar

UPCOMING AFA CERTIFICATION DATES AT MINT VALE FORGE: DECEMBER 2ND & 3RD WAYNE ALLEN Certification Registration Deadline for December 3rd is Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>. For more info call 410-221-0220 DON'T WAIT RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

For a complete list of future educational events offered by Mint Vale Forge go to:

[www.mintvaleforge.com](http://www.mintvaleforge.com) or call 410-221-0220.

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**The Guild of Professional Farriers** is planning to hold a **Registered Journeyman Farrier (RJF™)** exam on Delmarva next spring. Membership in The Guild is open to full-time career farriers with a minimum of four years full-time experience. To qualify for full-time a Guild farrier must earn at least 51% of their income from their farrier practice and average more than 20 hours/week shoeing. The

RJF practical shoeing exam is **field exam**, NOT a certification test.

What's the difference between a **certification test** and a **field exam**? In a certification test, the horse is shod according to very specific, **predetermined criteria**. The test candidate passes or fails the test based on whether or not they have successfully trimmed and shod their horse according to the specified criteria. Usually these tests have a very strict time limit as well. Therefore, passing a certification test is quite a challenge. Most farriers have to practice in order to pass a certification test within the strict time limits. Therefore, **the test** is an excellent tool to motivate farriers to study, practice and build their skills and efficiency.

The Guild's RJF field exam is based on how YOU shoe horses as a professional in the field. The examination process works like this:

1. The candidate is required to evaluate the horse's confirmation and use.
2. The candidate writes a shoeing plan to meet the needs of the horse.
3. The examiner reviews the shoeing plan with the candidate. During this portion of the exam the examiner is evaluating whether or not the candidate is able to **evaluate and define a horses shoeing requirements**, as a fully qualified professional should.
4. Once the examiner approves the shoeing plan, the test candidate shoes the horse according to his or her written plan using hand made shoes. Ample time is given to allow for pads, clips, pads, etc. as specified in the shoeing plan. The expectations of The Guild are that a fully qualified professional should be able to shoe a horse at a professional level with hand made shoes even if they have not practiced making shoes for years. Power tools and gas or arc welding equipment are allowed as long as the shoes are made from straight bar stock.
5. The examiner uses the written shoeing plan to determine whether the test candidate shod the horse according to the written plan. In addition, the examiner evaluates all aspects of the shoeing process including horse owner interaction, professional demeanor, horsemanship, and forging and fabrication skills. The final decision is pass-fail based on the overall evaluation.

In addition to the field exam, there is a shoe fabrication display portion and a written test. The shoe display and written exams are conducted similar to other certifications. Candidates must pass all three portions of the exam to qualify for membership in The Guild of Professional Farriers. If you are interested in attending The Guild exam next spring or would like more information, please contact:

Tom Bloomer, RJF - (302)492-0202 – [hoof@snip.net](mailto:hoof@snip.net) or go to [www.guildfarriers.org](http://www.guildfarriers.org)