



Hello fellow MQHA members,

Wow, what a wet, mild spring we've had this year. At this point, I'm looking forward to some hot, dry summer sun (I'll probably be singing a different tune next month!)

We had a great time at our Gateway Classic Show over Memorial Day weekend in St Louis. The competition level was high and the temperatures were cool. Early on the forecast called for a washout, but we were able to show outside almost the whole weekend. On Friday night the youth held a dessert auction as well as dog jumping/racing competitions. Lucky Inchiostro won both the jump and race competitions. If you have a dog that can jump or run, be sure to bring them next year (Lucky is getting a big head! :)

On Memorial Day we held our novice show. The turnout was larger than expected and a good time was had by all. We stopped the show at lunch and were honored to witness a presentation of the American Flag by a veteran who is participating in the Freedom Reins therapeutic horse program. The amateur committee held an iPad raffle and raised over \$1200 for that program. Trevor Forness barbecued some wonderful pulled pork which we all enjoyed while observing a horsemanship clinic taught by Kendra Weis. This was a great way to spend Memorial Day and I hope it's the beginning of a strong tradition for MQHA.

As most of you know, from a business standpoint, the Gateway Show is very important to our club. We rely on profits from that show to fund the majority of our budget annually. Second to that show is our Summer Sizzler show in Sedalia and plans are underway that we hope will increase the turnout there. However, I need your help to promote it!

The Missouri State 4-H Horse Show is held in Sedalia each summer and attracts a large number of youth from all over the state. In fact, the numbers are so large that they set up tent stalls to accommodate the overflow. Typically they have 30 plus kids in each class. This year our show falls the weekend before the state 4-H show. So, we are going to market the show as a "warm-up" to the state fair. Here is what we are offering:

- Friday afternoon clinics with instruction on state fair patterns
- The show will utilize the same patterns as the state fair
- Open youth classes for those kids that don't own Quarter Horses

This will be an excellent chance to familiarize your horse and yourself with the facility, patterns, etc.

We hope that this will increase the success of the Summer Sizzler. But, we can't do it without your help. We will be posting a flyer the website soon to advertise the show. I'd love it you could print a few and hang them up at feed stores, co-op's, veterinarian offices, etc. Also, please mention the opportunity to 4-H groups. Finally, come out and show with us in July. We are going to have a great time!

Joe Eddy