

Third Sound Horse Conference Announced a Success

November 11, 2010

Friends of Sound Horses (FOSH) announced that attendees at the third Sound Horse Conference expressed enthusiastic praise for the conference held November 5 and 6 in Louisville, KY.

The Sound Horse Conference was organized by FOSH to bring organizations and people together to end soring. Soring is the illegal and cruel practice of using chemical and mechanical methods to create pain in a gaited show horse's front feet to exaggerate their animated step, most prevalent in Tennessee Walking Horses.

Rick Lamb, host of the weekly television program "The Horse Show" on RFD-TV was the Master of Ceremonies for the Sound Horse Conference which consisted of two days of educational panel discussions on the Horse Protection Act, humane training practices, horse show judging, the latest hoof research, future United States Department of Agriculture enforcement, drug testing and much more. Speakers included veterinarians, leaders of animal welfare organizations, researchers, attorneys, farriers, horse show judges, former trainers and individuals using former show horses for non-showing riding activities.

The Sound Horse Conference featured many internationally known horsemen and equine practitioners dedicated to the welfare of the gaited horse. One of the speakers was well-known philanthropist and equine spokesperson, Madeleine Pickens, wife of billionaire, T. Boone Pickens. Ms. Pickens has been instrumental in supporting animal welfare efforts throughout the years, and is especially known for her crusade to save the American Mustang.

Another Keynote speaker was legendary natural hoof care pioneer Jaime Jackson. Jaime Jackson is a 35-year veteran hoof care professional, lecturer, author and researcher on wild and domestic horse hooves and how hoof care affects overall health.

Added this year were three, pre-Conference workshops for owners, trainers and judges to share ideas. The trainers' workshop was moderated by a business consultant who guided trainers in developing strategic business plans during changing times.

Evening entertainment incorporated demonstrations of several gaited horses trained using classical dressage methods and trick training. The audience was wowed by the horses' intelligence, athleticism and smooth gaits developed with humane training methods instead of soring, heavy shoes and pads, chains and gimmicks.

More details are currently available at www.soundhorseconference.com and a downloadable recording of the conference will soon be available.

FOSH is a national leader in the promotion of natural, sound gaited horses and in the fight against abuse and soring of Tennessee Walking Horses. For more information about gaited horses, FOSH or to become a member, please visit www.fosh.info or call 1-800-651-7993.