

**Where you and your
horse can have fun!**



**WOW!!! What an event!
SOCA Members....You Rock!!
Thanks for a great first event for 2013!**

RO Ranch Extreme Cowboy Race & Obstacle Challenge

WOW!!! Our first event of 2013 was a great success with 26 entries in the Extreme Cowboy Race and 43 entries in the Obstacle Challenge. Plus, there were over 60 people at the pot luck with more food than could be eaten in a week! SOCA members rock! Thanks to everyone who participated and pitched in to help us, you are all awesome and appreciated more than we can say!

Congratulations to all the winners!
Complete results on pages 2-3 and on the SOCA website.

March 23rd Extreme Cowboy Race, Gaffney, SC

Make your plans for the March 23rd Extreme Cowboy Race at Green River Farms in Gaffney, SC. Joel and Barbara Mobley are always great hosts and the course is one of the best in the country. We hear that Joel is building some new obstacles for this year!

Remember that the order of go is determined by entries – The first to enter is the last to ride and vice versa.....If you sign up late, you go first! We already have over 20 entries, so don't wait any longer!

Flyer and entry form is attached.

March 2 Obstacle Challenge at Colt Creek State Park

Make plans to attend a fun-filled day at Colt Creek State Park! SOCA has been approved to host an obstacle challenge on Saturday, March 2nd. There will be groups of obstacles set up close to the trailhead. While we are calculating the scores, you are welcome to ride the beautiful trails of Colt Creek State Park. Details and entry forms are on the attached flyer. Hope to see everyone there!

Colt Creek – Don't pay at the gate....just bypass - SOCA is collecting the per vehicle fee and will pay the park.

REMINDERS!!!!!!

- **2013 Dues are Due!** – Please include your dues with your first entries of the new year.
- **Pre-entries** – These speed the process at the entry office, helps us know how many scorecards to print, how much food the concession stand will need, etc. THANKS!!!
- **Judges** – We are looking for qualified judges, if interested, please let us know!





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**SOCA will be hosting the EXCA National
Championships in Shelbyville, TN on
May 24th and 25th!!**

Results from January 19th EXCA Race

Youth

1. Shelby Ratliff on Generator's Tall Paul
2. Dana Fleming on Destiny

Novice

1. Michael Lindsey on Ace
2. Lisa Steinbach on Texan At The Ritz
3. John Hodges on Red Bob
4. Joe Holloway on Solano's Moonlite Run
5. Allison Steinbach on Skywatch Stopwatch
6. Dakota Rose Hodges on Sonny's Busy Lady

Non Pro

1. Tracy Pinson on Texan At The Ritz
2. Michael Lindsey on Ace
3. Michael Lindsey on Thru
4. Rick Peniston on Jake
5. Dennis Tipton on Goodbar's Sonny
6. Dennis Robins on Cole

Ride Smart

1. Dennis Tipton on Goodbar's Sonny
2. Rick Peniston on Jake
3. Dennis Robinson on Cole
4. Joe Holloway on Solano's Moonlight Run
5. John Hodges on Red Bob
6. Vicky DeCaro on Roxie Rose

Green Horse

1. Tracy Pinson on One Tuff Cowgirl

Congratulations to all SOCA winners!

2013 Events

- 1/19-20/13 – RO Ranch in Mayo, FL – Obstacle Challenge and Extreme Cowboy Race.
- 3/2/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Colt Creek State Park, Lakeland, FL *Flyer Attached*
- 3/23/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC - *Flyer Attached*
- 4/27/13 – Obstacle Challenge – TBD
- 5/25/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race National Championships – Celebration Grounds, Shelbyville, TN
- 6/22/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race – Pontotoc County Agri-Center, Pontotoc, MS
- 9/7/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL
- 9/28/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race SE Regional Championships - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC
- 11/16/13 – Obstacle Challenge Championships – Rocking Horse Stables, Altoona, FL

**Trophy Halters will be given at SOCA events
this year – Make sure you compete & win one!**

Southern Obstacle Challenge Association

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RO RANCH EXTREME COWBOY RACE AND OBSTACLE CHALLENGE Photos of the EXCA Race by Jane Peniston!

EXCA Race



Obstacle Challenge

Youth:

1. Dana Fleming on Destiny
2. Shelby Ratliff on Paulie
3. Stephanie Walters & Mister Kandlelight & Roses
4. Mikayla Moore on Miss Face It



Novice:

1. Joyce Tyson on Scooter
2. Suzan Hunt on Badland's Dena
3. Bret Lambdin on Tug
4. John Tyson on Phat Daddy
5. Melissa Bailey on A Royal Silver Design
6. Shelby Ratliff on One Tuff Cowgirl



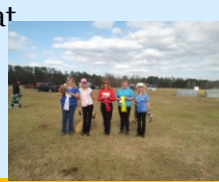
Non Pro

1. Rick Peniston on Jake
2. Dennis Tipton on Zippy
3. Michael Lindsey on Ace
4. Jan Garvin on Peponita's Top Gunner
5. Rachel Smith on Dazzle Me Thunder
6. Jami Robinson on Texas Geniune Jet



Pro/Posse

1. Connie Lloyd on Chance
2. Amy Barnett on Magic's Alley Cat
3. Sharon Carty on Kitty's Fantasy
4. Cathy Ulm on Spirit
5. Cathy Rotola on Cannon Ball



February 2013 Newsletter

SOCA Member Spotlight Meet your fellow SOCA Members!

June Brower



Horse(s) Name: Rowdy Wolf (SSH), Herr' Friesie, Rocky tri color paint, Brandy the bay

Number of Horses owned & breeds: 4 Total: Friesian, Paint, Qtr Mare (lovely girl) and SSH

Other activities besides SOCA (horse related and non-horse related): Other obstacle training or clinics to improve myself and my 4 legged partners.....Trail riding (love it)... Horse camping with riding of course.... and bowling (no laughing and pointing) I average 148 ish, but husband 's average is 229 and has had 10, yes ten, 300's - that is a perfect score - in our 14 yrs together and he should have gone pro, but then we would not have met. We raise our own beef, yummm!! Anddddd we have a Band called "40 No More", we play music from the 60's, 70's and mix of easy lite rock, like beatles and such....a good variety and when we have a live drummer instead of drum machine things really get folks dancing!! yippieee

Occupation: Retired Advertising Exec, then tried real estate, but hated working weekends and wanted to ride!

Family: Yes.... Husband, 2 dogs and 95 yr old Mom that is able to be with us!! Some days are hard for her, I cannot imagine being that age, uughhh, but we finally talked her into ranch living 5 yrs ago.

Other interesting facts about you and/or your horse (what you like to do, anything you've won, goals, etc.): Before retiring and had the ranch, we traveled the summers.....mostly out west to do cattle drives, scenic rides and enjoy the sights!! Glad we did this while young enough to really enjoy it! Also, I used to sit on the BOD of FFBCH, this is a Florida chapter of the Back Country Horsemen Association. A group dedicated to the preservation of the RIGHT TO RIDE ON PUBLIC Lands. I am still a member, they accomplish great things in our forests.

Traci Woodard



Horse(s) name: RUSTY EXECUTIVE & MONTANA NICAJACK (aka SPRITE)

Number of horses owned & breeds: 2 AQHA's

Other activities besides SOCA (horse related and non-horse related): I love camping and trail riding with horses and am a hard core Clinton Anderson fan! I am the VP of Lake Asbury Riding Assn and on the board of directors for Affiliated Horse Owners of Florida (horse council).

Occupation: Service coordinator at Stellar Refrigeration Services – I tell 12 men where to go every day!

Family – Mike Woodard , Pearl the Aussie and Jewel the Border Collie

Other interesting facts about you and/or your horse (what you like to do, anything you've won, goals, etc.): We raised and trained both of our horses from weanlings using 100% Downunder Horsemanship. Rusty was a top 10 finalist in America's Favorite Trail Horse in 2011 and competes in halter, Western and English classes and of course the trail class! He has been a demo horse at an elementary school to promote the black stallion literacy program and has been a flag carrier in several parades. Sprite is three and is competing well in obstacle challenges. He is enrolled in the AQHA trail riding program and has already logged more than 175 trail hours. He is learning tricks and will pick up an object and lay down!

**Please send your information for the
Member Spotlight!**

Email to:

southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com





**Southern Obstacle
Challenge Association**

February 2013 Newsletter

SOCA Member Spotlight **Meet your fellow SOCA Members**

Rick Peniston



We caught up with Rick at his law office in Charlotte North Carolina. Even though he's a highly successful, personal injury attorney in Charlotte, North Carolina, he was reluctant to talk about himself. But when we told him that members telling their stories would help us become more successful, he finally agreed, especially since it was about horses.

He told us that he grew up on a side hill farm in western New York. The family had cows, pigs, and chickens. They were mostly neck deep in snow. Rick lugged buckets of hot water to the barn before school to thaw the pipes to keep in shape for the two month summer hay season. He drove pairs of draft horses putting up hay and pulling logs, firewood and maple sap out of the woods. He got his first horse, a 20-year-old black saddlebred mare named Beauty in 1957, when he was seven. Neither of his parents were horse people, but he drove them crazy to get a horse. When she unloaded off the truck his dad said " here's your horse go ahead and ride it "and so he did. He pushed hay bales together to put the saddle on and off they went. When he outgrew old Beauty, he got a four-year-old green broke gelding, named Warpaint, when he was 10. he immediately taught the gelding to rear up like Trigger and Silver and run the heck out of barrels. That photo of them running barrels was 50 years ago in 1963. (Diana will note that he had the same challenge with his jeans being too short 50 years ago as he does today.) For the next three or four years they competed at a high-level in 4-H shows and county fairs in all manner of games and timed events. Between 'ol Beauty and Jake, Rick said he's had "a lot of horses " and he and Jane even had a successful racehorse named Lightning Stripes.

He got Jake as a weanling at a scruffy auction along with a look-alike paint that never grew. They broke both colts to ride and drive. Yes, Jake will pull too! Jake was 22 months old when Rick and Jane were going on trail riding trip in the Allegany mountains in western Pa and New York. Rick's Arabian trail horse got injured in the pasture two days before the trip so Jake was loaded into the trailer and put in the service at the tender age 22 months. He performed admirably for a youngster, though he did run off a cliff one time with Rick in the saddle and scare the heck out of both Rick and Jane. Rick got to do a lot of walking to give the young guy a break, but Jake was a real trooper.

This is Rick and Jake's third-year In EXCA. Jake started out too fast as a two-year-old, too fast by any conventional training methods, so they spent the last three years in slowdown mode, but it's worked out. They won the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern regional Ride Smart buckles two years in a row against smoking competition, and hope to be in the thick of it this year even though they had to start with a target on their back.

Rick is married to Jane and they have two grown kids and two grandchildren. They trail ride and compete in SOCA, EXCA and ACTHA. They live on a small farm in Mint Hill, NC with 2 dogs, 4 cats, a chicken house and 5 horses. Rick just published a book of some of his adventures called Down Drowning Creek





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2013 Buckle Series

In 2013, buckles will be awarded for the high point obstacle challenge winners in the following divisions: Novice, Youth, Non Pro, and Pro/Posse.

Points from each of the 2013 SOCA Obstacle Challenges will be totaled, with double points at the obstacle challenge championship in November. The horse/rider team with the most points will be awarded the buckle.

Regional Championship buckles for the Extreme Cowboy Races will be determined by points accumulated at SOCA events only. The horse/rider teams accumulating the most points at each SOCA EXCA race, with the triple points at the regional championship race on 9/28/13, will be awarded the high point buckle in the following divisions: Pro, Non-Pro, Ride Smart, Novice, Youth, and Non-Pro.

THANKS TO OUR 2013 SPONSORS!!!

**SOCA would like to thank our corporate
sponsors**

**Stellar Marine
Walker Pond Farm
Darby Oaks Stables**

**SOCA would like to thank our division
and ribbon sponsors:**

Janie & Wayne Van De Walker

.....can we add you to the list!?!? Check the SOCA website for details on sponsorships packages.

Purpose of SOCA

OBSTACLE CHALLENGES

- Divisions for all levels of horses and riders
- Open to all breeds
- Payback in all classes, prizes, and ribbons
- Ten to fifteen obstacles
- Some events will be in arenas – others will be on the trail

EXTREME COWBOY RACES

- Sanctioned Extreme Cowboy Races with divisions for: Pro, Non-Pro, Novice, Ride Smart, Youth, Young Guns, & Green Horse
- Open to all breeds
- Payback, prizes, and ribbons

CLINICS/SCHOOLING DAYS

- Learn to negotiate obstacles
- Schooling days will allow you to practice obstacles with the help of others, and without the pressure of competition.

REMINDER - EXCA RACERS

Don't forget to pay your EXCA Dues!

Also, if you competed in the Novice division last year and don't feel you are ready to step up to Non-Pro, you can petition with the EXCA to stay in Novice. There is a form on the EXCA website under club services.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

A horse is the projection of peoples' dreams about themselves--strong, powerful, beautiful--and it has the capability of giving us escape from our mundane existence.

**Dates, details and previous months
newsletters can be found on the
SOCA website at
www.southernobstaclechallenges.com**

