



Winter 04 GOLDEN, CO



Director's Chair  
By  
Glen E. Keller, Jr.

It is hard to believe that it is February 2004, and the 98<sup>th</sup> edition of National Western Stock Show is history. What a Stock Show it was for Westernaires! We were in and out of the gate 56 times, whether it was in the parade, the rodeo, the Mexican Extravaganza, the Wild West Show, or the Evening with Dancing Horses. Riders included Red Team, Precisionettes, Cavalry, Indian Warriors, Freedom Riders, Red Liberty and Riders of the Steppes. While we are planning already for next Stock Show, the 99<sup>th</sup>, serious planning is already underway for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this great institution.

Stock Show's fundamental purpose is to further the education of our brightest and best students seeking careers in agriculture and ranching in Colorado. That includes, of course, the equestrian pursuits which so many of the Westernaires seek to follow. In fact, at least two of our riders have attended college on National Western scholarships, funded through the activities of the Stock Show Association each January. Our riders who perform at Stock Show are eligible to apply for National Western scholarships, available only to riders who exhibit at Stock Show. Most of you know my commitment to the education of our young people in meaningful and productive fields, however diverse.

Speaking of education, there seems to be some confusion about the relationship between Westernaires and school. First, there is a Westernaire requirement that every rider be enrolled in an academic curriculum designed to lead to a high school diploma. Over the years there have been many who have remained in school just

so they could continue to participate in Westernaires. I can't count the number of alumni who have come to me to say that without the incentive of Westernaires they would not have remained in school but would have dropped out. Second, I can't begin to count the number of riders whose grades have actually improved because of the study atmosphere at events such as Stock Show. You would be amazed at the riders doing serious studying between performances, many in college courses by that time. There is a great deal of truth in the old saying about busy people getting things done. Those who would take young people out of constructive extra-curricular activities make a serious error. Idle time produces bad results. Too much of one thing can clearly lead to frustration and boredom.

There are a lot of "rumors" around about grants to Westernaires and the Museum. Congress has earmarked certain funds through the Department of Housing & Urban Development for use in expansion of the Westernaire Museum. The grant has not yet been made, and we cannot begin any activity before we receive the grant. I will say that we are planning now for the proper means of expanding the Museum and it is important to remember that our Museum is not confined to the small room which is the old barn building. Our living history Museum includes all of the wagons and carriages, the trophies and the rooms full of films and pictures which are not on display because of a lack of space. Much remains to be done. Stay tuned. As we develop plans and ideas, we will keep you informed.

I must conclude on a sad note. We remember the commitment of Marjorie (Bunny) Clement to the growth of Westernaires and to the improvement of Jefferson County. She was the Chief Monitor of Red Division for many years until she and her husband Bob left in 1978 so that Bob could run for Jefferson County Commissioner. Upon his death, Bunny succeeded him and was re-elected twice as Commissioner. She had a lifetime of service to the youth and the people of Jefferson County and will be sorely missed. Bunny passed away on February 5.

# National Western Stock Show News

Corporal Tory Hubbard, USMC, rode out to thunderous applause at this year's show. Tory is a 1999 alumni of Westernaires, now stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA. His Marine unit was the first to cross the Saddam Hussein Bridge in Baghdad and capture the Presidential Palace.



Check out our website at  
[www.westernaires.org](http://www.westernaires.org)



EDITOR'S NOTE: Boots and Saddles is a publication by, for and about Westernaires. It will be distributed to our members four times a year. We'd like to include stories about what you've been doing lately, including your great adventures **outside** of Westernaires. If you have any exciting news, announcements, accomplishments or pictures you would like to contribute, contact Gretchen Czaplá or leave items in the Boots and Saddles folder up in the Office.

## Adult Ride Classes

Westernaires provides riding lessons to adults. You do not need to live in Jefferson County or have kids in the organization. Lessons begin with an orientation meeting and then students are taught to groom and saddle a horse. Fees are \$7 per week for horse rental or \$2 if you provide your own horse. Contact Barb McIlwee with any questions.

## Kitchen Volunteers

Parents: please remember how important it is to report at your appointed kitchen time during the year. The Kitchen really depends on its volunteers and can't function without you.



# Annual Show 2003



*Cavalcade displays team flags from the entire White Division*



*Precisionettes ride with pride*

*Crimson swirls by at high speed*



*Even the Cavalry needs help sometimes*

To view pictures from recent Westernaire events and shows, visit [www.westernaires.org](http://www.westernaires.org), click the Links button and select the link for David Spouse/Timemark LLC. You may also view photos from past shows and events as far back as the year 2000 on the computers located in the Fort office.



*Many of our Westernaire kids are doing great things off the Fairgrounds property, and we love to tell everyone about them. Thanks to Emily Gifford, who shares her story with us in this issue.*

# The Swing of the Show Ring

*By Emily Gifford*

When you think back on memories of summer vacation, there is always something that really possesses enthusiasm in your mind. Experiences shape who we are and who we will become as we grow. My experience will be one that will continue to stay with me throughout my career in horses and will be extended into the future for years to come. This experience is something that has become an addition to my six years of Westernaires drill team riding.

It all began around May of 2003 when I became a person exhorting my integrity into action through my passion. You may ask what this “passion” is; well, it is my horse alone that makes me feel like I am on top of the world, a being of invincible power. I do not disregard the fact that this is not physically true, but it strongly exists in my mind as something believable. I’m sure many horse owners can relate to this feeling in one way or another. The reason I felt so unbelievably wonderful about myself is because I put all my time and energy into something that benefited me greatly in the end: showing my horse.

The outcome of showing is quite positive and energizing. I admit that cleaning boots and polishing show saddles the night before a show and waking up to load the truck with all of the necessities at five in the morning can be quite draining, but the experience of the day is not

comprehensible. All is intense and nerve-wracking while in the show ring, but as I look back upon the things I accomplished this year, I appreciate what has been placed in front of me to take it and run with it. My goals and aspirations have been placed in the hands of my horse and myself if you would believe it! She has carried me this far, and we’re not stopping until we are completely satisfied with ourselves. This experience has been a test of patience, trust, and most of all love. I have bonded with my horse more this summer through showing than any other time we have spent together and that satisfaction is overwhelming.



*“I credit my horse, **Go Girl**, for all that I have accomplished this year.”*

Showing is an in-depth activity that youths and adults can do to become great riders. It involves a horse that is quiet and responsive, and a rider that knows how to ride with a good seat, quiet hands, strong legs and most importantly, patience. A good place to start showing your horse is through 4-H. This is an organization that encourages riders to excel in their riding abilities and

to be in tune with their knowledge of the horse through education. This is where I started my journey and it has led me to higher places like venturing off to Stock Show this year and trying the larger, more intense Paint shows next year. Within the 4-H program and my showing accomplishments this year, I have placed in the top three 14-18 age group in Jefferson County for overall high point in English, Western and Speed Events. I credit my horse, Go Girl, for all that I have accomplished this year, but I do honor the fact that she couldn’t have done it without me.



See a list of farrier schools at [www.horseshoes.com/schools](http://www.horseshoes.com/schools)

## FARRIER SERVICES

Professional **horseshoers** are constantly in demand. They can set up shop virtually anywhere in the US and in a short period of time be completely booked with clients. In Colorado, a quality farrier demands \$45 to \$65 per horse for cold shoeing, with Journeyman Farriers charging up to \$120 for corrective shoeing. Farrier services include treating injured, diseased

or deformed horses. Clients range from boarding and training stables, breeding farms, race tracks, and ranches. The American Farrier's Association has a three-level certification program in this industry: Intern Farrier, Certified Farrier, and Certified Journeyman Farrier. See their website at [www.americanfarriers.org](http://www.americanfarriers.org).

## Welcome to our Nighthorse Rangers

Our newest Red Division training team has a name! Fifty-one girls will ride with pride in honor of Colorado's Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, who was instrumental in helping Westernaires receive the final construction funding for our Volunteer Arena. Senator Campbell is the only American Indian presently serving in the US Senate and is one of 44 Chiefs of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. He is a renowned jewelry designer and trainer of champion quarter horses.

## Heels & Stockings

Mark your calendars for **April 16** and join us at the Denver Marriott West Hotel for our annual semi-formal get-together. This is a chance for you and your family to have dinner and dance after we honor the graduating seniors and recognize all the volunteers who work so hard throughout the year. Cost is \$18.00 per person and reservations can be made with your monitor. The event is open to riders who have been in Westernaires for three or more years.



Upcoming Events ...

- April: 11 Easter Parade
- 16 Heels & Stockings Dinner
- May: 15 Breed Show
- June: 6 White Division Interclub
- 7 Summer Schedule begins
- 19 & 20 White Division Show

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### Winner of Horse



*Laura receives her trophy at the 2003 Annual Show in Denver.*

Westernaires offers many things to the kids who participate: self-respect, responsibility and leadership. Did you know it also awards a horse to the person who sells the most tickets for Annual Show? **Laura Kapke** was a member of **Sage** when she decided the horse would be hers this year. Laura managed to sell 1,002 tickets in 5 weeks by going door-to-door in her Littleton neighborhood and standing outside of grocery stores to catch customers on their way in and out. She admits it was a LOT of work and she almost gave up when her ticket sales reached the 700 area, but she kept on towards her goal of 30 tickets per day. We're proud of Laura for all her effort and send out a great big Westernaires

