



PERCHERON NEWS

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PHBAA COMMITTEE

President:

Charles Watson OAM
watchal@bordnet.com.au Ph:
02 4992 3688

Vice President:

Gary Appleby
gary@rosehillestate.com.au
Ph: 07 5598 4557

Secretary:

Edward Dorman
edorman@ballarafarm.com.au
Ph: 07 4666 2226

Assistant Secretary:

Fiona Sheehy
fenris_04@hotmail.com
Ph: 07 3889 1710

Treasurer:

Miss Alix Blundell
verdmont@bigpond.com
Ph: 07 4163 0983

Exhibition Co-Ordinator:

Dr Anna Cameron
verdmont@bigpond.com
Ph: 07 4163 0983

Registrar:

Mrs Elwyn Park
parkre@bordnet.com.au
Ph: 07 4627 6278

Webmaster:

Mrs Margaret Watson
watchal@bordnet.com.au
Ph: 02 4992 3688

Committee Members:

Tom Higgins

dabchicks@bigpond.com
Ph: 08 9758 5590

Karen Foran

wkforan@bigpond.net.au
Ph: 02 6676 2437

Mrs Lindsay Newland

lindsay_newland@helloworld.com.au
Ph: 08 9767 1353

Mrs Elizabeth Tetlow

etetlow@samford.net

NEWSLETTER
edorman@ballarafarm.com.au

Newsletter September 2011

Welcome to the first edition of the PHBAA "Percheron News" Newsletter.

Our aim is to send out a quarterly newsletter to advise our members of future events and shows, report on previous events and encourage members to share their news with other PHBAA members.

Any feedback on shows, workshops, or conferences you've attended, items of interest, photos, publications that you have found useful are most welcome.

Please email any suggestions to the secretary for inclusion in our next issue.

Next Issue Deadline:
1 December 2011

EKKA SHOW RESULTS



Pictured: PHBAA Members taking part in the Expo Breed's Display

PERCHERON CLASSES

Gelding – any age

1st: Rosehill Park Jesse Bell – G & S Appleby

Mare or Filly – any age

1st: Rosehill Park Bonnie Bell – G & S Appleby
2nd: High Noon's Delta Star – W Barnett & L Kraat
3rd: Kamilaroi Holly – Kamilaroi Stud

Best Percheron Exhibit: Rose Hill Park Bonnie Bell — G & S Appleby

A New Committee for 2011/2012

Our annual general meeting was held on the 15th August 2011 at the Brisbane Ekka and a new Committee was elected.

The new Committee consists of Charles Watson (President), Gary Appleby (Vice President), Edward Dorman

(Secretary), Fiona Sheehy (Assistant Secretary), Miss Alix Blundell (Treasurer), Dr Anna Cameron (Exhibition Co-ordinator), Mrs Elwyn Park (Registrar), Mrs Margaret Watson (Webmaster) and Committee Members, Tom Higgins, Karen Foran, Mrs Lindsay Newland,

and Elizabeth Tetlow.

The Committee wishes to thank the outgoing Treasurer, Janet Perry, Peter Cahill and Wayne Barnett for their contribution, dedication and support to the PHBAA over the past twelve months.

France Hosts the 2011 World Percheron Congress - Article by Virginia Kouyoumdjian

Looking back over the history of World Percheron Congresses, it comes as a bit of a surprise to find out that the very first one was held in ... England! The British Percheron Society hosted the event as part of the Royal Show in 1978, and it was only two years later, in 1980, that France hosted its first international event, in the city of Le Mans. Since then, the majority of World Congresses have taken place in North America, with France playing host twice more, in 1989 and 2001.

The 1989 World Percheron Congress, held at the Haras du Pin

(French National Stud) in Normandy, the same location as this year's event, was seen as a major turning point in the history of the Percheron horse in France. The breed had fallen on hard times after the introduction of large-scale tractor use and, aside from the meat market, there was little in the way of outlets for draft horses. Consequently, little focus had been put on breeding good quality horses, and the Percheron had gone towards developing increasingly greater mass. The 1989 Congress was the first event that really focused on the potential use of the Percheron horse for leisure, and

it truly energized both breeders and users. Driving, in particular, really started to take off in France after that event.

It is interesting to look at the ways in which the French Percheron market has differed from that in North America since the second half of the 20th century. The United States had an ongoing market for horses in rural life through communities such as the Amish, and both the U.S. and Canada developed an impressive show hitch market, with four, six or eight-horse hitches using mostly geldings and mares.

Showcasing the truly Global Nature of the Percheron Horse

That market does not exist in France and, even nowadays, there are virtually no six or eight-horse hitches in the country, and it is only very recently that the production of geldings has started to be seen as a viable option. Driving competitions tend to be done with pairs, although the re-institution in recent years of traditional "runs" such as the "Fish Run" from the Normandy Coast to Paris, as leisure and promotional activities, has created a demand for four-horse hitches. There are no "show hitch" competitions in France.

The Impact of American Stallions

Between the 1989 and 2001 Congresses, another revolution started to take place in France. The French Percheron Horse Society realized that something would have to be done to lighten

the breed and create morphologies better suited to leisure use. In 1993, the Society imported Silver Shadows Sheik, a grey American son of Lo Lynd Joe Laet. "Silver" sired 297 foals during his reproductive years in France. One of his first sons, Gallien, also distinguished himself by the number and quality of his foals. Silver was followed by Czar of Livingstone Valley (a son of Silver Shadows Kaiser) in 1997; Storey Creek Knight Cruiser (a son of Valley Vista Knightime) in 2002; B&L Hanson's Ruby's Charlie (a son of M.G.'s Black Diamond) in 2003; Donamerr's Titan (a son of Pleasant View King) in 2006; and Hannah Hill Kemo Sabe (a son of Blackhome

Grandeur Lyn) in 2010.

These stallions have made a significant impact on the breed in France, creating horses that still have the bone and foot of the tra-

ditional French Percheron, but with a sleeker and more elegant look. Also interesting to note that after the first import, all the others have been jet black stallions, contributing to a re-

vival of that color in France. As an aside, these crosses have produced several of the French National Champion Stallions of the past few years, with the 2010 champion, Titus de Vanoise (a son of Donamerr's Titan), having 75% North American blood.

"These stallions have made a significant impact on the breed in France"

A Very Full Program!

It has been ten years since France hosted a World Congress. The last one in September 2001, was marred by the terrible events of that fateful month in New York. In hosting this year's Congress, the French Percheron Horse Society is looking to create a truly international event which can be enjoyed by breeders and users from all over the world, and also will increase awareness of the potential and versatility of the Percheron horse among the public at large. In an age when sustainable development is a buzzword heard everywhere, the Percheron is the perfect companion in building a better world.

The Congress will take place over three days, September 23, 24 and 25, 2011. The first day will be devoted to an international conference with a number of speakers who will address issues ranging from breeding to various uses of the Percheron within the framework of our 21st century world.

The second and third days will be show days that will combine the annual French National Breed Championships with a wide range of competitions and demonstrations. In the halter classes, stallions will be presented on Saturday, September 24, and mares and their foals on Sunday, September 25. This will be a perfect opportunity to see the full range of types, from the

traditional French heavier-built horse to the lighter horses resulting from the use of imported American stallions.

A full program of driving competitions and demonstrations of all types will take place concurrently over the two days. The driving competitions will be focused on marathon-driving. There will also be demonstrations of plowing, logging, working in vineyards and municipal work, as well as presentations of show hitches, dressage, ridden carousels, vaulting and trick-riding. In addition, there will be educational exhibitions looking at the Percheron at work through history, and the Percheron around the world.

Participants From All Over the World

Large-scale international participation will make this very much a global event that will highlight the fact that the Percheron is now a "Horse of the World" rather than just "The Horse of the Perche." Sizeable delegations are expected to attend from the United States and Canada and the only regret there is that prohibitive costs mean that horses will not be coming along, too. Britain will, once again, be a large-scale participant with close to 20 Percherons expected to cross the Channel to take part in various demonstrations and presentations. For the first time,

there will also be Percherons from Ireland, with two plowing teams expected, led by Dr. Miles Frankel, who has also been named Honorary Chairman of the World Congress. There will be horses coming also from Italy, Belgium and Germany, and delegations confirmed from Japan, South Africa, Romania, Brazil and Columbia. The most distant participants, however, are coming all the way from Australia! Kamilaroi Equestrians have been performing for the past decade in Australia using purebred Percherons, $\frac{3}{4}$ Percherons and Percheron warmbloods for vaulting, trick-riding, side saddle, liberty, harness and Roman riding. They will be riding French Percherons in their demonstrations, making the event a true example of international cooperation!

The 2011 World Percheron Congress in France will be an event that will show the Percheron for what it truly is: stunning, versatile, and truly global.

*This article appeared in the Summer 2011 edition of the **Draft Horse Journal** and is reprinted with kind permission from the Editor, Lynn Telleen and Virginia Kouyoumdjian.*

Photos by: Virginia Kouyoumdjian

*The Draft Horse Journal website:--
www.drafthorsejournal.com*



PHBAA MERCHANDISE

A fantastic new range of printed T-shirts, Caps and PHBAA Metal Badges and Stickers will be available soon!

Support the PHBAA and buy one today!

Order forms will be included in the next edition or email the secretary for more details.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.PERCHERON.COM.AU

SHOW PREP CLINIC



The PHBAA are proposing to conduct a Show Prep Clinic to provide members with instruction on how to prepare your Percheron horse for the show ring to the highest possible standard, from plaiting manes and braiding tails to what to do in the show ring to show your horse to its maximum potential.

This will be an informative clinic to benefit anyone interested in showing their horse in lead classes.

Please email the secretary to show your expression of interest.

More details in the next issue.

Imported Semen from France



On the 4th September 2011, the much awaited shipment of frozen semen arrived in Australia from France, containing the semen of French Percheron stallion, *Tom de Prainville*.

This is the first of two shipments from France purchased by PHBAA members.

The second shipment of semen is to arrive on the 6th October 2011

which will contain the semen of *Oscar 556* and *Terkasso du Vairais*.

A number of stallions were tested at the beginning of the year by the SHPF and only three out of the seven stallions tested, passed the tests for freezability.

With limited genetics in Australia, the use of the frozen semen will help to increase and improve the gene pool within Australia.

For those interested, the PHBAA has one service of *Oscar 556* still available for purchase.

Pictured below: Tom de Prainville



Please contact the secretary for more details.

Photographs courtesy of SHPF



Pictured above: Oscar 566

Pictured below: Terkasso du Vairais



For Sale / Wanted

Horse wanted for pleasure riding. Gelding over 15hh, 6-10yrs old. Colour/breed not important but would prefer something with a bit of bone. **MUST** be QUIET to catch/float/truck/saddle. Excellent home on cattle station guaranteed - will never be sold. Location: Marla.S.A Please email pictures and details. Contact: Gillian Fennell Ph: 08867010071 Email: gillianfennel@activ8.net.au

Little Rock Maximus, colt 16hh, grey. Stunning, beautiful dark grey colt, regretful sale going to waste sitting in paddock, he has so much potential to achieve, must only go to loving home. Price: \$6,000 no offers. Foaled 28/6/09, took Lead class show 1st place Dungog 2010, first and only show entered. Selling only due to owner's work injury. Contact: Natina Howard, Email: natinarobert@hotmail.com, Mobile: 0422353302 Location: Greta, NSW

Percheron mare, E registered, 8 years old, extremely sweet natured, well cared for and well handled. Used previously for frozen semen, good to truck, float, groom and trim. First to see will buy. Vet check welcome. See the sales section at www.ballarafarm.com.au for more details. Price: \$4000 Contact: Edward Dorman, Location: Warwick, QLD Email: edorman@ballarafarm.com.au



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On behalf of the PHBAA Committee, I would like to wish the Kamilaroi Equestrian Team all the very best for a successful trip and performance at the 2011 Mondial in France.

Charles Watson
PHBAA PRESIDENT