

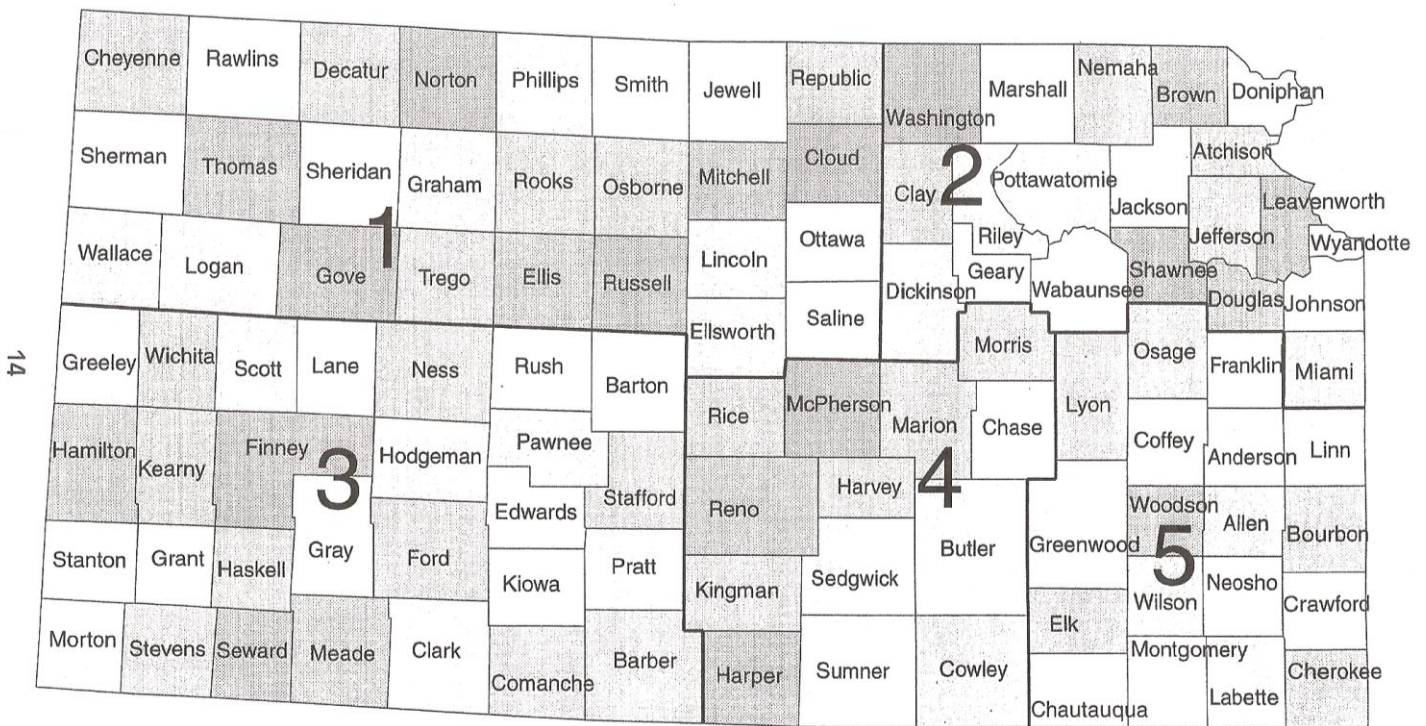


KHC Summer Newsletter

By Pattie Stalder, Administrator

KHC Regional Directors

The state of Kansas is divided into five regions as shown on the map below. Each region is represented by at least one Regional Director who is available for speaking at club meetings, trail rides or other functions to share information about the benefits of joining the Kansas Horse Council. They are a great local resource and are happy to help in any way they can. Contact information for all these Directors can be found on the KHC website, www.kansashorsecouncil.com.



Region 1, North Central & Northwest KS – Shanda Draper

Shanda Draper resides in Colby, Kansas. She is an equine instructor at Colby Community College and is the coach of the CCC Equestrian Team. Along with being a Regional Director, Shanda also serves on the Kansas Horse Council Board of Directors and is a 4-H Horse volunteer. She was raised on a small commercial cow-calf operation in Northwest Kansas and grew up showing Quarter horses, barrel racing, and competing in horse judging contests. Shanda is an alumna of the Colby Community College Equestrian Team and Kansas State University Women's Varsity Equestrian Team and the 2005 Kansas State University Horse Judging Team. Shanda is eager to serve you as the KHC Region 1 Director. Feel free to contact her by email at shanda.draper@colbycc.edu or phone at 785-460-6332.



Region 1, North Central & Northwest KS – Jessica Milliman

Jessica and her husband, Clint, live in Hoxie, in Sheridan County, where they raise Quarter Horses. Both she and her husband work for K-State Research and Extension as Extension Agents.

When not working, Jessica likes to spend her time barrel racing and judging horse shows. She has several horses, and is getting ready to futurity her five year old stallion, Lucky Dude Jack. Jessica is also a member of Better Barrel Racers, Mile Hi Barrel Horse Association, American Quarter Horse Association, and Nebraska Association of Barrel Racers. Recently, Jessica attended the Better Barrel Racers World Finals in Oklahoma City, and placed 3rd in

the 5D and made it back to the short go as a Finalist on her horse Winchester.

To reach Jessica, you can contact her by cell phone 618-534-5709; email her at jbeebe@ksu.edu, or send mail to RR 2 Box 20 B Hoxie, KS 67740.



Region 2, Northeast KS – Deb Hodge

Deb became a horse owner for the first time 4 years ago, and is trying to make up for all those years without one by owning 7. In addition to working with KHC, she volunteers at Heartland Therapeutic Riding in Stillwell, KS, as a barn worker and side-walker; and has been active in the Kansas City theatre community. Deb recently participated in the High Plains Horseman's Day presenting information about the Unwanted Horse Coalition, and is preparing a class directed to 4H-aged participants on the problem of the unwanted horse. To pay for her 'horse habit', Deb is a consultant with Generation Technologies, a video and data distribution company working with national news agencies.



Region 3, Southwest KS – Nancy Owens

Nancy is a rural resident of Southwest Kansas and has been a horse lover her entire life. Knowing her grandfather Jake Siebert, she was more than likely on horseback as a baby with him holding her on. She comes from a horse oriented family as her maternal grandparents ran a farming/cattle operation and always had horses and passed that love on to Nancy. She has many fond memories of helping her granddad, aunt, and uncle work and drive their cattle between pastures.

Through her many years of being on horseback, most of her life has been spent just riding for pleasure with a small amount of 4-H showing while in her teens. Approximately 6 years ago she was introduced to the Foundation Quarter Horse Registry/Kansas Foundation Quarter Horse Registry Affiliate and has been enjoying learning to show her horses in cattle classes, performance classes, speed events, and conformation.

Nancy's horses consist of 5 Registered Quarter Horses. The 29 year old Palomino mare has been with Nancy for the past 24 years and has carried her through many fun activities including Parades, Trail Rides, Play Days, Cattle work, and has been her pride and joy. She is now retired to give small children rides, especially her grandchildren.

Nancy is very involved in equine activities and is presently serving as President of the Dusty Trails Saddle Club of Stevens County, is Regional Director with the Kansas Horse Council, and is serving her 4th year as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Kansas Foundation Quarter Horse Registry Affiliate.

Nancy's family consists of her husband Michael of 7 years, who prior to meeting Nancy had not ridden in 20+ years; and now is their farrier, part-time vet, care-giver, and helps to train their horses. Nancy has 2 daughters, 1 stepson, 1 stepdaughter, 3 grandsons, and 3 granddaughters. She is the Secretary at the Moscow Jr. High/High School completing her 5th year with the school system.

Through her involvements with youth at Church and at school she has been enjoying having youngsters come out to her place and receive what is the very first ride for some of them. The huge smiles on their faces make it worth every moment.

Nancy would like to spread the thrill of being around horses to anyone who has never had such an opportunity, and if they currently are horse owners, would like to encourage them to seek out a horse organization and enjoy the thrill of meeting other horse owners and ride in a variety of events. Horses are great "stress" therapy, and are some of the best friends Nancy has encountered. Horses are her only hobby and a major love of her life.

Nancy has 3 favorite quotes she would like to share --- "A stubborn horse walks behind you, an impatient horse walks in front of you, but a noble companion walks beside you"; "Ask me to show you poetry in motion, and I will show you a horse"; "There are only two emotions that belong in the saddle, one is a sense of humor and the other is patience". Each of these quotes has had a special meaning in Nancy's life.



Region 4, South Central KS– Susan Rush

Susan Rush of Rural Cowley County has been a horse owner since the age of 13 and a horse lover since her earliest memories. Her current new horse activities include dressage and driving. Coming from a western background she is enjoying a new view on horsemanship. She has been a 4H Horse and Horseless Horse leader in both Cowley and Sedgwick Counties. Currently the horses on Susan's place include three semi-retired Appaloosas and seven Pinto/Paints. She has enjoyed using them in a variety of activities from trail riding, saddle club and breed shows to occasional cattle work in addition to dressage and

driving. Susan is serving her second term as secretary of the Kansas Pinto Horse Association and is on the board of the North Central Chapter of the Oklahoma Dressage Society.

Her human family includes husband, Bennie, three sons a step son and step daughter as well as three granddaughters and two grandsons. She is a Parent Educator for the Winfield Public School system serving with the Parents as First Teachers program. Her horse interest is well rooted in the Kansas prairie culture and includes a grandfather who was a bit of a "Horse Whisperer" and a Great Uncle who in protecting his team of horses from a dust storm ended up with pneumonia and lost his life. Susan has a history of helping youth find a niche in the horse world and enjoys introducing the unfortunate horseless person to the blessed world of horses.



Region 4, South Central KS– Chris Kaegi-Stephens

Chris Kaegi-Stephens has been a part of KHC since its very beginning. Helping to raise some of the first fund raising money for the KHC treasury through a memorial trail ride held in memory of Irene Plumlee, Wichita, KS. She has been a member every year since KHC began and has served on the Board of Directors. One little known fact is that as a graphic designer by trade Chris was the artist who designed the Kansas Horse Council logo still used today. Riding

horses all of her life, Chris is an active trail riding enthusiast who aside from working full time at Sheplers as their Internet Imaging Specialist also gives riding lessons each evening at her home near Valley Center called, Prairie Heart Riding Center. Prairie Heart Riding Center is a Christ centered environment where safety around horses is the first thing taught! Chris also serves on the board of directors for Kansas Trails Council, an organization dedicated to developing and promoting the shared trail systems of Kansas.

So if you see Chris out on the trail, introduce yourself and share your ideas on how to promote the Kansas Horse Council and help increase our membership! Also, if you, or your organization is interested in having Chris come out to speak about the benefits of being a member of Kansas Horse Council she can be reached at: H: (316) 799-2134 C: (316) 461-9807 Email: saddleup4leggers@yahoo.com

Region 5, Southeast KS – Jim & Cheryl Thomas

Jim and Cheryl were both raised with horses and enjoy trail riding. Both have just retired this year and plan to see more of America by horseback. Their son, daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren all love to ride and join them for weekend rides and week-long horseback riding vacations in one of the mountain states. The Thomas family has camped and ridden in South Dakota, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Colorado. Long weekends have included riding trips in Oklahoma, Missouri, Nebraska, Arkansas, and of course Kansas.

Jim joined the KHC back in about 1995 as a regional rep and with a goal of developing a trails directory for the state of Kansas. He was on the KHC board for several years and served as President in 1999.

His main interest in trail riding still keeps him active with KHC as the Trails Development Chair. Jim developed the list of all the public trails in Kansas on the KHC web site and finally has a trails directory titled Equestrian Trails in Kansas that will soon be published and distributed throughout the state. Jim also developed the equestrian trails at Eisenhower State Park, and Melvern Lake.

He and Cheryl organize and sponsor a KHC ride at Elk City Lake every spring to promote trail riding and the Kansas Horse Council.

Cheryl and Jim Thomas
785-528-4255
thomasj@kansas.net