

# THJA NEWS



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Cover photos by Tricia Booker  
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## A letter from the president

Dear fellow THJA Members,

Happy Spring and congratulations to all who have been showing at The Winter Series, Pin Oak, and Tyler!

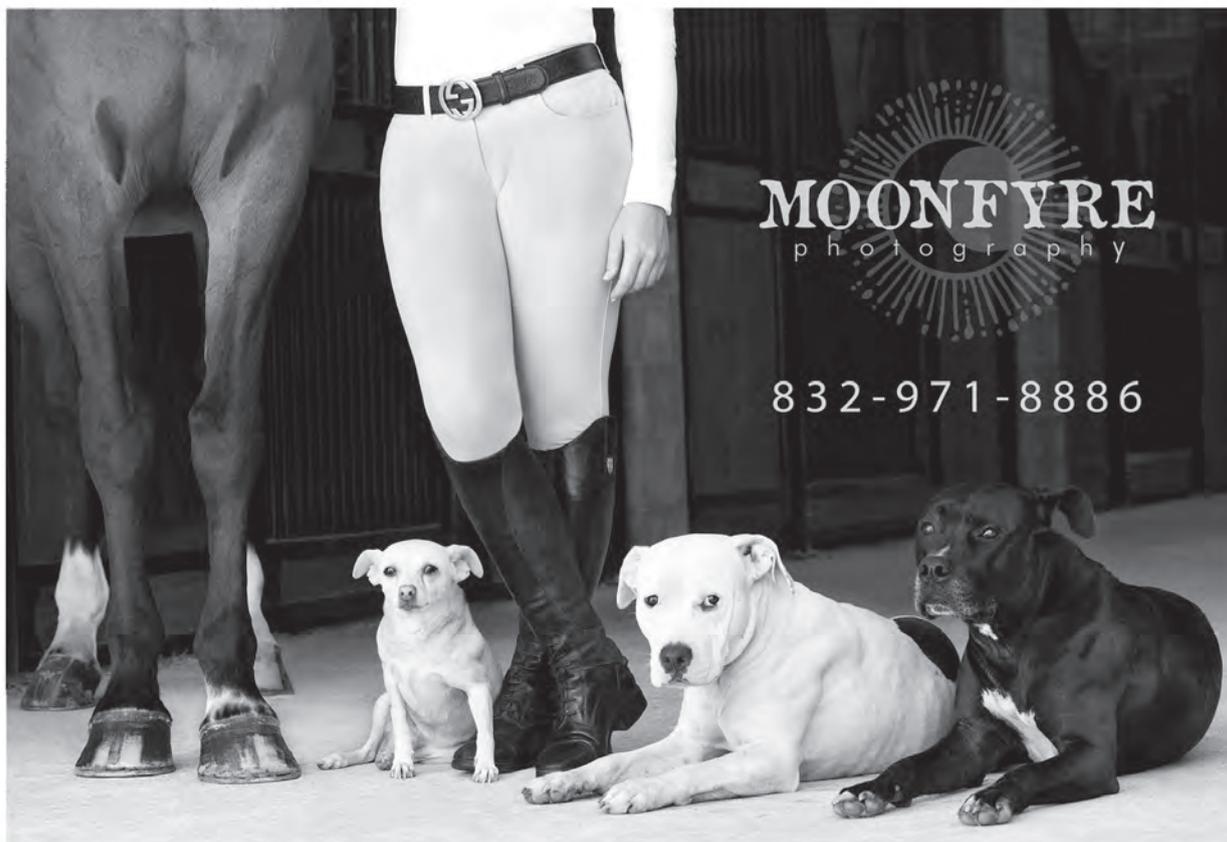
In your hands is the second quarter edition of THJA News. A lot has happened since our last issue and I trust you are enjoying the excellent Texas Horse Shows.

Hopefully, you had a chance to attend the Mario Soto Clinic in March. This was the first of many clinics we're able to help bring to our riders, courtesy of the THJA Education fee. If you're interested in bringing in a clinician and want our assistance, you can apply for financial assistance at THJA.org. There is an application on line. We also have an online application for rider assistance. The rider stipend is to be used for participation or transportation to Nationals or Pony Finals etc.. We have a grant review process in place. We want to help you!

On another note, if you have some great photos or a story idea you'd like to share with members, please contact me at [suzanne@belcantofarms.com](mailto:suzanne@belcantofarms.com). We're already at work on our Q3 and Q4 editorial content.

Again, thank you all for loving your horses and our amazing sport!

Best,  
Suzanne Warmack



Equestrian Portraits by Kristie Nichols

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## High Moon CH/AD JUMPER

USEF: 5173805

- 2017 THJA Overall Jumper High Point Winner
- 2017 THJA Low Adult Jumper Champion
- 2017 Reserve Zone 7 Low Adult Jumper Champion
- 2018 Texas Shoot Out Reserve Champion Low Adult Jumper
- The Winner several times and Champion or Reserve Champion several times in her last 5 shows
- Countless other wins, championships and circuit championships!



## Supreme 6 A/O OR JUNIOR HUNTER

USEF: 5324562

- 2017 HOTY Zone 7 3'3" Performance Hunter
- 2017 USHJA National Hunter Derby Overall Prize Money Winner
- Champion or Reserve Champion in the 3'6" Performance Hunter in his last 5 shows
- Numerous division and circuit championships including:
  - Reserve Champion 3'6" Performance Hunter @ Pin Oak 2018
  - GSEC Winter Festival Circuit Championship A/O 3'3" Hunter
  - GSEC Winter Festival Circuit Championship 3'6" Performance Hunter



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Linda Moore ~ Treasurer

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Linda Moore  
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At Large - Amy Uniss-Coleman  
At Large - Lindsey Black  
At Large - Annie Kartsosis

### JUNIOR POSITIONS

Megan Winborne

Brooke Brombach

## Publisher's Statement

THJA News is the official publications of the Texas Hunter Jumper Association. The THJA was formed in 1948 as an association of exhibitors. In 1953, it became a Texas Non Profit Corporation whose purposes are to support, maintain and encourage the breeding, use, riding, exhibition and showing of horses.

THJA News published quarterly and is mailed to the THJA Membership and distributed at horse shows and tack shops around the state of Texas.

THJA reserves the right to edit any letter that they feel is offensive, libelous, or incorrect.

If you're interested in advertising or contributing special interest stories or photos, please contact our Publisher and Editor, Suzanne Warmack at [suzannewarmack@yahoo.com](mailto:suzannewarmack@yahoo.com).



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# Q&A with Brooke Brombach

(THJA Junior Board Member) on Juggling School and Horse Shows



## 1) Before homeschooling how did you manage horse showing?

Before homeschooling, I would have to really count the days that I would miss so that I would not get in trouble. I would only be able to

miss Fridays.

## 2) Did you max out your excused absences? Can anyone have too many excused absences?

In elementary school, we got a letter that said if I missed any more days, we would have to go to court. In middle school, as long as I made up the days that I missed, it would be okay.

## 3) How did you stay on top of your homework and projects before homeschooling?

Before online school, I would stay up till midnight finishing my homework and projects so that I could go down and ride after school.

CONTINUES ON PG. 12

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- Britannia Farm Fall Classic OCTOBER 17 - 20
- Fall Finale Autumn Classic NOVEMBER 6 - 10  
Final Chase NOVEMBER 13 - 17
- TEXAS WINTER Frost Fire DECEMBER 12 - 15

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# NCAA National Championship: An Overview

NCAA Division One Equestrian is a result of Title IX legislation, added to the list of women's collegiate sports in 1998. Talented young riders from across the country now have the opportunity to receive scholarship money, elite training, academic support and other benefits associated with Division One athletics. Earning an education from an outstanding university while simultaneously pursuing an athletic passion is a blessing for myself and many others.

Unlike most collegiate sports which have a designated season, equestrian is year-round. Team workouts, meetings, practices and competitions (we refer to them as "meets") begin in August and continue throughout the entire academic year. Though each individual meet is important, every team has one ultimate goal in mind: winning the National Collegiate Equestrian Association (NCEA) National Championship in April. The National Championship is the culmination of eight months of hard work and sacrifice, and every team is hungry for victory. This is the Super-Bowl of college equestrian, and the title is truly anyone's to win.

Beginning on Wednesday, April 17th and ending on Saturday, April 20th, NCEA teams will faceoff at the Extraco Events Center in Waco, Texas for the 2019 NCEA National Championship. This year, there will be six NCEA National Titles and one National Championship Team Title up for grabs. This is a new format, adopted in 2018, which allows schools with single discipline teams to compete at the National Championship. Every stage of competition will be

organized in a bracket head-to-head format. Brackets are determined by the seeding of teams based on regular season competition results.

The top eight teams will vie for the NCEA National Championship Team Title. Each team will compete with four riders in each of the four events: Equitation over Fences, Equitation on the Flat, Horsemanship and Reining. The team that receives the most points out of the 16 that are available will advance to the next day of competition. Team competition will begin on Wednesday, April 17th with the quarterfinals and semifinals. The final championship round will take place on Saturday, April 20th.

The top 16 teams will compete for the four NCEA National Championship Event Titles in separate brackets for each of the four aforementioned NCEA events. Competition for these titles will begin on Wednesday, April 17th with the first round of action. Quarterfinals and semifinals will occur on Friday, April 19th, and the finals will take place on championship Saturday, April 20th.

Lastly, the two Discipline Titles, one for Hunt Seat (Equitation over Fences and Equitation on the Flat) and one for Western (Horsemanship and Reining), will be awarded to the team that accrues the most points for each respective discipline throughout the four days of competition. The winners of these two titles are announced on Saturday, April 20th.

The NCEA National Championship is truly the most exciting part of the collegiate equestrian season, where athletes go above and beyond for their team. Please join us and experience one of the most unique events in college sports! Admission is free and the event is entirely indoors, so not even the weather can dampen our fans' enjoyment! Championship Saturday on April 20th is the peak of the week's excitement and energy, so this is a great day to come out.

The Championship also presents a great opportunity for Junior riders to learn about the format and structure of college equestrian and talk to current student-athletes. As a Senior at Baylor University, I encourage you to consider



becoming an NCAA equestrian. Doing so is undoubtedly the best decision I have made. Being part of a team in a characteristically individual sport is an experience like no other. You will have fun and improve as a rider. But perhaps more importantly, you will learn what it means to be a part of a team. You will gain an understanding of the reward in achieving shared goals. Cooperation, humility, dedication and effective leadership are just a few of the attributes you will soon possess as an NCEA student-athlete. NCEA cultivates habits and attitudes that prepare you well for life after college and are transferable to all professions with a built in network of professional contacts. With its emphasis on not only athletic and academic excellence, but also character and moral formation, NCEA is an unparalleled opportunity. Again, I welcome you to come out to the 2019 NCEA National Championships to see what it is all about!

Sam Howell  
Senior, Baylor University



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*photo courtesy:  
Mary Williams Hyde*

# Q&A with Brooke Brombach

CONTINUED FROM PG. 7



**4) When did you start homeschooling? Are you doing the K12 program online? Another program?**

I go to Texas Connections Academy, which is a public school that is online. I started this school year.

**5) Do your parents help you? If so, what's that like? Do your folks divide up the subjects or does one parent help you with all of it?**

I do better when I have to figure out how to do it, so I don't usually get help with any of my school work.

**6) Does your sister homeschool too? Do you help her?**

No, my sister does not home school. She still goes to Danforth Jr High, but I do help her with her school work.

**7) What are your favorite subjects?**

My favorite subjects are English and Math

**8) Are you concerned about the standardized tests/ College Entrance exams? Given that Public Schools teach to these and the TASK Tests so much, do you still feel that you are missing anything?**

I do not think I am missing anything.

**9) How many days a week do you ride? How many hours or horses?**

I ride Tuesday through Saturday, unless there is a show, then I ride Sunday as well. I ride three to five horses a day and I'm usually at the barn for about for about 8 hours.

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# Reduce Stress... Stretch as you ride

If you ever go to the barn stressed, then read on, because in this article you will find one simple way to reduce stress as you set the tone for a breakthrough ride.

It is so often that we as riders go to the barn stressed out, uptight, and disconnected... we come to the barn distracted, senses overloaded, our mind on too many things yet on nothing at all. The barn is our reprieve, our solace, or sanctuary... Unfortunately, we can bring that stress into our everyday rides, and that can make our horses uptight. As horse owners it is our responsibility to keep our horses happy, healthy and comfortable. If we regularly go to the barn stressed out, our horse begins to anticipate this and they may not want to be a part of it. It carries over to our rides.

When you get on your horse tight in mind and body, your horse instantly picks up on it, and this sets the tone for the rest of the ride. Horses make great mirrors, and sometimes the reflection we see isn't always the most pleasant.

We all have heard that we need to

change ourselves if we want to change our horses. Stretching can be a simple key to profound change. Stretching horseback is a great way to set the tone for an amazing ride, even if you are having "one of those days."

When you stretch horseback you will notice the huge changes you see in your horse as he relaxes and realizes you are making a mental shift. He may yawn, lower his head, lick and chew, move more freely. As we relax, so does our horse.

While experimenting with this exercise, you will notice that the shackles the world puts on you begin to melt away as you connect with the "here and now." In doing the exercise not only will you loosen and stretch any tight areas, but you will find an internal connection and relaxation that lays the foundation for a great ride.



Here is a great stretch to help you unwind and connect with your horse.

Summary of Steps:

1. Beginning at a halt, reach your right hand across the withers and scratch your horse on the left shoulder, reaching further down to increase the stretch.
2. Reach your right hand back and scratch your horse on the hindquarters.
3. Switch hands and repeat on the other side.
4. When you are comfortable you can proceed to do this stretch in forward motion.

## New THJA HIGH POINT AWARD

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Details: Year end award at Banquet – six places will be awarded in both the hunter and jumper section. Open to all children, juniors, adults and amateurs in either the Hunter or Jumper divisions that are currently recognized for points under THJA. Horse and rider must be current THJA members. Points will be counted for the entire year.



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### 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Apr 17-20 **Texas Rose Spring Festival**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Apr 24-28 **Texas Shootout**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- May 4-5 **NTHJC May Days**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- May 17-19 **Texas Rose Spring Breed Show**  
All Breed Show
- June 8-9 **NTHJC/WW Show**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- June 15-16 **Richard Picken Show Jumping Clinic**
- July 13-14 **TRHP/DHJSC Summer Show**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Aug 23-25 **Texas Rose Breed Show**  
All Breed Show
- Sept 4-8 **Texas Rose Sport Horse Cup**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Sept 11-15 **Texas Rose Classic**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Oct 10-13 **Fall Fun**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Oct 19-20 **NTHJC/WW Show**  
Hunter/Jumper Schooling Horse Show
- Oct 24-27 **Texas Rose Octoberfest**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Nov 2-3 **DHJSC Year End**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Nov 16-17 **NTHJC Year End**  
Hunter/Jumper Horse Show
- Nov 22-24 **Texas Rose Autumn Breed Show**  
All Breed Show

*We look forward to  
seeing you in 2019!*



*Jerry  
Mehme  
Photography  
2016*

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