

Gentle Giant Journal

THE
Draft
Horse
Classic



"Shire Showtime" ©2008 Shirley Isola

The Premier Draft Horse Show in the Western United States

HERALDED AS THE PREMIER DRAFT HORSE SHOW in the Western United States, the 22nd annual Draft Horse Classic and Harvest Fair is sure to live up to its famous reputation.

Set among the majestic backdrop of the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, this fall's crowd-pleasing event begins Thursday, September 18, and runs through Sunday, September 21. This four day event will feature six performances by the Gentle Giants of the equine world, and will fill the stands, parking lots, and Fairgrounds camping area with draft horse enthusiasts from across the nation.

Rain or shine, year after year, eager spectators

continue to be awed by the performances of Clydesdales, Belgians, Percherons, Shires, Suffolks, and American Cream breeds. Not even bad weather can tamper the enthusiasm of our fans – last year's rainy weather is a testament to the true dedication of our fans and exhibitors. By Sunday afternoon, as the arena became a mud bog, our audience and exhibitors remained – seeing the event through the last performance. The results created a spectacular show, and further demonstrated the power of these breathtaking animals.

Please join us for this year's crowd awing performances, as the draft horses display their strength and

(Continued on Page 2)



Amidst applause, Simpson Percherons perform for an appreciative audience.

PHOTO BY ADRIAN HYMAN



PHOTO BY FORREST BLISS

Learn Long Reining

Clay Maier, who presents Friesian Spectacular each year at the Classic to thunderous crowd approval, will again be conducting another of his popular long reining clinics following this year's Classic. There will be room for nine participants and their horses in the Tuesday through Thursday (Sept. 23-25) sessions. Instruction will include techniques on the long reins for beginning and advanced horses. Participants will be able to get the feel of a more finished horse by getting some "hands on" time with Clay's horses. Auditors are welcome for this fun and educational three days at the beautiful Nevada County Fairgrounds. For costs and more information contact Clay by email: info@claymaier.com or look for more information to be available soon at his website, claymaier.com. See you there!

Premier Draft Horse Show (Continued from Page 1)

precision in the show ring. This is your advanced invitation to reserve the tickets you want before the rush begins.

Once again, we've eliminated the gate fees, making Art at the Classic, the Western Trade Show, the Harvest Fair, and entertainment available to more people. Visitors can stroll the grounds, pick up a western item or two from vendors, enjoy the world-class western art exhibit, and savor a treat from Treat Street.

Plan on ordering your tickets early. As a preferred Gentle Giant supporter, your ticket orders will get immediate response from our staff. Advanced tickets for reserved seating at the Draft Horse Classic arena events will be \$21 a person, or \$24 if purchased on the day of the event. General admission seats – first come, first seated – are \$18 in advance, or \$21 if purchased the day of the event.

Parking at the Classic is \$5. RV camping is available on the pine-covered grounds, but space is limited so make your reservations when you place your ticket order. Camping during the Draft Horse Classic is reserved for ticket holders only.

As the popularity for the Draft Horse Classic and Harvest Fair grows each year, we've had to place our ticket orders into time slots so that we can provide you with the best possible customer service.

- **Beginning May 1**, we'll be accepting mail and FAX orders only.
- **Beginning June 2**, we'll be accepting phone orders and walk-ins.

At this time, Draft Horse patrons cannot purchase tickets on-line, but entry forms can be downloaded from the Fair's website (www.nevadacountyfair.com) and either mailed or faxed beginning May 1.

See the ticket order page for more details and to plan your visit to the 2008 Draft Horse Classic and Harvest Fair. You don't want to miss this one! See you in September!

THANKS TO OUR 2007 SPONSORS

The 2007 Draft Horse Classic & Harvest Fair was presented by Hansen Bros. Enterprises.

OTHER 2007 OFFICIAL PARTNERS: B & C True Value Home and Garden Center, Byers' Leaf Guard Gutter Systems, California Horsetrader, Comcast, Coors Light, Livingston's Grading & Paving, Nor-Cal Beverage Co., Inc., Ride!, Rock Ranch

2007 SPECIAL SPONSORS: Allied Insurance, Beam "Easy Living" Center, Beeler Tractor Company, California Pacific Mortgage, California Riding Magazine, Diamond Pacific, Grass Valley Hay & Feed, Hills Flat Lumber Co., HOOF-IT Technologies, Horses in Art, Les Schwab Tires Co., Loomis Basin Equine Medical Center, Nevada County Fence, Nevada County Gold Magazine, Raleys/Bel Air, Range Magazine, Rural Heritage, Safeway of Grass Valley, SPD Markets, Taco Bell, Teresa Dietrich-Treco/ERA Cornerstone Realty, United Country Town & Country Realty



Cooler temperatures create a spectacular backdrop for the judging of the Unicorn performance.

PHOTO BY FORREST BLISS

Performance Schedule in order of appearance

1

PERFORMANCE #1

Thursday, Sept 18, 2008 @ 6:30 pm

1. Singles, Gentlemen, Hitch Type
2. Farm Wagon
3. Pairs, Ladies, Hitch Type
4. Three & Four Abreast
5. Four-Up Driving Competition

2

PERFORMANCE #2

Friday, Sept 19, 2008 @ 6:30 pm

1. Tandem
2. Singles, Gentlemen, Pleasure Type
3. Pairs, Junior
4. Four-Up Rail

3

PERFORMANCE #3

Saturday, Sept 20, 2008 @ 10 am

1. Gambler's Choice
2. Singles, Youth
3. Four-Up Amateur Reinsmanship

Note: Schedules subject to change

PERFORMANCE #4

Saturday, Sept 20, 2008 @ 6:30 pm

1. Six-Up Rail
2. Singles, Ladies, Pleasure Type
3. Americana, Commercial or Municipal
4. Unicorn

PERFORMANCE #5

Sunday, Sept 21, 2008

8 am Log Skidding Eliminations

10 am Performance Begins

1. Log Skidding Eliminations
2. Street Working Competition, Fours
3. Lightweight Pull
4. Heavyweight Pull
5. Farm Implement

PERFORMANCE #6

Sunday, Sept 21, 2008 @ 4 pm

1. Singles, Ladies, Hitch Type
2. Americana, Farm
3. Pairs, Gentlemen, Hitch Type
4. Log Skidding Finals
5. Six-Up Competition

4

5

6



PHOTOS BY CRAIG HODDY

The Harvest Fair **Free Fun for All Ages!**

This companion event to the Draft Horse Classic celebrates the end of a successful growing season, just as farmers and growers have done for decades. There will be contests for harvest baked goods, organic and non-organic produce and other fun agricultural competitions — like the tallest sunflower, biggest pumpkin, tastiest tomato and scariest scarecrow!

All Harvest Fair events are FREE during the Classic!

Art at the Classic

This world-class equine and western art show features more than 100 works by painters, sculptors, photographers, and other fine artists. In between arena performances, draft horse fans can browse the show, meet some of the artists, and purchase beautiful works of original art, photography, cards, and other items from the artists' booths.

Barn Tours & Special Breed Pavilion

You won't want to miss the chance to visit the barns. Here you can meet the Gentle Giants up close, talk to their enthusiastic owners, and learn more about the sturdy animals that helped expand farming. The barns are open for limited periods throughout the festival; however, they become "back stage" during performances and for safety purposes are closed when the Gentle Giants are heading back and forth to the arena shows. Our special Breed Pavilion features draft horse breeds up close and personal, even while performances are going on in the arena. This year, the large tent outside the Arena will house one of the premier hitches, which will be available for viewing, and will also be the site for VIP activities.

Clogging Jamboree

Don't miss one of the Harvest Fair's most popular events — the Clogging Jamboree! Fun, upbeat music, colorful costumes, and dancers of every age show off their unique choreography based on this traditional American dance

style created by Appalachian immigrants and brought to our area by the Scottish, English, and Irish miners. There will be ongoing clogging workshops, as well as special performances on Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Taste of the Gold Country — Food & Wine Fest

This fabulously fun and tasty event, featuring the Gold Country's finest restaurants and wineries, takes place on Saturday afternoon of the Draft Horse Classic. Grounds admission is free, but "tastes" must be purchased for a separate ticket price.

Treat Street

Always a crowd favorite — Treat Street will once again serve the treats that have earned the street its famous name. Specialty vendors will be on hand to sell a variety of goodies, including buffalo burgers, salmon burgers, hamburgers, chicken breast sandwiches, wild boar bratwurst, buffalo hot dogs, barbecue pulled pork, beef brisket and tri-tip sandwiches, caramel corn, ice cream, caramel apples, specialty coffees, cinnamon rolls, baked potatoes, beer and more. Even the pickiest of eaters will find a treat on Treat Street!

Western Music Fest

Enjoy Bluegrass, Western & 'Old-Time' music, cowboy poetry, and stories of the old west! These toe-tapping, hand-clapping, crowd-pleasing performances take place



PHOTO BY TOM MITCHELL

World champion lumberjacks showcasing their skills, live entertainment, and delicious food are all part of this year's festivities.

on the Pine Tree Stage, beneath the shady tall trees where you can sit a spell and take in the show. A bit of everything — banjos, harmonicas, squeezeboxes, steel guitars, hot fiddling, four-part harmonies, and even “Western Swing.” Ongoing performances from Friday to Sunday, 12–5 p.m.

Lumberjack & Horseshoeing Shows

See world class axe throwing, chainsaw mastery, plain old log chopping competitions, and other surprising feats — such as the challenge of extreme pole climbing. World champions will be performing in each category! There will be two shows on Saturday and one on Sunday on the Carnival Green.

Watch professional blacksmiths as they rise to the challenge of shoeing 2,000 pound draft horses in a live shoeing contest. This event will take place on Saturday.

Western Trade Show

If it's gear, apparel, accessories, equipment or paraphernalia you want, the Western Trade Show is sure to have it. This year's vendors will be showcasing everything from draft horse memorabilia to bead work, leather work, equine books and videos, cowboy memorabilia, RV mats, blankets, hats and apparel, horse-related art and photographs, jewelry, stained glass hangings, western wood work, handcrafted pottery, jams and jellies, honey, and handmade soaps. You can even buy a horse trailer or a stock trailer. Don't forget — the Quilt Show will also showcase handmade quilts.

RV CAMPING AT THE CLASSIC

RV Camping at the Draft Horse Classic is limited to ticket holders. All water & electric sites require a four-night minimum stay between Wednesday, September 17th and Sunday, September 21st and are assigned on a first come/first served basis by date of reservation. If you want to reserve several sites together, they must all be included on the same order form with each rig's size and type. (Limited group sites are available.)

Water & electric sites are \$30/night.

Dry camping is available for \$20/night with no minimum stay requirement. Site assignment is done at the time of arrival.

RV Camping includes one parking pass per rig. If you have additional vehicles joining you, please purchase additional parking passes (available on the ticket order form.)

If you request a water & electric site and there are no available sites, we will issue you a refund (or adjust your credit card charge amount) for the difference between the water & electric site camping fee and the dry camping fee.

*During large festivals, we do not guarantee specific amperage amounts in water & electric sites — bring amperage adaptors and water splitters.

How to Order Tickets

Win Free Tickets!

Here's your chance to win free tickets to a Fair-sponsored event! We have lots going on at the Nevada County Fairgrounds, and we're always looking for ways to let you know about these fun events. That's why we've created a blog at www.nevadacountyfair.blogspot.com — to keep you informed about the happenings at the Fairgrounds and because we want to hear from you.

We want to know what you think about the Nevada County Fairgrounds — what you love, your favorite memory, ideas, suggestions, or general comments about the Fair and its events. Just for posting a comment on this blog, you could win **two free tickets** to the **Nevada County Fair**, the **Draft Horse Classic**, or the **Country Christmas Faire**. You get to choose the free tickets for the event that you'd like to attend. Each month, we'll randomly choose a name from the blog for FREE tickets — so let us know what you think.

Performance Tickets are available as follows: Beginning in May we will accept mail & fax orders. Phone & walk-in orders will be accepted beginning June 2. **We encourage our patrons to take advantage of the early mail or fax option which will give you the best available seating.** Just fill out the form on the next page and mail or fax it. Downloadable ticket order forms are available at www.nevadacountyfair.com. **NOTE:** Written requests for "call when order is processed" will be considered a phone order and will not be filled until June 2. **Tickets purchased after Wednesday, Sept. 17 are \$3 additional.**

REFUNDS & EXCHANGES

We realize that circumstances may be such that require exchanges or cancellations of tickets. In an attempt to meet these needs, we will impose a \$3 per ticket charge to cover administrative costs for either returns or exchanges for individual performance tickets and \$10 for each season ticket package. No refunds or exchanges will be made within 10 days of opening night of the Draft Horse Classic.

ARENA & WEATHER

As a reminder, the Nevada County Fairground's arena is open air and we do not guarantee shade for ANY performance. Please consider an evening performance if this is a concern for you. Weather can be variable during this event. Generally we have warm (to hot) sunny days and cool evenings. Please plan accordingly with hats or sunscreen. Sweaters or jackets are recommended for evening performances.

PLEASE NOTE: All performances are rain or shine.

What Else is Happening at the Nevada County Fairgrounds?

If you love the Draft Horse Classic and the Nevada County Fairgrounds, and you'd like to spend more time at the Fairgrounds, we have good news for you. In addition to the Classic, the Fairgrounds is home to the annual Nevada County Fair and the Country Christmas Faire, and we also offer year round RV camping.



PHOTO BY TOM MITCHELL

Nevada County Fair

Mark your calendar for this year's Nevada County Fair, August 6 – 10, 2008. General Fair activities include the rodeo, bull riding, motor sports, singers, thrill acts, animals, thousands of exhibits, karaoke, an interactive agriculture exhibit, magic shows, and puppetry. As always, Treat Street will be serving an array of fabulous food, and the carnival will feature rides and games for all ages. Gates open each day at 10 a.m., and close each evening at 11 p.m.

Admission this year is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors (65 and older), \$3 for children 6 to 12, and free to children five years old and younger.

Country Christmas Faire

Begin your holiday season with a small-town glimpse of Christmas at the 24th annual Country Christmas Faire, November 28 – 30, 2008.

Rated as one of the top handcrafted shows in Northern California, the Faire will feature unique gifts from more than 130 top artisans. Visitors will enjoy strolling live entertainment, festival foods, a magical Gingerbread House exhibit, Santa and his elves, and a community bon-fire. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; the Christmas Faire closes at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$4 for adults and free for children 12 and under.

Year Round RV Camping

Whether you're attending the Draft Horse Classic, visiting one of the Fairground's activities or visiting our area for a vacation, the RV park at the Fairgrounds is open year round. Our facilities are nestled among tall pine trees, and are near the historic towns of Grass Valley and Nevada City, hiking, boating, dining, shopping, museums and other recreational activities. The RV Park has 44 sites with full hook-ups, approximately 100 sites with water and power hook-ups, and numerous dry camping sites throughout the grounds. Showers and two convenient dump stations are located within the camping area. You can reserve your space by calling the Fair's office at (530) 273-6217.

For more information about the Fair, the Country Christmas Faire, or RV camping, visit the Fair's website at www.nevadacountyfair.com.

TICKETS BY FAX
530-273-1146

TICKETS BY PHONE
530-273-6217

2008 Ticket Order Form

TICKETS BY MAIL
Draft Horse Classic Tickets
Nevada County Fairgrounds
P.O. Box 2687
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Please fill out information below and indicate your ticket choices on the right. Total your Draft Horse performance tickets, camping reservations, and parking passes carefully. Be sure to include your phone number.

Date _____

New Patron? Yes No (circle one)
New Address? Yes No (circle one)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address: _____

PAYMENT

Please indicate your payment choice (and credit card information if you are charging your tickets).

CHECK (make payable Nevada County Fair)

CREDIT CARD (fill in below)

Card type: VISA Mastercard Discovery AMX

V code _____

3 digit code on back of card | AMX 4 digit on front of card above card #

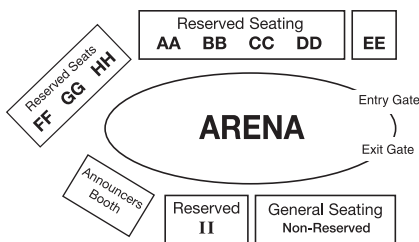
Expiration date: _____

SEATING REQUESTS & SPECIAL NEEDS

We fulfill ticket requests based upon the date received and the next best seat available. If you have special needs, or desire seats in a particular area, please indicate this below (Arena map/seating chart below).

Seating request (preferred area): _____

Wheelchair or other special need: _____



SEASON TICKETS \$80 for all 6 Performances

Qty _____
Season Tickets @ \$80 each \$ _____
Season Parking Pass @ \$10 each \$ _____

SINGLE PERFORMANCE TICKETS

Show Date / Time	Reserved Seating	General Admission	TOTAL
1 Thu 18th 6:30 pm	Qty _____ @ \$21	Qty _____ @ \$18	\$ _____
2 Fri 19th 6:30 pm	Qty _____ @ \$21	Qty _____ @ \$18	\$ _____
3 Sat 20th 10:00 am	Qty _____ @ \$21	Qty _____ @ \$18	\$ _____
4 Sat 20th 6:30 pm	Qty _____ @ \$21	Qty _____ @ \$18	\$ _____
5 Sun 21st 10:00 am	Qty _____ @ \$21	Qty _____ @ \$18	\$ _____
6 Sun 21st 4:00 pm	Qty _____ @ \$21	Qty _____ @ \$18	\$ _____

TOTAL PERFORMANCE TICKETS \$ _____

RV CAMPING RESERVATIONS

NOTE: Please read camping information carefully before completing the form below. Water & electric sites require a 4-night minimum from Sept 15 – 21 and cost \$30/night. Dry camping is available for \$20/night with no minimum stay requirement. Dry site assignment is at the time of arrival.

Circle one: Water & electric site Dry

Arrival date _____ Departure date _____

Circle Rig Type: Motorhome 5th Wheel

Travel Trailer Camper

Rig Size _____

of rigs/sites X # nights @\$ _____ per night

Total RV Camping \$ _____

Total Performance Tickets \$ _____

Season Parking Pass / \$10 ea. \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Gentle Giant Journal

Nevada County Fairgrounds / Draft Horse Classic
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 www.nevadacountyfair.blogspot.com



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PHOTO BY ADRIAN HYMAN

The crowd admires the splendor and beauty of the world famous Budweiser Clydesdales.

Coming soon • Don't miss it!

22nd Annual Draft Horse Classic
 September 18-21, 2008
 Tickets & Info 530-273-6217

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