



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2007



*Sired by Zippos Shadow Watch, a new and upcoming stallion that is producing many winners in the AQHA, Melody is a show horse who has been started, trained and shown by Danielle, but is now Benjamin's feature show horse. Together, Benjamin and Melody compete in Novice Amateur Western Pleasure Quarter Horse circuits all over the East coast and in open shows in our area under Danielle's astute tutelage.*

## New Quarter Horse Farm Gives Lessons in Style

By Wendy Edwards

If you follow the winding path of Black Branch Farm Road off of Route 618 in Albemarle, you will find a real hidden treasure. Long country roads lead you to the charismatic setting of NewBlack Quarter Horse Farm. It is a young farm that is being developed by proprietor and trainer Danielle Black, with the help of her husband, Benjamin.

Already, the Blacks have five horse stalls and a designated area for a future show barn that will create even more space for boarding/training their quality horses. Danielle Black (Toms) was born into a horse-loving family. Her parents first taught her how to start and train a horse. By the time she was eight years old, she was showing horses by herself.

A member of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA), Danielle has won every Circuit Championship she has entered, from "Western Pleasure" riding, during which the horse and rider walk, jog and lope in smooth, fluid movements, to "Hunter Under Saddle", which also challenges the horse and rider to walk, trot and canter with graceful movement in their cadence.

The NewBlack Quarter Horse Farm hosts a round pen for training young horses and giving early beginners riding lessons. Danielle Black has an Open (Advanced) Card with AQHA as a professional trainer. Professional riding lessons

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## Retiree Prepares To Be Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician

By Lyle Plitt

I delivered my first baby today. I am a student learning to be an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in a class being conducted at the Lake Monticello Volunteer Rescue Squad (LMVRS). The students are young (teenagers) and older (I am 64), men and women, with a wide variety of backgrounds ranging from a high school student to a retired magistrate. There are two groups of students, day

and night, attending 3.5 hours classes two days per week. The course includes 121 hours of training over a 16-week period.

No, I didn't deliver a real baby. Today we are studying O.B., or obstetrics. After our classroom work, we practice what we learned in a lab session. One of our male classmates has dressed as a pregnant woman, and while two of us are obtaining "her" medical history and vitals (blood pres-

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## IRS Invites Taxpayers to Apply for Taxpayer Advocacy Panel

The Internal Revenue Service is inviting civic-minded individuals to help improve the nation's tax agency by applying to be members of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel. The Panel provides a forum for citizens from each state to make suggestions regarding IRS decision making.

The mission of the Panel is to listen to taxpayers, identify taxpayers' issues, and make recommendations for improving IRS service and customer satisfaction. Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) members:

- Provide opportunities for citizen input and make recommendations to the IRS on customer-service issues.
- Identify and prioritize taxpayer issues.

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## Scottsville Photography Show — continued from front page



*In the round pen is Marcus. Sired by Zippos Old Gold, a top ten producer of American Quarter Horse winners worldwide, Marcus is a two year old who has just been started under saddle and is a show prospect for sale. In the foreground is Dolly, an 18-year-old lesson horse who has retired from a career of shows, points in halter and western pleasure.*

are available for ages seven and older. Riders can expect to learn the basics of showing and caring for a horse, correct seat, as well as skilled and competitive maneuvers. Group and private lessons are available Monday through Friday, "From daylight to darkness," says Danielle.

She owns both registered and appendix registered Quarter horses. They are on a Southern States feed program. These beautiful creatures provide enthusiasts, both young and old, with a great opportunity for clinic education. They can be ridden for local open shows and high competitions.

Benjamin Black, owner of Benjamin Enterprises, specializes in equine areas. He has excavated grounds and graded the space for a 180 x 80 sq. ft. arena that is used for professional riding lessons. The arena has been given a rock dust bed and plenty of sand for footing. An announcer stand looks over the

performance area that has already seen a number of high-end events that cater to every breed. Shows are judged fairly, based on horse breed, rider's class and age. An even larger arena is scheduled to appear soon. It will be used for jump courses and Dressage.

A Christian facility, NewBlack Quarter Horse Farm offers horse riders thousands of acres of trails. Discounts on their services are given to children who are official 4-H members.

Visitors and members will find themselves in good hands when they meet up with the expert knowledge of Danielle Black and the creative grounds work of her husband, Benjamin. NewBlack Quarter Horse Farm is a place where elegance and beauty are refined within a pleasant, welcoming atmosphere. For your own rewarding experience, you can call (434) 960-4887 or email questions to newblackquarterhorses@yahoo.com!

## Volunteer EMT — continued from front page

sure, pulse, etc.), our instructor surprises us by dumping a pan of water on the floor, between us and the "mother" to simulate the mother's water breaking. We put on gowns, gloves, mask and goggles, proceeding to deliver the baby using a training dummy. The "baby" presents head first, along with an umbilical cord that we clamp and cut.

Three weeks ago, our class was interrupted. A man had come to the Rescue Squad quarters to thank two of the EMTs who had provided care for him a month before. The EMTs, retirees in their fifties, had responded to a "chest pain" call. Shortly after the EMTs arrived on the scene, the man crumpled to the floor. He had stopped breathing and he had no pulse—sudden cardiac arrest. The EMTs administered CPR and used an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to shock the man's heart. The patient's heart started to beat again and he began to breathe on his own. The EMTs had saved this man's life!

Midway through the class term I am assigned to a LMVRS crew, working a 12-hour shift as an Observer. I wear a yellow shirt to denote my status and can provide care only under the direction and supervision of the Attendant-in-Charge (AIC), an experienced EMT. Although I perform very simple tasks (e.g., taking blood pressure, administering oxygen), I learn on each run by observing the EMTs in action. After we have transferred the patient to the hospital Emergency Dept., I ask questions and they explain the care they provided.

Most of our crew are EMT-Bs, or Basic Life Support (BLS)

providers. If we are unsure about appropriate care for a patient, we can call MedCom on our radios. This allows us to talk with a physician at UVA for advice and to obtain permission to administer a select list of the patient's own prescribed drugs. On some runs, the patient needs care beyond the EMT-B's training and allowed procedures. We can call for Advanced Life Support (ALS) assistance. ALS providers receive 300-400 hours of training and can install an IV line, intubate, and administer additional drugs—not allowed for BLS providers.

Yesterday, on a run in southern Fluvanna (on weekdays, LMVRS covers all of Fluvanna County), we had a patient with severe abdominal pain. The AIC decided that there were additional procedures that could help the patient, but are beyond EMT-B allowed protocols, and called for ALS. The ALS provider met us on the way to the hospital. We are in the back of a moving ambulance, a very heavy truck, on a country road. The AIC briefs the ALS provider, who reassures the patient and proceeds to search for a vein in the patient's hand. The ALS provider inserts the needle for an intravenous (IV) line and administers a drug through the IV, while in the back of a heavy truck driving down the road!

LMVRS has driver members as well as EMTs. They attend a two-day Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC), CPR course, and intern under the supervision of an experienced driver. What makes installing an IV line in the back of a moving truck possible is the driver's ability to transport the patient safely

and smoothly. Safety and smoothness are a much higher priority than speed—saving a few minutes getting to the hospital isn't worth getting into an accident or bouncing down the road so badly that the EMTs have to hold on to something to avoid being thrown around. In fact, we normally drive at not much more than the speed limit. The fastest we normally drive on I-64 when we have an unstable patient is 75 mph. Further out from the hospital, with a life-threatening situation, we can call Pegasus, the UVA helicopter, to transport the patient.

LMVRS is an all-volunteer organization. There is no charge for the care and transportation provided. Although most of the members have "day" or "night" jobs, they work a 12-hour shift each week. (We have dormitories for the crews to sleep between calls.) I never cease to be impressed by their dedication and the calm professionalism.

No previous medical experience or training is required to enroll in an EMT class. (CPR certification is required, but LMVRS teaches it in a 1-2 day class.) LMVRS is planning for night and/or day EMT classes this summer. The training is available to people who want to volunteer for their local Rescue Squads, as well as for LMVRS.

Call 589-6128 for information about volunteering for LMVRS as an EMT or driver, or contact your local squad. May 20-26 is National EMS Week and on Saturday, May 26, from 12-4 p.m., LMVRS will have an Open House at Lake Monticello. We will have a booth staffed with experienced EMTs and drivers to answer any questions you may have about volunteering.

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