



PRESIDENT'S PEN

*Building Momentum
Through Cooperation*

★
As we move through another exciting year, I want to take a moment to reflect on where we've been and where we're headed as an association and an industry.

First, I want to thank everyone who helped make the Florence Charity Horse Show and Low Country Classic such a tremendous success. By combining resources and utilizing a shared venue, we were able to create a larger event with stronger classes and outstanding participation. Most importantly, the quality of horses presented throughout the show was exceptional and showcased the talent that exists within our industry today.

With more than 175 entries between the two events, exhibitors enjoyed the opportunity to compete in two full-size horse shows while remaining in one convenient location. Events like this prove what can happen when organizations work together with a common goal. Thank you to everyone who exhibited, sponsored, volunteered, and supported the weekend. We hope you'll mark your calendars now and plan to join us again in 2027.

Looking ahead, excitement is building for the 67th Annual SC Championships on October 30-31 at the South Carolina State Fairgrounds. We're excited to add afternoon pleasure sessions this year, giving exhibitors even more opportunities to compete. We're also proud to welcome three outstanding judges—Jennifer Bingham, Sam Sorrell, and Rod Slagle—whose experience and reputation will help make this one of the premier events of the season.

Beyond the competition, we're focused on making the Championships a great experience for everyone. Join us Thursday evening for our Appreciation Social and Dinner as we celebrate the people who make this industry special. Halloween weekend also means the return of our Championship Candy Crawl, and we're excited to welcome back the always-popular VIP Dinner Tent.

As we continue planning for an even bigger and better Championship Show, I encourage everyone to consider becoming a sponsor. Your support helps us provide a first-class event and invest in the future of our association.

One of the things I'm most encouraged about right now is the growing spirit of cooperation throughout our industry. The creation of the TWHBEA Council of Presidents gives state and regional associations a seat at the table and a stronger voice in important discussions affecting the Tennessee Walking Horse. There is a renewed focus on regulatory unity and working together for the good of the breed and the show horse industry.

This is only the beginning. In the coming months, you'll be hearing more about efforts to bring trainers, owners, exhibitors, associations, and industry leaders together as we work toward a stronger and more unified future. I encourage everyone to stay engaged, keep an open mind, and be part of the conversation.

Finally, thank you to each of our members for your continued support. Whether you volunteer your time, sponsor an event, exhibit a horse, support our youth programs, or simply attend our shows, you play an important role in our success. I am grateful for each of you and proud to serve as your president.

I look forward to seeing you all at the SC Championships this fall.

Tyler Hege
PRESIDENT, SCWHA

INDUSTRY UPDATE



Council of Presidents Created

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A new chapter of collaboration has begun within the Tennessee Walking Horse industry. The recently established TWHBEA Council of Presidents provides state and regional associations with greater representation and a stronger collective voice on issues impacting our breed.

★ FOCUS AREAS ★



REGULATORY UNITY
Working together for fair and consistent regulations across all levels.



INDUSTRY COOPERATION
Strengthening relationships among associations, trainers, owners, and exhibitors.



MEMBERSHIP GROWTH
Building a strong foundation for the future through increased engagement and participation.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Investing in the next generation of leaders and horsemen.



PROMOTION OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE
Celebrating our heritage and promoting our breed with pride and integrity.

.....
“ Events like Florence and the Low Country Classic prove that cooperation isn't just possible— *it is the pathway to future growth.* ”



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Scholarships, Leadership & Industry Support



SCWHA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The South Carolina Walking Horse Association remains committed to supporting the next generation of leaders within our industry through the SCWHA Scholarship Program.

Applications are currently being accepted, and the deadline for submission is **July 1, 2026**.

Whether pursuing higher education, technical training, or other educational opportunities, we encourage eligible applicants to apply and take advantage of this valuable program.



SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
JULY 1, 2026



MORE INFORMATION
VISIT:
SCWHA.ORG

Investing in youth today ensures a stronger industry tomorrow.

2026 SCWHA LEADERSHIP

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



PRESIDENT Tyler Hege



VICE PRESIDENT Bryant Norwood



SECRETARY Angie Kohl



TREASURER Page Brown

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ★ Thomas B. Kakassy
- ★ Beth Tucker
- ★ Keels Kirby
- ★ Tripp McAllister
- ★ Macy Woody-Norwood
- ★ Dr. Larry Heiden
- ★ Patricia Hiott
- ★ Curtis Thompson

FAST LEGAL FUND



The Future of the Walking Horse industry depends upon continued advocacy and legal representation.

FAST continues to collect donations in support of the industry's legal fund and its ongoing efforts to protect and preserve our sport.

If you feel led to contribute, please consider supporting FAST and its mission.

HOW TO HELP

- ✓ MAKE A DONATION
- ✓ SHARE INFORMATION
- ✓ STAY INFORMED
- ✓ SUPPORT INDUSTRY ADVOCACY

“ Strong leadership, engaged members, and support for future generations remain the foundation of a successful association. ”

On The Horizon

CURRENT EVENTS & UPCOMING SHOWS



The summer and fall seasons are shaping up to be some of the busiest and most exciting months in the Tennessee Walking Horse industry. Whether you're exhibiting, spectating, or supporting your local associations, mark your calendars and make plans to attend these outstanding events.

JUNE 2026



JUNE 6

EAST TENNESSEE CLASSIC

Chuckey, Tennessee



JUNE 19–20

WV SUMMER CLASSIC

Winfield, West Virginia



JUNE 20

ETWHA LADIES AUXILIARY SHOW

Sevierville, Tennessee

JULY 2026



JULY 18

WAYNESVILLE CHARITY HORSE SHOW

Waynesville, North Carolina

AUGUST 2026



AUGUST 14–16

STATE FAIR OF WEST VIRGINIA OPEN SHOW

Lewisburg, West Virginia



AUGUST 20–22

STATE FAIR OF WEST VIRGINIA WALKING & RACKING SHOW

Lewisburg, West Virginia



AUGUST 26 – SEPTEMBER 5

TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE NATIONAL CELEBRATION

Shelbyville, Tennessee

SEPTEMBER 2026



SEPTEMBER 11–12

BLAND COUNTY FAIR HORSE SHOW

Bland, Virginia



SEPTEMBER 18–19

VIRGINIA WALKING & RACKING HORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION CELEBRATION

Chatham, Virginia



SEPTEMBER 25–26

APPALACHIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Winfield, West Virginia

OCTOBER 2026



OCTOBER 8–10

NORTH CAROLINA CHAMPIONSHIP HORSE SHOW

Asheville, North Carolina



OCTOBER 30–31

★ SC CHAMPIONSHIPS ★

South Carolina State Fairgrounds

Columbia, South Carolina

★ AFTERNOON PLEASURE SESSIONS ADDED

★ THURSDAY APPRECIATION SOCIAL & DINNER

★ CHAMPIONSHIP CANDY CRAWL

★ VIP DINNER TENT

★ YOUTH JUDGING COMPETITION



“ Support local associations, attend regional shows, and help strengthen the future of our industry. ”

Florence & Low Country

PHOTO COLLAGE



Great People. Great Horses. Great Memories.



57TH ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA CHAMPIONSHIPS

OCTOBER 30TH – 31ST, 2026
S.C. FAIRGROUNDS, COLUMBIA, S.C.

Judges

JENNIFER BINGHAM • SAM SORRELL • ROD SLAGLE

- ★ Max Shoe Size: 3/8 x 3/4
- ★★ All classes are optional tack unless otherwise noted
- ★★★ All classes are specialty, no canter, unless otherwise noted.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30TH

AFTERNOON SESSION START: 2:00 P.M.

JUDGE: ROD SLAGLE

1. Trail Pleasure AOT
2. *Racking Pleasure Youth
3. Country Pleasure AOT
4. *SSH AOT
5. TWHBEA Medallion 3G Youth
6. Country Pleasure Amateur
7. *TWH Pleasure Horse Western
8. *Go As You Please

EVENING SESSION START: 6:00 P.M.

JUDGES: Jennifer Bingham, Sam Sorrell, Rod Slagle

LEADLINE

9. Model Youth
10. Park Pleasure 5 & Under
11. RC Two Year Old Open
12. Country Pleasure 5 & Under
13. Juvenile 11 & Under Performance
14. All Day Pleasure Western
15. RC Open Three Year Old Mare & Gelding
16. Lite Shod Western
17. Juvenile 12-17 Performance
18. Trail Pleasure Youth
19. Amateur Specialty
20. TBA \$350
21. All Day Pleasure Youth
22. RC Open Three Year Old Stallions
23. SCWHA Members Only Performance
24. RC Open Four Year Old Stallions
25. *AOT Pleasure

BREAK

26. Park Pleasure Western
27. Novice Performance (Horse not to have won a blue ribbon in 2026)
28. Lite Shod Youth
29. RC Open Four Year Old Mares & Geldings
30. RC Open 15.2 & Under Specialty
31. *SSH Am/Youth
32. Amateur/Youth Ponies
33. Show Pleasure Amateur
34. *Pick Your Partner Pleasure
35. Park Performance Amateur
36. Trail Pleasure Western
37. Pick Your Partner Performance
38. Park Pleasure AOT
39. RC Open Specialty

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

AFTERNOON SESSION START: 2:00 P.M.

JUDGE: SAM SORRELL

40. All Day Pleasure AOT
41. *Go As You Please Youth
42. Weanlings/Yearlings
43. TWHBEA Equitation 2G (w/pattern)
44. *Pleasure Riders 50 & Over
45. *SSH 5 & Under
46. Country Pleasure Youth
47. *TWH Pleasure Jackpot (See premium scale)

EVENING SESSION START: 6:00 P.M.

JUDGES: Jennifer Bingham, Sam Sorrell, Rod Slagle

STICK HORSE

48. Model
49. Trail Pleasure Amateur
50. RC Mares & Geldings
51. Country Pleasure Amateur
52. Amateur Four Year Old Mares & Geldings
53. Lite Shod Amateur
54. SCWHA Members Only Pleasure
55. All Day Pleasure 5 & Under
56. Amateur Four Year Stallions
57. Trail Pleasure 5 & Under
58. Amateur 15.2 & Under Specialty
59. Park Pleasure
60. Amateur Three Year Old Mares & Geldings
61. All Day Pleasure Amateur English
62. Two Year Old Amateur

BREAK

63. Costume Class (Open to any breed/shoe) (see premium scale for entry fee)
64. Park Pleasure Youth
65. Trail Pleasure Open
66. NC/VA/ET Members Only Performance
67. Amateur Three Year Old Stallions
68. *Racking Trail Pleasure
69. Show Pleasure Championship
70. Juvenile Championship
71. *SSH Championship
72. Park Performance Championship
73. *Amateur Pleasure Horse Championship
74. Lite Shod Championship
75. AOT Performance Championship
76. *Youth Pleasure Horse Championship
77. Amateur Specialty Championship
78. Park Pleasure Championship
79. *Open Pleasure Horse Championship
80. RC Open Specialty Championship

ENTRY FEES

- Afternoon Sessions: \$15 per class; Ribbons only
- Evening Sessions: Preliminary Classes: \$50 Championship: \$100
- Rider's Cup: \$10 per class
- Costume Class: \$15 entry fee

PREMIUMS

- Evening Preliminaries: \$100-\$60-\$45-R-R
- Evening Championship: \$200-\$150-\$100-\$40-R
- Costume: \$30-\$20-\$10-\$5-R

INSPECTION FEES

- Pleasure: \$15 for the first class, \$5 for each class after
- Performance: \$15 per class

TO RESERVE STALLS OR RV SPOTS

Tyler Hege (336) 823-1678 or scwha.org
Stalls: \$100/weekend
Shavings: \$9 RV's: \$55/night

SHOW MANAGER

Tyler Hege

AFFILIATIONS

SHOW, NCWHA, VWRHOA, AWRHA, TWHBEA, IHPP, TWHBEA Open Series, SCWHA (4X)

SPECIAL EVENTS



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29TH
Appreciation Party 7 pm–until



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST
Championship Candy Crawl

