

**This message is from: Jessica Reuterskiold <ponygirl4life@yahoo.com>**

2009 Midwest Fjord Horse Show

What a great show it was! We had around 70 horses and exhibitors and over 400 total class entries! It was a great time had by all!

On Monday we started out with the mare and gelding halter classes. Congratulations to Sharon and Bryan Simonson with Rokida's Berit for winning Grand Champion Mare and to Vicki and James Hovre with Iduna Acres Olivia for winning Reserve Champion Mare. For the geldings, congratulations to Anna Lee with Bluebird Lane Jaeger for winning Grand Champion and to Vicki and James Hovre with Iduna Acres Oliver for winning Reserve Champion.

The rest of the day consisted of showmanship, team pleasure driving, and log skid. The competition was tough. The high quality of Fjords could be seen at this show!

Tuesday was a little wet in the morning, so we delayed the show for 2 hours. That was the best plan and worked out well. We moved Turnout and Ride & Drive to the afternoon to keep everyone's driving vehicles as clean as possible.

We started the day with the English riding classes. There were some fine Fjords in those classes. The judge had many choices. We concluded the morning with our jumping classes. Thanks to Patti Jo and Andrew for bringing all of the equipment to set up the jumping courses! It gets better every year!

The afternoon consisted of the single driving classes and we ended the day with the Farm Hitch. This year's course was especially interesting. There was a clothes line with some of Tyler Schlickman's own items on there and there was a gathering of chickens (the balloon type) to give the horses something to look at. It was well received by all and it sure looked like a good time.

Wednesday was a beautiful day! The weather was perfect and the show ended perfect.

We started the day with Stallion Halter. Congratulations to Green Valley Farm with GVF Sjokolade for winning Grand Champion Stallion and to Andrew Hinrichs with Kjore Arve for winning Reserve Champion. We concluded the morning with the obstacle driving classes. The afternoon started with the western riding classes. Some great rides were seen! The day ended with the gaming classes. If you didn't think Fjords were fast, you should have seen these!

The most grueling class (in my opinion) was Ride A Buck. This is where you stick a dollar bill under thigh and you must keep it there to win. Sounds easy...try cantering for about 5 minutes straight...I would know...I had too! It came down to Adam St. Claire and myself. The judge finally had us lower the dollars to below our knee. We went to walk off and Adam's fell out. I won! It was well worth it. This was my first time trying this class too!

The day ended with the Farmer's Race. If you have never seen this...you are missing something exciting! It came down to a duel between father and son Gudknecht. The son prevailed!

It was sad to see the show end. It flew by so fast. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. New members learned a lot and the old members were great mentors. Our youth classes are growing which is great to see. They are who will keep the show going!

The overall high point winners of the show were:

**Versatility:**

Grand Champion- Anna Lee with BlueBird Lane Jaeger

Reserve Champion- Samantha Poirer with GVF Sjololade

**Adult High Point:**

Grand Champion: Anna Lee with BlueBird Lane Jaeger a

Reserve Champion- Samantha Poirer with GVF Sjololade

**Youth High Point:**

Grand Champion: Keelie Finnel with Mariposa's Bragi

Reserve Champion: Allison Austin with PRF Arne

Next year we celebrate our 25th Anniversary! Please come join us! It is sure to be a good time!  
Look for more information to come!

Jessica Reuterskiold

2009 Show Chair

\*\*\*\*\*

**This message is from: "Dave and Patti Walter" <dwalter@tm.net>**

Just thought I'd write in and talk a bit about Blue Earth 2009. WHAT A GREAT SHOW.

THANK YOU to Jessica Reuterskiold and Kathy Blaszczyk, our Show Chairs for the show. Guess when you have two ladies that you can't pronounce or spell their names, don't worry, cause they are GREAT workers and organizers and we had a very successful show! THANK YOU, ladies!

Also thank you to those that came, numbers might have been down, but the classes were good size. Older Geldings for halter – around 15. Mare classes were big too. Riding adult classes had 8 to 13 entries, and driving was the same. We had large numbers both in the games for riding and driving, those are always FUN. Not sure about final numbers, but maybe around 450-470 entries????

Just some highlights now but watch for an article in the Herald I already have a title and know what I want to put in there. But for now.....

GREAT looking Fjord horses at our show. NICE, NICE halter classes and riding classes – GREAT competition. Always gets better and better. Was wonderful to be in there with all of you.

Driving, boy there is something just gorgeous about Fjords in harness. Teams, single, unicorn, 4 up, they just take my breath away! GORGEOUS. Do think Bob Gudknecht and family could have the club over for beer and he'd probably have enough mugs to serve it in, as first place winners got engraved mugs and the Gudknecht family went home with a boat load of mugs. WAY TO GO Bob and Therine! You guys rox!

David Lusty won the Farm Hitch class, which was amazing to watch. What skill those drivers have. It was NO easy class either, they had to hitch and unhitch unassisted, drive through obstacles like a clothes line, drive over tires, drive past the chicken yard (ok not real chickens but blow up ones and flowers that spun in the wind). Then back up with only inches on each side, take out the milk jug from the wagon, and place on the barrels. Just amazing how GREAT they ALL were! We sure have some really SKILLED people in our club.

Our days went by fast, but the show, even with the rain on Tuesday, went very smoothly. Thank you to ALL who volunteered, show could NOT be done without EACH and EVERY ONE OF YOU!!! THANK YOU.

Youth classes were larger I think than last year, VERY nice group of youth. Keelie Finnel won Youth High Point and Alison Austin was Reserve, nice job! Kristin Lee won Adult High Point and her horse Yaeger won Versatility.

Dave Schwartz was our judge this year, he is not a Fjord judge, but he knows a good horse when he sees it, knows conformation and movement and well.....a good horse is a good horse. Think he did an excellent job.

We missed those who were not able to attend, it is a big family gathering and you just miss family when all are not there. But, the show must go on. Hopefully NEXT year we'll see more family! 2010 is our 25th anniversary. We have MANY things in the works for our 25th show. We'll let you know as they become a reality. Plan to attend I think you will be happy you did. Third week in July, 2010, at Blue Earth MN -- it's the place to be in July!!!

Sure I missed many things in this above writing, VERY tired today, but since super happy and smiling as it was really a GREAT show. EVERYONE working together to make our show the place to be!!!! THANK YOU ALL AGAIN!

Patti Jo Walter  
MWFHC President