

WHAT'S HAPPENING

OCTOBER

2-7

Scottsdale Classic
Scottsdale, Arizona

2-25

All American Quarter Horse Congress
Columbus, Ohio

7-11

Oregon QHA Octoberfest
Eugene, Oregon

FEATURE: Watch for the World Conformation Horse Association non-pro yearling stallions, mares and geldings halter stakes classes October 11-12 at the Congress.

17

ShoMe Fall Sale
Columbia, Missouri

17

All American Quarter Horse Congress Super Sale
Columbus, Ohio

NOVEMBER

14-15

AQHA World Championship Show Sale
Oklahoma City

6-21

AQHA World Championship Show
Oklahoma City

26-27

Cajun Classic QHS
Gonzales, Louisiana

This is just a sample of the Journal's calendar. For the complete show schedule, turn to Page 231.

INQUIRING MINDS

What would you ask?

At the 2009 AQHA World Championship Show, the *Journal* will interview every world champion in the arena, broadcast live online. Let us know what you'd ask a world champion, and we'll bring your question straight to the arena floor.

Send your suggestions to chamilton@aqha.org.

TEXAS HORSE

On August 20, Texas Gov. Rick Perry signed an official declaration making the American Quarter Horse the official horse of Texas.

"We need to give credit to the Texas Quarter Horse Association, Rep. Larry Phillips and 10-year-old Logan Head, who got the ball rolling on this by writing to Rep. Phillips with the idea of making the American Quarter Horse the state's official horse," said AQHA Executive Vice President Don Treadway Jr.

Logan Head is an AQHYA member from Bonham, Texas.

TONYA RATLIFF-GARRISON



Leonie Fischer of Germany took third in youth 2-year-old mares with *Designed By Royal Te* at the Ford Youth World.

NEW WORLD

"It's not like it is in the States."

That's what halter exhibitor Leonie Fischer said of showing American Quarter Horses back home in Germany. She shows in everything there from reining to halter and all-around events.

"In Germany, if you have an all-around horse, you put it in the halter, too," she said.

Leonie went to Oklahoma City with her parents, Guenter and Britta, to show at the 2009 Ford AQHYA World Championship Show. But this time, she stuck with showing halter.

"We thought it would be best if she starts with the halter and gets to look around, and next year maybe she can start in the performance classes," Guenter explained.

AQHA Professional Horseman Ted Turner trained and fitted Leonie's mare, *Designed By Royal Te*, a 2007 black mare by LSP Dominate To A Te and out of Design My Dream by Designation. Guenter and Britta bought the mare at last year's AQHA World Championship Show. They arrived in Oklahoma a week early so Leonie could work with Ted at his place in Thackerville, Oklahoma, before showing at the Ford Youth World.

"I wanted to see how the classes go here," Leonie said, with Britta helping a little with the English translation, "and to know the mare better."

The Fischers explained that in Germany, exhibitors are less formal in the way they show in the halter. They pet the horses more and stand closer, and Leonie needed to learn the American style in the ring.

The Fischers have 17 Quarter Horses in Germany. Guenter shows in the novice pleasure and horsemanship and Britta in the all-around. They've also been raising their own horses.

About nine years ago, Britta had warmbloods, but Guenter had no interest in riding them.

"I said, 'I will go on a western horse,'" Guenter said. "She gave me one lesson on a ranch in Germany, and it was wonderful. Three months later, I bought a horse. Half a year later, she sold her warmbloods and bought an AQHA Champion called Hint Of Marlana. Then it became like a wave, our whole life turned."

Leonie showed in the 2-year-old mares class August 8 and flew home with a bronze third-place trophy the next day. She plans to return next year.

BONUS: To learn more about Hint Of Marlana and the program he comes from, read about German breeders Horst and Elisabeth Mueller in the February 2008 issue of the *Journal*.

FREE EXPRESSION

Want some tips on getting expression from your halter horse in the ring? Download a full report with AQHA Professional Horseman Kathy Smallwood's tips at americasborsedaily.com. It is just one of many free informative reports available on the site.



CHRISTINE HAMILTON