



Georgia Professional Farriers Association



What are the real benefits of being a GPFA Member?

When we ask farriers that aren't members of the GPFA the answer is usually the same, "what do I get for my money?" We're here to tell you that the membership fees are minimal compared to what you can get out of being a member of the GPFA.

We are one of the few organizations that have an Injured Farriers Fund, these funds are set aside strictly to help our members that are in need. We've all been in a situation when we were hurt and didn't know for sure what we were going to do about paying our bills, and more importantly servicing our clients so that when our health returns we have clients to come back to. Being a member of the GPFA not only gives you the opportunity to receive monetary help if you're injured, but the resources are much deeper than that. Recently, Dave Purves's wife unselfishly donated a kidney to her father, which caused Dave to need to stay with her in Ohio for almost 2 weeks. Dave tried to plan for this, but the surgery date was postponed a week. Because of the GPFA, Dave had at least 15 people offer to help anyway they could. This help came in the form of replacing lost shoes, to shoeing horses for him while he was away. And the real kicker is that all of the money from the shoeings, still came to Dave.

This summer, Morgan Hurst broke his ankle while coaching his daughters soccer team. I'm not sure how word got out, but after just a few days, Morgan had someone in his truck 3 or 4 days a week shoeing his horses for/with him and again, Morgan got to keep the money.

Most of us heard of Lynn Jeans motorcycle accident, Lynn said within hours had upwards of 50 people offering their help. Once again that help came because of the relationships that were fostered through the GPFA.

While we're proud to be one of the largest chapters of the AFA and we hold true to the tenants of the AFA our most important benefit is our camaraderie. Our members have helped each other on countless occasions from helping when you're hurt to help making shoes, or helping figure out how to shoe a particular horse. The GPFA is more like a family to most of us, and when you need them they're there to help.

Don't forget to pay your dues this year and if you know someone that isn't a member pass this letter on or have them call someone you know that's been helped by a member of the GPFA. This association is here for you the members and the more members we have the more we can help each other. ***Please Remember that your dues expired on Jan. 30th, 2010 if you haven't already paid them!***



Georgia Professional Farriers Association



Newsletter

Feb. 2010

President's Letter

Hello GPFA members and friends,

Please allow me to introduce myself for those of you that don't know me. I've been a GPFA member on and off for the last ten years and have had the opportunity to work under more than a few of our members and they have all been a positive influence in my shoeing career in one way or another. I believe you can learn something from everyone. I know I sure have and I still am. After completing my CJF this fall I'm a firm believer in the certification process and I think everyone can benefit from it. I can't believe how helpful everyone was. I only wish I had become more involved sooner. I live about 35mi north of Atlanta and shoe in the north atlanta area. If you don't know me please find me at a function and introduce yourself. I would love to meet all of you.

Our past president Doug workman CJF and all of our officers have done such a wonderful job with the association. I have some pretty big shoes to fill. I'm excited to be part of the team and I have a great group of people to work with. I'm happy to see what the association has grown to be. I hope I can make all of you proud to be part of the GPFA. Not much is going to change. We will continue with the advisory board. I think it is a wealth of knowledge that is indispensable and hopefully we get more members actively involved with our functions. I would like to see our membership list grow and we are making an effort to organize our membership and mailing list while gaining new members.

It is our 30th anniversary and we hope to have a wonderful year of functions and a huge contest to cap it all off with. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please contact me. I'm looking forward to hearing from you. It's your association also.

**Thanks Derek Perry CJF
(706) 331-0567
derekperry1@frontier.com**

Celebrating 30 Years!

Vice President's Letter

I hope everyone is having a great kick-off for the new year 2010. We just recently had our annual business meeting. I would like to congratulate

Dereck Perry as our new GPFA President! I think that he has a lot of fresh ideas that are going to benefit the GPFA.

Dave Purves was re-elected as our GPFA treasurer. I am looking forward to working with these guys. We are all really excited for the plans in store for this year!

I want to give a special thanks to Eric Gilleland for taking care of the GPFA website. If anyone has any pictures or articles for the website that we can post, we would love to show everyone the talent Georgia has. You can contact Eric or myself and we will get them posted.

To all of our members, thank you for all of your support and dedication to GPFA Association!

I hope to see our membership grow, so if you know a farrier who is not a member, ask them to join the family, they won't regret it.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the future events! If there is anything I can do for anyone or if anybody has any questions, please contact me.

**GPFA Vice-President
Jamie Williamson
706-215-2051**

**With Our Deepest Sympathy!
The GPFA lost a dear friend
Pat Harmon, Feb. 4th, 2010.
Our thoughts and prayers go
out to his family.**

Treasurer's Report

I would first like to say thanks to Doug Workman for all that he's done for the chapter and for me personally. I would also like to thank Derek Perry for stepping up and filling the role of president. After our first officers meeting I know that Derek will be a great asset to the association. We have a lot of big ideas and are now making plans for the upcoming year. With this being the 30th annual contest we would like to make this the biggest most memorable contest we've had. If you have any ideas please let us know.

I'm going through our membership list and updating it, there were a lot of names on the list that haven't paid dues in quite awhile and a few addresses that need to be updated. If you know someone that has paid their dues but isn't receiving their newsletter just have them give me a call so I can get their address changed.

If you have any questions or concerns about the finances of the association give me a call at 770-656-6658 or email me at dpforge@aol.com.

www.georgiafarriers.org

Secretary's Letter: Shoeing in February

Among my regular clients is a local children's home. The facility takes in children who have been orphaned or have come from abusive homes. I do what I can to help their little program. I give them a little break on their shoeing costs and have helped them find donation horses. I have also volunteered to be a presenter at their two career day events each year for the past four years. The home hosts a career day in February and one during the first part of May.

The program the staff hosts in May is great. It's springtime, and the sun is usually shining; flowers are blooming and birds are singing. All the little children sit under a pavilion and bring out ol' Mo for me to shoe. Mo always stands like a champ, and he is fun to shoe because I've got him in Memphis bars (not something that you just get to do every day). Someone will hold Mo under a big oak tree and I'll demonstrate this magical art we call farriery. I'll have fire, sparks, smoke and glowing steel. There will be "ooh's" and "aah's" followed with lots of questions. When the show is over all those smiling little faces scream "Thank you Mr. Chip!" and it's all followed with a round of applause. In a short span of time, I get to practice a trade I love, do something for charity, be a role model and an inspiration. All that and they pay me too! To top it off, I normally get done early and stop off at a nice little trout stream on the way home. Oh the joys of being a self-employed farrier. As I said the children's home hosts two different career day events. The one I just described was the blissful May event. Well, brother, it ain't May! It's February, and it's freezing! I just served my sentence this morning for the February career day. Now, don't get me wrong, I love children, and I'm all about helping them in any way I can. But you want me to show up and preach the joys of being a @\$%&* horseshoer in February?

For starters, I've not seen the sun in two months. What I have seen is rain and mud. Oh yeah, and some more rain. I thought about seeing if Georgia Farrier Supply could weld some pontoons and a sail on my truck. It is amazing that I've developed the ability to pick up a horse's foot, clean all the mud off then pull, trim, shape, nail up and then clinch without ever letting the foot hit the ground just so you don't have to clean the mud off again. I'm curious: Why is it that in August, when it is 102 degrees in the shade, you couldn't beg to wind to blow 2 miles per hour, but in February when it is two degrees, the wind is blowing 102 mph? Oh and what is the wind blowing, yep you guessed it, more rain. I shouldn't complain though, last week we got a change of pace: snow!

A little problem with the weather shouldn't be enough to keep a good man down you say. Like the late night salesman says, "But wait, there's more!" February tends to be the slowest month of the year as far as income is concerned. Oh and it just happens to fall right after what is normally the second slowest month of the year, January. What really puts the financial cherry on top is that this falls right between the Christmas Season and Extortion time. Oh, excuse me, I meant tax time.

Another thing about shoeing in February is that my schedule seems to start having this accordion effect. People start to call and put off their appointments because it is too cold or it's too muddy for them to go out and catch fluffy. Then when you get the first day above 50 degrees they all call at once. "Fluffy's feet look terrible you need to come out right away!" After dealing with a few months of this I didn't arrive at the children's home in the best frame of mind to be encouraging others to follow in my footsteps. Did I mention it was snowing sideways on my way there?

If any of you have been having a February like mine just know that you are not alone in your struggle against rain, mud, taxes and crazy people. We are all right there with you. So get your big boy britches on and get out there and get it. It could be worse, we could have real jobs.

Chip Crumbly

Georgia Professional Farriers Association Membership Application

Please Check the Following if they apply:

Renewal

New Membership

(Paid members only) for additional \$25 a year please include a link on the GPFA website to: www._____

I would like to go Paperless and have all correspondence sent via email

Membership Fee: \$35.00

Associate Member: \$25.00*

Please Complete the Below information as you would have it appear in the directory (Print Only Please)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature: _____

If you should have any questions please call: **Derek Perry CJF, (706) 331-0567**

Make Checks Payable to: Georgia Professional Farriers Association or GPFA and mail, along with your application to: GPFA Treasurer, Dave Purves, 77 Helens Drive, Dawsonville, GA 30534

*Assoc. Membership is offered to non-farrier members of the equestrian community that want to support the betterment of hoof care in Georgia. Associate membership includes access to GPFA free clinics, GPFA membership pricing on clinics, GPFA newsletter. Associate members will have no voting privileges and will not be listed in the directory

Zone(s) of State in which you offer service: _____

Officer's Contact Information

President

Derek Perry CJF
(706) 331-0567
derekperry1@frontier.com

Vice President

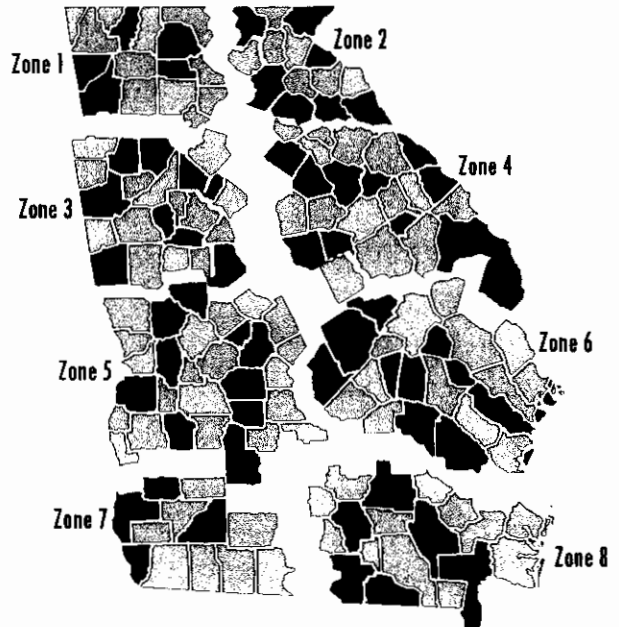
Jamie Williamson
(706)215-2051
professionalfarrierjw@yahoo.com

Secretary

Chip Crumbly
(706)346-8706
turtlefur@aol.com

Treasurer

Dave Purves
(770)656-6658
Dpforge@aol.com



To join the GPFA yahoo group visit www.georgiifarriers.org and subscribe to the site, or visit: <http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/GaProfessionalFarriersAssociation/> then follow the steps to join. Once you have joined you can send out mass e-mails using gaprofessionalfarriersassociation@yahoo.com just like any other e-mail address.

In Need of Photos!

**We Would love to Feature Members of the GPFA in our newsletter!
If you have photos of your work or and unusually hoof please send
them to evolutionsigns@windstream.net for the newsletter.**

Membership Zones

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6	Zone 7	Zone 8
Dade	Union	Polk	Barrow	Harris	Laurens	Early	Glynn
Walker	Towns	Haralson	Clarke	Talbot	Dodge	Calhoun	Lanier
Catoosa	Rabun	Paulding	Walton	Lipson	Johnson	Dougherty	Camden
Whitfield	Lumpkin	Cobb	Oconee	Crawford	Emanuel	Clay	Brantley
Murray	White	Carroll	Oglethorpe	Bibb	Jenkins	Miller	Charlton
Fannin	Habersham	Douglas	Wilkes	Twiggs	Candler	Baker	Ware
Gilmer	Stephens	Fulton	Lincoln	Muscogee	Telfair	Mitchell	Pierce
Pickens	Hall	Dekalb	Morgan	Chattahoochee	Wheeler	Colquitt	Lowndes
Dawson	Banks	Heard	Greene	Marion	Treutlen	Brooks	Cook
Forsyth	Franklin	Coweta	Taliaferro	Taylor	Toombs	Thomas	Berrien
Fulton	Hart	Fayette	Warren	Peach	Evans	Grady	Tift
Cherokee	Jackson	Clayton	McDuffie	Houston	Appling	Decatur	Irwin
Barlow	Madison	Henry	Columbia	Bleckley	Jeff Davis	Seminole	Coffee
Floyd	Elbert	Newton	Jasper	Marion	Wayne		Atkinson
		Butts	Putnam	Schley	Long		Clinch
		Spalding	Hancock	Macon	Liberty		Echols
		Troup	Glascok	Stewart	Bryan		Bacon
		Meriwether	Jones	Webster	Chatham		
		Pike	Baldwin	Sumter	Effingham		
		Lamar	Wilkinson	Dooly	Bulloch		
		Monroe	Washington	Pulaski	Mcintosh		
			Jefferson	Quitman			
			Burke	Clay			
			Richmond	Randolph			
			Screven	Terrell			
				Webster			
				Lee			
				Worth			
				Turner			
				Crisp			
				Ben Hill			

Calendar of Events



April 17, 2010 – Monetta Spring Fling / Open House and Clinic
Will be held at Monetta Farrier Supply from 9:00am to 4:00pm.
Michael Wildenstein CJF, FWCF will be the clinician

May 21-22, 2010 – AFA Certification in Athens GA at the UGA Livestock Arena,
Examiner will be Jason Harmeson CJF

May 1, 2010 - GPFA Hands on Clinic at East Coast Horseshoe Supply Co.
Bring your truck and tools and questions. We will have different stations set up to help people with different shoe modifications, shoe building, and shoeing techniques. Will be held at East Coast Horseshoe Co. located at 2235 US HWY 41 North, Perry GA 31069. You can call 1-877-690-3851 for directions

June 5, 2010 – GPFA Family Day at Eric Gilleland's Social Circle, GA -
call Eric if you are coming and for directions at (770) 883-5080 or email ericgilleland@bellsouth.net

June 19, 2010 – Georgia Farrier Supply Open House and Clinic
Will be held at Moss Creek Farm in Summerville GA
Clinician Jeff Pauley
Contact Willie Johnson (706) 857-1053

Oct 1-2, 2010 – GPFA 30th Anniversary Contest and Clinics
To be held in Athens GA, at the UGA Livestock Arena
Judge and Clinicians TBA

January 8, 2011 – GPFA Annual Business Meeting and Hammer In
10:00am at the Horse House in Ball Ground GA

GPFA Treasurer
Dave Purves
77 Helens Drive
Dawsonville, GA 30534