



For Immediate

American Saddlebreds Return to Blowing Rock

Beginning on Thursday, June 8 and continuing to Sunday, June 11, the Town of Blowing Rock will welcome the stately American Saddlebreds to L. M. Tate Show Grounds in the Broyhill Equestrian Preserve. These horses, known as the peacock of the show ring, will come from across the United States to compete for the silk and silver of the Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show. The Blowing Rock show is widely recognized as the oldest continuous horse show in America. The show has been held for 94 consecutive summers and on the same plot of ground since 1928.

American Saddlebreds often compete in five primary divisions: Five-Gaited, Three-Gaited, Fine Harness, Park and Pleasure. In these divisions they are judged on performance, manners, presence, quality and conformation. There will also be classes for pleasure driving, novice academy riders, and of course the ever popular lead line class which often sees very small riders showing for their first time. Also included are the thrilling Road Horses which are the show version of the famous racing Standardbreds that are driven to lightweight sulkies at blinding speeds. There will also be classes featuring the mighty Friesians, gentle giants from the Netherlands whose popularity as a breed continues to grow in the US.

Over 250 horses are expected for this year's show. Horses and riders will be traveling from 16 states to the Highlands for a week of spirited competition in the cool breezes of the mountains. Admission is \$10 per day with in-and-out privileges. Food vendors and an exciting array of merchandise booths will be on hand to provide a unique interlude between classes.

This week opens 21 days of horse shows at the Broyhill Equestrian Preserve. The Hunters and Jumpers arrive on July 25 for two weeks of nationally recognized competition.

For more information visit the web site at brchs.org or call 828-295-4700.

Photos follow on Page 2

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SHOW AT SPEED—Photo by John Fann



Winner Takes a Victory Pass—Photo by Erin Fann

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