

My Hunter Friends,

I have diligently have been working on a plan for getting more of our ApHC friends to get involved with the ApHC Hunters, whether it is Working Hunter, Eq Over Fences or Hunter Hack.

Currently we are the "ApHC Hunter Team" for our club, but I ask each of you as Trainers, Non-Pros, Youth or spectators to get involved with the ApHC Hunters and Jumpers. It is a "feeling" that is hard to describe, how one feels when they are in sync with their show mount soaring through the air over a jump! It is one of the greatest feelings in the world!!!

For our January show, Dawna and her team have put the jumping classes first at 7:30am, much thanks to Dawna. This will allow us to school our fence horses throughout the night and not be "rushed" at the lunch break. This is very similar to how our National and World Show handles the fence classes.

I realize that jumping is not for everyone, but there is a future for ApHC Fence horses. We are the present equestrians who show up week after week and jump fence after fence. We are known for the encouragement we give one another to be the best rider they can be. So I ask each of you, to please help us in 2009 to get the word out there that "The South ApHC Hunters will Rise Again" and to encourage your students, friends and fellow competitors to take the plunge and get involved with Hunter over Fence classes, even if it is Hunter Hack!! We welcome all to participate.

If you know of someone who is curious or scared to ask, please have them reach out to me for assistance, I will do what I can as a Non-Pro to guide them to the right person for help.

Finally, lets bring back the days where we had 22 in the Pre-Green at the Nationals and 20 + in the Working Hunters, and 33+ in the Sr Hunter Hack... do you remember those days.. They were not long ago... late 90's.... What happened to our ApHC Hunter mounts and friends?? Did they stray?? Did they get off the beaten path?? If so, bring them back to the "spot" light of the 2009 ApHC Hunter Over Fence horse.

If you would like to see any changes for the 2009 – 2010 Hunters/Jumpers, please reply to my email and let me know what you would like changed. I am only one voice but if we become a powerful team our friends at the National Level will listen. We are all in this for one reason and one reason alone, the love of the ApHC Breed. Lets not let our breeds versatility fade, speak up and voice your opinions now!

Thank you to all my ApHC and Hunter friends for the life lasting memories, smiles, laughs, triumphs and defeats, I cherish them all.

Rob Banks
ApHC Member and Rider since 1989.

Current Waco Show Participants for Hunters:

Pre-Green 2 and looks like we will have an additional 2 in March
Green 1
Working Hunter 3
Jumpers 2
NP WH 3
HH numerous

Those numbers can change and increase with your help!