



# HOOF BEATS

**DELMARVA FARRIER'S ASSOCIATION FOUNDED 2004 VOLUME 1**



*Left – Right Dean Geis, Keith Ferrins, Mat Taimuty, Dave Crockett, Pat Kearns, Chris Sparks, Kevin Gibbons, Gary Faulkner, Kevin Broll, Tom Bloomer, Phil Anderson, Dave Ferguson*

## **How We Started**

In the fall of 2003 Dave Ferguson, *CJF, TE* in conjunction with the grand opening of his continuing education center and annual fall clinic, held an auction with the entire proceeds going to the formation of the Delmarva Farriers Association. In January of 2004 the DFA held its first meeting at Mint Vale Forge in Cambridge Maryland. At the first meeting, the DFA adopted a constitution, elected officers, established membership fees, and held general discussion regarding this years events and the future direction of the DFA. See inside for more details on member benefits and our officers.

## What's Inside

Message from the Officers  
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Classified

Presidents Message  
**Kevin N Gibbins, CF**

I was born in England and raised in Wales. I emigrated in 1980 and have been shoeing for eight years. I am certified with the American Farriers Association and working toward my journeyman certification.

I was elected President of the Delmarva Farriers Association after seeing a need for an association on the Eastern Shore. The main goal for the organization is ongoing education to improve our skills and to pass them on in our daily horseshoeing. Bringing clinicians in to teach in lectures and hands-on farriery is expensive to the association, so we will hold fundraisers and auctions etc.

One can never know all there is in farriery. It is an ongoing art form that we try to master. I hope to be able to bring clinics to horse owners with the help of veterinarians, trainers, horse therapists and others. We are always open to ideas and, of course, donations. Hope to see you at the Delaware State Fair and get a chance to know you. Thank you for your support.

*Vice President*  
**Patrick D. Kearns**

I became Vice President of the newly formed DFA because I firmly believe there's a need and definitely an interest in having an organization that will cover all aspects of the equine world in the Delmarva area. I will support this organization in any capacity in order to see it develop into one of the premiere organizations in the equine field.

*Secretary*  
**David Crockett**

I have been shoeing horses, part time, for the past 25 years; my other jobs are teaching high school, training horses, and farming (hay). I have been married for 18 years to my wife Bonnie and we have two children, David Jr., and Rebecca.

My experience around horses started when I was young, initially riding and showing with training, as I got older. Shoeing has become a 2nd full time occupation for the last 10 years. I have been a member of the AFA for many years and have

attended at least 1 conference or clinic each year. I hope to work with other farriers in the area who can share their experiences and expertise to improve everyone's skills of shoeing and working with horses.

*Treasurer*  
**Tom Bloomer, CF**

If you had told me 10 years ago that some day my entire life would revolve around horses, I would have fallen down on the floor laughing. In 1995 I married a HORSE-WOMAN. We got involved raising horses in 1996. When our first colt was born I was hooked. Since then my family has raised 9 horses.

In 2001 I started looking for a way to make a living in the horse industry; Quit my desk job and went to horseshoeing school. For about 2 years I have been a full time farrier. However, I am still "in school" every day. There seems to be no end to learning about farrier science. In addition I have become a student of horse-man-ship. I love horses and can't imagine my life without them.

I was certified by the American Farriers Association in 2003. I plan on testing for their Journeyman certification this year. I see the DFA as an organization where farriers can learn from farriers, veterinarians, and other horseman. In addition it is a way for us to "give back" by sharing with others what we have learned. There is a huge need for an association like this in our area. Many people are acquiring horses for the first time. The backyard horse owner is the largest and fastest growing segment of the equine industry. Where do these folks turn for advice on hoof care, nutrition, horsemanship, and husbandry? I see this association as a place for horse owner education as well as farrier education. Above all else, I see the DFA as a good thing for the horses on Delmarva.

I am excited about this association and look forward to a great future!

*Board Member*  
**Matt Taimuty, CJF**

Upgrading the quality of farriery on the Delmarva is my main priority. I have been a farrier and horseman for over 30 years. As a result I have accumulated a great deal of knowledge. I see my role in the DFA as that of educator. Knowledge is of no use if not shared.

My second priority is to assist in the establishment of a cohesive farrier community from which we can all benefit. The sharing of knowledge, experience, and assistance to others is vital to a

Matt Taimuty, CJF, continued

healthy community.

My Third priority is the improvement in the education level of Delmarva horse owners. Knowledgeable owners make better customers and keep healthier horses.

For my efforts in these matters I hope to get in return, some new friends and the satisfaction of reaching all the goals of the DFA.

**Member Benefits**

As a member of the DFA you will receive a membership card which is valued at the cost of your membership fee \$50.00. That right, your membership is **FREE**. You have one year to use that fifty-dollar coupon at any DFA function. If you do not use that \$50.00 dollar coupon/membership card within 1/one year it becomes null and void. In addition to the \$50.00 you will receive this newsletter 3 times a year keeping you up to date on all DFA news and upcoming events around the Delmarva. Come to learn, meet fellow professionals, and have fun. Join today!

**Nominations For Vice President & Secretary**

Pat Kearns - Vice President

David Crockett - Secretary

Elections to be held at annual DFA meeting

**Classified**

Free Classifieds for members

**Wanted**

DFA members  
Your Ad Here  
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**EVENTS**

APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>

**RUSTY TOOL CLINIC**  
Mint Vale Forge Cambridge, MD  
8:00 AM Shoe Making demonstrations, blacksmithing, swap and sell your tools and supplies with other farriers. For more info contact Dave Ferguson 410-221-0220

MAY 8<sup>TH</sup>

**AFA CERTIFICATION**  
Mint Vale Forge contact Dave Ferguson 410-221-0220

MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

**DICK BECKER CLINIC**  
Mint Vale Forge contact Dave Ferguson 410-221-0220

MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> 16<sup>TH</sup>

**BLACKSMITH DAYS**  
Carroll County Fairgrounds  
Contact 410-922-1246

JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>

**DFA ANNUAL MEETING**  
Federalsburg, MD contact Keith Ferrins 420-754-9252

JULY 19<sup>TH</sup> 25<sup>TH</sup>

**DELAWARE STATE FAIR**  
DFA Booth & Demonstrations  
Contact Kevin Gibbins 410-461-6969

OCT 16<sup>TH</sup> 17<sup>TH</sup>

**MINT VALE FORGE**  
2<sup>ND</sup> Annual Fall Clinic & Pig Roast Contact Dave Ferguson 410-221-0220

DEC ?

**DFA CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
TIME & LOCATION TBA

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE \_\_\_\_\_ SUSTAINING \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

REGULAR MEMBER FEE: \$50.00  
ASSOCIATE MEMBER FEE: \$25.00  
SUSTAINING MEMBER FEE: DONATIONS

MAILTO: DFA  
544 PROCTORS PURCHASE ROAD  
HARTLY, DE 19953



Delmarva Farriers Association  
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Cambridge, MD 21613

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