

1-Santel Farms in Fort Wayne, Indiana, was the host of the March 22 Horse & Rider Wellness Seminar. The seminar was eligible for USDF University credit. Photo by Allen MacMillan

2-Volunteers Dee Kochensparger and Kim MacMillan helped welcome everyone at the registration desk where the participants received a welcome packet with several goodies including a copy of Jochen Schleese's DVD "Beyond the Nine Points of Saddle Fitting". A big thank you to Sauder Feeds for the welcome packets and Cavalor Feeds for the feed samples. Photo by Allen MacMillan

3-Denise Davis and her daughter Lilli Woods and Tracy Boros, Cavalor Feed representatives, manned a booth for Cavalor Feeds. The company generously donated a bucket of Cavalor products as a door prize and also gave out feed samples for everyone attending the seminar. Photo by Allen MacMillan

4-Denise Davis and Tracy Boros of Cavalor speak with seminar attendee Cindy Iacovacci during a break in the seminar. Photo by Allen MacMillan

5-Jochen Schleese, German Master Saddler and founder of SaddleFit4Life and Schleese Saddlery, gave a lecture and demonstration on the importance of fitting the saddle to benefit the horse and rider. Saddle fitting can be a major cause of discomfort and even lameness in horses. Photo by Allen MacMillan

6-Jochen Schleese addressed the seminar crowd during his presentation about the finer points of fitting a saddle for the comfort of horse and rider. Photo by Allen MacMillan

7-Luanne Reaume, Midwest SaddleFit4Life representative, and Jochen Schleese at the Schleese Saddlery booth – Schleese Saddlery generously donated a bridle and a signed book as door prizes. Photo by Allen MacMillan

8-A saddle fitting tool for measuring the spine and back of the horse and models of the pelvis bones of a man and a woman helped illustrate the importance of designing saddles differently for each horse and rider. Photo by Allen MacMillan

9-Jochen Schleese measuring Diana DuPont's 25-year-old Thoroughbred gelding Blackie as part of the saddle fitting demonstration. Photo by Allen MacMillan

10-Luanne Reaume and Jochen Schleese from SaddleFit4Life demonstrate saddle fitting using a white marker on Santel Farms' school horse Lexi. Photo by Allen MacMillan

11-Jochen Schleese, assisted by Purdue University professor Dr. Mark Russell, fits a saddle tree to Lexi. Photo by Allen MacMillan

12-Lexi (held by Dr. Mark Russell from Purdue University) rests as Jochen demonstrates what happens when a horse moves forward. Photo by Allen MacMillan

13-Everyone enjoyed a soup and sandwich luncheon in the heated Santel Farms' lounge. The weather was chilly so the hot soup hit the spot! Thank you to the luncheon sponsors and the volunteers who served it! Photo by Allen MacMillan

14-Tom Elwood, co-owner of Santel Farms, rarely sat still with all of the preparation required to host the seminar. Thank you Tom! Photo by Allen MacMillan

15-Sandy Elwood mounted on Diana Vandeman's Andalusian gelding Mateo demonstrated what happens if the bit is positioned too high or too low in the horse's mouth as part of Dr. Jane Manfredi's (in the foreground) presentation on bit and bridle fitting. Photo by Allen MacMillan

16-Diana Vandeman (black coat in foreground left) who owns the bay Andalusian gelding Mateo (center) talks with Mateo's rider Sandy Elwood and Dr. Jane Manfredi (in green headband on right) about fitting Mateo's bridle and bit. Photo by Allen MacMillan

17-Dr. Jane Manfredi of Michigan State University's School of Veterinary Medicine, demonstrates bridle and bit fitting using Diana Vandeman's Andalusian gelding Mateo. Dr. Manfredi emphasized that "a happy horse has a happy mouth." She used a number of props to illustrate her lecture including photos, a number of bits and bridles, and a horse skull. Photo by Allen MacMillan

18- Diana Vandeman's Andalusian gelding Mateo listens intently to Dr. Jane Manfredi as she demonstrates the importance of the correct position of the bit in the horse's mouth. Photo by Allen MacMillan

19-Seminar attendees were invited to examine the horse skull that Dr. Manfredi brought as part of her bridle and bit fitting lecture. Photo by Allen MacMillan

20-Rebecca Phend, a certified massage therapist for equines, canines and humans and former professor of massage therapy at Ivy Tech University, gave a very interesting lecture on "What Massage Therapy Can and Cannot Do For Your Horse". Her talk emphasized how massage therapy fits into an overall wellness program for your horse which includes proper veterinary care, correctly fitting tack, positive training methods and adequate conditioning. Photo by Allen MacMillan

21-Santel Farms' school horse Lexi (held by Sandy Elwood, co-owner of Santel Farms) looks happy as Rebecca Phend demonstrates massage therapy. Photo by Allen MacMillan

22-Cindy Pyscher of Pulse Magnetics in Michigan spoke the crowd about pulse electro-magnetic therapy (PEMF) with Allen MacMillan as her first patient and then invited anyone who wanted to try the therapy to sit for short session. Photo by Kim MacMillan

23-Cindy Pyscher demonstrates pulse electro-magnetic therapy (PEMF) on Allen MacMillan. PEMF heals at the cellular level and the physics of this treatment are similar to those of the diagnostic tool magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). PEMF has been used in veterinary and human medicine to stimulate healing of bone fractures, to treat arthritis and inflammation, and to reduce pain and edema of soft tissue injuries. Photo by Kim MacMillan

24-Sandy Elwood (foreground left), Dr. Mark Russell (background left), Luanne Reaume (background center) and Kim MacMillan (foreground right) listen to Jochen Schlee (in grey coat) talk about saddle fitting as it relates to the overall wellbeing of the horse and rider. Photo by Allen MacMillan

25-Dr. Mark Russell, Indiana Cooperative Extension Horse Management Specialist and professor in the Animal Sciences Department at Purdue University (foreground left) and Dr. Philip Mshelia, a veterinarian from Nigeria, Africa, (foreground right) speak with Dr. Jane Manfredi from Michigan State University (center background). Photo by Allen MacMillan

26-German Master Saddler Jochen Schleese signs his book *Suffering in Silence* for Donna Nation from Columbia City, Indiana, (red jacket in foreground) as Luanne Reaume, Midwest representative for SaddleFit4Life looks on. Photo by Allen MacMillan

27-Pictured at the Santel Farms' Horse and Rider Wellness Seminar on March 22, left to right: Dr. Mark Russell, Purdue University; Jochen Schleese, SaddleFit4Life Founder; Sandy Elwood, co-owner of Santel Farms, and Dr. Philip Mshelia, a veterinarian from Nigeria, Africa.

28- Santel Farms and Salida del Sol Farm also hosted saddle fitting appointments on Sunday, March 23, left to right: Sandy Elwood, co-owner of Santel Farms; Jochen Schleese, founder of SaddleFit4Life and Schleese Saddlery; Allen MacMillan, moderator of the seminar; Kim MacMillan, PR coordinator for the seminar, and Luanne Reaume, Midwest representative for SaddleFit4Life and Schleese Saddlery. Photo by Diana DuPont