



Duke Thorson

**Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Horsemen's Leadership Council
Performance Show Horse Association Board of Directors
Walking Horse Owners Association Board of Directors**



Duke Thorson is an entrepreneur with multiple businesses, several of which serve the equine industry. His involvement with Tennessee Walking Horses began when his daughter, Allison, started showing the breed at the age of 8. As the family's interest took root, Thorson established a horse farm in Ohio and several years later, another in Tennessee

Over the past 13 years, the family has been through the inspection process outlined in the Horse Protection Act (HPA) more than 2,000 times. Thorson serves on the Horsemen's Leadership Council of the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration (TWHNC) and on the boards of the Performance Show Horse Association (PSHA) and the Walking Horse Owners Association

(WHOA).

The TWHNC Horsemen's Leadership Council, with the organization's Veterinary Advisory Committee (VAC), is pursuing certification of an independent Horse Inspection Organization that would utilize objective, science-based protocols to ensure the welfare of the Tennessee Walking Horse with a predictable pre-show inspection. The PSHA exists to stabilize competition in the show ring by ensuring uniform and fair standards of competition, while keeping the welfare of the horse at the forefront. The organization has spearheaded legislation that presents a positive solution to Tennessee Walking Horse pre-show inspections that promotes the welfare of the horse and ensures fairness in the show ring. WHOA officers and directors stay abreast of industry issues and represent the interests of its members at the American Horse Council in Washington, D.C., and throughout the United States.