

BACH Year-End Celebration and Seminar: January 11, 2025



The weather had been very much on the cold side the days previous to our celebration but good luck intervened and things warmed up and the sun came out in time for our seminar with Jennifer Skinner at Marcetta and Don Darensbourg's lovely home and covered arena.

Jennifer Skinner is a well-respected trainer and particularly known for her ability with young horses and "problem" horses. Although she has long worked with the Western disciplines like barrel racing, she has crossed over into dressage and Eventing more recently.



A horse is a horse however, no matter what saddle you put on him and there are ways in which we can communicate with our equine partners that can help them adapt to our world and keep them (and

us) safe and calm. And that was our subject for the afternoon. Jennifer discussed how “ground work” can help with teaching horses about our expectations when we are handling them from the ground (which is most of the time) and how it can translate into some of the movements required of the horse while being ridden.

I am a fan of ground work after seeing the effect that it had on my own horse. Things like leading, feeding time and loading into the trailer are under control. My goal is for my grandchildren to take over this horse and we need the safest possible behavior for young horsemen.

After Jennifer’s seminar, we repaired to the house where we cheered on our fellow BACH members with year-end awards. Below left our Awards Chairman Sandy Venneman gives the Intro Championship to Jo Taylor and on the right to Shawna Fletcher.



All the award winners (l to r) Kelly for Jenny Stadler BACH Challenge Champion at Intro, Jinny Johnson for 1st level. Aynsleigh Fettig at Third Level, Sandy Venneman at 2nd and 3rd Level. Shawna Fletcher at Training and Intro, Cynthia Werner at 2nd Level and Jo Taylor, BACH Challenge at Intro.



This year, 2025 marks the 40th anniversary of the club!

