

Three Heavenly Howertons Hang Their Hats at Honeywood

By Jodi Mondy

While browsing through my 2006 KVHA program I saw an ad for Saddlebred Rescue and went online to check it out. I now live through Saddlebred Rescue and read and participate in its discussion forum several times a day. One day I received a personal message from another “discussion forum junkie.” The message was from Cindy Howerton inviting me to come ride with her at *Honeywood at Grassy Run Farm*. Days later I visited *Honeywood* to get to know my fellow “SBR junkie” and her family.

My name is Cindy Howerton and I began riding with Burning Springs Farm at age ten. During high school I took a break, which turned out to be a quarter-century! My daughters showed interest in riding, spurred on by their friend, who rides with Laura (Schuda). So they began taking lessons in 2004.

We leased on of Laura’s school horses for a few months and then JD came back to Laura. She had sold JD (then called John Deer) to her neighbor but he kept jumping the fence, so they decided to sell him. He had never been shown, only trail ridden but he was enormously smart, kind and sweet. He loved all the food and attention he got at Honeywood. We purchased JD and decided to show him in academy in the 2006 show season at Winfield. He did very well for himself. JD (now known as Justified Decision) received five 1sts, four 2nds, one 3rd, one 4th and won a championship! We then sold him to Katherine, an eight year old academy rider as her first horse.

Now that the girls were no longer going to be showing in Academy we needed a registered Saddlebred so we purchased four-year old Party Princess (barn name Lexie) at Tattersalls in summer 2006. She too, was never shown before we got her. Her first time in the show ring, again at Winfield, and my first time out of academy, we took home a third place win! We felt that she would be better suited for the girls as she is generally quiet, steady and consistent. So “Lexie” will be proudly be shown by the twins in 2007.

I then bought myself more of a challenge in the five – year old black pleasure mare, Winter Spirit. We are starting to understand each other much better now and we’re both looking for the weather to warm up!



Cindy's new horse, Winter Spirit

Hi, I'm Elizabeth Howerton and I'm eleven years old. This August will be my third of riding. I got involved with horses through my mom. My mom and Laura (Schuda) grew up riding together.

2006 was my first year of showing (in academy). I showed Justified Decision (JD) in the Academy W/T Equitation 9-10 division.



Elizabeth & Justified Decision at KVHA

My favorite breed is the beautiful American Saddlebred and my favorite ASB is "Lexie" whose registered name is Party Princess. "Lexie" belongs to my twin sister and I and this year I will be showing her in 11-13 Walk/Trot Performance. My goal is to do well and have fun.

When I'm not at the barn I play tennis and swim. My favorite music is hip-hop and my favorite artist is Akon.

Hi, my name is Kathryn and I will also be showing "Lexie" this year in Juvenile Walk/Trot. My goal is to

have a blue ribbon ride and to have fun. Even though I got first place my first time out in Academy, my favorite moment was when I had my first lesson. After that one ride I was hooked!



Kathryn & Justified Decision at KVHA

My favorite breed is the American Saddlebred and my favorite horse was my first horse JD.

When I'm not spending time at the barn I can be found on the soccer field or playing video games. Like my twin sister, Elizabeth, I also like hip-hop and the color blue.



KVHA Year-End Banquet Awards

Elizabeth pictured on the left tied 2nd in Academy W/T Performance 10 & Under. Kathryn pictured on the right takes the win in Academy W/T 10 & Under Equitation.

Both girls would like to recognize and thank Laura Schuda and Lisa Boner.