

AMERICAN FARRIERS EDUCATION COUNCIL

RESOLUTIONS

Recent statements and documents released by the American Farrier's Association's special task force, officers, employees and/or publications demand a response and rebuttal. The American Farriers Education Council (AFEC) speaks in defense of our former students, who comprise a large segment of the current American farrier work force, and in defense of our schools and independent education system. AFEC meetings and decisions will not be cloaked in secrecy and minutes will not be redacted.

BE IT SO RESOLVED:

1. The American Farrier's Association (AFA) Farrier Education/Registration Task Force has defamed American farriers and farrier educators by calling the former "incompetent hacks" and the latter "diploma mills".
2. American farriers are the best in the world and that US farrier schools are rightfully well-attended by individuals from around the world who wish to be trained to be farriers in the American independent education system.
3. The AFA's Executive Committee Discussion Guide, published April 26, 2004, and unanimously approved by the AFA Executive Committee, has no facts to verify many of its statements about farrier education, which have been widely circulated in publications and on the Internet.
4. Farrier standards in the United States have improved steadily in the past 30 years and that, without interference by outside agencies, these standards will continue to improve.
5. The AFA is not qualified to survey or evaluate U.S. farrier schools.
6. Farrier schools are the principle educators of American farriers.
7. The quality of farrier education is not correlated directly to the length of time a student spends in training. Rather, the quality of farrier education is directly related to the dedication level of each student.
8. Farriers are respected professional team players who help keep horses healthy and sound.
9. Private farrier school educators are dedicated to providing quality instruction of students and quality care to customers' horses.
10. The majority of farriers in the US are graduates of private farrier schools.
11. The quality of American farrier work as a whole is equal to or superior to work done in countries with government regulation, such as the United Kingdom and Germany.
12. Currently, prospective farrier students enjoy the freedom of choice and accept the responsibility of making informed decisions about their education and career planning.

-August 20, 2005, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma