

William Shatner's new book features Kentucky horses

The first time I was introduced to an American Saddlebred was also the night I interviewed award-winning actor, musician and producer William Shatner.

The meeting took place in a small horse stall on a warm summer evening at Rock Creek Riding Stables.

That night, 20 years ago, the Rock Creek Horse Show was in full swing. Trees surrounding the stables sparkled with tiny white lights, kids devoured mounds of cotton candy and skilled riders, like Shatner,

Kirby Adams
The Buzz



maneuvered their precious four-legged companion through the competition ring.

Shatner — who keeps championship horses on his Woodford County farm and competes regularly in the Bluegrass — wanted only to talk about horses that evening. He

was in competition mode. Hollywood, movies and television roles were far from his mind.

Our interview was short, 10 minutes — tops. The actor best known for “Star Trek” and “Boston Legal” spoke with me briefly about his love of horses and the effect they have had on his life.

He goes into more in depth on the topic in his new book, “Spirit of the Horse: A Celebration in Fact and Fable” (\$26.99, with Jeff Rovin from Thomas Dunne Books).

On passage reads: “Horses are Olympic athletes. It’s up to the rider to try and govern that power, that elegance, that perfection, that will. Failing that, failing to merge with and control that power, you’re just a passenger. And a very vulnerable one at that.”

Sprinkled throughout the book, Shatner describes riding in Louisville and other horse shows around the state as well as around the country. He writes about the connection between humans and horses and the power, courage, mind-

fulness and healing that they can inspire.

The Rock Creek Horse Show where I met Shatner runs five consecutive evenings, now through Saturday, June 10 at the historic Rock Creek Riding Club adjacent to Seneca Park off Cannons Lane.

A special “Family Night” Thursday features free admission and unique opportunities to learn more about Kentucky’s native breed, including a goody bag and a chance to

See BUZZ, Page 3D

Buzz

Continued from Page 1D

meet, greet and pet an American Saddlebred horse.

The Rock Creek Show is one of the first major competitions in the 2017 Show Season and will feature horses and exhibitors from all over the United States. Many of whom (including Shatner) will return to Louisville in August to compete at the Kentucky State Fair which is the World’s Championship for the breed.

For more information about the Rock Creek Horse Show, visit rockcreekhorseshow.com.



WIREIMAGE

Actor William Shatner's new book features Kentucky horses.