

For Horse People • About Horse People

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Sidelines

April 2013
"Celebrating Our 25th Year!"



David Marcus Shares His Story

A Special Look at The
Carolinas & Georgia

TV Star
John Walsh

*David Marcus and
Chrevi's Capital*





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On the Cover: Canadian Olympic Dressage rider David Marcus shows off his Olympic partner, Chrevi's Capital, owned by Deborah Kinzinger, at Stillpoint Farm in Wellington, Florida.

Photo by SusanJStickle.com

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Letter from the Editor

Last month we featured American Olympic show jumper Reed Kessler and her Olympic mare Cylana on the cover of *Sidelines*. This month we decided it was time for the men to have a turn and Canadian Olympic dressage rider David Marcus and his Olympic mount Chrevi's Capital make for a stunning – and handsome – cover. I had the opportunity to meet David in Wellington, Florida when we were doing the photo shoot for the cover. He is a really great guy and I know you will be touched by his story in this issue.

We did David's photo shoot at Tuny Page's Stillpoint Farm and the farm was buzzing that morning with horses, riders, grooms and dogs. In the midst of the hubbub, our goal was to get a great shot of David smiling and Chrevi's Capital with his ears forward.

I assumed photographer Sue Stickle would have me do the usual assistant job – stand where the horse could see me, jump up and down, drop leaves and hay on the ground, jingle my keys, whatever it would take to get the horse's ears up. Horse people know what I'm talking about – and you've been there and done it, too!

Sue, however, is savvier than that. She has an app on her phone of a horse neighing and as she started the photography session she clicked the app and an imaginary horse began to neigh. That was all it took to get Chrevi's Capital to prick his ears forward. Thanks to technology, we've come a long way baby. Of course the neighing app might make the assistant-to-the-photographer job obsolete – so I won't quite my day job.

Following the photo shoot, David rode his other horse, Don Kontes, in the indoor ring at Stillpoint, where I counted multiple Olympians schooling their horses. I could have reached out and touched a piece of Olympic history as the horses and riders went by and the awesomeness of the moment was not lost on me.



Wellington certainly is a hot spot in the winter – and you can read more about my Wellington adventures in this issue. Check out my travel story "Discovering Paradise" and also read "The Bottom Line" on the last page of the magazine.

We have a great story by Lauren R. Giannini in this issue on Tim Gannon, the co-founder of Outback Steakhouse and the creator of the Bloomin Onion recipe. Tim is a polo player with a passion for the game. He formed the Outback Polo team and led them to five U.S. Championships. While I like polo, I especially like the Bloomin Onion, so I want to thank Tim for enriching my dining experiences over the years.

At the beginning of the winter show circuit, *Sidelines* partnered with the FTI Consulting Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) to offer an Exclusive Showing Vacation contest in which someone would win a chance to show at WEF, all expenses paid. As you can imagine, it was an extremely competitive contest and I want to thank each person who entered.

Each rider had to submit an essay and a riding video and after watching all of them there was one rider who stood out above the others. Jack Lube, 14, of Orlando, Florida, rode away with the grand prize. You will be able to follow Jack's adventures at WEF in a future issue; but suffice it to say he is a worthy winner.

I am pleased with how many people have joined me on this adventure as we take *Sidelines* to new places in 2013. Our slogan is "Catch the Sidelines Spirit" and there is still time to catch the spirit by ordering a one-year subscription for only \$13. It's our Lucky 2013 deal. Visit our website, www.sidelinesnews.com and look for the special subscription offer on our home page.

Here's hoping you Catch the Sidelines Spirit.

Jan Westmark-Allan
Editor
editor@sidelinesnews.com

Dana's Doodles



Those Girls Just Want to Have Fun!

PERFORMANCE FARMS TEAM

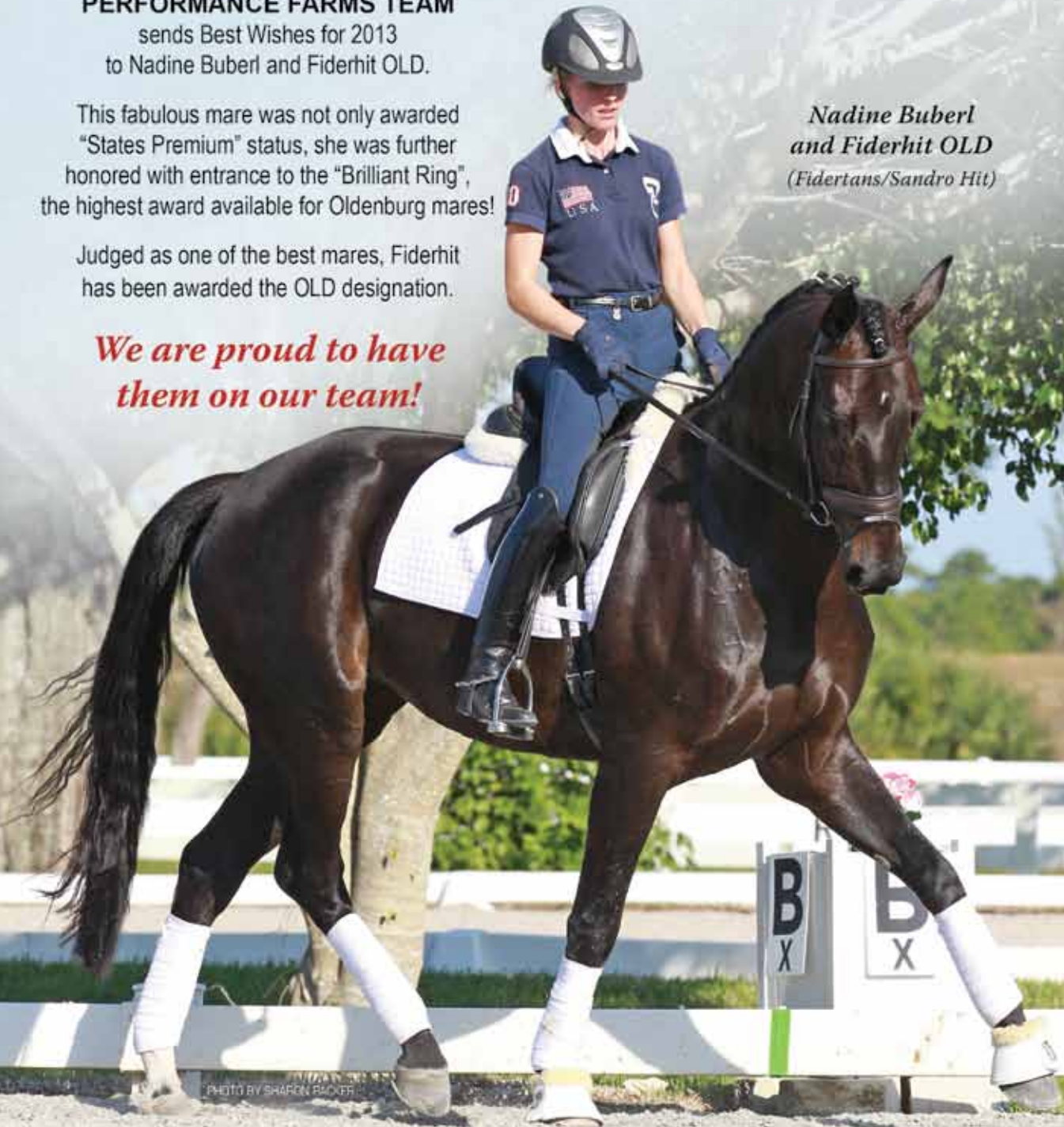
sends Best Wishes for 2013
to Nadine Buberl and Fiderhit OLD.

This fabulous mare was not only awarded "States Premium" status, she was further honored with entrance to the "Brilliant Ring", the highest award available for Oldenburg mares!

Judged as one of the best mares, Fiderhit has been awarded the OLD designation.

*We are proud to have
them on our team!*

*Nadine Buberl
and Fiderhit OLD
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Photo by Maria Guzman

Paula Matute riding Legacy's Conquistador Del Sol

Legacy's Conquistador Del Sol

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- Homozygous – Black
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Ridden & Competed by Paula Matute



Photo by Maria Guzman

Juan Matute Jr. riding Ambicioso

Ambicioso

- 2005 16.1 P.R.E. Gelding
- Recently Imported from Spain

Ridden & Competed by Paula Matute



Photo Bob Langrish, MBE

Claudio Oliveira riding Legacy's Adrian

Legacy's Adrian

- Danish Warmblood Gelding

Ridden & Competed by Debi Berger

Photo Bob Langrish, MBE



Ken and Debi Berger of Legacy Farms of Jupiter wish to extend Best Wishes and Good Luck to everyone for 2013 and remember to...

Enjoy the ride!



Ambicioso

Photo by Bob Langrish MBE



*Juan Matute – Trainer
Wellington, Florida
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WELLINGTON, FL



GRAND PRIX VILLAGE

Located just steps from the horse show yet completely private, this stunning 9+ acre equestrian property features a beautiful 15 stall barn with all the amenities one could ask for. A 1 bedroom manager's apartment, 2 staff apartments and owner's lounge with full kitchen and porch are also included. The seven paddocks as well as grass and sand rings complete this horse lover's paradise.

OFFERED AT \$17,900,000



PALM BEACH POINT

Conveniently located, this gorgeous equestrian estate is just a short hack to WEF with direct bridle path access through a private gate! The beautiful new 18-stall barn features staff quarters, large tack room, owner's lounge, an all-weather ring with bank, and 7 turn-out paddocks in various sizes. The brand-new 2 bedroom, 1 bath manager's home boasts impact glass while the stunning 5 bedroom, 6.5 bath main home features extensive upgrades and a large pool area with outdoor kitchen. A dream property for the serious horseman!

OFFERED AT \$7,200,000



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KENSINGTON ESTATES

Located in one of the most prestigious neighborhoods in Palm Beach Polo. This 3 bedroom, 4.5 bath home features a 2 bedroom guest cottage. The master suite, complete with his and her baths, a private library and screened-in porch with great views make this home a truly relaxing retreat.

OFFERED AT \$3,995,000



PALM BEACH POLO

With grand lake and golf course views, this well-situated home features 5 bedrooms and 6 full baths. The large pool area with outdoor kitchen is perfect for entertaining. Professionally designed, this home is very chic and suitable for the most sophisticated buyer.

OFFERED AT \$3,500,000



EQUESTRIAN CLUB ESTATES

Steps from WEF in a highly sought-after location, this 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath courtyard home with lake views features coffered ceilings, abundant windows and a magnificent pool and patio area. The additional guest cottage is complete with its own kitchenette.

OFFERED AT \$2,450,000



PALM BEACH POINT EAST

Come build your dream equestrian facility on this well-located 5 acre lot. With a great price and situated within easy hacking distance to WEF, this property is ideal for any equine enthusiast. Sellers have feasibility and engineering study and will share all information with serious interested parties.

OFFERED AT \$1,350,000

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52ND PLACE SOUTH

Beautifully built and exceptionally maintained, this scenic 10 acre farm with 24 stalls is one of the finest equestrian properties in Wellington. Brick floors and tongue and groove ceilings make the main barn a true showplace. The home features the finest of materials and is magnificently tasteful.

REDUCED TO \$7,900,000



SOUTHFIELDS

Professional horse farm on 5+ acres features 2 barns totaling 39 stalls, two 2 bedroom apartments, and numerous staff quarters. A large ring with excellent all-weather footing plus a second ring for lunging lead the way to beautiful paddocks and an exercise track. Great location, close to the show grounds.

REDUCED TO \$3,995,000



PALM BEACH POINT

Hack to the show grounds! Situated on 10+ acres in Palm Beach Point, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home overlooks the high and dry grand prix field with superb footing. The 10 stall center aisle barn with tack room, laundry room and staff apartment has views of the 8 paddocks.

REDUCED TO \$2,900,000



PALM BEACH POINT

Contemporary home nestled in a charming and peaceful setting with mature landscape. Four bedrooms and 4 full baths, all updated. Private screened-in entertainment area and large pool. Eight stall barn with beautifully appointed guest apartment. All-weather arena and scenic pond complete this lovely package.

REDUCED TO \$2,290,000



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Stunning Properties in Palm Beach Polo!



MIZNER

This lovely 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath estate home features a gourmet kitchen with gas cooking, a large center island, and Saturnia marble floors throughout the living areas. Tall ceilings and large windows offer a beautiful view of the heated salt water pool and lake.

OFFERED AT \$2,150,000



BROOKSIDE

Located in the Palm Beach Polo Club, this home sits on a double lot with incredible views. Enjoy the jacuzzi and lagoon pool. The main house features 6 bedrooms and 5.5 baths with wood and custom terra cotta floors throughout. The guest cottage features 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths.

OFFERED AT \$1,890,000



OAK TREE VILLAS

This Oak Tree Villa is roomy and comfortable with 3 bedrooms and 3 full baths. The large porch with new terra cotta tile overlooks the golf course and can be easily accessed from nearly any room in the house. Professionally decorated, this home is available fully furnished.

OFFERED AT \$525,000



MUIRFIELD TOWNHOME

Professionally decorated, this 2 bedroom, 2 bath home features a bonus bedroom with luxurious bath located across the courtyard. Updates include new floors, counters, baths and appliances. The outdoor area features a fridge, wine cooler and gas grill along with spectacular sunset and water views.

REDUCED TO \$525,000



SHADY OAKS

New to the market! This 3 bedroom, 3 full bath home is located within the Palm Beach Polo & Country Club. Upgraded cabinets and beautiful paint colors add to the warm ambiance of this property, which also features a large screened porch and magnificent water views.

REDUCED TO \$495,000



SHADY OAKS

This 3 bedroom, 3 bath home located in a desirable Polo Club neighborhood also features a beautiful guest cottage. Enjoy outdoor living with stunning sunsets and scenic views of the golf course from the fully fenced backyard. Bring your suitcase - this home has everything!

REDUCED TO \$475,000

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Susanne H., New Jersey

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K-9 COMPANIONS

ALL BREEDS COAT ENHANCER

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PALM BEACH POINT

4 BR, 3 BA home on 5 acres features fireplace, 3 car garage, and pool with spa. Barn has 6 stalls, A/C tack room, feed room, laundry room, and a 1/1 grooms apartment. Located in gated equestrian community with an easy hack to the show grounds.
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Offered at: \$1,499,000.



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Enter the automatic entry gate into the lushly landscaped 5 acre property with 3 BR home, detached 1 bedroom guest cottage, and detached garage/workshop. Property features 4 stalls, & large grassy paddocks- reasonably priced at \$795,000 - Contiguous 5 acres also available for a total of 10 acres at \$1,350,000.



PALM BEACH POINT

This 5.45 acre property features a fully equipped equestrian facility including 5 irrigated paddocks, irrigated sand ring, and grass riding area. The 6,000 square foot custom barn includes 9 stalls, 2 grooming stalls, and office/tack room. The 4 BR, 4 BA house is a spacious 4,383 square feet. Offered at \$4,500,000



PALM BEACH POLO

Exquisitely renovated 4 BR, 4 BA home in the subdivision of Brookside is offered fully furnished with modern yet rustic charm. The spacious 3,972 square feet has an open floor plan to maximize indoor and outdoor living. Outdoor space includes pool, spa, and a summer kitchen.
Offered at \$1,699,000



PALM BEACH POLO

Immaculate 4 BR, 5.5 BA home located on the 18th fairway of the Dunes Golf Course in the subdivision of Brookside. The 3,886 square feet showcase high volume ceilings, stainless steel appliances, a built-in generator, and private pool.
Offered at \$ 949,900



PALM BEACH POINT EAST

5 BR, 5 BA Estate home with 12 stall barn, grass paddocks, and oversized arena located on 5+ acre lot with close proximity to all equestrian venues. Home exhibits marble floors, designer kitchen with granite counters and center chef island, and large screened pool area with spa. Property also offers a 4-car garage and detached garage that could be a converted guest house/ office/ den.
Offered at \$3,799,000.



PALM BEACH POLO

Unique 6 BR, 6 BA home features highest standard of construction, decor, building materials, and artifacts from all over the world. Extremely private 7,344 sq. ft. residence on the Cypress Golf Course, a Pete Dye championship course. Offering a luxurious country club lifestyle with close proximity to all equestrian events.
Offered at \$5,750,000.



POLO CLUB WEST

Exceptional 4 BR, 3.5 BA custom home with private cul-de-sac location. Home exhibits two working wood-burning fireplaces, screened-in patio, and designer pool with lake and golf course views. Offered at \$564,900



PALM BEACH POINT

Stunning 4,800 square foot custom pool home on large 5.68 acre lot in gated community. Interior features marble floors, dramatic office, stone fireplace, superior trim package & gourmet kitchen. Ask agent about barn package. Offered at \$1,799,000.



PALM BEACH POINT

Charming 3 BR, 2 BA home with 2-car garage, den, screened patio, skylights, and vaulted ceilings. Barn has 6 stalls, A/C tack room, fly spray system, W/D hook up, sand ring, and 8 paddocks with PVC fencing. Offered at \$1,749,000



PALM BEACH POLO

Multiple 3 BR, 3 BA residences located in the prime subdivision of Shady Oaks. Luxuries entail gourmet kitchens with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and private pools. Offered at \$549,000



PALM BEACH POLO

Fully furnished 2 BR, 2 BA Wimbledon Patio Lodge renovated to include wood floors throughout, stainless steel appliances, two master bedroom suites, fireplace, and private pool. Offered at \$465,000



WINDING OAK ESTATES

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SUN GLADE ESTATES

4 BR, 2.5 BA home located on 4 +/- acres. Home features large open kitchen with upgraded cabinetry, central vac, hurricane shutters and pool with separate cabana bath. The 8 -stall center aisle barn has tack & feed rooms, sand ring & large paddocks with PVC fencing.
Offered at \$ 1,299,000



PALM BEACH POLO

One of a kind 5 BR, 6 BA courtyard home in Mizner Estates overlooking the Cypress Golf Course and the Cypress Preserve. Showcasing 4,026 square feet with many upgrades and wonderful finishes. Home also includes a pool and spa.
Offered at \$2,600,000



PALM BEACH POINT

Lushly landscaped 4 BR, 3 BA home situated on 5.03 acres with a private cul de sac location. Home features 2 master suites, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, large covered patio, 3 car garage, and pool with spa. Premium location in Palm Beach Point near bridge to show.
Offered at \$1,699,000.



DEER RUN

Beautiful 5 acre farm in a peaceful setting. The European style main house has a large 1 BR suite with a charming sitting area and large closet space. The great room and kitchen share an open floor plan boasting spectacular views of the large paddocks and barn. The equestrian facility is complete with a 5-stall barn with grooms quarters, tack room and feed room.
Offered at \$495,000.



SADDLE TRAIL ON EQUESTRIAN WAY

Grand circular driveway welcomes you to this large 3 BR home with separate 2 BR apartment on this 6.4 acre property. Only a 6-8 minute hack to WEF show grounds. Olympic caliber facility includes 16 stalls expandable to 26 stalls, sand arena, and 5 oversized paddocks. Separate entrance to barn for deliveries and parking.
Offered at \$6,250,000



PALM BEACH POINT

Enter the fenced 5.4 acre property and drive up the dramatic circular driveway past one of the three on-site ponds with fountains and aerators. The 4 BR, 4.5 BA home features a lushly landscaped, private pool. A separate entrance welcomes you to the 4- stall barn which can be expanded to 12 stalls. Residence showcases large paddocks and plenty of room for large arena and additional paddocks. Within hacking distance to show grounds.
Offered at \$3,250,000

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PALM BEACH POINT

Ultimate equestrian estate with private cul-de-sac location. The main house is a 5 BR, 6 BA masterpiece in the final stages of construction. You are able to customize it to your exacting specifications for completion this season! It will be finished and landscaped to Palm Beach standards with state of the art amenities, soaring ceilings, and spectacular architecture. The 11-acre compound boasts a first class equestrian facility designed by renowned equestrian. It includes a magnificent barn with grooms quarters, sub-irrigated ring with top all-weather footing, and 10 oversized paddocks. Property can accommodate a covered arena. The newly remodeled 4 BR, 4 BA guest house with heated pool is ready to be moved into today! Offered at \$9,900,000.

*This impressive home and barn are also available on a 5.5 acre lot without the guest house. Offered at \$6,900,000



PALM BEACH LITTLE RANCHES

A Wellington Classic! This 11.25-acre farm has a covered ring and 3 additional arenas with professional all-weather footing. The estate is complete with 4 barns for a total of 64 stalls and a grooms quarters. This is an excellent investment property because of its size and great location. It's an even better business opportunity... the facility has rented out all its stalls season after season by established, loyal international clientele. Offered at \$1,995,000

PALM BEACH POINT

Gorgeous 4BR, 4BA newly remodeled home is located on 5.44 acres at the end of a cul-de-sac in the exclusive equestrian community. The brand new kitchen is a chef's dream! Tons of granite throughout. An oversized newly screened patio surrounds the heated pool. Has a large carport and 3-car garage. Additional 3-car A/C garage, workroom or guest apartment space. Includes construction of a 12-stall barn. Offered at \$4,900,000



PALM BEACH POLO

Price Reduced: This 4 BR, 4 BA exquisitely renovated home is a sanctuary with its dramatic courtyard and stunning water and golf course views. The 4,100 sq. ft. home includes wood and marble floors, impact glass, spectacular kitchen and A/C three car garage. The property is complete with a beautiful pool, majestic fountains and guest cottage. Offered at \$1,590,000

MALLET HILL

Wellington's most exclusive location. This 4.2 acre farm includes a gorgeous 16-stall show barn with a 4 BR grooms apartment upstairs and a large professional all-weather ring. The completely remodeled, 4 BR and 4.5 BA main home includes a large theater and custom office for a total of 6,373 sq. ft. The home boasts high ceilings, custom kitchen, fireplace, enormous closet space and hardwood flooring. Complete with a heated pool/spa and 1,500 sq. ft. 2 BR guesthouse. Price upon request.



PALM BEACH POINT

With a perfect balance of privacy and proximity to the show grounds, this Tuscan style home is situated on 6.5 acres for great views of the first class equestrian facility. The 4 bedroom, 4 bath home features custom cabinetry, outdoor kitchen, high ceilings, hardwood floors, and walk-in closets. The 12 stall show barn was designed by a top equestrian and features a huge tack room, an apartment, 4 wash stalls, 3 grooming stalls, and separate grain, hay and storage rooms. The stable is complete with 8 large paddocks and an oversized ring. Offered at \$5,490,000.

PALM BEACH POINT

Luxurious living with Georgian Colonial charm, hacking distance to WEF through Grand Prix Village. Construction set to begin on this plantation style 4BR/4BA, 4,875 sq. ft. masterpiece complete with 1 bedroom pool house and top of the line equestrian stable. The outdoor living area is an entertainer's dream, complete with a summer kitchen, fire pit, infinity pool and spa. The 12-stall barn will be finished to an exceedingly high standard and include a full groom's apartment and custom tack room. The 5-acre equestrian facility is complete with an oversized all-weather ring and excessive paddock space. All exquisitely landscaped and fully customizable. Offered at \$6,499,000.



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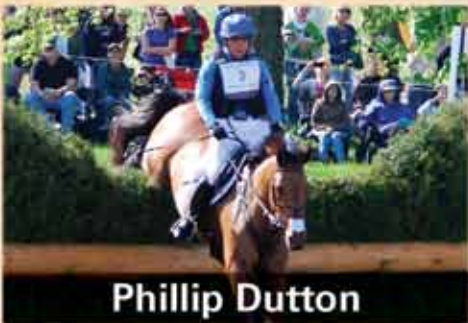


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Molly Ashe Makes A Splash

By Rebecca Walton

Molly Ashe is an accomplished show hunter rider who joined the grand prix tour in the late '90s, with major victories nationally and internationally. After many years with Burr Associates, Molly and her husband Chris Cawley along with Timmy Kees struck out on their own to create Norfield Stables LLC, a full service hunter/jumper facility offering top-notch training at the highest levels of the sport. In 2012, Molly made a big splash on the show circuit, placing second in the \$200,000 Gene Mische American Invitational and the \$250,000 FTI Grand Prix At 37th Hampton Classic with Carissimo. She also was successful with Kennzo, winning the \$50,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby at the Hampton Classic and the \$20,000 Holiday & Horses USHJA International Hunter Derby.

What do you consider the biggest highlight of your career so far?

Kroon Gravin, way back when, was a really big deal. She won a couple of really big grand prix in Europe when she was only eight years old. At the time, I didn't realize what a big deal that was. At Berlin, I was the first American to ever win the grand prix, the first female to ever win it, and it was the 50th anniversary of the show. I was also there by myself, so that was a big one. Then the next show was Maastricht in Holland and Kroon Gravin won the grand prix. She was really on a roll. I didn't show her again until Tampa. She won the grand prix in Tampa, won the Invitational, went to the World Cup Finals and was 8th, came back to the United States and won Devon. Every time she showed in a grand prix she won it. That was a nice continuous highlight.

What is your focus right now, especially with starting a new business at Norfield?

I think things are going well. I had two children and that sort of took me out of the roster, competitively speaking, for a little while, but I feel like I'm back in a position where I can focus on riding and teaching again. I would love to have some more jumpers to ride and show in grand prix again. We've got a nice group of kids and people that we're helping at the moment, so the business side is going well.

What do you think it takes to win both nationally and internationally?

Ability. Talent. But probably even more than that is work ethic. I



Molly Ashe and Carissimo placed second at the 2012 Gene Mische American Invitational presented by G & C Farm.

Photo by Kenneth Kraus



Molly Ashe and Kennzo

Photo by Rebecca Walton/PMG

think you have to really, really want it and be willing to really work hard. The only thing harder than getting there is staying there. I think that is what is starting to go wrong a little bit in our sport these days. It is becoming about who can afford to have the horses, but even when we have them, we can't afford to keep them. We have some great riders in our country at the moment, but there's also probably as many, if not more, great riders sitting on the sidelines.

What does Kennzo have that makes him such a great derby horse?

Scope. He's a really pretty horse. He's an attractive horse. He's not a beautiful mover, but he has a beautiful jump. When you ride him it feels so correct. He's very specific about the jump and he's careful, he doesn't want to touch it. It's what you want a horse to do.

What are the most important lessons you have learned from working with Leslie Howard and Timmy Kees?

I worked for Leslie years ago when she was at Fairfield. As a junior, I mostly did the hunters. I wanted to do the jumpers more than anything, but I never really had the chance. After college, Leslie hired me. I told her that I wanted ride the jumpers, and I knew I had to take a step back from being one of the top hunter riders to make that happen. If I wanted to do the jumpers, I had to become the low man on the totem pole and learn some stuff that I had never learned. Leslie taught me how to put a horse together, as well as using their balance, and how to ride a jumper. I don't think I ever would've gotten to where I did without her helping me.

Timmy was basically everybody's shrink when we were younger. No matter how difficult or frustrating things got, he was always there saying, "You're all right, you can do it, and everything's going to be OK." Obviously he's been a great teacher for many, but he's been a great friend for me. He has this way with the kids. They all feel comfortable, and they all adore him. I think he's invaluable in those situations, because he is your biggest fan. Everybody needs a 'biggest fan' and Timmy is great at that.

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A Rewarding Journey: From Pasture Pet To Dressage Star

By Shari Wolke

I adopted my 1999 dark bay, 16.2 hand Thoroughbred gelding, Lord Kenmer, in the late fall of 2007 from New Vocations Racehorse adoption program, then based in Middleville, Ohio. "Kenny" had raced 33 times over a four-year period (from 2002 to 2006), winning only once. He is the son of the famous stakes winner Lord Avie, and a grandson of Mr. Prospector. Kenny is the spitting image of his daddy Lord Avie, who just recently passed away at the age of 34.

Kenny had been adopted a year prior to when I had adopted him, in the fall of 2006, by a dressage trainer who, according to the folks at New Vocations, sent him back stating that he was unsafe and wouldn't stop bucking. The staff at New Vocations said that with an experienced rider he might be rehabbed but that I should



Shari and Kenny competing at 4th Level at the Waterloo Hunt Club in Grass Lake, Michigan – proving that time and commitment can result in a truly rewarding journey.

All photos courtesy of Shari Wolke, unless noted

understand that if he didn't he would be best as a pasture pet only.

My good friend Colleen Coatsworth went with me to visit New Vocations and said that he was the best suited off the track Thoroughbred we had seen thus far for dressage. Colleen noticed his balanced movement, his kind eye and sensitivity to touch. We both saw that he had a rhythmic, balanced canter, a natural overstride in the walk, and a decent trot. He did, however, buck in the "interview."

The rider at New Vocations made him jump a few crossrails, and his response was to jump the rail and then buck, which was fine with me as I was looking primarily for a dressage horse. At

Continued on page 30



Olympic Dressage rider Jan Ebeling said Kenny should be able to show Prix St. Georges – not bad for a horse once destined to be a pasture pet.



Shari and Kenny show off their 4th Level moves at Dressage at Copper Creek Farm in Williamston, Michigan.

Photo by 3rd Shutter



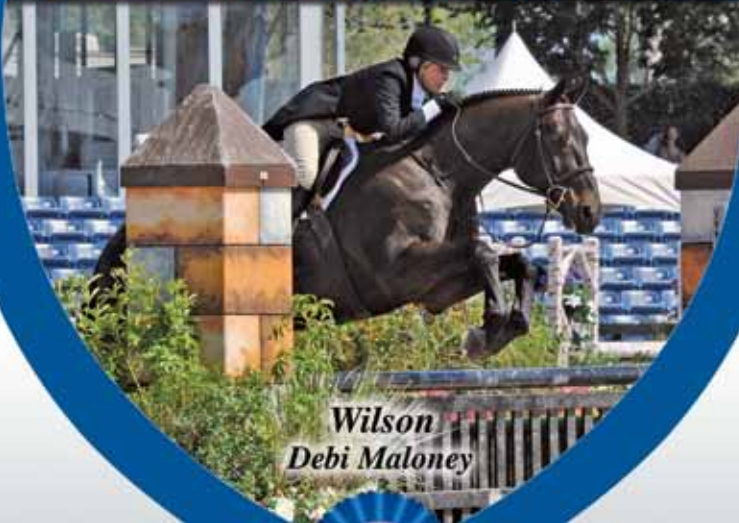
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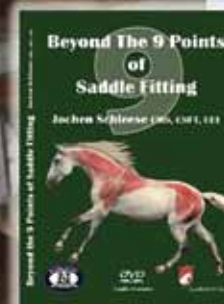
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that time, I was a rider coming from a hunter/jumper background, and I had ridden Training level dressage work for a few years but had never ventured beyond that. I had told Colleen that I would be so happy to find a horse who could take me to Second level.

I took the risk and it turned out to have paid off in a big way. With his teeth done, a full round of ulcer medication, and a good saddle fit, as well as love and consistent training, Kenny turned out to be above and beyond the dressage horse I wanted back in 2007. We began taking lessons with Maryal Barnett, a USEF 'S' dressage judge, not long after Kenny came home. Maryal, looking back on those first lessons now, said that she was at times almost unsure of what to do with us because Kenny was so wild. In 2008, we showed Training Level and Kenny helped me earn my USDF Training Level Rider Award that first summer showing.

In 2008 and 2009, we showed First and Second level, and in 2010, we moved up to Third Level. In that year, Kenny helped me earn my USDF Bronze medal. The following year, in 2011, we showed Fourth Level and won the Rood and Riddle/USEF Thoroughbred in Sport Keen Award for Open Dressage. This award honors Thoroughbred ex-racehorses in dressage and is named for Hilda Gurney's famous Thoroughbred Keen, who was her Olympic horse. This past summer, we won that same award for the second time in a row for showing at Fourth Level and riding our debut rides at Prix St. Georges.

Locally, we also won the Dressage at Waterloo Series Finale Third Level adult amateur Reserve Champion in 2010 and the Series Finale Fourth Level adult amateur Champion in 2011 and



In the ribbons: with his racing (and bucking) days behind him, Kenny has a new job – dressage star.



Shari Wolke and her rescued Thoroughbred Lord Kenner, known as Kenny.

2012. My little Thoroughbred who wouldn't stop bucking also won me the scores to complete the USDF L Judges program, which I graduated from in September of last year. This upcoming summer of 2013, we will once again attempt Prix St. Georges and I have great hopes we will earn the USDF Silver medal.

All of this, of course, didn't come without struggle and difficulty. Many of my friends who have watched us from the beginning remember Kenny's first few years at shows where bucking throughout the test was the norm. Or the Dressage at Waterloo series championship where the crowd applauded our Fourth Level adult amateur champion award and Kenny bucked and bolted. And then there was the test in 2008 where the judge wrote, and I quote, "Maybe your horse needs a different career."

I would encourage anyone interested in an off the track Thoroughbred that these horses aren't horses that you can just ride once a week and have a go at dressage with. They take a lot of work, and there are a lot of failed rides. But the good rides are good. And of course, there is never a dull moment with Kenny.

When we had a clinic with Jan Ebeling (2012 Olympic rider of Rafalca fame) in November of this past year, he said we had things to work on, but they were fixable. Further, Jan said that we should not only be able to show Prix St. Georges in the spring but that if we fixed our issues we should be able to score in the mid-60's. Not too bad for a horse that New Vocations warned might only be a pasture pet forever!

About the writer: Shari Wolke lives in Okemos, Michigan, and is an adjunct instructor at Olivet College in Olivet, Michigan. There she teaches courses in Writing and Rhetoric. She recently graduated from the USDF L Program, and is also a USDF Bronze medalist. She judges and shows throughout Michigan.

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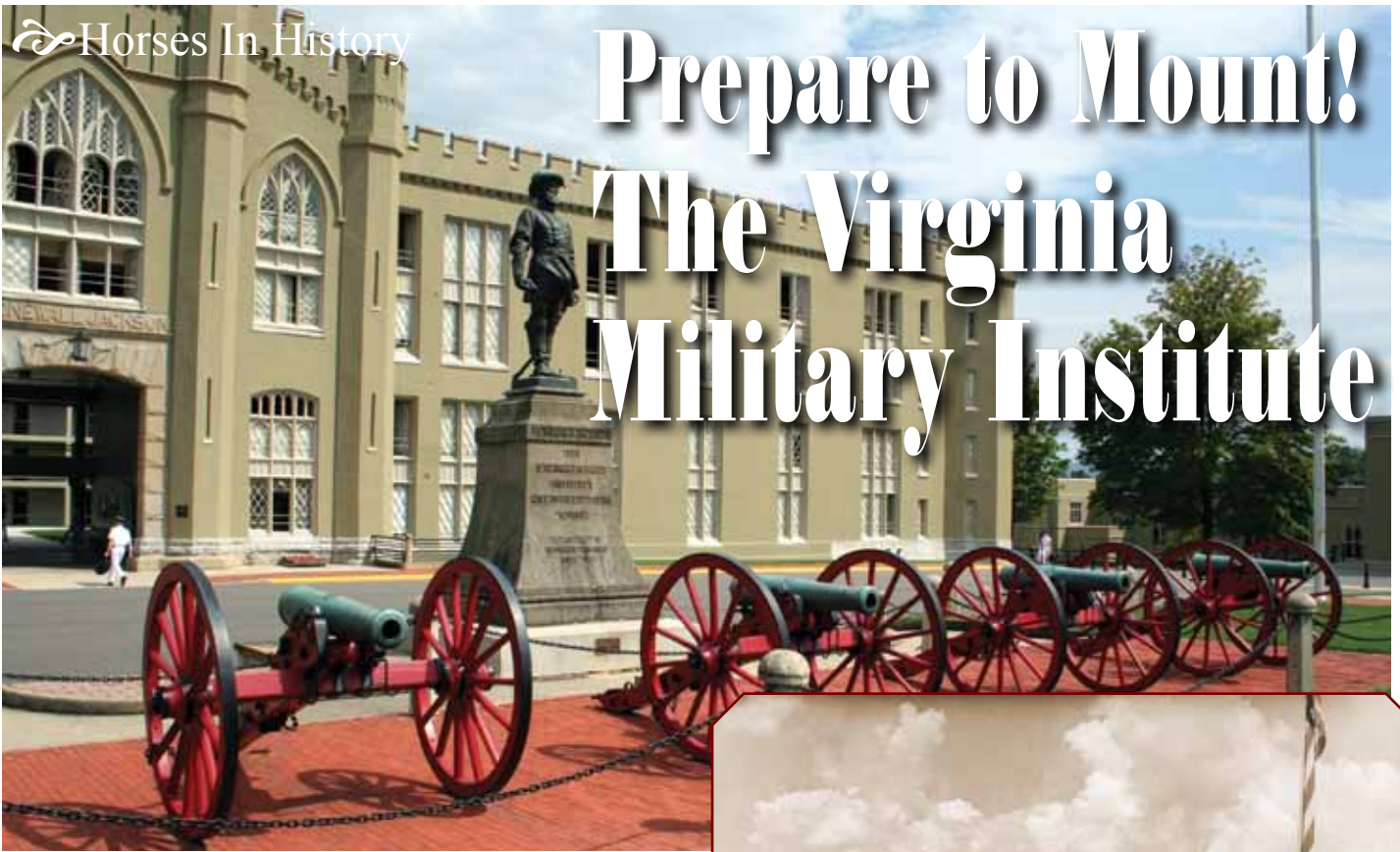
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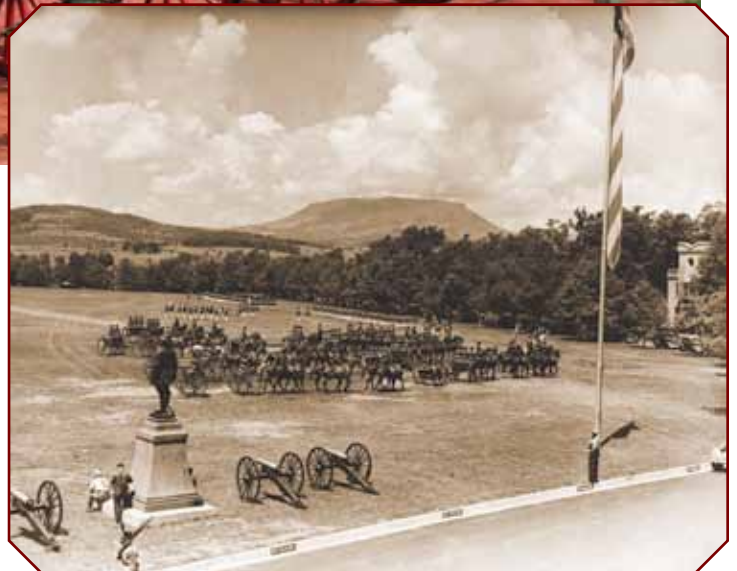
Major Thomas J. Jackson had his students drag these very same four six-pounders around the parade field for horse artillery tactics classes.” They were later used in the Civil War by units including the famous Rockbridge Artillery, whose commander William Pendleton, an Episcopal minister, named them Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. They were restored in 2000 to the original colors, and now stand in front of the revered statue of General Stonewall Jackson and Jackson Arch in cadet barracks.
Photo by Fred McWane

By Fred McWane

The Virginia Military Institute (VMI) is one of the country's oldest equine friendly military colleges and is still putting “hooves on the ground.” This history rich state college nestled in the foothills of the southern Shenandoah Valley has used horses as part of its program since its founding in Lexington, Virginia in 1839. VMI initially struggled to acquire horses for cadet instruction. They were scarce before, during and after the Civil War. Many cadets brought horse experience to the Institute from their farms and when horses became available they made good use of them. Farm experience was also a great advantage during the Mexican War (1846) and the first half of the Civil War (1861-63).

VMI's requirement to train cadets in horse artillery sometimes necessitated innovation – horse artillery without the horse. One VMI horse artillery tactics instructor was Major Thomas J. Jackson - a rather “peculiar” fellow who was a target of the cadets' ridicule and pranks. Major Jackson had horse artillery students push four heavy cannons around the drill field, as the horses would have done.

To support this training, in 1848 the War Department delivered four six-pounders on lighter carriages to VMI, to be known later as Jackson's Battery. But the cadets still struggled to move these lighter pieces from one position to another and cadets being cadets, would find ways to force rest breaks. One trick involved



The 1930's VMI Cadet Corps marches onto the parade ground in the shadow of House Mountain, followed by the horse artillery, with Jackson's statue and a portion of Jackson's Battery in the foreground.

removing linchpins from wheels so they would come off on sharp turns; another, attaching small bells to the cannon which tinkled un-militarily forcing breaks to locate and remove them.

One cadet was particularly offended playing draft horse and refused to march at a specified “gait.” Major Jackson put him on report for not “trotting” properly. The cadet's official response was that he was, “a natural pacer (not a trotter).” Another cadet gained local fame by painting the Superintendent's horse white with red zebra stripes. This clown, Ben Ficklin, class of 1849, was better remembered for later establishing the Pony Express. The “peculiar” instructor became General Lee's best Corps Commander, General “Stonewall” Jackson. Volumes have been written on the accomplishments of VMI grads in wartime cavalry and artillery operations, and on the cadets who left before graduating to finish elsewhere, like Gen. George S. Patton at West Point.

After VMI's ROTC program was upgraded with the assignment

Continued on page 34



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Cadet Thomas E. Williams leading a cavalry charge on the VMI parade ground in 1947.



Cadet rider, Misha Kadick, and his mount show good form as they participate in a horse show on the parade ground in the 1930's, with the cadet barracks in the background.



A well trained 1938 hunt club member, a handsome mount and a "ready" pack of hounds strike a portrait pose as they prepare for the chase.

of army personnel as instructors, the role of the horse was expanded significantly. The National Defense Act of 1916 provided for the introduction of horses to be used in the cavalry and horse artillery classes. On July 7th, 1919, a shipment of 100 horses and 20 veteran troopers from the 13th Cavalry arrived at VMI; two officers were VMI grads, one becoming a member of the Olympic Equestrian Teams of 1928 and 1932.

Starting in 1920 everyone but the Rats (freshmen) had to take equitation classes. Some cadets failed to "appreciate" this requirement. One wrote, *"Prepare to Mount, Prepare to Die. It's all the selfsame thing."* Another wrote, *"The Cavalrymen have had it bad. Some seem to have a whim; That if they cannot ride the horses, Then they will ride the Gim."* (Sick list)

But the program was very successful and as early as graduation 1920, cadets performed mounted gun drills and cavalry exercises on the parade ground. In 1923 they played polo for the first time, followed by cavalry sabre charges and a Garrison Review (parade) sporting horse artillery and cavalry units. Jumping exercises were added in 1926. Hunts clubs soon followed.

Yet some inexperienced cadets still learned the hard way. On one mounted march a cadet left the column and ended up on a ledge overlooking the road. The instructor sternly asked the cadet what he was doing up there, to which he answered, "Sir, you will have to ask this damned horse. Coming up here was his idea, not mine."

After World War II the military role of the horse at VMI took

a real hit when "horsepower" became an automotive term and the cavalry and horse artillery went mechanized. Some cadets continued to use horses for special ceremonies, for polo and jumping competition, hunt clubs and privileged riding even after the ROTC horses were removed and sold. Cadets provided their own mounts. Today the program is sustained by cadets who wish to keep the tradition alive. They continue to compete in sporting events like the Virginia Horse Trials (eventing) last fall.

Just before he led his great flanking movement at Chancellorsville, followed by the accidental wounding that led to his death, General Jackson told another VMI officer, "The Institute will be heard from today." Be assured that VMI's equestrian program will be heard from again.

Black & white photos courtesy of the Virginia Military Institute Archives, with special thanks to Mary Laura Kludy for her exceptional assistance. The primary resource for this article was one great book, "Keydet Grey and Garry Owen: The Horse at VMI", by Edward D Henson, Jr., James M. Morgan, Jr. and James L. Morrison, Jr. These distinguished VMI horsemen compiled a wealth of information, referenced in detail, for any military horsemanship student.

About the writer: Fred McWane is a retired I.T. professional who got his math degree from VMI, served several years in the Army Reserve then went home to Lynchburg, Virginia, got his MBA and retired in 2010. A former marathoner and tennis player/instructor, his primary focus is now photography (local grandkids' sports, horses, nature) and Civil War and Texas history.

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It's shaping up to be quite a year for rider/trainer **Ronan McGuigan**. He and his wife **Lisa** are expecting their first child this summer, he just signed a new sponsorship with EquiFit and his barn has been gathering a nice collection of ribbons at Wellington. Ronan's had success in the saddle with Capall Zidane, including a 1.45m win, plus he's helped some of his amateur riders, like **Blythe Masters** and **Britta Lippert**, turn in ribbon winning performances as well. Congratulations, Ronan and continued good luck!

Cynthia "Tigger" Montague wants to hear from you! Tigger, the founder and formulator of **Biostar EQ** wants to answer your questions in her "Ask the Nutrition Expert" column, now appearing in *Sidelines*. Tigger believes knowledge is to be shared, so send your nutrition questions to kat@biostareq.com. Thanks for sharing your wisdom Tigger.

Congratulations riders – thanks for being role models! The popular helmet awareness campaign **Riders4Helmets** announced the winners of the 2012 **Craig Ferrell M.D Equestrian Safety Awards**. The award recognizes individuals who were exceptional role models for helmet wearing or equestrian safety. Award winners included: **Charlotte Dujardin, Allison Springer, Lucinda Green, Isabell Werth, Reed Kessler, Adelinde Cornelissen, Courtney King-Dye, Jacqueline Brooks, Adrienne Lyle, Kathy Slack, Megan Sparks, Tammy Sronce, Elisa Wallace, Laura Backus, Mary Miller Jordan, Scot Hansen, Meg Wade, Elizabeth Charleston and Jon Pitts.**

Good luck to all the riders hoping to win a **Course Walk with a Grand Prix rider** at the Gulf Coast Winter Classic show in Gulfport, Mississippi. The **Classic Company** and *Sidelines* Magazine have
Continued on page 38



Congratulations to **Emma Schauder**, on SS Wisper, winners of the ASPCA Maclay (Section A) during week six of the FTI Consulting Winter Equestrian Festival. *Sidelines* Magazine is sponsoring the Maclay throughout WEF and the winners during weeks one through six include: **Lauren Tyree, Tori Colvin, Anna Cardelfe, Jack Morgan, Katherine Bundy and Emma.** Each winner receives a beautiful *Sidelines* cooler, made by Horseware Ireland and a bag of Formula 4 Feet Horse Hoof Supplement from Emerald Valley Natural Health.

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It was a record turnout for the final Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) horse show at the Bob Thomas Equestrian

Center at the Florida State Fair Grounds for Zone 4 in Florida. **Emily Nathe** has made the trip three years in a row advancing to the Regional Finals where she will compete against the top in her class from the Florida High School Division. Emily belongs to the **Windward Farms IEA Team** with head trainer **Joy Lambert**, but also trains with **Jan Uiterwyk** at **Oak Manor**, in Dade City, Florida.

Wow! **Fenwick Equestrian** is sponsoring the USHJA National Hunter Derby at the **Camden Winter Classic** in Camden, South Carolina. *Continued on page 40*

The day after Disco queen **Gloria Gaynor** performed at her sold-out concert in Miami, Florida, she headed to Wellington for the Fifth Annual Lip Sync to help raise donations for **Danny & Ron's Rescue**. The Grammy award-winning artist took center stage at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, singing "I Will Survive" to her second sold out crowd of the weekend. The event was a huge success, several dogs were adopted and \$160,000 was raised for Danny & Ron's Rescue, a non-profit dog rescue



based in Wellington and Camden, South Carolina. For more information, please visit www.dannyandronrescue.org. Showing off their disco side: (from left to right) **Dr. Betsee Parker, Danny Robertshaw, Georgina Bloomberg, Kim Kolloff, Ron Danta, Gloria Gaynor, Kim Tudor, Brian Lookabill and Ryan Beckett.**

Photo by Kendall Bierer



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Sidelines Editor **Jan Westmark-Allan** and *Sidelines* TV producer **Rob Jordan** were spotted in Wellington recently – interviewing riders, polo players, trainers and more! The roving camera crew didn't just stick to the show grounds, but headed to **Big Dog Ranch Rescue** to interview President **Laurie Simmons** and to **Pure Thought Horse Rescue** to interview **Jennifer Swanson, Brad Gaver** and **Holly Chaney**. Save a life – adopt a dog or horse.

Get well soon: U.S. Multi Olympian, **Karen O'Connor** is recovering from a serious riding accident that resulted in a broken back which has sidelined her for the spring eventing season. Hunter trainer **Archie Cox** suffered a separated pelvis in a freak accident during the HITS Desert Circuit in Thermal, California, when the horse he was riding tripped and went down on his knees. Get well soon Karen and Archie!



Congratulations to Jack Lube, 14, of Orlando, Florida. Jack won the FTI Consulting Winter Equestrian Festival - *Sidelines* Magazine Exclusive Showing Vacation Contest. He won a three-day weekend showing package to WEF during the 11th week of the circuit.

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Hard Work Pays Off

By Holly Hugo-Vidal

Tina Caldwell, a California native, grew up in San Diego. An accomplished grand prix rider today, she was an event rider through her teen years. When she turned 16, she had her first lesson with the legendary three-time Dressage Olympian Guenter Seidel, who thought her skills were better suited for dressage.

Based on his suggestion, she began to focus solely on dressage. Tina continued to ride with Guenter for three or four years as a student. In addition to training with Guenter, Tina has also trained with Robert Dover, Dietrich von Hopfgarten, Klaus Balkenhol and Ulla Salzgeber.

In the early '90s, Tina, with the help of her non-horsey, but supportive dad, enjoyed success competing in the Young Riders division. In 1993, Guenter accepted a position as head dressage trainer at The Rancho Riding Club in Rancho Santa Fe, California and asked Tina to be his assistant. She had just graduated from UCSD and was considering getting her Master's degree. However with this once in a lifetime opportunity in front of her, she decided to take a year off from school and become his assistant. A good decision; that was 20 years ago and not only has Tina remained at the same location developing her business, Caldwell Dressage, but she has continued her association with Guenter.

The day I spoke with Tina, she had just received the news that she was named Dressage Trainer of the year in the San Diego County Chapter of The California Dressage Society. The award is based on her client's wins as well as clients horses that she showed. Her pride in this award was very evident!

I asked Tina who her most memorable horses were and she recalled an event horse named Somerset Don Juan, a Quarter Horse cross who she won numerous events on including their last one at Flintridge where they won all three phases. Botticelli, her first dressage horse, was another favorite that she and her dad took to shows where she did all the grooming and braiding, as was her upbringing.

While Tina presents a classic, elegant picture on a horse, she is also a competent rider and trainer. She developed Markant, now 19, from a four-year-old into a solid grand prix competitor. One of her most memorable wins was in 2011 at Thermal, when she won the Grand Prix Freestyle with a score of 74%. It was a special moment for Tina, because two years earlier Mark had colicked and the vet had told her to come to the clinic to say goodbye to her old friend.

Tina had reluctantly set out for the barn but when she stepped out of her car, Mark called to her. Although the vet was still talking about putting him down, Tina wanted him to go out looking like a champion so she proceeded to groom him and walk him. After walking him for three hours she said goodbye and sadly left. Later that evening, the vet called and said, "We're feeding him hay; he's taken a turn for the better."

In January of 2010 she brought Mark home only for him to blow out a tendon. The same year her dad passed away. Things weren't going well for Tina, including what looked like another ending for her wonderful horse when the vet told her Mark would never be sound. Going against the vet's recommendation of controlled exercise, Tina wanted the horse to be happy and turned him out! He bucked; he reared; he ran and thoroughly enjoyed himself. As a result of this wild and fun behavior he hobbled out of the pasture every day.

Tina continued to turn him out until her groom, Javier, who



Tina and her grand prix partner Markant.

Photo by Terri Miller



Tina and Fantastico

Photo by Sheri Scott

has been with her for 15 years said, "Tina, he looks sound!" On Father's Day that same year, Tina did a tribute ride to her dad on Mark in a grand prix, qualified for the freestyle the next year as well as the regional championships. Sadly, just a few weeks ago Mark colicked and had to be put down – leaving a hole in the heart's of all who new the great horse.

Tina has ridden and competed on three different grand prix horses and in three Olympic Trials. She has also developed riders up to the FEI level and at The Rancho Riding Club Tina offers a full training program focused on competing and training both horses and riders for the show ring as well as at home. As she looks toward the future, she has high hopes for Exodus Z, a Prix St. Georges horse owned by one of her clients, Linda Gove. She would also like to start a young horse of her own as well, if the right one comes along.

Tina is evidence that timing as well as dedication and hard work pays off! It will be no surprise if this gifted rider produces another grand prix horse.

About the writer: Holly Hugo-Vidal is Sidelines' California correspondent and writes the "West Side Story" column. Holly is located in Rancho Santa Fe, California. Holly specializes in hunters and equitation as well as adults. She is an "R" USEF judge, clinician and an author. Her most recent book is "Build Confidence Over Fences."

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Alexandra Cherubini and EquiFit Are A Perfect 10

Known to most as the founder and CEO of EquiFit, inc., Alexandra Cherubini considers herself first and foremost a rider and horsewoman. She competes in the amateur-owner jumper division and has had some impressive wins over the years including classes at Washington and the National Horse Show. She successfully combines her love of riding with her business career for a wonderful life on the big league hunter-jumper horse show circuit. *Sidelines* caught up with Alexandra and asked her 10 questions.

Alexandra and her husband Camilo Alvarez.

Photo by
Kate Soroka



1. When did you start riding horses?

I started riding when I was 12 years old, when my friends Lana Bilzerian and Marisa Fiumara exposed me to horses for the first time. I fell in love with it and like they say, the rest is history! I started competing first in the hunters and then started with jumpers when I was about 16.

2. What horses are you competing now?

I currently have two gray horses, Carlos and Navardo. I think it's funny that they look like twins; but have totally different personalities. Navardo is the "cool guy" in the barn; he's very macho and proud of himself. He's a great jumper and he knows it. Carlos is a total sweetheart, very gentle and sensitive. He's like a sweet little boy next to his cool big brother. They think that I am one big treat machine. That's why they love me! They're very spoiled and whinny every time I walk into the barn.

3. Who is your trainer?

Margie Goldstein Engle. I have been riding with her for two and a half years. She has the most wonderful attitude and she has helped me so much.



Alexandra may be the founder and CEO of EquiFit, inc.; but considers herself first and foremost a rider and horsewoman.

Photo by Parker/Russell – The Book LLC 2013

4. What is your favorite horse show?

That's a hard one! There are so many great shows that I'm privileged to attend. My top three would probably be Lake Placid, the Hampton Classic and the Gold Cup, mostly because the venues are so special. It's such a treat to show on grass...as an exhibitor, everything at these horse shows is prestigious and I love the storied traditions and history of these shows. And it's really hard to imagine any town more fun to be in than Lake Placid!

5. Do you have a favorite showing experience?

Most recently it was the Gold Cup last fall where I placed 1st and 2nd in the \$10,000 Adult Jumper Classic. My horses were so good that day!

6. What do you like to do in your free time?

Having free time is rare; but when I have some, there's nothing I love to do more than ride! Just being in and of the moment, not having to answer the phone and being able to focus solely on my horse, it's the best part of my day!

7. What are your goals as a rider?

My goals as a rider are to be consistent, to continue to learn and grow and most importantly, have fun and enjoy the connection with my horses.

8. What do you consider to be your biggest riding accomplishment?

For me, winning any class is an accomplishment. Winning the class at the Washington International Horse Show (2006) was huge, as was winning at the National Horse Show (2005). It was also very cool during World Championship Hunter Week at WEF in 2007, when my groom Emilio got an award for his amazing care of my hunter Good Night and Good Luck. I loved that because it really does take a village to succeed in the show world and it was a great moment for my whole team.



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Alexandra enjoys a victory gallop.

Photo by Parker/Russell – The Book LLC 2013

9. How did you start EquiFit?

Over 40 years ago, my parents started a company, AliMed, Inc., that designs, manufactures and distributes medical supply products. I saw how many of these products and the technologies used in them, could be adapted for the benefit of horses. Most EquiFit products utilize material and technologies used in the human medical and sports fields. So in the year 2000 I started EquiFit as a way to help horses, especially those involved in competition.

10. We understand that you have recently unveiled some exciting new products, what are they?

Yes, we are very proud of two new products in particular - the D-Teq line of boots and the IceAir Cold Therapy Boots. We're always hunting for new materials that better suit the equine athlete and the conditions they compete under. We work closely with our riders, trainers, managers and grooms to create products they need and want. The D-Teq line was a natural progression for us. We combined elements of our trusted T-Boot line with new technology being used in other applications. As with most of our products, we utilized material used in the human medical and sports fields and adapted it for the equine athlete. The D-Teq line actually includes technology from both state-of-the-art running shoes as well as military protection equipment. The IceAir Cold Therapy Boots work to reduce inflammation and control swelling and pain. They are the only ice boots on the market that offer cold therapy with adjustable air compression. They are ideal for rehabilitation and pre/post exercise treatment.

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Horse Behavior Decoded: Motivation

By Linda Parelli

Linda
Parelli



Question:

How do you get a horse to be more motivated to work in an arena? I have a 15-year-old Warmblood gelding “schoolmaster” who does great out on the trail. But as soon as we get in an arena he becomes really dull and doesn’t like to move forward. I’m lucky if I get a trot out of him and when I ask him to canter, he usually crow hops or bucks. Any suggestions?

Answer:

This sounds like a lack of motivation and this is not surprising given that your horse is a schoolmaster. From the horse’s point of view, he sees no reason to go around and around the arena, whereas on the trail he feels like he’s going somewhere.

When motivating horses that don’t want to go forward, it’s important to give them a sense of destination and arrival. It doesn’t take long; but you have to be prepared to do something



that doesn’t feel like your normal training session. All you need to do is go from A to B and stop at B. Yes, it’s that simple! Here’s how:

1. Ask your horse to walk a short distance, like from one side to the other. Allow him to walk as slowly as he wants and don’t push him to be more active.
2. When you get to the other side, melt to a stop and praise him. You can scratch his favorite itchy spot and even give him a treat.
3. After stopping there for about two minutes, pick another destination and ride to it. Same procedure: stop there for a couple of minutes and praise the horse.
4. After about three to four of these, you should find your horse picking up the pace a little bit. You can then ask him to trot to the next spot, again not worrying about how good the trot is.
5. Once the trot becomes really active, the canter transition should be easy. He’s only bucking because he doesn’t want to go forward.

With repetition, your horse will start to offer more energy and then you can go a little further, put in a change of direction, some laterals or a circle here or there, etc. In fact, the more you change things up, the more interesting the work gets, rather than boring, repetitive trotting around. But remember this - any time your horse starts getting dull again, you’ve got to give him a destination to rest at. This is the way to solve the problem using psychology and get your horse to enjoy his sessions more.

Question:

My 9-year-old Holsteiner mare has recently started refusing fences. We’ve done hunters and equitation together, mostly 3’ and under classes, since I’ve owned her for the past two years; prior to that, she was professionally trained as a hunter. We had a pretty successful show season last year; but this year she began refusing jumps, particularly in the

Use psychology exercises to cause your horse to want to jump.

Photos courtesy of Parelli Natural Horsemanship

Linda Parelli’s experience with Pat Parelli as co-founder of Parelli Natural Horsemanship, coupled with her time studying with classical dressage master Walter Zettl, has given her unique insight into horse psychology and development. Linda’s gift for identifying and interpreting horse behavior and teaching her students to bring out the best in their unique horse makes her one of the most sought-after natural horsemanship experts in the world today.

Cause your horse to have a positive expression in the arena using psychology.



show ring. She's generally a really quiet, steady mare so I'm not really sure what to do to fix this problem. Thanks for your help.

Answer:

First of all, it's important to rule out that there is any pain involved. Then let's look at the behavioral aspects. Horses refuse jumps for two reasons: fear or disrespect. Stating that your horse is more quiet and steady makes me think that it's probably the latter reason, disrespect. I would link fear with a horse that is more tense, spooky and impulsive. Now, in saying "disrespect," it's important to know that you cannot smack respect into a horse. Respect has synonyms such as esteem, admiration and a high opinion, so a horse showing disrespect means that it has a low opinion of the rider as his leader and sees no purpose for doing the exercise. So instead of willingly doing as the rider asks, the horse argues or becomes unresponsive. What you need to do is become more provocative and get the horse to think about getting to the other side of the jump.

Here's what to do:

1. Ask your horse to go from Point A to Point B across the arena, with a small, 12" jump in the way.
2. Start at the walk, and the moment the horse crosses the jump, ask her for a lively trot to Point B. When you get there, stop and rest.
3. Turn around and head back to Point A using the same strategy. As soon as the horse gets over the jump, send her off in a lively trot and stop when you get to Point A.
4. Repeat the exercise until you feel the horse wanting to take you over the jump and take a straight, unwavering line toward it. As soon as it feels great, stop the session. Start again the next day and pretty soon you'll find that she picks up right where you left off and is more eager to get to the other side of the jump. Also, it's important to use the same points at first.

If your horse gets sticky about crossing the jump, make it as small as possible and do what it takes to coax her over it. Just don't get mad or aggressive, as this will create more problems. Horses are emotional animals and if you cause them to feel scared or mad at the jump, they will associate jumping with that negative feeling.

After about four sessions of training your horse to get to the other side of the jump, you can begin to vary the exercise - slightly higher jump, different destinations (Point B), then two or three jumps and finally a course of jumps. But remember to keep things fresh for your horse. Give her a reason to want to get to the other side of the jumps; it will help her see the purpose of it - that she's going to arrive somewhere and rest.

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Tim Gannon Is A “Bloomin” Polo Star

By Lauren R. Giannini

The co-founder of Outback Steakhouse and inventor of the “Bloomin Onion” recipe is a genuinely nice guy. Every June he shows up at Great Meadow in The Plains, Virginia for the Van Metre Polo Cup, which benefits Capital Caring (palliative care, counseling and hospice) and features celebrity players John Walsh of *America’s Most Wanted*, Nacho Figueras of Black Watch/Ralph Lauren Polo, and Salvatore Ferragamo, president of Il Borro vineyard in Italy and grandson of the world famous shoe designer. Tim is a star in his own right.

“At the annual Van Metre Polo Cup Tim Gannon provides all the food from Outback and all the staff, from cooks to servers, volunteer their time to work for Tim at this polo fundraiser,” said John Gobin, general manager of Great Meadow Polo. “It just wouldn’t be the same in the sponsors’ tent without Tim Gannon and the Outback atmosphere. He’s a very nice guy and incredibly generous.”

Tim Gannon, truth be told, represents more than great hospitality in the polo world. He started playing polo in 1992 and his passion for the game led him to form the Outback Polo team. Tim played high goal polo in the United States, England, Spain, Argentina, Dubai and Uruguay. He led Outback Polo to five US Open championships (1995, '96, '99, 2000, '01) and set a record of three consecutive wins – a feat that has yet to be duplicated.

In 1999 Tim was honored with the USPA Sponsor of the Year award. This year, on February 15, the National Museum of Polo & Hall of Fame in Wellington, Florida honored Tim Gannon with the Phillip Iglehart Award. “That was a big surprise,” said Tim, whose polo career, competition-wise, ended about 10 years ago; he



Tim Gannon is a genuinely nice guy whose generosity, especially with various charities, knows no bounds.

now plays only in charity fundraisers or exhibition matches. “The National Museum honors players both alive and posthumously, so I’m thrilled to be honored with this award while I’m still young, vibrant and lucid and grateful to accept the Iglehart Award in great health.”

Great sense of humor aside, Tim was chosen for the Iglehart because of his “selfless generosity to polo, charitable causes and lifetime contributions to the sport.” Martin S. Cregg, chairman of the National Museum of Polo & Hall of Fame, stated, “Tim is very generous and he was an active player and sponsor for a number of years. He has helped children’s polo and polo clubs just starting out. He was on the board of the museum for several years and he has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Players Association.”

In fact, the day after Tim accepted the Iglehart Award, he could be found at the International Polo Club in Palm Beach for the Outback 40-Goal Challenge, 9th annual fundraiser that benefits the Polo Players Support Group, a non-profit organization providing financial assistance to seriously injured or ill polo players and grooms. On February 23, Tim played in the 2nd annual Charity Polo Classic to raise funds for three Tampa Bay area charities: Children’s Cancer Center, Starting Right Now and Wheels for Success.

“My son Chris got inspired to do what I do in his area and organizes the Charity Polo Classic. Chris and John Walsh hope to raise \$100,000 for the charities in Tampa,” said Tim. “John is as good as it gets. He’s the emcee of my award at the Polo Museum



Tim Gannon moves the ball up the field during the Van Metre Polo Cup with teammate John Walsh riding shotgun.

All photos by Lauren R. Giannini



The Outback/Il Borro Team won the 2011 Van Metre Polo Cup, 8-6, over Barclays Wealth/Altair at Great Meadow (left to right): Chris Gannon, Brandon Phillips, Tim Gannon, Salvatore Ferragamo and John Walsh. The matches have raised nearly one million dollars for Capital Caring and awareness of hospice services.

and Hall of Fame awards dinner – my whole family will be there. It is a great honor.”

Nowadays Tim’s saddle time is reserved for playing in special fundraisers like the Charity Polo Classic and the Van Metre Cup at Great Meadow in Virginia on June 15 with celebrities John Walsh, Nacho Figueras and Salvatore Ferragamo. He named two all-time favorite horses, Michellita and Road Runner: he played them for several chukkers when Outback Polo won its first US Open in 1999.

“Michellita glided like a Ferrari with total smoothness, balance and agility,” recalled Tim. “My daughter Kathleen found the mare in London with Gonzalo Pieres. Road Runner came from the west coast of Mexico and belonged to Memo Gracida. She’s 18 now and we still play her. When Outback Polo won the US Open titles, we did it on horsepower – a lot of times it all comes down to who’s playing the best horses.”

When Tim isn’t hitting the courts with his wife Christie, a former all-American tennis player, he’s building a new business after 25 years of Outback Steakhouse. His new restaurant, PDQ, is all about food, too. “It’s fun, fast, casual – grilled chicken and turkey and salads,” said Tim. “The opening in February went pretty well and we’ll see how PDQ goes. I’m living on the ocean with my wife and family. We’re enjoying life. It’s all good.”



Tim Gannon, co-founder of Outback Steakhouse, and members of his Outback crew of volunteers, pose with the players behind the hospitality tent, which is an annual success at the Van Metre Polo Cup: left to right: Juan Salinas Bentley, Nacho Figueras, Tim Gannon, Salvatore Ferragamo and John Walsh.



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The Genn Men Score A Trifecta

By Lisa Engel

Most horsemen know of the Genn family - Wilhelm, Theo and Ryan - the dynamic trio of grand prix riders from Rheinland Farm in Lebanon, Ohio. While Wilhelm has won more than 70 grand prix, the Genn trio recently experienced their first trifecta win.

History took place in February at the Gulf Coast Classic Company's \$25,000 Johnson Horse Transportation Grand Prix at the Harrison County Fairgrounds and Equestrian Center in Gulfport, Mississippi. "This was a very special class for us. While we have won top spots in the past at other shows, never before have we placed first, second and third," said proud father, Wilhelm Genn.

Happy Z, owned by Wilhelm, locked the win in with a jump-off time of 37.721 seconds; son Theo rode Bridelbourne's Winchester to a second place finish in 43.227 seconds and youngest son Ryan rode Wilhelm's Cookie Monster to a third place finish in 47.72 seconds.

What is the secret ingredient to the Genn's success? "Horsemanship is the secret - which shouldn't be a secret. You see horses now a days that go well for one year, maybe two. Knowing, managing and caring for your horses and practicing good horsemanship is the most important lesson to pass on today and I try to do that with my boys," Wilhelm said. "That will be the most important lesson for future generations of riders to learn."

Theo, 23, who galloped to a second place victory said, "I watched my brother go and I thought I could beat his time; but



The Genn family - Wilhelm, Theo and Ryan - are all smiles after scoring a trifecta at the Gulf Coast Classic Company's \$25,000 Johnson Horse Transportation Grand Prix in Gulfport, Mississippi.

Photo by Beth Matthews

there was no way I could beat my Dad's time without pulling some rails. So I decided to go as fast as I could and as careful as I could." That equation worked, giving him a clean round in a time that just edged out his brother Ryan.

"It's a good thing my Dad won, because we would have never let him live it down if he hadn't," Theo joked. "Seriously though, while it is great that we share our love for riding and we have a special camaraderie, it can be really frustrating. I ride against my Dad each week and I have a lot of seconds on my resume to prove it."

Theo started riding early with his Dad at Rheinland Farm. "I had a Shetland pony; but it wasn't until I was 14 that I rode in my first show," he said, adding that he turned professional when he was 18. "My brother Ryan is really a natural. The first time he got on a horse he was 16 and he won his first grand prix when he was 19! He is a very special talent!"

Ryan, 21, is a freshman at SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design) where he majors in equestrian studies with a minor in business and rides on the college team. While he started riding late, he said it was a way to connect with his family. "After doing it for a while, it really became my passion. Riding was never something I was pressured to do - it was always my choice," said Ryan. "My family and my father are very supportive. The only pressure I get is the pressure I put on myself. I don't want to disappoint them [my family] - there are a lot of big footsteps to fill."

How did he feel about the family's placing in the grand prix in Gulfport? "I was rooting for them [Wilhelm and Theo]! I wanted so badly for us all to be in the winner's circle together," Ryan said, adding that he wasn't upset when his brother pushed him from second to third place. "It was so great to be there together, first through third - really great!"

Ryan rides his father's horse Cookie Monster. "He is perfect. He doesn't spook at anything and has this amazing personality," he commented. "He's really careful around a grand prix course but then you can trail ride him on a loose rein. We've had him for about two-and-a-half years. He was a diamond in the rough and I love riding him."

The Genn boys are proud to say that they feel their father is the best horseman they know. "He has taught us everything about horses and riding," said Theo.



Happy Z and Wilhelm Genn gallop to victory.

Photo by Flashpoint Photography

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Aidan Keogh Takes Fashion One Step at a Time

By Alessandra Shultz

A little over a year ago I submitted my application to transfer to a different university. Originally, I was recruited to ride at a relatively small private school in Texas and I thought that that was a dream come true: cowboy boots, a long tanning season and, of course, horses. But it turned out, that after two years there; I couldn't reconcile my interest in fashion with the major I had chosen, so in the fall I transferred to Cornell University in order to study apparel design management and product development.

It's no secret that equestrian inspired getup is all the rage in the fashion industry; but I was especially excited to delve into the brands that specifically strive to make our sport more exquisite. Aidan Keogh, the founder and managing director of Tredstep Ireland, took the time to share with *Sidelines* his insights on designing and innovating for the equestrian athlete and the launch of the brand's eagerly anticipated line of breeches.

Tredstep was founded in response to the lack of sophisticated half-chaps available on the market. Aidan, a fine art and design student in college, "always liked creating things, making it work better and making it more beautiful." The company "started with the lower leg from the knee down." What we take for granted in half-chaps now, were innovative features in Aidan's reinterpreted version: elastic panels for proper fit, a range of sizes and an elegant aesthetic. Tredstep expanded their product lines to high performance socks, a full range of gloves covering all disciplines and launched a successful line of tall boots two years ago.

Aidan said the reinvented tall boots, appropriately named the Renaissance Collection, were introduced with a goal to "bring something fresh while respecting the tradition of the sport. The boot could perform better and be able to flex without changing the overall look." The boots hit a chord with a lot of people who were excited to ride in boots straight out of the box. In the two years since the boots entered the market, the footwear has become the best selling tall boot at equestrian retailers nationwide.

The brand continues to evolve and, after several years of development, has launched the Symphony line of breeches. Aidan and the Tredstep team work closely with their sponsored riders from across the world to improve and perfect their merchandise.

The riders give their feedback on new products before they are ever introduced into the market and so far the breeches are a

Aidan Keogh, the founder and managing director of Tredstep Ireland, competes his horse Master Tredstep at Ballindenisk CIC 3 in Ireland.*

Photos courtesy of Tredstep Ireland



Aidan Keogh and Master Tredstep compete cross country at Belton CIC 2 in the UK. Aidan is wearing Tredstep boots, socks and gloves. He wears Tredstep products as his training and competition experiences impact all of his design decisions for the company.*

hit. Aidan says that it is "important to be accepted as a classical breech. The key is the hunter and equitation riders because they are very set on a certain look. Jumpers are more open to new looks."

As with the tall boots and half-chaps, the Tredstep team strove to troubleshoot a performance based problem while preserving the generations-old aesthetic that is so ingrained in the sport. Unique design features in the knee, waistband, calf and the use of cutting-edge textiles and finishes set the breeches apart from the rest - at an affordable price point no less. The Symphony line of breeches are available at all major equestrian retailers.

My favorite part is the company's use of self-cleaning nano-sphere technology that allows the pants to be wiped clean, even on white breeches. Tredstep's specialty design components, deemed Motion Fit Technology, are a product of Aidan's in-the-saddle research as a top eventer. The waistband design follows the curve of the rider's lower back so that gaping and belt pulling doesn't occur. A padded knee patch adds comfort against the saddle but the scalloped bottom of the patch reduces bulk and improves fit inside of the boot. The kneepad material utilizes a silicone finish that is extra grippy but does not restrict flexion of the joint. Tredstep left no stone unturned; the breeches include all of these top-of-the-line innovations, but are still classic, elegant and flattering.

Alessandra Shultz grew up in the mountains of Colorado, but now lives in upstate New York where she is studying Apparel Design Management at Cornell University. She currently has two mares which she trail rides and shows in the jumpers.



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A CENTURY OF WISDOM

By Jenny Johnson

Members of The Dressage Foundation's Century Club have a lifetime of experience and are a wealth of knowledge, whether they know it or not. What might seem like a general observation to them may just be the right piece of advice or bit of encouragement that another rider needs to hear. This month, we wanted to share some "words of wisdom" from a few of our Century Club members. We hope that you can find some inspiration for your own riding adventures.

The Dressage Foundation's Century Club is a program designed to honor senior dressage riders and their senior horses. To become a member the ages of the horse and rider must add up to at least 100 years and they must ride any level dressage test before a judge or dressage professional. With that in mind, we have given you the ages of both horse and rider and you can do the math. No matter their combined total, it adds up to a great deal of wisdom.

All photos courtesy of The Dressage Foundation

Lillian Floyd

"One is never too old to realize a dream." – **Lillian Floyd, of Florida, who competed at age 73 with Dreamer, age 28.**



Bob Mayne



"My suggestion for dressage riders would be to take your horse trail riding. It is cross-training at its best! Navigating uneven terrain, even if only at the walk, will greatly aid your and your horse's balance. It will also make him much more acutely aware of where his feet are and what he is doing with them. An additional benefit, which is very significant, is the break from the mental discipline required in dressage training, all the while furthering the physical conditioning of rider and horse." – **Stayner Haller, of Michigan, who competed at age 73 with LGM Challenger, age 27.**



Stayner Haller

"Do something with your horse every day, even if it is only saying 'hello.' Try to ride as much as possible. You have to understand the horse you are riding and adjust your riding to him. Dressage is a sport, so try not to think of it as anything else. Try to laugh at your mistakes, move on and enjoy the ride." – **Bob Mayne, of Oklahoma, who competed at age 73 with Romeo, age 29.**

Continued on page 56

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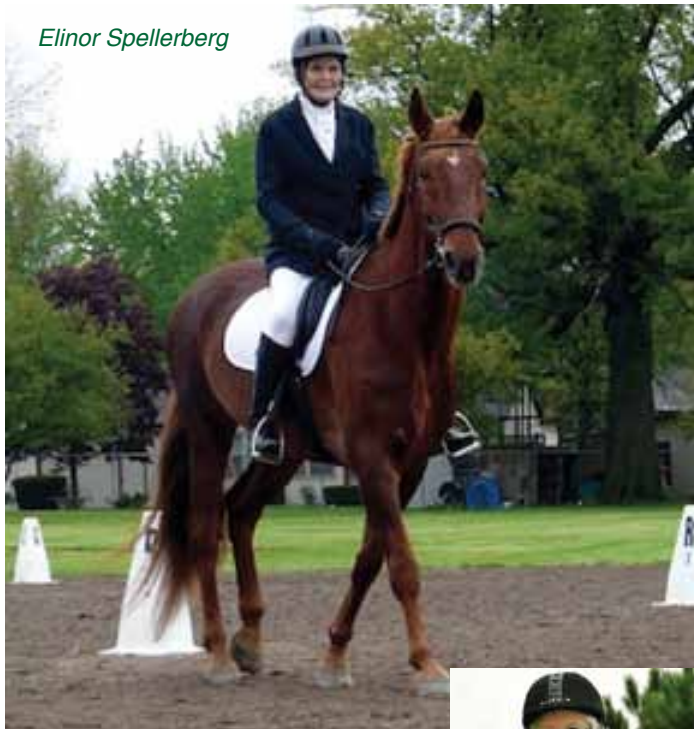
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“Keep it FUN! Don’t be so serious, and smile as you go down the Centerline!”
– **Ellen Newman, of Wisconsin, who competed at age 81 with Diana, age 19.**

“I believe in the same exercise for both old riders and old horses. I do ten stretching exercises ten times every morning. That takes about ten minutes. And the horse should do his stretching and bending exercises for about ten minutes in his warm up and cool down each day. Feel and listen to your horse when he has had enough work for the day.” – **Elinor Spellerberg, of Ohio, who competed at age 85 with King Solomon, age 20.**



Rosalie Nitzsche

“Love the old ones and keep their work consistent with their ability as age related changes occur. Keep your veterinarian and farrier on speed dial. Enjoy the old horses; they still have much to give. For many of us, we have a shared history with them that counts for much.” – **Rosalie Nitzsche, of Michigan, who competed at age 70 with Bonny Glen Hi Jack, age 30.**



Alma Perkins

Josephine Rodgers

“My highest priority which is my best tip: Have a good and FUN trainer!” – **Josephine Rodgers, of Texas, who competed at age 79 with Hershey, age 23.**



“Keep moving – you and your horse – and whenever possible, keep moving together. Of course, good diet is vital, plus joint supplements for both of you. Stay active with your GMO (Group Member Organization) and although you and your horse might not be able to work up the levels anymore, just the discipline of working tests keeps you focused on proper riding. Try something different, like riding to music or getting a change of scenery on the trails. Make riding so much fun that you don’t realize you are exercising!” – **Alma Perkins, of Louisiana, who competed at age 79 with Charisma, age 26.**

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A "Crow's" Eye View on Equine Art

By Amy Herzog

It's all about perspective for equine painter James L. Crow. James and his wife Molly breed American Saddlebreds and attend equine sporting events as fans, which gives James a perspective not often seen in paintings -- that of the fan.

"Over the years I have met the people and their horses and marveled at the expression of beauty, athleticism, and connection with people that horses enjoy. I try to paint horses from the perspective of a fan at sporting events and as a true lover of the animal," James said.

For 27 years James has been creating work using oil, watercolor, and charcoal to bring his vision to life on the canvas. With the aid of photographs for reference, James often uses his own mares and foals as subjects. He also uses animals participating in competitions and races which provides James with a front row seat to some of the most intimate moments in a horse's life and the relationships the animals form with one another and humans.

In a painting entitled "First Day," a mare and foal bond for the first time alone together in a field. James utilizes a romantic style of painting paired with expert knowledge of light and shadow, along with color, to not only show the intimacy of the encounter, but to also convey the emotion behind it as well.

"Most fans of mine describe my work as atmospheric and life-like, which is fine with me because my goal is to represent each horse as a recognizable individual and to capture their worlds through the use of the play of light on them and the backgrounds," said James.

Over the years James has enjoyed much success, starting with the sale of a painting titled "Summer Shower" to the Marchioness



James Crow's "Summer Shower" resides on permanent display at Woburn Abbey in Bedfordshire, England.

of Tavistock in 1983. It was through this sale that James realized he could make a living as a fulltime equine painter. "Summer Shower" now resides on permanent display at Woburn Abbey in Bedfordshire, England.

James has also taught workshops for the American Academy of Equine Art or AAEA, with the president of the organization, Xochitl (Sheila) Barnes, as one of his first students and most successful students to date. "He is a generous teacher, a true professional and has been a huge part of the AAEA for many, many years. I am proud to call him my friend," Sheila said.

With a degree in Art from Wooster College in Wooster, Ohio, James worked as an illustrator prior to becoming a fulltime painter. His work is exhibited at horse venues and conventions; and he is represented by the Collectors' Gallery in Lexington, Kentucky, Raintree Gallery in Versailles, Kentucky and Dog and Horse Fine Art Gallery, in Charlestown, South Carolina. His work can be viewed at <http://jameslcrow.com/> and <http://www.horseartgallery.com>.

About the writer: Amy Herzog is a freelance writer and photographer who has been riding hunter/jumper's since second grade. She has a BA in Communication from DeSales University in Center Valley, Pennsylvania.



"Cross Country" by James L. Crow. Oil on board, 11 x 14



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Daniel Galindo Just Wants To Play Polo

By Lauren R. Giannini

Daniel Galindo, winner of the Polo Training Foundation's 2012 Interscholastic Male Player of the Year Award, has been described in print (Polo Players Edition) by Duncan Huyler, Intercollegiate/Interscholastic chair, with the words "awesome rider... beautiful polo player... and smooth as silk." Affirming these accolades by phone, Duncan added, "Daniel is 6'6" – a big, solid kid, but he rides like an equitation rider. He's easy on the horses. He has nice hands, nice seat, nice everything. Daniel is the guy you want to ride your horses."

Daniel, 19, grew up totally immersed in his family's business of breeding horses for polo at their G & L Ranch, Thermal, California. His father Carlos Galindo is a 5-goal arena and currently 4-goal grass professional; his mother Stacey rides and plays – her highest rating was two goals on grass. His older brothers Carlos and Nicolai and sister Brianna all play polo. They are members of the Eldorado Polo Club in Indio, not far from their home. Daniel, the third in his family to make Team USPA for developing players, started in peewee polo when he was four.

"I would love to go professional, but my size might be against me," admitted Daniel. "It's been a bit challenging my first year of college. There isn't a polo program at University of Oregon and not much interest in starting one, so I've been going up to Portland to work with Brendan Alcott who works with the JV team at Oregon State. I do lessons with him. I run to stay fit. During the Christmas break I went home and played polo every day. Being on Team USPA makes me want to do more and work harder mentally. I like to be perfect. I watch videos to see what I can do better and I watch games to keep my mind in it."

Among his major influences are Joe Henderson and Corky Linfoot. "I would watch how Joe played because he is a big guy like me," admitted Daniel. "Corky was coach of my dad's team for a long time. I would hang around so I could hear what he said. I always listened to the pointers he gave to the players. When he came to the ranch to do hitting lessons with the team, I tried to be out there, watching and listening to everything."

Daniel cites his father as an important factor in his equestrian education. "Horsemanship is the most important thing I got from my father," he said. "The most important part of polo is being a horseman and riding the horses to improve my game means being able to read the plays. I'm more of a defensive back player. You have to be aware of everything going on. I just fell into that defensive position naturally. I was always the bigger guy, I



Daniel Galindo played Leti, owned by his uncle Hector Galindo, on day three of the February clinic in Florida for Team USPA Developing Players when the clinic moved from the International Polo Club to the Everglades Polo Club.

Photos By Elizabeth A. Hedley, USPA-NCD

wasn't that quick a player, but I could always hit a long ball. Strength helps, but it's mostly about timing and hand-eye coordination. As you play more, you learn how to hit and you learn the tendency of the ball."

Daniel is currently rated two goals in both grass and arena polo, although he confessed that at Eldorado they never practice arena. Nerves don't bother him during matches either. "I don't feel pressure much – I'm too focused," admitted Daniel. "Once I'm done playing, I turn off the player and become a person."

Daniel's work ethic carried him through freshman year at Oregon University where he maintains a 3.5 grade point average and focuses on sports business. He hopes to transfer to Texas A&M and get involved in their polo program.

"Maybe I can work in management with a high goal polo team," said Daniel. "No matter what I do after college, I want to keep playing. I'm happy that I have USPA and all their resources behind me. I ask the players and coaches for advice, do all the clinics I can. I just want to play polo."



Daniel Galindo



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Pony Kids

Name: Emma Green

Hometown: Carmel, Indiana

Age: 14

Ponies: Goodnight Moon, Smokey, Meadow

Trainer: Anne Eccles

Favorite pony ridden? Goodnight Moon (Stanley)

What pony would you like to ride? Enchanted Forest

How did you get into riding? I started at a 4-H barn and when I got my first pony, Smokey, I started doing Hunter/Jumpers.

What is your favorite horse show? Country Heir

What was the high point in your riding career? I was USHJA zone five Medium Pony Hunter Stirrup Cup champion.

What was the low point? When my first pony, Smokey went lame, right before we bought Goodnight Moon to show in Medium Ponies.

Who are your Equestrian Idols? Brianne Goutal, Jessica Springsteen, Margie Engle, Reed Kessler and Georgina Bloomberg to name just a few.

Other than riding, what do you do? 4-H, Pony Club and I play the cello

What are your plans for the future? I hope to win the ASPCA Maclay and I hope to become a professional when I get older.



Emma Green

Photo by Dr. Mark A. Green

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Name:

Hometown:

Age:

Ponies:

Trainers:

Of all the ponies you've ridden, which is your favorite?

What pony would you like to ride?

How did you get into riding?

What is your favorite horse show?

What was the high point in your riding career?

What was the low point?

Who are your Equestrian Idols?

Other than riding, what do you do?

What are your plans for the future?

Name: Gabriella Incorvaia

Hometown: Tampa, Florida

Age: 15

Ponies: A Splash of Cute

Trainer: Kelly Cribb

Favorite pony ridden? Whisper 2 Me

What pony would you like to ride? My Mc Dreamy

How did you get into riding? I started riding lessons when I was 5 and got my first horse at the age of 6. But my true love was the day I met Kuni (A Splash of Cute). She is the best pony in the world and I love showing her.

What is your favorite horse show? Central Florida - CFHJA

What was the high point in your riding career? We just did our first rated show and qualified to go to Pony Finals this year.

What was the low point? When my first horse got hurt and my showing was over with him.

Who are your Equestrian Idols? Beezie Madden and Reed Kessler

Other than riding, what do you do?

Besides keeping my grades up, riding is all I do.

What are your plans for the future? Being on a college riding team and to one day be able to go pro.



Gabriella Incorvaia

Photo by Maria Incorvaia

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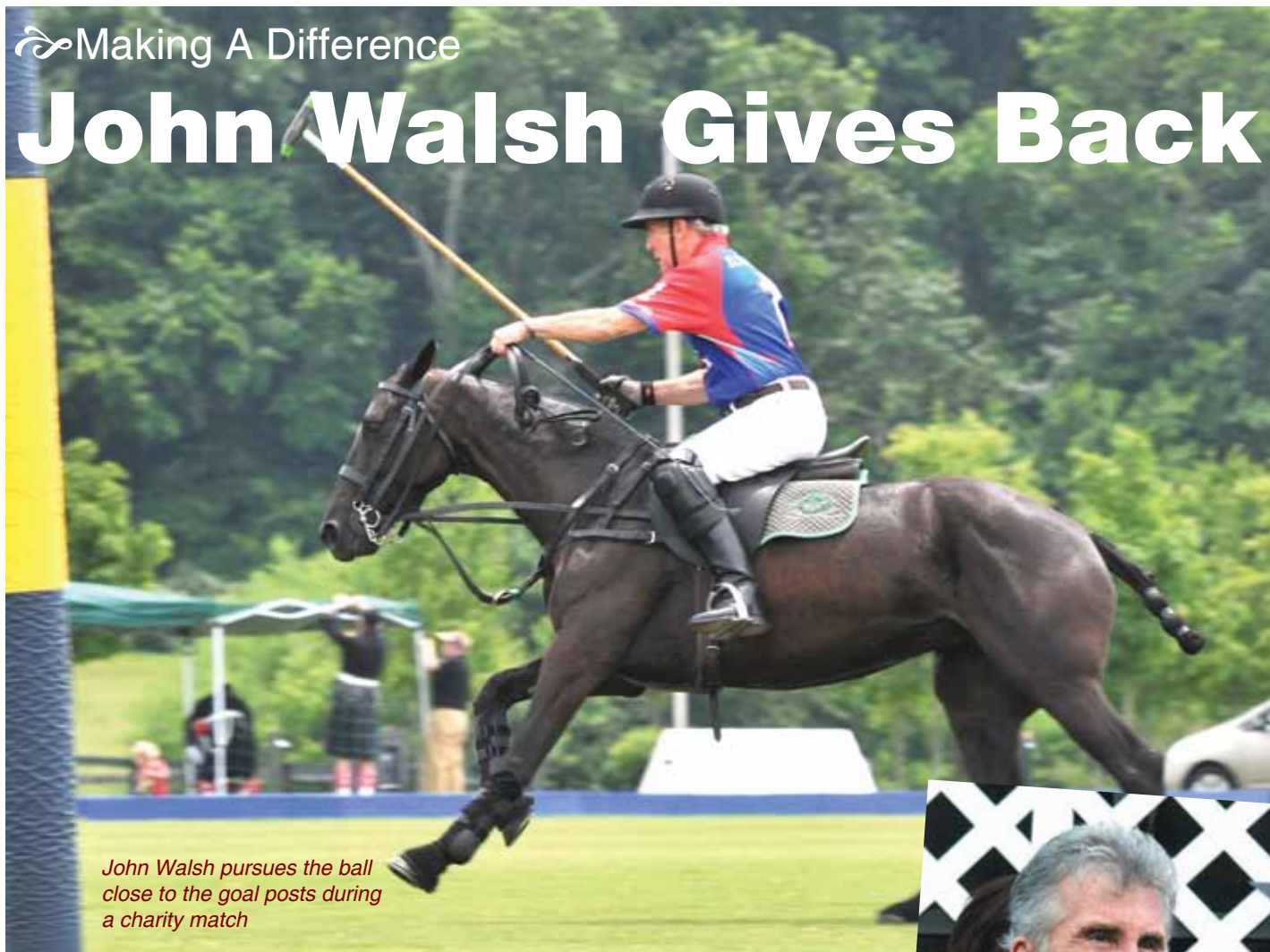
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John Walsh Gives Back



John Walsh pursues the ball close to the goal posts during a charity match

By Lauren R. Giannini

John Walsh is best known for hosting the super-popular crime show, *America's Most Wanted*, which brought 39 criminals to justice after it moved from Fox to Lifetime in December 2011 – helping to round up more than 1,100 felons since its debut in 1988. A new project has the dedicated crime fighter working on a pilot for a potential series about really old unsolved cases called “*John Walsh Investigates*.”

John works closely with the FBI and US Marshalls in the course of a case: a matter of win-win for everyone on the side of justice – not so good for the criminals. “The pilot involves shooting in three different places around the country on tough, really cold cases – we’re still working hard, trying to catch these guys,” said John, who has a personal stake in serving justice.

In 1981 John and Revé’s son Adam, six, was abducted and murdered. In the tragic aftermath, galvanized by grief, they turned to activism. Their efforts resulted in the creation of the non-profit National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in 1984 after then President Reagan signed the Missing Children’s Assistance Act. Honoring Adam’s memory fired their zeal to fight crime via *America’s Most Wanted*, to further victim advocacy, and to get laws passed to protect children from predators and sex offenders.

Over the years horses became an integral part of the Walsh family’s leisure activities, and they often serve far greater purposes than mere pleasure and sport. “My wife Revé is a first class rider and a world class foxhunter,” said John. “She’s a terrific supporter of foxhunting. She brought Noel Ryan from Virginia where he was huntsman to Palm Beach Hounds and he has taken that

John Walsh, at the microphone during the awards presentation after the Van Metre Polo Cup at Great Meadow, talking about Capital Caring and the important work it does: “I believe in giving back.”

All photos by Lauren R. Giannini, unless noted



hunt way uptown. Our son Hayden, 18, is a pretty darn good polo player. Cornell University is trying to recruit him. He’s looking at University of Virginia and Stanford where they have good outdoor polo programs. It’s a real joy to play polo with your son.”

John has a real passion for polo: it’s fun and exciting, but he can also utilize his celebrity status to help raise funds for various charitable causes. “I’m playing polo all the time – Gulfstream, Vero Beach, Palm Beach – and a number of the games are charity matches,” admitted John when he spoke to *Sidelines* in February. “I believe in giving back.”

On February 15 John emceed the 24th annual National Polo Museum & Hall of Fame’s Awards Gala in Wellington, Florida which honored Tim Gannon, the co-founder of Outback Steakhouse and a positive presence in the polo world, with a special award. “I’ve hosted the awards gala a number of times – the Polo Museum & Hall of Fame is a non-profit run by a great group of people,”



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John Walsh, host of America's Most Wanted, and Nacho Figueras, supermodel for Ralph Lauren Polo, high-five spectators at the conclusion of the Van Metre Polo Cup to raise funds for Capital Caring.

said John. "Tim Gannon has sponsored or given away millions of dollars to charity. What's even nicer is that Tim's son Chris is following in his dad's footsteps. He organizes the Charity Polo Classic to raise funds for three Tampa charities Tim has been involved with, and I'll be playing in it again this year."

When John recalled last year's Windsor Charity Polo Cup that he co-chairs at Vero Beach, he started dropping names: "We had Memo Gracida, Hall of Fame 10-goaler, Mike Azzaro, another great 10-goaler – he was just inducted into the Hall of Fame, Lucas Monteverde – 9-goaler and always in the Argentine Open, Salvatore Ferragamo, Nick Manifold, Tommy Biddle, Julian Daniels. I scored three goals. We had a phenomenal 20-goal game for three charities."

In June, John will again lend his celebrity by playing in the Van Metre Polo Cup at Great Meadow, The Plains, Virginia, to raise funds for Capital Caring. "They broke ground for the Van Metre hospice which ought to open this summer," said John. "Tim and I have played in many benefits together for charity – he really sets the bar high for other players and padrones. Tim is always there. He never says no. He brings the food."

At the Van Metre Polo Cup John and Tim will be joined by Nacho Figueras, the face of Black Watch and Ralph Lauren Polo, and Salvatore Ferragamo, president of Il Borrio (vineyard and luxury hotel in Italy) and scion of the Ferragamo fashion empire that started with shoes and expanded into clothing.

"It's great to be at Great Meadow on a lovely day for the Van Metre Cup," John said. "I've played in lots of charity games with Nacho – he's such a gracious guy – last year he flew in from Singapore. Salvatore came over from Italy, Tim came from New York – we gather from all over to play for a great organization, Capital Caring. Polo is a good way to create awareness about charities. I believe you have to give back."



Hayden Walsh, like his father, has a passion for polo and plans to play in college. His older siblings are Callahan, who runs their father's production studio in Washington, D.C., and Meghan, who gave John and Revé their first grandchild last fall.

Back to Basics: Whole Food Nutrition

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THE DIFFERENCES AMONG SALTS

by *Tigger Montague*

Salt is a common name for sodium chloride, an essential compound for horses and humans. Salts are either mined or collected from sea water. The common table salt is made by injecting water into earth salt beds, it is purified for recrystallization, and then treated with chemicals to remove impurities (calcium and magnesium salts). Evaporation is then applied to collect the isolated sodium chloride, which is then kiln dried at temperatures up to 1200 degrees. Various anticaking agents are then mixed with the sodium chloride, and if iodine is also added, dextrose is commonly used to stabilize the iodine. Bleaching agents are also used so that the end product is white.



The pink color reflects the high iron content of Himalayan salts.

Celtic sea salts are grey; they are harvested from fresh north atlantic sea water by the evaporation of wind and sun, leaving a mineral-rich brine. The brine is stirred by the paludiers (salt farmers) and then the crystals are gathered by hand. The result is a salt with a wide range of minerals including calcium, magnesium, and potassium, as well as the trace minerals.

Himalayan salts are mined largely in the Khewra and Punjab provinces of Pakistan. The pink color reflects the high iron content of this salt. The salt mines in these provinces are located in the foothills of the Himalayan mountains. These salt deposits were formed over 250 million years ago from an ancient sea. Himalayan salt is mined by hand, hand washed, and sun dried. Like Celtic sea salt, Himalayan salts also provide calcium, magnesium, and potassium, as well as 70 trace minerals including selenium, iodine, zinc, and copper.



From left to right; Celtic sea salt, Himalayan Salt, Kosher sea salt, yellow Saffron sea salt.

Both Himalayan salts and Celtic sea salts contain more moisture than table salt. That is because anticaking agents have not been applied to these raw salts.

The pH of these different salts vary; table salt is more acidic at 7.0, while Celtic Sea and Himalayan salt are more alkaline at a range of 7.40 to 8.0. Equine and human blood pH range from 7.36 to 7.41.

Celtic sea salt and Himalayan salt are more expensive than table salt; however, if you seek a raw salt that is not heavily processed, is free of bleach and other additives, and provides additional minerals, these two salts are a great alternative to table salt for both humans and horses. ■

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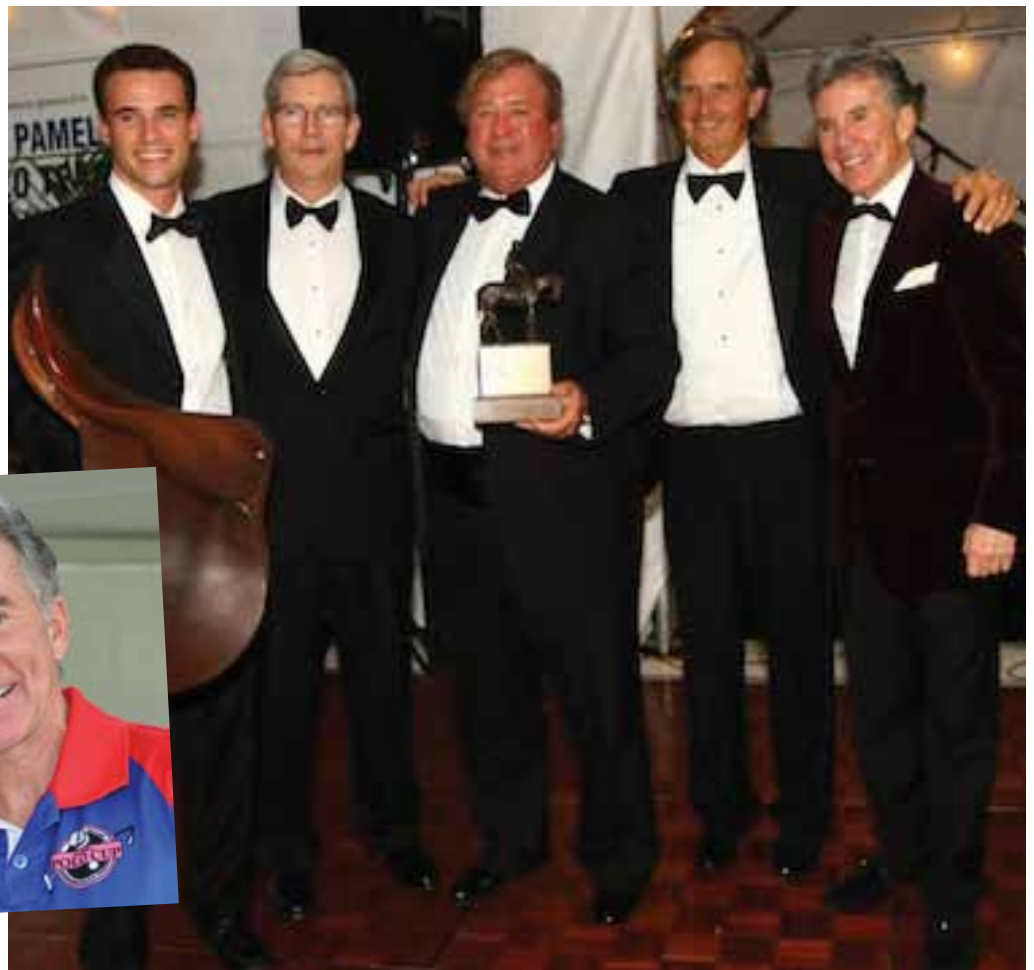
Yes. Salt blocks, particularly the Himalayan Salt licks, are important for horses to have access to all the time.

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Celebrity players John Walsh and Nacho Figueras (Altair Polo) ride hard for Outback/Il Borrio's Carlitos Gracida, who at that moment controls the line of play, during the 2012 Van Metre Polo Cup for Capital Caring. Note the lost stirrup, which looks as if it's just beneath the ball as Carlitos takes a backhanded swing at it - polo is an action-packed game with never a dull moment of play!

John emceed the 24th annual National Polo Museum & Hall of Fame's Awards Gala in Wellington, Florida which honored Tim Gannon, friend and fellow polo player. From left to right: Chris Gannon, Marty Cregg, Tim Gannon, Phil Heatley and John Walsh.
Photo by Alex Pacheco



Revé and John Walsh
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My Story: Weathering The Perfect Storm

By David Marcus

For those who aren't aware, I was eliminated in my Olympic debut in London this past year. Chrevi's Capital and I were performing our grand prix test in the Olympic stadium during a horrific downpour. Unfortunately, Capital spooked and I was eliminated when we were not able to continue our test within in the 20-second time allowed. As there are only three riders per team and all three scores counted for a team result, my individual elimination meant that the Canadian Team was automatically eliminated as well.

To give you an understanding of what happened, I'll start by saying that it was a "perfect storm" of many things, starting with the weather. When I watched the video play back, I realized how extreme the weather was that we had to ride in. Rain, wind, hail. It was weather that I would not hand walk my horse in, or even allow him to go out in a paddock, let alone ask him to perform at his best at the Olympic Games!

I also can't stress enough how noisy it was in that 23,000-spectator stadium. The stadium seating was so vertical; it had to be built almost straight up with temporary seating and all of the scaffolding that was necessary to build the structure and stairs created noise in the arena unlike anything I have ever heard. Add that to the fact that it had started pouring rain and people were trying to get in and out of the seating areas, putting up umbrellas, pulling out jackets and hats, trying to get some shelter from the heavy rain . . . it was just stimulus overload!

Capital couldn't concentrate and when he lost concentration, he went into 'panic mode' and was petrified beyond reason. By the time he came back to me, I had exceeded the 20-second time limit you are allowed for disobedience in the ring. He is such a trusting horse that I could have gotten him to concentrate on his job again, but not in the allotted time of 20 seconds.

Facing the media in the mixed zone immediately afterwards wasn't as difficult as you might think, mainly because I hadn't processed all of the emotions yet. I wasn't angry or upset with my horse. I was just shocked and disappointed. "Did this really just happen?" was what I was thinking to myself. I really felt like it was out of my control. I'm not sure if or what I could have done differently.

I felt extreme disappointment for my owners, my sponsors, my team and my country more than I was feeling disappointment for myself. I felt that I had let everyone down, including all the people



David and Chrevi's Capital compete during a downpour at the 2012 London Olympic Games.

Photos by SusanJStickle.com

who had flown in to watch and cheer us on. My teammates were very supportive and helped me to accept that there was nothing I could have done to change things in that moment.

It had happened and now it was time to figure out how to move forward. We spent that evening in London surrounded by family and friends and supporters and we all commiserated together about what an unfortunate turn of events it had been.

While grieving is an important part of the process, it's also important not to dwell. While it was difficult, I tried to be positive

"While it was difficult, I tried to be positive and concentrate on moving forward."

and concentrate on moving forward. The next day, I started to ask myself, "What's next?" I spent time thinking about what would be the next step in this

horse's career. How would we go forward and what would our goals be? Being a very goal-oriented person, that was an important step for me. To do that, I needed to have a goal. So, I got on my horse and started training again for the future with my eyes set on the 2014 World Equestrian Games in Normandy, France.

The next stage was very important for me. Upon my return home, after Capital had a short break, I began to concentrate on Dressage at Devon at the end of September. I felt that Devon would be an important step in Capital's career. It is a big show in one of the largest stadiums we have in North America with a lot of atmosphere. I felt it would be important for him to have a positive experience there, having had such a fright at the Olympics.

With Devon as my goal, we began to work backwards. Building his confidence was my focus. We went to the CDI-W NEDA Fall Festival in Saugerties, New York, which I felt would be good preparation for Devon. It was the first time I had competed Capital after the Olympics and I was nervous. I didn't know what he would do in there. I wanted to give him a positive experience. I felt I owed him that after what happened in London and I didn't know what his reaction would be. I think it's normal to feel that way after what we had gone through.

When he went into the ring in Saugerties for the first time after London, he didn't put a foot wrong. It was a huge relief to know that he hadn't lost his confidence. He went in there and listened to me on his first time back and I thought, "Okay, we have something to work with here. All is not lost."

Having worked on building his confidence back up, we got to Devon and we won the Grand Prix test! I thought to myself, "We are not only talking about moving forward, now we ARE moving forward!"



David and Chrevi's Capital won both the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Freestyle at the 2013 CDI-W Wellington Dressage in Wellington, Florida.



David and Chrevi's Capital were the only Canadian combination to advance to the Freestyle at the 2013 World Dressage Masters Palm Beach.

As I write this, we have now done six shows since the London Olympics. I believe in my horse and I believe that London really was an unfortunate one-time situation. Having said that, I do believe that Capital suffered from what we humans would refer to as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. As a result, we've carefully picked the shows that Capital goes to and when. I don't want to avoid situations that might make him a little anxious. Instead, I want to take him into situations like that so that I can train him and build him up and let him know that he can handle those types of situations in the future.

My Olympic experience took some thought and time to recover from and there was great disappointment involved. But I think anyone involved with horses at any level, be it an amateur, a junior, a recreational rider or a professional, has to be able to go through ups and downs in their riding career. It's all part of the journey.

About the writer: David Marcus made his grand prix debut in January of 2012 and, six short months later, had earned a place on the Canadian Dressage Team for the 2012 London Olympic Games. He operates David Marcus Dressage, a full-service training facility, just west of Toronto. In the winter, he is based in Wellington, Florida. David, 32, currently campaigns Chrevi's Capital and Don Kontes at the grand prix level for owner Deborah Kinzinger.

"My Story" is a first person account of life in the equestrian world. To have your story considered, send a brief description of your story to editor@sidelinesnews.com.



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Oliver Greenall: Royal Racing Lineage

By Maria Wynne

Sidelines Writer Across the Pond

Oliver Greenall is one of four brothers - Jake, Toby and Tom - all of whom have inherited the deeply entrenched family racing genes. Having been brought up in an intensely competitive environment, Oliver has set himself on the path of becoming a leading Point to Point (steeplechasing) trainer.

With in-depth experience gained from leading figures and his own successful riding career, which includes the Mens National Point to Point Championship in the 2007/2008 season (56 winners) Oliver is well placed to achieve his goals. Add to this his inherently equestrian family background and it becomes clear that he is a young man on a pre-destined path.

His father is Lord Daresbury, who was a keen and successful champion amateur jockey himself, the fourth Baron Daresbury of Walton, more commonly known as Peter Gilbert Greenall. Lord Daresbury is not only heir to the brewery giants Greenalls, a former High Sheriff of Cheshire, a company Director with a chain of hotels, a former Master of the Wynnstay Foxhounds, long-time friends of the Royal family and a financial player in the City, he is also Chairman of Aintree Racecourse where the legendary Grand National is run each year.

Oliver's mother, Lady Daresbury (Clare), hails from the Weatherby family, who founded the private company Weatherbys in 1770. This organisation is the heart of the Thoroughbred Industry and provides British Horseracing with its central administration and maintains the founding Thoroughbred Breeding Register.

Other notable personalities in the family tree include Oliver's Great Grandfather who hunted the Limerick Hounds in Ireland and his Uncle Johnny Greenall whose name is synonymous with brilliant horsemanship and a blazing day of Hunting with the Meynell.

Oliver trains from Stockton Hall, Malpas in Cheshire and currently has 20 horses in training, doubling his tally from last year. He has particular hopes for a horse called Cool Friend, a real stayer who will be aimed at the Aintree Foxhunters later on this year. However it is not all about winners, but also educating the youngsters and ensuring that they develop correctly and reach their full potential, fully confident in their own abilities. If this means that a horse does not run until late in the season then so be it. He will mature into a better horse for the next season.

Oliver himself is a charming, self-deprecating, modest,



Oliver riding Tinkwood at Tabley Point to Point.

Photo by Richard Dawson Photography

courteous and polite young man who has time for everyone and quite a formidable female following. Particularly amongst the cougars of the countryside! *Horse & Hound* magazine ran a feature in the February 14th issue titled "Hunting's Most Eligible Bachelors" and unsurprisingly Oliver and his three brothers were all featured. Their parents would have been proud! I can imagine that upon reading the article Oliver will have covered his mouth with his hand and giggled in his boyish way with embarrassment.

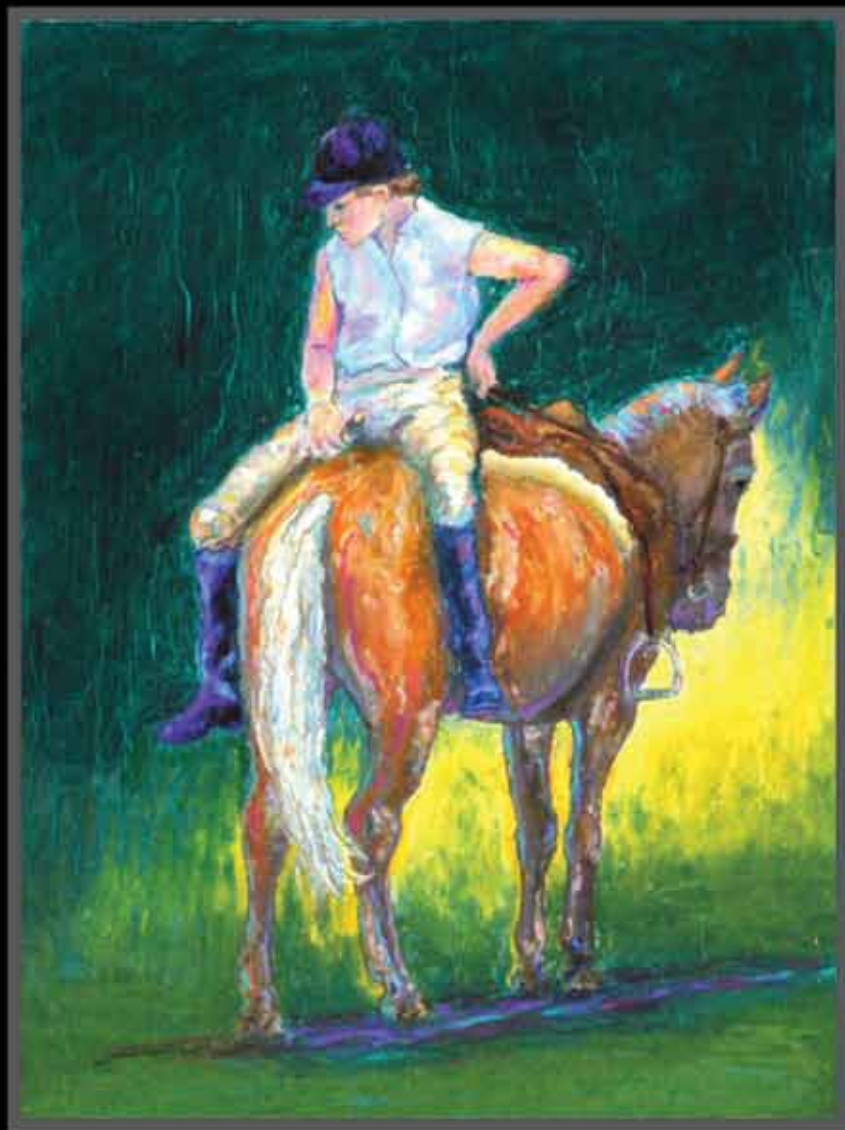
To learn more about Oliver, visit his website www.olivergreenall.co.uk or follow him on Twitter at @olivergreenall.

About the Writer: Maria Wynne has spent her entire life with horses and her family background is steeped in them. She is a proud (single) Mum of the an adorable 4 year old son named Theodore Denman, who is named after the 2008 Cheltenham Gold Cup Winner.



Racing genes: (left to right) Lady Daresbury, Thomas Greenall, Owner Eric Brook, Oliver Greenall and Lord Daresbury

Louise Mellon



Old Friends

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Continued Success for Canada's Ainsley Vince

By Alexa Cheater

Ainsley Vince of Burlington, Ontario, had always wanted to be a professional rider. Although she didn't come from a horsey background, Ainsley got her start early and enjoyed a highly successful junior career. In 1995, she was named to the Canadian Equestrian Team for the first time and has gone on to represent Canada proudly on the international stage, including the 2000, 2003 and 2004 World Cup Finals.

Ainsley currently competes with Frieda, a 12-year-old Sachsen-Anhaltiner mare owned by the KMA Group, at the grand prix level and has enjoyed an impressive number of top 10 finishes throughout North America. In 2012, they finished second in the \$50,000 Grand Prix of Rockwood at the CSI2* Angelstone International before heading to Toronto's prestigious Royal Agricultural Winter Fair where they finished fourth in the \$50,000 Canadian Show Jumping Championships Phase II and fifth in the \$50,000 Weston Canadian Open.

Also a successful coach, Ainsley returned to her own equitation roots by guiding her student, Ashlee Steffens, to victory in the Jump Canada Medal Final at the 2012 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. She plans to continue mentoring students in the hunter, jumper and equitation rings while maintaining her own competitive career.

How did you begin your riding career?

Honestly, I was so young I don't really remember. My mom has a picture of me riding a pony in a snowsuit when I was three. I used to drive them crazy because every time I saw a horse, or even a picture of one, I was always quite adamant that I should be riding one. I didn't come from a riding family; but I seemed to start a trend since both of my sisters followed right behind me.

What are your future goals as a competitor?

I would really love to have a solid string of horses that I can do the bigger FEI competitions on. Last year was such a great year for me because I was able to make the trek to Spruce Meadows for two weeks. I also think that to be at the top of your game, you have to spend some time competing in Europe, so that is definitely also on my list.

What was your most embarrassing moment with horses?

I remember being jumped out of the tack a few years ago during a big class at Spruce Meadows. The stands were, of course, full at the time. I just rolled and rolled and rolled while my horse took off and was running around near the bank at one end of the International Ring. I remember worrying he might get out, or get hurt. But by the time I got up, he was standing at the top of the bank with a beautiful sunset behind him. It was like a scene from a movie. Then he put his head down and started to eat the grass and the crowd just went wild with laughter.



Ainsley Vince and Frieda
Photo by Cealy Tetley

Ainsley Vince
Photo by Michelle C. Dunn



What do you look for in a horse?

Of course they have to be athletic, but it's more than that. I've worked with a lot of different horses and it comes down to heart and attitude. Take my old horse Catch 22 for example. His confirmation meant he technically shouldn't have been able to jump the way he did; but he did it anyway. My current mare, Frieda, is the same way. She's a small horse; but she always tries so hard. I think the horse has to be intelligent and believe that they can do it and they will.

How do you prepare for a big competition?

I find everyone prepares differently. My sister Sydney likes to stand at the side of the ring and make jokes with people. I'm the opposite. I always like to take some quiet time by myself. Sometimes finding those few minutes to really focus on the class can be really tough. I'm always running around helping clients or with horses in other rings; but when I can get those dedicated few minutes to myself it really helps put my head in the right place and helps me focus.

If you hadn't chosen a career with horses, what would you be?

Something to do with design. At one point I had thought about becoming an interior designer or a landscape architect. I got a taste of that when we built our farm, Linden Ridge, from scratch. It was such an interesting experience and I was able to do the layout exactly as I wanted it.

What are your favorite things to do when you aren't riding?

I love to go scuba diving, play tennis or go for a run. Of course I never get to enjoy those things as much as I would like! I think part of the appeal of riding for me has been that I really do enjoy the outdoors, so it makes sense that all of my other favorite activities would be outside activities as well.

About the writer: Alexa Cheater is an avid horse lover who spends an inordinate amount of time at the barn for someone who doesn't own a horse. When she's not enjoying the company of her favorite four-legged friends, she's writing about them as Communications Specialist for Starting Gate Communications Inc., a public relations agency specializing in equestrian sport. www.startinggate.ca

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Praising Para-Equestrian Trainers

By Lindsay McCall

Behind each respected and talented equestrian, no matter the discipline, is a trainer, coach, or professional that demonstrates horsemanship, skill and sportsmanship. In return, the equestrian student teaches their trainer such attributes as determination, goal achievement and setting limits.

For coach and talented eventer Missy Ransehusen, Chef d'Equipe of the Para-Equestrian Dressage Team since 2000, her students are a constant reminder of the determination of a para-equestrian. Rebecca Hart, a 2012 Paralympian, is one example of this perseverance. Rebecca has been with Missy for five years and within that time they earned multiple national championships and traveled around the world for equestrian competitions.

When Missy entered the Para-Equestrian discipline it was unfamiliar territory. Missy had the skill set to train the horses and was a well-respected eventer but she was learning new techniques, new rules and working with riders that lacked able-bodied aids. From cleaning stalls and grooming, to mounting the horse and showing, each aspect is altered from the able-bodied world. In five years Rebecca earned many international titles and owes her skills to the top training from Missy.

Rebecca has returned the favor, however, and as Rebecca left the 2012 Paralympic ring for the last time Missy noted, "I was teary eyed when she left that ring; it was a journey to get to London. Rebecca put a large amount of work into this preparation alongside having a full-time job. I have learned a lot from Rebecca over the years but her last ride was the best lesson. After leaving the ring one day prior she was disappointed and quite hard on herself. To have a disappointing ride and come back and have a beautiful second test is what makes her a great competitor."

Para-Equestrian trainers like Wes Dunham and Kai Handt understand how to help their students become top competitors -- even when their students may not believe in themselves. When the late Jonathan Wentz came to Kai Handt wanting to ride competitively he said he would only teach Jon if he could walk on his own. Jonathan Wentz was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at birth and was determined to reach every goal he set for himself.

When Kai told Jon this goal, Jon began walking without assistance or aids. Over the past five years Kai took Jonathan under his wing and taught him horsemanship, professionalism, sportsmanship, and how to perform to the best of his abilities on every horse. Kai was rewarded with a 21 year-old gentleman, that excelled in school, was a hard worker, was driven by his own success and the success of his team, and was the most accomplished equestrian in the United States in 2012.

When Paralympian Donna Ponessa approached professional Wes Dunham in 2011 he was impressed by her gumption. Donna Ponessa was diagnosed with Devic's Disease, a form of Multiple Sclerosis, placing her in a



Rebecca Hart aboard Lord Ludger (owned by Jessica Ransehusen) with Chef d'Equipe and trainer Missy Ransehusen.

All photos by Lindsay McCall

wheelchair with the constant use of mechanical ventilation. To be able to ride at the elite level of a Paralympian, Donna and Wes worked on an exercise plan that also involved weaning her off of her ventilation tube. In less than one year Donna became a fit, athletic, equestrian and she was able to stay off her tracheal ventilator for longer durations than she ever thought possible. Donna traveled the world and was a top performer at the 2012 London Paralympics. She went from a basic dressage rider to elite rider thanks to Wes. The learning between student and teacher continually evolves with Wes and Donna and because of Donna, Wes is now working with additional Para-Dressage riders like Sydney Collier.

A Para-Equestrian trainer is a person that can look past the diagnosed disability and work with the rider and their horse. Missy, Kai, and Wes are just a few of the many trainers that enjoy working with para-equestrians. Each set of challenges brings forward additional answers and new lessons to be learned by both teacher and student.

About the writer: Lindsay McCall is a lifelong hunter/jumper rider and is the Public Relations Manager for the United States Para-Equestrian Association.



Paralympian Donna Ponessa with trainer Wes Dunham.

Jonathan Wentz's trainer Kai Handt with Kai's horse NTEC Richter Scale at the 2012 Florida CPEDI3 in Wellington, Florida. The rain came down in buckets during the jog, soaking the horses and people and yet Kai kept smiling.*



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Off Centerline

It's **Dressage Gone Wild** in Wellington with non-stop CDIs, symposiums, clinics, charity events and much more...and it makes you wonder when everyone sleeps! To make it to all the activities, Anna and Cindy Bovay have started **Cinanna Concierge Service** to cater to the busy equestrian's every need.

Willowtree Farm in the Hamptons has a new trainer. **Mette Larsen** and **Jenny Susser** are excited to welcome **Amanda Rossiter** to their beautiful facility in Riverhead. If Amanda looks familiar, you may recognize her as the former head rider for the World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions.

Dressage riders and trainers **Caroline Roffman** and **Endel Ots** of Lionshare Dressage Farm in Wellington, Florida are excited to announce a new partnership with **Der Dau Custom Boots**. Both Caroline and Endel will be stepping up and stepping out in style with a new pair of show boots, as well as "everyday" boots from Der Dau. Riders aren't the only ones stepping out in Der Dau - celebrities, Fortune 100 executives and more have been seen wearing Der Dau custom boots and shoes.

USA Olympian **Adrienne Lyle**, recipient of the **Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize**, has been preparing for her trip to Europe to compete and train with **Klaus Balkenhol**. She and Wizard have a full schedule of CDI competitions in California before their European adventure this summer. Also keep an eye out for Adrienne's up-and-coming young horses – she's been enjoying the process of bringing them along and hopes to start them out on the California circuit. "I think we have some very talented youngsters on our hands. It is exciting to work with them and watch them learn and mature every day," she said.

Olympic athletes **Debbie McDonald** and **Mason Phelps** came out of retirement to perform a disco-themed pas de deux at **The Challenge of the Americas** presented by SSG Gloves in Wellington, Florida. Dressed in white tailcoats with red satin lining, the two trotted down the centerline to a freestyle choreographed with the help of **Carl Hester** and set to music provided by **Terry Ciotti Gallo**. The Challenge celebrated its 11th anniversary in its fight against breast cancer with teams of top international dressage riders competing in freestyle quadrilles to raise money to help find a cure for breast cancer. Proceeds benefited the Breast Cancer Research Foundation through Play For P.I.N.K.



Skeletons on the show grounds? Not really, just the handy work of **Gillian Higgins** from **Horses Inside Out** who teaches equine biomechanics by painting the inside of the horse on the outside! This is **Caroline Roffman** and her small tour super star Her Highness and the two little guys are Barnes and Noble who never miss an opportunity to "paint the town." Special thanks to Cavalor Premium Feeds and Supplements and the International Equestrian Education program at Starwyn Farm for bringing Gillian from the UK to the USA!



The Dressage Summit, held in Wellington, Florida, brought the best of the natural horsemanship world together with the best of the dressage world. The event was a huge success and featured, from left to right: **Christoph Hess**, **Linda Parelli**, **Pat Parelli**, **Walter Zettl**, Premier Equestrian CEO **Mark Neihart** and **Charles de Kunffy**.

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Continuing A Winning Tradition

By Holly Hugo-Vidal

Hugh Mutch, or Bert as many call him, has made his home in San Francisco for the past two years. Originally from New Canaan, Connecticut, he is the son of legendary horseman Ronnie Mutch (for whom the equitation class is named). As a junior, Hugh trained with his father and assistant trainer Timmy Keys at their well-known Nimrod Farm in Weston, Connecticut.

Hugh gives Timmy credit for teaching him valuable tools that he still uses today in his lessons. His dad would occasionally send him off to George Morris (for a little humbling) if they got into a father-son argument, which Hugh says always worked and he would come home a little humbled and better for it!

Achieving one of his first goals in life, Hugh won the AHSA Medal Finals in 1978 (having been second the previous year). Still to this day, Hugh and Ronnie hold the record for being the only parent and child to win this prestigious class. Ronnie won it in 1950. This win was not only a great family accomplishment; but quite amazing considering the fact that Hugh actually lived in Kentucky with his mother and only came to Connecticut over Christmas vacation to ride. Not until he was in his last junior year did he dedicate all his time to riding. Up until then football, basketball and soccer had been his sports.

Hugh had the incredible opportunity to work with many of the horse world's greatest horsemen, including Bert de Nemethy in Gladstone, New Jersey at the USET team headquarters. Hugh also rode with Bernie Traurig as well as the great Rodney Jenkins, who Hugh regards as the best rider he ever saw. He worked for Rodney as a ground man as well as preparing Rodney's horses for several years at Rodney's Hilltop Farm in Orange, Virginia.

If Hugh was having trouble correcting a problem with a horse, Rodney, not being a verbal man, would say, "Get off and I'll get on and show you how to fix it. Watch me and then you do it." Rodney could do things with horses that other people couldn't!

Spending three winters at Gladstone was valuable training

for Hugh. The riders brought a couple of

their own horses and were permitted to ride some of the famous old horses at the team that had been donated, such as Almost Persuaded, Flying John and Mainspring. Hugh recalls Bert drawing on a blackboard the correct way to do a leg yield or some lateral movement, showing the sequence of the horse's legs. Then the riders would ride the team horses and with the benefit of mirrors on the side of the ring and in the corners, they could watch the horse's movements as well as get a feel of the correct way to perform these movements. Having already felt it on the old schoolmasters, they would ride their own horses and try to do the same thing. Hugh said he is reminded of these experiences to this day, every time he gets on a horse.

Giving credit to his dad, Hugh feels that Bert de Nemethy and Rodney Jenkins were also the most influential horsemen in his life; a generation that he feels no longer exists. He hopes to pass on this incredible knowledge to today's riders. "It's my turn! This needs to be passed on," Hugh said.

Hugh became a successful professional rider, winning his first grand prix in 1979 just a year after winning the Medal finals. Hugh also took several sabbaticals as he tried to determine exactly what he wanted to do. This included galloping racehorses and breaking babies in Kentucky. Then in 1991 Hugh had the opportunity to ride the incredible dappled gray hunter Roxdene and he showed her with tremendous success. It was not uncommon for her to win every class in the division. Hugh still gets goose bumps when he thinks of her. "A freak of nature!" In late 1991, Sam Edelman stepped up and backed Hugh's career as a grand prix rider, resulting in 12 grand prix wins over the next four years on both coasts as well as in the Midwest.

In addition to his involvement with horses (Hugh still shows and recently competed horses for John Charlebois at a show in Del Mar, California) Hugh is an accomplished landscaper and has designed some incredible barns, including one of his own in Virginia. His latest passion is a gelato business called Yogorino in San Francisco. It originated in Italy and two Italian master chefs trained Hugh, who now owns a franchise in partnership with his wife Jennifer and her family.



Hugh "Bert" Mutch and his wife Jennifer.

Photos by James Leslie Parker



Hugh and PF Twister II.

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The Broker/Owner, Jane Allen Offutt, can be reached by telephone at 859-421-5222. The listing price of this bluegrass farm is \$1,770,500.

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PINEWOOD EAST - AREACA

Classic elegance describes this one of a kind, meticulously maintained home on oversized, extremely private lot. Entire house has been remodeled with the finest of finishes. Master suite is located downstairs with extra large walk in closet. Many architectural details have been added throughout, including custom moldings, archways, fireplace, built in book shelves and trophy room. French country inspired kitchen. Lush landscaping, separate dog run, and oversized pool finish the house perfectly. A Must See! **Priced at \$650,000**



PADDOCK PARK

The finest of renovations have been done to make this an equestrian paradise. All new hurricane French doors and windows with bronze finish by Eurotech. A mixture of antiqued marble & mahogany birch flooring throughout. Front door was hand crafted in Brazil and all interior doors are mahogany stained and carved solid wood. Window dressings are custom made from Scalamaudre and Kravet fabrics. House has converted one bedroom in-law / guest suite. New 6-stall barn has Mexican tile in feed, tack & groom's / manager's apartment. 6 paddocks and located directly on the bridle path in Paddock Park II. A must see! **Sold at \$1,170,000.** Also available for year round or seasonal lease.



SAINT ANDREWS AT POLO

Nestled in the quiet back corner of Saint Andrews sits this gorgeous condo overlooking a scenic pond and polo field, with panoramic views from every window. Kitchen and baths have been fully upgraded with Granite, Cherry Cabinets, and Marble. Porcelain tile throughout. **Priced at \$244,000.** Also available for seasonal or year round rental.



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PB POLO VILLA

Gorgeous derby field and lake views with all new hurricane double-impact, floor-to-ceiling windows that let in tons of natural light and keep the property extra quiet on the inside. Oversized, quartz center island gourmet kitchen with SubZero, Viking and Wolf appliances with wine cooler. Vaulted ceilings throughout main section of villa. Every room and bath has been tastefully remodeled in 2011. Master has dual sinks, steam shower and separate jacuzzi tub. New landscaping and patios with entrance gate/door to make this villa feels like a private home. **Priced at \$697,000**



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PALM BEACH POLO – PEBBLEWOOD

This sheltered 2 bedroom/2 bath lakefront condo is nestled in the exclusive gated community of the Palm Beach Polo and Country Club and has been completely remodeled and redesigned with more than 50 feet of floor to ceiling glass walls to show the spectacular water views from every room. Other features include; an open kitchen with stainless appliances, a sunken dining room, that easily seats twelve, a sitting area, laundry room, two spacious bedrooms, with walk in closets, a double sink master bath and guest bath, and tropical landscaping that is highlighted at night with custom outdoor lighting. Experience the feeling and space of a villa/bungalow with the ease of condominium living. **Priced at \$425,000**

BENTLEY BAY – MIAMI BEACH

2 Bed/2 bath condo in the heart of South Beach with 700 sq. ft. travertine wrap around terrace/balcony. This condo has been fully upgraded with floor to ceiling glass windows and doors, wood paneled walls, beautiful marble floors, Lavastone kitchen with stainless appliances, and custom lighting. Panoramic views from the 18th floor of the Miami Skyline, Star Island, and the Atlantic Ocean. Wake up to sunrises over the ocean and sunsets over Miami in this full service building with doorman, valet, oversized lap pool, two spas, and a gym. Ideal location, close to 5th street and walking distance to the ocean, Lincoln Rd, and all the shopping and dining that SoBe has to offer. **Priced at \$718,000**



PALM BEACH POLO – TENNIS LODGE

One of the nicest condos in the Tennis Lodge Community. This luxuriously renovated and freshly furnished 2 bed/2 bath with soaring high ceilings has newly upgraded custom granite kitchens and baths. The bedroom side has a screened balcony and the studio side has a full kitchen with washer and dryer and an open balcony. Both enjoy lovely water views. **Priced at \$250,000 – Fully Furnished/Turnkey**

PALM BEACH POLO – LAS CASITAS VILLA

3-bedroom villa sitting on one of the largest lots in Las Casitas. Over ¼ of an acre with a private Zen-like setting and small dipping pool with a waterfall. An abundance of French doors bring the serene outdoor feel into this tastefully finished villa. The kitchen and baths have been remodeled and the porch enclosed to increase the size and give an open feeling throughout. **Priced to sell at \$395,000**

PALM BEACH POLO – BAGATELLE

This 2 bed/2bath condo has been completely renovated and freshly furnished with new granite kitchens and baths. The one bedroom side has a private separate entrance from the studio and the doors have been sealed off with extra insulation This 1st floor condo is perfect for pets and is an ideal property to use as an investment or to rent one side to help with the bills! **Priced at \$250,000 – Fully Furnished/Turnkey**

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Middle Ground with Martha Deeds

By Courtney Zimmerman

Martha Deeds is a well-known eventer based in Larkspur, Colorado. Growing up as a hunter in Northern Virginia, Martha went to college in Colorado and began dabbling in eventing. She fell in love with the sport and the scenery and knew that Colorado is where she needed to be.

In 1999, Martha, who is a vet tech, established Middle Ground Farm, a boarding and training facility where she is an event trainer. Martha's family is also active in the equine industry - out of six kids in her family, only two of her siblings don't ride. In addition to a family of riders, Martha's eventing life has been improved by her mentor Eric Horgan, who lives in England and gives clinics in Colorado and throughout the United States.

Martha is a Type I diabetic, which can sometimes make her abundant workload a challenge. It is something she constantly has to be aware of, in addition to informing those around her in case she starts slurring her words or showing other symptoms of low sugar levels. She keeps sugar tablets in almost every room. It can sneak up on her; but she usually has a handle on it. "It's a frustration; a constant, but manageable problem," Martha says. She hopes that her story can serve as an inspiration to others who are also juggling multiple complexities in their lives.

How did you get your start in eventing?

I started eventing in the late 1980's when a friend convinced me to do a pair pace and my horse and I had so much fun that I entered an event soon thereafter.

You come from a pretty large family. How involved is your family in the equine industry?

My mother was a great horsewoman and passed that trait to all of my siblings and myself. Almost all of us are involved with horses to this day, either in eventing or jumpers.

What horses or projects are you currently working on?

My current projects include three talented horses with varying degrees of experience and training. I have a four-year-old homebred Thoroughbred-Warmblood cross that I have raised from a baby. I also have a small six-year-old Thoroughbred whom I raised from a yearling and I plan to compete him this year.



Martha holds Luna, 24 hours old, a three-quarters Thoroughbred she bred.



Martha and Loke competing Preliminary at the Colorado Horse Park.

Photos courtesy of Martha Deeds

Additionally, my friend and student has a very nice five-year-old Dutch Warmblood by Rubino who I will start competing this year.

What do you look for in a horse when trying to advance in the sport of eventing?

Event horses must be sound physically, be mentally brave and have the ability to move forward. I do enjoy the Thoroughbreds as they have many of the attributes needed for eventing success. I have bred some Warmblood with the Thoroughbreds to try to get the best out of both breeds.

What is Middle Ground Farm like?

Middle Ground Farm is a facility designed to keep horses at their most familiar and natural setting. The horses enjoy large pastures with free choice hay throughout the day. It is a friendly working barn where the priority is on the horse and rider's development. All riders enjoy using the dressage arena, jumping arena or indoor arena that has a high ceiling and natural light. We enjoy hacking our horses out on the local dirt roads and paths available to us to further our horses' conditions.

Do you like teaching or competing?

I have had many horses over the years and they have been my best teachers. I enjoy teaching others to help the horse and rider relationship develop to the best of their ability. I do enjoy competing as it keeps me current and involved with the sport of eventing and it is a great way to evaluate and encourage progress.

About the writer: Courtney Zimmerman is from Cincinnati, Ohio and graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Equine Science and Management. She is currently working on her M.A. of Communication at Northern Kentucky University. She works at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden as an Animal Handler in the Education Department.

Linda Kendall McLendon Debuts Her Novel *Unintended Lies*



Author Linda
Kendall
McLendon

Writing a book isn't as easy as you might think. One of my friends recently commented that she had no idea of all the steps involved in having a book published. *Unintended Lies* by Linda Kendall McLendon is my debut novel and can be purchased in e-form from Amazon or Barnes and Nobel and in paperback from most book sellers.

As a young girl, I was allowed to read any books I wished. I was inspired by horse stories such as the *Black Stallion* and *Red Stallion Series*, plus I was born with an insatiable love for horses. I was 28 years old when I woke up in the middle of the night, realized I had a job and money and could buy my own horse. Silly me, I got a \$2,000 loan from my bank and within a week I owned a pony, a grade palomino and an aged American Saddlebred, plus all the tack and fixings to go along with them, including a cart and harness. I think I even had a little money left over. That was the beginning and also the end - which many horse people will completely understand.

It took a series of reinventing myself and talking about writing a book for too many years, before I finally decided to make it happen. This involved writing classes, attending writing seminars, research and reading many books on writing. It meant hiring a writing coach, an editor, a critic and a publisher (whose wife is an amazing mentor).

I knew that *Unintended Lies* needed to include animals and their relationship with people. There had to be a calm place where the characters could sort things out. Something needed to bind the main characters together and the horses were the perfect catalyst to bring them together in the first place and give them each a reason to keep going.

I drew from my own experiences - from the people who had come so vividly in and out of my life. Neither Catherine DeLong nor Zane Wheeler knew exactly what they wanted; but the story lead them back to where they came from - their roots - the starting place where we feel very comfortable as children.

Catherine experienced many different kinds of love. The sudden tragic death of her husband, James, is the center of the many changes. Next, the unexpected onset of her uncle's illness and being forced to make hasty decisions draws her to certain places and people.

It is in the old familiar house that she comes to terms with her difficult childhood, attempts to get answers to questions and brings to closure some of the burdens she has carried in her heart.

It is a story of secrets, misconceptions, tragedy and triumph; but above all it is a story about love and endurance.

"Unintended Lies" is available in e-form for \$4.99 at Amazon.com or Barnesandnoble.com and in paperback through most booksellers for \$19.95.



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Fountain Valley's Equestrian Team Shines

Riders line up for an Interscholastic Equestrian Association Show at the Fountain Valley School of Colorado.
All photos courtesy of Fountain Valley School of Colorado

By Courtney Zimmerman

Nestled in the Rocky Mountains, Fountain Valley School of Colorado is a co-educational, college preparatory, boarding and day school. While the scenery may be breathtaking, it is the equestrian program that shines. Fountain Valley's equestrian program started small, but the team has proven that riders in the West can ride - as the Fountain Valley School Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) Team won the National Championships in 2007 and 2009.

Established in 1930, the school has always had Western riding; but it was not until 2003 that it developed an equitation and hunter/jumper program. Ann Hanna came on as the coach 10 years ago and has developed the program to what it is today.

The equitation program came from shaky beginnings - the small riding arena was originally a hockey rink. Without any horses for the new program, Ann had to take some from the Western program; these five horses were dubbed "Wenglish" because of their new roles. Fortunately, they were great beginner horses and Ann still uses them in the program, which has expanded to include

27 horses in the herd.

Two years into the program, Ann established an Interscholastic Equestrian Association team at Fountain Valley School. The shows were very small when it first began; but they have since grown. In 2006, FVS was Reserve Champion; in 2007 and 2009, Fountain Valley School won the National Championship, which was quite a shock for other teams because no one had ever heard about the riding program at Fountain Valley School.

To help facilitate Fountain Valley School's success, a graduate from the equestrian program donated a new indoor riding facility, which is the third largest in the state. In addition to that, her family donated a horse and a stipend award to help students who cannot afford to ride at a competitive level. The award helps fund a student to attend four A-rated shows and two clinics for the year. As a result of this assistance, every student who has received the award has gone on to show in college, either in an NCAA or IHSA program.

The equestrian program at Fountain Valley School is different from typical high school riding programs because the kids are expected to partake in every aspect of care for the horses that they ride. The student can either bring a horse to the program or is assigned a horse for the entire season - with the option of participating in 3 seasons a year - in order to develop a bond and establish some ownership for the student. Students can also board their own horses for just \$200 a month because at FVS they are expected to care for their own horses. This attitude creates a sense of responsibility and a good work ethic, something of which Ann is very proud.

Ann Hanna seems to have found the recipe for success with the riding program at FVS. Fountain Valley School's riders continue to excel in both the IEA ring and on the A circuit, in addition to learning how to become good all-around horsemen. For more information on Fountain Valley School of Colorado, visit www.fvs.edu.



A rider jumps to new heights at Fountain Valley School.



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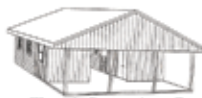
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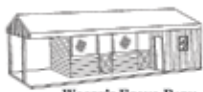
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Sidelines

Discovering Paradise!

By Jan Westmark-Allan

When my phone rang with an offer to take part in the “Polo in Paradise” package from The Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach during my visit to Wellington, Florida, I had to think about it – for about one second! I glanced outside at the cold wind whipping across the mountains and started packing my bags. I was ready for polo, paradise and plenty of it.

I thought I knew what paradise was – after all I had lived in South Florida for 20 years and many people consider the sunny south to be the ultimate utopia. It seemed like investigative journalism was in order – to discover if “Polo in Paradise” really did exist. My daughter, Abby, decided she needed to join me in my quest for the truth and took time off from school and booked a flight from Boston to Florida. (Note to all wannabe investigative journalists: if a person in Boston agrees to join you in Florida you can easily deduct that the weather is below freezing in their fair city and a blizzard is on the way. That was exactly the forecast.)

Although we had never stayed at the Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach or enjoyed the “Ultra VIP Sunday Brunch & Polo,” we were willing to give it our best shot. The Four Seasons is the official hotel partner of the International Polo Club Palm Beach and we were willing to “partner” up too. We arrived at the resort on a Friday evening and were immediately given the royal treatment – Prince Harry and Kate Middleton had nothing on us. We were shown to our room where a balcony with a gorgeous view of the pool, beach and sparkling Atlantic Ocean showed off what the resort had to offer. Standing on

the balcony enjoying the postcard view, we started taking notes: it appeared as if we had arrived in paradise.

The Four Seasons offers plenty of bonuses with this vacation experience and the “Ultra VIP Sunday Brunch & Polo” package came with a bottle of champagne, personalized La Martina polo jerseys and an official polo bag delivered to our room by a handsome Four Seasons employee. As it turns out, paradise is a pretty nice place.

On Saturday morning we decided to take a stroll on the beach, but only made it as far as the beach chairs. We tucked ourselves under a bright orange umbrella for more investigative work and quickly discover that while sitting in paradise the desire to work fades away. The desire to enjoy nirvana, however, kicks into overtime. We enjoyed the beach for a few hours, including the resort’s ever-attentive staff, recording it moment by moment with our cell phone cameras. As part of the investigative process, we posted the photos on our Facebook pages to see if our friends in the north thought we had discovered paradise. They did.

By Sunday morning we had reached the conclusion that the Four Seasons Palm Beach needs to be on everyone’s bucket list. I am pleased that I can check it off mine although I will probably add it back on my list – there are three polo packages and I only experienced one – so two more trips are in order.

Once we had discovered paradise at the resort – it was time for polo. Our destination was the International Polo Club Palm Beach for the VIP Sunday Brunch and it turned out to be the perfect Palm Beach afternoon. Clear blue skies, amazing food and front row seats for an afternoon of action-packed polo was all part of the experience. We stomped divots



Sidelines attended this game as part of the “Ultra VIP Brunch & Polo” package through the Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach, the official hotel partner for the International Polo Club Palm Beach. Photographer Alan Fabricant, who shoots polo action in Wellington for Sidelines, captured the excitement as Port Mayaca’s Carlucho tried to push Tommy Collingwood off the ball.

Photo by Alan Fabricant

Continued on page 100

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The Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach.

and drank champagne on the field during halftime, all the while wondering why it had taken us so long to discover that polo and paradise go so well together.

When we returned to our table after halftime, a dessert tray was waiting for us. An assortment of delectable sweet treats so scrumptious that I was able to fold up my investigative notebook and put it away – polo and paradise (and chocolate) had been discovered. Case closed.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach offers the ultimate getaway destination. In addition to

the “Ultra VIP Brunch & Polo” package that we enjoyed, they also offer “A Perfect Polo Picnic” and the “Stay & Play with the Best” package. If you can’t make it to Florida this season, be sure to book your stay for next year. I know I will – it seems as though this is an ongoing investigation and I am all over it!

For more information, visit www.fourseasons.com/palmbeach or call the Resort directly at (800) 432-2335. You can also contact Laurie Zuckerman, Director of Public Relations at 1-561-493-5549.



Luis Escobar of Goose Creek shoots and scores on an underneck shot.

Photo by Alan Fabricant



Champagne being poured on the polo field during halftime.



Stunning beach, gorgeous ocean, beautiful clouds, shade from an umbrella – a perfect day at the beach.

All photos by Jan Westmark-Allan, unless noted



Enjoying front row seats – and an amazing brunch -- in the pavilion during polo.

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Asides

Internationally recognized professional polo player and Ralph Lauren Polo model **Nacho Figueras** will be playing polo at Empire Polo Club in California on March 23rd in the **Polo d'Elegance Charity Match**. The theme of the event will revolve around horsepower, combining a blend of the elegant sport of polo with modern and vintage luxury automobiles. This one-day event will offer spectators the chance to watch Nacho compete in a high-goal polo match while supporting a good cause, the **Boys and Girls Club of Coachella Valley**.



Number one ranked superstar polo player **Adolfo Cambiasso** was in Wellington, Florida to compete in the Outback 40 Goal Challenge and took time to talk to **Sidelines TV** producer **Rob Jordan**. Watch Adolfo's great interview on the Sidelines website, www.sidelinesnews.com.
Photo by Alan Fabricant

Congratulations to **Nick Snow**, who has shown tremendous dedication and commitment to the sport of polo, and was selected as the winner of the prestigious **Team USPA Equus & Co. Award**, which honors the Team USPA player who best exemplifies the program's principles. Equus & Co. CEO and Chairman **Jim Whisenand** presented a check for \$10,000 and a unique, engraved belt buckle to Nick in February at the International Polo Club Palm Beach. Finalists **Stephanie Massey** and **Tiamo Hudseph** were also honored and received beautiful Tackeria "Ultimate" saddles in recognition of their contributions to the Team USPA program.

Get Ready Girls!! The Women's Championship Tournament

International Polo Club Palm Beach is proud to announce that for the sixth consecutive year, luxury Swiss watchmaker, PIAGET, will be sponsoring the esteemed **USPA Gold Cup**. The 26-goal USPA Gold Cup is a symbol of professionalism, good sportsmanship, and high-goal polo at its finest. Currently holding a 7-goal handicap, **Jeff Hall** (pictured) is one of the best polo players in the world and an ambassador for the luxury Swiss watchmaker.

Photo by Laretta Houston



The **2013 President's Award** has been presented to the International Polo Club Palm Beach and its president **John Wash** (pictured with **Bo Derek**). The Palm Beach County Hall of Fame Committee congratulated John's dedication in promoting the sport of polo, and his determination in making the sport a top generator of tourism dollars in the county. John and the International Polo Club will be honored at the 37th annual Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame Banquet and Annual Sports Awards on March 24th at the Palm Beach County Convention Center in West Palm Beach.

Photo by LILA PHOTOS

(WCT) is hot this year with outdoor and arena polo. The WCT Finals Outdoor will be held April 3-6 at the Grand Champions Polo Club in Wellington and the WCT Finals Arena Championships will be held in October at the California Polo Club in Los Angeles.

The **San Diego Polo Club** is gearing up for an action-packed summer, kicking off the excitement on April 13 with the opening of their polo school. Practice chukkers begin May 9 and opening day is June 9. Take part in the action if you are in the San Diego area.

Learning from the Pros! The **Team USPA 2013** players were in Wellington in February. Polo Hall of Famers **Owen Rinehart** and **Charles Smith** along with well-known coach **Charlie Muldoon** helped teach and train Team USPA 2013 in a wide-ranging weekend clinic that included on-and-off-the-field lessons. Team USPA Players taking part included: **Daniel Galindo, Jeff Shuler, Kylie Sheehan, Harrison Samaniego, Miguel Questel, Devin Vass, Patrick** and **Matthew Collins**.

The **Gay Polo League** will honor gay Olympians during the April 12-13 International Gay Polo Tournament festivities. Six-time Olympian **Robert Dover** will serve as Chairman of the Gay Polo Olympian Committee.

Robert has earned more honors than any other U.S. dressage rider in the sport's history. He competed in six consecutive Olympics for the U.S. equestrian team, four world championships and seven World Cups. **Mason Phelps, Jr.**, founder and president of Phelps Media Group International, will serve as committee vice chairman. Mason, a lifelong horseman, was a U.S. Olympic alternate for the U.S. three-day team that competed in the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games.



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MUIRFIELD - P. B. POLO



3 BR/3 full BA, 1-story townhome. Tiled throughout. Den has been extended to form 3rd bedroom/sitting room. Granite counters, stainless appliances. Private, walled front courtyard. Golf views. Detached 2+ car garage. **\$399,000**

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Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfvén - Sweden's Shining Star

By Kim MacMillan

Watching Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfvén ride down centerline in her elegant and exacting style, you can't help but be impressed. She is quick to smile when talking about her horses and her family, but she is also a very analytical thinker and loves to figure out how things work. A native of Sweden, her intensity and grace come through as she talks about her riding and it quickly becomes clear why she is at the upper echelon of the international dressage scene.

Quoted in November 2004 in the Swedish magazine *Ridsport*, Tinne explained her motivation, "Passion is my driving force." She is a veteran of six Olympic Games and three FEI World Equestrian Games spanning from 1992 through 2012. At press time she was ranked seventh in the FEI Individual World Dressage standings with the 11-year-old Hanoverian gelding Don Auriello (by Don Davidoff, out of Wey o mey by White Star, owned by Lövsta Stuteri, Sweden), her 2012 London Olympic partner. She also has two other horses, both owned by Lövsta Stuteri, in the top-50 FEI standings: Favorit in 40th place and Divertimento in 42nd.

Tinne lives with her family in Upplands-Väsby, Sweden and works for her sponsor Antonia Ax:son Johnson, who owns Lövsta Stud. Tinne and her husband, Jan Silfvén, have one son, Lucas, 11, and two dogs, Molly, a Fox Terrier mix and Wilma, a black Labrador Retriever.

Since the Olympic Games last summer, the pair has just been getting better and better. After winning the Stockholm CDI-W Grand Prix and the Freestyle in December 2012, "Anton" and Tinne have been tearing up the 2013 Florida dressage circuit, winning the World Dressage Masters 70,000 Euro Exquis Freestyle CDI5* with an impressive 84.075% in January. They went on to win the Florida Dressage Classic CDI-W Grand Prix in mid-February, where Tinne also took third in the Grand Prix with Divertimento, a.k.a. "Tim". Tinne hopes to represent Sweden in the World Cup in Gothenburg in April.



Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfvén is all smiles after her winning freestyle ride on Don Auriello at the 2013 World Dressage Masters in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Photo by Allen MacMillan/MacMillan Photography

How did you get started in your riding career?

I started in a riding school. In Sweden the riding school system is extremely well organized and the riding schools are very, very good. It's a big issue in Sweden that every child who wants to learn to ride goes to a riding school and learns how to take care of a horse, how to ride and how to behave around horses. We are very proud of our riding schools. I started like everyone else. I think I was seven or eight when I started riding seriously at the school, although when I was four I was already hanging out at the stables while my mother was riding. I did get a horse of my own when I was 10. When I was 11 or 12, I started competing in dressage with a pony. Also I did do quite a lot of jumping actually, but not in competition.

Who has been your most influential trainer?

I think the German trainer Walter Christensen and then Louise Nathhorst, of course. She still rides, although she does not compete anymore. She is my trainer and is in Florida this winter. She also worked with Walter Christensen, so it is the same school.

What has been the biggest highlight of your career so far?

far?

To me it is Don Auriello - he is something very special. He was a step up and opened possibilities for me. It is such an honor to ride a horse like him. I think the most important part of my career is to get this horse and to be a part of that journey with him. He has a lot of things. He has the movement and all of the quality he should have; but he also has a mind that is impressive - he wants to do his best and he wants to show himself. He really enjoys when the people are looking at him. In the stable he behaves like a star, too. He wants all of your attention and thinks you should be petting him, not anyone else. He is a very cool horse, but in an easy way

Continued on page 106



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Tinne Vilhelmsen-Silfvén and Don Auriello strut their stuff after winning the 70,000 Euro 2013 World Dressage Masters Exquis Freestyle competitions. Photo by Allen MacMillan/MacMillan Photography



Top three riders with the trophy from the 2013 World Dressage Masters 70,000 Euro Exquis Freestyle, left to right: Patrik Kittel, Sweden, second; Tinne Vilhelmsen-Silfvén, Sweden, first; and Steffen Peters, U.S.A., third. Photo by Shelley Higgins/MacMillan Photography

- in a good competitive way.

It's a little bit hard to pick a particular competition as a highlight, because they are different achievements. The first Olympics was a main wake-up thing to be a part of; but the success I have made with Don Auriello is bigger than that. I have had him since he was eight years old and now he is 11. Also, a very important highlight for me is my sponsor, Lövsta Stuteri and the Axel Johnson Group. Antonia Ax:son Johnson hired me to take care of her stud and ride her horses. I've been there since 2000 and it changed my life. I met her when she had a young stallion, Weltman, that she wanted ridden. Her manager called me and we met and it just worked out that I moved over to her place and started working for her. She has all of these horses and for me so many possibilities.

What has been the biggest surprise of your career?

Maybe I should list Don Auriello as this. He is so different to ride.

What is something people don't know about you?

Well, I am extremely stubborn. That probably helps when you work with horses. I love to solve problems. I never give up and I like to have everything working. Not only with horses, but also, for instance, with my mobile phone. I have to fool around with it until I get it working. It's just something that's in my head. I can't take it when a clock or somewhere is wrong or when something isn't working.

If you could interview anyone, who would it be?

Leonardo Da Vinci, because he was an inventor and he had such a mind. He invented so many things that came into use much later. He was probably a totally crazy person, too, with a good sense of humor. He thought of things in such a special and different way outside the normal boundaries.

What's the best advice you have been given?

It's necessary to have fun with your horse. If you don't have fun and if you don't love your horse, you can never achieve anything. It has to be that cooperation, the two of you together - you have to like to be together. It's built on trust. It was Christensen who said that.

What is your idea of happiness?

I think to have a life with friends and family... it's so normal to say, maybe, but to have a balanced life - a whole life with everything in it is so important. Then if you can have fun, too, along the way... If you can have people around you that you like to be with - it's very, very important.

About the Writer: A graduate of Purdue University with degrees in Agriculture Journalism and Animal Science, Kim MacMillan has been writing about horses and equestrian competition, science, agriculture, history and travel for over 30 years. Also an accomplished photographer, she and her husband Allen own MacMillan Photography & Media Services. They live on an 84-acre farm in Northeastern Indiana where they raise Warmblood horses and sport ponies.



Tinne Vilhelmsen-Silfvén and her 11-year-old son Lucas and their dog Molly at the 2013 World Dressage Masters. Photo by Shelley Higgins/MacMillan Photography

FEI Veterinarian Mike Tomlinson and Tinne confer about Don Auriello's FEI passport before the jog for the 2013 World Dressage Masters. Photo by Kim MacMillan/MacMillan Photography





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Charlie Jacobs - Photo by Anne Gittins

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Arena Polo

Scores Big Hit At Great Meadow



Amateur photographers love taking photos at Twilight Polo, because they can get close to the action. This photo was taken with relatively sophisticated equipment, however, by a professional.

Photo by
Robert Banner/Great Meadow

By Lauren R. Giannini

Remember the polo scene in *Pretty Woman*? Sure you do: gorgeous horses and handsome riders galloping hell-for-leather, field-side tailgate parties of beautiful people – vivid and exciting. This 2,000-year-old game, actually the first recorded team sport in human history, has come a long way from its roots in Persia and central Asia.

In the mid-19th century, British troops stationed in India fell madly in love with the game – read “The Maltese Cat” by Rudyard Kipling, an outstanding short story written from the ponies’ point of view. The Brits embraced polo as their own and took it to England and expanded it further into the western hemisphere. In 1886 Great Britain defeated the United States in the first ever Westchester Cup.

By 1910 polo had taken off in the United States. Games were contested outside on huge grass expanses (300 yards by 160 yards), bigger than nine football fields. It was expensive to field teams of four players who changed horses every chukker (seven minute period of play). Polo enthusiasts took the game indoors, which allowed play to continue year-round and in inclement weather. In 1955 the Indoor Polo Association (established 1915)

merged with the US Polo Association (USPA), signaling an important new era for the growth of the game.

Arena Polo has brought in lots of newcomers from all walks of life and all age levels. Polo schools provide lessons and experienced ponies, which are actually horses up to about 16 hands, and league play flourishes, both on the club level and in the USPA Interscholastic/Intercollegiate leagues. Three riders per team, enclosed area with wooden boundary to contain the action, shorter periods, and fast action much closer to the spectators results in a win-win situation.

Great Meadow Polo, located at Great Meadow Events Center in The Plains, Virginia, launched arena polo on Friday nights in 1994 when the founder’s son Peter Arundel acted on a suggestion from the late great Big Joe Muldoon to establish polo in the Piedmont.

“Joe took Peter to Pittsburgh where they had an arena and then Arthur, Peter’s father, built the arena with a berm with trees overlooking the arena and that started Twilight Polo at Great Meadow,” explained Rob Banner, board member for 17 years until stepping up as President four years ago. “Since then, Twilight Polo has only grown. Our berm makes it easy to spectate. There are boxes arena-side that can be reserved, and families and groups of

Continued on page 110

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The view from the top of the berm early in the evening before the matches begin: people are still arriving and setting up their picnics.

friends bring picnics and sit along the berm. Last year attendance grew by 25% and on the first night in May we hit a record of more than 3,000 spectators."

Twilight Polo's games start in the cool of the evening as the sun sinks lower in the western sky, eventually disappearing behind the horizon that includes Wildcat Mountain. About 10 years ago, the decision was made to move Twilight Polo to Saturday night, because spectators driving from northern Virginia and D.C. got stuck in the Friday evening rush hour that often brought westbound traffic on Route 66 to a halt.

Professional player John Gobin (currently 5 grass, 6 arena) played high goal polo for eight years starting in 1992 when he was handpicked by the USPA to play for the US in the Westchester Cup. He remembers a crowd of 30,000 people and meeting HRH the Queen of England and Prince Charles. John, 22, scored the winning goal in double over-time. He still considers winning the Westchester Cup the biggest game of his life.

Six years ago John took over as general manager of Great

Meadow Polo and has helped introduce a number of innovations. "We wanted more families at Twilight Polo every weekend, not just two or three times a season," said John. "I'm a family man. My wife Kathleen is our vet the majority of the nights, and we have one kid who rides ponies and does hunter-jumper stuff. I love being a dad and a husband. I started the tug-of-war in the arena at halftime and all the kids love it. Then we send the kids on a race around the arena, helping the parents who want to have their kids slow down and settle at their picnics while they watch the last match. We have Polo Bear, and last year we introduced Lucy, a miniature horse. We brought her into the arena so kids could pet her." There are other reasons why Twilight Polo has grown in popularity: new players come into the game via the Great Meadow Polo School and other area schools. There are often 'student' chukkers at 6 pm, followed by the first match at 7 and then the feature at 8 o'clock. New players get their friends out to cheer for them and then everyone stays to enjoy the rest of the matches.

Continued on page 112

Arena Polo has brought along a bunch of young stars. In May 2011 Twilight Polo opened the season with a hotly contested 7 pm match between the locally based Riverside Polo - Wyatt Harlow and brothers Tyler and Austin Burdick - versus Work To Ride - Brandon Rease, brothers Daymar and Kareem Rosser - from West Philadelphia. The match ended in a 10-7 win for Work To Ride. In 2011 WTR made history by being the first all African American team to win the National Interscholastic Championship.

All photos by Lauren R. Giannini, unless noted



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Photo: Tom Tracy

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Female players are on the increase: Julia Steiner has the right of play, but Tyler Burdick is right there, hoping for an opportunity to block a shot or ride off the opposing player - there is no chivalry in polo where men and women play as equals, thanks to the horses.

Photo by Douglas Lees

A tradition after each match: the high five - in this view, Riverside's Tyler Burdick, Wyatt Harlow and way back Austin Burdick make their way along the boxes on the berm side to trade high five with spectators at Twilight Polo at Great Meadow.



"Right now we have about 30 students in our school and it's going really well," said John. "They play on grass at Willow Run, but we also have lessons in the arena at Great Meadow. During the off season we turn out our school ponies and students go to nearby schools like Natania and Battlefield Park."

Another innovation, the continuous play rule, has contributed to the increasing popularity of Twilight Polo at Great Meadow. The action is less interrupted during chukkers that last six minutes. "We had been playing the 'continuous play rule' for about three years, and I happened to be chairman of the USPA Arena committee and I spearheaded the move to get the rule changed - it's fun to watch and it's easier on the horses, which is very important," explained John who appropriated the idea when he played in England.

At \$30 per carload for general admission, spectators get a great deal. Food is sold on the berm or they can bring their own picnics. They can reserve a ringside box for the season; some are available for one evening. It's a full evening of sport and then the dancing begins.

"I think that the dance party makes Twilight Polo a great

Saturday night choice for people out here in the country, because there aren't many places to dance between Middleburg and Warrenton," stated Rob. "Most of all, what is really special about Twilight Polo is that the arena is a great way for people to learn how to spectate the game. It's very hard to follow the game on grass when you don't know what you are seeing and you aren't familiar with the rules of play and the horses are way over on the far side of the field."

Twilight Polo kicks off the new season on May 18 with a star-studded evening. Great Meadow has invited several celebrity players, and Jordache will take to the runway between matches for the fashion show in the pavilion.

For more information on Great Meadow, visit www.greatmeadowpolo.org. For more information on the United States Polo Association, visit www.us-polo.org.

About the writer: Sidelines' Lauren R. Giannini is an award-winning "wordsmith" specializing in stories and photos about the equestrian world. Crazy about horses her entire life, she lives in the horse and hunt country of Virginia. Lauren's motto is "write, ride - not necessarily in that order!"



HIGHLIGHTS

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Mar. 14 - Ruby et Violette
WEF Challenge Cup Round 10
Mar. 16 - \$82,000 Horseware® Ireland
Grand Prix CSI 3*
Mar. 17 - \$33,000 Suncast® 1.50M
Championship Jumper Classic
FTI WEF 11 Artisan Farms
Mar. 21 - Ruby et Violette
WEF Challenge Cup Round 11
Mar. 22 - George Morris Equitation Championship
presented by Alessandro Albanese
Mar. 23 - \$100,000 Suncast® 1.50M
Championship Jumper Classic Final
Mar. 24 - \$15,000 Artisan Farms Young Rider
Grand Prix at The Stadium
Mar. 24 - \$101,000 Pennfield Feeds
Grand Prix CSI 4* at The Stadium
FTI WEF 12 FTI Consulting
Mar. 28 - Ruby et Violette
WEF Challenge Cup Round 12
Mar. 30 - \$33,000 Suncast® 1.50M
Jumper Classic
Mar. 30 - \$500,000 FTI Consulting
Finale Grand Prix CSI 5*
Mar. 31 - \$50,000 USHJA International Hunter
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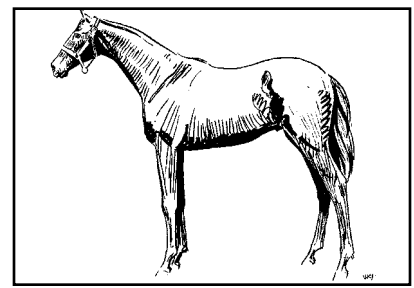
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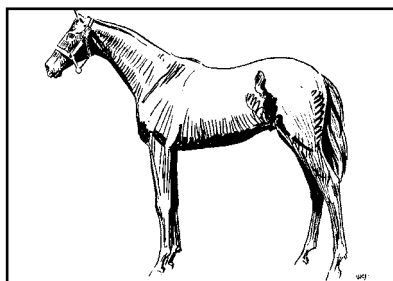
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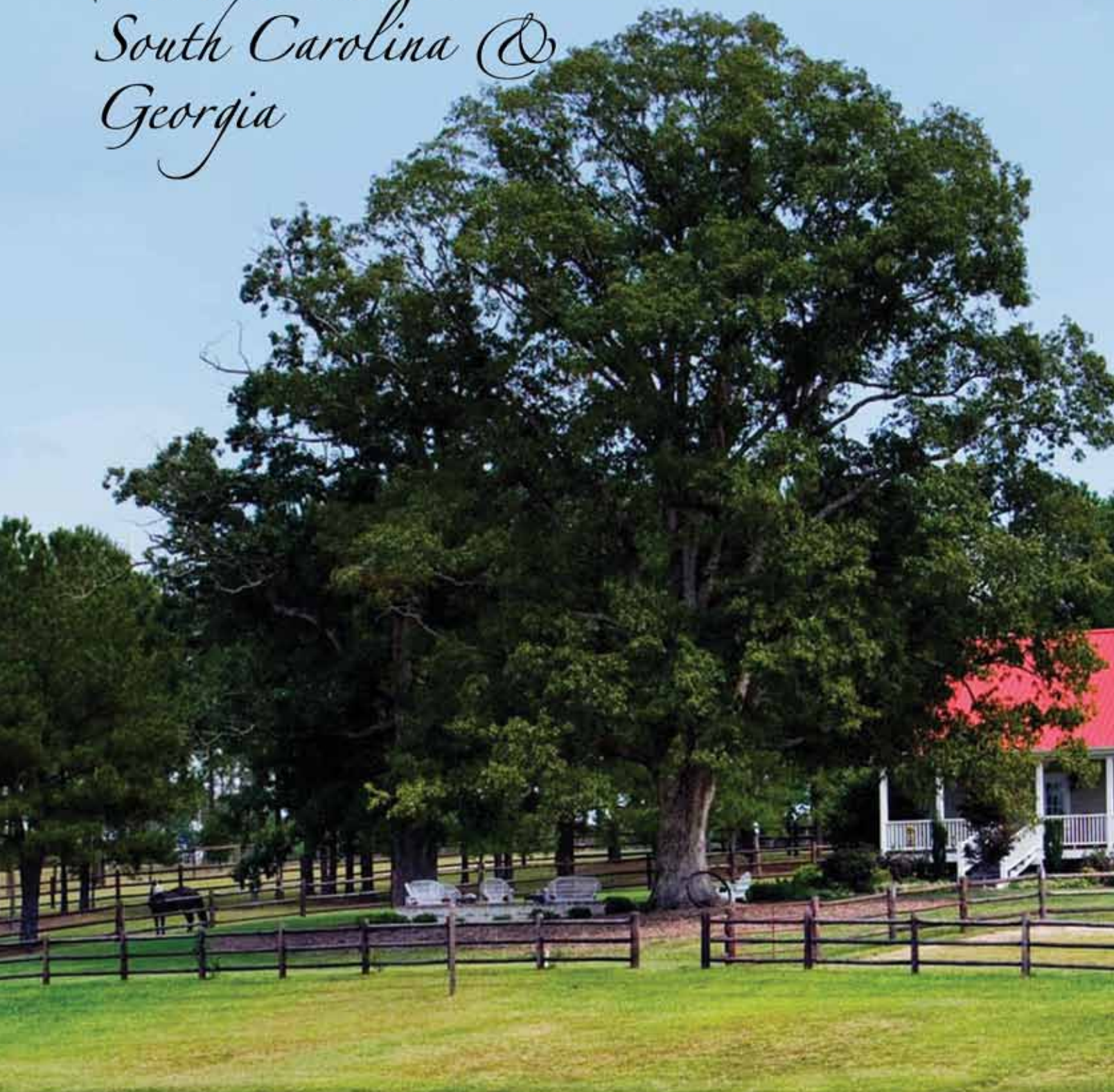
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Trading the Snowy North for the Sunny South

Cheryl Alles knows how fortunate she is. It's a rare and wonderful husband who gives his wife a pair of Holsteiner broodmares as a Mother's Day gift and then helps her set up a successful small breeding farm. But that was several years in the past, in the snowy cold north of Michigan. Cheryl and her husband John have since traded in the chilly north for easier southern living in Clayton, North Carolina. *Sidelines* caught up with her riding the trails at Portofino, the equestrian community where she now lives.

You have been riding since you were young, what drew you to dressage?

After I became married with children, I was introduced to dressage by Linda Larisch. Dressage was the next natural step in my dance with the horse. As my first dressage trainer, Linda was and still is, such an important influence for me. She introduced me not only to the art of dressage, but also to the Holsteiner horse. After John gave me those two lovely mares, we decided to try our hand at breeding. We ran a small but successful sporthorse breeding operation for several years in Michigan.

What brought you to in North Carolina?

John had served in the Army's 82nd Airborne Division in the 1970s and had always talked of coming back to live under the "Carolina Blue" skies. When the kids were young, we spent summer vacations on the Outer Banks. So in 2000, when we found a small business to purchase in Chapel Hill, even our kids felt comfortable with the move. As much as we loved Michigan, we grew tired of the long winters and those gray days. John is an avid golfer, I love to ride and we can do both year-round here. The nice thing about North Carolina is that you still have the lovely change of seasons, but without those drastic winter temperatures. And there are so many sunny days here! So in 2000, we sold the farm and moved from Michigan to Clayton, North Carolina. We



Cheryl on Arrie and her daughter Rachel on Bel, enjoying the trails at Portofino.



Cheryl and Arrie with friends in the barn at Portofino.

All photos courtesy of Portofino

kept one broodmare, Bel Esprit and bred her for one last foal in 2004. She came south with us and that breeding produced the Holsteiner filly Uwharrie ("Arrie") who is now eight years old.

Who have you trained with in North Carolina?

I trained with Elizabeth Moore for several years here. Both Linda and Elizabeth have taught me to strive for perfection. Arrie and I have competed only at Training Level; but we school from First through Third Level movements. We just started training with Laurie Hutchinson and I'm looking forward to seeing how that partnership can grow. This year I'm planning to continue schooling Arrie at First through Third Levels and compete in a few recognized shows. My five-year plan includes competing with Arrie through Fourth Level. She is a talented FEI prospect and I'm looking forward to many years of teamwork to get us to the upper levels. Arrie is the mare that dreams are made of! I'm excited to see how far she and I can go together.

How are you able to find the time to ride?

My job as a grants and contracts administrator at Duke University keeps me busy; but I still ride four to five days a week. After I get home from work, I hop on the golf cart and head to the barn to get my ride in. Having the horses right here on the property makes it convenient to ride on weeknights. In prior years, I'd have to get home, change and drive to the stable after work. Now I come home, get dinner started, head down to the barn to ride and then I'm home in time for dinner with my family, which is a major priority for me.

What are the benefits of living at Portofino?

Once we became empty nesters a dozen years ago, John and I talked about finding another farm, like the one we had in Michigan. But when we discovered Portofino, we realized that having a home in this equestrian-friendly community would give us the chance to have the horses close by - but someone else is mending the fences and fertilizing the pastures.

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Donnerhall's Legacy – Don Principe

Editor's Note: Marydell Farm is located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Tryon, North Carolina. Sidelines Editor Jan Westmark-Allan had the chance to visit the farm and spend time with owner Maryanna Haymon, as well as many of Don Principe's foals. While Don Principe is standing at Hilltop Farms in Maryland, Maryanna's North Carolina farm is a testament to the beautiful offspring the stallion produces. If you are in the Tryon area, it is worth a visit!

By Lauren R. Giannini

Those who follow dressage have heard of Donnerhall, considered by many to be one of the most influential dressage sires of all time as well as a proven winner competitively. At the 1988 World Championships in Rome, Donnerhall, 17, and his dancing partner Karin Rehbein scored a fourth place individual finish and contributed to the German team's gold medal. Donnerhall stamps his get with trainability and the strength to handle the demands of collected work.

If Donnerhall has a "secret" son, it is Don Principe, owned by Marydell Farm. Maryanna Haymon, whose Marydell Farm is nestled near the rolling hills of Tryon, North Carolina, has so much faith in her 14-year-old stallion that she arranged for him to stand at Hilltop Farms, the premiere breeding and training establishment in Colora, Maryland. The decision wasn't easy for the USEF 2007 and 2011 Breeder and Owner of the Year and USDF Reserve Breeder of the Year 2009, 2010, 2011, but Maryanna loves this



Don Principe shows off his half-pass.

Photo by Maryanna Haymon

horse and believes in him.

"I would do anything for that stallion," said Maryanna, who has had Don Principe since he was four. "I traveled around the world with that horse. I spent two months in Germany when he was in training with Klaus Balkenhol. Prince came to the United States when he was six, but he hasn't been getting the mares here that he needs to make his reputation. Team riders have been contacting me, asking for Don Principe offspring, but the breeders – not so much. That's why I placed him at Hilltop, with the hope that performance horse breeders would consider him for their mares. I feel I've done the best thing for all concerned."

Don Principe went to Hilltop last year, albeit late in the season. "You can't ask for better customer service, and I have great hopes that Prince will have more mares through Hilltop," said Maryanna. "Some international grand prix riders who breed for themselves are breeding to my stallion this year. Don Principe has improved every mare he has been put to. He is just like Donnerhall – he makes horses better than himself, but it's a long way from insemination to starting under saddle to reaching Grand Prix and FEI levels."

Maryanna admitted it doesn't really matter what the offspring of Don Principe end up doing as a job. "I want them to be safe, have three good gaits and temperament, and correct conformation



Don Principe at play.

Photo by Sharon Packer



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Maryanna Haymon and MF David Bowie (a Don Principe son), winner of the USDF "Traveling Trot" perpetual trophy in 2012. David Bowie is growing up at Marydell Farm near Tryon, North Carolina.
 Photo by Jan Westmark-Allan



Don Principe
 Photo by Sharon Packer

so that they stay sound and are less likely to break down in the course of their lifetime," she said. "What makes Don Principe so interesting as a sire is that the Thoroughbred blood up close in his pedigree gives him vigor, stamina and general athleticism that most Warmbloods don't have. Jumper blood a few generations back, especially on the mare's side, give his get a great engine. If a Don Principe offspring isn't meant for dressage, they make outstanding event prospects and four-foot hunter derby horses."

Don Principe's offspring, in addition to having big dressage gaits, are also eminently trainable and, as Maryanna pointed out, winning in-hand, too. "For the last two years Don Principe is the only stallion standing domestically whose offspring have won the USDF "Traveling Trot" perpetual trophy, which is awarded to the highest scoring champion of all champions in the country for in-hand performance – MF Duett in 2011 and MF David Bowie in 2012," she said. "The only other stallion to do this is Sandro Hit, who is based in Germany."

Don Principe has always had a dual career as a stud and as a performance horse. His breeder in Germany, Adelheid Bruening, stockpiled semen for their best mares. The Prince's

training program has been thoughtful and thorough. Trainer and professional handler Michael Braggdell (Sweden), who has been part of the Hilltop team since 1995, has taken over the reins on Prince since his move to Hilltop. Michael, with the support of Chris Hickey, Hilltop's head trainer, has been building a solid performance partnership with the stallion.

"Competition-wise, the only thing Prince hasn't done is represent this country on a team," said Maryanna. "At one of his first competitive outings with Michael in October 2012, they scored 77.8 in Intermediaire II. Michael and Prince are getting it together, but it takes two years for a rider to get accustomed to the idiosyncrasies of a grand prix horse. Even without hitting the CDI circuit this year, I think that Don Principe is the best horse on four hooves. I think American breeders are missing out on a jewel. My goal is for him is to be recognized as a grand prix horse and as a breeding stallion during his lifetime."

For more information on Marydell Farms, visit www.marydellfarm.com.

For more information on Hilltop Farms, visit www.hilltop.com.

Gathering for a reunion, from left to right, Hans-Heinrich, Adleheid Bruning (Don Principe's breeder), Don Principe with Jennifer Baumert and Klaus Balkenhol. This meeting marked the first time the Brunings had seen Don Principe since he left Germany as a five year old.
 Photo by Maryanna Haymon



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Georgia Peach Stephanie Pair Kavitz

By Dani Moritz

USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist Stephanie Pair Kavitz has spent her life pushing past boundaries and becoming the best rider she could be and now she helps young riders do the same.

With a mom who was as a trainer and a dad who was a farrier, Stephanie started showing when she was seven years old. Because her mom also worked with racehorses, Stephanie was exercising Thoroughbreds at only 10 years old. "I was galloping three-year-old stallions for the track, trying to get them ready," she said. "When I was a kid I was pretty fearless."

When Stephanie was 17, she applied for a working student position with Isabelle Judet, former Chef d'Equipe of the French Olympic Dressage Team. She was also able to train with Bernard Scottsman to improve her jumping while in France. Stephanie enjoyed it so much she says she never wanted to come home.

As a working student, Stephanie was constantly on the move. "I had to go back and forth quite a bit to help on the farm so I was constantly rotating back and forth." She did, however, manage to earn a business degree during that time.

After being in France for four years, Stephanie decided to come back to the States. "I didn't take my own horse there and that's the only reason I kind of got convinced to come home," she said. "I wanted to find somewhere in the States where I could train and take my horse with me."

She headed to New York to work and ended up getting a grand prix horse whose owner thought the horse was lame and thought about sending it to be slaughtered. "I thought, oh please don't do that. Just give him to me. My family has acreage and we'll turn him out, just please don't sell him to the killers."

The woman ended up signing the horse over to Stephanie who then competed him through Intermediaire 1. He is now officially and happily retired at 30 years old.

After being in New York for about a year, Stephanie moved back to Georgia and soon after started Revelry Farm. The farm, located in Alpharetta, Georgia, is a multi-discipline facility that offers training, sales and lessons. She recently moved to a new facility, Staples Farm, in order to continue to grow her business. "This year will be 10 years that I've had the farm in operation," she said. "It's been fun."

While managing the farm, Stephanie continues to show her



Stephanie riding one of her sale horses, Galahad, at the First Level Championships.

Photo by WNC Photography

personal horse, Lavida, at Prix St. Georges, with hopes of one day competing internationally for the United States. Stephanie has owned, trained and ridden Lavida since she was three years old. Lavida will be nine in August.

Often alongside her best friend and fellow USDF medalist Amber Clark, Stephanie coaches South Forsyth High School and Alpharetta High School and one middle school team. She is a former coach of the Georgia State University Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Equestrian Team.

She has been involved with the Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) for eight years. "One thing I really like about the high school program...is it gives the chance to ride," she said. "They don't have to own a horse to go to horse show with IEA. It's wonderful." Stephanie is currently trying to get the IEA to introduce dressage competition.

She also sponsors several riders because she knows what it feels like to want nothing more than to ride and not necessarily have the means to do it. "I have several kids that I sponsor," she said. "There's no way they could afford to ride and do all that stuff that they do, so they come to the barn and they work for me. They groom, they clean stalls, whatever they've got to do they do it."

Sponsoring riders is Stephanie's way of giving back to the industry that gave her so much. "I had a lot of really great trainers who did the same thing for me," she said. "They knew I had no money and they let me come and ride and train anyway."

For more information on Stephanie's farm, visit <http://www.revelryfarm.com>.

About the writer: Dani Moritz is a senior at William Woods University and is a writer/producer and creative director for RateMyRiding.com. She is also the 2012 American Horse Publications Student Award Winner and a staff writer for Sidelines Magazine.



Stephanie and her students hanging out at a horse show.

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Atlanta's "Horses for Heroes" Helps Wounded Warriors

By Dani Moritz

For Juan Cruz, being at the barn isn't about working toward blue ribbons. It isn't even always about riding. Instead, it's about the peace and tranquility of the barn and, above all else, it's about the connection he feels with horses.

A staff sergeant in the Army Reserve, Juan has been in the service for 23 years and on active duty since 2007. While receiving medical treatment at the Shepherd Center in Atlanta, Georgia, he began participating in a local Horses For Heroes program called Equine Outreach.

Despite having little experience with horses outside of pony rides and riding at his cousin's farm, Juan took to the horses immediately. "Just being at the barn was different," said Juan. "It was so peaceful."

And Juan isn't alone. Through Equine Outreach, located just north of Atlanta, Leslie Olson, RN, a PATH (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International) and EAGALA (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association) certified instructor, helps many heroes with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries through equine assisted therapy.

"I'm a former navy wife and my dad was an army officer so I have military in my background and I saw a video on PATH... on how they were starting to use therapeutic riding to help wounded warriors and I thought that is definitely what I want to do."

Equine Outreach focuses on utilizing equine assisted therapies



Juan sharing a moment with Poppy. In the background is Cindy, an Equine Outreach volunteer. All photos by Leslie Olson, unless noted

to bridge the gap between military and civilian life. It also helps them work through visual impairment and improve their memory.

"I love being around them," said Leslie. "I love to see how they respond to horses. You can tell sometimes when they get out of the car in a dark mood and in about five to 15 minutes they're smiling and it's a complete transformation."

The servicemen and women participating in Horses for Heroes do Hippotherapy on Fridays with Windy Thomas, OT, and recreational riding on Wednesdays. During the Hippotherapy sessions, riders complete an obstacle course that mimics driving on a street. They steer through PVC poles and interact with street signs to get from point A to point B which particularly helps those who have trouble driving due to visual issues.

This activity is a favorite of Juan's since he is the one who sets the course. "I learned how to set the course for the guys to come do the course that we do and it's like my little baby," Juan said. "I walk on that course, I put it together myself when we get there in the mornings and I love it."

They also enjoy other activities such as barn chores, grazing the horses, groundwork and even painting the horses. "It is a great outdoor therapy for us soldiers and vets that are used to outdoors. Due to the injuries or PTSD conditions, it allows us to be outside and be out of the hospital and doctors office environment," said Juan.

For one art therapy session, they were asked to unpack their backpacks and, on one side of the horse, paint what they wanted to get rid of and, on the other, paint what they wanted to keep.

"Most of them painted things like getting rid of their guns and the hate; one guy drew a picture of the World Trade Center; one of the other guys painted love and peace," said Leslie. "Those are really powerful sessions."

But for Juan, he's just happy to be around the horses. "I love to take the horses from their stalls back to their grass areas or just go graze them for a while or bring them back to their stalls. Sometimes I just like to go groom the horse," Juan said. "There



Nate bonding with Halo.



Cindy leading Poppy while Juan is a side walker for fellow serviceman Harry.

doesn't have to be anything going on."

Juan's passion for horses has grown so strong that he actually moved closer to the barn to be able to spend more time there. He now works for Leslie and plans on being involved with horses for the rest of his life.

Juan is even considering different riding styles. "The times I have ridden are Western - because of my back problems and issues it is more comfortable," Juan said. "When I started there I was heavier; but I haven't tried English again. I might try it later and see how it feels."

Although Juan still has some restrictions from being in the military, he definitely looks forward to doing more with the horses. "If my mentor, Miss Olsen, thinks that I have what it takes for it, then I'll go for it."

Juan would like to give a special thanks to his mentors Leslie Olsen and Windy Thomas for all their help and encouragement



A therapy horse named Summer after an art therapy session. This side of Summer illustrates what the heroes wanted to get rid of from their backpacks.



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The Cram Family Keeps The Show World Jumping



The Crams on a family trip to Montana in the summer of 2012.
Photo courtesy of Cathy Cram

Dani Moritz

As a young man trying to fund his college career, Rick Cram turned to horse shows. In 1987, he began his first horse show business called RSC Horse Show Services. He built jumps in his mom's backyard and held his first horse show with approximately 20 horses at Ramblewood in Aiken, South Carolina.

RSC Horse Show Services later became Progressive Show Jumping, Inc. (PSJ), which is based out of Highfields Event Center, a 60-acre facility in Aiken that began as a hay field. Both the company and the event center are owned and operated

by Rick and his wife, Cathy Cram. Rick takes care of the show management and facility operations and Cathy manages the corporate offices and does a lot of work behind the scenes.

What started as a very small operation has evolved into something on a much bigger and grander scale. PSJ now hosts three different circuits - fun shows as well as the PSJ and USEF circuits. "Gradually as our business built, Rick acquired other horse show dates from the USEF," said Cathy. "We started with two shows and now we have nine USEF shows that we host between January and April."

Rick and Cathy started the fun shows about four years ago after Cathy ran into a former PSJ competitor at the store who told her she was not competing in the PSJ circuit because it had gotten too competitive.

Cathy was shocked to hear that, but set out to fix the problem. "After I got home from the store, I told Rick 'you won't believe this but I think we need to start PSJ all over again' and he looked at me like I had three heads," Cathy said.

So PSJ started their fun show series, which has classes for \$10 and under and is ideal for new competitors or people with green horses.

Despite hosting events almost every weekend and operating three different types of shows, PSJ is still very much a family business. Rick and Cathy rely on family members, a small support group and their two daughters, Celia, 9, and Elizabeth, 8, to run the show. "The girls have had to learn how to get their homework done in the backroom. When customers come in they know to be quiet and how to address them properly. I think that has been good for everyone," said Cathy, of her daughters growing up within the family business.

Celia and Elizabeth don't seem to mind. "We have such great horsemen in our community with kids that are close in age of my kids," said Cathy. "They all meet up at Highfields on show weekends and jump the little kids' jumps and have a blast, I guarantee all our kids sleep well at night."



Cathy and Rick Cram, with Rendezvous Road.

Photo by Mary G Wyatt

Cathy laughs that her daughters have “the horse show bug” and have been showing the past couple of years. Celia, their oldest daughter, recently started showing in small ponies on the USEF circuit. “I think the first time we put Celia on a horse she was eight months old,” said Cathy. “Boy she sat right up there and when we went to take her off she cried.”

The family’s love for horses and business keeps them on their toes. Cathy says they are always trying to have fun exhibitor events and are always coming up with new themes for awards. “It’s tough to sit down week after week and totally reinvent yourself for each event and come up with something new that you don’t think they’ve seen before.”

Well, the Crams must be doing something right because each year they increase their base of competitors more and more and they continue to see competitors work their way through the PSJ cycle.

“...We have people starting on the PSJ circuit and they work their way all the way through as a junior aging out into the amateur divisions or an adult amateur going into the amateurs at 3’6”. Sometimes you won’t see them for a little while or they’ll go to just the A shows. But, as soon as that particular horse sells or its career might change and they move on to another horse you see them back at the PSJ circuit.”

About the writer: Dani Moritz is a senior at William Woods University and is a writer/producer and creative director for RateMyRiding.com. She is also the 2012 American Horse Publications Student Award Winner and a staff writer for Sidelines Magazine.



Elizabeth, and Run for the Roses, and Celia, and Helicon Abbey Road, champions at the Historic Aiken Horse Show in Hitchcock Woods.

Photo by Cathy Cram

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Dressage According To Darren Taplin and Nick Bertelli



Foxland Equestrian's dynamic duo, Nick Bertelli with Natalie and Darren Taplin with Omar, bookend their German Oldenburg, Roxette by Rubignon out of Warkant mare, who was the second highest scoring mare in the country at her mare inspection for Hanoverian. Roxette is schooling Prix St. George.

Photo by James Moser/The Barn Book

By Lauren R. Giannini

Nick Bertelli and Darren Taplin recently made a big move from California to South Carolina where they established Foxland Equestrian. The West Coast's loss is Aiken's gain, thanks to Darren's 35 years of experience and Nick's 17 in classical dressage. Their expertise ranges from starting horses to training progressively to the grand prix level. The real beneficiaries happen to be the horses and the riders who come under their tutelage.

"My focus is on training – I'm so particular about horses being ready," said Darren. "I love the training process and for the better part of the last 10 years I have gotten the most satisfaction from working with horses and riders and watching the progress they make. I don't get aggressive; I don't rattle their confidence. I turn the question inside out and go back to the basics. I dissect the movements and explain to the rider how to do them and how this causes this and that causes that."

Darren demystifies the complexity of dressage to its most basic essence: getting the horse to come through from behind in self-

carriage without putting all its weight into the rider's hands. Among the classical horsemen who shaped him are Charles de Kunffy, Lilo Fore and Steffen Peters. He spent a couple of years learning in-hand work from Bill Biggs, who taught difficult horses how to piaffe and passage. About 10 years ago he discovered Sandy Phillips, ex-wife of Capt. Mark Phillips.

"Nick and I spend time with Sandy whenever we can. She's an amazing trainer," said Darren. "She has been so influential in how I train. She took both Nick and me to a whole new level in terms of our riding, too. I'm a blend of European rider/trainers and the better American trainers. I don't microwave down the centerline. I spend time with each horse. I'm into getting them fit from the inside out, and my horses last a long time. I have a nearly 20-year-old grand prix horse I started as a baby: he's sound and can still piaffe and passage."

For Nick, it was like finding the Holy Grail of dressage in a person. "Sandy is an international rider, trainer and judge and

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she'll get on your horse – you can't BS her," said Nick. "Sandy and I have grown very close – she's become a member of our family – and I go to England twice a year to train with her. I wish I could go more often. Every time I ride with Sandy, she picks up on what I learned with Darren and accesses the part of me as an athlete that I never knew I possessed. I'm getting closer all the time to being the FEI rider I always dreamed of being. Sandy is unyielding when it comes to training and feeling the horse in balance: it's like being in a gymnastic and dance lesson at the same time. She turns you inside out and puts you back together again better than you were before."

Kindness to the horses is a recurring theme. When Nick took his horses to Renaissance Farm 17 years ago, Darren was the resident trainer. "It didn't take long to become Darren's assistant," recalled Nick. "He was known for being simpatico, for turning horses that weren't started right or were hot into seriously good performance horses. We've always seen eye to eye about all animals, and the horses are our first priority."

During his Renaissance period, Darren prepared stallions for 100-day testing. Nick began to work with him to prepare horses for their German Verband mare and stallion testing. Many horses stayed with them for under saddle training and prepared for their competitive careers.

"The business grew, and I learned a lot from Darren," said Nick. "It worked out really nicely for both of us. Darren is the absolute mastermind of training and developing the horses. He still enjoys competing, but nowadays when he stays at home, it allows me to go to shows which I absolutely love doing. Darren gets to continue training the horses that aren't ready to compete and I get to take the horses to shows after he has done his magic with them."

Darren puts the horses first, and he isn't afraid to make waves and swim against the current. "You have to follow your heart," he emphasized. "I would tell anyone I rode with, 'If you upset my horses and take them out of their safe zone, I'm leaving.' I have dismounted and left and not gone back. Years ago I went to ride with Steffen – I had trouble getting the one tempis with a mare – and he said, 'I've heard about you.' I am bluntly honest when it comes to the horses. You have to develop trust with the horse and it doesn't always come easy."

Both horsemen believe that part of the key to developing great dressage horses is keeping the fire alive in their brains. They set up a jumping chute to get the horses schooling over small fences, a fun, strengthening gymnastic. They longe and long-line the horses, even the ones at FEI level, the way they ride them. It provides another perspective and allows them to see the horses pushing off their hindquarters and using themselves.

Darren believes horses have to be horses. The horses they take in for training get turned out. They hack out. They do more than just go from stall to arena. Darren and Nick's personal horses live outside. Their new farm has a park-like setting, custom barn and fencing, individual paddocks and before long it will boast a dressage court.

"We're running a boutique business here – we want to give everyone the attention and individual training they need and you have to keep small to do that," said Nick. "If you get too big, you can't really hone the individual."

Nick and Darren's mission in Aiken includes helping anyone to improve their horse, whatever their goals, game, discipline or sport. "Dressage is the foundation for everything," said Nick. "Already we have received really positive reactions from the community. Hunter-jumper riders and eventers are coming to us with their horses. Aiken is a horsemen's community, and now it's our home. We're looking to making our own unique contributions."

For more information, visit Nick and Darren's website at www.foxlandequestrian.com.



Roxette and Nick Bertelli: "They are our dance partners."

Photo by James Moser/The Barn Book



Darren Taplin masterminds the training of the horses: shown here with Oxford, schooling canter pirouette in 2010.

Photo by Sally Hitchcock

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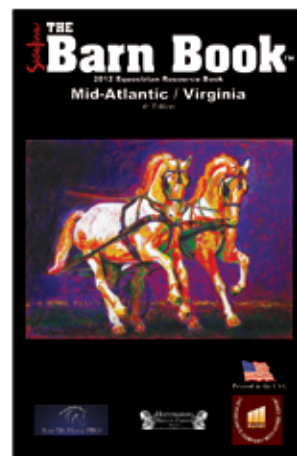
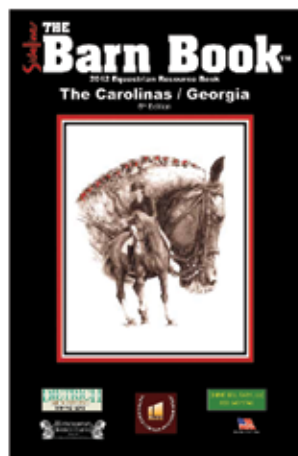
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The Wonderful World of Wellington

By Jan Westmark-Allan

I knew that when I headed to Wellington for a week during the 2013 FTI Consulting Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) that it would be a whirlwind experience. Thousands of horses and riders descend on Wellington during the winter circuit and there is never a dull moment.

I stayed busy - no dull moments at all - and had a great time in the wonderful world of Wellington. *Sidelines* newest venture is *Sidelines TV* (check out all the videos on our website or on our *Sidelines TV* YouTube channel)- and I spent a week with *Sidelines TV* producer Rob Jordan, interviewing people and scouting the show grounds for great locations to shoot videos.

Everything was going great with *Sidelines TV*, until Rob decided to film a segment called "Old Lady On A Horse." Actually, my daughter Abby and I were at Bethany Peslar's Everglades



Abby Westmark takes a dressage lesson on Zoey at Bethany Peslar's Everglades Dressage Farm in the Grand Prix Village in Wellington. (Notice the beautiful hedges in the background!)

All photos by Jan Westmark-Allan

Dressage Farm in Grand Prix Village where we were taking a lesson with Bethany on one of her dressage schoolmasters. Rob showed up with cameras rolling and chaos ensued when I jumped off the horse and hid behind a bush (Everglades Dressage Farm has a lot of beautiful hedges). Abby took over the lesson and we learned that dressage is a great cardiovascular workout - whether you are riding or running and jumping into bushes. Thanks Bethany for showing us the wonderful world of dressage.

I also got a closer look at the wonderful world of amazing riders while in Wellington. *Sidelines* was the media sponsor for the Equestrian Aid Foundation's "Who Reins Supreme?" event - where polo players, show jumpers, hunters and dressage riders raised money for a great cause by taking a spin on a reining horse. Watching all of these riders compete for a great cause was



Riders from all disciplines took part in the "Who Reins Supreme?" event for the Equestrian Aid Foundation in Wellington. From left to right: polo player Nic Roldan; show jumpers Brianne Goutal and Georgina Bloomberg; polo player Brandon Phillips and show jumper Romain Marteau.

inspiring - and throughout WEF there are endless charity events that raise money for worthy causes. It is wonderful to see the equestrian community come together.

Wellington offers an array of horse activities, so I attended polo matches, rode dressage horses, watched the show jumpers clear huge jumps with ease during a grand prix and sat on the side of the hunter ring green with envy as one gorgeous hunter after the next cantered a flawless course. Wellington really is a place where dreams happen - whether you are on a horse or just sitting on the sidelines.

The Bottom Line: Before the winter circuit started, each of the local Wellington schools painted a mural for WEF and they are displayed throughout the show grounds. Polo Park Middle School painted a mural of the new carousel that stands near the entrance of the Winter Equestrian Festival that says "Every Dream Begins Somewhere." The middle school kids got it right - Wellington certainly is the place where dreams begin.



The "Every Dream Begins Somewhere" mural painted by Polo Park Middle School is on display at the Winter Equestrian Festival.



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