



Ken and Arle Adams Make Five Million Dollar Bequest to the United States Equestrian Team Foundation

BY KENNETH L. KRAUS

The love of horses has guided Ken Adams' life since his early childhood. "I first had a horse when I was eight years old. I used to deliver newspapers, early in the morning on horseback," Adams described.

It's that deep-seated love and passion for horse sports that led Ken and his wife Arle to make the United States Equestrian Team Foundation the recipients of a \$5 million endowment, the largest gift bequest in the Foundation's history. This gift will be used to create the Ken and Arle Adams International Competition and Training Grant Fund.

The fund will add much needed supplemental funding to the Olympic High Performance programs. "I think our gift will allow more international competition at the top level. The number of people that can participate, I hope, will be increased by this bequest. My hopes are, and one of the provisions in my gift is that others will match our gift. That ability, to match funds, will allow more folks to come on board to help," Adams explained. "What I've given the USET Foundation certainly won't be enough, but the way I've set this up will give the USET Foundation the ability to match contributions, so hopefully, that will be helpful."

These funds are vital to continued efforts towards funding international competition and the training plans that help the United States stay competitive world-wide and repeatedly generate Olympic and World Championship medal winning performances.

"Gifts such as this one are what will allow the United States of America to remain at the top of the international equestrian sport," said USET Foundation President and CEO Jane Forbes Clark. "This extraordinary gift will be the largest gift ever made to the USET Foundation, and the Foundation is so grateful to Ken and Arle for their generosity. Leaving a dynamic legacy that will forever bear their name, the Adams' gift will be a determining factor in this country's ability to medal consistently in international championships in the future," she stated.

"Mason (Phelps) was the first to suggest the donation. Then, he put Jane Clark in touch with me and that's the last thing I remember," Adams laughed. "In reality, it was Mason's idea and I couldn't be happier with the way it turned out."

Adams is the former CEO of True Value Hardware, and has been an equestrian enthusiast his entire life.



Photo by Ken Kraus

"Almost every friend that we really care about has come to us through the equestrian community..." Ken Adams



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USET Foundation Welcomes New Trustees

This winter, the United States Equestrian Team Foundation announced the election of new Trustees Jenny Sutton, Chester Weber and Jack Wetzel. They will aid and assist the USET Foundation in its mission to support the competition, training, coaching, travel and educational needs of America's elite and developing international High Performance horses and athletes in partnership with the United States Equestrian Federation. The USET Foundation is pleased to welcome each of these individuals to its Board of Trustees.

Chester Weber

Combined Driver Chester Weber, achieved what no other driver has ever done before in March of 2010 when he won the USEF National Four-In-Hand Championship for a record eighth year in a row. Later in the year, Weber represented the United States during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games where he helped earn a Team Silver medal. A phenomenal 2010 came on the heels of a stellar 2009, in which Team Weber dominated the Four-In-Hand division by winning all events entered, including the prestigious CAI-A Live Oak International. Weber was also a member of the Silver medal team in 2002, and he was the first American to ever win an individual medal at the World Driving Championships. In 2008, he captured the Individual Silver medal in the Four-in-Hand World Driving Championships in Beesd, The Netherlands.



Jack Wetzel

Having driven many years, Wetzel has now retired and sponsored a team during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. Wetzel currently sponsors Joe Yoder, who is driving his team of Dutch Gelderlanders. Over the years, Wetzel has been a member of the USEF Development Committee, New York Coaching Club, The Four-in-Hand Club (founding member), Aiken Driving Club and President of the Governors of the Green Boundary Club. Wetzel's driving career includes being the 2001 and 2002 USEF National Champion Advanced Single Pony Driver, and USET alternate for the Pairs Horse World Championships.



Jenny Wren Sutton

A horse enthusiast and community philanthropist, Jenny has served on various non-profit boards including: The Immokalee Foundation, Conservancy of South West Florida, Naples Philharmonic, The YMCA of Collier County, Community School of Naples, and the David Lawrence Foundation. She is a member of the Naples Botanical Garden Sustaining Leadership Council, the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation International Council, Junior League and is the owner of Wrenwood Farms.



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"It just felt good to both my wife and me," he stated. "At first, I wasn't sure that it was the right fit, but the more I thought about it, the more I realized that my wife and I have had horses all of our lives and, moreover, horses have guided our entire lives. Almost every friend that we really care about has come to us through the equestrian community. So, horses have had a great influence on our personal lives and they got inside both of us. There's a relationship with a horse that is like no other," Adams related.

"I've seen horses give their all so many times. I've ridden a horse so hard through two chukkers of polo and then to have him come through and give me even more in the next period. Well, that's just something that's really special and can only be found in a relationship with a horse," Adams smiled. "In competition, horses give their whole heart to please you."

That love for horses and thoughts of the competitive arena affected Adams on a much deeper level, at one of life's most stressful times. "I'm sure so many people won't understand this," Adams mentioned. "I was a flight engineer on a B-29 strategic bomber. There, right in front of me, was the front end of a nuclear weapon. We were in the air on the average of fourteen hours a day and you couldn't help but think about the significance of the hundreds of thousands of people that that one bomb could eliminate. When you're in that situation, on a daily basis, you think about the unthinkable. What would the earth be like if we dropped that bomb? Would it be lost for generations?"

"I still haven't found all of those answers I was looking for then," Adams admitted and added, "but it seemed to me, over the years, that countries that competed economically in the boardrooms and on the factory floors, and those that competed on the ball diamonds and the show grounds and the sports fields, are less apt to compete on the battlefields. Now, all of that might not make sense to a lot of people, but to me, after all of that time in the B-29, with destruction at my fingertips, that's a part of what I thought about in making our contribution," said Adams. "It just seemed to touch more bases that were important to my wife and me."

Recognizing the value of the USET Foundation to the United States Equestrian Teams' success and further enhancing that competition Adams dreamed of in the cockpit so many years ago, the Adams endowment will help provide the financial resources necessary to allow the U.S. Teams to train, gain experience internationally, and compete successfully at the most elite levels of the international equestrian sport.

Adams, a wonderfully generous man by nature, explained that finding the best place for his planned gift was not a simple task. "For me, it wasn't easy. You would think it would be," he laughed. "I've tried to be generous on a number of occasions, but sometimes organizations make it so difficult to donate that you lose your desire to do so. This gift to the USET Foundation was the perfect fit for me and my wife."

In the end, it was an incredible passion for the equestrian sport that led Adams to the United States Equestrian Team Foundation. Adams wanted to be able to give back and contribute to the sport that has brought them so much happiness over the years. "Arle and I have owned and loved horses for over seven decades."

According to Adams, the gift to the USET Foundation is about the competition, and it's about the United States being able to win on any of the world's greatest stages. "That slogan, 'Made in America,' is very important to Arle and me."

Most importantly, the donation is truly about the horses more than anything else. As Adams put it, "Sometimes it's nothing more than a simple nicker as you walk up the driveway, where you know they're saying, 'glad to see you.'"



Ken Adams

Photo by Ken Kraus



Mason Phelps, George Morris and Jane Clark worked with Arle and Ken Adams

Photo by Ken Kraus

5th Annual George Morris Horsemastership Clinic

Concludes with Luncheon Hosted by USET Foundation

On Saturday, January 8, 2011, the 5th Annual George Morris Horsemastership Training Session came to a close at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC), where 12 of the country's top young riders showcased their skills. At the completion of the final day, all of the participants had the opportunity to enjoy a luncheon hosted by the United States Equestrian Team Foundation in the International Club at PBIEC.

This Training Session was not just about riding, but about every aspect of creating the most complete and well rounded horseperson. Throughout the week, riders completed five mounted sessions with Morris, and were also treated to ten other presentations from various specialists with topics ranging from managing the barn to proper course design. Presenters for the sessions included United States Team Veterinarian Tim Ober, Olympians McLain Ward, Laura Kraut, Anne Kursinski and Beezie Madden, as well as ASPCA Ambassadors Georgina Bloomberg and Brianne Goutal.

Morris began the weeklong clinic with two days of flatwork, emphasizing how jumping riders, generally speaking, do not include enough dressage in everyday routines. Morris also rode a number of the horses throughout the week to demonstrate the importance of good flatwork basics and how that foundation will transfer to the jumps, ultimately making the jumping better. Thursday's mounted session included more flatwork and gymnastic exercises. He also included schooling the water jump, showing riders the proper techniques for riding that obstacle. Flatwork without stirrups was on tap for riders on Friday, while Saturday's test was to put all the pieces together and complete a full course.

After Saturday's mounted session, lunch was served in the International Club for riders and their families. Participants were also given a silver picture frame recognizing their efforts and accomplishments throughout the week. The USET Foundation's Executive Director, Bonnie Jenkins, and Morris presented each rider individually with their gift.



Photo by Heather Bellock

George Morris demonstrated different techniques on Molly Braswell's mount, Royal Discovery

"The USET Foundation is so pleased to have you all here for lunch today. Young riders like you are the future of our sport. We are thrilled to be able to be part of this amazing week with George and to provide opportunities for our young riders; you are the future. We hope to see you on a U.S. Equestrian Team in the years ahead," commented USET Foundation Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins.

The Training Session was open to auditors free of charge, however they were encouraged to make a donation to support the important work of the USET Foundation and this country's High Performance programs. ■ – *Alyson Sanderford*



Photo by Alyson Sanderford

(Left – Right) Amy Serridge, Lizzy Chesson, Brittany Hurst, Chase Boggio, Molly Braswell, Hayley Barnhill, Victoria Birdsall, Taylor Ann Adams, Ali Wolff, Anna Hallene, Kate Haley, Lillie Keenan, Karen Polle, Kelsey Thatcher, George Morris, Bonnie Jenkins and Viv Munden

USA “Reins” Supreme with Gold Medals in Reining and Vaulting AT 2010 WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

2010 MARKED A MONUMENTAL YEAR FOR THE UNITED STATES AS THE ALLTECH FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES VENTURED TO OUR HOME SOIL IN LEXINGTON, KY.

Held at the picturesque Kentucky Horse Park, the Games proved to be a huge success, showcasing world-class competition in international horse sport. Thanks to generous funding from the United States Equestrian Team Foundation, the United States fielded talented teams in all eight disciplines: Jumping, Reining, Dressage, Eventing, Driving, Para-Dressage, Vaulting and Endurance. All of the equestrian athletes performed on a superior level, helping the United States earn top honors across the board.

REINING



Reining kicked off the Games with an exciting start as the United States claimed the Team Gold medal. They earned a total score of 674.50, 15.5 points ahead of the Belgians who took home the Team Silver. This year's Adequan U.S. Reining Team included Tim McQuay aboard Hollywoodtinseltown who had a score of 220.5, Craig Schmersal and Mister Montana Nic with a score of 223.5, Tom McCutcheon riding Gunners Special Nite to a score of 224, and Shawn Flarida taking the top individual score of 227 with RC Fancy Step. The riders combined their totals for a score of 674.5.

The U.S. team did not stop its Gold medal streak there. Later in the week, American Tom McCutcheon was named the Reining World Champion after he earned a 228, the highest score of the competition, with his top mount Gunners Special Nite to take home the Individual Gold medal. Craig Schmersal was also on the podium, garnering the Individual Silver medal with Mister Montana Nic after the pair scored 223 points for their impressive pattern.



Photo by Susan Stickle.com

Reining Team Gold medalists Tim McQuay, Craig Schmersal, Tom McCutcheon and Shawn Flarida

DRESSAGE



It was a huge medal win for the United States as Steffen Peters and Ravel earned two Individual Bronze medals, the first medals ever by a U.S. dressage rider, during the Games. The pair started their WEG competition by claiming the Grand Prix Special Bronze medal after scoring a 78.542. They did not stop there, and on the night of the Grand Prix Freestyle laid down the test of a lifetime to earn an 84.90 and their second Bronze medal.

Team USA also performed very well throughout the competition and finished in the fourth position. By finishing in this position, the U.S. Dressage Team has qualified for the 2012 London Olympic Games. Individually, Peters and his mount Ravel finished in third with their score of 78.596%, and Tina Konyot and Calecto V finished in 16th with a score of 69.915%. This was combined with Katherine Bateson-Chandler and Nartan's score of 69.617% and Todd Flettrich and Otto's score of 66.553% for the team's total of 218.128.



Photo by Susan Stickle.com

Steffen Peters and Ravel, owned by Akiko Yamazaki

DRIVING



Representing the United States in the Four-in-Hand Driving Competition were Tucker Johnson, Chester Weber, and James Fairclough, and these three did not disappoint. Taking a strong lead early in the competition the drivers each excelled in the three different phases: dressage, marathon, and cones. With a score of 300.92 they secured the Team Silver medal. The leader for the team was Tucker Johnson, who announced that he would be retiring after the Games, but certainly showcased his skill during his last competition. Earning a score of 150.06 over the three phases he garnered the Individual Bronze medal, a much-deserved accolade.



Photo by Susan Stickle.com

James Fairclough, Chester Weber and Tucker Johnson

VAULTING



The F.A.C.E. (Free Artists Creative Equestrians) Team was selected to represent the United States in the team competition at WEG, and with incredible choreography and skill they led the U.S. to another Team Gold medal. Members of F.A.C.E. include Devon Maitozo, Rosalind Ross, Annalise VanVranken, Mary Garrett, Mari Inouye, Emily Addison Hogye and Karly Frankel-Newman as well as lunger Carolyn Bland. The group took an early lead during the compulsory portion of the competition and continued their domination when they performed a moving freestyle to the theme of *Romeo and Juliet*. Their final score was 8.029 and they stood at the top of the podium at the end of the week.

American vaulter Mary McCormick did an excellent job representing the U.S. individually as well, finishing with a score of 8.270, which earned her the fourth place position. Following right behind her in fifth place was fellow American Megan Benjamin with a score of 8.165. The top ranking individual male for the United States was Todd Griffiths who scored an 8.070 and placed tenth overall.

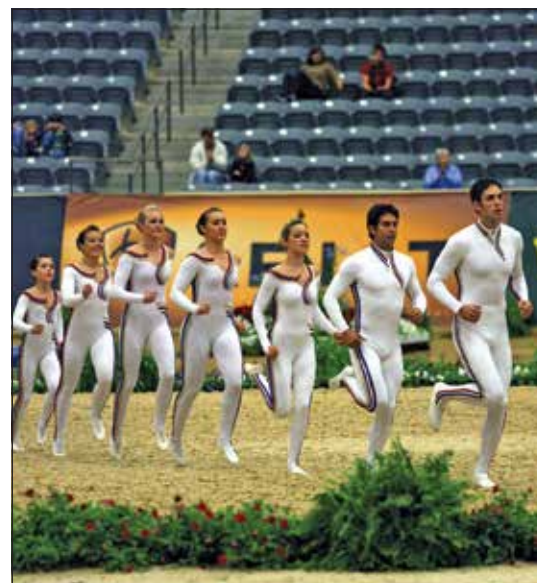


Photo by Rebecca Walton

Members of the Gold medal F.A.C.E. Vaulting Team

EVENTING



The United States Eventing Team finished fourth overall in the discipline after strong results in all three phases: dressage, cross-country and stadium jumping. The group finished with a total score 160.3 penalties. The team included Boyd Martin and Neville Bardos, Karen O'Connor aboard Mandiba, Phillip Dutton with Woodburn and Bruce Davidson Jr. riding Bally Noe Castle RM.

The individual leader for the U.S. was Boyd Martin who completed clear efforts during both the stadium jumping and cross country phases with Neville Bardos. The pair placed 10th overall with 49.5 penalties. The fourth place finish guarantees the U.S. Eventing Team a spot in the 2012 London Olympic Games.



Photo by Susan Stickle.com

Boyd Martin and Neville Bardos

KENTUCKY

SHOW JUMPING



The Show Jumping Team started out with a strong lead during WEG after Mario Deslauriers and Urico won the speed phase and McLain Ward placed second with Sapphire. The other members of the team included Lauren Hough with Quick Study and Laura Kraut riding Cedric. All four team members had strong rounds during the second day of competition, but after incurring several faults during a disappointing third round, the team placed 10th overall with a score of 20 faults.

Anchor rider McLain Ward was the United States' individual leader with a score of 12.27 faults to finish in the seventh place position. The duo went clear during the speed round, earned 12 faults over the next two days, and finished very strongly with two clear rounds during the final night of competition.



Photo by Susan Stickle.com

McLain Ward and Sapphire

ENDURANCE



Deborah Reich was the individual leader for the United States. She finished one hour and seven minutes behind the leader with her mount DJB Juniper and placed 18th overall. The other members of the team representing the U.S. included Heather Reynolds, Margaret Sleeper and Janice Worthington.

The competition kicked off early in the morning and 108 horse and rider combinations made their way through several loops that showcased the beautiful countryside in Lexington, KY. This was Reich's first WEG event with her eight-year-old Arabian, and in preparation the pair began training in Kentucky a month before the Games.



Photo by Lauren Fisher

Deborah Reich and DJB Juniper

PARA-DRESSAGE



In 2010 Para-Dressage was included for the first time at a World Equestrian Games and the United States was very pleased to be able to send a group of talented riders. In the team competition the U.S. placed seventh with riders Robin Brueckmann aboard Raison d'Etre, Laura Goldman showing Carlingford JD, Susan Treabess riding Money Penny and Jonathan Wentz aboard NTEC Richter Scale. The group received a score of 398.066.

Leading the U.S. roster for the Individual Championship was Laura Goldman who competed in Grade Ia with Carlingford JD for a score of 69.700. For the Individual Freestyle competition Wendy Fryke and Lateran led the way for the United States. The talented pair competed in Grade III and received a score of 65.600 to place eighth overall.



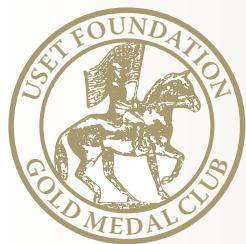
Photo by Lauren Giamini

Laura Goldman and Carlingford JD

The USET Foundation is thrilled with the performances of all the competitors. The athletes and horses all did a wonderful job showcasing their incredible talent and representing the United States on their home turf in Lexington, KY, during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. ■ – *Rebecca Walton*

WEG 2010

USET Foundation Hosts Gold Medal Club Receptions During WEG



The year 2010 was one to remember as the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) were held at the picturesque Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky. Each day, world-class horse sport was showcased at the Games and during the exciting events the United States Equestrian Team Foundation hosted two Gold Medal Club Receptions. The receptions were held to thank Gold Medal Club donors and to honor the United States Equestrian Teams that were competing in eight different disciplines at WEG. The first reception was held on September 29 and the second reception was held on October 7, hosted by R. Bruce Duchossois and Jack Wetzel.

These events brought together Gold Medal Club supporters, athletes, coaches and owners to celebrate medals won, enjoy the camaraderie and give thanks and gratitude to those individuals who make the USET Foundation a priority in their charitable giving. The USET Foundation is the primary supporter of this country's High Performance programs, providing the United States Equestrian Federation with \$2,375,000 in funding for the WEG and the High Performance programs in 2010.

The receptions were held at the beautiful Spindletop Hall in Lexington, which sits on 62-acres of Kentucky bluegrass right across the street from the Horse Park. Over 200 guests attended each of the receptions, mingling with the U.S. Team athletes who were also in attendance.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, Duchossois has always been active with the Foundation and equestrian sport and was thrilled to lend his support. "We wanted to help promote and support the teams competing at the World Equestrian Games for the United States," noted Duchossois. "It was a casual and relaxed evening and everybody had a good time. I've been involved in show jumping, eventing and combined driving for many years, and this was my way of giving back to the Team efforts."

The entire U.S. Reining Team attended the first week's reception, proudly displaying their Team Gold medals. In addition, members of the Eventing, Endurance and Dressage Teams were at the September 29th party. The U.S. Vaulting Team attended the second week's reception, as well as the U.S. Show Jumping and Driving Teams and guests enjoyed the opportunity to meet the talented athletes. "The Foundation's donors appreciate it when the athletes acknowledge their support and make an effort to attend these events," said Duchossois.

Also attending the reception sponsored by Duchossois was the U.S. Para-Dressage Team. This is the first year that Para-Dressage has been included in an FEI World Equestrian Games, and the USET Foundation was excited to support the U.S. team and their wonderful efforts in the discipline.

"Having the opportunity to bring together so many of our Gold Medal Club donors, along with the athletes representing the United States at the World Equestrian Games was great. Our Gold Medal Club donors are the life blood of the USET Foundation and their support is critical to the success of our High Performance programs," noted Bonnie Jenkins, USET Foundation Executive Director. "They were wonderful evenings."

— Rebecca Walton



Frank Merrill and Bill Brewer



John Madden, Beezie Madden, Lauren and McLain Ward, Lauren Hough, Mario Deslauriers, George Morris



Marsha and Dennis Dammerman, Judy and Don Little



John Long, Armand Leone and Tucker Johnson



Para-Dressage Team



Akiko Yamazaki and Jerry Yang



Armand Leone and Sherry Adams



Brownlee and Agneta Currey



Carlene and Andy Ziegler



David O'Connor and Jane Forbes Clark



Phillip and Evie Dutton



James and Gail Wofford



Jack Wetzel, Jacqueline Ohrstrom and Bruce Duchossois



Lyle Lovett and April Kimble



Mark and Katherine Bellissimo



Karin Offield with Fred and Kim Boyer



Tim and Colleen McQuay

Pep Rally Fires Up Team USA for CSIO Wellington Nations Cup

On Thursday, March 3, 2011, the United States Equestrian Team Foundation hosted an exciting Pep Rally to support the U.S. Show Jumping Team as they prepared for the \$75,000 FEI Nations Cup held the following evening at the Winter Equestrian Festival. The event was held at the White Horse Tavern on the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center showgrounds, and was hosted by Mario and Lisa Deslauriers, Bruce Duchossois, Robin and Gerry Parsky, Jenny and Kermit Sutton, and Wendy and Paul Raether.

The festivities kicked off at 6:30 p.m. with a welcome by USET Foundation Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins and USET Foundation Trustee Robin Parsky. The welcome was followed by a rallying call and introduction of the U.S. Team and Chef d'Equipe by Jim Wolf, USEF Director of Sport Programs. The team included McLain Ward, Mario Deslauriers, Margie Engle, and Beezie Madden. The "Red, White and Blue Crew" of young jumper

riders added much fun and team spirit with their cheers of USA, USA, USA!

Chef d'Equipe George Morris was also center stage to say a few words to the large group of supporters. "I'm old fashioned, and I love the USA," he commented. "I am a great champion of the American method of riding, which is very old, but is unsurpassed. I want to thank this group of supporters; it brings tears to my eyes that we are in this together. Tomorrow night we are going to fight for the future!"

After Morris' speech, Mark Bellissimo, President of the Wellington Equestrian Partners, began an exciting bidding war over an autographed poster of the legendary Chef d'Equipe. When the impromptu auction came to a close, the poster went home with Gwendolyn Meyer for an incredible bid of \$6,000.

After the speeches, Pep Rally guests were all given the opportunity to help support the USET Foundation by pledging money for each clear round that the

U.S. Show Jumping Team would tally in their Nations Cup performance. The eventual number of clear rounds totaled four. Supporters were also given the chance to donate additional money if the Team won.

At the end of the weekend the United States was able to bring home a rousing victory on their home turf, while also raising over \$36,000 in funds for the USET Foundation and this country's High Performance programs. ■

– Rebecca Walton



Katherine and Mark Bellissimo



Bruce Duchossois, Robin Parsky, and Jim Wolf



Genevieve and Gwendolyn Meyer with George Morris



Brownlee O. Currey, Jr. and Jenny Sutton



Lauren Crooks, Andrew Welles, Julie Welles, Sean Crooks and Nikko Ritter



Mary K and Dennis Shaughnessy



Cara Raether and Niall Carey



Mary Manfredi, Alexa Lowe, Peter Lutz and Lynn Coakley



McLain and Lauren Ward, Herb Sambol and Beth Johnson



Linda Hough, Chrystine Tauber and Michele Grubb



Barbara Curcio with Jessie and Catherine Pasmore

Victory for Team USA at \$75,000 FEI Nations Cup

It was a thrilling night on March 4, 2011, when the United States' Show Jumping Team scored a rousing victory at home during the \$75,000 FEI Nations Cup at the Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, FL. With just 8 faults throughout the evening, the United States was finally able to best its neighbor to the north, Canada, which finished with 16 faults for the second place honors.

The U.S. Team marched straight to the top the leaderboard by posting just a 4-fault score during their first round. They kicked off the evening with a clear round by McLain Ward and his veteran mount Sapphire, owned by Ward, Tom Grossman and Blue Chip Bloodstock. Mario Deslauriers followed the effort with a 4-fault score aboard Urico, owned by Jane Forbes Clark, after the duo pulled down the top of a plank fence after the open water.

Next up was Margie Engle, who gave her young mount Indigo, owned by Gladewinds Farm, Hidden Creek Farm, Garber, and Griese, a great ride and crossed the finish line with all the rails in place. Anchor rider Beezie Madden and Coral Reef Via Volo, owned by Coral Reef Ranch, were the last to go for the United States during the first round, and the duo incurred just 4 faults, also at the plank. The Americans finished with a 4-fault total after the drop score.

For the second round, Ward and Sapphire once again showed the way for the U.S., completing one of only two double clear efforts during the evening's events. Engle was up next with Indigo, and the pair almost seemed to have it, but her mount picked up 4 faults after taking the back rail off of the final oxer.

As the final horse and rider combination, Madden and Coral



Chef d'Equipe George Morris, Beezie Madden, Margie Engle, Mario Deslauriers and McLain Ward of the U.S. Show Jumping Team celebrate their victory in the 2011 \$75,000 FEI Nations Cup

Photo by Ken Knus/HelpsSports.com

Reef Via Volo were focused on the task at hand and easily cleared every obstacle to cross the finish line with a clear round. This gave the United States' a two round total of 8 faults and the victory.

At the end of the night, Madden concluded, "We all made a big effort to make this a high priority, so I think it was really important to try and win tonight. We've had a little trouble the last three years building our team, but everyone made it a high priority this year. It was important for the team and the country and it paid off in a big way." ■ – *Rebecca Walton*



Brittany Hurst Wins Talent Search Finals – East

During the 2010 Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals – East, it was Brittany Hurst who rose to the occasion to claim the winning honors. Held at the prestigious Hamilton Farm, headquarters of the USET Foundation, in Gladstone, NJ, Hurst showcased her consistency and skills during the four-phase competition aboard Pindar, owned by Redfield Farm.

The weekend began Saturday, October 9, with a schooling class, followed by a reception hosted by the Foundation. The competition got underway on an unseasonably cold Sunday morning with Phase I - Flat.

After the Flat Phase, Carolyn Curcio, Emma Shauder, Brittany Hurst, and Samantha Schaefer were the top four as they were awarded scores in the 80's. With the only score of the day in the 90's, Schaefer's score of 92 led Hurst and Michael Hughes following the completion of the Second Phase – Gymnastics.

The Third Phase - Jumping was filled with excitement, and it was Schaefer, Hurst, Hughes and Laura Pfeiffer that all secured their spot into the Final Four Ride-off.

In Phase Four riders first guided their own horse over the shortened course and then performed the last test of the day, to switching mounts and navigating the same course again.

After many stellar performances and the final tally of the judges' scores Brittany Hurst, trained by Emil Spadone and Val Renihan, was victorious. Finishing second was Laura Pfeiffer



Brittany Hurst was victorious aboard Pindar during the 2010 Platinum Performance/USEF Talent Search Finals – East

Photo by James Leslie Parker

aboard Catwoman, trained by Missy Clark and John Brennan, third went to Michael Hughes aboard Shockwave, also trained by Clark and Brennan, and fourth was Samantha Schaefer aboard Pioneer, trained by Andre Dignelli. ■

USET Foundation Trustee Rebecca Broussard Leaves Lasting Impression

The equestrian community suffered a great loss on December 24, 2010, when long time USET Foundation Trustee Rebecca Broussard passed away at her home in Montana after losing her battle with cancer.

As a loyal supporter of the eventing discipline, Broussard owned top horses ridden by Phillip Dutton, Karen O'Connor, Cathy Wieschoff, Amy Tryon and Ralph Hill, among others. She was also the founder of The Event at Rebecca Farm in Kalispell, MT, which began in 2002 and is now an FEI World Cup™ qualifier. The Event, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, attracts riders from across the United States.

"My mom touched the eventing careers of so many riders," commented her daughter, Sarah Broussard-Kelly. "She will truly be missed, but she has left behind a legacy that will live on forever. Not only at The Event at Rebecca Farm, but through all of the lives that she has touched that will keep her and her memory alive."

Broussard also supported the USET Foundation and the US Eventing Association and its goal to fund the top riders in the nation, as well as support its up-and-coming young riders. To



Rebecca Broussard spent her life supporting the Eventing discipline

honor her legacy, a fund has been established to benefit talented riders on the USEF Developing Riders List. The fund will be administered by the USEA Endowment Trust and grants will be awarded annually to successful candidates.

Broussard is survived by her husband Jerome, daughters Rebecca and Sarah, grandchildren Lorraine and Raymond Nicholson, Tommye and Alexander Kelly, brothers Barry Shaw and John Chaney, sisters Rosemary Thomas and Mildred Shaw, uncle Pat Neff, nieces Jamie Horton, Marcus Shaw, Sam, Emma and Grace Thomas.

Donations in Becky's name may be directed to the following charities: United States Eventing Association Endowment Trust (USEA, 525 Old Waterford Rd. NW, Leesburg, VA 20176 703-779-0440 www.useventing.com); Shepherd's Hand Clinic (5150 River Lakes Parkway, Whitefish, MT 59937, Attn: Meg Erickson); or Broussard Family Scholarship, (Flathead Valley Community College Foundation, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, Attn: Colleen Unterreiner). ■

— Rebecca Walton

Betty Jane Henry, Grand Dame of the National Horse Show

On Sunday, September 5, 2010 the equestrian community lost another great horsewoman when Betty Jane Henry passed away at her home in Palm Beach Polo Club of Wellington, FL at the age of 92. Henry was a member of the United States Equestrian Team Foundation Board of Directors and considered the Grand Dame of the National Horse Show.

An avid rider, Henry spent much of her time challenging herself and perfecting her skills in the sport that she loved. She was an accomplished Saddle Seat rider and judged the Good Hands Saddle Seat Equitation Finals after winning the event in the 1930s. In addition to competing in Saddle Seat, she also competed successfully in the exquisite discipline of Ladies' Side Saddle.

Henry had been involved with the National Horse Show since she was a teenager. She began her journey as a rider, eventually became a prominent judge, and from 1950 to the time of her death she was chairperson of numerous events and committees. Henry



Betty Jane Henry worked closely with Mason Phelps, Jr. for the National Horse Show

was most renowned for her leadership on the Ladies Committee, which she had chaired or co-chaired for many years.

Her husband, who preceded her in death, was Brigadier General Robert Lee Henry, a co-founder of the United States Equestrian Team and the American Horse Show Association (now United States Equestrian Federation). He was a Director of the National Horse Show and a long-time member of the National Horse Show's Gentlemen's Committee.

Henry was continually giving back to the sport through her constant involvement with the USET Foundation and the National Horse Show and will be greatly missed by all who loved her. She is survived by her brother, Fred Ferguson; niece, Mrs. Lisa Uchirin; nephew, Dr. Robert Ferguson; a grandniece and two

grandnephews. Memorial donations may be made to the National Hemophilia Foundation, 116 West 32nd St., 11th Floor, New York, NY 10001, or The National Horse Show Association, P.O. Box 386, Greenvale, NY 11548. ■ — Rebecca Walton

Photo Courtesy of The Betty Jane Henry Family

WEF Founder Gene Mische Transformed the Equestrian Community

Gene Mische, the incredible driving force behind the sport of show jumping for the last five decades and the founder of the world-class Winter Equestrian Festival, passed away on December 3, 2010, at the age of 79.

Known to many as "Uncle Gene," the legendary horseman founded Stadium Jumping, Inc. in 1973 and created the Winter Equestrian Festival, which has grown into the largest equestrian competition in the U.S.

Michael Morrissey, Mische's nephew, is the current manager of Stadium Jumping and the Winter Equestrian Festival. "He was probably the greatest mentor I've ever known," Morrissey said. "He had a vision and a goal ... to bring international competition to the U.S. and to bring U.S. competition to the international level."

As USEF President David O'Connor once said, "He has changed the face of the sport." Mische not only developed the Winter Equestrian Festival, he also started the USET Festival of



Gene Mische was the founder of the Winter Equestrian Festival

Champions, hosted the first two World Cup Finals in Baltimore and Tampa, managed the National Horse Show for six years in Florida, and has produced the Olympic Trials for both Show Jumping and Dressage.

Not only a leader in the sport, Mische was constantly focused on giving back to the equestrian community. Over the years he has served as President of the National Horse Show Association, Ltd., Chairman of the Show Jumping Hall of Fame, Founding President of the Wellington Equestrian Alliance, and served on the USET Foundation's Board of Trustees, just to name a few. In return for his amazing support, Mische was the recipient of the USEF Jimmy Williams Lifetime

Achievement Award and the Jane F. Clark High Performance Development Award.

A service was held at Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church in Shaker Heights, OH, on Thursday, December 3, 2010 to honor Mische's memory. ■ – Rebecca Walton

Olympic Equestrian Walter G. Staley, Jr. Leaves Incredible Legacy

Equestrian Walter Goodwin Staley Jr., who represented the U.S. at three Olympic Games, passed away in Eastern Missouri at age 77. Staley was born in St. Louis, MO, on October 20, 1932 and died in Mexico, MO, on October 10, 2010.

"Wally," as friends knew him, was a three-time Olympian on the United States Equestrian Team. He rode on the team in the 1952 Olympic Games held in Helsinki, FIN, where the Americans won the Bronze medal in eventing. He also rode on the U.S. team in the 1956 Olympic Games in Stockholm, SWE, and in Rome in 1960, where he served as team captain. At the Pan American Games held in Mexico City in 1952, Staley reached his highest personal achievement by garnering an Individual Gold medal. After retiring from the sport, he remained an active supporter of the U.S. Equestrian Team and the Olympic Games throughout his life. Staley was given the honor of carrying the Olympic Torch as it passed through Missouri in 1996 on its way to the Atlanta Games.

Staley graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a Bachelor of Arts in Geology. He continued with his education, earning both a Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering and a Master of Arts in Geology from Washington University in St. Louis. Staley then went on to



Walter G. Staley Jr. was a three time Olympian in Three Day Eventing for the United States

Penn State University, where received his Ph.D. in Solid State Science. He returned to Mexico, MO in 1968 with his family, where he worked at the A.P. Green Company until his retirement in 1992. During his 24-year career with the plant, he worked as a research mineralogist, raw materials manager, research engineer, research manager and research consultant.

He was a dedicated athlete who enjoyed the outdoors and had a profound love for animals, both as sports partners in the field and friendly companions too.

He is survived by numerous family members, including his wife of 49 years, Katherine; their two sons, Walter III of Mexico and Franklin of Baltimore, and his wife Annie, and their two children Walton and Josephine; his brother, Allen Staley and his wife Etheleen of New York City, their sons Oliver and Peter; his son-in-law, Tom Beauchamp of Mexico, and his sons Nat and Matthew, step-son Adam Trull, and Adam's daughter Katelyn; as well as his nephew Warren C. (Renny) Smith, Jr. He is also survived by his cousin, Senator Christopher (Kit) Bond of Mexico. He was preceded in death by his sister Martha Smith Marks and his daughter Kate Staley Beauchamp. ■ – Alyson Sanderford

Gold Medal Club Reception Recognizes WEG Athletes and Special Award Winners

On Friday, January 28, 2011, the United States Equestrian Team Foundation Board of Trustees hosted a Gold Medal Club cocktail reception to honor the equestrian athletes that represented the United States during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG), the recipients of the Foundation's Gold Medal Club Anniversary Awards, the Lionel Guerrand-Hermes Trophy, and the Whitney Stone Cup. The reception was held at the Player's Club in Wellington, FL.

The reception opened with remarks by Foundation President Jane Forbes Clark, recognizing the efforts of all the equestrian athletes that represented the United States during WEG, as well as their team of supporters. The United States earned a Team and Individual Gold medal and an Individual Silver medal in reining, a Team Gold medal in vaulting, a Team Silver medal and an Individual Bronze medal in driving, and two Individual Bronze medals in dressage.



USET Foundation President Jane Forbes Clark and Debra Brewster, Hermes representative, with Hermes Trophy winner Tiana Coudray and Foundation Chairman Armand Leone



Jack Wetzel, Bruce Duchossois, Robin and Gerry Parsky



Jane Forbes Clark with Tucker Johnson, winner of the Whitney Stone Cup, and Brownlee O. Currey, Jr.



*Leslie Howard, Bill Weeks
and Barbara Cherry*



Sharon and Ted Weise



My and Chester Weber



Kathy and Joe Patton



Bonnie Jenkins and Annie Jones



Woody and Cynthia Morcott



Bethany and Rose Peslar



Fred and Wyldie Peterson



Terri and Murray Kessler



Bob and Margaret Duprey



Caryl Philips and Frank Zeiss



Juliet Reid and Beth Johnson

The party also recognized members of the Gold Medal Club, the most loyal and generous supporters of the USET Foundation. These individuals have been a vital and essential source of support to the U.S. Equestrian Teams. Special awards were presented recognizing their giving at the Gold Medal Club level for 10, 15, 25 and 30 years.

The GMC members that have continued to generously support the USET Foundation for the past ten years are: The Chronicle of the Horse, Suzanne Dansby Bollman, Brendan & Wendy Furlong, Elizabeth L. Johnson, Deborah Anne Levy, Mr. & Mrs. Southwood Morcott, Mr. & Mrs. J. David Page, Peapack-Gladstone Bank, Rosalie & Bethany Peslar, Frank J. Ponzio, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Segal, H. Donnan Sharp, Gretchen Wallerich and Nancy Hamill Winter.

Receiving the 15 Year Award were the California Dressage Society, Armand & Alison Leone, Robert V. Lindsay, Mr. & Mrs. Walter McPhail, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Parsky, Mr. & Mrs. Mark P. Piwowar and Mr. & Mrs. Eric L. Straus.

For a remarkable 25 years the following have been members of the Gold Medal Club: W.J. Barney Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Brownlee O. Currey, Jr., Jane MacElree, George H. Morris, Jacqueline L. Ohrstrom and Hedda Windisch von Goeben.

Receiving the 30 Year Award, the USET Foundation's high-

est honor, were Mr. John H. Fritz, Mrs. Helen K. Groves and Mrs. Screven Lorillard.

The next presentation was made to Tiana Coudray who was honored with the 2011 Lionel Guerrand-Hermes Trophy, which is awarded to a Young Rider in one of the Olympic disciplines who exemplifies both sportsmanship and horsemanship, and has been identified as a rider with the potential to represent the United States in international championship competition. In 2011, Coudray had a banner year, winning the Jersey Fresh CCI*** and the Galway Downs International Horse Trials CIC***, as well as leading the U.S. efforts at the Boekelo CCI*** in Holland.

The final event of the evening was the presentations of the 2011 Whitney Stone Cup, which was awarded to S. Tucker S. Johnson. The award is presented annually to an active competitor who displays consistent excellence in international competition and high standards of sportsmanlike conduct while serving as an ambassador for the United States and equestrian sport. Johnson is a tremendously accomplished driver who helped lead the United States to a Team Silver medal as well as receiving an Individual Bronze medal during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, capping off a spectacular international driving career.

■ – Rebecca Walton



Lauren and McLain Ward



*Bobby Burke, Elizabeth Busch Burke
with Beezie and John Madden*



*Charlotte and Tucker Johnson
and Jenny Sutton*

Photos by Rebecca Walton

Tiana Coudray Receives 2011 Lionel Guerrand-Hermes Award

Talented eventing rider Tiana Coudray was presented with the 2011 Lionel Guerrand-Hermes Trophy by the United States Equestrian Team Foundation during a cocktail reception held at Players Club in Wellington, FL. Each year this award is presented to a Young Rider in one of the Olympic disciplines, who exemplifies both sportsmanship and horsemanship. In 2011, Coudray had an outstanding year with her nine-year-old Irish Sport Horse Ringwood Magister, winning the Jersey Fresh CCI*** and the International Galway Downs Horse Trials CIC***, as well as leading the U.S. efforts at the Boekelo CCI*** in Holland.

"When the USET Foundation told me that I was the winner of this year's award I went and looked it up," commented Coudray. "I was pretty honored to look at the other names on the list throughout the years and think of what those people have gone on to do later in their careers."



Tiana Coudray with her talented mount Ringwood Magister

Photo Courtesy of The USET Foundation

Over the years, Coudray has consistently shown her talent as a Young Rider. She won Team Gold at the North American Young Riders Championships in both 2004 and 2008, and took home the Individual Silver medal in 2004. She has won the United States Eventing Association Young Rider of the Year Award an amazing three times in 2005, 2007, and 2009.

During the awards ceremony, Coudray commented, "Thank you so much, I am so honored to be named for this award. I don't need to tell everyone in this room how much support it takes to have any bit of success, let alone what I accomplished last year. I would like to say thank you to everybody here, everybody involved

with eventing, the USET Foundation and everybody that personally helped me all the way to this point and especially this year. I hope to have a long and successful future continuing in this sport."

■ – Heather Bellock



Whitney Stone Cup Awarded to S. Tucker S. Johnson

Veteran international four-in-hand driver S. Tucker S. Johnson of Hobe Sound, FL, was the recipient of the 2011 Whitney Stone Cup, presented by the USET Foundation during a cocktail reception at Player's Club in Wellington, FL. The award is presented annually to an active competitor who displays consistent excellence in international competition and high standards of sportsmanlike conduct while serving as an ambassador for the United States and equestrian sport. Johnson is a tremendously accomplished driver who helped lead the United States to a Team Silver medal, as well as receiving an Individual Bronze medal during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

This is the second time that Johnson has received the Whitney Stone Cup, having also been awarded the prestigious honor in 2001. Johnson now plans to retire from the competitive sport as



Tucker Johnson receiving his Individual Bronze medal at the 2010 World Equestrian Games

Photo Susan Stickle.com

he spent 2010 reaching many milestones. Along with other achievements, Johnson guided his four-in-hand team to a second place finish at the Land Rover International Driving Grand Prix at the Royal Windsor Horse Show in May.

"It feels great to be recognized with the Whitney Stone Award and coming from a non-Olympic discipline; it is a real treat," noted Johnson. "It's especially meaningful for me as I am at the end of my competitive career and was fortunate enough, with the help of the USET Foundation, to go to enough competitions that I could end on a high note."

During the presentation of the trophy Johnson stated, "Thank you everyone who is standing here. This group is the group that allows you to go a little too fast where you aren't supposed to. They write the checks that make it all happen and that's something that we shouldn't forget." ■ – Heather Bellock

U.S. Claims Victory in Buenos Aires Nations Cup

For the fourth year in a row, Team USA led the victory gallop at the CSIO Nations Cup in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The American success was led this year by the squad of Megan Edrick, Saer Coulter, Lucy Davis and John McConnell, with Michele Grubb handling the duties of Chef d' Equipe.

The team from the United States finished the two difficult 1.50m rounds with a total of 24 faults. That total put them 13 faults better than the second place finishers from Canada, who scored 37 faults on their first ever appearance in Argentina. The host nation, Argentina, finished in third place with 43 total faults.

Leading the way for the United States was Californian Lucy Davis and New Mexico's John McConnell, each with only 4 total faults to help the U.S. secure victory. Riding Katie Riddle, McConnell's clear came in the first round, while Davis and Nemo 119 had 4 in the first round, but were foot perfect in Round Two.

"I did the World Cup Finals in 1986, on a different team, this was my first time representing the United States and at 51 years old it was pretty special," said John McConnell. "It was pretty exciting to be standing there and hearing the National Anthem being played in a foreign country, and knowing you had just won a Gold Medal for the United States."

"It was a difficult and technical course. In the second round, I knew the course a little better and I knew my team was counting on me, so it was great to come through under pressure like that. My horse was amazing. All I had to do was make sure that I didn't get in his way," Lucy Davis explained with a laugh.



Lucy Davis, Saer Coulter, John McConnell, and Megan Edrick celebrate their victory with champagne

"Walking the course the first time with the red coat and the USA hats and all of that was so exciting," smiled fellow teammate Saer Coulter, of San Francisco, CA. "It was only 1.40m the first day, but we were all together and it gave you a feeling that you were representing your country and it was time to really step it up a notch. There are so few team events, except for Young Riders, where you get the experience of being on a team and the camaraderie of walking together, rooting for each other and depending on each other; that was just an amazing feeling." She added that receiving the USET coat in the mail was a day she'll always remember. "It was so exciting! When I first put it on, I thought it might be a little too much red, with the red hair," she laughed. "But, I think it worked out ok."

"I was so excited to get the red coat; I never wanted to take it off. I just wanted to wear it all of the time," agreed Megan Edrick, of Ocala, FL. "It was like a dream come true, and I only hope that in the future, I can represent the United States again. It was an amazing experience."

"I felt really proud and honored to represent our country," Edrick went on to say. "The facility was gorgeous and we got to jump the Olympic jumps, so that was a lot of fun. For me, this was competition at a whole new level, with so many quality riders and quality horses, and to be with this team gave me a new experience of camaraderie."

"Putting on that coat was something I dreamed of doing since I was a little kid. That was probably the single most exciting moment of the entire experience," Davis agreed. "It's such a huge honor to wear it. So many riders that I have admired for so long have worn that coat, and to follow in their footsteps and knowing you're representing more than just yourself. You're representing the United States and that really puts it into a great perspective."

"We loved having her,"

Coulter said of Chef d'Equipe Michele Grubb. "She's so enthusiastic and supportive, and she's so organized and on top of everything. She was really inspirational as our Chef. Going into the ring, she told us, "Don't think you can't do this, because you can." She gave us such confidence."

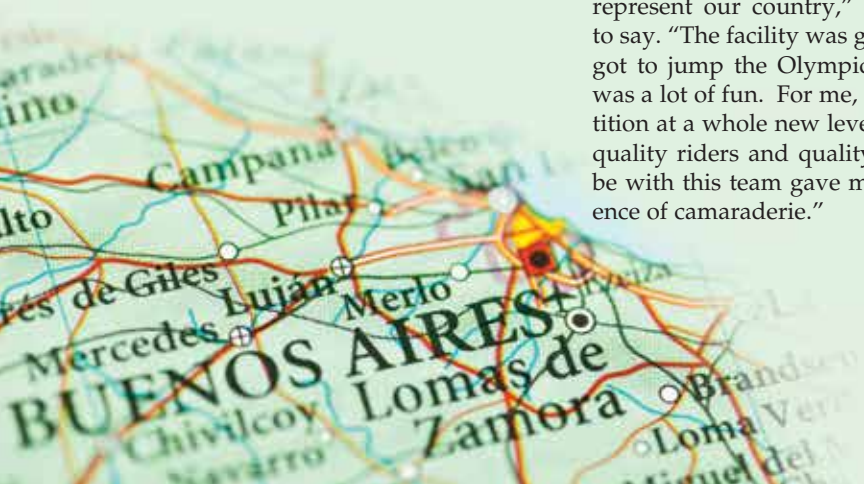


Saer Coulter, John McConnell, Lucy Davis, and Megan Edrick show off their team colors

"I've done the Young Riders, the Prix de States, and now this event was the perfect next step for me. To be able to share this experience with three great teammates was wonderful," stated Davis.

"It was incredible to stand there and watch Michele raise the American flag," said Coulter. "Standing there with your teammates, hearing the anthem of your country for your victory, you're so excited, yet it's a solemn and humbling moment as well, one that I will never forget."

— Kenneth L. Kraus



USET Foundation Trustees Tuny Page and Kim Boyer Host Reception Honoring Riders and Thanking Supporters

USET Foundation Trustees Tuny Page and Kim Boyer, along with their husbands David Page and Fred Boyer, hosted a wonderful cocktail reception for the Foundation on Saturday, January 8, 2011, at the Page residence in Wellington, FL. The evening's events were held to honor those who support the sport of dressage through the USET Foundation and to give them the opportunity to meet and mingle with the athletes who benefit from their support.

All four members of the United States Dressage Team who competed at the World Equestrian Games last fall were in attendance, along with many other distinguished dressage riders. The team was composed of Steffen Peters, Todd Flettrich, Tina Konyot and Katherine Bateson- Chandler.

"I had no idea how much it actually costs to train, transport, coach and really make the team work until this past year," noted 2010 World Equestrian Games and Olympian rider, Steffen Peters. "I am so very thankful to the USET Foundation and everyone who supports the Foundation. The team could not function without their incredible generosity- so thanks again for everything you do for us!"

USET Foundation Executive Director, Bonnie Jenkins, noted, "A special thanks to Kim and Fred Boyer for the co-hosting us this evening, along with Tuny and David Page for graciously having us in their lovely home. We are so thankful to have such wonderful and passionate Trustees as well as Gold Medal Club supporters of the Foundation, who really make the programs and international competition opportunities possible for our athletes and United States Equestrian Teams. Thank you very much!"

— Alyson Sanderford



David Page, Todd Flettrich, Steffen Peters, Bonnie Jenkins, Tina Konyot, Katherine Bateson-Chandler, Tuny Page, Kim and Fred Boyer



Arle Adams, Tuny Page and Ken Adams



Charlotte Bredahl and Lisa Wilcox



Jessica Ransenhousen and Robert Dover



Kim and Fred Boyer



Chrystine and George Tauber



Bethany and Rose Peslar



Patsy and Leet Denton



Betsy Juliano and Kathy Connolly



Robert Dover and Margaret Duprey



Ron Neal and Mason Phelps



Milo Mott and David Merot

Photos by Heather Bellock

Donor Dollars at Work

In 2010, the entire High Performance discipline program costs for the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) were \$4,550,130. Through the generosity of USET Foundation's donors we were able to support these programs with a grant of \$2,375,000. The balance of funding for these programs comes from the United States Olympic Committee, corporate sponsorship and a portion of the revenue from USEF dues and fees.

The enormity of last year's competition schedule, with the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG), in Kentucky, and all eight international disciplines (Dressage, Driving, Endurance, Eventing, Para-Equestrian, Reining, Show Jumping and Vaulting) fielding teams, and in some cases individuals too, makes a WEG year the most expensive year in a quadrennial cycle. And if the WEG in itself wasn't enough, the Selection Trials, pre-Games training sessions, and veterinary evaluations all encompass the critical preparation necessary to put our best possible teams on the field of play. Additionally, through the spring and summer, we had teams at the eight Nations Cup competitions that make up the Meydan Show Jumping Nations Cup Series. We also had dressage riders and vaulters at CHIO Aachen, a team of three drivers at the World Singles Driving Championships in Pratoni, Italy, and fielded an International Young Rider Show Jumping Tour of five riders and ten horses who went to Belgium, France and The Netherlands.

On any one of these international tours, there are not only the athletes and horses, but team manager, chef d'équipe, and a team veterinarian. The average cost of flying a horse round trip to Europe is approximately \$17,500 and with the ground transportation in Europe, it is close to \$25,000. Add to this athlete transportation, lodging and meals while on the road for the entire contingent and you can imagine why your support is so critical to our Teams' success.

It is only through the USET Foundation's donors that we have been able to provide the opportunities allowing young riders to gain international experience competing abroad for the first time as a member of the "team", a squad of ten talented Para Dressage athletes to compete in their first ever WEG, and also to help seasoned, elite athletes to win Gold medals at the World Equestrian Games.



Photos by Susan Stickle.com, Jesse, and Lauren Giannini

In 2010, the USET Foundation also provided special grants through designated funds that allow our athletes additional opportunities to get international experience and to prepare for the chance to represent the United States on a championship team.

- The Jacqueline B. Mars Competition and Training Grant – \$20,000 was awarded to an Eventing Rider who had been identified as having an impressive record with the potential to represent the United States in future international competition.
- Amanda Warrington Pirie Grant – \$5,000 was awarded to a Developing Eventing Rider who was identified as having great talent and the potential ability to represent the United States in the future, to help off-set expenses associated with training.
- Maxine Beard Award – Awarded to a Show Jumping Developing/Young Rider who was identified as a young equestrian with an impressive record and with the potential to represent the United States in international competition. The grant paid expenses to attend the Show Jumping World Cup Final to observe and be part of the U.S. delegation.

Across the entire spectrum of the eight High Performance disciplines, the USET Foundation donors can be very proud of the way they stepped up in 2010 to field their United States Equestrian Teams. These teams were expertly trained, logistically well supported and were able to focus on the competitions at hand because of the incredibly generous nature of our wonderful benefactors. Thank you! ■

First Annual 'Salute to Driving' Benefits USET Foundation

On Saturday, February 19, 2011, the first annual 'Salute to Driving' event hosted a beautiful Dinner & Live Auction to benefit the United States Equestrian Team Foundation and, ultimately, High Performance Combined Driving. The successful evening was held at the picturesque Trout Walk Farm in Aiken, SC. The goal of the event was to help raise funds for the USET Foundation that will be dedicated to helping fund and train the best drivers and equines to represent the USA in World Driving Championships to bring home Team and Individual medals.

During the evening's Live Auction, attendees helped raise funds by bidding on such items as two lessons with top driver Michael Freund at Little Everglades or Live Oak 2011, two lessons with Chester Weber during Live Oak 2011, a dinner for eight presented by Jack Wetzel at his new log cabin in Aiken, a week long vacation in a large Victorian home on the beach in Cape May, NJ, a week long vacation in Block Island, RI, a print, "Patriots Barn" by Jamie Wyeth, signed and remarked by the artist and brunch for four at the Green Boundary Club. There were also over 20 raffle items that ranged from a professional photo shoot to dancing lessons.

"The Salute to Driving weekend was wonderful!" said Bonnie Jenkins, USET Foundation Executive Director. "I cannot say enough about the enthusiasm and hard work that so many people put into organizing and hosting this weekend-long event. Wendy O'Brien opened up her beautiful Trout Walk Farm to over 250 people; Bev Leshner and Lisa Singer, and so many others all contributed to the organization of the clinics, fun and camaraderie, all while lending support to the driving programs. We are most grateful to the entire group for their efforts."

The Salute to Driving was a three-day event, featuring multiple driving clinics with some of the world's top trainers, and a Combined Test Competition for all on Monday. The exciting festivities kicked-off Saturday morning with clinics by Michael Freund and Larry Poulin at Chateau Log and Courage to Lead Farms. The clinics continued throughout the day Sunday, and throughout the course of the weekend shorter clinics were also given by advanced navigators Fran Doto and Jay Breggia, as well as Suzy Stafford.

Finally, on Monday, February 21, the Salute to Driving weekend wrapped up with the thrilling Combined Test Competition. Drivers had the opportunity to showcase their skills in the areas of dressage and cones in front of judges Michael Freund, Martha Hank-Nicoll and Craig Kellogg.

The weekend's events concluded with a wonderful "Pas de Deux" dressage demonstration featuring Eventing Olympic Gold medalist Phillip Dutton riding and Shelly Temple driving her National Champion pony.

The Salute to Driving event proved to be a huge success, and the organizers hope to continue their goal to help raise awareness and educate different audiences about the discipline of driving.

■ – Rebecca Walton

*During the clinics at the 'Salute to Driving,'
Michael Freund assisted Shelly Temple
with her National Champion pony LR Ami B-Line*



During Monday's program guests had the opportunity to view a beautiful "Pas de Deux" dressage demonstration featuring Eventing Olympic Gold medalist Phillip Dutton riding and Shelley Temple driving.



Sue Dougherty, Larry Poulin and Jenny Lord



Bonnie Jenkins, Wendy O'Brien and Lizzy Staller



Bev Lesh, Lisa Singer and Wendy O'Brien



Marcie Quist, Tracey Morgan and Craig Kellogg



Fran Doto and Shelly Temple



Kenny Cox and Sue Weirbach



Lizzy Staller and Jack Wetzel

Photos by Vicki Long

★ USET FOUNDATION ★

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Jane Forbes Clark

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