



A Love for Horses Leads Thomas Family On International Journey

BY MARY HILTON

As owners of dressage superstar Brentina, Peggy and Parry Thomas, along with their daughter, Jane Thomas, have been around the world, watching their horse and rider, Debbie McDonald, bring home medals for the U.S. Equestrian Team. Brentina's legendary accomplishments started at Gladstone in 1999 when she won the State Line Tack/USET Intermediaire I Championship at the Bayer/USET Festival of Champions, and then went on to the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg, Canada, to earn Individual and Team Gold Medals. Moving up to Grand Prix, Brentina and McDonald garnered even more international success –

Team Silver at the 2002 World Equestrian Games in Jerez, Spain; Champion at the 2003 Dressage World Cup Final in Goteborg, Sweden; Team Bronze at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece; and Team Bronze at the 2006 World Equestrian Games in Aachen, Germany. The Thomases even had the opportunity to enjoy an international achievement stateside when Brentina and McDonald finished third in the 2005 World Cup in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the Thomas & Mack Center, which is named after Parry Thomas and his late partner Jerry Mack.

Though Peggy, 80, and Parry, 85, are lifelong horse lovers, they never set their sights on the international arena. "My parents were never thinking of doing this on a large level," explains Jane Thomas. "It's always been just our own little personal interest. As Debbie started doing better and better within the dressage world, my father was more than willing to back her up because it was a lot of fun. He was retiring and it was very exciting for my parents and it was part of Debbie's dream as well."

Peggy is a native of Idaho where as a child she rode bareback behind a neighborhood boy. She had her first lessons as a college student on cavalry horses at the University of Utah. As a co-ed, she purchased her first horse and stabled him with the cavalry mounts. Peggy loved dressage and read about it, but the sport was barely known in the U.S. Parry was born in Utah and learned to ride when he was five as his father loved horses and always had them in the family. He attended the University of Utah and was on the polo team and later played polo for a private club. At the university, Peggy and Parry met on a blind



PMG Pictures/Peter Llewellyn

Debbie McDonald and Brentina helped secure Team Bronze at the 2006 World Equestrian Games.

date. Parry joined the army in 1943 and served as a paratrooper in World War II, then returned to Utah to finish school. Peggy graduated from the University in 1946 and married Parry a year later. The couple found a new home for Peggy's horse and moved to Las Vegas. Parry launched his successful business career in banking and the couple started a family – four sons and a daughter.

It wasn't until nine-year-old Jane became interested in horses that Peggy and Parry started their journey into the horse world again when they purchased a \$900 off-the-track Thoroughbred, Beau Valentine, for her to ride. The family summered in Newport Beach, California, and stabled the gelding with 22-year-old Bob McDonald, who was operating a hunter/jumper barn in Costa Mesa. One of his students was a talented



Peggy Thomas watches Brentina and Debbie McDonald at 2006 World Equestrian Games in Aachen, Germany.



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Dear Friends,

The results both on and off the field this year illustrate the shared participation and sense of purpose that make it possible for the USET Foundation to fulfill its mission of supporting athletes, promoting international excellence and building for the future.

On the field, our U.S. equestrian teams performed brilliantly at the World Equestrian Games (WEG) in Aachen. Winning a total of nine medals, and the most ever by the United States at a WEG. In addition to the WEG, the U.S. sent representatives to the Show Jumping World Cup Finals in Kuala Lumpur, the Dressage World Cup Final in Amsterdam, Single Driving Championships in Pratoni, Italy, among many other international competitions throughout the world. I hope you will enjoy reading more about each discipline and their performances in the World Equestrian Games coverage on page 10, and the 2006 Year in Review on page 14.

Off the field much work is being done to prepare for the launch of what will be an exciting announcement about our fundraising efforts this coming February. We anticipate this effort will result in increased levels of support to the Federation's High Performance programs. In 2006 our Gold Medal Club members increased by 56% and overall contributions were up 35%. This is clearly a sign of the enthusiasm for and confidence we all share in our U.S. equestrian teams and their ability to achieve excellence on the world stage. These are all positive signs and we must continue to broaden our base of donors and encourage others in our relatively small equestrian community to join us. It will take all of us to make it happen!

In this issue of the newsletter we profile a remarkable family. Parry and Peggy Thomas and daughter Jane, have been an integral part of our country's equestrian success through their involvement with Debbie and Bob McDonald. We are pleased they have agreed to share their wonderful story and passion for the sport with all of us.

My best wishes to all of you and your families this holiday season.
Happy New Year!

Sincerely yours,

Bonnie B. Jenkins
Executive Director

THOMAS FAMILY

Continued from page 1



Parry and Peggy Thomas at the 2004 "Celebrate with the Champions/Debbie McDonald Training Package Auction" fundraiser for the USET Foundation.

15-year-old named Debbie, who later became his wife. The Thomases and the McDonalds have been together ever since, in something of a record for the owner/trainer relationship – 36 years! "Beau Valentine turned out to be an excellent horse," recalled Parry. "He was a hunter and Jane won just about everything she went into. He was an outstanding horse." When Jane went to college, Peggy took over the reins until Beau Valentine retired. He lived with the family until his death.

River Grove Farm

The Thomases entered a new phase of horse ownership in the 1980s. When Newport Beach became over-populated, the family summered instead at their winter ski vacation home in Sun Valley, Idaho, and bought two horses for Peggy. "So then I decided to build a horse farm for my wife," Parry explains. By 1981, the Thomases had purchased acreage in Hailey, Idaho, built a barn

and named the facility River Grove Farm. Bob and Debbie joined them to manage the barn and train the horses.

"I was the only one interested in dressage at that time," Peggy relates. But in 1990, having had several injuries and surgeries from falls over fences, Debbie switched to dressage, which instigated a change in the Thomases' annual trip to the horse auction in Verden, Germany, where they purchased their hunter/jumper prospects. "Once Debbie decided to switch to dressage, we started looking for dressage horses for her to train," Peggy explained. "Now that's pretty much what we do look for." Over the years, they have purchased nearly 50 horses at the auction.

The River Grove group got their first taste of international dressage success with *Beaurivage*, a Hanoverian that Debbie rode at the 1998 Volvo World Cup Dressage Final in Goteborg, Sweden. The following year, Debbie and Brentina started their international career at the Pan Am Games, and the rest, as they say, is history.

"The whole success of River Grove has not been Peggy and me having our choice of the spot and wanting to do it," avers Parry. "The real success of it has been Bob McDonald, our manager, and his wife Debbie, our rider. Bob is an exceptional professional manager. He's just done a great job. He designed all our buildings so everything is efficient and works properly, and he designed our rings. Also, he has such an incredible eye for horses. He's the one who chose our horses, including Brentina."



Debbie McDonald and Brentina helped the U.S. team win a Silver Medal at the 2002 World Equestrian Games in Jerez, Spain.

youngsters ridden by Adrienne Lyle, Debbie's 21-year-old assistant; and Jane's and Peggy's personal dressage horses. Jane, 47, switched to dressage nine years ago and has competed at Prix St. Georges and Intermediaire I with her 20-year-old mare *Wishful*. She hopes to make her Grand Prix debut soon with her mare *Honeymoon*. Peggy rides trails and light dressage aboard *Guinness*, a 16-year-old that arrived with Brentina.

Owning A Team Horse

Parry, Peggy, and Jane Thomas have been to three World Cup Dressage Finals, two World Equestrian Games, and one Olympic Games. What's it like for them to watch their horse and rider compete?

"It's like your heart is pounding right through your throat," Jane said, who sees the competitions from a competitive rider's point of view. "I am so much more nervous for Debbie when I'm watching her compete than I am when I compete myself. When you're watching your horse and you're a rider, especially in a really big competition, you become very nervous and it's unbelievably stressful."

Parry enjoys being part of representing the U.S. "It's great just being part of the team," said Parry. "We're grateful that we can qualify. It's a team effort – it takes four riders and four horses pulling for each other." Parry also pinpoints why he enjoys watching his horse and rider, saying, "Debbie and Brentina are such a harmonious pair. There's never any pressure, ever. It flows. Debbie is a



Parry Thomas examines new dressage ring base at River Grove Farm.

Ken Braddick/HorseSport USA

PMG Pictures/Anne Guzman



(l-r) Bob McDonald, Debbie McDonald, Jane Thomas and Parry Thomas at CHIO Aachen 2005.

remarkable young lady. Brentina is very bright and fun to be around. She loves the work."

Peggy feels both the pressure and the fun of international competition. "First of all you worry about whether the horse is going to stay sound and whether Debbie is going to feel well. And then you worry about whether the judging is going to be fair," relates Peggy. "It's always very exciting. You get a little tense during the process, but it's still very enjoyable. It's a nice reason to travel and we've formed friendships with some of the other riders and their sponsors and it's always nice to see them." Peggy also noted that horse shows are an important part of retirement for her and Parry. "Most of our friends at our age play golf. Now Parry just tells them the horse competitions are his golf course – that's where he likes to spend his time," she laughed. "We get a great deal of pleasure out

of it and are very happy that dressage has become increasingly important to the competitions in the United States."

The Thomas Family and the USET Foundation

"I've enjoyed a good relationship with the people at USET over these years," noted Parry. "They've been most supportive and very helpful. They've really been a super group of people to work with. All of us really enjoy working with them."

Over the years, the Thomases have helped the USET Foundation support High Performance dressage, not only through ownership of team horses, but also by generous contributions, and by being part of "The Debbie McDonald Training Package Auction," a fundraiser that was held in 2004 during the Olympic Dressage Selection Trials in California to benefit the USET Foundation. Three bidders tied at \$80,000 each and were all proclaimed winners of a month's training with Debbie, board for their horses, and housing in the Thomas family's Sun Valley condo – netting the Foundation \$240,000! "It was Debbie's idea," Parry emphasized. "I just supplied the month's board and housing.

When the three ladies locked horns, Debbie asked me if we could take all three. We have enough room, so I said, 'Sure, glad to do it'. It was easy for us to give housing, and we have enough staff and room in the barn. We were delighted to have them."

"It's nice to be able to support the organizations that you feel are important to the things that you're interested in," explained Peggy. "We've thoroughly enjoyed our acquaintance with the three ladies who opted to come up and train."

"We were all amazed and so excited by the response," shared Jane, who co-chaired the 'Celebrate with the Champions' dinner and auction with Dick and Jane Brown, owners of team horses ridden by Guenter Seidel.

The three bidders, all Californians, completed their month's training last year, but still regularly train at River Grove – one rider now has a Sun Valley vacation condo and another has purchased a home and is a Sun Valley resident. Jane reported, "They have become really close friends and part of the family at the barn."

Jane enjoys helping the USET Foundation and encourages other riders to do so. "I'm a rider and I love my horses and I love competing, but I don't have any aspirations of making one of the teams," explained Jane, who is a wife and mother of a son in college.



(l-r) Jane, Peggy and Parry Thomas at 2006 World Equestrian Games, Aachen, Germany.

"Basically, that team is representing all of us who are amateur riders trying to perfect what we do. Being involved with the Foundation is not necessarily only for those people who have horses on the team, it's also for people who enjoy the sport and want to be represented by an American team. There are only four people on that team but that team is representing all of us who ride in America, so we should all be proud to support it."



Bonnie Jenkins presents award to Parry Thomas at USET Foundation Luncheon, 2005 Las Vegas World Cup.



Debbie McDonald (center) with Elma Garcia (left) and Linda Pflieger Edwards (right) – two of the three high bidders at the 2004 Debbie McDonald Training Package Auction. The third high bidder, Melanie Cornwell, placed her bid by phone.

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Nancy Little – Fundraising Career Fulfills Horse Lover's Goals

BY JENNIFER KAPPLER

Like many USET Foundation staff members, Nancy Little grew up as a horse-crazy kid. She started taking riding lessons at age eight and then to fulfill her desire to be around horses, Little exercised and groomed mounts for friends. As an adult, she kept her connection to horses by working for almost 30 years in an administrative position for a New York family who, coincidentally, bred and raced thoroughbreds. In October 2005, Little was appointed to her current position as the Executive Assistant to the Executive Director of the USET Foundation.

Little has been a New Jersey resident almost all her life. She was raised in Westfield and now lives in Plainfield with her husband of 20 years, Jim, a church musician and choral conductor. Little makes the 50-mile round trip, 90-minute commute to Gladstone five days a week. "It is a picturesque drive and if you like what is waiting for you at the end of the road, it doesn't matter how long it takes," said Little cheerfully, noting that her work at the Foundation is an important fulfillment to her career and life goals.

Prior to accepting her position at the Foundation, Little worked for 28 years in New York City as an executive assistant to the John Hay Whitney family. She was part of a 15-member team who looked after the Whitney family's personal lives. Mr. Whitney's world, outside of his professional life as a venture capitalist and philanthropist, was devoted to horses.

"It was a great job because 'Jock' Whitney was very involved in thoroughbred racing as an owner and breeder," Little said. "He had about 40 to 50 horses in training at Greentree Stable and owned Greentree Stud in Lexington, Kentucky." After Mr. Whitney died in 1982, his widow, Betsey Cushing Whitney, continued with the racing and breeding. The operation was run by a committee made up of family members and professionals. "I was on the committee and was able to travel frequently to Lexington and all around the country to various racetracks and stables," Little explained. "I also got very involved in the research and decisions in connection with stallion selection for the Greentree mares each season."



Executive Assistant to the Executive Director of the USET Foundation Nancy Little, with her husband, Jim, in Alaska.

When Little decided that she wanted a new career, her priority was to find a job that would allow her to continue incorporating her love of horses into her work day. She sent her résumé to the USET Foundation at an opportune time – Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins was looking for an assistant. The two met and hit it off immediately – Little's generous smile, great work ethic, and fierce eye for detail made her the perfect candidate for the position. Little now operates from a large, centrally located desk next to Jenkins's office in the historic Gladstone headquarters. In addition to daily contact with many facets of the seven equestrian disciplines, Little also has a great view of the sand riding arena and all of the competitions and training sessions that are held there!

"I really enjoy the camaraderie here," Little said. "Everyone helps everyone. If there is a deadline project, we all pitch in and make it a real team effort. Almost everyone who works here has a background with horses and truly enjoys being involved in the cause of supporting our top athletes, owners, and horses. You have to be very flexible in this organization, which is one of the things that I like about working here. I like the constant change and excitement." Little added with a laugh, "If you are bored or caught up with your work, just wait five minutes!"

Little's versatility is evident not only on the job, but in other aspects of her life as well. A singer, she belongs to four choral groups

that her husband conducts, and she attends classical concerts with her husband as a music page-turner when he performs at the pipe organ or piano. She also loves needlepoint, a good John Grisham novel, camping, and traveling – the Littles have visited Alaska twice and England many times for concert tours and a canal boat vacation. While Little's husband is not involved with horses, he is an avid gardener and was spotted at Gladstone planting flowers and helping with landscaping for the Dressage Festival of Champions in June.

A devoted staff member, Little eloquently expressed her dedication to fundraising and the importance of donors giving to the USET Foundation. "The USET Foundation symbolizes a passion for equestrian sport and patriotism. International

sport fosters goodwill among the world's peoples, and people that love horses find themselves bonding instantly no matter what their country or creed," she said. "There is also a pride that our equestrian teams are not bought and paid for by our government. If the folks who own, breed, ride, drive, vault or just plain admire horses want to see us compete on an international level, they must step up and donate because our teams do not receive any subsidies as they do in other countries, or even as they do in other sports in our country. Horse people really love their horses and writing a check to support their sport comes from the heart."

Little feels that a deep personal love of equestrian sport and strong feeling about raising money for the High Performance and Developing Rider programs is a common thread among all of the staff at the USET Foundation. "Horses are a passion for us," she noted. "Equestrian knowledge is so important for the staff here because you have to be able to communicate with horse people in their own language."

Having found the job of her dreams, Little says she hopes to work at the USET Foundation until she retires. "This job is the perfect balance for me. It fulfills my horse fix, my career, and I can still have time to spend with Jim and my hobbies. The job is well worth the commute," Little said. "I feel like I have found a home here, I really do."

Gladstone – The Perfect Setting Pays Off!

BY JENNY ROSS

What do wine tastings, weddings, a John Deere Event, Bat Mitzvahs, Land Rover's "Extraordinary in Action" Tour, and a Tewksbury Trail Association Holiday Party have in common? Surprise! They all took place at Gladstone in 2006 as part of the USET Foundation's fundraising efforts through facility rentals at Hamilton Farm.

While most equestrians are aware of the significant role Gladstone continues to play in equestrian sport by serving as office space for USET Foundation headquarters and USEF High Performance staff, as well as the site of national championships and Olympic and World Championship selection trials, many horse enthusiasts and supporters are unaware that the site also serves as a special occasion facility for organizations and individuals, both equestrian and non-equestrian, with activities that include celebrations, charity events, educational programs, and competitions.



EQUUS, A Fall Night at the Races – Benefit for Somerset Hills Handicapped Riding Center Event was held at Gladstone in October.

With its acres comprised of groomed trails, riding rings, jumping and driving courses, terrain-wise Gladstone is perfect for outdoor events of many kinds, plus the unique architecture of the historic stable, courtyards, and outbuildings and the manicured landscaping add to the impressive visual impact of the site. Of course, the inimitable historic mystique of the venue also sparks many organizations to choose Gladstone as their top rental choice.

Historically, Gladstone is the home of the U.S. equestrian teams, and that hallowed moniker will always provide a certain cachet to any event hosted at Gladstone, from the corporate receptions held in the rotunda's Trophy Room to the national championship buffet dinners in the stable area's stallion row. With corporations, charities, horse show managers, and private citizens jockeying for rental opportunities at the historic site at the rate of one or two events each month, the facility rental business at Gladstone is a lucrative endeavor, generating

revenue that helps the USET Foundation support the USEF's eight High Performance Programs.

For several organizations, discovering that Gladstone could be rented for their event was quite a boon as the site offers unique elements that make it the perfect setting for fundraising with an equestrian element. For example, Gladstone is the site for the *sharingVillage* Charity Driving exhibitions incorporating carriage driving. These "Driving For Surviving" demonstrations were organized by *sharingVillage* Cancer Survivor Groups in honor of Teri Piancone and were performed by cancer survivors and children who have undergone treatment and now take part in carriage driving through the *sharingVillage* Cancer Survivor Groups.

Another charity event that utilized the equestrian-themed amenities at Gladstone for their fundraising efforts was the *EQUUS, A Fall Night at the Races – Benefit for Somerset Hills Handicapped Riding Center Event*, which helped the organization meet its funding needs for the growing demand for therapeutic riding. The event included a cocktail reception, buffet dinner, live and silent auctions and video horse racing.

Educational programs are another slice of the rental pie income at Gladstone. This year, Gladstone was the site for the Eastern States Dressage and Combined Training Association (ESDCTA) Judges Clinic with dressage "I" judge Anne Gribbons and an ESDCTA Clinic with two-time dressage Olympian Lendon Gray. Gladstone was also rented for Para Equestrian Training sessions, Driving and Navigating Clinics, a Side Saddle Clinic in the indoor arena, and training for the World Equestrian Games Eventing Team.

Competing at Gladstone – An Equestrian's Dream

The well-manicured, multi-faceted, and much-admired Gladstone was the site of several prestigious equestrian events in the Olympic disciplines of show jumping and dressage, including the USEF Talent Search East Finals and the USET Foundation Dressage Festival of Champions presented by Paul Miller, Inc. At this year's Festival, riders were vying for a berth on the team bound for the World Equestrian Games, the USEF/Collecting Gaits Farm National Grand Prix Championship, and the USEF/Collecting Gaits Farm National Intermediaire I Championship.

But it's not only the High Performance disciplines that soak up the glory of Gladstone. This



Driving for Surviving Exhibition at Gladstone.

season, Gladstone was rented for the USEF Zone 2 Ladies Side Saddle Championship and the Annual Side Saddle Horse Show organized by Kit Roszko. Shelly Liggett, an organizer of sidesaddle events and co-owner of the sidesaddle business called *Aside Line*, explained the fascination with competing at Gladstone. "The venue name alone attracts riders who might not otherwise travel so far to participate," Liggett said. "We've had folks attend from as far away as Indiana, Kansas, Ohio, North Carolina and New Brunswick, Canada. Participants love the atmosphere, the historic ambiance, and the stabling."

Cathy Brogan, New Jersey Regional Supervisor for the United States Pony Club, describes the Pony Clubbers appreciation of Gladstone in much the same way. "There is so much prestige and history at Gladstone that goes way back," Brogan said. Gladstone hosted the national Pony Club Games Clinic, the Pony Club Games Rally, and the Pony Club Dressage Rally. In addition to the national body, local Pony Clubbers such as the New Jersey Region Pony Club enjoyed the hallowed Gladstone grounds for their camps, games clinics, and games rallies.

The caliber of competition at the highest levels flavors many of the other horse shows that rent Gladstone for their events, as Kathy Moffit, founder of BFK Equestrian Enterprises, explained. Moffit began managing dressage horse shows in 1992 at Gladstone and was overjoyed a few years ago when she and her business partners discovered that they could once again rent the Gladstone facility for their event. "Everyone is very welcoming, and we are happy to be there," enthused Moffit. "There is such a great history at the facility, and the competitors really like the idea of riding in the same ring as past and present Olympic champions. To ride there is a dream for many people. And, even at the training level, we are fulfilling that dream for a lot of riders."

For more information about reserving a date at Gladstone for your event, contact Maureen Pethick at (908) 234-1251 ext. 207.

Charlie Jayne Triumphs in USEF Talent Search East Finals at Gladstone

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USEF Show Jumping Talent Search East Finals winner Charlie Jayne with his father, Alex Jayne; trainer Missy Clark; and U.S. Equestrian Team Foundation President Armand Leone, Jr.

BY JENNIFER WOOD

Riding in his last equitation class, Charlie Jayne, 20, of Elgin, Illinois, made it count as he claimed victory in the USEF Talent Search East Finals, hosted October 7-8, 2006, by the USET Foundation at the organization's historic Gladstone headquarters. Jayne, who trains with his father, Alex R. Jayne, and Missy Clark and John Brennan of North Run in Warren, Vermont,

earned the win aboard Cassino Z owned by Lauren Sturges. Jayne was competing in his fifth Finals – his highest finish previously was in 2003, when he claimed second place. This year, Jayne triumphed over 72 riders – the largest field to participate in this event in 15 years.

A demanding competition for riders up to 21 years of age, the USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals on both the East and West coasts has showcased some of the most successful show jumping stars of the future, many of whom often go on to compete for the United States in international competition. Previous winners include Joie Gatlin, Richard Spooner, and Olympians McLain Ward and Lauren Hough.

The USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals comprises three initial phases – flat, gymnastic, and jumping. On Saturday, Jayne received an 89 in the flat phase and was ranked in third place. In the gymnastic phase, Jayne reported that he “rode down the line a little early to get to the Liverpool,” which gave him a lower mark of 84. By the scoring rules, riders' flat phase is given as a multiple of one, and their gymnastic phase is multiplied by 1.5. Those two scores are added together for their sub-total after two phases. Jayne ended up with 215, which put him in second place behind Maggie McAlary and Addison Phillips, who were tied with 227.

On Sunday, all riders returned for the timed show jumping course. Jayne received a 92 over fences. Riders' over fences score is multiplied by two and added to their Phase II score. Jayne's total after three phases was 399, which put him in fourth place overall before riders switched horses.

The top four – Jayne, McAlary, Phillips, and Michael Delfiandra – were called back for the final test. They all began with a clean slate and were scored with each horse. Since Delfiandra's horse was lame and could not be ridden, each rider only had three scores. Jayne received an 87 on his own horse, Cassino Z. On Phillips' Flight, he was given a 94, and on McAlary's Mid-Accord, he received a 92. His total Phase IV score was 273, which gave him the win by two points over Reserve Champion McAlary. Delfiandra and Phillips tied for third with 259 points each. Judging were George H. Morris, USEF show jumping chef d'equipe, and Alison Firestone, show jumper and Alternate on the 2004 Athens Olympic Games U.S. Gold Medal Team.

The win was especially meaningful to Jayne because of his esteem for Morris and Firestone. “I respect them both so much,” Jayne said. “It meant a lot that they judged me.” Jayne also pointed out that he appreciated the expertise of his competitors, noting, “The ‘final four’ was great. They're all talented riders. I got lucky. It could have gone any way.” Jayne credited his trainers, Missy Clark and John Brennan, and his father for their roles in his Finals victory. “Missy has done so much for me in the past eight years,” Jayne averred. “I wanted to win not only for me, but for her, John, and my dad.”

Missy Clark was also thrilled to have Morris and Firestone as the Finals judges. “I knew they would be fair and accurate, and the courses would be brilliant,” Clark said. “Anytime George Morris is there, I find it positive. It's great to have his input and opinion because he is so incredibly knowledgeable.” Clark also praised Jayne, noting, “He could certainly go on to ride for the U.S. Equestrian Team. I hope to continue to be part of the Jayne family and their pursuits.”

This year's Talent Search lived up to its name, Clark pointed out. “It truly is a talent search,” she asserted. “The kids in the top four are real riders – they didn't just have a lucky day. It was such a great event – this is certainly one of my favorites. To have it at Gladstone is great because of the history here. I really believe in the nature of the event.”

Lyndee Kemmett



Charlie Jayne aboard Cassino Z owned by Lauren Sturges.

USET Foundation Congratulates WEG Athletes



Team USA in World Equestrian Games Opening Ceremony.

BY MARY HILTON

“All our athletes and our supporters came through with flying colors for this year’s World Equestrian Games and the USET Foundation is grateful to all of them for their superior performances,” stated Bonnie Jenkins, executive director of the USET Foundation. “Without the generosity of our donors the U.S. would not be able to field teams in all seven disciplines and provide the financial support that allowed our athletes to focus on the competition and deliver the medals!”

Held August 20 through September 3 in Aachen, Germany, the 2006 World Equestrian Games (WEG) featured seven disciplines supported by the USET Foundation – dressage, driving, endurance, eventing, reining, show jumping, and vaulting. This fifth edition of the quadrennial WEG hosted over 60 nations with more than 800 human athletes and 900 equine athletes competing. The United States was one of only seven nations to field teams and individuals in all seven disciplines. The U.S. athletes earned medals in five of the seven disciplines.

During Week I, WEG competition featured dressage, endurance, eventing, and vaulting and the U.S. was off to a highly successful start, earning four medals. Week II showcased driving, reining, and show jumping and U.S. athletes tallied up another five medals for a grand total of nine medals, second only to host country Germany’s 11, and the most ever won by the U.S. at a World Equestrian Games.

To field seven full teams for each of the international disciplines, nearly 50 horses were

shipped to Germany, making the World Equestrian Games the most expensive championship the U.S. competes in every four years. Thirty-three U.S. athletes participated in WEG competition to earn the four team and five individual medals. “We are proud of all of our athletes that competed and represented our country so well,” Jenkins said. “The WEG is truly a celebration of the relationship between horses and humans and what they can accomplish together. I congratulate our Gold, Silver, and Bronze medalists and all of our athletes and owners, who are true champions.”



U.S. Individual Silver Medalist Bezie Madden and Authentic in Final Four.

The USET Foundation also salutes the athletes and owners of the endurance, eventing, and driving teams for their performances and support at the 2006 WEG.



U.S. Endurance Team rider Kathryn Downs and Pygmalion.



U.S. Driving Team member Tucker Johnson on Marathon Course.

EVENTING TEAM: Will Faudree (Antigua owned by Faudree); Kim Severson (Winsome Adante owned by Plain Dealing Farm, Inc.); Amy Tryon (Poggio II owned by Amy and Greg Tryon and Mark Hart); and Heidi White (Northern Spy owned by White). **EVENTING INDIVIDUALS:** Jan Byyny (Task Force owned by J.C. Chester) and Karen O’Connor (Upstage owned by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thompson)

ENDURANCE TEAM: Kathryn Downs (Pygmalion owned by Downs); Joseph Mattingley (SA Laribou owned by Mattingley); Jennifer Niehaus (Cheyenne XII owned by Ruth Waltenspiel); Christoph Schork (Taj Rai Hasan owned by Schork); and Margaret Sleeper (Shyrocco Troilus owned by Sleeper).

DRIVING TEAM: (five horses for each driver): James Fairclough (Baccarat owned by Fairclough); Charlie Brown, Charmeur, Kavango von Falkenstein, and Othello M owned by Jane F. Clark); Tucker Johnson (Angelo 257, Dexter 154, and Eminenz 22 owned by Tucker Johnson; Spotlight owned by James

Johnson and Tucker Johnson; Williams owned by Mr. and Mrs. James L. Johnson and Tucker Johnson); and Chester Weber (Grumus, Jamaica, Rolex W, Senate, and Snoopy W owned by Weber)

and Supporters



U.S. Reining Team Gold Medalists: (l-r) Matt Mills, Aaron Ralston, Tim McQuay, and Dell Hendricks, with Reining Chef d'Equipe Jeff Petska.



U.S. Show Jumping Team Silver Medalists (l-r) McLain Ward, Margie Engle, Beezie Madden, and Laura Kraut.



U.S. Dressage Team Bronze Medalists (l-r) Guenter Seidel, Debbie McDonald, Steffen Peters, and Leslie Morse.

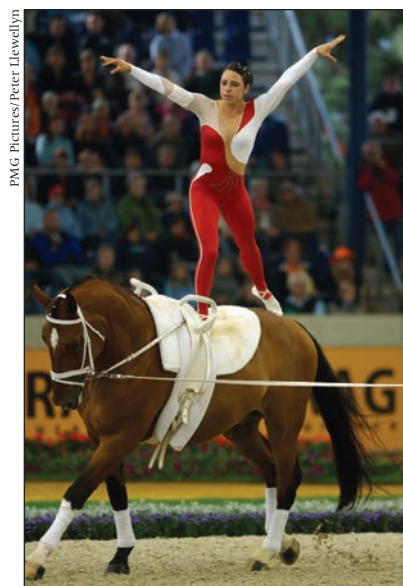
LEFT: U.S. Eventing Individual Bronze Medalist Amy Tryon riding Poggio II in Cross Country.



U.S. Vaulting Team Silver Medalists (back row) Rosalind "Rosey" Ross, Megan Benjamin, FAME Team Longeur Dr. Silke Bartel, Annalise Van Vranken, Blake Dahlgren; (front row) Devon Maitozo, Elizabeth Ioannou, and Katie Ritchie.



U.S. Individual Bronze Medalist Aaron Ralston and Smart Paul Olena in reining individual finals



U.S. Individual Gold Medalist Megan Benjamin in vaulting women's freestyle.



U.S. MEDALS EARNED AT THE 2006 WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

Horses and owners listed after the name of the athlete.

U.S. Gold Medals, World Champions

WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL GOLD

Vaulting: Megan Benjamin

(Leonardo owned by Megan Benjamin and Lasse Kristensen)

TEAM GOLD

Reining: Dell Hendricks

(Starbucks Sidekick owned by Adair Reiners LLC),

Tim McQuay (Mister Nicadual owned by Jerry Kimmel),

Matt Mills (Easy Otie Whiz owned by Outwest Stallion Station

and Bobbie Cook), and Aaron Ralston (Smart Paul Olena

owned by Meg Ralston)

U.S. Silver Medals

INDIVIDUAL SILVER

Reining: Tim McQuay

(Mister Nicadual owned by Jerry Kimmel)

INDIVIDUAL SILVER

Show Jumping:

Beezie Madden

(Authentic owned by Abigail Wexner)

TEAM SILVER

Show Jumping:

Margie Engle (Hidden Creek's Quervo Gold owned by Michael

Polaski/Hidden Creek Farms), Laura Kraut (Miss Independent owned

by the Miss Independent Group), Beezie Madden (Authentic owned

by Abigail Wexner), and McLain Ward (Sapphire owned by McLain

Ward and Thomas Grossman)

TEAM SILVER

Vaulting: Megan Benjamin, Blake Dahlgren, Elizabeth

Ioannou, Devon Maitozo, Katie Ritchie, Rosalind Ross, and

Annalise Van Vranken (Grand Guadino owned by Dr. Silke Bartel)

U.S. Bronze Medals

INDIVIDUAL BRONZE

Reining: Aaron Ralston (Smart Paul Olena owned by Meg Ralston)

INDIVIDUAL BRONZE

Eventing: Amy Tryon (Poggio II owned by Amy and Greg Tryon and Mark Hart)

TEAM BRONZE

Dressage: Debbie McDonald (Brentina owned by Parry and Peggy

Thomas), Leslie Morse (Tip Top owned by Morse); Steffen Peters

(Floriano owned by Stephen and Laurelyn Browning), and Guenter

Seidel (Aragon owned by Richard and Jane Brown)

USET Foundation and USEF Host WEG Parties in Aachen

BY MARY HILTON

Celebrating the U.S. equestrian teams competing at the 2006 World Equestrian Games (WEG) in Aachen, Germany (August 20 – September 3), the USET Foundation and the USEF jointly hosted two cocktail parties at the elegant Dorint Sofitel Quellenhof Aachen Hotel. On August 23, for WEG Week I, the party for athletes and supporters of teams competing in dressage, endurance, eventing, and vaulting was sponsored by Tamara Y. Gerber on behalf of the Challenge of the Americas, and by Karin Reid Offield and Offield



Tucker Johnson, USET Foundation Trustee, and David O'Connor, USEF president.



U.S. Bronze Medal Dressage Team (l-r) Steffen Peters, Leslie Morse, Debbie McDonald, and Guenter Seidel with Dressage Chef d'Equipe Klaus Balkenhol and party sponsors Karin Offield and Tamara Gerber.



Mark Phillips, Chef d'Equipe of the U.S. Eventing Team, and Torri Nahorniak.



George Williams and Jim Wolf, USEF Chef de Mission.



Ryan Cantrell and Jackie Paxton.



Roberta Williams, Sean Caddell, and Jane Thomas.



Anne Gribbons, Joel Baker, Charlotte Bredahl Baker, and David Gribbons.



Elma Garcia and Eventing Team member Will Faudree.



Karin Offield; Rob Hinkle, VP Operations & Administration / COO of World Games 2010 Foundation, Inc.; Tamara Gerber; and Millie McCoy.



U.S. Driving Team members Tucker Johnson, James Fairclough, and Chester Weber.



U.S. Reining Team members Tim McQuay, Aaron Ralston, Dell Hendricks, and Matt Mills.



USEF President David O'Connor with U.S. Show Jumping Team members Beezie Madden, Laura Kraut, and Margie Engle, and Show Jumping Chef d'Equipe George H. Morris.



USET Foundation President Armand Leone, Jr. and Jane Forbes Clark, owner of four-in-hand horses driven by U.S. Driving Team member James Fairclough.

All photos (c) 2006 Kenneth Braddick/HorseSport USA

On August 30, for WEG Week II, the USET Foundation and the USEF hosted a party in honor of the athletes and supporters of show jumping, driving, and reining. Armand Leone, Jr., president of the USET Foundation, delivered the keynote speech in which he recognized the Foundation staff for their successful fundraising efforts to support the U.S. athletes competing in Aachen. Leone thanked the audience for their continued financial support to the USET Foundation as the U.S. prepares to go on to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games 2010 in Kentucky, and the 2012 London Olympic Games.



U.S. Vaulting Team and support staff (l-r) Katie Ritchie, Rosey Ross, FAME team longeur Dr. Silke Bartel, Annalise Van Vranken, Devon Maitozo, Todd Griffiths, Chris Littmann, Blake Dahlgren, Megan Benjamin, Elizabeth Ioannou, Kenny Geisler, Alicen Divita, and Chef d'Equipe Sue Detol.



Carol Cohen, Candy Tate, and Jessica Jo (JJ) Tate.



Sean Caddell with Jane Brown and Dick Brown, owners of Guenter Seidel's WEG mount, Aragon.

All photos: PMG Pictures/Jennifer Wood

Sally Ike Honored with Jane Forbes Clark Award in Syracuse

BY JENNIFER WOOD

2006 Reflections Photography



(l-r) Jane Forbes Clark, John Madden, Eric Hasbrouck, and Sally Ike.

Sally Ike, USEF Managing Director of Show Jumping Sport Programs, was honored in New York at the Syracuse Invitational Sporthorse Tournament on November 4, 2006, with the first annual Jane Forbes Clark High Performance Development Award.

The perpetual award recognizes and honors the equine athlete, individual, group or organization that, in the opinion of the Sportspersons Committee, has done the most for high performance show jumping and its development nationally or internationally within the past year or in previous years. Eric Straus, Eric Hasbrouck, Beezie Madden, Victoria Lowell, and Jim Wolf comprise the Sportspersons Committee.

Jane Forbes Clark is a longtime supporter of equestrian sport in multiple disciplines. She was president of the American Horse Shows Association, a member of the FEI Bureau and Executive Committee, and is currently a trustee of the USET Foundation.

"I am very honored to be given the first Jane Forbes Clark Award, most especially as it is named for someone who has made an extraordinary contribution to show jumping for a long, long time," Ike said. "To be

put in the same sentence or context with Jane's accomplishments is very humbling."

Ike began her affiliation with the USET as a rider and was an alternate for the 1968 Olympic Three-Day Eventing team. She began her leadership role at USET in 1989 and has been a director for Three Day Eventing, Show Jumping, and Vaulting. Ike has served as show jumping chef de mission, co-chef de mission, and/or team leader for an impressive tour of international competitions including four Olympic Games, five World Equestrian Games, three Pan American Games, and more than 25 World Cup Finals. Currently, in addition to her role as USEF Managing Director of Show Jumping Sport Programs, Ike is a member of the USEF Drugs and Medications Committee, a USEF registered eventing judge, technical delegate and jumper judge, a course designer for eventing and show jumping, and FEI chief steward for show jumping and eventing.

"I'd like to thank the Committee for considering me," Ike said and added with a smile, "And I thank most especially my two daughters for putting up with me for so long."

The presentation to Ike was made prior to the Budweiser World Cup Qualifier Grand Prix of Syracuse, with a full stadium of spectators in attendance. John Madden, Organizing Committee Chairman of the show, introduced the award.

"It was quite amazing to stand in the center of the ring with Jane and John in front of a sold-out house and hear John talk about the award," Ike reflected. "I found myself looking towards the in-gate at all the people who are just as deserving as I and thinking about what a lucky, lucky life I've led to have had so many opportunities."

USET Foundation Breyer Model Authentic Launched at New Albany Classic

BY JENNIFER WOOD

The USET Foundation 2006 Limited Edition Breyer Model horse "Authentic," based on the show jumper and 2004 Athens Olympic Team Gold Medalist mount for Beezie Madden, was launched at the Ninth Annual New Albany Classic Invitational Grand Prix & Family Day on Sunday, October 8, 2006, in New Albany, Ohio.

Each year the USET Foundation selects a horse to be the Breyer model from mounts that have represented the United States in international competition and whose performances and success rank them among the best in the world. Authentic, an 11-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding owned by Abigail Wexner, has amassed victories at the pinnacle of international show jumping with Madden, including a Gold Medal at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Most recently at the 2006 World Equestrian Games in Aachen, Germany, the duo won the

Individual Silver Medal and helped the U.S. squad win the Team Silver Medal.

The New Albany Classic, held annually at the estate of Abigail and Leslie Wexner, is the primary fundraising effort to benefit the Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence. Since its inception, The Classic has raised over \$10.5 million to benefit the Coalition. This year, The Classic hosted more than 18,000 spectators for an exciting Grand Prix competition and a day filled with family fun geared for children. The USET Foundation 2006 Authentic Limited Edition Breyer Model launch was an exciting addition to the event. All sales of the Authentic Breyer Model on the day of the launch benefited the Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence. Abigail Wexner commented, "We were proud to host the launch of the Authentic Breyer model at The Classic."

To purchase an Authentic Limited Edition Breyer Model Horse, order forms are available at www.uset.org. Due to limited num-



Bob Langrish

Authentic and Beezie Madden, winners of 2004 Olympic Team Gold and 2006 World Equestrian Games Individual Silver and Team Silver.

ber of models we cannot guarantee all orders will be filled. If you have any questions, please call the USET Breyer Hotline at (908) 234-1251, ext. 209 or email breyerorders@uset.org.

2006 Review/2007 Preview

**Donor Dollars Give Athletes Competitive Edge in 2006 and
Pave Road to Success for 2007 Pan American Games and 2008 Beijing Olympics**

BY JENNIFER KAPPLER



George H. Morris, Show Jumping Chef D'Equipe, with Beezie and John Madden at WEG, Aachen, Germany.

In 2006, equestrian enthusiasts saw one of the most exciting years in decades. In addition to earning nine medals in the World Equestrian Games (WEG) in Aachen, Germany, the United States Equestrian Team athletes have been preparing for the 2007 Pair Driving Championship in Poland, the Pony World Driving Championship in Denmark, the World Cup in Las Vegas, the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, and the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing.

Jim Wolf, USEF Executive Director of Sports Programs, summarized how the ability of our athletes to be competitive abroad is directly affected by funding from the USET Foundation. "The United States continued to be a dominating force in international equestrian sport in 2006," he said. "In addition to an outstanding overall performance at the 2006 WEG, our horses and riders were competitive at the highest levels of competition throughout the world. The show jumpers' overall second place finish in the FEI Samsung Super League is just one example of the dedication and competitive spirit of U.S. riders and horses. Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of owners and the fundraising efforts of the USET Foundation. Equestrian sport is an expensive proposition, and we are in fierce



McLain Ward aboard Sapphire was Leading Rider at La Baule, France.

competition with other sports for funding from the USOC. The funds raised by the USET Foundation help give our athletes the competitive edge that is so important to being successful in international competition."

Show Jumping

Under the watchful eye of Chef d'Equipe George H. Morris, 2006 was a result-packed year for the show jumping squad highlighted by Team Silver and Beezie Madden's Individual Silver at the WEG. Leading up to the WEG, U.S. show jumpers participated in the FEI Samsung Super League and after eight of the best competitions in the world, they finished second overall. The U.S. show jumping team finished in the top four placings at all of the FEI Samsung Super League competitions, beginning with a second place finish at LaBaule, France, in May and ending with a third place finish at Barcelona, Spain, in September.

Sally Ike, USEF Director of Show Jumping, summed up the standard that show jumpers have set for the future and her 'wish list' for the future. "The Federation's show jumping high performance program is very ambitious, but critical if we are to succeed in international championships," Ike stated.



Shawn Flarida on Tinsel Nic won the 2006 World Reining Masters in Denver, Colorado.



McLain Ward and coach George H. Morris discuss plan at Samsung Super League Final in La Baule, France.

"We're very, very appreciative of the support shown by the Foundation, as without it, the ability to implement our programs would be compromised."

Reining

"Reining has benefited from the USET Foundation by helping us get to the World Equestrian Games," stated Courtney Barnett, USEF Director of Reining. U.S. reiners won three medals at the 2006 WEG – Team Gold, Tim McQuay's Individual Silver, and Aaron Ralston's Individual Bronze.

U.S. reiners garnered significant wins state-side as well. The 2006 FEI World Reining Masters Finals were held in Denver, Colorado, in October and U.S. reiners took home the top awards. First place and the Gold Medal went to Shawn Flarida and Tinsel Nic owned by Rosanne Sternberg of East Sussex, England. The Silver Medal went to Tom McCutcheon riding Smartest Chic Olena owned by Terry Owens.

"In the years to come we will be sending horses overseas to compete at the FEI Reining Masters," noted Barnett. "We will also send a team each year to compete at the International Reining Challenge CRIO in



FEI President HRH Princess Haya Bint al Hussein congratulates Reining Chef D'Equipe Jeff Petska at 2006 WEG.

Oklahoma City.” The expense of shipping horses to competitions abroad is a major part of the budget allocated to reining.

In 2007, reining will be included at the North American Young Riders Championships for the first time, which will provide young athletes with the opportunity to compete with and meet fellow reiners from around the world and receive exposure to the format and pressure of international competition at an early age.

Para-Equestrian

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) provides approximately \$100,000 to the Para-Olympic athletes annually. The USET Foundation contributes to other Para activities and general administrative cost.

In July 2007, the World Para-Dressage Championships will take place in Hartspury College, Great Britain. The majority of money the team needs for next year is to prepare, train, and select a team for this World Championship event. Don Whittle, USEF Managing Director of FEI Affiliates said, “The USEF is very excited to prepare, select and train Para-Equestrian athletes for the 2007 World Para-Dressage Championship. We are building on the momentum of 2006 when we qualified for the team event competition at the 2008 Paralympics by winning the Vancouver Paralympics qualifier.

SusanStickle.com



Para Equestrian Champion Rebecca Hart and Reserve Champion Barbara Grassmyer ride an honor round at the 2006 USET Foundation Dressage Festival of Champions presented by Paul Miller, Inc. at Gladstone.

culminated at the WEG when they earned Team Silver and Benjamin earned Individual Gold.

“Due to the funding provided by the USET Foundation, the support structure was in place which allowed our athletes to excel. We couldn’t have done it without the USET Foundation support,” said Sara Ike, USEF Director of Vaulting Activities.

The major expense for the vaulting team in 2006 was related to athlete travel. Next year, athlete travel grants will again be the biggest line item for this discipline.

Driving

The sport of driving is by far the most crew and equipment intensive of all of the equestrian disciplines. The shipping of harnesses, carriages and numerous horses for each team requires van and airplane space far exceeding the others. The driving team required funding from the USET Foundation for several international events, where they

PMG Pictures/Jennifer Wood



Left: Vaulteer Elizabeth Ioannou looks on as U.S. longeur Dr. Silke Bartel hugs FAME coach Emma Seely at 2006 WEG. Right: U.S. Vaulting Team cheers teammate Megan Benjamin as she secures the Individual Gold at WEG.



PMG Pictures/Peter Llewellyn

PMG Pictures/Peter Llewellyn



Endurance Team at 2006 WEG (l-r) Jamie Sauls, USEF Interim Director of Endurance; Suzanne Hayes, Assistant Chef; Valerie Kanavy, Chef d' Equipe; riders Meg Sleeper, Kathryn Downs, and Jennifer Niehaus (team mates missing from photo – Joseph Mattingley and Christoph Schork).

Endurance

The USET Foundation began its involvement with the Endurance riders in 1992 and has been firmly committed to the sport ever since. The USET Foundation allocates funding for endurance High Performance activities. In World Championship years, the U.S. fields up to six riders, and instead of the normal one groom per horse for the other disciplines, endurance requires crews of four to six people per horse. The USET Foundation will also help support the high performance endurance riders that will compete at the Pan American Games in July 2007.

Vaulting

U.S. vaulters had great success abroad in 2006, holding true to their reputation as a dominating world force. In Germany at CVI2* Munich in July, Megan Benjamin was second overall and the FAME team won. The high performance vaulters’ accomplishments



Chester Weber competes in Marathon at 2006 WEG.

PMG Pictures/Peter Llewellyn

notched significant placings, including at the 2006 WEG, where the U.S. team placed eighth. The U.S. also sent drivers to Pratoni, Italy, for the FEI World Singles Driving Championships. International victories included Chester Weber’s win in the CAI-A 4* in Landen, Germany, in the Combined Event for Four-in-Hand Horses, and Katie Whaley’s win at the CAI-W in CAIP-A Pairs of Ponies in Windsor, Great Britain.

Continued on page 16

PMG Pictures/Peter Llewellyn



U.S. Endurance rider Christoph Schork (far right) keeps pace with two riders from France at 2006 WEG.

REVIEW/PREVIEW

Continued from page 15

In 2007, there are two World Championship events for the driving team to contest. The first is the FEI World Combined Pony Driving Championships in Dorphleat, Denmark. This championship requires two singles, two pairs and two four-in-hand teams, totaling at least 18 ponies. The second is the FEI World Pair Championship in Warka, Poland, where the U.S. will send nine horses, three drivers and a plethora of equipment.



Amber Heinberger



Top: Captain Mark Phillips, Eventing Chef D'Equipe, and Will Faudree at 2006 WEG.

Bottom: USET Foundation funding sent eventer Becky Holder, shown here at Rolex, to Burghley, England, in 2006.

and the team finished in fourth place under the guidance of Chef d'Equipe Mark Phillips.

Funding was also given to a Developing Rider, Sara Mittleider, through the USET Foundation's Amanda Warrington Grant, to send her to England with the team and to compete at Blenheim. "Unfortunately due to an injury to her horse, Sara was not able to compete, but she did run at the Gatcombe CIC***," said Torri Nahorniak, USEF Eventing Managing Director. "The exposure to top European competition and training methods was incredibly valuable."

Funding also provided an extended training period in Burghley, England, which gave the riders the chance to compete against the top Europeans and gave them access to world-class gallops. With the help of the USET Foundation, the team sent a total of eight horses and riders to Europe as well as sending Mittleider and Becky Holder to Burghley.

Eventing

In 2006, funding from the USET Foundation helped prepare and send the eventing team to the WEG, where Amy Tryon won the Individual Bronze Medal



Coach Balkenhol works with Tuny Page and Wild One in Florida. With USET Foundation support, Page went on to compete in the Dressage World Cup Final in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

"In 2007, the eventing athletes will be headed to the Pan American Games where we hope to medal," Nahorniak said. "Plans are also in the works to further develop the eventing pipeline."

Dressage

Chef d'Equipe Klaus Balkenhol led the dressage squad to a Team Bronze at the WEG. Additionally, two of the four members qualified to contest the individual medals – the Grand Prix Special (the top 30 of 85 riders moved forward) and the Grand Prix Freestyle (the top 15 from the Special moved forward), resulting in Steffen Peters finishing 4th and 6th, and Guenter Seidel placing 14th and 13th respectively out of the top riders in the world.

U.S. dressage riders also achieved international success in several FEI competitions abroad. In April, at the 2006 Dressage World Cup Final in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Arlene 'Tuny' Page and Leslie Morse represented the U.S. In the Grand Prix, Page placed 7th and went on to compete in the Grand Prix Kur A-Final where she finished 12th in the championship. Morse placed 14th in the Grand Prix and went on to earn second place in the B-Final.

"The USET Foundation's funding contributed to our efforts in sending two riders to the FEI World Cup Dressage Final in Amsterdam in April 2006," said Gil Merrick, USEF Managing Director, Dressage Sport Programs. "During July and August



Dressage Chef d'Equipe Klaus Balkenhol at 2006 WEG led team to Bronze Medal.



Steffen Peters enjoys success for USA at WEG.

2006 Mission Accomplished, Support Needed Now to Meet Future Goals

"Our mission in 2006 was to provide the high performance disciplines with enough funding to qualify all three Olympic teams for the 2008 games in Beijing and to win as many medals as possible at the WEG," Wolf explained. "All three teams did qualify and we won nine medals, finishing second for most medals won after Germany," he continued. "Next year we have the Pan American Games and senior developing riders programs in preparation for Hong Kong, as well as continuing to fund the efforts of the Samsung Super League athletes. The non-Olympic disciplines have competitions and championships in Europe that require support as well."

Funding for the Pan American Games is budgeted at \$590,000. To cover expenses for all seven high performance disciplines the total budget is more than four million dollars.

"It is only through generous gifts from individuals that the USET Foundation is able to fulfill our mission of supporting athletes, promoting international excellence and building for the future," USET Foundation Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins said. "The success of our teams in 2006 is a tribute to the wonderful and enthusiastic donors, who recognize and understand that our U.S. equestrian teams represent all of us, not any one individual, and it is the collective equestrian community that truly sends our teams to international championships. While we continue our fundraising efforts for 2007, equally important is our effort to establish a base of support for the future. With this support we will have what it takes to be the world's best, now and into the years ahead."

Vincent B. Murphy, Jr., Former USET President, Passes Away

BY MARY HILTON

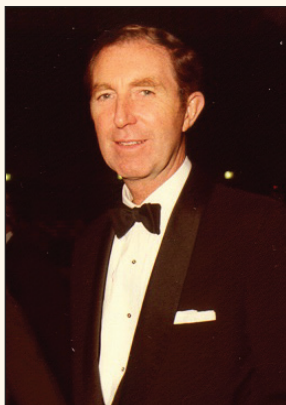
Vincent Bernard Murphy Jr., who served as U.S. Equestrian Team president from 1983 to 1989, died on October 13 at his home in Far Hills, New Jersey, at age 78 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. Mr. Murphy was devoted to the USET, initially as a supporting member, and then actively in the administration, first as Treasurer, then as President, and in 1990 as Chairman of the Investment and Audit Committee.

In 1983, when USET President William Steinkraus was named USET Chairman, Murphy took over the president's role and worked with Steinkraus for several years.

Steinkraus remembers Murphy fondly. "He was certainly a devoted supporter of the Team," said Steinkraus. "He was just a bulwark of support for the USET. He was very, very active. He went to all the Olympic Games, both at home and abroad. He was very active in attending whenever the USET was participating. He was always at the Garden at the National Horse Show. He not only was involved himself, but his daughter [Michaela Murphy] was also a candidate for the Team and rode very, very well."

Murphy and his wife of 53 years, Patricia Duffy Murphy, were the parents of six children, Vincent Murphy III, Patricia Murphy Stuebe, Kevin Murphy, Daniel Murphy, Michaela Murphy Hoag, and Karen Murphy, and grandparents to 20 grandchildren. Three of his six children shared his passion for his horses – Michaela and Karen competed in the jumper division, and Kevin rode in equitation classes.

A successful investment executive, Murphy always made time for horses. In addition to his work for the USET, Murphy served as a director of both the National Horse Show in New York and the Devon Horse Show in Pennsylvania, and was a member of the New Bolton Veterinarian Center's Board of Overseers. As a rider, Murphy hunted with the Spring Valley Hounds and Essex Foxhounds. He fulfilled a long-held dream when he rode his hunter, Lord Sutler, on the Hunt Team for Hunt Night at the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden.



Vincent B. Murphy Jr.

"He didn't show, he couldn't have – he was much too busy with his affairs and so forth," recalled Steinkraus. "The Hunt Team was the thing, though, that a lot of people looked forward to and that was the only appearance he ever made. They shipped in for the day and he rode on the Hunt Team. I think he was proud of that."

During the 1980s, Murphy became well known as the owner of successful jumpers and eventers ridden by equally famous riders. Murphy's successful show jumpers included Playback – the 1987 U.S. Show jumper with the highest winnings, and Gusty

Monroe, both ridden by the legendary Rodney Jenkins.

A Yale University graduate who also attended Wharton Graduate School, Murphy hailed from Rochester, New York. During the Korean War, he enlisted in the Marines Corps, rose to the rank of Major and earned a Purple Heart. Following a stint at Johnson & Johnson, Murphy enjoyed a successful 25-year career at Salomon Brothers where he worked his way up to Executive Managing Partner before joining Merrill Lynch in 1980 as President of Merrill Lynch Capital Resources, Inc., and ultimately became Special Assistant to the Chairman. A devoted Catholic, Murphy was active in several church organizations and served on the Board of Patrons of the Arts of the Vatican Museum.

"He was a very, very decent human being and a very generous one both in terms of his time and in terms of his money," averred Steinkraus. "He was a very able person and he made a wonderful contribution to the Team."

A viewing was held at the Murphy family's Far Hills residence on October 19 and the Mass was at St. Brigid's Church in Peapack, New Jersey, on October 20. Contributions may be made to the Vincent B. Murphy, Jr. Memorial Fund at the Alzheimer's Association, 300 Lexington Avenue, Sixth Floor, New York, New York 10017.

Paul Miller Auto Group Fuels Horsepower at USET Foundation

BY JENNY ROSS

Courtesy of Paul Miller Auto Group



A Paul Miller Land Rover Off-Road Adventure provides customers with a unique driving experience.

Hamilton Farm's layout and terrain is an excellent testing ground for U.S. Equestrian Team athletes to ride over as they prepare for high performance competitions and trials at Gladstone, including those held for the Olympics and World Equestrian Games. But the topography also excellently serves the Paul Miller Auto Group for an entirely different purpose. Paul Miller, Inc., the corporate owner of eight automotive dealerships in the New Jersey area and one of the principal sponsors of equestrian events at the USET Foundation's Gladstone headquarters, also utilizes the facility for private off-road testing of their Land Rover Sports Utility Vehicles (SUV).

"We like to promote our new cars at the facility," reported Bill Hogan, General Manager of Paul Miller Automotive in Woodbridge, New Jersey, and Paul Miller Saab. "We hold customer driving events at the farm, and our customers get to drive on the same path and around the same obstacles as the carriages for the Gladstone Driving Association. We open up a small area with a demonstration and customers

can test drive cars in an off-road terrain that is not normally available to people driving SUVs. The events we do are for customers who purchased cars within the previous year, and it offers them a situation where they can drive SUVs in an environment that is safe, with certified instructors."

Last year, Paul Miller automobiles put on the brakes for a stop at Hamilton Farm during their national tour. Guests learned about the various Land Rover models and test-drove vehicles. During the Paul Miller event, guest speakers and Paul Miller representatives provided attendees with additional information.

Paul Miller, Inc. has been in the automobile dealership business for 30 years, and has been involved with equestrian sports for more than 20 years. The Parsippany, New Jersey, dealership is the principal one that works with the USET Foundation through generous contributions and sponsorship of specific events, including providing cars for officials to drive during competitions. In 2006, Paul Miller, Inc. was the presenting sponsor for the USET Foundation Dressage

Festival of Champions, which featured the Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF National Grand Championship/World Equestrian Games Selection Trials for dressage and the Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF National Intermediaire I Championship. At the Festival, Paul Miller, Inc. also provided several luxury vehicles for display at Gladstone and co-sponsored a Welcome Reception with Collecting Gaits Farm in recognition of the athletes in attendance.

"Mr. Miller became involved with the equestrian industry because he had so many customers that were involved with horses and the equestrian lifestyle," related Hogan. "It's nice for our dealerships to be involved with a national organization that we take pride in. I personally enjoy the events at the facility because I enjoy the horses. My daughter rides and we actually own horses, so it's great."

Paul Miller, Inc. was established in 1976 and originally consisted of the Porsche and Audi franchises. The business later became one of the charter Range Rover, now Land Rover, dealers in the United States in the 1980s, and Rolls Royce and Bentley were added in 1991. Land Rover Woodbridge, New Jersey, opened in 1994, and Paul Miller Toyota in Monsey, New York, opened in 1997. Paul Miller BMW was added to the franchise in 2000, and 2004 marked the opening of Paul Miller Saab in Edison, New Jersey.

Paul Miller, who is President of the Paul Miller Auto Group, spent years racing Porsches in international competitions and now applies the knowledge that he garnered in the racing industry to his top caliber automobiles. Over the years, Miller has achieved recognition as one of the top 10 dealers in sales nationally with Porsche, Audi, Land Rover, BMW and Toyota.

Contributions from Paul Miller, Inc. help support the High Performance equestrian disciplines. The company's sponsorship also supports equestrian athletes, promotes international excellence, and builds for the future of equestrian sports. The Paul Miller Auto Group allows equestrian athletes to experience 'horsepower', whether they are riding for international victory or putting their Paul Miller automobiles into drive for the open road.

The capability is supreme.



2005 **LR3**



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