



USET Foundation NEWS



UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN TEAM FOUNDATION • VOLUME 12 • ISSUE 1 • SPRING 2014

"SOIRÉE DU CHEVAL" GALA LAUNCHES \$35 Million Campaign for Continuing Our Competitive Excellence

BY REBECCA WALTON

On January 24, equestrian supporters gathered at the International Polo Club in Wellington, FL, for a significant night in the history of the USET Foundation. While hosting the "Soirée du Cheval," the USET Foundation used this important opportunity to launch the new *\$35 Million Campaign for Continuing Our Competitive Excellence*.



Photos by Phelps Media Group

Chester Weber, Sophie Gracida, S. Tucker S. Johnson, Jane Forbes Clark, My Elisabeth Weber and Ben Maher

The spectacular evening was held in a beautifully designed and decorated dinner tent that radiated with French elegance in celebration of the theme. The guests included athletes, coaches, USET Foundation friends and supporters.

The event, co-chaired by R. Bruce Duchossois, S. Tucker S. Johnson and Robin Parsky, helped to raise funds for the Foundation to further support the United States Equestrian Team athletes as they prepare to compete at the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy, France. The exciting live auction featured eight luxury items, which helped to raise over \$700,000 for the U.S. Teams. The items featured were a V.I.P Trip for Two to the Kentucky Derby, a Private Charter in the British Virgin Islands or Caribbean, the Ride of a Lifetime on World Cup Champion Ravel, a V.I.P Concert Experience with Country Star and Grammy Award Winner Lyle Lovett, passes to the Final Sunday at The Masters, a first-class WEG hospitality package at Chateau La Cheneviere, three nights at the Rock Creek Cattle Company, and a V.I.P Package for Four at the Spruce Meadows Masters CSIO5*.



Guests were enthusiastically bidding during the live auction

continued on Page 3



Officers

Brownlee O. Curry, Jr.
Chairman of the Board

S. Tucker S. Johnson
President and CEO

R. Bruce Duchossois
Vice President

Eric L. Straus
Secretary

Philip Ernst Richter
Treasurer

Board of Trustees

Sherry Adams

Georgina Bloomberg

Kimberly Boyer

Jane Forbes Clark

William Coleman, Jr.

George Davis

Debi Dobbs

Margaret H. Duprey

Richard M. Feldman

Bertram R. Firestone

Brianne Goutal

E. Hunter Harrison

Elizabeth L. Johnson

Elizabeth Juliano

Murray Kessler

Anne Kursinski

Lyle Lovett

Jacqueline B. Mars

Debbie McDonald

Mary Anne McPhail

Frank G. Merrill

Gwendolyn Meyer

Elizabeth Miller

Misdee Wrigley Miller

George H. Morris

Robin Parsky

M.K. Pritzker

Wendy Raether

Patti Scialfa Springsteen

Jenny Sutton

Chrystine J. Tauber

Jeannie Tisbo

Lawrence G. Tribble

Chester C. Weber

William H. Weeks

Anthony V. Weight

Ted Weise

Jack Wetzel

Abigail S. Wexner

Akiko Yamazaki

USET Foundation Staff

908-234-1251

Bonnie B. Jenkins

Executive Director, ext. 215

Nancy Little

Executive Assistant, ext. 208

Mark P. Piwowar

Chief Financial Officer, ext. 200

Sara Ike

Major Gifts Officer, ext. 209

Michele Zanzonico

Director of Annual Support, ext. 205

Mary-Ellen Milesnick

Database Manager, ext. 204

Catherine Pane

Accounting Supervisor

& Office Manager, ext. 203

Maureen Pethick

Communications Coordinator, ext. 207

Clifton J. Cotter, Jr.

Director of Facilities, ext. 202

Paul Hartfield

Facilities Manager, ext. 206

Rebecca J. Walton

Phelps Media Group

Newsletter Editor

Miriam Morgan

EquestrianGraphics.com

Graphic Designer

Dear Friends,

The United States Equestrian Teams are gearing up on all levels for the upcoming Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy, France. Each discipline is in the process of selecting the top athletes and horses to make the trip and Selection Trials are being conducted throughout the next few months.

There are many new faces on the scene, from Chefs d'Equipe (in four disciplines) and amongst the athletes. Last year was a rebuilding year and new, talented, riders, drivers and vaulters have appeared to team with, and even challenge, some of the more established names for final spots on the Team. This competition within each discipline is healthy and leads to a continuous pipeline of international-level athletes.

It will be no surprise, I am sure, that these efforts take a great deal of funding, and that process has also been operating at high speed. Starting last year, and gathering momentum into this, the USET Foundation has created Challenge programs in several disciplines which have proven highly successful. The first of these, initiated by Trustee Jacqueline B. Mars, The Giltedge Challenge, has raised an additional \$1,400,000 over the quadrennial for the Eventing High Performance Program. The Dogwood Foundation Reining Challenge raised \$300,000 for its WEG effort. Several other Challenge programs are in the process and we expect them to significantly increase the funding available for the specific disciplines. In addition, you will read an article about the newly established Karen Stives Endowment Fund for Eventing High Performance which is a \$1 million gift from the Olympic Gold and Silver medalist to fund a grant to help the Eventing athletes reach the podium at Normandy in August. The USET Foundation is extremely appreciative of Karen's generous gift!

The largest funding source by far is the newly announced \$35 Million Campaign for Continuing Our Competitive Excellence, which, thanks to a group of enthusiastic lead donors, already stands at over \$26,000,000 pledged over the next quadrennial. This funding will allow the High Performance programs to count on a definite cash flow as the discipline directors and Chefs d'Equipe plan the programs and the strategic goals.

I would be remiss in not noting that the USET Foundation has been awarded a 4-Star Rating by Charity Navigator, which only reinforces my own feeling that our staff has been doing an outstanding job of "good governance, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency" and that all of your charitable gifts for our United States Equestrian Teams are in the good hands of a dedicated staff.

On to the World Equestrian Games, and GO TEAM USA!

Sincerely,

S. Tucker S. Johnson
President and CEO



Photo by Rebecca Walton/Phelps Media Group

Cover Headline Photos Courtesy of the USET Foundation Archives, Karl Leck, Waltenberry, SusanJStickle.com, Terri Miller, www.hippoevent.at, GenieSS Inc., Lauren Giannini

CAMPAIGN

continued from page 1

USET Foundation President, S. Tucker S. Johnson, delivered the keynote address, announcing the \$35 Million Campaign for Continuing Our Competitive Excellence. Johnson stressed the importance of the Foundation's contributions in assisting the U.S. Teams as they prepare for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games and the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"Each year, the USET Foundation provides a grant to the USEF for this country's High Performance programs, which represents approximately 55% of the revenue that supports the international competition and training of our United States Equestrian Teams each year," explained Johnson. "While we are proud of our accomplishments, we also recognize that for the USA to be even more competitive at all international championships, we want to continue to increase our support to further expand the programs across the board, from the young and developing riders to the elite, providing for a strong and healthy pipeline while making sure seasoned teams have the backing necessary to succeed."

Johnson continued, "I am thrilled to let you know that as we launch this Campaign we have already received in cash and pledges \$25,000,000 towards our \$35,000,000 goal. This major gifts fundraising effort is directly benefiting the athletes and our United States Equestrian Teams in all eight international disciplines."

Johnson thanked all the donors to the Campaign with a champagne toast and recognized those individuals that have provided early philanthropic leadership, through their gift pledges of one-half million dollars and above. They included:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ★ Ken and Arle Adams | ★ Jacqueline B. Mars |
| ★ Jane Forbes Clark | ★ Mason Phelps |
| ★ Margaret H. Duprey | ★ Gwendolyn S. Meyer |
| ★ R. Bruce Duchossois | ★ Bruce Springsteen & Patti Scalfia |
| ★ Jeremy Jacobs & Family | ★ Elizabeth Miller & Jamie Dinan |
| ★ Abigail & Leslie Wexner | |
| ★ Sheila C. Johnson | |

Over the next two years, the USET Foundation will work to raise the remaining \$10 million, and encourage those that are not currently participating in this worthy endeavor to consider joining the Foundation in its pursuit of *Continuing Our Competitive Excellence*.

The USET Foundation also presented its two most prestigious and coveted awards to riders: Katie Dinan the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy and Beezie Madden the Whitney Stone Cup for the third year. Both athletes delivered heartfelt speeches recognizing and thanking their fellow teammates and the Foundation.

Following the presentations and live auction, the evening concluded with dancing and celebration as the USET Foundation looks ahead to a new era in equestrian sport.



Bettina Paus, Brownlee O. Currey, Jr., Diana Feldman, Richard Feldman and S. Tucker S. Johnson



Richard DeMartini and Jenny Brorsen with Steve and Margie Engle



Margaret Duprey, Chloe Reid, Bob Duprey, My Elisabeth and Chester Weber and Juliet W. Reid



Jenny and Kermit Sutton



Kent Farrington and Robin Parsky



Ramiro Quintana and Georgina Bloomberg



Audrey Coulter, Rob Jones and Saer Coulter



Philip Richter



Hope Hand (front), Tina Wentz, Kai Handt and Lindsay McCall



Louis and Joan Jacobs



Laura Kraut, Nick Skelton, Sissy Wickes and Margaret H. Duprey



Camilla Pettersson, Craig Pollard, Katie Dinan, Elizabeth Miller and Jamie Dinan

Photos by Phelps Media Group

2014 LIONEL GUERRAND-HERMÈS TROPHY

Katie Dinan's Talent Shines Through



S. Tucker S. Johnson, Katie Dinan, Brownlee O. Currey, Jr. and Courtney Caverzasi, Hermes Equestrian Representative

During the USET Foundation Gala on January 24th, in Wellington, FL, young rider Katie Dinan was asked to take the stage for the presentation of the 2014 Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy. Each year this award is presented to a young rider in one of the Olympic disciplines who exemplifies both sportsmanship and horsemanship. In 2013, show jumping rider Dinan of New York, NY, had a breakthrough year, competing at her first World Cup Finals and representing the United States at the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup Jumping Final in Barcelona, Spain.

"I am very honored to be this year's recipient of the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy," Dinan commented. "Past recipients of the award include riders whom I look up to as well as some of my incredibly talented contemporaries. I am excited to have my name join the list and to be recognized by the USET Foundation as a young rider who demonstrates sportsmanship and horsemanship, two qualities I aspire to embody in this sport."

For a young rider to achieve consistent success is not an easy feat, and to do it while carrying a full course load at college is even more impressive. In 2013, Katie Dinan managed to do just that. She competed in her first ever World Cup Final in Gothenburg, Sweden, and she then went on to represent the United States during two Nations Cup events. Two clear rounds helped her clinch the Furusiyya Rider of the Day Award at Spruce Meadows, and she was also a part of the third-place team in Dublin. In September, Dinan was a part of the U.S. team during the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup Jumping Final in Barcelona, Spain, where she helped them take top honors in the Consolation Round.

"2013 was my first year really competing with the U.S. Team," noted Dinan. "I had always dreamed of going to the World Cup Finals and competing on Nations Cup Teams. I had amazing opportunities this past year to compete on teams with some of the best riders in our sport and gained invaluable experience. I give tremendous credit to my horse, Nougat du Vallet, who has been an incredible partner for me."

At the beginning of the year, Dinan kicked things off with a second place finish in the \$125,000 FEI World Cup Grand Prix to qualify for the Finals, and she then went on to win the \$100,000 Old Salem Grand Prix. She concluded the year with a fantastic

victory in the Alltech \$250,000 Grand Prix at the Alltech National Horse Show aboard Nougat Du Vallet.

Dinan is star outside of the ring as well. She is a 20-year-old sophomore at Harvard University, where she is studying Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology.

"While balancing riding and school can be hectic, I am incredibly lucky to have an amazing team at our farm, Staysail," commented Dinan. "I appreciate the balance gained from both attending university and riding."

Dinan concluded, "Looking forward, I hope to have additional opportunities to represent our country and dream of attending championship competitions."

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who have coached me, especially McLain Ward, the recipient of this same award in 1991, who gave me invaluable guidance over the past three years. I am also very grateful to Craig Pollard, who runs our farm, and Camilla Pettersson, who takes care of Nougat and Glory Days, for keeping my horses in super form. Most of all, I would like to thank my family for their endless support."

– Rebecca Walton



Katie Dinan and Nougat Du Vallet



S. Tucker S. Johnson, Beezie Madden and Brownlee O. Currey, Jr.

It was a beautiful night at the USET Foundation Gala in Wellington, FL, to cap off an amazing year for Beezie Madden. The reigning Show Jumping World Cup Champion from Cazenovia, NY, was named the recipient of the 2013 Whitney Stone Cup. 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. This marks the third year that Madden has received the prestigious honor after an incredible year that included her victory at the 2013 FEI Show Jumping World Cup Finals aboard Abigail Wexner's Simon in Gothenburg, Sweden.

"It's always an honor to win this award and be an ambassador for the sport," stated Madden. "This year has been amazing, and winning the World Cup was a huge accomplishment. All of the horses contributed, with Simon at World Cup and Cortes 'C' winning a qualifier at WEF last year and helping the teams qualify at the Nations Cups. It has been a huge team effort."

The 2013 World Cup Finals were a dream come true for Madden, a staple on the U.S. Show Jumping Team, who has won countless grand prix honors and competed all over the world. She and her talented mount Simon took home a title that had eluded her previously: World Cup Finals Champion. A brilliant clear round gave them an early lead and helped them get to the nail-biting jump-off, where Madden and Simon managed to best the reigning Olympic champions with a brilliant round and take home the coveted title.


The success did not stop there though, as Madden went on to win the \$60,000 Great-West Life Cup, the \$35,000 ATCO Energy Solutions Cup, and the \$33,000 AON Cup at Spruce Meadows to earn the Spruce Meadows North American Leading Rider Award. She concluded the year with a victory in the Longines Grand Prix of Chantilly aboard Cortes 'C', as well as helping the United States win the Furusiyya Nations Cup Final Consolation Round by completing a clear jump-off round with Simon.

"I was happy with all of my horses and their progress over the year," noted Madden "We were able to finish the year early and give them a nice break, so I think they are going to be fresh and ready to go for this coming year. Simon and I have grown to

BEEZIE MADDEN

Awarded Whitney Stone Cup *for the* THIRD TIME

know each other better and have been more consistent. Cortes had an equally good year with his Nations Cup performances and his win at Chantilly and Wellington."

Madden will continue to compete in 2014 and hopes to return to the Show Jumping World Cup Finals to defend her winning title, as well as representing the United States during the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. – **Rebecca Walton** 



Beezie Madden and Simon

N O R M A N D Y

2104 WEG PREVIEW

As the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games gear up for their debut in beautiful Normandy, France, the athletes from the United States are preparing with their teams in the eight disciplines of Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing, Reining, Driving, Vaulting, Endurance and Para-Dressage. The Chef d'Equipe of each team is putting together a selection process for his athletes and determining the best program to prepare them as they aim towards the podium at the World Championships.



Jumping

For the Hermès U.S. Jumping Team, a brand new process is being put in place to determine the squad. Selection Trials have been a part of the United States selection process since the mid-90's in one form or another. After using a strictly objective format for a number of years, a more subjective format was introduced and the selection was based on performance and the input of then Chef d' Equipe George H. Morris and a panel of selectors. Both processes proved to be successful and certainly George Morris' Olympic Team Gold medals in Hong Kong, Pan American Gold and a WEG Silver medal at Aachen are testament to a winning formula.

This year, the team will be selected based on the Rolex/USEF Jumping Ranking list initially, and then on actual performance at a number of top shows leading up to the World Equestrian Games. In fact, four riders have already been named to the Phase One list based

on the Ranking List from early December. The top four riders are Beezie Madden, Kent Farrington, Reed Kessler and McLain Ward.

Phase two of the process will have Chef d' Equipe Robert Ridland name at least six more riders who will be added to the short list by April 28, 2014. Among those will be the highest placed American rider at the World Cup Finals, provided that rider is in the top ten. If for some reason we have no rider placed in the top ten, then that selection reverts back to the computer rankings on April 25th. Additionally, a minimum of three of the highest ranked riders on that same computer ranking will be named to the list.

Ridland, along with Anthony d'Ambrosio, Chris Kappler and Anne Kursinski will also be able to name two more riders to the short list after consultation with veterinarians Dr. Richard Markell, Dr. Rick Mitchell and Dr. Tim Ober. Five alternates can also be named. The USEF Jumping High Performance Committee and the

McLain Ward and Rothchild



Board of Directors will review the riders selected and approve those recommendations.

It's at this point the competition for a spot on the squad really begins to heat up as the shortlisted riders will compete at various designated CSI and CSIO events. Ridland and his team of Selectors will decide which riders compete at the various events, and the list of which observation events will be revealed on April 1st.

"Preparation will be the key to success in the selection process," said Robert Ridland. "If the preparation is correct, the selection will be obvious. This new process allows riders to tailor their schedule naturally for these events, not unnaturally for Selection Trials."

When the observation events are finished, Ridland, along with the Selectors and vets will name five to ten horse and rider combinations as the FEI Nominated Entries for the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

"The pool of young talent is deep," Ridland said. "This is due in large part to our new system and the tour last year that gave so many young riders a chance



Robert Ridland

Photo by Kenneth Kraus / PhippsSports.com

to compete on the big stage and gain that valuable experience."

The list is headed by two-time Gold medalists McLain Ward and Beezie Madden. Madden, of course, is also the reigning World Cup Champion. Kent Farrington, who continues to pile up win after win, including multiple victories at Spruce Meadows against the best

in the world, is joined by Reed Kessler, who made history at the 2012 London Olympics by becoming the youngest rider to ever compete in Jumping.

Ready to fight for a berth in Normandy are top competitors like Brianne Goutal, a member of our Nations Cup squad in Wellington. Todd Minikus, who posted fifteen grand prix wins during the 2013 campaign said of his mount, "Quality Girl shouldn't be overlooked when it comes to WEG." Add to that list, Olympic Gold medalist Laura Kraut and her long-time partner Cedric. In addition to veterans like Minikus and Kraut are the numerous and talented young rising stars like Lucy Davis and Katie Dinan who gained valuable international experience last year as part of our Nations Cup squads in Europe and at the Finals.

In the crazy world of Jumping, everything has to go just right between horse and rider, and on "any given Sunday" as they say in football, anything can happen. The team from the United States will be aiming toward a championship title as they prepare at the best competitions in the world. – **Kenneth Kraus**



Photo by Shannon Brinkman

The U.S. Team finished third in the Lambertz FEI Nations Cup at the CHIO Aachen (L-R) Shelly Francis and Danilo (she actually rode Doktor in the competition but rode Danilo for the awards ceremony), Jan Ebeling and Rafalca; Steffen Peters and Legolas 92, and Tina Konyot and Calecto V



Dressage

The dressage team for the 2014 WEG will be headed up by Chef d'Equipe Robert Dover. Dover certainly has the experience to help Team USA reach the medal podium with six Olympic Games, four World Championship Teams and seven World Cups under his belt.

Dover said it is too early in the season to pinpoint the horses and riders that will be on the team, but there are some winning combinations vying for a spot. Recent Gold medal wins by Team USA 1 in the Stillpoint Farm Nations Cup CDIO in Florida, where Dover was the coach for the two U.S. teams, and by Steffen Peters and Legolas at the Mid-Winter Dressage Fair CDI, gives Dover reassurance that the future of the WEG team for the United States is on track for success.

"I'm encouraged with the scores moving upward," he said. "We're marching confidently forward toward the scores that will be necessary to contend for a medal. It's very difficult to give an absolutely accurate sense of where we can be but I would say it is my intention to take a medal contending team to the World Equestrian Games."

Dover said that qualifying World Cup

WEG PREVIEW

continued

competitions are still being held on both coasts so specific team members could not be named.

"Of course we've seen that Steffen Peters and Legolas have been extremely good," he explained. "In addition, there are no less than four combinations who are absolutely new coming into the Grand Prix and are very exciting but have not shown in international classes yet, so we can't assess where they are going to land on the ladder. These fresh faces are certainly horses and riders to watch."

He said the preparation for WEG begins with the current qualifiers and Dover is crisscrossing the country to coach and observe the athletes on both coasts. Top contenders will then attend the World Equestrian Games Selection Trials held at the USET Foundation headquarters in Gladstone, N.J., during the 2014 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions presented by The Dutta Corp., June 12-15.

After the scores are calculated, the top 16 horse and rider combinations will go head-to-head to compete in the next series of selection events and, from there, up to eight combinations will head to a private farm in Belgium to train. These semi-finalists will

then compete in a minimum of two European competitions to assess which horses and riders belong on the WEG team made up of four combinations and one reserve.

Dover said that he is enjoying helping the USA field a team while also boosting High Performance Dressage by beginning at the grass roots level. He said it begins with the ponies and Young Riders to help field a winning team for the United States.

"I am excited to be a part of the America team," said Dover. "I have always been extremely patriotic. I love my country and our riders. I'm really enjoying giving back and working with athletes to try to produce a medal winning team, not just for this year's World Equestrian Games, but for the future." – **Sue Weakley**



Robert Dover

Eventing



The Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team is gearing up to put in their best effort at the WEG. Chef d'Equipe David O'Connor knows just what it takes to win against the best in the world, and believes that the team is shaping up well.

"I feel quietly optimistic," he said. "I'm not a person who is ever going to predict an outcome, but I think there's been improvement from the last year on the technical side."

He added that rather than resting his hopes on an individual rider, he takes a broad approach to building a competitive team. "We look at this much more as a team effort," he said. "We have quite a few horses that have experience in 4* events. We also have a few combinations without as much experience that are coming up. I think it's great for us to have that depth."

The USEF Eventing Selection Committee will work to choose the team by looking at results over a series of CCI3* and 4* competitions in 2013 and 2014. Horses must complete at least one of these events to be eligible for consideration.

The first selection trial was the Rolex Kentucky CCI4* in April 2013, and the final opportunity will be the Luhmühlen (GER) CCI4* on June 11-15 2014, after which four team members and two individuals will be chosen to represent the U.S. at WEG.

The selected horses and riders will benefit from coaching by O'Connor throughout the summer. Also assisting in the athletes' preparations will be Silvio Mazzoni, who recently joined the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team as its Jumping Coach. His first task is to get to know the combinations aiming for a spot on the team.

"He is looking at the horses and riders and evaluating where they are," O'Connor said. "The first part is more of an assessment and a strategic look at preparing the horses over multiple events. It's a longer term approach."

The ongoing USEF Eventing High Performance Training Sessions have served as an ideal tool for O'Connor, both in preparing a team for WEG and in looking ahead to future team competitions.

"I see where the horses are, help the riders with things they're working



Hannah Sue Burnett and Harbour Pilot

on, and make suggestions about the longer term,” he said. “It’s not just about the Worlds. It’s about preparing horses and already having my eyes on some that could compete in the Olympic Games in two years’ time. We’ve gotten a lot out of the sessions – they’ve been a rewarding side of the equation.”

O’Connor feels these training opportunities help him stay in touch with the individual needs of competitors and give them the support they need to work toward achieving their potential.

“It’s an in-depth way of looking at where horses and riders are, who they are, and what types of personalities they are,” O’Connor said. “We’re trying to raise the level of technical riding – that’s one of our goals from the beginning. I think it’s had a big effect here in this last year.”

– Mary Adelaide Brakenridge



Photo by Phelps Media Group

David O'Connor

Reining



The 2014 WEG Reining Championship will take place August 25-30 at the Caen Exhibition Centre in Normandy (FRA). Jeff Petska has served as the Chef d’Equipe every year since the addition of Reining to the WEG in 2002, and the United States has been unbeatable.

“It’s always very exciting to get to go to a World Games and be able to help our riders try to achieve the highest level in international competition,” Petska said. “It’s exciting to see who the new team might be, what horses might be going–maybe new riders who have never been before–who might step up and make the team.”

Petska feels that the Normandy location and its history will add to the entire WEG experience. “It is going to be extra special for us,” Petska shared. “The WEG in itself is a phenomenal experience, but then to go to a region with such historical significance will make it even more so.”

The fastest growing sport in the equine industry, Reining grew by more than 300 percent from 1992 to 2012 with an increase in the number of approved shows and annual purses. Fashioned from the working ranch in the American West, the U.S. has a distinct advantage in the sport of Reining as the country of origin.

The Sun Circuit FEI Concours de Reining International (CRI3**), a U.S. Reining Team Official Selection Trial qualifier, was held February 3, 2014. Matt Mills of Arizona took the Gold medal aboard Janice Dickson’s Mia Little Whiz and also qualified with Inga Guernsey’s Custom Great Pine. Amateur Dana Klapper Cohen of Colorado took the Silver medal with Gail Klapper’s Magnum Refund. Both riders added their names to list for the U.S. Team Selection Trials.

The final U.S. Selection Trial qualifying event was held in Ardmore, OK, Feb. 7-8 at the Winter Slide Horse Show. Jason Vanlandingham aboard Roseanne Sternberg’s Shiners Chic won the CRI3.*

The Selection Trial for the U.S. Reining Team will take place at the Kentucky Reining Cup, April 25-27. “The great thing about our selection process is that it is based on performance,” Petska said. “Who is doing the best at the right time, who’s hot, whose combination is clicking are going to go. That keeps the sport of Reining fresh, keeps people excited because they know anybody with a good horse on any given day can make the team. And we’ve had riders in the past that going into it weren’t even on the radar make the team and ended up being very instrumental in our success. It’s fun to wait and watch and see.”

A day or two after the Kentucky Reining Cup, the team will be announced. Petska said that the top four members of the team will be determined immediately, but that sometimes the alternates need to be determined based on who will make the trip.

Though the U.S. has dominated the sport, the competition at WEG should never to be taken lightly. According to Petska, there are other countries knocking on the door. The Canadian team is always very strong and competes at most of the events in the U.S. In addition, the Italians are quite competitive.

Petska is humble about his role as the Chef d’Equipe, and does not give himself credit for the success of the team. He sees himself as a facilitator, looking out for the team members and the owners.

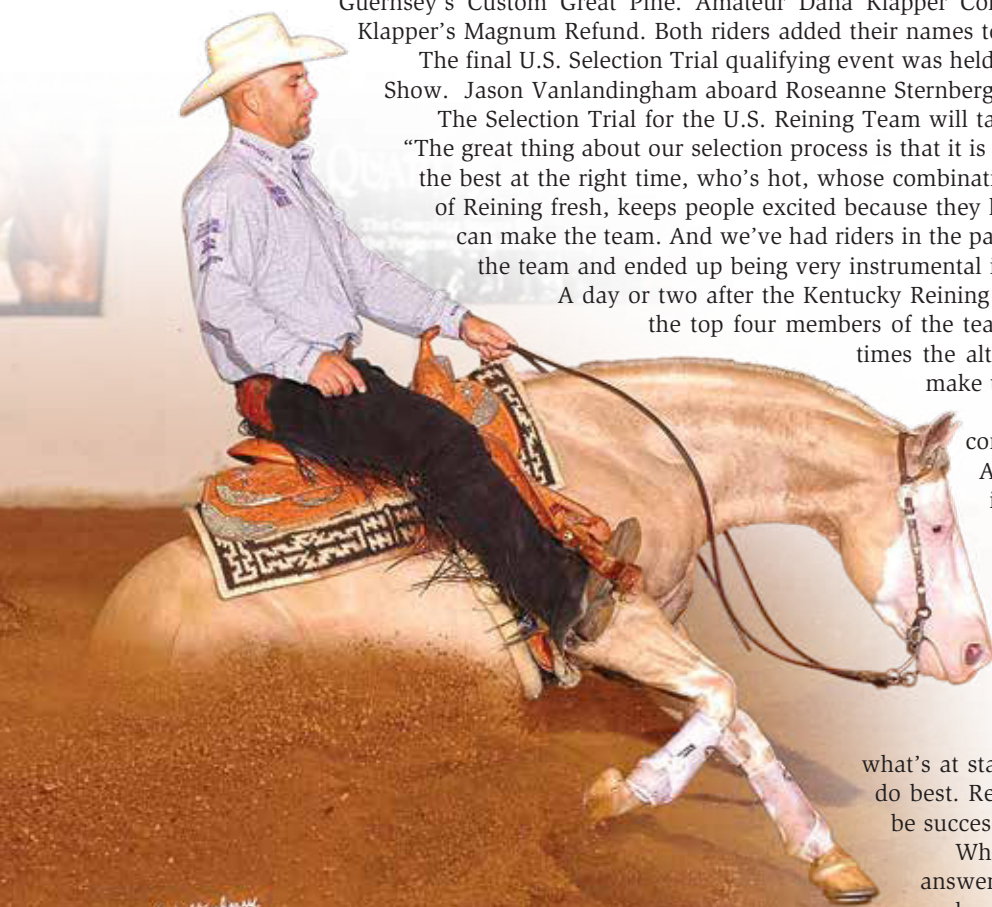
“These riders are pros and they know what’s at stake,” he said. “I just try to help them do what they do best. Remove distractions, try to put them in a position to be successful and just help them any way I can.”

When asked what his goal for the WEG is, Petska answered, “One word– you know the word– Gold. That’s why we go.” – Jocelyn Pierce



Photo Courtesy USSE Archives

Jeff Petska



Craig Schmersal and Pale Face Dunnit

Driving



They earned the Individual Silver medal at the 2008 World Championships, the Individual Bronze and Team Silver at WEG in 2010 and the Individual Silver and Team Bronze in 2012, but there is just one color that the United States Combined Driving Team has not earned in recent years – Gold. This year, the United States is poised to make that jump to the top of the podium in Normandy.

“The hard work and dedication of our Four-In-Hand athletes has paid off in the past. The discipline of Driving has had some very good success in previous years [at the WEG],” said US Combined Driving Team Chef d’Equipe Ed Young. “The pool of candidates this year continues to exhibit the same work ethic and dedication as in previous years. It is my hope that we can capitalize on our previous success and couple it with the continued hard work and dedication of this year’s candidates and bring home the Gold this time!”

Leading up to the WEG, the U.S. Combined Driving Team will be chosen by a Selection Committee of five individuals appointed to review the performances of each qualifying athlete. Qualifying athletes must meet the criteria set forth by the FEI and by the USEF High Performance Driving Committee regarding the athlete’s past experience and performance, results achieved in the Selection Trials and the potential for the candidate to contribute to a team medal.

When selecting the team for 2014 there will be one strong player missing from the candidate list: Tucker Johnson. Johnson saw enormous success as a Four-In-Hand driver before retiring and

taking the helm in his new position as the USET Foundation President and Chief Executive Officer.

“Tucker Johnson was an active competitor, and losing him left a big void in our Four-In-Hand team,” Young said. “The experience and expertise that Tucker brought to the sport will be very difficult, if not impossible to replace for some time. We are however, fortunate that a couple of new Four-In-Hand drivers have surfaced this year and are working very hard at developing the skills needed to be competitive internationally and gaining as much experience as possible in hopes of representing the United States.”

While Johnson will be missed as a part of this team, the U.S. candidate pool still looks incredibly strong, and there are a few definite drivers to watch leading up to the WEG.

“Without question, Chester [Weber] has been the leading Dressage driver internationally for a number of years. I have no doubt that he will continue to produce top results in Dressage, putting him in a very desirable position for selection,” Young said. “It is however, still very early in the process to determine leading candidates. Thus far there have only been two Selection Trials and some of our potential candidates have not yet competed. I suspect that most of our candidates will be establishing the majority of their competitive records in Europe where the season won’t start until May.”

Drivers throughout the United States are finalizing their competition calendars for the year and gearing up to make their marks at the remaining Selection Trials and throughout competitions in Europe. From there they will be setting their sights on Normandy and the Gold medal that is well within their grasp. – **Emily Riden**



Ed Young

Photo Courtesy USEF Archive



Para-Dressage



The U.S. Para-Equestrian Dressage Team had a top showing at the 2012 London Paralympics with a team that featured the highest placed individual U.S. equestrian among the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The 2013 calendar year was a developing year for up-and-coming athletes in Para-Dressage. It was also a year where many seasoned riders upgraded their horses to a higher competitive level. By the end of 2013 the talent pool of horse/rider combinations became the largest group in history for the Para-Dressage discipline. Many of the new riders were attracted to the sport within the last 6 months. With coordinating efforts from USEF and the United States Para-Equestrian Association, multiple training symposiums, clinics, and CPEDI3* events were hosted for Para-Dressage athletes from coast to coast to prepare both new riders and new horses.

In 2013, interest in the Para-Dressage discipline from outside the equestrian world was astounding. The USOC announced the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Veteran Monthly Assistance Allowance Program for the equestrian sport. This addition to Para-Dressage has already attracted a new group of competitors.

In 2014, the U.S. Para-Dressage riders will have two CPEDI3* events in the U.S. to qualify for the WEG. Those shows are located in Wellington, FL, in March and Rancho Murieta, CA, in April.

"The Florida and California CPEDI3* horse shows will be two great places to see how the athletes are standing internationally," explained Chef d'Equipe Kai Handt. "As always England and the other European countries continue to have a strong showing and are currently ahead of the U.S. Team due to the vast amount of CPEDI competitions held throughout the year. However,

despite this U.S. disadvantage, the team performed better than ever in 2012. After the 2013-2014 rebuilding phase we hope to have a medal for Team USA in the works."

The final event before WEG will be the Selection Trials and the 2014 National Championships taking place in June at the USET Foundation Headquarters in Gladstone. To qualify for the Selection Trials each horse/rider combination must have obtained a 63% or better in either the Team or Individual Championship Test at a CPEDI3* after February 1, 2014. During the week of the Selection Trials each



Kai Handt

All photo by Lindsay V. McCall



Mary Jordan, Angela Peavy, Rebecca Hart, Kai Handt and Roxanne Trunnell



Rebecca Hart and Schroeter's Romani

rider/horse combination will be ranked based on their overall performance over the Individual Championship Test (40%), Team Test (40%), and Musical Freestyle Test (20%).

The Short List/FEI Nominated Entry will contain at least four rider/horse combinations. Each team will be either four rider/horse combinations or three rider/horse combinations. One team member must be classified as Grade Ia, Ib, or II and a team may not include more than two athletes from any one Grade.

Handt concluded, "The U.S. Para-Dressage Team is not only excited about the World Equestrian Games, but we are already planning for the 2016 Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro."

— Lindsay McCall

Vaulting



The U.S. Vaulting Team is in good position going into the 2014 WEG. Since winning Team Gold at the 2010 WEG in Lexington, KY, the U.S. Vaulting Team has been very competitive. Chef d'Equipe Craig Coburn, who led the successful 2010 Team returns again to lead the 2014 Team.

"It's interesting because the core of the vaulting world exists in Western Europe," Coburn said. "It's often difficult to know how we stack up until the year of a WEG or World Championships because, when we do compete in Europe, we are often forced to borrow horses, which is very challenging. But for a World Championships or World Equestrian Games we transport our own horses."

According to Coburn, thanks to the USET Foundation and USEF, the team will compete with their own horses and lungers. "We have a great team. Our group of vaulters are very strong this year," Coburn said. "We will have a good idea where we stand after the CHIO in Aachen (GER)."

A "developing" team comprised of new and seasoned vaulters competed at the 2011 CHIO in Aachen with good results. Mary McCormick was honored with the overall Bronze medal in the Individual category. A second set of Bronze medals for the new Pas de Deux division was awarded to vaulting veterans Devon Maitozo and Rosalind Ross.

In 2012 the U.S. proved that the new Pas de Deux division is a strength of the team by winning two medals at the CVI3* in Aachen. This time Megan Benjamin and Blake Dahlgren joined Silver medalists Maitozo and Ross on the podium, earning Bronze.

At the Vaulting World Championships in Le Mans (FRA) the pairs were consistently competitive again with Benjamin and Dahlgren, this time earning the Bronze and Maitozo and Ross just off the podium in fourth place.

"I think it's wonderful the WEG is in France," said Coburn. "There are some very successful vaulters there and they put on a grand affair. I judged the World Championships in Le Mans and it was a very exciting event and I can only imagine what this event will be. All the Americans are very happy to participate."

During the WEG, competitions are comprised of four divisions: Team Competition, Female Individual Competition, Male Individual Competition and the newer Pas de Deux Competition.

"I want the vaulters to have a great experience at these World Equestrian Games and, whether they win a medal or not, just to feel like, 'I did my best, my horse went well, I had fun,'" Coburn shared. "And hopefully, one or two will win a medal, but it's not just about the medals, it's to complete the event with some satisfaction and no regrets."

This year the selection process includes five official Selection Trials taking place in Loveland, CO, at three California locations and in Lynden, WA. A large panel of judges comprised of senior and mid-level judges will officiate. The highest three scores will be averaged to determine who makes the team to go WEG. One of the three scores may be a CVI3* score. The final Selection Trial will be held at Woodside Spring Fest in Menlo Park, CA on June 7-8. — **Carrie Wirth**



Craig Coburn

Photo Courtesy USEF Archive



Kimberly and Cassidy Porter

Photo by Karl-Heinz Frieier / FEI

Endurance



In July 2013, two riders were chosen to represent the United States Endurance Team for the WEG Test Event. As they rode the trails of Baie du Mont Saint Michel, France, Chef d'Equipe Emmett B. Ross watched with a scrutinizing eye, gaining crucial insight for the approaching 2014 WEG.

Although the U.S. Endurance Team has been preparing for WEG for almost a year, it is the approaching Endurance Team Selection Trial CEI2* 120km that has riders on the edges of their seats. The event is set to take place April 17-20 in Broxton Bridge, SC, and it will determine the long list consisting of 23 riders.

Ross brings with him a strong resume and a wealth of knowledge as he prepares riders for the terrain. He has trained hundreds of endurance horses, as well as coached riders from the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. He brings his valuable knowledge to the United States as Chef d'Equipe, placing the U.S. focus on the Team Gold.

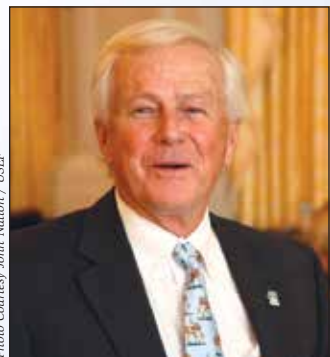
The 100-mile trek is not one for the feeble. Only five horse and rider combinations will make the journey to France, and only after a rigorous selection process where 50 percent of the decision will rest on a fitness and soundness examination.

"We [Ross and the Selection Committee] will discuss each rider in great depth. It is not an easy process," Ross explained. "There will be about 160 riders representing their countries at the start of the race. It is a narrow trail, and when the starter fires the gun, everyone scrambles. I need cool-headed riders that are going to be able to handle the excitement."

During the trial run in July 2013, Ross assessed the course and compiled a report. Having worked in France for five summers training horses, he feels confident in his ability to gauge the trail and the time. In France, the riders will face more paved roads set throughout a cloverleaf course designed with corn fields, forests, beaches and pastures.

"I know who the pretenders and contenders are," Ross described. "Every country has its own style or culture of riding, but it all boils down to strategy. Our strength lies in the opportunity to have ridden so many diverse trails throughout the United States. We go everywhere—mountains, desert, beach and forests. The terrain at the WEG will vary greatly, but it is to our advantage. The most important thing is that our riders make good calls and use their speed. We are not going to sightsee, we are going to win."

– **Kendall Bierer**



Emmett B. Ross

Photo Courtesy John Nation / USEF



Photo by Chad Larsen/renegeadehoofboots.com

Valerie Kanavy and Spectacular Gold



USET Foundation Earns 4-Star Rating FROM CHARITY NAVIGATOR




The USET Foundation works hard to make sure its donors know the importance of their support, and over the last 10 years has provided the funds needed to help the U.S. Equestrian Teams achieve success nationally and internationally in eight disciplines. Charity Navigator, America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities, has recognized all of the hard work of the Foundation by awarding its prestigious 4-star rating for good governance, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

"We are honored to receive Charity Navigator's highest rating," said S. Tucker S. Johnson, President and CEO. "This distinction reflects on our accountability and commitment to remain

true to our mission of supporting athletes, promoting international excellence and building for the future."

Charity Navigator works to help charitable donors make intelligent giving decisions by providing information on more than five thousand charities nationwide and by evaluating their financial health. It calculates each charity's score based upon several broad criteria, including how much is spent per dollar raised, what percentage of funds goes to programs vs. administrative and fund-raising expenses, and the organization's long-term financial health. It then assigns a rating from one to four, with four being the best rating. Only approximately a quarter of the charities evaluated receive the highest rating, indicating the United States Equestrian Team Foundation outperforms most other charities in America.

Bonnie B. Jenkins, Executive Director of the Foundation, remarked, "This 4-star rating, coupled with the USET Foundation's growing reputation, validates our goal of being a professional and highly respected philanthropic organization and highlights our focus on good stewardship of charitable contributions and maintaining the public trust." 

JESSICA SPRINGSTEEN HONORED

— with the 2014 Maxine Beard Award —

On April 5, 2014, during the American Invitational's debut at SunLife Stadium in Miami, FL, the USET Foundation made a special presentation to one of this country's most talented young show jumping riders. This year, 22-year-old Jessica Springsteen of Colts Neck, NJ, was honored for her achievements in the sport with the 2014 Maxine Beard Award. Springsteen's selection for the prestigious award was based on her competitive record and future potential to represent the United States in international competition.


In 2010, Springsteen claimed the North American Junior and Young Rider Championship Show Jumping Young Rider Bronze medal aboard Vornado Van Den Hoendrik. In 2013, Springsteen paired up with Vindicat W to win the \$15,000 RCG Farm Show Jumping Hall of Fame High Amateur-Owner Classic during Week VI and the \$82,000 Suncoast Jumper Classic during Weeks IX and XII of the Winter Equestrian Festival.

Her success on the circuit continued this year with a second place finish in the \$280,000 FEI World Cup™ Grand Prix CSI-W 4*, and a third place finish in the Ruby Et Violette WEF Challenge Cup Round XII, as well as the \$500,000 FTI Consulting Finale Grand Prix CSI5*. Springsteen and Vindicat W have competed as part of the Global Champions Tour for the past two years, and Springsteen has represented the United States during Nations Cup competitions.

U.S. Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland commented, "I am very excited that Jessica has been selected for the Maxine Beard Award. The whole emphasis that we have been trying to place over the last year is keeping the pipeline in order between our veterans at the top and the next generation of riders, and Jessica is a part of that. She has tremendous talent. I know that her priorities are divided since she is a full-time college student, but I fully endorse

her priorities, and she's a rider that has potential to be involved in the sport at the highest level."

Currently attending Duke University where she is a psychology major, Springsteen must split her time riding and showing with studying and attending classes. It is difficult to manage school without the pressure of being an international rider, but Springsteen manages to successfully balance both tasks with grace and ease.

"I am very excited to be the recipient of the Maxine Beard Award; it is a great honor," concluded Springsteen. "I am thrilled to have been chosen by the USET Foundation and to be added to a list of such talented riders. Watching the top riders in the world compete is an invaluable learning experience and is incredibly inspirational." — **Rebecca Walton** 



Jessica Springsteen and Vindicat W

SARA IKE EMBRACES NEW ROLE

as Major Gifts Officer

At the beginning of the year, Sara Ike decided to take on a new career path with the United States Equestrian Team Foundation. Ike joined the staff as the Major Gifts Officer, where her primary responsibilities center on working with the non-Olympic disciplines to increase support for the High Performance programs as well as in the administration and coordination of benefit events.

Graduating with a geology degree from Skidmore College in New York, Ike pursued a career in the field before eventually joining her mother, Sally Ike, at the United States Equestrian Federation. Beginning in 2003, Ike took over as the Director of Vaulting. She then went on to become the Eventing High Performance Director in 2007, before being promoted to Managing Director of Eventing. She has traveled with the U.S. Eventing team to two Pan American Games and two Olympic Games, and therefore she is keenly aware of the impact of USET Foundation contributions.

"I've always been excited about the pursuit of excellence," said Ike. "There's nothing like hearing your national anthem played at international championships. As the USET Foundation's Major Gifts Officer, I will do everything I can to help our athletes get to the medal podium. I know how much each and every dollar counts, and I am thrilled to be a part of the amazing team at the USET Foundation."

Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins commented, "The USET Foundation has matured into a successful and important philan-

thropic organization for this country's High Performance program. It is now time for us to expand our fundraising staff, and bringing on a Major Gifts Officer will help us work with many more individuals who have an interest in seeing our United States Equestrian Teams have the resources they need to be successful in major international championships."

Jenkins concluded, "Sara brings a wealth of knowledge about the USA's High Performance programs and a passion for our United States Equestrian Teams that I know will make her well suited to serve in this role. I am excited to have her join the 'team' and help in the Foundation's work of supporting athletes, promoting international excellence and building for the future."

With 2014 marking the FEI Alltech World Equestrian Games in Normandy, France, Ike will be working closely with donors and team members to make the event a success for the United States.


– Rebecca Walton 



Photo by Shannon Brinkman



Aiken Eventing Gala Raises \$20,000

On February 19th, over 150 Eventing riders, owners and supporters gathered at the historical Wilcox Hotel in Aiken, SC to support the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team's quest for Gold at the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. Raising over \$20,000 for the Team, the night included cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and dancing.

Although the event was originally to be held at Stable View Farm, a few days earlier, an ice storm in the area called for a rapid change of venue. The Wilcox Hotel quickly stepped up to the plate providing a beautiful venue as well as delicious hors d'oeuvres.


Chef d'Equipe David O'Connor addressed the guests, discussing the goals of the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team and thanking everyone for their generous support. He made a big push for the silent auction items, which featured lessons with 2012 Olympic Team members Phillip Dutton, Boyd Martin and Will Coleman, as well as antique artwork, clothing from local stores including Equine Design, a bridle donated by SmartPak, an autographed edition of Modern Eventing with Phillip Dutton, twenty x-rays by Kevin Keane, DVM and a day with Phillip Dutton's head groom, Emma Ford.

This special event is held in conjunction with the Eventing High Performance Training Session to raise funds for the Olympic Games and World Championships. The Aiken Eventing Gala was



Photo by Kate Samuels

organized by the Aiken Gala Committee with Co-Chairmen: Bruce Duchossois & Jack Wetzel, as well as Heidi Beaumont, Amy Ruth Borun, Gloria Callen, Pierre Colin, Nanki Doubleday, Phillip & Evie Dutton, Nancy & David Hathaway, Kirk Henckels, Kelly Hughes, Annie Jones, Densey Juvonen, Fernanda Kellogg, Denise Lahey, Anne & Mike Laver, Sandy O'Donnell, Barry & Cyndy Olliff, Bonnie Stedt, Tom Tierney and Gretchen Wintersteen.

– Rebecca Walton 



*The entire horsemastership group at Double H Farm
(L - R) Hunter and Jeannie Harrison, Mattias Tromp, Michael Hughes,
Liza Finsness, Robert Sean Leckie, Victoria Colvin, Katherine Strauss, Samantha
Harrison, Erin Fry, Sydney Shulman, Sunny Drescher, Olivia Champ, Lillie Keenan,
George H. Morris and Bonnie Jenkins*



Liza Finsness, Olivia Champ, Samantha Harrison and Erin Fry



Hosts Hunter and Jeannie Harrison flank guests Hunter Julo and George H. Morris



USET Foundation Trustee Robin Parsky and Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins

HUNTER AND JEANNIE HARRISON HOST DINNER FOR

George H. Morris Horsemastership Training Session

Hunter and Jeannie Harrison have long been tremendous supporters of equestrian sport in the United States, and during this year's George H. Morris Horsemastership Training Session they opened their doors to entertain some of the sports' brightest rising stars.

On Friday, January 3, the Harrisons hosted dinner for the riders, families and supporters of the George H. Morris Horsemastership Training Session at their impeccable Double H Farm in Wellington, FL.

This year's participants in the five-day training session included Olivia Champ, Victoria Colvin, Sunny Drescher, Liza Finsness, Erin Fry, Samantha Harrison, Michael Hughes, Lillie Keenan, Robert Leckie, Sydney Shulman, Katherine Strauss and Mattias Tromp.

Following the dinner in the heart of the barn aisle of Double H Farm, Hunter Harrison welcomed riders and parents acknowledging what an accomplishment it is simply to be chosen to be a part of the horsemastership clinic. Harrison also spoke about the importance of supporting the young riders of this country and the importance of supporting the sport in general.

USET Foundation Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins echoed Harrison's sentiments on the incredible honor that comes with being a part of the training session and the bright future that each of the twelve riders has ahead of them.

Jenkins and Morris then presented each rider with a gift in recognition of their achievements and as a memento to commemorate the experience.

"This is a great group," Morris said of the twelve riders during the clinic. "You don't see riders like this, even old ones. These kids, as pilots, are experts. Their goal is to become horsemen that can manage and train, not a hundred horses, but thousands of horses."

There is no doubt that, with their talent and the support of individuals like the Harrisons and organizations like the USET Foundation, the future looks very bright for this year's young riders.

– *Emily Riden*



*Emily Tromp, Michael Hughes, Lillie Keenan, Katherine Strauss, Mattias Tromp
and Victoria Colvin meet one of the Double H horses*



Pony Riders Cheer On TEAM USA With Poster Contest



TEAM USA PEP RALLY CELEBRATES JUMPING SUCCESS

In the sport of Show Jumping, a team is only as good as the supporters behind it. On Friday, February 28, fans, followers, owners and spectators came out in force to show their enthusiasm for the United States Equestrian Team at the Team USA Nations Cup Pep Rally reception.

Hosted by the USET Foundation and the United States Equestrian Federation, the Pep Rally reception was held to bring together the U.S. fans and generate team spirit prior to the start of the \$75,000 Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup in Wellington, FL.

Many of the guests in attendance for the Pep Rally also showed their support and confidence in the American team by pledging a contribution for each clear round that a U.S. rider jumped during the evening's Nations Cup. These pledges raised \$5,200 to be used toward Show Jumping High Performance programs.

During the Team USA Pep Rally Reception, USET Foundation Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins and USEF President Chrystine Tauber recognized the owners of the U.S. team horses, as well as the riders who would compete for the United States the following day in the Children's, Junior and Young Rider Nations Cup competitions. Guests enjoyed cocktails and an All American Picnic Dinner as well as festive red, white and blue decorations.

Prior to the Pep Rally, nearly 50 pony riders created posters for the "Team USA Poster Contest." The young riders got to know more about the United States Nations Cup riders and showed their support by making posters in two categories: Favorite Team Horse and Team USA Spirit.

The Young Rider, Junior and Children's Nations Cup teams served as the judges of the contest, and all winners received a USET hat signed by the Team USA riders participating in the Nations Cup, as well as a copy of Hunter Seat Equitation by George H. Morris.

If the current riders, fans and up-and-coming riders and supporters in attendance at the Team USA Pep Rally Reception are any indication, the confidence in our "teams" in the future looks incredibly promising for United States Show Jumping. – Emily Riden





U.S. JUMPING TEAM

Rides to Third Place in Nations Cup

The Hermès U.S. Show Jumping Team, comprised of veteran riders McLain Ward, Beezie Madden and Laura Kraut were joined by relative newcomer to the team, Brianne Goutal, as they set forth to defend their title in \$75,000 Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup, presented by G&C Farm, in front of a near-sellout crowd at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in Wellington.

In the largest field in the 12 year history of the class, 12 teams lined up in the first round for the challenging course built by U.S. Course Designer Steve Stephens of Palmetto, Florida.

Ward was mounted on his veteran partner Rothchild, owned by Sagamore Farms, Madden had her World Cup Champion mount Simon, owned by Abigail Wexner, and Kraut was aboard her Gold medal Olympic partner Cedric, owned by Cherry Knoll Farm. Goutal brought American Gold Cup champion, Remarkable Farms' Nice de Prissey, out for the Friday night affair.

The first round of action saw the hometown squad finish with just four faults on the board following two beautifully ridden clean rounds from Ward and Rothchild in the lead-off position and from Kraut and Cedric who rode third. Both Goutal and Madden had a rail down in the first round, so four faults was used as the drop score for a team total of four in the opening round. "I was very happy with Rothchild the first time around," Ward noted. "He was up for the challenge and it was nice to get a clean round in the bank as the first to go. It was just some bad luck that we weren't clean as a team. Beezie had a very unlucky rail with Simon."

Madden agreed, "I was happy with my horse tonight. I



Beezie Madden and Simon

McLain Ward, Beezie Madden, Brianne Goutal, Laura Kraut and Robert Ridland

All photos by
Kenneth Kraus / PhelpsSports.com





Brianne Goutal and Nice de Priskey

really wish I had been clear the first round because he went beautifully, but he came back and went even better in the second round," she said.

The top teams were tightly bunched going into the second round, with Canada leading the way with an impressive zero

score on the board as the first round leaders. The United States was just a single rail behind Canada in second place, while Great Britain's squad was just a single time fault behind the United States. The teams from Brazil and Ireland, each with nine faults, were tied for fourth as round two got underway.

As the second round unfolded, the Canadians continued their relentless assault, putting the pressure on right from the beginning, with leadoff rider Yann Candele posting one of only three double clear rounds on the night with Showgirl. That kept the Canadian slate clean after one rider. Meanwhile, the United States fell behind the eight ball quickly when Ward and Rothchild, as the first to return for the United States, had an unexpected 8 faults.

When Ben Maher of Great Britain and Tiffany Foster of Canada each had a rail down, a small and brief light appeared at the end of the tunnel for Team USA. However, the United States could not capitalize on it. Goutal and Nice de Priskey had just a single knockdown and Tim Gredley put up the second double clear of the night for Great Britain. Canada's Ian Millar, clear in the first round, left the door just slightly ajar when he had a rail down with Dixson in the second round.

The United States though, would need two clear rounds from Kraut and



McLain Ward and Rothchild

Madden to have any chance of climbing back into the fight. Disappointingly, Cedric and Laura Kraut just brushed the lathe at the backside of the open water jump as the next to compete for the hometown heroes for another score of four faults and with Scott Brash's fault-free performance on Hello Annie for Great Britain, the skillfully crafted clean round from Madden and Simon became too little, too late for the United States.

Canada's lead was secured, so much so that anchor rider, Eric Lamaze, did not need to compete in the second round.

Canada finished on top with just 8 faults on the scoreboard, Great Britain was second with 9 and the United States settled for third with a two round total of 12 faults.

"Clean rounds win Nations Cups and tonight we just couldn't put together enough clears," admitted Ward.

"We felt that we were in it until the very end, but it was just a rail here and a rub there," said Chef D' Equipe Robert Ridland. "On the bright side, Brianne of course was our young rider and she gained a tremendous amount of experience tonight under big pressure."

"For us, last year was probably a lot more fun, but this tight competition shows, it's a long standing relationship, and competitive relationship between our two countries [Canada and the U.S.]," Ridland said. "I seem to remember a jump off for a gold and silver in a pretty recent Olympic Games."

Madden said, "All the Canadians did a great job, hats off to them. Fantastic sport today, and special thanks to G&C Farm, Furusiyya and ESP, they did a great job tonight." – **Kenneth Kraus**



Laura Kraut and Cedric



Michael Hughes
and Luxina

All photos by Emily Rider / Phelps Media Group

YOUNG RIDERS

Strike Gold in Wellington



The United States' Young Rider team of Michael Hughes, Lillie Keenan, Frances Land and Wilton Porter scored the Gold medal in the \$10,000 Hollow Creek Farm FEI Young Rider Nations Cup on March 1, held at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in Wellington, Florida.

The four talented riders, part of the future of United States Show Jumping, finished on just four faults after two rounds of competition, securing the victory over the six other competing nations: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany and Mexico.

In a tight battle to the finish, the United States and eventual second place finisher, Germany, went head to head for the win. While the other five nations quickly began to accumulate faults in the first round of competition, the German and U.S. teams

remained neck-and-neck with very few errors. At the end of the afternoon round, both teams sat in a dead heat, tied at four faults apiece.

After the sun had set, the top six teams returned for round two under the lights of the International Arena. The U.S. and German teams were the clear front-runners, while Mexico sat in third place with nine faults, and Colombia sat in a more distant fourth place with 20 faults.

As first to return for the United States, Frances Land turned in a clear round aboard Vieanne, giving them a solid start, but Germany would not relent. Wilton Porter rode next for the United States aboard Radio City, accumulating just five faults, and Lillie Keenan followed up Porter's round with a clear round aboard Londinium.

The final outcome for the United States all came down to 18-year-old Michael Hughes and his mount Luxina. If they turned in four faults or less, the class was theirs to win, more than that and it would end up relegating them to second place.

As Hughes and Luxina passed through the end timers for the second time that day, the hometown crowd and the United States team erupted into cheers. The pair had turned in their second clear round, guaranteeing the victory for the United States.

"It was really special how everyone in the team contributed in some way," Porter said following the win. "DiAnn Langer (Young Rider Chef d'Equipe) did a great job picking the team, because everyone had their strengths and contributed at some point to this victory."

Hughes summed up the day perfectly and succinctly stating, "Team competitions are a great opportunity for us to fight for each other instead of against each other."

The bright future stars for show jumping in the United States did not stop at the Young Rider level. There is also extraordinary U.S. talent coming up the ranks in the Children's and Junior levels, as was evident throughout the \$2,500 Hollow Creek Farm FEI Junior Nations Cup and the Hollow Creek Farm FEI Children's



Nations Cup Young Rider Team

DiAnn Langer, Lillie Keenan, Michael Hughes, Frances Land and Wilton Porter

Nations Cup.

The Junior Nations Cup win came to a showdown between Mexico and the powerhouse young American team. The United States led with one single fault going into the second round, but some trouble at the water jump and a few extra rails relegated them to second place with 14 total faults. Brazil came into the second round with six faults, but produced only five more for a total of 11 faults and the Gold medal position.

"I think we had the very best teams," Langer stated. "It was exciting for all of



Frances Land and Vianne

them. The juniors almost pulled it off. It was just the water experience under the lights. It came out for all of the juniors



Lillie Keenan and Londinium

across the board, that it's different. That is what this experience is all about. I could not be more proud of all of them."

Riding for the United States were Lucas Porter on Phineas, Hayley Waters on Qurint, Sophie Simpson on Why Not and Chloe Reid on Athena.

Riding for the United States on the Children's Nations Cup team were Madison Goetzmann on Wendalineke, Sophie Howell aboard Cardine, McKayla Langmeier riding Looping Star and Addison Piper on Halbi d'Ariane. The team finished fourth in a close fight between top finishers Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela.

"The experience that the children got – they just could not believe what was going on. I think all

in all this was just a positive experience for them and the sponsors were just fabulous in making this happen," Langer concluded.

– Emily Riden



Nations Cup Junior Rider Team

DiAnn Langer, Hayley Waters, Lucas Porter, Sophie Simpson and Chloe Reid



Wilton Porter and Radio City

LYLE AND WIZARD

Lead Team to Nations Cup Win

The U.S. Dressage Team started 2014 off with a bang by claiming the Gold medal at the Stillpoint Farm CDI03* Nations Cup in Wellington, FL. Adrienne Lyle led Team USA 1 to the top of the podium in the team competition, which included nine teams from seven countries, and then returned to score another victory for the U.S. in the individual event.



Adrienne Lyle and Wizard

Photo by Mary Adelaide Brakenridge / Phelps Media Group

Part of the Adequan Global Dressage Festival, the Stillpoint Farm CDI03* was the opening leg of the second pilot season of FEI Nations Cup dressage and the first competition outside Europe to be included in the series. It included mixed teams of small tour and large tour combinations, a format being tested for use at the Pan American Games.

"I came in with not only the hope but the expectation that America would lead," Chef d'Equipe Robert Dover said. "When America goes out, no matter where we are in the world, we are going into every arena with the idea of winning and, of course, doing our best."

Team USA 1 got off to a strong start on Feb. 19 with Adrienne Lyle and Tina Konyot taking the top two spots in the Grand Prix. Lyle and Wizard, a 15-year-old Oldenburg gelding owned by Peggy Thomas, earned 71.600 percent for first place, while Konyot and her own Calecto V, a 16-year-old Danish Warmblood stallion, took second with 69.860 percent. All Grand Prix combinations were awarded

an additional 1.5 percentage points toward the team totals.

In the Prix St. Georges, Shawna Harding and Rigo, a 13-year-old Hanoverian gelding owned by Tonya Rowe, took fourth place with 68.342 percent. Silva Martin and Rosa Cha W, a nine-year-old Oldenburg mare owned by the Rosa Cha W Syndicate, took 12th in the class of 25 with 66.632 percent.

The U.S. continued its successful streak as competitors progressed to the Grand Prix Special and Intermediaire I on Feb. 20. Lyle again took the top spot in the Special, scoring 71.059 percent, and Konyot was fourth with 69.471 percent. Martin and Harding took 10th and 11th in the Intermediaire I with 67.211 percent and 66.816 percent, respectively.

The team's consistently impressive performances over the two days of competition secured them the top spot on the podium with a total score of 423.543. Team Canada 1 took the Silver with 414.488 and Team Spain earned the Bronze with 412.632.

Team USA 2 finished just off the podium in fourth with a total



Tina Konyot and Calecto V

of 412.053, less than a point behind Spain. Shelly Francis and Doktor took third for the U.S. in the Grand Prix and second in the Special, while Catherine Haddad-Staller and Mane Stream Hotmail took fifth in the Grand Prix and sixth in the Special. Justin Hardin on Wyatt Star and Ashley Wimmer on Somerhall were consistent performers in the small tour.

All four riders on Team USA 1 expressed their gratitude to event sponsor Tuny Page and her Stillpoint Farm as well as to Dover and USEF Developing Coach Debbie McDonald.



Silva Martin and Rosa Cha W

"It's my first time on the American team, and I'm really excited," Martin said. "I have to thank Tuny Page and Stillpoint Farm and all the sponsors for making this

possible for everybody. Also our owners and our supporters – we are a part of it, but the biggest part is all these people that make it possible for us."

Harding was thrilled to be part of the team after battling illness over the past several years. "It means the world," she said. "Just to be back in the saddle and back in this atmosphere with such incredible riders – I'm so happy to be here. It's good to be back."

Konyot said she was pleased with the effort put in by her teammates to win the Nations Cup on home turf. "It's nice that we're supporting each other in our home country," she said. "It's good to have newer, younger people coming up on teams and being so successful – I'm very proud of all of them."

On February 21, the highest-scoring riders from the team competition returned to vie for individual honors, determined by results in the Grand Prix Freestyle and Intermediaire I Freestyle. It was a close race at the top, but Lyle and Wizard clinched the Gold medal by scoring 75.800 percent for their performance to jazzy tunes that fit the gelding's personality. Juan Matute Jr of Spain took Silver with Don Diego Ymas and Konyot and Calecto V earned the Bronze for the U.S.

"I love my music - it's fun, exciting and gets the crowd going," Lyle said. "Wizard has a lot of personality when he gets out there, and the crowd gets into it. He feeds on that, and I do too."

This was the first freestyle in CDI competition for Lyle and Wizard since the Jan. 2013 World Dressage Masters CDI5* Palm Beach. Lyle has been working with Terry Ciotti Gallo to tweak her freestyle music, and it paid off with a test that she described as "the most rideable he's felt in a freestyle."

"I'm so thrilled with him," she said. "It felt powerful and expressive, but he still stayed with me."

"Thank you to the Thomas family, my sponsors for years with Wizard," she continued. "If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have had any of the chances I've had so far in my career. They've been incredible."

The Stillpoint Farm CDIO3* was the first team competition for Lyle, who represented the U.S. at the 2012 Olympics as an individual. Show sponsor Tuny Page said



Shawna Harding and Rigo

she feels that Nations Cup competitions provide an ideal opportunity for up-and-coming riders to gain experience in team events.

"I think that this Nations Cup series is critical to the development of dressage in every country," she explained. "It's fantastic to see teams with young people who probably haven't ridden on a team before. Where else do they get that chance?"

Dover said he was thrilled with the outcome for the U.S.

"I have been unbelievably proud of all of our riders throughout the Nations Cup," he said. "Debbie McDonald is the best person and the best coach a group of people can have, and we make a really strong team together with Scott Hassler, Jeremy Steinberg - all of the coaches and all of the USEF staff. We are determined along with our great Federation to move this country not just to a medal podium but to the highest one."

– Mary Adelaide Brakenridge



Carol Hofmann Thompson

1942 - 2013

Grand Prix show jumper Carol Hofmann Thompson of Colts Neck Township, N.J., died on Dec. 4 after suffering a stroke in October. She was 70.

She was born on Dec. 26, 1942, to Mary and Philip Hofmann of Windy Acres Farm, North Branch, N.J. Exposed to horses at an early age by her parents, who were active foxhunters with the Essex Fox Hounds, she earned an A-rating in Pony Club and took care of her own horses with the help of her older sister, Judy Richter.

Mrs. Thompson rode mostly rescue horses and off-the-track Thoroughbreds throughout her junior career, competing in hunters, jumpers and equitation.

In 1956, she won the U.S. Equestrian Team Combined Test at the National Horse Show (N.Y.), and two years later, she placed second in the AHSA Medal and ASPCA Maclay Finals.

When her father was able to spend \$1,000 for a horse, he bought The Kitten. With that mare, Thompson started her rise to prominence, winning not only junior jumper classes, but also many point-to-point races.

After briefly attending Bennett College (NC), Mrs. Thompson pursued riding full time.

She was a member of the USET in the 1960s and early '70s, earning top show jumping finishes at Dublin, Hickstead (Great Britain) and Ostend (Belgium). In 1968, she won the Grand Prix of Rotterdam (the Netherlands) and became the alternate for the Olympic Games in Mexico City.

"I sort of learned to ride by the seat of my pants," she once said. "If someone beat me, I used to try to ride like they did, or better. I never had a teacher until I went to Gladstone, [the USET headquarters in New Jersey]."

Show jumping Chef d'Equipe Bertalan de Némethy coached her during her European tours aboard her horses Out Late and Can't Tell.

Mrs. Thompson was inducted into the National Show Hunter Hall of Fame and named the AHSA Horsewoman of the Year in 1968.

During a trip to Aiken, SC, later that year, she met J. Willard Thompson, a race horse trainer. They married and established Quiet Winter Farm in Colts Neck.

Mrs. Thompson continued competing into the 1990s, when a trail riding accident prompted her retirement.

In 1996, when Grand Prix rider Callan Solem was still in high school, she leased the horse High Performance from Mrs. Thompson, who then took her on as a working student for a summer.

"If she told me to scrub the barn aisle with a toothbrush from front to back, I would have done it twice," said Solem.

Solem took on a job riding full time for Mrs. Thompson when she graduated from high school at 17. The partnership lasted 14 years.

"I learned volumes about horsemanship and riding techniques and competitiveness from her, but besides all of that, she was a catalyst for so many relationships that are important to me today," said Solem.


"She was a master at managing horses for a lifetime; she really knew how to take care of horses and make them last," she added. "She was first and foremost a horse lover, not just thinking about what they could do for her. She laid the foundation that I rely on for every decision I make daily."

Although Mrs. Thompson was tough, "she had a way of inspiring you; if you think you're doing your best, she taught you how to dig deeper, come up with more, not to be weak but know that if you want to be the best in the world, you need to have ice water in your veins; you need to be tough," Solem said.



Photo Courtesy of USET Foundation

Mrs. Thompson is survived by her husband, J. Willard Thompson; sister, Judy Richter; two nephews, two grandnieces, two stepsons and a step grandson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the U.S. Equestrian Team Foundation's Gladstone Fund, which is dedicated to the upkeep of the facility, by calling 908-234-1251. 

Reprinted with permission by *The Chronicle of the Horse*



Photo by Clive Hills

Carol Hofmann Thompson and Out Late at Hickstead - 1968

KAREN STIVES \$1 MILLION ENDOWMENT FUND

Provides New Opportunities for High Performance Eventing

Each year, the country's top Eventing riders strive to bring home winning accolades from around the globe. The generous donations of the USET Foundation's supporters are what provide the important funding that these riders and teams need to compete. Karen Stives has made an incredible gift of \$1 million to establish the Karen Stives Endowment Fund for High Performance Eventing. This fund will allow for a grant to be awarded annually for an Eventing High Performance activity, which will have a direct impact on the United States' ability to win medals at international championship CCI competitions.

"The team was my life for 20 years: the first 10 as a competitor and the second 10 as Chairman of Selectors," explained Stives. "I wanted to give back to the organization that had given me so much, as well as inspire our young riders to excel and bring back the Gold."

Stives was a championship Eventing rider who was named the USCTA Rider of Year in 1981, 1987 and 1988. In 1982, she represented the United States at the World Championships in Luhmühlen [GER] and in 1984 she anchored the U.S. Eventing Team that won the Team Gold medal at the Los Angeles Olympics, while also winning Individual Silver. Stives also earned the Leading Lady Rider title in 1981, the Mercedes-Benz Horsewoman of the Year in 1984, and the prestigious Wofford Cup. Following her retirement from international competition, Stives became an

FEI judge and was the Chairman of the USET Three-Day Event Selectors' Committee for many years.

The donation made by Stives will help the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team's quest to achieve international success. "The international championship CCI competitions are a key part of the international scene," she explained. "We have the talent, the horsepower and the coaches, and if this can help us win then that is great."

Stives has a deep passion for Eventing and stated, "I don't think I am alone in saying it's great to watch Show Jumping and Dressage because those horses are so amazing at what they do, but to work with a horse and do both of those disciplines at a lower level and add in the cross country, that is so challenging and makes Eventing very special. Not every horse can do that."

S. Tucker S. Johnson, President and CEO of the Foundation, said "Karen has been an important member of the 'team' for decades. Her talent as an athlete, winning Olympic Gold and Silver medals for the United States, and now her generosity and leadership in establishing the Karen Stives Endowment Fund, will help future athletes have the opportunity to seek Olympic Gold too."

With the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games this year in Normandy, France, the Karen Stives Endowment Fund grants will no doubt help in the quest to bring home top honors for the United States. – *Rebecca Walton* 

*Karen Stives won Team Gold
and Individual Silver at the
1984 Olympic Games*



Prancing With the Stars

Nets Big Success for High Performance Dressage

Dressage superstars proved that the rhythm, strength, grace and athleticism they display on horseback translates to the dance floor when they donned their dancing shoes to raise funds for High Performance Dressage and the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games Dressage Team at the second annual Solid Gold Benefit Dinner, Prancing With the Stars on March 15.

The Global Pavilion at the International Equestrian Center Palm Beach, festooned in a black and gold theme, featured a prominent dance floor where the internationally acclaimed riders twirled with professional dance partners for the USET Foundation fundraiser. The gala featured a cocktail hour sponsored by Gardy Bloemers, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, and wine from Tuny and David Page's private collection.

Michael Barisone, Katherine Bateson-Chandler, Todd Flettrich, Shelly Francis, Anne Gribbons, Chris Hickey, Tina Konyot, Adrienne Lyle and Cesar Parra traded training time in the saddle for dance lessons with the professionals at The Fred Astaire Dance Studio of West Palm Beach and delighted the 350 gala guests with smooth moves on the dance floor. Celebrity judges Bent Jensen, Ellin Dixon Miller and Jane Savoie provided commentary and scores for the dancers.

After the entertainment, the live auction offered a day with each of the riders and a chance to sit with a judge during the upcoming Adequan Global Dressage Festival 12 CDI5*. Other auction items featured a Dress for Success package including a head-to-toe dressage competition ensemble with the added bling of one of Robert Dover's Olympic rings and his solid gold stock pin. Fabulous trips including a cruise around Manhattan in a private yacht and packages to the 2015 Reem Accra World Cup Dressage Finals in Las Vegas and VIP access to the 2014 Young Horse Breeding Championships in Verden, Germany.

The benefit raised more than \$250,000 and the funds collected will go directly to the Normandy, France, 2014 World Equestrian Games dressage athletes and the High Performance Programs.

Robert Dover, organizer for the event, said he was thrilled with the turnout and the generosity of the attendees.

"Last year, as we went into the evening we had sold \$51,000 worth of seats and tables," Dover explained. "This year, we sold \$150,000 worth of seats and tables. Last year, we ended up with \$160,000 and this year we were at \$250,000."

"I just want to thank all the sponsors, all of the riders, all of the professional dancers, the judges who were in the act, the judges who will welcome guests during



Robert Dover and Janet Foy

the 5* competition, our judges who critiqued the actual dancing, all of the table sponsors and everyone who came out in support of our magnificent U.S. Dressage Team," Dover concluded. – Sue Weakley



Allison Brock, Claudine and Fritz Kundrun



Cass Riese, Lisa Wilcox, Jacqueline and Neal Shear



Jane Forbes Clark and Betsy Juliano



Jochen Schlee and Anne Gribbons



Todd Flettrich and professional dancer



Katherine Bateson-Chandler and professional dancer



Michael Barisone and professional dancer



Shelly Francis and professional dancer



Adrienne Lyle and professional dancer

Photos by Phelps Media Group

Former USET Veterinarian Dr. Midge Leitch Leaves Lasting Legacy

Dr. Midge Leitch passed away on February 15, 2014 after a valiant battle with cancer. A 1973 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, Midge completed her internship and surgical residency at New Bolton Center. A true pioneer, she was one of the first women equine practitioners to become board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Surgeons, achieving that distinction in 1982.

During her career, Midge served the USET as an official veterinarian for both the driving and the dressage disciplines. Her inaugural trip for the USET was to the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, Korea. Over the years she attended many World Championships, Pan American, Olympic Games and European Training Tours, retiring from traveling as the Team Vet after the 2004 Dressage World Cup. Midge also provided veterinary support at several renowned national events such as the Devon Horse Show, the Washington International Horse Show, the Radnor Three Day Event, Fair Hill International and Dressage at Devon.

Former Dressage Chef d'Equipe Jessica Ranshousen worked very closely with Leitch. "This is very sad for all of us because Midge was a wonderful person," said Ranshousen. "When we went to Korea, it was very important that we had a vet we could trust going with us. It was the first time that the Dressage team had its own vet. She always put the well being of the horse ahead of anything else. She was a wonderful addition to our team and we loved her."



Dr. Midge Leitch and Guenter Seidel
at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games

Photo by Maureen Pethick

Midge owned and operated her own private practice based in Chester County, PA in addition to serving as Instructor, Associate in Surgery and Assistant Professor in Sports Medicine and Imaging at New Bolton Center. An active member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners for more than 40 years, she was honored with its President's Award in 2008, and in 2012 received the AAEP Distinguished Service Award. During her career, Midge gave more than 60 invited lectures and contributed more than 40 publications to a wide variety of professional journals and books.

In addition to her remarkable professional career, Midge had a particular interest in The Seeing Eye Program, for which she volunteered, serving as a puppy-raiser for many years until her death. She raised and trained five dogs that are now successful working guide dogs and was very proud of her work.

Midge was known as a passionate and caring individual, with forthright opinions and a well-developed sense of humor. Her gifts not only to veterinary medicine, but also to her community, family and friends are legion. She will be greatly missed.

In honor of Midge, there will be a celebration of her life at the USET Foundation during the Dressage Festival of Champions on Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 7:00PM. The U.S. Dressage Team plans to "ride for Midge" at the WEG in Normandy this summer!

— Maureen Pethick



The Dogwood Foundation Reining Challenge Achieves Goal of \$300,000

The Dogwood Foundation, led by USET Foundation Trustee Frank Merrill, graciously donated \$100,000 to establish *The Dogwood Foundation Reining Challenge* provided an additional \$200,000 could be raised. The Challenge is a 2/1 match intended to raise a total of \$300,000 to support the U.S. Reining Team at the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

The Reining community certainly has risen to the Challenge, and the USET Foundation would like to thank the generous donors who stepped up and made a gift to *The Dogwood Foundation Reining Challenge*.

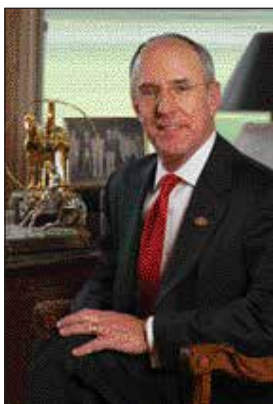


Photo courtesy of AQHA

LEAD GIFT \$100,000

The Dogwood Foundation
Frank Merrill, Trustee

CHALLENGE GIFTS RECEIVED

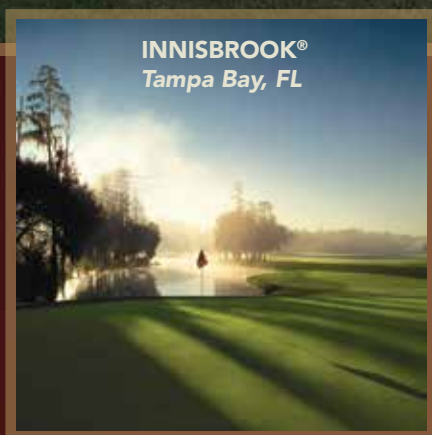
Sherry Adams
AQHA
Bill Brewer
Danny & Ron's Rescue
Global Reining Sports Group
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Kimmel
Lyle Lovett
Mandy & Tom McCutcheon
National Reining Breeders' Assn
Reining On-Line Auction
Philip E. Richter and Sarah Willeman
Turnabout Farm
Eric L. Straus
Shawn Stratman
Robert & Denise Webb



REIN IN LUXURY



SALAMANDER® RESORT & SPA
Middleburg, VA



INNISBROOK®
Tampa Bay, FL



REUNION®
Orlando, FL



HAMMOCK BEACH™
Palm Coast, FL

Discover the warmth of Salamander Hotels & Resorts. Take a journey into unlimited luxury, where thoughtful touches embrace, and world-class activities unite. Four unique destinations from unbeatable championship golf in Florida to equestrian perfection in Virginia. Your next adventure awaits.

Plan your visit today: SalamanderHotels.com

Salamander® Hotels & Resorts
SalamanderHotels.com



Salamander® Resort & Spa
Middleburg, VA

Innisbrook®
Tampa Bay, FL

Reunion®
Orlando, FL

Hammock Beach™
Palm Coast, FL



Donate With Every Swipe of Your Card

Capital One's Visa Platinum credit card makes it easier than ever to support the USET Foundation! Use our custom credit card and with every purchase you make, valuable cash rewards will be donated to the Foundation. We will also receive a \$50 bonus donation when you make your first purchase with the USET Foundation card. The card comes with a competitive rate and other great benefits, so sharing your passion – and your support – is easy and automatic, and you get to spread the word about our mission with every swipe.

To learn more, you can visit our website at www.uset.org and click on the credit card image.

If you have questions regarding this program, please contact:
Michele Zanzonico at (908) 234-1251
Director of Annual Support
USET Foundation



Credit approval required. Terms and conditions apply.
Offered by Capital One, N.A. ©2012 Capital One.

HELP OUR EQUESTRIAN ATHLETES ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE!



America's equestrian athletes are achieving excellence around the world **THANKS TO SUPPORT FROM THE USET FOUNDATION AND GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS LIKE YOU.** We have created a program to help your support make an even greater impact. Our *Achieve Excellence!* monthly giving program allows you to make a secure, recurring gift each month through automatic debit from your checking account, or by credit card — just as you may do now with many bills and payments, or with other charitable giving.

Your monthly tax-deductible contribution will show your support for the long-term commitment being made by our equestrian athletes. Month after month, our athletes put in the countless hours of training required to be the best. Month after month, they travel the world to compete at international events and championships. Month after month, we have talented young equestrians gaining invaluable experience to reach their full potential.

Through your recurring gift, you will help the USET Foundation stand with our athletes each step of the way. You'll help us use less paper, plus you'll allow us to save time AND money in administrative and processing costs, making your support go even farther!

To sign up today or get more information, please visit our website at <https://www.uset.org/egiving.php> or use your smart phone to scan this QR code that will take you directly there! →



USET Foundation * PO Box 355 * Gladstone, NJ 07934-0355 * Phone: (908) 234-1251 * uset.org

Paul Miller Auto Group

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT

The United States Equestrian Team Foundation



PAUL MILLER



Audi

RANGE
ROVER



BENTLEY



HONDA



PORSCHE



SUBARU

Paul Miller BMW

1040 Route 23 North,
Wayne, NJ
973-696-6060

Paul Miller Subaru

3469 Route 46,
Parsippany, NJ
973-402-1700

Paul Miller Porsche

250 Route 46 West,
Parsippany, NJ
973-227-3000

Land Rover Parsippany

189 Route 46 East
Parsippany, NJ
973-575-8055

Bentley Parsippany

250 Route 46 West,
Parsippany, NJ
973-575-7755

Paul Miller Honda of West Caldwell

1170 Bloomfield Ave.,
West Caldwell, NJ
973-808-9100

Paul Miller Volkswagen

118 Morristown Road,
Bernardsville, NJ
908-766-1600

Paul Miller Audi

179 Route 46 East,
Parsippany, NJ
973-575-7750

Paul Miller Rolls Royce

250 Route 46 West,
Parsippany, NJ
973-575-7755

Paul Miller Collision Center

2075 Hamburg Tpk,
Wayne, NJ
862-377-0700

PaulMiller.com



USET Foundation News

United States Equestrian Team Foundation, Inc.
1040 Pottersville Road
P.O. Box 355
Gladstone, NJ 07934-9955

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. postage

PAID

New Brunswick, NJ
Permit #928

Address Service Requested

