

LAHJA E-News - June 2008

Marnye Langer - President

Welcome to summer! Congratulations to all of our juniors who graduated high school this year. Send us your name and what your post-high school plans are, and we'll brag to everyone. In the meantime, LAHJA has a lot of hot summer plans!

Horsemastership Scholarship

Speaking of college, the LAHJA Horsemastership Scholarship Competition gives junior members a chance to earn money toward college. This three phase competition tests a rider's knowledge of horses and horsemanship with a written test, a rider's stable management skills with the hands-on test, and a rider's riding ability.

To help juniors prepare for the challenging competition, LAHJA professional member, Sandrine Seiffert is hosting two clinics at her barn located at Hansen Dam. The dates of the sessions are:

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| Session 1 | July 23 and 24 | 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. |
| Session 2 | Aug 19 and 20 | 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. |

Sandrine is a knowledgeable horseman, who really enjoys sharing her passion with students. Anyone is encouraged to attend. Attendees who are not LAHJA members can either join the association or pay a \$50 registration fee. The clinics are free to LAHJA members.

You must register for these clinic. Please contact Sandrine at: ddstables@gmail.com

A big thanks to Sandrine for volunteering to lead these clinics and help our members learn more about their horses and the sport.

Horsemastership Competition Dates: The full calendar and application are online. The written and hands-on tests will be held during Gold Coast 7 (Oct. 16-19).

Intercollegiate National Championships

I know that many of our junior members hope to continue riding when they head to college. The Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association (www.ihsainc.com) is a terrific program that offers the opportunity for both hunt seat and western riders a chance to ride and compete while in college. Furthermore, unlike other collegiate programs, the IHSA welcomes and encourages all levels of riders from beginning flat riders to advanced 3'6" riders.

This year, for only the second time in its history, the IHSA National Championships were held on the West Coast at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Langer Equestrian Group assisted with the management of the event, and more than 300 collegiate riders from around the country came to compete for individual and team titles.

Some LAHJA members really pitched in to make the event a success. Because the riders do not

ride their own horses (or even have to own a horse!), all the horses must be donated for the competition. Several LAHJA members really stepped up to the plate and provided some wonderful horses for the week. Jim Hagman from Elvenstar donated a number of horses, as did Mark Purcell. In fact, Mark Purcell's horse, Dino, was awarded the Best Horse of the competition for hunt seat. For the final ride off of the Cacchione Cup, the top two riders each performed their test on Dino, who did his job magnificently. In addition, Marnco's two horses also were in the horse pool.

Furthermore, LAHJA members Nikki Edwards and Ali Ohringer helped out at the competition. Since the competing riders do not even get to practice on the horse they draw, the horses need to be warmed up by non-competing riders. Both Nikki and Ali helped warm up and school horses for the competition. "I was so amazed how these kids just got on horses they didn't know," said Ali. "They really looked to us to give them some information about the horse." For both girls it was a bit of a role reversal actually giving advice to fellow riders.

Thank you to the LAHJA members who supported the IHSA National Championship, and I hope that some of our junior riders participate when they go to college.

New LAHJA Merit Awards

Recognizing that only a small percentage of our LAHJA membership competes for year end awards, your board of directors wanted to develop a program that provided awards and incentives for competitors who do not seriously aim for year end awards.

Led by Kay Altheuser, the Awards Committee developed a Merit Awards Program that the board approved. There are four levels of awards, and riders will receive their award at the year-end banquet. Riders can earn points toward the LAHJA Merit Awards in each of the LAHJA year-end award categories. The levels are as follows:

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|---------|----------------|
| Level 1 | 20-44 points |
| Level 2 | 45 -74 points |
| Level 3 | 75 -119 points |
| Level 4 | 120 and up |

A person will receive an award for the highest level he achieves by the end of the year. We are beginning the program this year, so check those points!

Tips & Tricks

Ali Ohringer of the LAHJA Communication Committee went around and collected some nifty tips and tricks. See if any of these work for you!

If you have cheek pieces or a throat latch that doesn't stay in its keeper, use two brown braiding rubber bands instead. You can put a few in your tack box and never have flapping pieces.

Jim Hagman

A nylon will bring extra shine to your boots. Polish your boots like normal, buff them, then use the nylon all over. It brings more shine than polishing alone. *Jenny Mitchum*

If there are lots of bees at a show, bring drier sheets. If you rub Bounce on your clothes and your horse, the bees will stay away. *Karen Hettwer*

Bring frozen grapes to a summer horse show. They're refreshing for riders and horses.
Malina Munshi

To get rid of helmet hair, spray Show Sheen or Cowboy Magic in your hair and then comb it. You'll get rid of the tangles and have shine. Also, after riding spray the inside of your helmet with Febreze. It really does eliminate odors! *Kay Altheuser*

Use olive oil in your horse's mane and tail. It keeps them shiny and healthy. *Bella Peyser*

Always grab a schedule or a print out of your classes at the beginning of every show. Circle your classes, too. It seems self-explanatory, but it really helps to stay organized! *Vincent Woodgrift*

It pays off to be nice to your grooms. They work so hard. Little things, like getting them coffee in the morning or offering to help are what make them happy to always be there with you.
Lauren Pieper

If the buffer you use to clean your boots, whether it's a nylon or a brush, is a little bit wet, it shines faster and better. *Marisa Metzger*

END