

April 7, 2006

March 2006 LAHSA E-News

Marnye Langer, President

If “April showers bring May flowers,” we should enjoy a glorious, vibrant spring. But enough about the rain. We are all tired of it. On to LAHSA news. I find it hard to believe that we are already a quarter of the way through the year. So much has already happened, and there is so much yet to occur. The LAHSA Board of Directors, various LAHSA committees, and Charlotte Skinner, LAHSA’s Executive Director, have all been busy. In addition to the routine aspects of the association, like recording points and processing memberships, we are working on new things for LAHSA as well.

The LAHSA Education Committee has been busy. They provided the Board of Directors with several proposals and all were approved. I am especially excited about the LAHSA Horsemastership Contest. This is a three phase competition designed to encourage and reward our juniors to learn more about horsemanship beyond polished performances in the show ring. Contestants will be judged in three areas: riding, written, and hands-on (Practicum). On the line is a \$5,000 scholarship split among the top three highest scoring competitors. Patricia Kinnaman and Katie Gardner, both members of the LAHSA Education Committee, have volunteered to run this specific program. We will have details about the LAHSA Horsemastership Contest on the website.

Watch the website for monthly informational and educational articles. Award winning journalist Karen Briggs is writing articles for the benefit of LAHSA members. I hope you enjoy this new benefit of your membership. The first article, “Pacing Yourself” will be on the website this week. Check out an excerpt below.

This year our end of the year awards banquet will be an evening affair. Once again the banquet will be held at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 10.

LAHSA is looking for a few good volunteers. Our association is a volunteer based organization, and in order to do some of the “extra” things we need your help. Juniors, sometimes your school requests that you participate in some kind of volunteer activity. Why not help out LAHSA? Here are some areas where volunteers would be useful:

- Any budding writers out there? There are lots of opportunities for writers.
- Does anyone have experience with Power Point or other slide show programs? We could use your talents.
- Do you like to put together scrapbooks and photo albums? LAHSA could use your talents.
- Special Projects - LAHSA has several special projects and we are looking for people to help with them.

If you are interested in any of the above activities, please e-mail me (marnyelanger@aol.com).

Finally, I would like to thank Dominion Saddlery for renewing their sponsorship of the LAHSA Junior and Senior Medal Classes and Medal Finals. Dominion Saddlery has been a long time supporter and they help make the LAHSA Junior and Senior Medal Finals the prestigious events

they have become.

Current points have been posted to the website. Be sure to check your points and get any discrepancies (in writing) to the LAHSA office.

In the meantime, have fun riding and try to stay dry. Rainy days are great for giving your tack an extra thorough cleaning, or see what is living at the bottom of your tack trunk!

END

Dominion Saddlery is proud to be a continuing sponsor of LAHSA and we know that looking your best is important for you and your horse. Therefore, Dominion is opening our own in-house Custom Shop. Here you can look through you favorite companies' catalogs and swatch books with guidance from one of our expert team members. Brands you know and trust, like E. Vogel boots, Grand Prix hunt coats, Blue Ribbon blankets, Triple Crown blankets, Tally Ho luggage and trunk covers, Phoenix West trunks, and more!

Please call us for an appointment (818-842-4300), e-mail us at Dsaddlery@aol.com, or visit us at www.dominionsaddlery.com.

Excerpt from “Pacing Yourself” by Karen Briggs:

Having a sense of pace is an important consideration whether you're competing in the jumper ring or in the small pony hunters. We asked successful rider and trainer, Gary Young, how you can learn to pace yourself.

We've all heard about exercise riders at the racetrack who have 'clocks in their heads'. Seems they can gallop a quarter-mile and estimate down to a fifth of a second how fast their horse has been going -- without ever looking at a watch. But having a sense of pace isn't just a useful skill on the backstretch. It's also an essential part of competing in any sport in which the clock is ticking... or the judge is watching.