

October 3, 2006

September E-News

Marnye Langer - President

The days are growing shorter and the mornings have become crisp. My vegetable garden has slowed down, I have noticed that my horse's are growing their winter coats, and my son brought home school pictures. I guess fall is upon us.

Fall also brings medal finals, various championships, some of the top riders head east, and the show season is drawing to a close. LAHSA has already named two medal finals champions. Season Winqest won the 2006 LAHSA Horsemanship Finals and Samantha Harrison was the 2006 Rosewood champion. Stories about them are available at:
<http://www.lahsa.com/articles.php>

The LAHSA medal finals for Pony, Junior and Senior riders will be at the National Preview. All qualified riders should be receiving invitations any day now. These are always challenging, fun finals. I hope to see many of you there.

Membership renewals just went out in the mail also. Senior members will also receive a ballot to elect members to the Board of Directors. Beginning with this election, board members will now serve staggered two year terms instead of one year terms. This will allow more continuity and give directors time to learn the procedures of the board and to be effective, active directors. Each year, Senior LAHSA will elect three directors, and then the directors will appoint three additional directors. The board will be made up of twelve directors – three elected and three appointed each year.

I want to acknowledge one of our directors who has chosen not to seek a board position for next year. Raizy Goffman has served on the LAHSA board for many years. I need to dig through the records to find out how many years Raizy has served. When you see Raizy, thank her for her time spent helping LAHSA be a strong, effective local organization. Directors attend four to six board meetings a year, generally serve on one or two committees, and wind up helping with several of LAHSA's key activities, like the awards banquet, championship shows, and fundraising. Raizy will serve as the Technical Delegate for the Junior and Senior Medal Finals, and she has said that she would like to still volunteer to help LAHSA in some capacity.

Mark your calendars! The LAHSA "B" Championship Show is October 19-22, 2006. Kay Altheuser is the chairman of the championship shows, and the "A" Championship Show (held at Gold Coast 6) was well received. LAHSA members who top the championship charts in the LAHSA "B" sections will receive a special award and ribbon.

Finally, I want to give everyone an update on the LAHSA Horsemastership Competition. Over 30 juniors have signed up for this challenging three phase competition. Katie Gardner and her team have worked hard to create a top notch competition. A \$5,000 college scholarship will be awarded among the top three overall highest scoring juniors, along with special perpetual high-score awards for each of the phases. The highest scoring Short Stirrup (11 & under) competitor will also receive a perpetual award.

Thank you to our LAHSA Horsemastership sponsors:

High Score Overall	Block Family
High Score Hands-on	Rosey Reed
High Score Riding	Charlotte Skinner
High Score Written	Marnye Langer
High Score Short Stirrup	Jeni Brown and Betsy Wood.

Although not the first program of its kind, there are still very few programs emphasizing complete horsemanship skills and knowledge. George Morris, the Chef d'Equipe of our international show jumping teams, is making horsemanship knowledge and skills a high priority. Below is a press release sent by the USEF describing a Horsemastership Program Morris is running in Florida early in 2007. The aspect that made me smile the most is the name...check it out, George Morris is calling his new program "Horsemastership"!! Enjoy the announcement below, and as always, please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with me. Marnyelanger@aol.com

Creating a Pipeline for the Future: George Morris Horsemanship Training Session for Top-Ranked U.S. Young Riders Debuts in January

(Lexington, KY)—With a goal of creating complete "horsemasters" and a pipeline for future U.S teams, George Morris will conduct a Horsemanship Training Session at the Palm Beach Polo Equestrian Club, Wellington, FL, on January 15-20, 2007.

Hosted by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and Stadium Jumping, Inc., and presented by Bates, the training session will include instruction each day by Morris. "This is not a clinic," commented Morris. "This is a training session in all aspects of horse mastership—an important first step in becoming an

international team rider.” Other experts in their respective fields will provide instruction in dressage for the show jumping rider; conformation; veterinary care; and stable management.

The training session is limited to six to eight riders, who will be chosen according to their ranking on the November 3, 2006, Bates USA Equitation Ranking List. Two of the six will be from Zones 6-12. The Individual Gold medal winners of the 2006 North American Young Rider Championships and the Prix des States will also be invited. The participants’ names will be announced during the Syracuse Invitational Sporthorse Tournament, November 1-5, 2006.

In place of a fee, riders and auditors are encouraged to donate to the USET Foundation, earmarking their contribution “Show Jumping High-Performance.”

So that better horsemanship is fostered, riders will take care of their own horses for the duration of the clinic, with no help from grooms, trainers or parents. Each rider will be assigned a “mentor groom” such as Beezie Madden and other top international riders, who will assist them only for the first full day.

“This training session will set the standard of where these young riders should be headed in their careers. As George and many in our discipline agree, a career means more than just being a good rider,” said Sally Ike, Managing Director of Show Jumping for the USEF. “If we are going to maintain a pipeline of thoroughly trained athletes for our future international teams, we need to create complete horsemen who have the talent, desire, skills and discipline to manage the demands at the top of the sport.”

For more information, contact Sally Ike, Managing Director of Show Jumping, at sally.ike@usef.org or (908) 234-0848.