

A rider in a dark jacket and white breeches is jumping a brown horse over a red and white striped obstacle. The horse is in mid-air, clearing the jump. The background is a lush green field with trees.

THE *Equestrian*
CATALOG

STRAIGHT FROM
THE HORSES MOUTH

ROUTINES,
HABITS &
RITUALS

LOOKING THROUGH THE "EYES"
OF PHOTOGRAPHER JANA KAY

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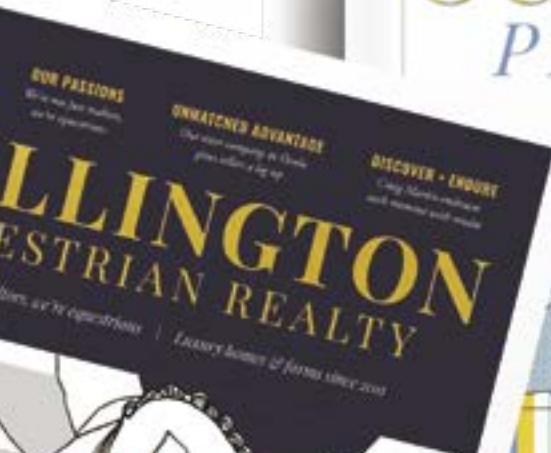
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

It can only be assumed that all of you on the show circuit have trainers, coaches, whatever you might call them. Your horses might be in training, so you go to the barn for lessons several times a week. Or perhaps you trailer in to have lessons, or school your horse with a professional just a few times a month. You might just meet someone at shows for help.

All of those options can and do work. While you are with your trainer you are (I assume) paying attention to detail, trying to do what you are told, and hopefully walk away from the day feeling a bit more educated than the last time you worked together.

But you might be missing great learning opportunities. For example, do you get to lessons early or stay after your own class to watch others? So much can be learned from watching different riders and listening to what your trainer tells them. So often we make the same mistakes as others, and seeing that mistake and then hearing the same thing that was told to you can be very helpful.

Carry that over to shows. How many of you watch the class you are competing in? Of course, you have to concentrate on your own round, but when you are finished, do you sit and watch? Start to pay attention to those who are successful in your divisions.

Taking that a step further, watch upper-level classes and see who is winning consistently, and why. Those who stay in the ribbons are there for a reason. Pay attention, or sit with someone who knows and discuss it.

Along those lines, you might also see someone who is not at the top of their game. What are they doing differently that keeps them out of that league? Do they just not have the horse power at the moment, or not as much education or talent?

Another great place to learn is the warm-up ring. Yes, watching the class itself is more fun, but so much information can be taken from that warm-up arena. Listen to what successful trainers are saying to their clients. Watch what a good professional rider is doing; how are they schooling their horses?

Finally, consider going to a clinic, either riding in one or auditing one. Again, the key here is finding a good rider/trainer that is putting on a clinic. These can be very educational. Avail yourself of these opportunities. See you in the show ring!

**IF YOU ARE NOT WILLING TO LEARN,
NO ONE CAN HELP YOU.
IF YOU ARE DETERMINED TO LEARN,
NO ONE CAN STOP YOU.**



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURED STORIES



7 Straight from the Horse Mouth

15 Behind the Scenes
with Kyle King



22 Looking through the "eyes"
of Jana Kay Photography

29 LH Riding Academy



36 Routines, Habits, Rituals

41 Hygain



45 Magical Horse/Rider Teams

60 Little hooves rescue



70 WINNERS WINNERS!

CATALOG PAGES

THE ULTIMATE EQUESTRIAN SHOPPING EXPERIENCE



74 HOME AND BARN

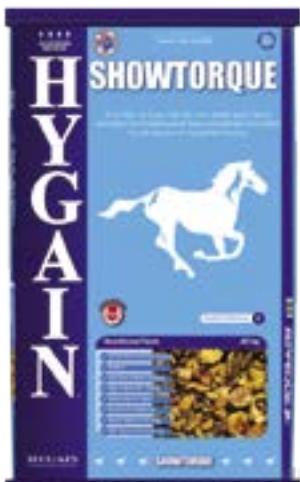


75 FASHION AND BEAUTY

76 PERFORMANCE, TACK
AND SADDLERY



77 REAL ESTATE



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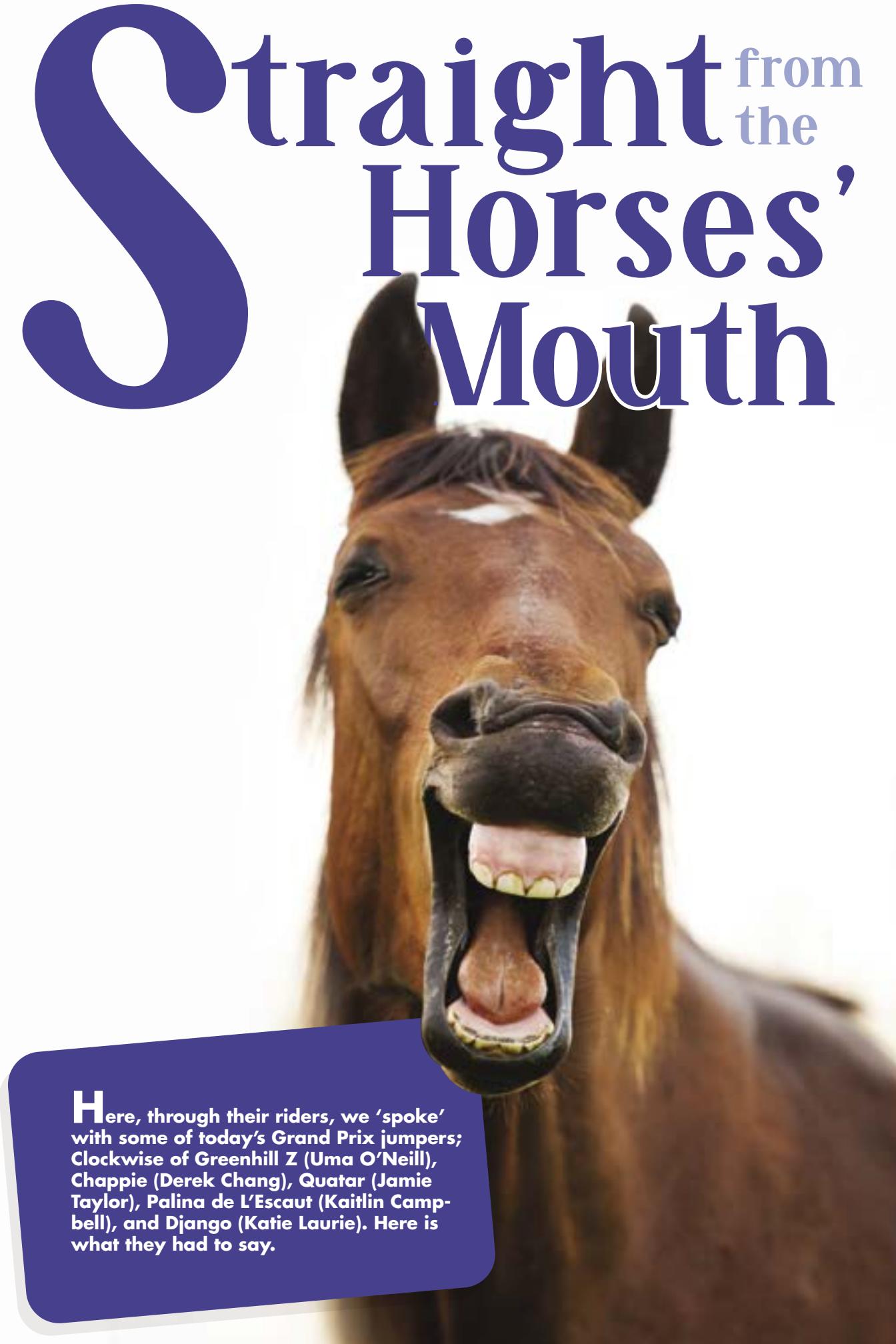


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Straight from the Horses' Mouth



Here, through their riders, we 'spoke' with some of today's Grand Prix jumpers; Clockwise of Greenhill Z (Uma O'Neill), Chappie (Derek Chang), Qatar (Jamie Taylor), Palina de L'Escout (Kaitlin Campbell), and Django (Katie Laurie). Here is what they had to say.



Clockwise of Greenhill Z

Let me just say this right from the start – I think I’m great! I have no problem with a lack of self-esteem, and I always make my presence known. I am the top horse in the barn, and expect to be treated as such. And I like it when they call me CW. Makes me sound very important, don’t ya think?

That being said, I am certainly not mean or aggressive, even though I am a stallion. I might throw in a nip or two, but it is in play. I would feel terrible if I actually made contact with anyone. But I can, and do, make my opinions known, so those

humans around me are aware of where I stand at all times.

Nothing gets by me. Whether at home or away, I am always alert. I don’t like being home very much, I’ll admit that. I can make up my own little games, or just start playing for, what they think, is no reason. Hey, I’m bored, OK? Give me something to do and I’m much better. They call it stimulation. Ah, whatever.

My rider Uma will do a lot of what is called flat work. I will say, that keeps my mind working so I



Photo Credit:
Sara Shier Photography

don't do things she doesn't appreciate. I have a lot of energy, so I am not one to just plop around like a lesson horse. I have never understood that. What's the point? Let's get to it!

But what I really like to do is go to shows. I know when it's time, and I get my game face on. Yes, I can get even more excited than usual, but I am just so happy to be there! Especially somewhere I have never been before. I thrive on that.

Some folks might say I get quite strong. Maybe I do. For me it's normal. I do remember when I was younger, I was ridden in something that had no bit. Can't remember the name right now, but that seemed to make everyone happy, even me. Oh yeah, it was called a hackamore. I liked it!

I'm back to having a bit in my mouth now, but it's OK. Uma knows just how to ride me to make sure that I am comfortable. There is one other thing that I do know about me – if you are gonna jump me, you better buckle up, Buttercup! I can really blow up in the air, and if you are not strong enough for that, I will be free jumping. And I know I shouldn't, but I would really laugh if that happened!

Uma was still a kid and I was young as well, when we first started together. We moved from the young rider and U25 ranks to the Olympic Games; something I am told is a big deal. I like to think that the two of us raised each other.

Uma and I have been together for more than seven years now, and we trust each other completely.

I think that is why we have been so successful. She sees right through me, and knows that I am actually a very sweet guy. She tells people that I am her horse of a lifetime. That embarrasses me a bit, but truth be told, I really love hearing that. It makes me proud!

I am handled by three people; Uma, the barn manager Armando, and my groom Jorge. I would have to say that I just love Jorge. And since he travels everywhere with me, I know he will make sure I am fine at all times.

About the only time I am a pushover is when someone has Charleigh's Cookies. ADORE them! And, since I am number one, I get a lot of them. Lucky me! On a very special occasion I get a smoothie bowl. YUMMY. I especially like it if someone leaves one laying around on a tack trunk and I can reach it. They just taste better when you steal them, don't you agree?



Chappie

Photo Credit:
Jana Kay

Before someone else mentions it, let me tell you all that I have a weird thing that happens to me. I will kind of fall asleep when on the crossties sometimes. I don't fall all the way down, that would be embarrassing. But my knees might buckle, then I wake up. On occasion that can scare me, and I will kick the wall. OK, that is out of the way, because other than that, I am perfect!

I have been with Derek for about six years now, and make no mistake, by now I know my job. So, he will take me for rides outside of the arena, which I really like. I am not afraid of much that I might see when out there, but a sudden noise can startle me. I am not a big fan of loud noises. But Derek puts things in my ears, and that helps me a lot.

What we can't always control is traffic in the warm up ring. I am not comfortable with horses coming at me. I would prefer that they just stay away from me,

but they don't always cooperate.

Hmm, maybe I'm not as perfect as I think I am. No, wait a minute. When I am in the show ring, where it counts after all, I AM perfect! I know when it is time for me to perform, and I love that. The first day I often let Derek know just how happy I am by being quite playful. A guy has to enjoy his job, right?

I consider myself easy to ride, and love to gallop and jump. For that reason, I really like a nice, big ring where I can just keep going to the jumps. Most of the time I know exactly where Derek is going to take me, and I just lock on the fence and go.

I am normally happy with the way Derek rides me. If I'm not, or I feel – in my humble opinion – that he has made a mistake, I make sure he knows about it. I might pull harder and get more ambitious to the next jump just to tell him to let me do it. I also can start jumping higher, so he has no doubt that I am ready for anything.

When I first met up with Derek and his brother Andrew (who rode me first), I had more stuff on me. I didn't think I needed all of that, and lucky for me, Derek felt the same. Now, all I wear is a saddle and bridle, that's it. No martingale or breastplate. I think I jump better without all the restrictions on me, so I'm glad he saw that as an option.

Derek and I have a good arrangement most of the time. I did get annoyed with him in a big class recently when he chose to pull up and leave. What's

up with that? I was all ready and looking so handsome. It wasn't fair. But I forgave him before our next important class and we did really well.

But I would have to say that my favorite person is probably our trainer, Misti Cassar. First, she is just nice, but two, she feeds me my favorite food, bananas! I get a lot of bananas from her. The way to a man's' heart, right? Yep, just keep feeding me, Misti, and you will stay on the top of my people list.



Qatar

Photo Credit:
Jana Kay

I have to tell on myself; the way I act is generally influenced by food. Yep, there ya go! I am a nice guy, especially if I think the cookies are coming. I don't like it if the human is too slow with those treats, and I will get a bit nippy to make sure they know to hurry things up.

But with or without the cookies, I am a confident kind of fellow, and know that I have the ability to win. I am big in personality, and also feel I am quite handsome.

I don't really enjoy down time between shows. It is boring, and I think just going around the ring for what they say is to keep me in shape, is silly. Maybe that is why I can find things to spook at. I need to entertain myself, after all. In fact, I take pride in the fact that I don't put out a lot of effort

when none is needed, but I don't like it when I hear them say I have gotten fat! There is one thing that I am slower at than even what they call the dreaded flat work. That is trail riding. I don't really want to be out in front, I'm not that brave when on the trail. I would much rather follow another horse. I actually like to be right behind said horse, and am often accused of being too close. Hey, I go, don't I? Sometimes the humans are so picky.

I have learned that when they take all my hair off, things are gonna happen soon. Then it is game face for me and I become interested in what is going on. When Jamie gets on me, she gives me a cookie. I devised another game; I will chase whoever is holding me around the ring until I get another cookie. And it works! I love that game. I

have heard them call that “paying the bill.” I don’t get it, but whatever.

Once I get to the horse show I do change, and all of my behaviors are amped up. I know I get wilder and will also be spookier. But I just feel on fire at shows. I love to show, and especially like it when I can go fast. But what I like more than anything, maybe more than cookies, is winning. I always want to win, and try hard for Jamie to do just that. I might make her feel as if she is hanging on for the ride, which is not true, believe me. She does a great job with me, but my desire to win might make it seem as if I leave her in the dust. Trust me, I don’t.

I really like Jamie, but I am also quite partial to Juan Menchaca. But I guess that goes back to the food thing. If you have food, you are my best friend at that moment. In fact, earlier I said I might like winning more than cookies. I think I lied. Don’t get me wrong, a win is great, and really makes me feel special. But the treats...

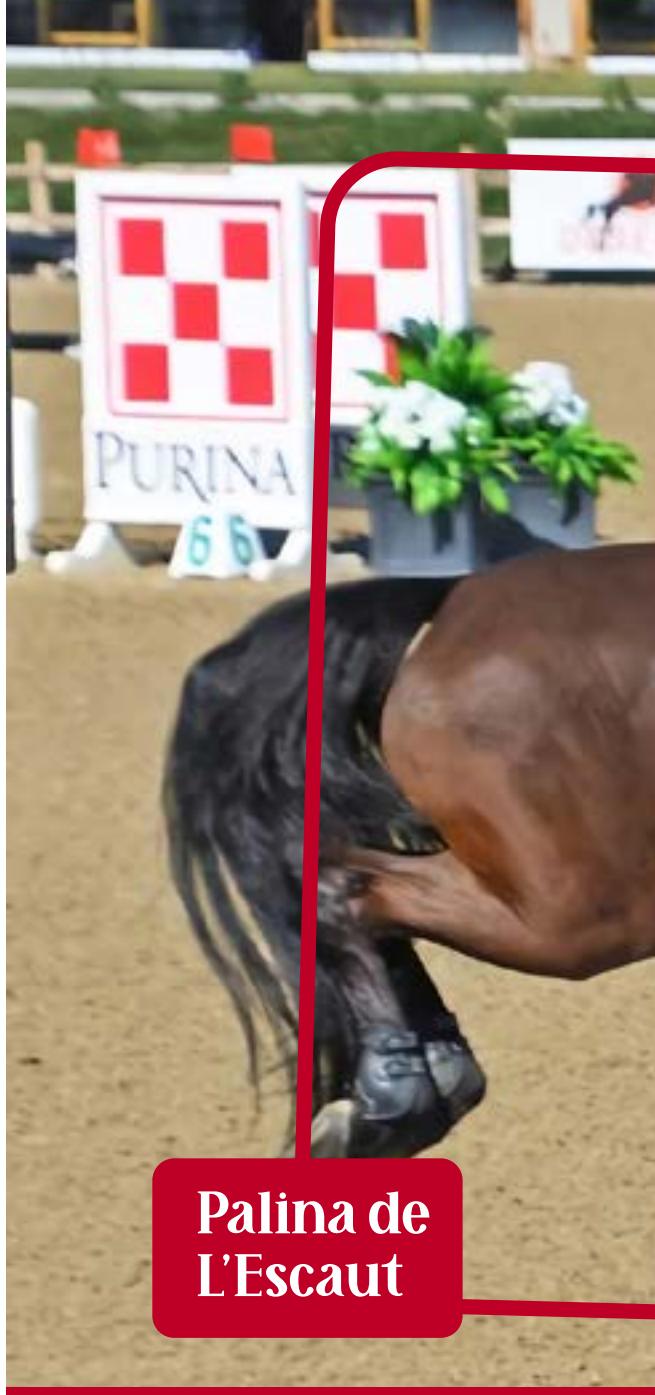
I came here from Europe in 2019, from what I can tell. I was a Cookie Monster, and I live up to that. I will eat anything. Seriously! Offer it up to me, I’ll eat it. I have recently learned where the cookies are kept, so when I go to the cross-ties to get ready, I just help myself to snacks.

When I first got over here, someone spoke to me. It was an animal communicator. Apparently, a lot of people don’t believe in them. I don’t know how it works and I don’t care, I just know we ‘communicated.’

I made sure that they knew I do not like to be called Quatar. Yes, that might be my name, but now they call me Q and I like that much better. EXCEPT when they call me QT Pie. I mean, really???? That is so embarrassing!

Another thing I complained about was my rider talking on the phone when they are on me. I really dislike that. You are supposed to be focusing on the job at hand when you are on me. Besides, riders tend to sound really fake on the phone. Pretty silly, if you ask me.

**Right now,
I am healthy,
happy, and more
than ready to get to
those horse shows
I keep hearing about.**



Palina de L’Escout

I have to say right now, that I do NOT understand horses that think it is cool to make nice with their humans. I just don’t get it; in fact, I hate to be touched, let alone hugged and loved on. Just leave me be!! Some say I’m mean, and to make a point they make me wear this thing over my mouth when I’m on the cross-ties. Note to human: that doesn’t help to make me happier! Maybe I just think I’m special, but as far as I’m concerned this is my world and the rest of you just live in it.

Another thing that is a bit annoying. When Kaitlin rides me, she only lets me trot. What’s up with that? I am all ready to go do my thing, and it’s not like I’m going to buck her off or



Photo Credit:
Jana Kay

anything. I don't buck! But even at the shows when she is getting me ready, we trot, even most of the jumps. She lets me canter a few, but not too many.

I guess Kaitlin decided that she could not get a lot done with me trying to canter. She figured that out over time. I make the concession to not canter because I do the same good job either way. See, I can be nice! Besides, once we get in the ring to show, all I want to do is jump clean and go fast for her, and I am very good at both.

At 12 years old, I know my job, so even if I can't have it my way some of the other times, I don't hold any of that against Kaitlin. I am very competitive, whether I am jumping outside or inside. I am

probably easier indoors, because I can't really get rolling along too much, but I win in both places.

I like my turnouts, but don't expect me to run and play. I use the time to relax and sunbathe. I like to stand around and take in the sights. I also go on a thing that stays in place but I have to move. That's OK, I think it helps me keep my girlish figure. And Kaitlin and I go out for walks up and down hills around my place; I do enjoy that, I must admit.

There is one thing that I am not at all picky about, and that is food. I will eat anything you want to put in front of my mouth. There is no discrimination from me whatsoever on the food front.



Photo Credit:
Jana Kay

Django

I am a good guy around the barn, but I guess you could say that I have a quirk. I get very attached to my friends, and when they leave, I open my mouth and hang my tongue out. I even shake it up and down when they go out, just to make more of a point. But I know it has no effect on my friends; they just keep on going away from me. Not nice, guys!

I stay pretty fit. I get longed, basically using the full arena, and that keeps me in shape. I also get to go out and play. Because I am half thoroughbred I kind of stay ready. I am big and strong, but also very scopey, and Katie seems to like that. But I can also act a bit like a little thoroughbred, even though I am a big dude, so I guess that makes me a bit more difficult. I don't do it on purpose; it's not my fault I am bigger.

I am pretty calm when I walk into the show ring, but when I hear the bell ring, I am ready! I do the same thing with my mouth and tongue that I do when I lose sight of my buddies, but once I start jumping, I forget all that nonsense. I really like my job, and I do not like to hit the jumps. That makes Katie happy as well. And back to the size thing, because I am big, I can easily leave out strides. There is no reason for Katie to feel the need to hustle me around.

I am really a part of Katie's family and she is probably my favorite person. I have been with her literally my whole life. I was born at her place, and her husband broke me when I was young. Katie has ridden all of my relatives. My sire is Lordano and Katie's dad rode my mom, Flower Power, as well. So it is really a family affair for me.

I am a tiny bit disappointed though. I thought I was going to the desert for the winter, but I heard a rumor that I am going to Florida. It is for a good reason though, and I am going to try really hard to be special there.

See, Katie is from New Zealand but rides for Australia, and they are sending what they call a Nations Cup Team there. It really means nothing to me, but apparently it is quite a big deal to Katie. For that reason, I am really starting to get my brain ready to be the best that I can be.

I know I can jump clean, be fast, and win! So the more I think about what is to come, the more excited I am becoming. I am going to make her proud!

Behind the Scenes With

Kyle King

By Barbara Pinnella



With a competitive string of horses and good owners behind him, Kyle has made a huge leap up the world standings, going from 917th to (as of this writing), 62nd! That is an amazing jump – pardon the pun. He is also sitting eighth in the United States rankings. Let's get to know Kyle a little bit better.



THE Equestrian Catalog – Since you came from a riding family, did you ever feel any pressure to ride, or did you always know that this is where you would be?

Kyle King – It was kind of our way of life. It was how my father (Scott) made a living, and we sold a lot of horses that I rode when I was younger. From the time I was in Junior High I knew this is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life, no doubt about it. I've always loved the sport, and the horses, and the lifestyle. There wasn't really a choice, but I never had to make one; this is it. It just felt natural to do this. The older I get, the more I like the training of the horses. Obviously, the competing is what I love as well, but I really like developing these horses. I'm in a good position now with good people behind me, and a large part of my barn is for me to get to develop young horses.

TEC – Who has had the biggest influence on your riding?

KK – It has to be my father, 100%. But I have had many influences. I have always been a catch rider,

so I've ridden horses for a lot of people. So I have had a lot of help because of that. I got to work with Richard Keller with a horse called Enzo the last year-and-a-half that Richard was alive. He was a legendary horseman, so that was really great.

TEC – Tell us about having a home base.

KK – Well, I used to be a bit of a gypsy. But we have been based here at the Horse Park for three months already, and I've bought a house here in town. Thermal has made it like a six-month season, so it's kind of like Florida, with 18 horse shows. So it makes sense to be here. The rest of the time I base in Vancouver B.C.

TEC – What was the hardest thing for you to overcome in your riding career?

KK – Well, I think I've always been a natural rider, so the riding end of it has always come pretty easy to me. The hardest part for me has been getting the owners to stand behind me. Part of the reason for that was that I have always moved from place to place most of my life. I mostly rode for other professionals, and was not a big self-promotion guy.



About six years ago I met a man named Stuart Belkin, a businessman from Vancouver. He mentored me as far as organizing in a business sense of the word. He has since built a facility right across the street from Thunderbird Horse Park, and he has allowed me to base out of there. That has been a real help.

TEC – What are some of the biggest positives in your life right now?

KK – I believe I focus a lot more on tomorrow and not just today, and that has a lot to do with maturity. I also married a beautiful, organized, and business-minded lady, Emily, and she has helped me take things to the next level. We have a proper business and structure now; I am not always scrambling to catch-ride many horses. So, between Stuart and Emily I have had a lot of good guidance, and I believe I have changed quite a bit. All of that has contributed to the success that I have had recently.

TEC – What horse has shaped your career the most?

KK – I have won more than 100 Grand Prix on

many, many different horses, but I haven't had one horse that has defined my career – yet! I haven't had the Hickstead, or the Big Ben, or the Milton, but I've had lots of horses and I learn something from every horse I ride. Right now, I have one of the best strings I've ever had. I call them my 'Big Four.'

I have the horse I mentioned earlier, Enzo, that Richard Keller asked me to ride for him. He came with a very patient owner named Jim Kungle. I have had Enzo the longest. He is like my steady Eddie; he is so consistent. He goes clear a lot and wins quite a bit.

There is a chestnut horse named Etalon, who came to me as a sales horse originally. He is owned by Brent Therrien and his wife Christine Maclean. They entrusted me to produce him, and we decided that he was not for sale after all. He has been a really nice horse.

“Magic Mike is the one I pick for the biggest Grand Prix, and he is a special horse.”

Linda Southern sent me Coffee To Go. He was one that just didn't fit into their program at the time. He has really come around, and is one of my main horses. He can jump anything from a 5* to speed classes to a six-bar; just whatever you want. He is just a very good, all-around horse.

The last one I got from Elizabeth “Lumpy” Kilham named Magic Mike. He can be a little bit quirky, but Lumpy knows how I ride. She had been teasing me for a year or so that she would like me to ride this horse, but it never really happened. Eventually she gave me the ride, and he is the horse that can jump at the highest level.

We jumped the biggest Grand Prix in the world this year on him. It was our first time at that level, and we were very close to coming back in the top five. I had one little block off the wall, but after that class my confidence really grew. That was in the Major League Show Jumping tour. He's the one I pick for the biggest Grand Prix, and he is a special horse.

TEC – Any chance of you riding for Canada?

KK – Well, I am considering. I haven't totally committed to it yet, but as of June I am getting my Canadian citizenship. Then I can make a decision as to whether or not I want to switch to represent Canada. I am leaning towards doing it. I'm not totally committed but I think it would be a good opportunity. I have done the sport at a high level, but really haven't had the opportunity to show in Europe and do Nations Cup team events and things like that. I actually have the horses to back it up right now.

I have a very strong Canadian connection, between relatives, and my wife being Canadian. And I would say at least 70% of the horses that I have ridden in my life, as well as many of my owners, have been from Canada. Not to mention that I have been living in Canada at just about half of the year for the last 10 or 15 years, and I am a permanent resident of Canada.

TEC – Who are the important members of your team?

KK – My wife Emily keeps all of the organization. There is so much paperwork involved with all the horses shows we do, and she has a business degree, which is so helpful. There is Julia Parry,

and she has been with me going on four seasons now. She flats the horses, keeps the staff in line, and is the rock behind us. Michelle Bingham has been with me three or four seasons as well. She doesn't get to come on my Canadian tours, but she works for me when I'm down in California. So those three blonde bombshells keep me on my toes, and it's a pretty good crew. There are others, but those are the main three that keep the horses sound and healthy, and keep everything organized. All I have to do is train the horses and win classes!

TEC – Who schools you on the ground?

KK – The video camera. With the technology these days, I study my films every night, even when I train, so I can see it from the ground. Sometimes I will look right away. At the end of a horse show day, I will watch all my rounds. Richard was helping me until he passed, and that was awesome to have his ground help and learning some of his tricks. We really had fun working with him.

TEC – Favorite place to show and why?

KK – I was excited to get back to Spruce Meadows this year, and was thrilled to have horses to go out on the big field with and compete. That's always been my favorite, and since I was young, I wanted to show on that big field.

And let me add that competing on the Major League Show Jumping tour has given me the opportunity to go to new places. We went to Traverse City and got to also do a Mexico tour that consisted of La Silla, located in Monterrey and Otomi, in San Miguel de Allende. My team, the Desert International Horse Park Roadrunners, is owned by Steven Hankin. On the team with me are McLain Ward, Adrienne Sternlicht, Kaitlyn Campbell, and the husband-and-wife team of Erin Davis-Heineking and Christian Heineking.

TEC – Closing thoughts.

KK – Everything has been working well this season. I have great staff and everybody looks after me. I want to continue on next season. I have a nice group of horses coming up as well. The opportunity that Steve Hankin has given me is also invaluable. And of course, if there is some kind of Olympic bid, I would be very excited. I'm not getting any younger. It's now or never.

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Looking Through the “Eyes” of


Jana Kay

-By Barbara Pinnella

Jana Kay Carter has always been interested in photography. She has had a camera in her hand since she was about six years old. Back then it was a box camera, and she, as well as her sister, were always taking pictures of the neighborhood kids.

She has also loved watching jumping, and shot the Three-Day event in Temecula many years ago. But it was after that, in 2014, when she saw a post about the AIG Million in Thermal.

“I live in the high desert and that is fairly close, so I thought that I would go there. I paid my \$10 to get in,

found myself a seat, and I shot the whole class. This was before I knew anybody. Ashlee (Bond) went second in the class on Chela LS and was clear, but she was a second over the time.

“After four riders went however, they upped the time three seconds, so Ashlee qualified for the jump off. In the jump off the pair were screaming fast, and she ended up winning. It was so exciting. And when I got home and put my photos in my computer, I thought it was so cool, that I started going just for the AIG.”

It was a year later that she actually met Ashlee, and



“When they opened up after Covid, there was a class that had 96 riders, and I had 3500 photos! But it was fun; the sun was out and it was a beautiful day.”

The photos on her Facebook page are never public. If you are a friend, or friend of a friend, then you can see them. But they are not there for the world to see.

“I don’t put any of the Grand Prix photos on my photography page either, they are completely separate. My photos are for sale through PM, but I never advertise the jumping photos as for sale. You can grab ones I post and use them on Facebook or Instagram all you want. The bottom line; I do this for the love of the sport.”

Jana Kay will take photos of everyone in the class that she is shooting, but admittedly might take a few more of her friends. For example, instead of three shots at one jump, she might get five. But she said that if she has a camera in her hand, she will shoot every competitor.

“Sloan Elmassian and I are friends, and I always get photos of her. She doesn’t go to quite as many Grand Prix as some of the others. Mandy (Porter) is another friend of mine, and I’ve been following Milano. Mandy won the AIG I think it was two years after Ashlee won. She also rode for Ashlee when Ashlee was pregnant, so that’s how I met Mandy.”

Slowly but surely, she began meeting more and more people and over the years, she has made a lot of friends. Several times, when she introduces herself to one of the riders that she had not yet met in person, the response is how much they love her photos. One of those people was Keri Potter, who thanked Jana Kay for taking all the photos of her. They had been Facebook friends for roughly three years, but she just met her face to face this year at one of the CSI5* jogs.

Just what does Jana Kay feel is the key to shooting those great photos?

“You really have to have a good eye. Some people just don’t have it. I believe my love for photographing animals is also a reason why. It has always been a passion of mine. And all of the venues are good, you just have to pick your shots.”

Jana Kay could not be happier with what she is doing, and is very grateful to the positive reception she gets.

“I have never been more welcome anywhere than I am at the Grand Prix. All the riders have been absolutely amazing. And almost all of the other photographers as well. As I said, this is a labor of love for me.”

they have been friends ever since. Even though they do not see each other more than once or twice a year, they do stay in touch.

Jana Kay retired in 2016 and needed something to do. She discovered that Thermal was eight weeks long. So that is when she started going twice a week, just shooting the Grand Prix.

“There were thousands of photos to edit, and I started to put them up on my Facebook page. I didn’t have many show jumping friends at all at that time. I met Hannah-Beth Sisoyev, and she started tagging photos for me. That got more riders sending me friend requests. The more friends I got, the easier it was for me to tag the photos myself.”

At the average class, Jana Kay might take between 1000 and 1200 photos, but it all depends on how many jumps she can use and how many riders are in the class.



Sloan Elmassian

Sloan sat on a pony when she was only three, and has been hooked on horses ever since. Unlike a lot of riders, she did not move up through the ranks of equitation and hunters, but instead her first horse was a jumper. That horse, Jesse James, was good up to 1.10m, so when it was time for her to step up, she found it necessary to look for another horse.

She bought a seven-year-old that was doing hunters at the time. Sloan felt he would probably take her to 1.20m and then she would find that 'big' horse. Little did she know that Centurion, or

Colin as he is known around the barn, would not need to be replaced.

She turned professional in 2018, and has competed very successfully in the U25 classes, as well as the major Southern California Grand Prix. Her Centurion has lived up to everything he showed her from the start, and he has taken her to great heights already.

At only 23, Sloan runs her business, Sloan Equestrian, out of Rancho Santa Fe, California. She specializes in training, riding, and sales.





Mandy Porter

Mandy is no stranger to those who follow show jumping. As a junior she won the NorCal finals, was second in the CPHA Finals, competed in the Maclay Finals, and in 1984 was a part of the bronze medal winning North American Young Riders Championship Team.

Mandy spent seven years riding in Europe, gaining amazing experience. She first worked in Switzerland for Gerhart Etter in his sales enterprise, then got a private training job in Italy, and has ridden with some of the best in the business. She has been on three Nations Cup teams in Linz, Austria, La Baule, France, and Gijon, Spain, and has ridden in three FEI World Cup Jumping Finals.

She left Europe in 1999 and relocated in Del Mar, California, opening up her own ACP Enterprises, Inc.

In 2017 Mandy was the PCHA Grand Prix Rider of the Year, and also won the Gary Ryman Memorial Award, and received the CPHA Special Achievement Award.

A consistent winner with a variety of horses, Mandy was the PCHA Grand Prix Rider of the Year and the EMO Grand Prix Rider of the Year in 2018. That same year she had the PCHA Grand Prix Horse of the Year (Milano) and the Owner of the Year (Abby Archer). Also in 2018 WT Leapfrog was the USHJA Zone 9 Horse of the Year Champion 7-year-old jumper.

Mandy has successfully campaigned horses owned by Barb Ellison's Wild Turkey Farm; horses such as WT Leapfrog and WT Ca-Pow. She continues to not only bring young horses up to the Grand Prix level, but is an extremely talented and popular instructor as well.

Ashlee Bond

Competing since she was six years old, Ashlee has certainly been successful as she made her way up the ladder in those early years. By the time she was 11, she had won five National Pony Championships.

But her aspirations went way beyond that, and she won her first Grand Prix when she was only 16 years of age. Around that same time, she was named the Grand Prix Rookie of the Year by both USEF and the PCHA. In 2009 she was named the Chronicle of the Horse Show Jumping Horseman of the Year.

Ashlee has many big wins to her credit, including CHIO Aachen in 2009 riding Cadett, the HITS \$1 Million Grand Prix in 2014, the \$100,000 Longines FEI World Cup Jumping title in Thermal in 2016, and the following year she captured the

\$100,000 Longines FEI World Cup Qualifier at the HITS Coachella Desert Circuit. Those victories came aboard Chela LS.

She competed internationally riding for the U.S.A., but after 10 years, decided to switch and ride for the country where her father was born, Israel. In 2019, Team Israel, which included Bond (once again on Chela LS), Daniel Bluman, Elad Yaniv, and Danielle Goldstein, won the Olympic Jumping Qualifier in Moscow, which qualified them for the 2020 Olympic Games.

With Chela now retired, Ashlee has been having success with some younger horses this year, one of which is Ionesco Sitte. This is an eight-year-old she has been showing to great placings and wins on the Turf Tour in Wellington.





Keri Potter

As a junior rider, Keri won the AHSA Hunt Seat Medal Finals, the WCE Finals, and the Maclay Regionals. She won the Gold medal at the Young Riders and the Harrisburg Zone Final in the Junior Jumper division.

Another feather in her cap; she once won seven classes in a row at Spruce Meadows.

Keri has had many wonderful Grand Prix horses in her career thus far, and it doesn't hurt that she is a great partner for them as well. One horse that everyone liked to watch her show was Jiminy Cricket. Fast and competitive, Keri and Jiminy had been together for a long time, and Keri had done all the work with him. He was subsequently sold, but that did not leave Keri without a horse to walk through the gate on.

There are a couple of horses owned by her student, Hannah Loly. Quitana 11 is one of those. Among many other wins, this pair recently won the \$138,600 Purina 1.55m Grand Prix CSI3* in Thermal the end of January, 2022. The Tres Palomas entry, Ariell La Sirene, was third to Quitana in this important class.

We can't leave out Ayma De La Demi Lune, also owned by Hannah Loly, who certainly does win her share. And Bisou, owned by Tres Palomas has consistently hit the board or won during the first four weeks of Thermal this year.

Keri has others moving up the ranks, and she loves bringing along young horses, so the chance of her having to sit on the sidelines waiting for another horse to come her way are slim to none.

But she has more to think about besides her showing and teaching. She also has a husband and three children, and life can become a bit of a balancing act for Keri. Traveling to horse shows and being on the road can be challenging, to be sure. But with so many shows now much closer to home for her, it makes things a bit easier.



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SAVE THE DATE

2022 TEMECULA VALLEY NATIONAL HORSE SHOW DATES

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TVN PREMIER II
APRIL 27-MAY 1

TVN I
MAY 18-22

TVN II
MAY 25-29

TVN III
JUNE 1-5





A family affair

By Barbara Pinnella

Linda Helin came from a show jumping family and was involved in the horse industry in Europe. Originally from Sweden, Linda moved to New Hampshire in 2007 because of her husbands' work, necessitating quitting her horse business and selling their European horse farm. At the time, that was alright with Linda.

"I felt I was going to quit," she said. "I had so much tied up in it, between trying to show, raising two younger kids, the expenses; I lost a little bit of my passion. I promised my husband that there would be no more horses.

Linda admitted that when she came here, she was not well-versed in the English language and, since she was only involved in jumpers, had no hunter background. She decided that she wanted to learn everything; from western, to hunters – you name it, she wanted to learn about it. So much for no more horses.

"It all started up when Nova turned eight, and she began talking about horses. I started to look around for places she could start to ride, but at the time I couldn't find any place that I would like. I wanted a place that had a lot of kids around the same age, yet adult supervision.

"I met someone who was struggling to keep his barn going," Linda continued, "so I started my program there, a riding school. In about four months we were fully booked and had 40 horses in the barn. But my husband was going back and forth from the East coast to the West, and I now had four kids, so I was really trying to make things happen."

It was in 2016 that Linda had a very bad accident. She admitted that being so tired, she made a bad decision. She was bringing in the last group of horses for lessons and ended up being run over, suffering a very serious head injury in the process. She was airlifted out and spent quite a long time in the hospital.

"That made me realize that I needed to be with my husband. I was obviously overworked, and needed to rethink things. In 2017 we moved to the Bay area. Before we moved, I told my two kids who were riding at the time to each pick a horse that we could bring from the East coast; they could have those to work with.

"Once again I was looking for some place for them to ride," Linda continued. "And after a few months I once more realized that with the big barns, the trainers were not around because they were at horse shows all the time. I did not think that's what it should be about, so I started up a new business, LH Riding Academy in the Bay area, at a nice place called Garrod Farms. Out of the more than 250 horses there, I was the only hunter/jumper trainer."

Linda and her staff were teaching about 150 lessons a month, and built up a very nice program while at Garrod Farms. They were there for four years, and she just loved it. But as time went on, she felt she wanted her own property, and not work out of other places. The Bay area proved to be a very hard place to find property.

"Nova had been working with Robert Blanchette, and showing a lot. My husband would go with her, and he and Robert began talking about looking in Southern California, since so many shows are in that area. So, in early spring of 2021, we bought our property in Murietta (La Cresta). I have been building up my team here, and it's been great!



*I have been building up my team
here, and it's been great!*





"We have our own place where we train horses and kids," Linda went on, "but I'm trying to focus on having as high-quality lessons as possible with kids who might not come from high income families. In order to finance that, we try to rescue horses, train them, and then sell them. Some may also stay in our program. Because of my connections in both Sweden and on the East coast, we are able to supply our kids with some really nice horses."

The property in La Cresta is about five acres, and they also have a vineyard on the property. That vineyard had been producing wine for seven years, so this is the first year that Linda and her family have experienced that.

"I just love it here; it is just so beautiful. The first thing we did was to build a good arena. We have 16 horses here right now, and we made sure that all the horses would have big paddocks and pasture spaces, so they can really run and be horses. That way they are not just in small box stalls all the time."

They are also busy getting permitting for a much bigger barn, so they can add to their number of quality sale and lesson horses. There is a great lesson program at LH Riding Academy, and Linda is very pleased with the direction things are headed.

Linda said that she does all of this for her children that ride. Both Nova who is now 19, and Tyra, 13 ride on the A circuit. Another daughter, Maya who is 10, just began riding again and got an early Christmas present – a pony!



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CIRCUIT

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FEI 4*
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TRAVERSE CITY HORSE SHOWS



Routines, Habits, Rituals

Yep, They are Out There



How many of us have developed little habits or rituals that we do almost without thinking about them? Or perhaps you are superstitious about something, be it clothes, the order you do something, and the like? Well, you are not alone. We checked in with five professional riders, Mavis Spencer, Kayla Savard, Archie Cox, Everardo Hegewisch, and Keri Potter, as well as junior star Skylar Wireman and super amateur rider Natalie Medlock to see if they had anything they did before a show or a particular class. Here are their responses.



Mavis Spencer

"I had more when I was younger, to be honest. Like I had a lucky pair of socks, I only wore one belt, that sort of thing. But I can't say I have any superstitions now. However, I do have sort of a routine, you might say.

"When I get on, I check all my tack, I check the boots, the chain, that sort of thing. I think that is more from a practical standpoint than a superstitious standpoint. I showed some hunters last year and did the same with them. I think it is just a habit."



Kayla Savard

"I like about 30 minutes with my music; primarily walking to the ring and walking the course."

"I think a big one for me is, I have a playlist on my phone with calming music that I listen to before a class. That gets my attention off of getting nervous or stressed. I normally put my ear buds in while I walk the course. Obviously, if I'm walking with someone I don't, but if I'm walking by myself, I do that.

"I like about 30 minutes with my music; primarily walking to the ring and walking the course. After that I just try to get in my zone and not have other distractions. In the warm up ring I try to talk to people and not be too serious. But the minute I get on my horse, then I focus.

"Oh, and the last couple of years, I wear sticky spray on my boots. I can not show without the sticky spray! I don't even think I notice when I get on, but I guess that would be like a superstition for me. I never use it at home, but if I forget I will run to the tack room to get it."



Archie Cox

“If I have on a tie, I think you’re gonna win.”

“If it is a really important class, I normally wear a tie when I’m coaching. Without a doubt, it’s the tie for anything big, like a Derby for example. If I have on a tie, I think you’re gonna win. The color doesn’t matter – its all about the tie.

“I am also always early; constantly. I’m used to the customers not being early all the time, but I feel you get out of it what you put into it, so I am always there and ready.”



Skylar Wireman

“I go over the course in my head with my eyes closed to kind of memorize it”

“I don’t have any particular rituals, but every morning I try to eat some protein to try to fuel for the day. That is usually eggs. So I like to eat two every morning, if I can. That is really good food for me. That way I am ready to go, and if I get to lunch a bit later it’s not the end of the world. Most of the time I do get lunch, but sometimes it’s just crazy, and lunch doesn’t happen.

“Before a big Grand Prix course or a medal Final, I go over the course in my head with my eyes closed to kind of memorize it, and visualize how I want to ride it. For example, where I want my track to be and how to execute it. Those are my two constants. But honestly, I am usually so busy that I end up getting on and just riding it. There is often not a whole lot of time to think about it.”



Everardo Hegewisch

"I like my horses in good spirits, and I like them fresh; sane, but fresh. I would rather show less than more. Two weeks in a row is enough. The horses are funny, they know when it is show time and when it's not, so they kind of prepare mentally that way. I school my horse a little bit in the morning to see just how fresh he is, or how much mouth he has, or if he feels a bit stiff. I like those mornings a lot. Even in Vegas for the World Cup Qualifier I like to be there at 5:00 in the morning to make sure everything is OK and get a feel of the ring.

"I like to have a special pad, and braid the horse for that important day. I think that boosts some to the energy, too. Be fair to your horse. If you and your horse are well rested, he will give you 100%.

"For myself, I try to think about diet, and try to have good eating habits, especially before the Grand Prix. I try not to get distracted and just stay strong. Not every

Grand Prix day will be your best day and not everything will go as you like it. The world will not stop because you are doing a Grand Prix.

"My father does not believe in luck. He believes in concentration and hard work. Use your brain, stay focused, and do your job."



Keri Potter

"For every Sunday Grand Prix, I wear special socks with shamrocks on them that my dad gave me many years ago. There is not much elastic left to hold them up," she laughed.

"When I flat my horse in the morning I go through a routine of exercises and make sure that all of my gears are working!"



Natalie Medlock

"I have to do everything from the left; I put my left sock on first, then my right one. Then left boot, then right boot. I have no idea why that started. If I go to do the right first for whatever reason, I notice it and stop. It's like, 'No, that's wrong.'

"And I have to start off on the left. My first warm-up jump is off the left, otherwise I'm just beside myself! It can ruin my day," she chuckled.

"It's funny, because when I was with Hap and we would be warming up for a Grand Prix or another class together, he would start off the right. He would tell me that I was going the wrong way! Not for me!"

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Hygain revolutionized the feed industry with new ingredients and technology that lower the starch and sugar levels, creating healthier horses.

They offer a highly personalized approach to equine nutrition through diet consultations and a specialized product line, utilize revolutionary technologies like micronization that support gut health with highly digestible feeds and have redefined low starch nutrition through their use of unique ingredients like Australian Lupins.

"There is no one size fits all approach here at Hygain, we offer a full line of specialized feeds and supplements formulated to help every horse excel, whether that is a Grand Prix show jumper, a pony helping young riders start their career, or a retired best friend living out its golden years. Each has unique nutritional needs that we serve." says David Snodgrass, General Manager at Hygain US.

Hygain nutritionists provide complimentary and personalized diet consultations to their customers. *"We want to help our customers' horses look, feel and perform their best and through understanding each horse's particular nutritional requirements we*



can custom tailor the feeding program to meet their exact needs and requirements." says Snodgrass. Hygain advisors remain connected to customers and adjustments are made as other factors change the horse's nutritional needs, whether that is workload, geography, or specific needs related to an ailment or other concern.

Next, the manufacturing process matters, as we know from our experiences

with human nutrition. Research and innovation have helped Hygain develop a state-of-the-art manufacturing method that maximizes digestibility, nutritional value, feed efficiency, and palatability. Unlike other feeds that are usually steamed, Hygain uses Micronization, a revolutionary process that uses infrared heat to rupture the endosperm of the grain, which leads to the grain becoming soft and pliable, and then gelatinizes the grains. Most corn for example, once it is broken down, is still only about 30% digestible. But if micronized, it can become almost 95% digestible.

The company is also a FeedSafe® accredited feed manufacturer, which means they adhere to strict manufacturing quality assurance programs and best practice food safety controls. Furthermore, all feed is manufactured at an equine-only facility, meaning it is contamination free. Products manufactured where other animal feed is produced can become contaminated by those ingredients, diminishing nutritional content, and in some cases harming equine health.

Hygain revolutionized the feed industry with new ingredients and technology that lower the starch and sugar levels, creating healthier horses. It starts with the Australian Lupin, a plant used in Hygain feeds. The Australian Lupin is a super fiber; highly soluble, and lower in starch than other plants. It is used in many Hygain products and differentiates them from other products on the market.



Hygain advisors remain connected to customers and adjustments are made as other factors change the horse's nutritional needs,



HYGAIN

One such product is Hygain Zero, a fully fortified low starch (5.5% NSC), low sugar, soy-free, cereal grain-free feed that utilizes Australian Lupins as its protein and fiber source. Lupins are a legume that provides high-quality amino acids, are high in fiber, and are naturally low in starch. These lupins replace soy, a primary ingredient in most low-starch feeds, making this an ideal feed for horses that require low starch or are sensitive to soy.

Roughage and a diet high in digestible fiber is an important requirement to keep the horse's gut healthy. Fiber provides a good source of cool energy and works as a buffer for stomach acid. Horses fed large amounts of grain concentrates can have low stomach pH, contributing to an environment that can lead to painful ulcers, which causes decreased performance and overall health.

Will Simpson, the U.S. Olympic show jumper, uses Hygain feeds. "Chacco is a big horse and eats a lot, so having a concentrated feed with

all the nutritional components in a smaller ration is better for traveling and his gut. Hygain has plenty of options to suit every horse in my program."

There are other unique ingredients used in Hygain products to create their innovative feed and supplement solutions. A live yeast culture, selected using the latest research, improves digestibility with organic minerals and vitamins. They also have a patented form of Mannan Oligosaccharides that promote a healthy immune system and gastrointestinal health, further enhancing the benefits of their feeds.



We offer a full line of specialized feeds and supplements formulated to help every horse excel.





MAGICAL HORSE/RIDER TEAMS

Before anyone gets angry that their favorite team is not listed here, let us say that there are SO many to choose from, we might have to do this again. In fact, feel free to contact us with your choices and we will try to include them in the next issue! Also, we are aware that each of these riders have had other wonderful horses. Again, perhaps you would like to read about another of their mounts – just let us know!

JOHN & MILTON

COMPETED FOR GREAT BRITAIN

For those of you who never got to witness the great pair of John and Milton compete in person, you missed one of the super showjumping teams of all time. After the untimely death of Milton's owner and rider Carolyn Bradley, Whitaker took over the reins in 1985 and the two quickly made their presence known. But make no mistake, John did not just get on and win. He had to adjust his riding style a bit and make sure that Milton had room off the ground, as he was slow with his front end. That job done, the victories

began.

Some of their major achievements were winning the du Maurier Grand Prix at Spruce Meadows in Calgary 1986, at the time the biggest event in showjumping. They were a part of the Gold medal-winning team at the European Championships in 1987 and 1989, and also in 1989 they captured the Silver individual medal. Then there was the "Horse of the Year" show in 1988, 1989, and 1990. Milton and John jumped 15 clear rounds to win each year.





Two years in succession, first in Dortmund, Germany in 1990 and then in Gothenburg, Germany in 1991, they won the World Cup Final, and were the individual silver medalists at the 1990 World Championships.

One major disappointment for this pair was his lack of participation in the 1988 Olympic Games. Milton was at his prime at that time, but the Bradleys did not want Milton competing in the Olympics, since they felt that Carolyn was never given the opportunity to be a part of the Games. They changed their mind in 1992, saying that they would send the great pair to Barcelona. Things did not go as hoped for them, but he returned to form, and in their last competition at Hickstead in the Nations Cup in 1993, Milton jumped two clear rounds and, along with brother Michael and Midnight Madness who were also double clear, led their team to the gold.

Milton was the first show jumper to ever win more than 1 million pounds.

That had increased to almost 1,130,000 pounds at the time of his retirement at the Olympia Horse Show in London in 1994. He had also won what was reported to be at least 10 cars. All of these amazing accomplishments came with John's superb riding and understanding of what Milton needed to make him the superstar he became.

He lived out his days at the Whitakers' Yorkshire farm. He unfortunately succumbed to his second bout of colic in 1999 at the age of 22. The magnificent grey gelding had his own fan club, and made many public appearances after his retirement. He seemed to enjoy all of the attention equally as much as his many fans enjoyed seeing him. Anyone who saw this beautiful grey gelding would never forget him, and he and John are legends in our sport.

RICH & FLEXIBLE

COMPETED FOR UNITED STATES

This California-based team had a brilliant career that lasted more than a decade and a half. Throughout that time his owners have been Harrie and Molly Chapman, and they stood behind the flashy chestnut stallion every step of the way.

Rich officially retired the 21-year-old Flexible on May 6, 2017 at the Del Mar National Horse Show. After that formal retirement, Flexible was given to Rich by the Chapmans to live out his days at their facility. Fellers admitted that it was hard to retire his great partner.



Photo Credit:
Jana Kay Carter

"I wanted to continue to show him," he said. "He had more to give, but age was catching up with him and I had to listen to that."

During his illustrious career, Flexible suffered three injuries which might very well have put an end to him ever walking into the show ring again. In 2004 he had an unusual problem; a blocked vein in his right front leg. It took a very long time to even diagnose this issue, and it was doubtful that he would jump again.

He did recover from that, but two years later he incurred a very serious injury to his left shoulder, breaking his scapula and involving the nerves. Again, his return to the ring was in question, but he returned once more. Then in 2013, Flexible came up lame in his right hind

leg. Three weeks later he was diagnosed with blood clots in four arteries.

Once again, it was rehab and medication time for the feisty Flexible, with yet another big possibility that he would not compete again.

But nobody told the durable chestnut stallion that. After his first two major setbacks, Flexible and Rich competed in their first FEI World Cup Final in 2008 held in Gothenburg, Sweden, and finished second. In 2012 in the Netherlands, the pair won the FEI World Cup Final.

Also that same year, they finished eighth at the Olympic Games in London, and Flexible was named Overall Horse of the Year by The Chronicle of the Horse. Amazingly, between that World Cup Final victory in s-Hertogenbosch, winning a round in the London Olympics, and showing in Del Mar in California, Vancouver, B.C., and Spruce Meadows in Calgary, they won 10 CSI classes. And just when you thought these two couldn't get more impressive, eight of those wins were consecutive! In all,

*The duo won an incredible
34 International FEI competitions.*



A photograph of Eric Lamaze, a Canadian equestrian, riding his horse Hickstead. Eric is wearing a red jacket with a Canadian flag patch and white breeches. He is smiling broadly and looking towards the camera. Hickstead is a dark brown horse wearing a black fly sheet with a red and white trim and a blue ribbon on its bridle. The background is a blurred outdoor arena.

ERIC LAMAZE & HICKSTEAD

COMPETED FOR CANADA

Hickstead might have been small in stature, but he had a heart as big as any Grand Prix field he might have stepped onto. Together they were winning machines, but things were not always perfect, far from it. Hickstead was difficult, and Eric admits to almost sending him off.



He was not the only one who had doubts, as Michael Whitaker and Mac Cone had also passed on the stallion. Lamaze was quoted as saying that Hickstead, who was owned by Torrey Pines and Ashland Stables, Inc., is his horse of a lifetime, but he was close to being a horse he returned.

"There were so many things that he was doing wrong, but so many things he was doing right, that I couldn't get him out of my mind," Eric said. So, the little bay left Belgium for Canada. But once home, things did not go as planned.

"He came to the Masters to go back with the European horses that were here, that was the plan. I had tried all I could to jump the water fences with him, which he stopped so many times at. He was difficult at the in-gate; was just really unrideable. I really thought I made a mistake buying him."

Since the horse was at the show, Eric decided to put him in some smaller classes. To his surprise, the horse jumped beautifully, was nice to ride and was very careful. Eric made the choice to keep Hickstead.

That was a super decision, and the duo went on to compete in the biggest competitions offered up to them. They competed in the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, and helped their team win a silver medal, then jumped their way to the individual bronze.

They won the individual gold medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and were part of the silver medal-winning team.

That gold medal was the first individual gold ever won in equestrian competition for Canada, and the second overall gold ever won by Canada. In 2010 at the World Equestrian Games in Lexington, Kentucky, they won the bronze in the individual.

Hickstead was crowned the Best Horse in the World at that WEG competition. That was due to his jumping four clear rounds with four different riders. That same year they won the very prestigious CHIO Aachen CSI5* Grand Prix.

But those certainly were not the only big victories. They won the \$1 million CN International at the Spruce Meadows Masters twice, once in 2007, and again in 2011. Also at the Masters, Eric and Hickstead won the ATCO Power Queen Elizabeth Cup an incredible four times!

They had a total of 77 FEI starts, won 50 medals, and 20 wins.

But while there are many other major victories, the way their career ended is unfortunately also part of their story. On November 6, 2011, while competing in Verona, Italy, Hickstead collapsed after completing his round, and died of an aortic rupture. At the time of his death, Hickstead had jumped his rider into the number one spot in the world. This is a team that will never be forgotten.

SUSAN “SUSIE” HUTCHISON & CANTANO

COMPETED FOR UNITED STATES

What makes this one of the more unusual teams that have been mentioned here is that this duo did not spend a very long time in the ring together, when compared to the others.





Susie and Cantano were paired up together in 2006, and Susie and her quality ground person Sandy Aston took their time and prepared him perfectly.

The duo first stepped into the Grand Prix ring in the Oaks Blenheim Spring Classic II in 2008. Owned by Pat and Jim Iverson, who Hutchison made a point of saying were great owners, the talented, handsome stallion jumped a double clear round, and bested 39 others to get his first Grand Prix victory.

That was just the start, and the three of them; Susie, Sandy, and Cantano, became a force to be reckoned with from then on. The formidable team ended up winning a total of 16 Grand Prix together, with a number of second and third-place results as well.

Their great showings not only captured the PCHA 2010 Grand Prix Horse of the Year title for Cantano, but pushed Susie into the top 25 Rider Status in the United States as well. But unfortunately for Hutchison, the partnership between she and Cantano was over. The horse was sold to Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum in 2011.

Those two did not show a lot before Cantano was injured and spent about a year off before returning to the ring. Upon his comeback, he did win some Grand Prix with Meredith, then was injured again. Shortly thereafter he left the Beerbaum stable.

But that was not the end for Susie and Cantano. Back in 2015 Susie made several trips to Holland to ride with Danielle Goldstein, and on one of those trips they went to Portugal. It was there that Hutchison was reunited with Cantano.

"It was really fun; I got to talk with the boy who was riding him, and watch them go there. I watched him hack in the mornings and Cantano was just being a stupid little ass," she laughed. "He was just being rude, but he looked good. I went into his stall and all he wanted was his carrots and sugar. He could care less about me!"

But there is no doubt that Susan will always care about Cantano and the time they spent together.

IAN MILLAR & BIG BEN

COMPETED FOR CANADA



The ultra-consistent Ian Millar has been known as “Captain Canada” for decades

A big reason for that nickname is due to all of the success he has had with his wonderful partner, Big Ben. Ian heard about Ben through Emile Hendrix, and knew right away there was something special about him. He once said that they looked at each other, and Ian was just captivated. And he was right; Millar and his gentle giant have set and broken records around the world.

Much like Flexible, the career of Ben was not without obstacles. He had to undergo colic surgery not once but twice, and survived a trailer accident. Despite it all, nothing could stop them from winning, not rains, wind, small indoor arenas, or huge, open fields. It seemed obvious that he would be able to be successful on the big outside courses, but the fact that he was quick and agile enough to win in those tiny arenas that World Cup Finals are held in was amazing.

It is hard to know just where to begin when talking about this pair. They rode into arenas together for more than a decade. They competed in three Olympic Games, 1984, 1988, and 1992, helping Team Canada to two fourth-place finishes. They competed in six World Cup Finals, winning a silver medal in 1986, and two gold medals, one in 1988 in Gothenburg and the other a year later in Tampa – the first horse to win two consecutive Finals. In 1987 they picked up two more gold medals, this time at the Pan American Games. Ben and Ian won the individual, and Canada captured team gold, aided of course, by Millar and Ben.

There seems to be no end to the list of their accomplishments. They represented Canada in more than 30 Nation's Cups. They won SIX derbies in their eight tries at the Spruce Meadows National. They won the coveted du Maurier International Grand Prix twice. They have 40 Grand Prix victories, and were the Canadian National Show Jumping Champion in 1988, 1991, and 1993. Because of that illustrious record, Ben were elected into Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in 1996. He is only one of two horses bestowed that honor, the other being the great racehorse, Northern Dancer.

It is no surprise that many offers were made on Ben over the years, but Millar refused to sell his partner and friend. After 11 years of competition, Ben was retired to Millar's Millar Brooke Farm in 1994. Five years later, colic reared its ugly head again, but this time Ben could not fight hard enough. After consulting with two veterinarians, Big Ben was euthanized at the farm. He was buried on a small hill overlooking the farm. He was 23 years old.



KENT & GAZELLE FARRINGTON

COMPETES FOR UNITED STATES

Kent and his speedy 13-year-old mare Gazelle have been together for six years now. Owned in partnership with Robin Parsky, this duo has been and continues to be a huge force to be reckoned with every time they walk through the gate. They began their winning ways in the middle of the 2015, winning the CSI5* Scotiabank Cup at the Spruce Meadows Continental.

They were on fire the following year, winning eight major events, including the CSI5*

\$500,000 ATCO Queen Elizabeth II Cup, the CSI5* Scotiabank Cup for the second time, and the CSI5* \$375,000 Pan American Cup, all held at Spruce Meadows. Farrington and Gazelle also grabbed the CSI4*W \$216,000 American Gold Cup in North Salem.

In 2017 they won that very prestigious QE II Cup for the second consecutive year. (Kent won it three times, the first on Voyer in 2014). Besides winning other big classes at Spruce Meadows, these two also won at the Winter

Photo Credit:
Camille Gentil



Equestrian Festival in Wellington, the LGCT Grand Prix of Madrid in, obviously, Spain, the Grand Prix of Valence in France, the Rolex Grand Prix in Tryon, and closed out their year by winning the Rolex Grand Prix in Geneva, Switzerland. All of these wins were CSI5* events.

It was early on in 2018 when Kent had to face what no rider wants to deal with. While showing at the WEC, he suffered a seriously broken leg in a fall. The compound fracture of his lower leg required surgery and several months of healing and rehab. At the time of the accident, Farrington was ranked number one in

the Longines FEI World Rankings, which he had held for 10 months. He was also leading the Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking list.

Kent and Gazelle went back on their winning track in June, winning three big Grand Prix. This year and as of this writing, they grabbed victories in two huge competitions; the CSIO5* Loro Piana Grand Prix in Rome, and the CSIO5* Rolex Grand Prix in CHIO, Aachen.

Farrington gave most of the credit to his strong return to his equine partner, saying that

Gazelle was the main thing that enabled him to fight his way back to the top.

One thing that makes the bay mare special is that she is so very careful; obviously an extremely important component in a Grand Prix horse. But with that carefulness comes some quirks. One of those is that she can also be very spooky. Kent admitted that sometimes he doesn't know what she sees or just how she will react.

For example, after racing through the timers on their way to victory in the American Gold Cup, Gazelle chose that moment to evoke the 'flight' response to fight or flight, spooking at something that caught her eye, and spun back towards the gate. Kent kept going straight however, falling off. He displayed his sense of humor, catching the mare and taking a bow. At least his unplanned dismount came after they crossed through the timers!



NAYEL NASSAR & LORDAN

COMPETES FOR EGYPT



Photo Credit:
Jana Kay Carter

Even though Nayel Nassar has many lovely horses in his stable, his mainstay for several years has been the reliable Lordan. He first laid eyes on the Hanoverian gelding in Hungary in 2010 and even though he looked at about 20 horses that day, Nassar saw something special in him. Although quite green and a bit spooky when Nayel first took over the reins, as the years ticked by Lordan has proven again and again that Nayel's first impression of his talent was right. What Lordan lacks in stride length he more than makes up for in agility and quickness. Even if the pair have to add a stride from time to time, Lordan is so fast across the ground and in the air that they are usually able to make up any time lost in the process. It doesn't hurt that the little gelding is also super careful.



“Anytime you think that maybe this isn’t quite his day, he comes out and shows that it can be his day as long as you trust it,”
Nayel said.

“That’s just the bond that we have at this point. Anything that I lack he makes up for, and it’s also the other way around, so I think we work together very strongly as a team.

“He’s a fast horse, and in a jump-off with just the right ratio of long gallops and tight turns, he’s hard to beat as long as he leaves the jumps up. And being so careful, he usually does so.”

Perhaps Nayel is being a bit more cautious now with just how many events his 15-year-old gelding competes in, but his partner is still hitting the boards in a big way. They were a strong second in a CSI5* in Stockholm back in June. In November of last year, they won a CSI4* event in Las Vegas, and also during that month they won two CSI3* events in back-to-back weeks in Thermal.

Thermal was also really good to them the beginning of the year, as they won one of their biggest victories; the AIG \$1 Million at HITS Thermal in 2018. They have competed across the globe in almost every venue, and over the years this pair has risen to the top time and time again. While Nassar might be a bit pickier about where he shows Lordan, one can rest assured that this team will continue with their winning ways wherever they go.

LITTLE HOOVES RESCUE GALLOPS TO SUCCESS

By Barbara Pinnella



Little Hooves
Rescue





Horses and ponies are rescued all the time, but there is one type of equine that might be overlooked – the mini horses. Enter Little Hooves Rescue. Founded by Savannah Stuart, this has only been operating since March of last year, and became a 501c3 non-profit rescue last September. They have rescued, rehabilitated and adopted out 75 minis.

“We have three different sites for the minis. All of them are in or near Rancho Santa Fe,” Savannah said. “Our main barn is in Rancho, another one is right down the street, and the third is in Encinitas.”

Savannah is no stranger to the horse scene. She rode on the hunter and jumper circuit from the time she was 10 years old. Most recently she was with Paul and Nicole Haurert, competing in the jumpers.

“About two years ago I had a freak accident at a horse show up in Sonoma, and I broke my back. I decided to tone it down after that. But I had always wanted minis,” she explained. “I have two sisters who also showed as well. We owned our property with a private barn, and my parents didn’t want to pay to take a mini to a show, and they didn’t want to pay someone at home to take care of the mini. I understand that completely.”

"But I found a loophole," she continued. "I said, 'Well, what if I foster for a rescue? It's not permanent, it's only here briefly while I find it a home. I have so many connections in the horse world, it shouldn't be hard.' So I worked with a rescue out of Ramona originally, that was while I was still showing. I ended up flipping quite a few of her minis to different adopters, most of them in the hunter / jumper world."

There is a little paint named Meatball who does lead line and some of the walk classes at the shows. He came from Savannah. Kristy Miller has three minis that she takes to some shows, two of

which also came from Savannah. Shortly thereafter Stuart made the choice to separate from the rescue in Ramona, and decided to get a mini out of a kill pen in Texas.

"I had already been part of the process, but had never done it myself. I ended up calling one of my good friends Taylor Loew, who had also joined the fostering group, and we decided to just go for it. We ended up bringing four minis back to California. From there, the rescue really kicked off. We claimed the name and did the logo in 24 hours, and put it on Instagram and Facebook.





"Taylor's mom Terri owns the barn that we run the rescue out of predominately. I sold my horse property, and they are incredibly gracious, letting me take over their house and barn constantly. We end up bringing four to six minis from the kill pens or auctions each month from Texas or Oklahoma. So the core of the rescue is myself, and Taylor and Terri. Nicole Haunert and Delany Batter also foster for us as well."

Savanah has never been to any of the auctions or kill pens. Instead, she told us she has a great network of other rescues and quarantine facilities out there, so once they pull something from an auction, there are people who pick them up and take them to a quarantine facility until she can figure out the next available transport to California. This usually takes roughly two weeks before they make their journey out West.

"It has been a learning experience," she said. "But now we have two haulers that I use, and I have one quarantine place in Texas and one in Oklahoma. I just exclusively deal with those people, and it's great, because they are very supportive in many ways. I feel very lucky to have been able to meet those people and have them as resources."

They also take in local minis, but Savannah said that those are mainly owner surrenders. There are not as many neglect cases in Southern California. There are two auctions they keep an eye on, one down here and another up in Northern California, but those are mostly private buyers, so she doesn't feel as strong a need to pull from them.

"We actually have quite a few people, now that we have more of a reputation, reaching out to us when they can no longer care for a mini, or it's just not the right situation, and they will have us find it a good home."

The first mini horse that Savannah ever had was completely feral and very underweight. In just a few months his transformation was amazing; friendly and fat and happy. She loved witnessing that. And because of their size, having the minis is easier space-wise than horses. It would be a lot more work to have the same number of horses. So mini horses, donkeys, and mules are the way to go right now, although she did admit that one of her goals this year is to rescue a full-sized horse.

There is no question that in the very short time they have had their rescue, they are in big demand on both ends. There is a waiting list to adopt the minis.

"I do take deposits to hold a mini. If it gets to California and it is not what they were expecting or not a good match, it is refundable. But if they see one they think they just must have, it gives them the opportunity to hold it. I quarantine everything before it can go home, but usually they are on the trailer and off to their new homes right after that.

"There have only been a few that have stayed with us for a longer period of time," she continued.

"That is mainly because they might have a social issue, or temperament issues where we just work with them a little longer before they were ready to get adopted.

"We have one that we have had since February, and that is the longest that one has stayed with us. I called him JT, for Justin Timberlake. He was so mean, he would strike out at you, and he's on the bigger side too. Any time you walked into his stall his butt was turned to you, and he was ready to fire one off. Someone let him down, and they didn't treat him right.

"Now finally, five months later, he comes up to you in the stall and wants to be pet. It is just so cool to see him go from such a terrified, mean animal to something that wants to sniff in your pockets for treats, and he's curious about what you're doing. He is now adopted and loved by two little girls. That turnaround is so rewarding."

There was another one who was very sick, to the point that Savannah thought they would lose her several times. Her name is Hermione. Her vet bill ended up being about \$15,000. They were able to raise it all from the community of the rescues. It is humbling to

Savanah just to know that people cared that much and were willing to help out. Now this darling mini is spending her days running and bucking in the pasture of her new home.

"I now have my personal mini Pip. This little chestnut and white paint is our new "mascot" and will be headed to horse shows and events with us to raise awareness for the rescue."

She came in very underweight, but that has already begun to change dramatically. She also had pneumonia, and has been battling that for the last six weeks, but has been improving.

One would think that the rescue is all that Savannah does each day, but that's not the case. She might like that to be true, but she also currently has a full-time job in real estate, doing marketing at a development firm San Diego.

"This started as a passion project. One day I hope to grow the scale and this is what I will do fulltime. I hope I can make that work, because it's truly what makes me happiest in the world. It has been so amazing to see how far we've come."



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Client Caitlin Campbell,
Winner of the \$100,000 Grand Prix at
the Desert International Horse Park

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GREEN
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**“ I am a person committed to my work,
I always look for the best for horses.
I am honest with my clients and I
always give my best. ”**

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**Nayel Nassar and
Igor Van de Wittemoere**

**Greenwich Polo Club,
Greenwich, Ct., October 9, 2021**
\$150,000 CaptiveOne Advisors
Grand Prix of Greenwich CSI3*
Photo credit: Ashley Neuhoof



Grace Debney

**Dover Saddlery/USEF Hunter
Medal Final Champion,
Pennsylvania National Horse Show,
Harrisburg, PA, October 17, 2021**
Photo Credit: Andrew Ryback



Cassio Rivetti and Kandella

**NEE Temecula Valley Fall Classic,
Week II, Galway Downs,
Temecula, CA, October 21, 2021**
\$20,000 1.40m Speed Classic
Photo Credit: Olivia Airhart/Phelps Sports



Tiffany Foster and Figor Fly

**Tryon International Equestrian Center,
Mill Spring, NC, October 30, 2021**
\$215,000 Longines FEI World
Cup Washington CSI4*
Photo Credit: Tori Bilas/Phelps Sports



Karl Cook and Caillou 24

**National Horse Show,
Lexington, KY, November 4, 2021**
\$72,900 International
Welcome Stake, CSI4*
Photo Credit: Georgie Hammond/Phelps Sports



Laena Romond and Traveller

**National Horse Show,
Lexington, KY, November 5, 2021**
\$50,000 National Horse
Show Hunter Classic
Photo Credit: Georgie Hammond/Phelps Sports



**Conor Swail and Vital
Chance de la Roque**

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, November 5, 2021**
\$36,600 Sun Air Jets 1.50m CSI3*
Photo Credit: Tori Bilas/Phelps Sports



WINNERS

Mimi Gochman and Celina BH

**National Horse Show,
Lexington, KY,
November 6, 2021**

\$25,000 Show Jumping Hall of Fame
Amateur Owner/Junior Grand Prix
Photo Credit: Georgie Hammond/Phelps Sports



Kent Farrington and Gazelle

**National Horse Show,
Lexington, KY,
November 6, 2021**

\$213,300 Longines
FEI Jumping World Cup CSI4*
Photo Credit: Georgie Hammond/Phelps Sports



Conor Swail and Theo 160

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, November 6, 2021**

\$36,600 Talus 1.45m CSI3*
Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Zayna Rizvi and Finnick

**National Horse Show,
Lexington, KY, November 7, 2021**

ASPCA National Championship
Photo Credit: Libby Greene/ Phelps Sports



Cassio Rivetti and Alanine de Vains

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, November 7, 2021**

\$101,000 Marshall &
Sterling Grand Prix CSI3*
Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Nick Haness and Caldiano

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, November 12, 2021**

\$65,000 Butet Saddles International
Hunter Derby Regional Championship
Photo Credit: Tori Bilas/Phelps Sports



Kristen VanderVeen and Bull Run's Risen

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, December 3, 2021**

\$72,900 Horse Flight 1.50m CSI5*
Photo Credit: Jana Kay



A.I.M. United (Eugenio Garza, Karl Cook, and Ashlee Bond)

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, December 4, 2021**

\$200,000 Major League Show
Jumping Competition
Photo Credit: Tori Bilas/Phelps Sports



Cassio Rivetti and Alanine de Vains

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, December 5, 2021**

\$230,000 Adequan Major
League Grand Prix CSI5*
Photo Credit: Tori Bilas/Phelps Sports



Kyle King and Magic Mike

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, December 9, 2021**

\$72,900 Talus Welcome, 1.50m CSI5*
Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Jordan Coyle and Ariso

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, December 11, 2021**

\$230,000 Adequan Major League
Grand Prix CSI5*
Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Karl Cook and Kalinka Van't Zorghvliet

**Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, December 12, 2021**

\$72,900 HorseFlight Grand Prix CSI2*
Photo Credit: Jana Kay

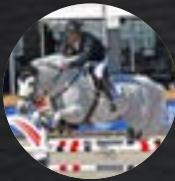


Darrin Dlin and Buddy Bounce

Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, January 20, 2022

\$25,000 FarmVet Grand Prix

Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Jimmy Torano and Laskano

Winter Equestrian Festival,
Wellington, FL, February 4, 2022

\$25,000 USHJA International
Hunter Derby "Hunt and Go"

Photo Credit: Annelise Klepper/Phelps Sports



Eoin McMahon and Chacon 2

Winter Equestrian Festival,
Wellington, FL, January 21, 2022

\$37,000 Adequan

WEF Challenge Cup Round II CSI3*

Photo Credit: Rebecca Walton/Phelps Sports



McLain Ward and Contagious

Winter Equestrian Festival,
Wellington, FL, February 5, 2022

\$216,000 Bainbridge

Companies Grand Prix CSI4*

Photo Credit: Cassidy Klein/Phelps Sports



Nayel Nassar and Igor Van de Wittemoere

Winter Equestrian Festival,
Wellington, FL, January 27, 2022

\$50,000 Adequan

WEF Challenge Cup CSI4*

Photo Credit: Lily Yampolsky



Conor Swail and Vital Chance de la Roque

Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, February 6, 2022

\$138,600 Sun Air Jets 1.55m

Grand Prix CSI3*

Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Lindsay Archer and Jarpur

Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, January 28, 2022

\$36,600 TALUS Speed 1.50m CSI3*

Photo Credit: Tori Bilas/Phelps Sports



Adrienne Sternlicht and Benny's Legacy

Winter Equestrian Festival,
Wellington, FL, February 10, 2022

\$75,000 Adequan WEF

Challenge Round V

Photo Credit: Lily Yampolsky



Andrew Bourns and Sea Topblue

Winter Equestrian Festival,
Wellington, FL, January 29, 2022

\$216,000 NetJets Grand Prix CSI4*

Photo Credit: Georgie Hammond/Phelps Sports



Katie Taylor-Davidson and L'con Reyes

Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, February 11, 2022

\$50,000 Butat USHJA International

Hunter Derby

Photo Credit: Olivia Nazworth



Keri Potter and Quitana 11

Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, January 30, 2022

\$138,600 Purina 1.55m

Grand Prix CSI3*

Photo Credit: Jana Kay



Ben Asselin and Veyron

Desert International Horse Park,
Thermal, CA, February 12, 2022

\$40,000 Adequan Grand Prix

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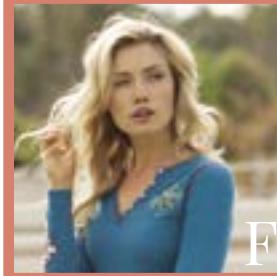
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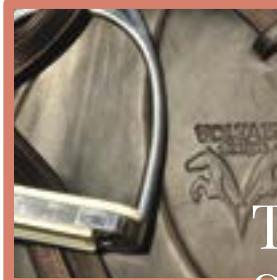
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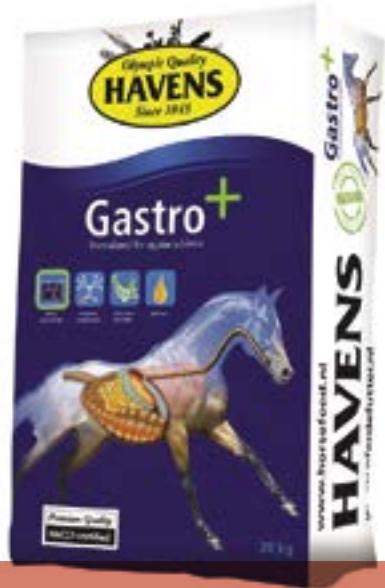
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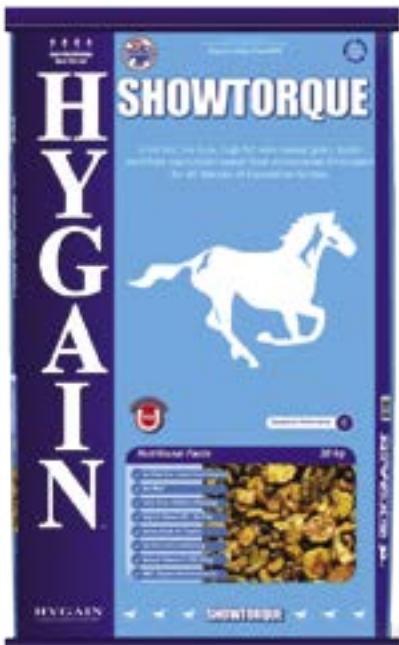
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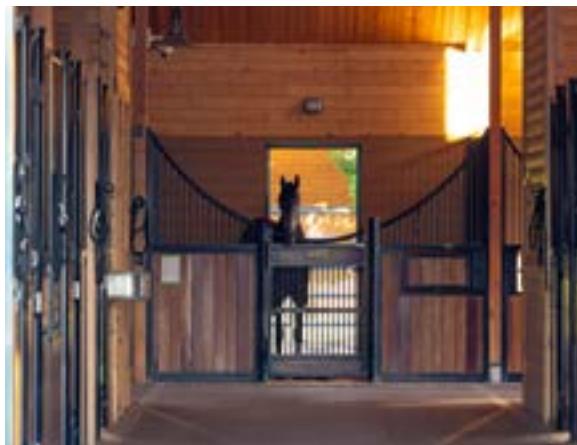
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