



NEWSLETTER// JUNE 2015

WELCOME!

Dear Friends,

After a successful Winter Equestrian Festival in Florida and the FEI World Cup Finals in Las Vegas, everyone will now focus on Europe and on the many amazing Grand Prix of the summer season.



The 2015 highlight will of course be the FEI European Championships in August, where the Jumping Owners Club will be organizing various activities, cocktails, meetings etc. The detailed program will be sent to you by email in June and I do hope that you will join us on this occasion.

The Owner of the Year Award will also be presented during the Championships, on Saturday 22nd of August, in front of a full stadium.

Our collaboration with Equestrio Magazine will continue in 2015 and in each edition of the magazine, one of our members will be featured in the "Owner in Profile" double page.

We are pursuing our efforts in increasing our number of members and would appreciate if you could recommend any owner you think should join the JOC. This particular aspect is very important as it reinforces the legitimacy of our club and allows us to be the voice of all owners in the sport of Show-Jumping.

As you know, Mrs Megret, Committee Member and myself went to the FEI Headquarters to meet with the FEI new president and Secretary General, Mr Ingmar De Vos and Mrs Sabrina Zeender in early February. We shared some of our concerns with the sport's Governing Body and also our wish to be represented in the Jumping Commission, where the future of our sport is decided. The Club is currently discussing a project of Memorandum of Understanding with the FEI, hoping to formalize our collaboration and for the JOC to better represent the interest of high-level horses owners.

We recently sent you a document that we put together, gathering all 4 and 5* events, dates and contact information to help you organize your stay when you are following your horses. We hope that this will prove useful.

The FEI also recently launched two very useful "Apps" : FEI SportAPP and FEI RuleAPP. More details on the last page of the newsletter.

I wish you all a good, happy and exciting summer 2015 and hope that you will take an active part in the life of our Club for the benefit of all stakeholders, and for our horses.

Christian Baillet - Chairman

NEW JUMPING OWNERS CLUB MEMBERS

We would like to extend the warmest welcome to our newest members Mr Pierre E. Genecand (SUI) and Mr Jim Clark and Mrs Kristy Hinze (USA).

We look forward to seeing you all soon again.



Scott Brash and Hello Sanctos winning the Rolex Top 10 Final at CHI Geneva 2014. © Rolex/Kit Houghton

JUMPING OWNERS CLUB PROGRAMME FOR 2015

The Jumping Owners Club will seize the opportunity of the FEI European Championships taking place in August at 'Legendary Aachen' Soers to organise various social functions:

Owners Cocktail

During the Show-Jumping week, the Jumping Owners Club will organise a cocktail open to all Jumping Horses Owners to celebrate the culmination of a 2 year-cycle crowning new European Champions.

All owners, member of the Club or non-members will be invited to attend the cocktail, so feel free to share the word and join us for a celebration drink in Aachen.

Day/time: TBC in June according to competitions schedule.



Mclain Ward, winner of the CSI 5* Rolex Grand Prix, and Hunter & Jeannie Harrison, Double H Farm, owners of HH Carlos Z. Picture ©Rolex/Kit Houghton

ROLEX INVITATIONALS

The members of the Owners Club were invited to join Rolex in their beautiful lounge at 'S-Hertogenbosh CSI 5*' in March 2015. Once again, our sponsor was happy to receive and spend some quality time with the Jumping Owners Club members who had a horse competing at the show.

A few days later, on the other side of the pond Rolex invited all Jumping Owners Club members to celebrate the end of another successful Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington with a dining cocktail before the Rolex Grand Prix.

Congratulations to all competitors, horses and owners on a great winter circuit. Everyone is now spreading across the globe, preparing for the upcoming championships: the PanAm Games in Toronto (Canada) in July and the FEI European Championships in Aachen (Germany) in August.

Good luck to all!

OWNER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2014

On Saturday 22nd, at 8:40 pm, just before the Grand Prix, in front of a fully booked Stadium, the Jumping Owners Club will proudly present the Owner of the Year Award to the owners of Casall Ask, best horse in 2014.

It will be a great honour for the Club to present this award during the FEI European Championships, in front of a huge crowd recognising the importance of the owners in the Sport.



INTERVIEW: ROBIN PARSKY PUTTING AMERICAN SHOW JUMPERS ON THE WORLD STAGE

INTERVIEW: HEATHER BUCHANAN
PHOTOS: NICOLA UGHI

George Morris paid horse owner Robin Parsky a high compliment when she paired Kent Farrington with her new mare Blue Angel. "You created a match made in heaven," said the training legend. Parsky's passion for horses has taken her from rider to owner to breeder to major force in the development of American show jumping. Patriotism, Walt Disney, and the magic of Southern California have all helped create her core values, and this world traveling go-getter knows how to set high goals... and achieve them.

Tell us about your history with horses?

I grew up in the Southern California community of Pasadena, a well-known area for equestrian sports. My mother often took me to horse shows to watch show jumping which sparked my interest. My family was involved with Disney Studios and we attended a screening of the Disney-produced documentary, *The Horse With the Flying Tail*, about Nautical, a palomino former cow pony that gains fame as an international show jumper for the USET ridden by Hugh Wiley. The movie won an Academy Award and captivated me. Growing up with the Disney culture of imagination, creativity and optimism was encouraging and made me believe that living harmoniously with animals was not only desirable but achievable. My first pony jumper was a palomino named Tinkerbell, of course a Disney character.

Kent Farrington has had amazing success on your horse Blue Angel. How did you find this mare and see her potential?

She was recommended to me by IN Showjumpers and Lauren Hough. One of my favorite show jumping mares had been Ludger Beerbaum's Ratina Z, and when I saw Blue Angel she reminded me of this fabulous mare. She was spunky, brave, bighearted and an efficient jumper, which I knew would make her very fast in a jump off. I grew up riding thoroughbred horses and have an affinity for the light athletic type of horse. She was also an approachable and kind mare which was a selling point to me as I spend a lot of time with my horses. I gave Kent the ride on her beginning in 2013, and they started winning right away at the WEF. He was confident that he could bring her to her full potential on the international circuit and he greatly admired Blue Angel's "desire to win and big heart," he said. She knows the difference between winning and not winning. She is very good at award ceremonies and gets pumped up and poses for the cameras. She has even been caught looking at herself on the jumbotron!

It's said that you changed her name to Blue Angel in honor of your brother, a retired US Navy Pilot. Can you tell us about that inspiration?

I am first and foremost a proud American, and I like patriotic names. I knew this horse would be representing the United States. My brother is a graduate of the US Naval Academy and a former Navy pilot. In the Navy the ace pilots are "Blue Angels," a popular flight demonstration squadron worldwide. I saw how quick and precise the mare was, just like the precision pilots, so the name came to mind and seemed to suit her. I think it is important for the sport that our audiences can identify the horses and a memorable name helps.

What is your personal emotional attachment to your horses? I heard you said when you sent your champion hunter Pajama Game off to train with Louise Serio that it was like you were "sending him off to college."

Yes, I love animals, and I treat them with affection and respect. I want them to have the best chance possible in their lives. I always tell my riders, "You are going to have me with my horse," because I relate to them, and it is good for me and for my horses. As owners we watch our horses more than the trainers and riders because they are our main, and sometimes only, focus of attention. My sensitivity is to how my horse is feeling and responding on any given day as I watch her so closely. I feel that is my contribution. It is particularly nice to be with Kent and his sta as they know I am attached to my animals and they never say "don't spoil her." They are very inclusive, so I spend a good deal of time in the barn and enjoy it very much.

What makes a successful relationship between rider and owner?

Communication is at the top of the list. I really like to set goals and be disciplined to try to attain them. Kent is the same. We discuss our goals both for him and for my horses and then the strategy going forward. Kent encourages me to travel wherever my horses compete so we work together on a travel schedule. He emphasizes "being flexible" as we know situations can change in the competitive horse show world. Not so easy with the wardrobe however! When we first started working together Kent was in the top twenty and then he rose to the top ten and then to number two in the world. That 's a huge accomplishment. I was proud of the contribution my horse and I made to Kent's achieving so many of his goals. I do think riders need to be more genuinely appreciative that we owners are passionate, not silly or goofy, but just plain passionate about show jumping and our horses. It is a good thing and healthy, because without that passion there would be no sport of show jumping. The exposure I have had over the past two years with the Rolex sponsored FEI Jumping Owners Club has really enhanced my life on the road. Sharing experiences, information and ideas with like-minded horse owners is invaluable. I have made some great new friends in Europe and look forward to seeing them on a regular basis now. I love the special greeting of "good luck" or "bonne chance" we always exchange. We are a very supportive group.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the USET foundation you have pledged to support equestrian athletes, promote international excellence and build for the future. Where would you say the USET has been successful in meeting those goals and where do challenges still exist?

The biggest challenge for the USET Foundation is in broadening our base in order to raise the needed money to fund teams that will be competitive against all the other equestrian teams in the world. As the Foundation is the main funding source for our US teams, it is an enormous undertaking to assist the riders, horses, owners and their various support staff in their travels abroad competing on behalf of our country. I am hopeful that with the advent of live streaming on the USEF network and other broadcasts we will be able to grow our audience. We must work hard to make sure these viewers also become supporters of the Foundation. I have been involved with the USET for over twenty years and I hope to continue for at least another twenty years.

"When we first started working together Kent was in the top twenty and then he rose to the top ten and then to number two in the world. That 's a huge accomplishment. I was proud of the contribution my horse and I made to Kent's achieving so many of his goals".

You were the coordinator for the equestrian events at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. What are your hopes for the 2016 games in Rio?

I was the “Officials Coordinator” in 1984 which meant I was responsible for the FEI officials and judges and protocol matters. I was fortunate to work HRH Prince Philip (President of the FEI), Bert DeNemethy, and Arno Gego among others. I made sure they had their uniforms, accommodations, transportation and social schedule. It was a great experience to be involved with an Olympic Games in the US, especially in my own backyard. I am a big fan of the Olympic movement. I have a new horse named Gazelle and Kent and I are very hopeful that she will be a good Nation’s Cup/Olympic horse. She has been in the “Farrington School” the past year for her “college education.” She is just turning nine and is another mare with talent and heart so we are excited. For me right now the timing is just right—I have the opportunity and the time to spend doing what I love. Blue Angel is turning thirteen and is very healthy so she has a few more competitive years, and we can put her where she shines. Gazelle will just try to follow in Angel’s very large “hoof steps.”

ROBIN CLEARY PARSKY

Robin Cleary Parsky was born and raised in Pasadena, California where she was a child model and actress for Disney and Warner Brothers Studios. She began riding at the age of six and competed in everything from children’s jumpers to amateur owner divisions. Robin Parsky founded Buena Vista Farms in Rancho Santa Fe, California in 1992 for the purpose of breeding and training show hunters/jumpers. She has had key roles in the industry including the Equestrian Officials Coordinator for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee and serving on the USET Board of Trustees, USET Foundation since 2002. She is a leading owner with champion horses:

HUDSON USEF Zone 10 Champion Amateur Owner Hunter

TRISTAR USEF Horse of The Year Green Conformation Hunter

PAJAMA GAME USEF Horse of the Year Hunter Breeding (homebred)

FIRST LADY USEF Zone 10 Champion Hunter Breeding (homebred)

EROS (group owned) ridden by Anne Kursinski US Olympic Team Silver Medal 1996

FERINA ridden by Anne Kursinski and then became foundation mare for Buena Vista Farms

CLASIKO (group owned) ridden by Lauren Hough US Olympic Team 2000

BLUE ANGEL ridden by Kent Farrington currently on international circuit

GAZELLE ridden by Kent Farrington currently on international circuit





Scott Brash and Hello Sanctos winning the Rolex Top 10 Final at CHI Geneva 2014. © Rolex/Kit Houghton

SPORTS FORUM UPDATE

NEW FEI APPS:

FEI SportApp

Bringing you the latest and most comprehensive international horse sport information. (events, results, rankings, athletes, horses etc)

FEI RuleApp

Take all the rules and regulations with you wherever you go, with or without an internet connection. Available in English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Chinese.



Supported by:



ROLEX

 EQUESTRIO

MEDIA PARTNER