



EVENTFULLY YOURS

NEWSLETTER

November 2010

www.albertahorsetrials.com

Well, another season has come and gone. It was great to be able to actually have an event in May, unfortunately Mother Nature intervened and it snowed. Only some lucky souls got to ride their dressage tests in the crappy weather before the event had to be cancelled. The rest of the season seemed to go pretty well and we only had to deal with more weather a few times. Personally, I'll take the cold rather than the extreme heat.

We had our Annual General Meeting a few hours before the banquet last month. Unfortunately we only had 3 people turn out for this. It was a bit of a disappointment to see that very few people were interested enough to come out. The banquet although smaller than previous years, was also a lot of fun. Don Descotes was our MC, thanks Don, and we had a nice line up of presentations and door prizes (Thanks Charlene for all your hard work getting them). The silent auction table was a hit and I scored a lovely clinic with Sandra Donnelly over the Christmas break.

It looks to be a fun and busy year. A tentative schedule is set and the board is going to be busy over the next few months preparing for the 2011 season. Unfortunately Cochrane won't be offering an FEI one star but Beaumont is currently in the process of building a prelim level course. Minds Eye Ranch is again planning on having a couple of derbies and Alhambra is planning a derby instead of the spring event. Lots of things to do and I'm sure that the clinics will be abundant again this year. We have several organizers were warm to the idea of offering a "Starter" division (18" – 20") with simple, inviting obstacles in x-country and corresponding heights for stadium. Thompson Country is planning on building an additional parking area which will be great.

What are your goals for next year? I'm planning on continuing at prelim with Jet and getting Mandy solid at pre-training. As you may know, I had a great move up to prelim in August with Jet and then had a couple of not so great rides with both horses. 2011 will be better and I'm looking forward to it. I'm also planning on making the most of what our courses have to offer.

Looking forward to seeing you all next year!!

Nancy!



Happy banquet attendees!

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BITS AND BITES

AHTA TROPHIES

All of the AHTA trophies have finally been sold. YAHOO!!!!!! The \$510.00 raised will be used to support AHTA clinics.

Thanks to all the members who purchased trophies—it is greatly appreciated even if you were under duress at the time of purchase.

Charlene Thomas

PREMISE IDENTIFICATION

If you are an owner of livestock (e.g. horses) in Alberta then you are required to obtain a "premises ID" account. Premises ID is a way of linking livestock to geographic locations for disease, health and emergency response. For more information visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises

LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION

If you travel outside the province of Alberta with your horse OR you are selling a horse you are required to have a "permit". There are three types of permits—annual, manifest or lifetime.

"Lifetime" permits are issued by brand inspectors. Three photos of your horse are required along with proof of ownership (bill of sale or registration papers). Lifetime permits are NOT transferable and the cost is \$30.00 plus GST. These permits are a good form of horse identification and are being requested or required more frequently for out of province or out of country travel.

Contact your local brand inspector for more information or visit www.lis-alberta.com.

CANADIAN EVENTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Bill Kirk and Nancy Watson will be attending the Canadian Eventing Committee meetings in Toronto in early November. They will be representing the Alberta Horse Trials Association and being our voice to the National Committee.



Helena Jackson
and
Randi Epp
At Rocky
Mountain House

High Performance Eventing Program Update

Dawne Clark

As the year nears the end, the High Performance (HP) program is gearing up for its final annual clinic. The clinic is for all current members as well for all new members and will be held at Alborak Dec 4 - 6.

We have had a very busy summer this year. In June, we were excited to have our coach, Lorraine Laframboise from Quebec, come for a three day clinic. The clinic was held at the Cochrane Ag Society, at least partly, as we were quite thoroughly rained out, as were our hopes for some cross-country schooling with Lorraine. However, despite the rain, we introduced a new member to our HP Team. Sandra Sokolowski is a physiotherapist who works specifically with riders. During the clinic, Sandra worked with Lorraine to assess the riders on horseback and then Sandra provided treatments. We saw immediate results – quite fascinating!

On the long weekend of July, we were incredibly fortunate to be able to have Leslie Law, individual gold medalist at the Athens Olympics, spend four days with us at Alhambra. The first two days were for the HP members with the last two open to other riders, training level and higher. Leslie was awesome and provided some wonderful exercises to teach specific skills on cross-country.



Brittany Rose at Rebecca Farms

Our final summer activity was a full team support program for the Event at Rebecca Farm. Lorraine was able to join us prior to the event and all riders had a pre-competition lesson and then coaching throughout the event. Sandra Sokolowski joined us as well and set up her physio centre in Noel Clark's trailer. She provided two free physio work-ups during the competition, with other work-ups available at the rider's own expense. Terry Clark provided two free individual performance enhancement sessions, looking at imagery, relaxation, and positive self-talk. The final member of our team was Karen Nyrop who jogged all our horses.

This year, the program has focused on preparing the rider, both physically and mentally. While we are pretty good at looking after our horses, we are not always as careful to take care of ourselves and the program this year provided a variety of ways for riders to begin to think about the human half of the athletic duo more thoughtfully.

One of our plans for next year is to hold another joint HP/open clinic with an international coach, hopefully Leslie Law. So thank you to everyone who either donated or bought items from the silent auction table at the Banquet. We raised \$1700 which will go towards sponsoring that clinic to keep fees low for everyone.

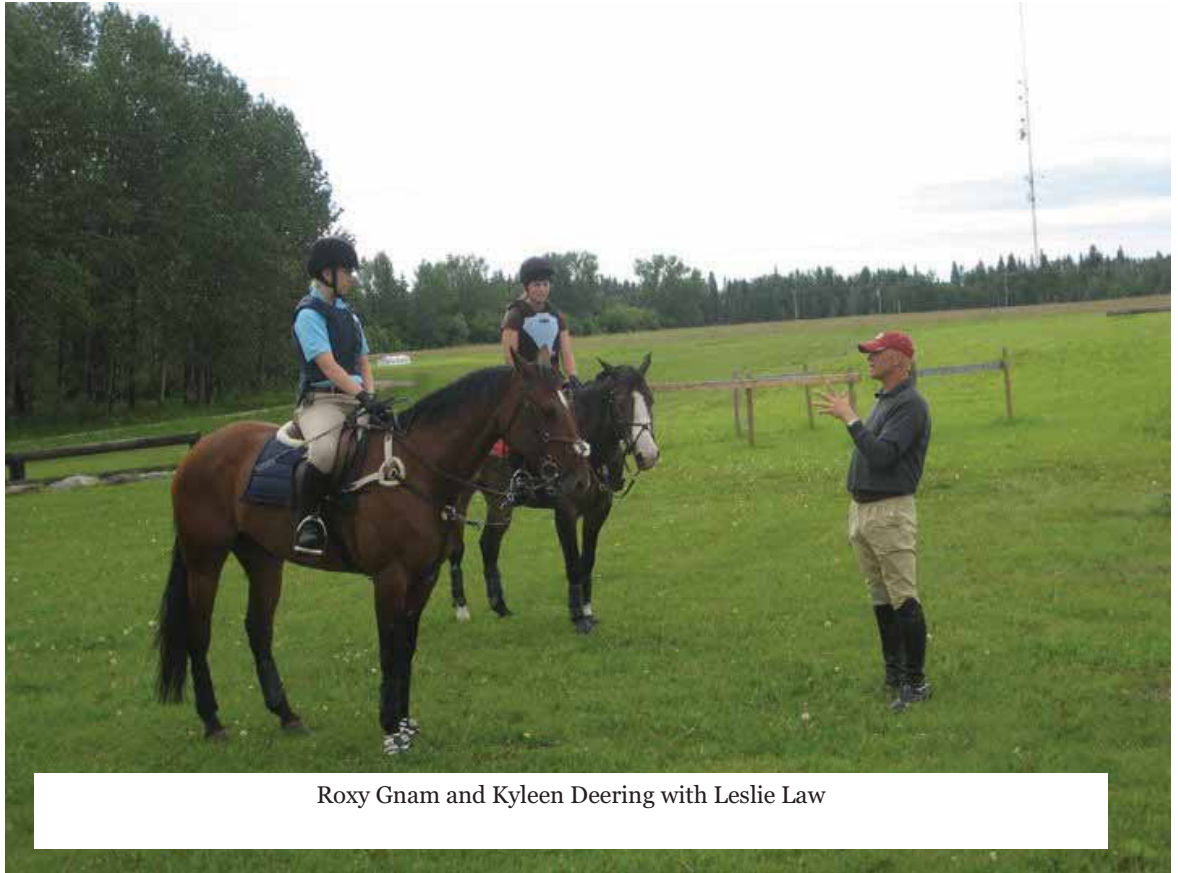
Membership in the HP program is open to all eventers who have successfully completed three prelim or a one star completion during the 2010 season (prior to the first of October). Eventers who have successfully completed any FEI level competition are grandfathered into the program for three years. To participate in clinics, horses must be at the training level or higher. If you believe you qualify for membership, and I have not contacted you, please contact me at declark@platinum.ca.

LESLIE LAW CLINIC

Leslie Law was at Alhambra Stables in early July to put on a clinic for the High Performance team at Alhambra Stables. The clinic was then extended another two days to enable more eventers to benefit from this great clinician while he was here in the province.

I was fortunate enough to be able to take this clinic and even got to take 2 horses since someone had to cancel at the last minute. Thanks to whoever that was. :) What an amazing clinic it was.

Leslie provided great exercises to fit the different levels of horses and riders. But for me the most amazing part was that in each class, Leslie got on one of the participants horses. He was able to instantly make the horse go much better. And if that wasn't enough, he was then able to copy exactly the way you rode. To watch your horse go from—wow to eek was fascinating. And then Leslie would again ride like himself and your horse would be “finally—someone who actually knows how to ride!” At least I'm sure that's what my horse Mandy thought. Although I'm not sure she liked being spanked—but she deserved it for not listening to his leg.



Roxy Gnam and Kyleen Deering with Leslie Law

It was very interesting to be able to watch someone make such a complete difference in the way a horse was going as well as the variety of horses he was able to ride. Sure made you want to be able to ride like Leslie.

I would certainly recommend Leslie's clinics to anyone. I also had the privilege of riding in a clinic with his wife Lesley Grant-Law a few years back at Alhambra Stables as well.

Nancy Watson

Leslie Law's website: www.leslielaweventing.com

AHTA SPONSORS

Donnelly Family - Alborak Stable
The Tudor Tack Shoppe Ltd.
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Alhambra Southside Dodge Challenge Fall Event
Beaumont Horse Trials
Cochrane Horse Trials
South Peace Horse Trials
Thompson Country Horse Trials
Parks Foundation Calgary/Amateur Sport Grant Program
Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks & Wildlife Foundation



Brittany Descotes at Rebecca Farms 2010

AHTA 2010 President's Address at the AGM

Good afternoon everyone and thank you for coming out today. Once again it's that time of year when we can reflect on the past Eventing season, and begin our planning for 2011. Today we elect new members to the AHTA Board of Directors, and at our annual Organizer's Forum this Sunday we look at our successes, opportunities for improvements, and we hope to finalize dates for next year's competition schedule.

Here's a brief summary of the 2010 eventing season in Alberta:

- we saw a decline in terms of our membership numbers (roughly 15%), and the total number of rides across all competitions was down accordingly. Can't really explain why but we seem to be trending in alignment with National statistics (our increase last year was an anomaly compared to the rest of Canada)
- Strong support for our Eventing Clinics that we host across the province designed to introduce new riders to the sport, and to refine the skills of our existing riders and coaches
- Another terrific year with our high performance program with the support of Alberta's high performance coach (Lorraine Laframboise) who with funding help from the province was able to provide support to both our coaches and riders to develop their preparation for competing at higher levels
- Alhambra attempted to host 3 events this year (well without the cooperation of Mother Nature), including the Provincial Championships this fall, and once more we had cash prizes, which I'm certain is appreciated by the all of the winners
- A Young Rider (Joelle Baskerville) who had a solid showing at the NAYRC this year with a Top 10 placing – (9th)
- A number of our Alberta riders who are competing in the US and abroad, doing very well at a number of different events – closest to home Rebecca Farm in Montana, as well as numerous competitions south of the border
- The World Equestrian games, where team Canada and Albertan Kyle Carter did us proud with their Silver Medal Team performance
- And another year of FEI one-star competition at Cochrane, where they continued to show improvements to their course and facility.
- 2010 was a Casino year for us; we had tremendous volunteer support, which is great considering this represents the single largest source of funding to the AHTA. The money that we receive goes directly towards developing our sport through course development, and various subsidies that are available to coaches, officials, and of course the athletes
- In course, equipment & facility development we invested \$30,000 this year

A re-branding of the AHTA logo and a fresh new website that about to launch in the coming weeks



Joelle Baskerville and Malibu
at the North American Young Riders Championships

President's Report (continued)

As for the 2011 season:

- We are hopeful that we can continue providing lots of opportunity to our competitors with well-organized, safe competitions, and of course our ongoing support and commitment to make continual improvements to courses and facilities
- We expect our High Performance program to continue to flourish, addressing the developmental needs of both horse and rider, as well as striving to increase our provincial coaching resources
- Continued focus on safety in the sport, with the appointment of Provincial Safety Officers who work with Peter Gray at a national level to increase awareness, and to introduce measures designed to improve horse and rider safety

And hopefully next year Mother Nature will smile upon us with some better weather.



Aislyn Havell and Queen of Keno at the Alhambra Spring Event

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Board Members, (past and present), the Event Organizers, our Sponsors, coaches and officials, and all of the countless volunteers who assist throughout the year to make our events happen. The tremendous amount of work that happens behind the scenes is staggering, and without their tireless efforts and dedication we wouldn't have any events at which to compete. Whenever I've had the opportunity to volunteer, it has always been a positive experience, and it's given me a broader perspective of our sport.

The AHTA Board has always maintained a policy of transparency to its members, and today's AGM is our opportunity to share information that is important to you. We welcome your comments and feedback and will endeavour to answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you for putting your faith and trust in the Board, and for lending us your support. As someone once reminded me, "We're not perfect, but parts of us are excellent!" And we certainly put the interest of our members at the forefront. You have our ongoing commitment to making the 2011 eventing season even more fun and rewarding.

Thanks again to all for attending the meeting; hopefully you are joining us this evening to help celebrate. Thank you.

George Balogh - President, AHTA

Provincial Championship Winners 2010

Preliminary Open	Champion	Laura Penikett	Panache
Training Open	Champion Reserve	Tricia Dahms David Ziegler	War Dancer Peninsula Top Man
Training Regular	Champion Reserve	Laurie Powell Rebecca David McIsaac	Wellington Wren Rills Carrick Fergus
Pre Training Open	Champion Reserve	Josefina Kaderabek Leah Breakey	Wixy Donna Filige
Pre Training Regular	Champion Reserve	Georgia Tooke Taylor Cormack	Coomore Lasso's Lucky Lilly
Entry Open	Champion	Christy Spratlin	Drambuie
Entry Regular	Champion Reserve	Jamie Hoffman Shelby Friesen	Smokey Heathcliff
Pre Entry Open	Champion Reserve	Rebecca Galbraith Erica Ingraham	Hopscotch User Friendly
Pre Entry Regular	Champion Reserve	Mary Busch Midori Nowazek	Roy Simply Irresistible



Christy Spratlin and Sookie

AHTA YEAR END DIVISION CHAMPIONS



<i>Advanced</i>	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Rebecca Lee</i>	<i>Gold Twist</i>
	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>Sandra Donnelly</i>	<i>Buenos Aires</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Caroline Smith</i>	<i>Tessa</i>
	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>Katelyn Ziegler</i>	<i>Peninsula Lion</i>
	<i>Third</i>	<i>Erin Hinchliffe</i>	<i>Nazrullah</i>
<i>Preliminary</i>	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Caroline Smith</i>	<i>Lucas</i>
	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>Laura Penikett</i>	<i>Panache</i>
	<i>Third</i>	<i>Sandra Donnelly</i>	<i>Babe Ruth</i>
<i>Training Open</i>	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Rebecca Lee</i>	<i>Aventura Brillante</i>
	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>Sandra Donnelly</i>	<i>Babe Ruth</i>
	<i>Third</i>	<i>David Ziegler</i>	<i>Peninsula Top Man</i>

AHTA YEAR END DIVISION CHAMPIONS

Training	Champion	Laurie Powell	Wellington Wren
	Reserve	Ginny White	Cortez
	Third	Roxy Gnam	Cabaret
Pre Training Open	Champion	Kylee Mitchell	Allthatbrass
	Reserve	Denise Nitschke	Mick
	Third	Megan Davies	Skye
Pre Training	Champion	Jennifer Dayton	Bardot
	Reserve	Kate Tooke	Bella Luna
	Third	Renee Kalkman	El-Tivo
Entry Open	Champion	Abigail Witherspoon	Airwolf
	Reserve	Christy Spratlin	Drambuie
	Third	Sharon Roberts	W.C. Mighty Mac
Entry	Champion	Deb Easton	Amaruk
	Reserve	Jamie Hoffman	Smokey
	Third	Shelby Friesen	Heathcliff
Pre Entry Open	Champion	Rebecca Galbraith	Hopscotch
	Reserve	Erica Ingraham	User Friendly
	Third	Rebecca Lee	Oliver
Pre Entry	Champion	Mary Busch	Roy
	Reserve	Lindsey Bannard	Prima d'Arnold
	Third	Jackie Kessler	Amadeus II

Prizes

Champion	Trimark embroidered vests, Horsey Sign stall plaque (www.horseysigns.com) and an event entry or \$100
Reserve	Kustom Fit Halter with AHTA 2010 on noseband and lead rope (www.kustomfithalters.com)
Third	Embroidered saddle pads

YEAR END AWARDS

Training Adult Amateur	Laurie Powell	Wellington Wren
Pre Training Adult Amateur	Kate Tooke	Bella Luna
Entry Newcomer	Deb Easton	Amaruk

Top Rider of the Year Advanced Division Rebecca Lee

Old Timers Award Laurie Powell

Preliminary Upgrading Award	Leah Breakey	Master Plan
	Laura Penikett	Panache
	Julianne Van Halst	Tristan
	Nancy Watson	Majors Dream Jet

Show Jumping Award Laurie Powell Erin Hinchliffe

Canadian Thoroughbred of the Year "NAZRULLAH"

Sponsored by the CDN Thoroughbred Horse Society - Alberta Chapter (\$100.00 gift certificate)
Owned and shown by Erin Hinchliffe

Canadian Warmblood of the Year "BARDOT"

Sponsored by the CDN Warmblood Breeders - Alberta Division (cooler)
Owned by Sandra Donnelly and shown by Jennifer Dayton

Canadian Sport Horse of the Year "PROTOCOL"

Sponsored by the Canadian Sport Horse Association -
AB Chapter (cooler)

Owned and shown by Noel Clark



Mary Donnelly presenting Laurie Powell with the Old Timers Award

AHTA 2010 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

When I ask riders what draws people to our sport, I get varied answers like:

The variety in having to master 3 separate equestrian disciplines
The speed, thrill and challenge of cross-country
The camaraderie and friendships developed spending an entire weekend with like-minded athletes
The awesomeness of dressage (actually no one ever says that – I made that one up...)

But when I reflect on what it takes to make the ultimate Eventer (apart from having a terrific equine partner), I have to say it takes:

Sound horsemanship skills
Courage to compete
Dedication to training
Unselfishness to volunteer
Teaching skills, patience, and encouragement to coach others
Pride in our community

There are many such individuals among us who have what it takes to be successful by these standards. But one member in particular has continued to be a role model that others can learn from. This person is an athlete, a mentor, a volunteer, and always represents Eventers and Albertans in a positive light. So tonight, we honour this individual with the 2010 AHTA President's Award (given for Outstanding Contributions to our Sport), presented humbly to **Margo Gaglione**.

Congratulations to Margo.

Thank you.

George Balogh
President, AHTA



George Balogh presenting Margo Gaglione with the President's Award
(a lovely frame and a gift certificate for a photo session)

TENATIVE 2011 Calendar of Competitions

- June 4-5 Beaumont Horse Trials
June 25-26 Cochrane Horse Trials
July 8-10 Thompson Country Horse Trials
August 19-21 Alhambra Summer Event
Sept. 3-4 South Peace Horse Trials
Sept. 24-25 Alhambra Fall Event*
 (*Provincial Championships)
July 20-24, 2011—Rebecca Farm, Montana



Kris Yurko Haut with Gaffer at Alhambra Fall Event

CLINICS

- November 14** **Horse Hauling Clinic** with Jennifer Woods in Beaumont, AB. Free to Beaumont Ag Society Members. Join for only \$5.00 at www.beaumontagsociety.com. Contact Barb Richard at barbrichard@albertacom.com or 780-266-4036.
- December 27-30** **Show Jumping and Cross Country Skills Clinics** with Sandra Donnelly at Alborak Stables (Calgary area). \$500 for 4 days includes a private dressage lesson and 3 jumping lessons. For more information call Alborak Stable at (403)932-4819.



Corenna Koschewski
at Rocky Mountain House