

# USCTA ANNUAL AND C

By Linda M. Bland

Orlando! Home of the King of Cartoons. Arriving from billboard-free Vermont, I was unabashedly awed by the roadside array: Kongfrontation at Universal Studios; Saving face...See the (endangered) manatees at Sea World; Be on the next launch ... Kennedy Space Center; Jaws ... now open, Universal Studios. Even before I left, I knew Orlando was a playground – an excuse to be juvenile – something eventers have never waited around for. It was one of the few cities we didn't need to call ahead and warn. Seventy-five degrees had me rolling up my sleeves and down my turtle-neck as I walked into the lobby. Soon, familiar smiles appeared around every corner, in the elevators, in the meetings.

**RIGHT:**  
1993 Governors Cup recipient Richard Jones of Atlanta, Ga., and USCTA Executive Director, Linda Macklin enjoy the Area III reception.  
*Diana de Rosa Photo*



#### ADULT RIDERS COMMITTEE

Mary Zimmerman presided over a lively discussion which began with an appreciative applause for the continued Adult Team Championships award sponsorship from The Chronicle of the Horse magazine. Dates and locations for 1994's three championships were finalized: West—Las Vegas Horse Trials, Oct. 1-2; Central—Red Brush Farm Horse Trials in Wichita, Kansas, Sept. 24-25; East—Tryon Horse Trials in Tryon, N.C., Oct. 15-16.

#### ACTIVE RIDERS COMMITTEE

Mike Huber reminded riders of the importance of being cooperative when called upon to serve as a Rider Representative at an event. Because the program originated at the request of competitors, reluctance to serve sends a conflictive message to organizers and officials. Forms to streamline the procedure will indicate who the Rider Representative is, when and where competitors may meet with them, and how their concerns will be communicated to the officials.

Chris Brown, Mark Phillips, Joyce Brown and Arrington Cox have a good time at the Area III reception during the Orlando Annual Meeting.  
*Diana de Rosa Photo*





# MEETING Convention

Orlando, Florida, December 9-12, 1993

## YOUNG RIDERS FORUM

Dr. Kent Allen, National Young Riders Coordinator, presided over this informative session, which described new qualifications to compete in the North American Young Riders Championships, Aug. 19-21, at Tempel Farms in Wadsworth, Ill. A newsletter to enhance communications among all Area Chairmen and Area Young Rider Coordinators was proposed. The group aspires to offer three clinics with world-class instruction in 1994, though the method for choosing who may attend has not been solidified. It is hoped that the USET's (Long List) training sessions will also reserve a couple of spaces for Young Riders.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

President Mike Huber brought the meeting to order, then described three goals for the upcoming year: build the Neil R. Ayer Memorial Headquarters and move the national office to Morven Park in Leesburg, Va.; award national prizes for training and novice levels; and devise a method to allow Course Advisor Mark Phillips' influence on cross-country course design to pervade the lower levels.

Lefreda Williams, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, introduced the new governors who will serve until 1996. The entire board was then excused for the purpose of electing new officers for 1994. While the membership awaited their return, veterinarian Dr. Catherine Kohn announced plans for a research effort to test the effects of heat and humidity on horses competing in August in Georgia. This is aimed directly at learning what risks are involved for the three-day event in the Atlanta, 1996 Olympic Games. She asked for upper level riders to partake, since this will be a one-star two-day event that will be modified to accommodate climactic conditions. This field trial will document problems as well as ascertain solutions. Offering researched recommendations



U.S. International riders Karen O'Connor and Marcia Kulak join Sweden's top competitor Anna Herman in some of the good times. *Diana de Rosa Photo*

for modifying the Olympic three-day event is its primary goal. At this point modifications seem likely, since preliminary studies have unveiled that the horses' effort in heat and humidity is up to 50% greater than in more moderate conditions. In addition to the field test, the event will include presentation of all research to date, and a forum for trainers, competitors, veterinarians, and officials to discuss results and solutions. Several foreign countries have already expressed keen interest due to concern for their horses and the opportunity for obvious competitive advantage. Cathy ended by emphasizing that anyone interested in attending the event is welcome.

Treasurer John Gomena reported that, thanks in part to an admirable effort on the

part of the national office staff, the USCTA will end 1993 in the black. No fee increases are proposed for 1994, so we will again be operating with a budget in the proximity of one million dollars.

American Horse Shows Association President and Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee Jane Clark reported on progress in addressing the concerns raised by the Humane Society of the United States. Although the consensus within the sport is that the extraordinary rule changes have served us well, the Humane Society represents its membership by continuing to implore that we address all six of the original concerns. She expressed renewed resolve to continue seeking solutions to these difficult questions. She urged every-



## 1993 RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

<i>Prize and Donor</i> ..... <i>Winner</i>	100 % Wool Irish Knit.....Nancy Hasselbring	Two Sports Medicine Boots.....Scarlett Hibner
Saddle of Winner's Choice from .....Lisa Kelly	<b>Equine Clothiers</b>	<b>Silk Purse Tack</b>
County Saddlery	Entry to Fair Hill.....Lee Thornton	\$25 Gift Certificates (2).....Larry Chalmers
Free luxury car rental for seven days .....Ann Getchell	<b>Fair Hill Equestrian</b>	<b>Tackfully Yours</b> .....Nancy Hasselbring
<b>Alamo/Keating Travel</b>	Dorothy Trapp	\$50 Gift Certificate.....Walter Straus
Horse purse (2).....Kathy Walton	Howard Simpson	<b>Tackfully Yours</b>
<b>Atlanta Saddlery</b>	Assorted Farnam Products.....Tandy Costello	Equestrian Sports Psychology.....Mary Zimmermann
Heather Burdette	<b>Farnam Equipment Co.</b>	Four sets of training tapes.....Heidi Hutchinson
Photo Frame.....Allison Cragen	One week free stay, 1994 season.....Bob Wilson	<b>Tailwind Industries</b>
Bennett Galleries	<b>Fox Equestrian Ranch</b>	Saddle Pad (2).....Mitch Porias
Miscellaneous Products.....Laura Clarkson	Four Support & Fixation Wraps.....Holly Bell	<b>The Tack Loft</b> .....Mary-Jo Herhold
<b>Bickmore</b>	<b>G.E.I.</b>	Six-month Subscription to The Chronicle of the Horse.....Jeri Byrnes
Tandy Costello	Four European Water Bandages.....Hannah Howard	<b>The Chronicle of the Horse</b>
Jim Graham	<b>G.E.I.</b>	Air System Saddle Pad.....Marilyn Payne
Liz Chilcott	Polar Fleece riding tights, .....Charles Chapin	<b>Tipperary Sport Products, Inc.</b>
Tom Reynolds	tee shirt, helmet cover	Body Protector (model 1005).....Debbie McKenzie
Donna May	<b>Helmet Helpers, Ltd.</b>	Tipperary Sport Products, Inc. Willson
Keith Walton	Entry to Longview Horse Trials 1994.....Dorothy Hamilton	L'Annee Hippique.....Emmett Turner
<b>BLOKS Training System</b>	<b>Longview Horse Trials, MO</b>	Riding for America.....Cathy Schlatler
<b>Bloks, USA</b>	Two round-trip coach tickets to .....Mark Combs	<b>USET - Books</b>
One Pair Jumping Jack Cavaletti .....Sam Dack	anywhere in the contiguous USA	Dressage Classic Tote.....Mary Marques
<b>Bloks, USA</b>	<b>Northwest Air/Keating Travel</b>	<b>Wooden Horse</b>
Kevalar Brushing & Overreach Boots .....Jack Cragen	One week free board for horse & .....Denis Giaccum	Absorbine Products.....Kelly Hosman
Bynfort Wholesale	rider plus 3 lessons (June-Sept. '94)	<b>W.T. Young, Inc.</b>
Woof Boots .....Judy Dack	<b>Penrose Farm, Tenn.</b>	Shirt & set of laminated dressage tests.....Dayle Kulton
<b>Bynfort Wholesale</b>	\$20 gift certificates (12) for products.....Chris McClure (3)	<b>Whinny Widgets</b>
Set of 1993 Event Video Tapes.....Carl Bouckaert	<b>Professional Choice Sports</b>	
<b>Capt. Edgar's VideoWorks</b>	Susan Schmitke (3)	
Patron's Club subscriptions for .....Joan Fleser	Janet Pengelly	
two for the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event	Marianne Bell	
<b>Equestrian Events, Inc.</b>	Practically Perfect Fence Post paint .....Sally O'Connor	
Stabling, Entry for Rolex Kentucky	<b>Red Brush Farm</b>	
<b>Equestrian Events, Inc.</b> .....Mitch Porias		

*If your name appears above and you have not received your prize, please contact the National Office at (508) 887-9090.*

one to attend media training seminars because it is "so important how we present equestrian sports to the public."

Denny Emerson called for applause to show our appreciation for Jane's unrelenting assistance to eventing in the wake of negative impressions of our sport resulting from the Barcelona Olympic Games. He then pointed out the unprecedented turnaround in American competitive results in Europe this summer and fall. He credited catalytic cooperation between the three governing organizations: AHSA, USCTA and USET. By way of introduction, he also credited Capt. Mark Phillips, Chef d'Equipe and Course Advisor.

Mark was proud to report lots of unscathed horses competing at the advanced level. "Good courses create good horses. This is what the course advisor program is all about—long may it continue." Remark- ing on our current world ranking, he said we have "shown a clean pair of heels to New Zealand." We have issued an edict to the world this year: "To win the World Equestrian Games, they will have to beat the Americans first."

### SATURDAY NIGHT BARREL RACING CHALLENGE

The good humor of the awards luncheon paled in comparison to the evening's horse-play. Team USCTA challenged members of

the National Barrel Horse Association to a two phase event. Both teams had to barrel race and jump a show jumping round. The selection committee was successful in naming Dan Matise, Shari Humble-Lamb, Lefreda Williams, Matt Firestone, Mark Coombs, and Mark Phillips. Their horses showed

running along two sides of the arena. They were not disappointed. All of TEAM USCTA hung on to the saddle horn for dear life as their much more experienced horses wheeled around the barrels. The only time things were in sync was in the gallop for home. In the show jumping, Mark Phillips' mount was less than enthusiastic, so the audi-



At the USCTA Annual Meeting luncheon Denny Emerson, chats with (l to r) - Karen Stives, Jim Wolf, Ann Rickard and Roger Haller. Diana de Rosa Photo

great promise, though only by their names: Great Balls of Fire, Punctestown Problem, Kentucky Killer, Badminton Basher, and Call 911. The crowd was brought to a frenzy as they formed wave after wave after wave

ence was given a graphic demonstration of the British admonition "kick on." No doubt he clocked in the fastest time of the day. Mark Combs distinguished himself before even going through the start flags by blowing





ABOVE: Barrel Racing Challenge "Team USCTA" competitors: Mark Phillips, Mark Combs, Dan Matise, Shari Humble-Lamb, Lefreda Williams and Matt Firestone.

LEFT: Dan Matise rounds the barrel and heads for home at Saturday night's cookout at the Grand Cypress Resort Equestrian Center. Diana de Rosa Photo

a kiss to Ground Jury President Sally O'Connor, then rising into two-point position and wagging his behind at the crowd as he rode away to start his round. Our new barrel racing friends put us to shame in both phases, giving a clinic in raw courage over fences.

When one was eliminated on refusals, the raucous crowd chanted, "BAD JUDGE! BAD JUDGE!" Sally did not succumb to the pressure and instead fired the entire USCTA Team, replacing it with the *Dream Team*: Ann Getchell, Sally Ike and Denis Glaccum who proceeded to perform a team jumping round (with a few hiccups). Our good-natured playmates, the barrel racers were given awards and perpetuated the antics by galloping a victory round on foot.

#### STATE OF THE SPORT

This morning-after gathering brought six panelists together to comment on the state of our sport: Jane Atkinson, Grant Schneidman, Mark Phillips, Jim Wofford, and Karen and David O'Connor. Many worthwhile topics were touched upon in this meeting including an explanation as to why the new rules specify shorter

distances, yet more fences. Mark Phillips explained that his philosophy in course design is to be kind to horses and unkind to riders. Building fences with encouraging profiles, setting sympathetic distances, and using only large materials educate horses

divine right of nobody to get inside the time." These changes in the rules will also emphasize the art of getting a horse fit with minimum wear and tear. For instance, interval training on hills inflicts much less stress than when it is done on the flat.

Mark also informed us of the British means of preventing excessive speed: If you cross the finish line sooner than 10 seconds before the designated time, penalties are awarded. If you cross over faster than one minute under the time, you are subject to disciplinary action.

By far the most astute question asked of the panel was: What do you think is the most important subject to address in the next 12 months?

**Jane Atkinson:** The course advisor/designer program percolating down to the lower levels.

**Grant Schneidman:** Prize money.

**Mark Phillips:** Abolition of the crest release. Riders learning to ride—not hurdle—over cross-country fences.

**Jim Wofford:** Go do something else besides eventing with your horse.

**Karen O'Connor:** Schedule show jumping before cross-country for the benefit of the horses.

**David O'Connor:** Promote the sport itself to the point where sponsorship and prize money follow.

I thought the question a good one for all of us to answer. How best can we serve our sport in 1994? I know what most Texan eventers could answer: By throwing a San Antonio shindig extraordinaire this December to celebrate our 35th year! See you there! □

*USCTA Annual Meeting Sponsors*

**American Equine Insurance Group**

**Mieke & Carl Bouckaert**

**Dover Saddlery**

**FareWell Farm Horse Trials**

**Matthew K. Firestone**

**Grand Cypress Equestrian Center at Grand Cypress Resort**

**Immokalee Horse Trials**

**The Jockey Club**

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**National Barrel Horse Association**

**Pine Top Horse Trials**

while building their confidence. As a result more of them succeed to higher levels. Shorter distances reduce wear and tear on the horses, while putting the onus on riders to ride better. Riding more fences in a shorter distance at faster speeds demands better planning and quicker adjustments; "It is the