



CARLISLE ACADEMY
INTEGRATIVE EQUINE
THERAPY & SPORTS

**2013 U.S. National Para-Dressage
Training Symposium/West Coast Region**
“A Team Approach”

Train the Trainer Workshop ~ November 20
Rider Symposium ~ November 21 – 23

Information & Registration Packet

Hosted by Somerset Farm, Winters, California

**Organized by
Carlisle Academy Integrative Equine Therapy & Sports**



Sponsored by USPEA & USEF



www.carlisleacademymaine.com

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United States
Para-Equestrian Association



CARLISLE ACADEMY
INTEGRATIVE EQUINE
THERAPY & SPORTS



WITH SINCERE THANKS
2013 U.S. National Para-Dressage Symposium
West Coast Region
Sponsorships & Attributions

Major Sponsors

USPEA

USEF

Symposium Banquet Sponsor

HorseShow.com

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DressageTrainingOnline.com

Somerset Farm

Winterhaven Dressage & Horsemanship

Attributions

Hanneke Gerritsen

5 PE 'O' Judge, 5* PE Technical Delegate, 3* PE Steward*

for her contributions to the Train the Trainer Presentation Material

2013 U.S. National Para-Dressage Training Symposium *West Coast Region*

The training symposium is presented in two parts, with a theme of
"A Team Approach"

Train the Trainer Workshop ~ November 20
Para-Dressage Symposium ~ November 21 - 23

Join us for a four day Para-Dressage Training Symposium featuring world-class trainers and clinicians in Winters, California at Somerset Farm. Carlisle Academy is thrilled to bring you this program designed for para-dressage riders, trainers and coaches seeking educational and collaborative training in para-dressage, through all of the grades.

The Symposium is organized by Carlisle Academy Integrative Equine Therapy & Sports, the national leader in para-equestrian education and the official Educational Partner to USPEA. The symposium is a USPEA and USEF sponsored and sanctioned event.

Featured Symposium Clinicians

- Clive Milkins ~ International Para-Dressage Coach & Clinician
- Dennis Callin ~ International Rider & Dressage Coach; USDF Gold Medalist

Symposium Lecturers & Specialists

- David Schmutz ~ FEI 4* Para-Equestrian Judge; USEF "S" Dressage Judge
- Gil Merrick ~ Former USEF High Performance Dressage Director, National Coach & Clinician
- Mike Tomlinson, DVM, MBA ~ FEI 5* Veterinarian and USPEA Board Member
- Tina Wentz, PT ~ National Classifier and USPEA Board Member
- Joann Benjamin, PT, HPCS ~ FEI Classifier
- Lindsay McCall ~ Public Relations Manager for USPEA; Photojournalist

Symposium Officials

- Hope Hand ~ President of United States Para Equestrian Association (USPEA)
- Sarah Armentrout, Head of School, Carlisle Academy

Symposium Banquet & Keynote Address: All participants (clinicians, trainers, and riders) are invited to a symposium banquet at Hyatt Place in Davis, California on Wednesday evening, November 20th. Featured speaker Gil Merrick will kick off the symposium theme of "A Team Approach" in his keynote address that evening.

Accommodations: We have reserved a block of rooms at group rates for Symposium participants at Hyatt Place, 173 Old Davis Rd., Davis, CA. Participants make their own room reservations; if you choose to book rooms at the Hyatt (1-530-756-9500) be sure to specify "Para-Dressage Symposium Group." There are many other hotel options in the Davis area as well. The Train the Trainer lecture portion will be held at the Hyatt function room.

Facilities: All hands-on and riding portions of the Symposium will be held at Somerset Farm. The 120 acre private facility is located in the rolling hills of the Western Sacramento Valley near the town of Winters (8680 Wintu Way, Winters, CA), 20 minutes west of UC Davis, and 45 minutes east of San Francisco. The farm, originally founded in 1987, includes a full sized covered, lit arena with rubber & sand footing and mirrors, a euro walker, barn stalls with paddocks, pastures with shelters, turnout pastures, a large turf jumping arena, cross country jumps and acres and acres of trails. Fly into San Francisco or Los Angeles to Sacramento airports.

We want to express our thanks in particular to Susan Treabess and Somerset Farm's owner, Federica Beatrice, for hosting this event.



Train the Trainer Workshop

Hyatt Place Function Room, Davis & Somerset Farm, Winters
Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Trainer Details & Tuition

Train the Trainer Workshop

Day Rate: \$400 Trainers/Coaches (includes lunch and Symposium Banquet)

Day Rate: \$200 Symposium Riders & Active Auditors

Note: Symposium riders and active auditors can attend the Train the Trainer Lecture Day at a reduced rate due to the Banquet cost and other participant costs which are already included in their rider tuition.

The National Symposium kicks off Wednesday, November 20th with a one-day Train the Trainer workshop designed for regional and national dressage trainers wanting to increase their knowledge in working with both competitive and recreational para-equestrians. Clive Milkins, Tina Wentz, Joann Benjamin and David Schmutz are the primary educators during the workshop. Material for this training has been prepared by 5* PE 'O' Judge and Olympic Technical Delegate Hanneke Gerritsen of Holland. **(Trainers/Coaches - 25 spots available)**

Train the Trainer is primarily a lecture day, held at Hyatt Place, 173 Old Davis Road in Davis, California. The program covers a variety of topics including: *Introduction to Para-Dressage; FEI Rules & 2014 Rule Changes; Adaptive Equipment Review/Compensating Aids; Para Classification Defined; New 2013 Para-Dressage Test; Videos of Top Para-Dressage Tests.*

Participants will spend the afternoon at Somerset Farm in Winters, with a rider demonstration and discussion with 4* Judge David Schmutz, critiquing the 2013 individual dressage tests with all grade level riders. Trainers will have an opportunity to ask questions about the test components and what the judges are looking for in para-dressage competition.

The day ends with the Symposium Banquet at Hyatt Place in Davis, California.

DEMO Riders Needed:

Five demo riders are needed to ride tests (Grades 1a through 4) for David Schmutz as part of the *Train the Trainer Workshop*, Wednesday afternoon November 20th. Riders should be current competitors with knowledge of the individual 2013 para-dressage tests. Riders will be chosen from a list of interested applicants.



2013 West Coast U.S. National PARA-Dressage Training Symposium Train the Trainer Registration & Payment Form



CARLISLE ACADEMY
INTEGRATIVE EQUINE
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Wednesday, November 20, 2013

I am registering for the Train the Trainer Workshop

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Payment Information: (Tuition includes lunch and Symposium Banquet)

- Train the Trainer (trainers & coaches) \$400 \$ _____
- Train the Trainer (symposium riders & active auditors) \$200 \$ _____
- Total Fee** \$ _____

Deposit, Final Payment & Cancellation Fee

50% deposit needed with your registration by October 25, 2013. Balance due on November 11, 2013; a 20% cancellation fee applies.

Paying by Check: Please make check payable to Carlisle Academy, and mail to Joyce Brown, Carlisle Academy, 65 Drown Lane, Lyman, ME 04002.

Paying by Credit Card: Mastercard Visa

Credit Card# _____ V Code (3-digits on back of card) _____

Expiration Date: _____ Authorized Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____

You may also call the office at 207-985-0374 to make a credit card payment over the phone.

PLEASE NOTE: Carlisle Academy reserves the right to cancel this symposium if it doesn't fill to 80% capacity by the deadline. In that event, full refunds will be honored.

I have read and understand this Registration form and all of the attached documents. I have completed these documents where required. By providing my signature below, I acknowledge the aforementioned and agree to be bound by the governing rules and jurisdiction stated in these documents, and I fully understand and accept my responsibilities as a participant in the Train the Trainer portion of the Para-Dressage Symposium, November 20, 2013. I further understand and agree that my signature is my legal and binding signature.

Trainer Signature

Date

Please return completed registration, payment/deposit, and other required documents, by October 25, 2013 to: Joyce Brown, Carlisle Academy, 65 Drown Lane, Lyman, Maine 04002



Para-Dressage Rider Symposium

Somerset Farm, Winters, California

November 21 – 23, 2013

Rider Details & Tuition

All riders are being subsidized by US Para-Equestrian Association and the United States Equestrian Federation, major sponsors of this event.

Para Rider Symposium: The riding portion is a three-day educational symposium, beginning Thursday, November 21 and going through Saturday, November 23rd. Each day riders will train in private sessions or through the collaborative coaching model with international dressage trainers Clive Milkins and Dennis Callin. During the collaborative lessons, personal coaches are welcome inside the arena during this time to offer input on current training practices and receive feedback.

In addition to riding, participants will enjoy the Keynote Address “*A Team Approach*” and lectures such as *Media Training for Para-Dressage Competitors*, *Keeping the FEI Horse Fit & Ready for International Competition*, and *Compensating Aids & Adaptive Equipment*. An FEI classifier will also be on hand.

Due to the intensive nature of the Rider Symposium, space is limited to 10 riders. There will be space for 2 alternates in the event of rider cancellations. Preference is given to currently competing horse & rider combinations.

Mounted Sessions:

Class lists for rider mounted sessions will be determined when all rider registration forms and deposits have been received by Carlisle Academy. Every effort will be made to accommodate your selection of clinician on a particular day; however, Carlisle Academy reserves the right to create a class/rider list which is in the best interest of the entire symposium. Every rider will be scheduled for 4 rides out of 3 days, excluding demo rides.

Full Symposium Tuition - \$1,500 for 3-day Symposium includes:

- Meals included in tuition: *Symposium Banquet and all lunches*
- *Private and semi-private lessons with world-class clinicians; 4 rides out of 3 days, excluding demo ride*
- *Lectures by experts in the field*
- *Optional video critiques with Gil Merrick*
- *Stabling for one horse per rider, from Tuesday through Sunday morning.*
- *Access to on-site national classification/reclassification*

Scholarships. *Carlisle Charitable Foundation, the charitable partner of Carlisle Academy, is providing scholarship support to Symposium participants through the Zoe Fund. The Zoe Fund was established by a generous donor for the purpose of offsetting tuition for riders with disabilities who want to pursue further equestrian education through clinics, camps, and symposiums. Scholarships are capped at \$200 per person, and the application deadline is October 25, 2013. FMI, please visit CCF at www.carlislecharitablefoundation.org.*





2013 West Coast U.S. National PARA-Dressage Training Symposium Rider Registration & Payment Form



Thursday - Saturday, November 21 - 23, 2013

Registration Due Date: Friday, October 25, 2013

- I am registering as a Rider
- I would like to be considered as a demo rider for Train the Trainer program on Wednesday, November 20th
- I have applied to Carlisle Charitable Foundation for a scholarship

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Age: _____

Grade: _____ Current Trainer: _____

My T-shirt size is (circle one): Adult S M L

Please schedule my mounted sessions with:

- Clive Milkins Dennis Callin
- I have no preference for clinicians during mounted sessions
- My personal trainer/coach wants to participate in the collaborative coaching lessons. His/her name is: _____

Optional activities:

- I will bring a video of me and my horse for critique by Gil Merrick
- I would like to be nationally classified/reclassified while at the symposium. (The National Classifier will contact riders ahead of time to request appropriate diagnosis documentation from their doctor).

Do you use a wheelchair or other assistive technology? If yes, please specify: _____

Will you need a personal assistant for riding? If yes, what specifically do you need assistance with? _____

Please complete with the names of any support people who will be attending with you.

Primary Support Person: _____

Trainer: _____

Other Family member(s): _____

Other: _____

Horse Information

I am bringing my own horse (*stabling fees are included in rider tuition*)

*You must supply your own food, hay and bedding. Hay & bedding can be purchased from Somerset Farm. Daily feeding, water buckets and stall cleaning provided by Somerset Farm. **Daily turnout is weather-dependent; turnout needs will be determined per horse upon arrival. PLEASE NOTE: You must send in advance copies of current Coggins and vaccination records. Mail to Susan Treabess, Somerset Farm, 8680 Wintu Way, Winters, CA 95694.***

Horse's Name: _____ Breed: _____ Color: _____

Sex: _____ Age: _____ Height: _____ Horse's Owner: _____

Currently training with: _____ Level currently competing: _____

Anticipated Truck-in/truck-out days and times: _____

Rider Profile Check here if rider profile is on USPEA website; **OR**

Briefly tell us about yourself and your riding experience. If you have a bio please attach. We will use this information in the program that will be provided to attendees.

Attire

- You must wear an ASTM/SEI approved or standard exceeding helmet with fastened harness at all times while mounted.
- Breeches, belt, half-chaps or boots are appropriate attire. Shirts should be neat and workmanlike.

Meals

- Rider Symposium Tuition includes the following meals for riders and active auditors: Symposium Banquet and lunch all three days. All other meals are on your own.
- Lunch tickets for support people, trainers, and auditors can be purchased for \$15 per person per day.
- Individual Symposium Banquet tickets (Wed eve, \$35) can be purchased per person for non-Symposium participants.

Special Dietary Requirements

Please specify who requires special meals, e.g. rider name, support person, or trainer.

- No special meal requirements for (names): _____
- Vegetarian for (names): _____
- Gluten-free for (names): _____
- Dairy-free (names): _____
- Other (specify requirement): _____ (names): _____

Payment Information

- Rider Full Symposium Tuition, (three days) \$1,500 \$ _____
- National Classification Fee, non-USEF members only \$25 \$ _____
(USEF members free)

Additional Meals – (non-symposium participants)

Lunch: Thurs. _____ Fri. _____ Sat. _____ x number of people _____ \$15 \$ _____

Symposium Banquet: (Wed Eve) x number of people _____ \$35 \$ _____

Total Fee \$ _____

Deposit, Final Payment & Cancellation Fee

50% deposit needed with your registration by October 25, 2013. Balance due on November 11, 2013; a 20% cancellation fee applies. Space is limited; preference is given to Horse & Rider combinations.

Paying by Check: Please make check payable to Carlisle Academy, and mail to Joyce Brown, Carlisle Academy, 65 Drown Lane, Lyman, ME 04002.

Paying by Credit Card: Mastercard Visa

Credit Card# _____ V Code (3-digits on back of card) _____

Expiration Date: _____ Authorized Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____

You may also call the office at 207-985-0374 to make a credit card payment over the phone.

PLEASE NOTE: Carlisle Academy reserves the right to cancel this symposium if it doesn't fill to 80% capacity by the deadline. In that event, full refunds will be honored.

I have read and understand this Registration form and all of the attached documents. I have completed these documents where required. By providing my signature below, I acknowledge the aforementioned and agree to be bound by the governing rules and jurisdiction stated in these documents, and I fully understand and accept my responsibilities as a participant in the U.S. National Para-Dressage Symposium, November 21 - 23, 2013. I further understand and agree that my signature is my legal and binding signature.

Rider Signature

Date

Please return completed registration, payment/deposit, and other required documents, by October 25, 2013 to: Joyce Brown, Carlisle Academy, 65 Drown Lane, Lyman, Maine 04002



Para-Dressage Rider Symposium
Active Auditors & Lesson Auditors
Somerset Farm, 8680 Wintu Way, Winters, California
November 20 - 23, 2013

Auditor Details & Tuition

All riders and active auditors are being subsidized by US Para-Equestrian Association and the United States Equestrian Federation, major sponsors of this event.

Active Auditors (un-mounted program): Active auditors must be para equestrians, and may actively participate in all parts of the symposium without doing the riding portions. There are 5 active auditor spots.

Active Auditor Tuition - \$500 for 3-day Symposium includes:

Consideration will be given to prorating active auditing fee by the day for \$200

- Meals are included in tuition: Symposium Banquet and all lunches.
- *Observation of all lessons*
- *Optional video critiques with Gil Merrick*
- *Access to all lectures by experts in the field*
- *Access to on-site national classification/reclassification*

Lesson Auditors: A lesson auditor is a spectator, trainer, or equestrian who is observing more than two hours of lessons for educational purposes.

Lesson Auditor Fee - \$30 each day includes:

- *Observation of all lessons with world-class clinicians*
- *Due to space and Symposium format, demonstrations that are part of the Train the Trainer Workshop and daily lectures and are not open to lesson auditors.*
- *Lunch is not included*

Note:

1. *A participant's coach or trainer who has been through Train the Trainer does not have to pay the additional lesson audit fee per day.*
2. *A participant's family member or support person does not have to pay the additional lesson audit fee per day.*

Summary Schedule
2013 U.S. National Para-Dressage Training Symposium
West Coast Region

“A Team Approach”

Train the Trainer Workshop – November 20, 2013
Para Dressage Rider Symposium – November 21 - 23, 2013

Wednesday, November 20

Train the Trainer Day One: Lecture Day at Hyatt Place, Davis, CA & Somerset Farm, Winters, CA
Horses & riders arrive at farm 1 – 4pm (unless arrangements are made to arrive Tues)

8:00am – 12:30 noon	<i>Lectures: Introduction to International Para-Dressage; FEI Rules & Changes for 2014; Compensating Aids; New 2013 Para-Dressage Tests; Videos of Top Para-Dressage Tests</i> Presenters: David Schmutz & Clive Milkins
12:30 – 1:00 pm	LUNCH
1:00 – 2:00 pm	<i>Classification Process Defined</i> with National Classifier Tina Wentz, PT & Joann Benjamin, PT
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Break/Drive to Somerset Farm
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Demo Riders: Demo & Discussion with Grades 1 – 4 riders. Review of 2013 tests with David Schmutz, a 4* Para-Dressage Judge's perspective.
6:30pm	Reception
7:00 pm	Symposium Banquet (all riders, trainers, coaches and clinicians)
8:00pm	Keynote address: <i>A Team Approach</i> by Gil Merrick

Thursday, November 21

Para-Dressage Rider Symposium: Day One, Somerset Farm, Winters, CA. (Riders ride two 45-minute rides)

8:00 – 12:00 noon	Arena 1	Group A: Private Lessons/Auditing with Dennis Callin
8:00 – 12:00 noon	Arena 2	Group B: Private Lessons/Auditing with Clive Milkins
10:00 - 12:00 noon	Main House	Individual Classification with Tina Wentz & Joann Benjamin (scheduled as needed)
12:00 – 12:30 pm	LUNCH Viewing Area	Lecture: <i>101 of Para-Equestrian Dressage & Show Etiquette</i> Hope Hand
1:00 – 5:00 pm	Arena 1	Group B: Private Lessons/Auditing with Clive Milkins
1:00 – 5:00 pm	Arena 2	Group A: Private Lessons/Auditing with Dennis Callin
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Main House	Individual Classification with Tina Wentz & Joann Benjamin (scheduled as needed)
5:15 - 6:00 pm	Viewing Area	Lecture: <i>Media Training for Para-Dressage Competitors</i> Gil Merrick & Lindsay McCall

Summary Schedule

2013 U.S. National PARA-Dressage Training Symposium “A Team Approach”

Friday, November 22

Para-Dressage Rider Symposium: Day Two at Somerset Farm, Winters, CA. (These are 1 hour rides; personal coaches welcome)

8:00 – 12:00 noon	Arena	Group B: Private Lessons/Auditing with Dennis Callin & Clive Milkins <i>Collaborative Coaching Model</i>
8:00 – 10:00 am	Main House	Video Critiques with Gil Merrick (as scheduled)
10:30-12:00	Main House	Lecture Group A: <i>Keeping the FEI Horse Fit & Ready for International Competition</i> , Mike Tomlinson
12:00 – 1:00 pm	LUNCH Viewing Area	Lecture: <i>Compensating Aids/Adaptive Equipment</i> Clive Milkins
1:00 – 5:00 pm	Arena	Group A: Private Lessons/Auditing with Dennis Callin & Clive Milkins <i>Collaborative Coaching Model</i>
1:30 – 3:00	Main House	Lecture Group B: <i>Keeping the FEI Horse Fit & Ready for International Competition</i> , Mike Tomlinson
5:15 – 6:00 pm	Viewing Area	Facilitated Discussion: <i>The Future of Para-Dressage in the US</i> Gil Merrick and Hope Hand

Saturday, November 23

Para-Dressage Rider Symposium: Day Three at Somerset Farm, Winters, CA

8:00 – 12:00 noon	Arena	Paired by Grade: Semi-private Lessons/Auditing with Clive Milkins
8:00 – 12:00 noon	Main House	Video Critiques with Gil Merrick (as scheduled)
12:00 – 1:00 pm	LUNCH Viewing Area	
1:00 – 3:30 pm	Arena	Paired by Grade: Semi-private Lessons/Auditing with Clive Milkins
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Viewing Area	Evaluations turned in; Closing Comments; Symposium ends

****Rider Class Lists TBD once all entries are in***



2013 West Coast U.S. National PARA-Dressage Training Symposium



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Clinician Bios

Clive Milkins, International Para-Dressage Coach

Clive will share his international para coaching experience with an emphasis on working with Grade 1 & 2 para-equestrians. On day two he will join Dennis Callin for the collaborative coaching model, where both clinicians work together to define strategies for each rider. Personal coaches are welcome inside the arena during this time to offer input on current training practices and receive feedback.

Clive Milkins, a leading para-equestrian dressage coach from Great Britain. He began his work with the RDA (Riding for the Disabled) in the late 1980s after volunteering at Moreton Hall Group while at Warwickshire College. Clive was the trainer for the British team at the 1990 World Championship and Games for disabled riders. He has since coached riders competing at Paralympic Games (Athens and Beijing), European Championships and World Championships. Clive coached triple gold medal winning rider, Sophie Christiansen, at the 2012 Paralympics. Clive has been nominated for numerous awards since his career began: Groom of the Year, 2005; The Queen's Award for Equestrianism, awarded for 'Outstanding Services to Equestrianism'; and the Kuster BEF Groom of the Year in 2006.

Dennis Callin, International Rider & Dressage Coach; USDF Bronze, Silver & Gold Medalist

Dennis will work primarily with Grade 3 and 4 para-equestrians during the symposium. He will join Clive on day two for the collaborative coaching model, where both clinicians work together to define strategies for each rider. Personal coaches are welcome inside the arena during this time to offer input on current training practices and receive feedback.

Dennis (Denny) began riding at the age of 12 in his local 4-H program in Ohio. He attended Meredith Manor School of Horsemanship, an accredited trade school, where he earned a Riding Master Certification and stayed on as a teacher for 6 years. At that time he had the opportunity to ride with Emst Bachlinger from the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria and Col. Bengt Ljungist, a Swedish Olympian who later coached the USA Dressage Team to a Bronze Medal in 1976. Col. Ljungquist also found Zenith, Denny's first international mount. Dennis relocated to Northern California and began training, teaching and competing, winning numerous titles at both the regional and national level. During this time, he had the distinct privilege of studying with some of the world's greatest riders and trainers. The bulk of Dennis' international training has been Germany, making numerous trips abroad with horses in 1984, 1988, 1990, 1993 and 1997. He trained para-equestrian Kathy Groves through the 2004 Paralympics in Athens, Greece. Dennis competed internationally in Europe on D'accord 58 in 2011 & 2012. He lives permanently in England where he trains, completes and sells horses, and travels nationally and internationally giving clinics to riders ranging from professionals to young riders. He is currently preparing three international prospects.

Lecturer & Specialist Bios

David Schmutz, FEI 4* Para-Equestrian Judge; USEF "S" Dressage Judge

During the Train the Trainer portion of the symposium, Judge Schmutz will present on an Introduction to Para-Dressage and videos of the new FEI Tests & Rules. He will also share his extensive judging expertise with participants of the Train the Trainer program during the live rider demonstrations at each grade level.

David Schmutz is a Senior ('S') Dressage judge approved by United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and has been a Licensed Official since 2000. In 2012 FEI approved him as the only 4-star (4) Para-Equestrian Judge from the United States. Mr. Schmutz has been awarded his bronze, silver and gold rider medals from USDF. He produces Dressage Competitions in the Los Angeles area since 1988, as well as managing USEF and FEI approved competitions. His current venue is at Hansen Dam Equestrian Center in Lakeview Terrace, California. As the owner and manager of the Paddock Riding Club for almost twenty years, he has extensive experience in all phases of equestrian endeavor. The Paddock had capacity for 200 horses, along with regular Hunter/Jumper and*

Dressage competitions and a riding school. The Paddock was sold in 2006. David was chairman of the USDF office relocation study committee which spearheaded the move of the USDF office to Lexington, Kentucky. His service to the local dressage community includes being a founding and life member of Dressage Association of Southern California. He has also served on the board of directors for both California Dressage Society and Dressage Society of Southern California.

Gil Merrick, Former USEF High Performance Dressage Director and National Clinician

Gil will kick off the Para-Dressage Symposium with his keynote address, *A Team Approach*, sharing his knowledge of organizations, national teams, and why collaboration will create a winning team. Gil will also be available for on-site video critiques, a function he fills as a featured dressage coach at Horseshow.com. He will team up with Lindsay McCall to present on Media Training for Para-Equestrians, and also facilitate a discussion on *The Future of Para-Dressage in the US*.

Gil is an accomplished dressage rider and trainer, conducting clinics and seminars throughout the country. Gil brings over 30 years of management experience including extensive international business experience. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management and German from Hiram College and a Masters of Business Administration degree from Cleveland State University. Gil served as Managing Director for Dressage at the United States Equestrian Federation from 2005 through 2009, and is a highly recognized equestrian. As the High Performance Director, he was responsible for administering the process of selecting and training the US teams that competed at the international shows. Gil served successfully as the team leader for the U.S. dressage teams at the 2006 World Equestrian Games (Aachen, Germany), the 2007 Pan American Games (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), and the 2008 Olympic Games (Beijing, China).

Mike Tomlinson, DVM, MBA; FEI 5* Veterinarian and USPEA Board Member

Mike draws from his extensive experience as an FEI 5* veterinarian for his lecture *Keeping the FEI Horse Fit & Ready for International Competition*.

Mike Tomlinson has been an active equestrian since childhood. Every day of his life is greatly influenced by his horses and the horse world. He has been an FEI Official since 1985 and currently is an active FEI Judge ('O'), FEI Veterinarian (5), FEI Technical Delegate, and FEI Chief Steward, participating in over 25 FEI events each year on nearly every continent. He is on the Board of Directors of many national, regional and local equestrian organizations and many for-profit corporations and partnerships. When not at an FEI event, he is usually managing one of the companies in his portfolio, but they always take a back seat to his equestrian activities. Mike's partner, Cherylin Von Aldenbruck, is an accomplished equestrienne and para-dressage instructor, and together they have three teenage boys.*

Tina Wentz, PT, National Classifier and USPEA Board Member

Tina will co-lead a lecture entitled *"Classification Process Defined"* for Train the Trainer attendees, as well as being available to classify riders. As a trained physical therapist and mother of the late Para-Dressage competitor Jonathan Wentz, Tina brings her unique perspective and set of skills to rider classification and para-dressage nationwide.

Tina Wentz is a National Classifier and a physical therapist who has used hippotherapy as a treatment strategy for 15 years. Wentz is a very active volunteer for the High Performance Para-Equestrian Team. She also spends time volunteering at a local therapeutic riding center and dressage club.

Joann Benjamin, PT, HPCS; FEI 'O' Classifier and USEF Classification Coordinator

Joann joins Tina Wentz for the lecture *"Classification Process Defined"* for Train the Trainer attendees, as well as being available to classify riders during the symposium.

Joann is an FEI 'O' Classifier and Instructor for FEI classifier trainings. She is also the Classification Coordinator for USEF and serves on the USEF Adaptive Sports Committee, reviewing dispensation requests from riders competing in USEF recognized events of all disciplines. As a Physical Therapist, she specializes in using equine movement in her treatment of children and adults with special needs. She currently directs the Therapy Services at Ride On in the Los Angeles area. She is a Faculty Coordinator for the American Hippotherapy Association and enjoys teaching about Hippotherapy and Classification in the US and abroad.

Lindsay McCall, Public Relations Manager, USPEA; Photojournalist

Lindsay McCall joins Gil Merrick during a presentation on Media Training for Para-Equestrians.

Lindsay graduated from Ohio State University and is a lifelong horsewoman. She grew up in Northeast Ohio with a family of equestrians involved in multiple disciplines. Lindsay competed Hunter/Jumpers while her mom showed Dressage and Combined Driving. Lindsay is a daughter and granddaughter of Press Photojournalists and a daughter of a family-owned professional photography company. Lindsay's sister was born with Cerebral Palsy Spastic quadriplegia shaping her future with the disabled community. Lindsay's professional career includes Marketing Manager at AT&T Corporate and Co-Owner of an Internet

marketing/ Web Design company. In 2010, Lindsay became the Public Relations Manager for major equestrian clientele including the United States Equestrian Team. In 2012, Lindsay was the USOC Media Coordinator for the Paralympic Equestrian Team as well as the Head Photojournalist for the United States Para-Dressage Team. Lindsay's list of clients has included many of the top equestrians in the Hunter, Jumper, and Dressage world including notable Olympic riders. Lindsay specializes in photojournalism, brand "you" marketing, and media training.

Symposium Officials Bios

Hope Hand, President of USPEA

Hope will share her depth of knowledge and expertise on para-equestrian sport during the Train the Trainer and Rider Symposium, lecturing on Para 101 and Roles & Etiquette for Para-Equestrians. As the driving force behind the USPEA and a para-dressage Olympian, Hope is helping to mobilize and develop para riders and coaches across the country.

Hope serves on the board of directors of the United States Equestrian Federation, is chair of the USEF High Performance Committee and has been a long-time supporter of the United States Pony Club. Hope has had a successful and exciting competitive career. She was first alternate to the Atlanta Paralympic Team in 1996 and competed at the British Invitational in 1997, earning gold, silver and bronze medals. In 1998 at the USEF Festival of Champions, she was one of four disabled riders where each para-dressage rider competed on four separate teams with their able-bodied peers. At the 1999 World Dressage Championships as a member of Team USA she earned a bronze medal. Hope competed at the 2000 Paralympics in Sydney, Australia, finishing 5th in the overall standings. Hope has received numerous awards for her leadership roles in promoting sport for athletes with disabilities.

Sarah Armentrout, Head of School, Carlisle Academy

As Head of School, Sarah is involved in all aspects of managing Carlisle Academy. From organizational oversight to fiscal and strategic planning, Sarah combines her passion for horses with a desire to serve her community. Sarah has been in the field of equine-assisted therapy since 1995 when she was first certified as a PATH Intl. instructor. Now an advanced level PATH Intl. certified riding instructor, she teaches both able-bodied and riders with disabilities, and has a keen interest in developing the para-equestrian sports side of the program. Prior to the evolution of Carlisle Academy, Sarah, along with husband Nick, co-founded Equest Therapeutic Riding Center in 1998 where Sarah served as Executive Director for all of Equest's 12 years. Earlier in her career, Sarah managed the Corporate Giving Program and eventually directed the Corporate Communications Department at Tom's of Maine. She currently is Vice Chair of the York County Grantmaking Committee of the Maine Community Foundation and serves as an Advisor to the Carlisle Charitable Foundation.