



Spring 2017

T A K E T H E REINS



Adopt-a-Horse: Lake Effect Equestrian Team

USEF Luncheon: North Gate Farm

First IEA Teams Compete in Washington State



**Adopt-a-Horse:
Lake Effect Equestrian Team**



Online Auction Recap—Thank You...



USEF Luncheon

photography by Adam Brennan



One to Watch

The Leg Up by Sue Wentzel



**First IEA Teams Compete in
Washington State**

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cover North Gate Farm

photo by: Adam Brennan

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Roxane Durant, IEA Executive Director

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**“I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life.
And that is why I succeed.” ~Michael Jordan**

Perspective is important when it comes to IEA post-season competitions.

The full quote from Michael Jordan, who is considered to be the greatest basketball player of all time, includes the fact that he missed over 9,000 shots in his career; lost 300 games, and 26 times he was trusted to take the winning game shot, and he missed!

32 teams play in the National Football League, but only ONE wins the Super Bowl! There are 30 Major League Baseball teams; only ONE wins the World Series!

Did you know that a good batting average in baseball is .300??!! That is a 30% average! That also means that 70% of the time, they are MISSING the ball! Babe Ruth often had more than 50 home runs in a year, but in a normal year, he also had 80-90 strike-outs!!

What is a perfect score in golf? 72 is the usual par on a golf course, but think about it...wouldn't 18 be a perfect score??!!

If you participate in sports, odds are that your stats will reflect more losing than winning.

PERSPECTIVE...

So, as you gear up for IEA post-season finals, consider some relevant stats.

If you showed in your five regular shows this year, and didn't fall off in at least half of your classes, your stats are already ahead of a professional baseball player! In fact, I'd venture a guess that most of

you achieve a 90% success rating when it comes to competently riding the horse you were given, and putting points on the board for your team!

In the Western divisions, there are 88 upper school teams, and 78 middle school teams. In the Hunt Seat divisions, there are 728 upper school teams and 679 middle school teams. Only one of those teams will WIN IEA Nationals! Those numbers/stats make getting to the Super Bowl or the World Series look EASY!!!

Lots of teams and riders will qualify for Regional Finals this year, but at that point, the funnel gets tight, and a lot fewer teams and riders will move on to the Zone Finals level. Only a select few will go to Nationals. At the end of it all, only ONE team/ONE person will WIN those National Titles.

PERSPECTIVE...

99% of our members will not WIN post-season finals, but I would bet that 100% of you will realize that you made a lot of friends, had a lot of fun and celebrated your own victories along the way!

Mary Lou Retton (Gold Medal Gymnast, 1984) said it well, “A trophy carries dust. Memories last forever.”

Enjoy the post-season fun with your teammates, and reflect on the success of your journey this year. I am confident that you improved as a rider and as a person. Your participation may not yield a blue ribbon, but I would bet the bank that you will count this year as a success! 

A. Shaleen & Jason Davis	Chatham Hall	Jennifer Wold	Paola Luptak
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Thank You
2016 Donors

He was in a
BARN FIRE
and thought to have
DIED.

Adopt-a-Horse: Lake Effect Equestrian Team

She was
PURPOSELY
STARVED
by her owners.



*This past
holiday season*

the Lake Effect Equestrian Team was looking for ways to give back to their community. One of the parents who is actively involved in helping needy animals suggested possibly helping or donating to a local shelter in need. That idea blossomed into initiating an adopt a horse program. We reached out to a local shelter who recently took in two malnourished and needy horses. The group, called The ANNA Shelter (Association for Needy and Neglected Animals) based in Erie, Pennsylvania, approved of our idea, and we began to compile gift cards, blankets, and other supplies needed to rehabilitate these horses.



BOUGHT BY PEOPLE TO BE USED FOR FOOD— FOR THEM.

Here is their story:

Gabby is 20 years old and was purposely starved by her original owners. She was rescued by the ANNA Shelter Equine program and is in foster care with an Erie Police Officer in McKean, PA. Reports have it that she was originally bought by people to be used for food—for them. Neighbors reported a severely underweight horse and she was seized from the home. She has made a lot of progress and is very loving and friendly.

FOUND WITH SMOLDERING ASHES ON HIS BACK



Jager is 30 years old. He was in a barn fire and thought to have died. The people who owned him also owned chickens, goats and cows. All of the other animals died in the fire and they thought Jager did also. They did not go to the barn for three days after the fire or even check to see if any animals survived. He was found days later when authorities began an investigation and went to the home. He was found with smoldering ashes on his back and needed a lot of vet care. They were not even sure for weeks if he would survive.

On December 28, 2016, team members met with Gabby and Jager, and presented their caretaker with blankets, treats, a water heater, and gift cards that purchased 10 bags of feed and several other needed items. The horses were very happy and eager to take the treats. The team hopes to continue to donate and continue to find ways to help out in the community.

Lake Effect Equestrian Team encompasses all levels of riders in Northwestern Pennsylvania and has been a member of the IEA for 10 years. We have found the program to be rewarding in so many ways inside and outside of the ring. Alongside of the IEA's goals, we encourage a higher standard by stressing good horsemanship and good sportsmanship in and out of the tack. 🐾



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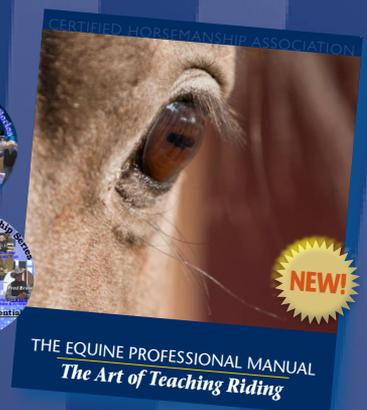
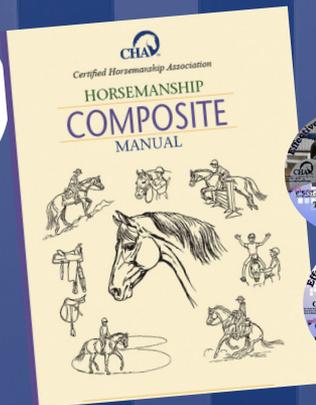


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Online Auction Recap—Thank You...

A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in IEA's Online Auction. Because of your generous support, we raised \$4,368.50 for IEA's Benevolent Fund. We are overwhelmed by the success of our first auction and excited to be able to assist more IEA riders and coaches in financial need. Click the link below for more information on [IEA's Benevolent Fund](#) or to donate.

Special thanks to our donors :

If you are interested in donating to a future IEA auction, or would like to sponsor one, please contact martketing@rideiea.org.



One-Week Long Summer Riding Camp at Chatham Hall



Surfing lessons for two



3 in 1 Jacket

DONOR	DONATION	VALUE
Chatham Hall	One-Week Long Summer Riding Camp at Chatham Hall in Chatham, VA	\$1550
Alfred University	One-Week Long Riding Camp at Alfred University	\$700
College Equestrian Consulting	Prosective College Equestrian Recruit Portfolio	\$450
Pebble Beach Company, Community Affairs	80 minute facial and spa manucure and pedicure at the Spa at Pebble Beach	\$410
Revolution Equestrian	Five Half Hour Private Riding Lessons at Revolution Equestrian	\$275
Besco Awards	Waterproof 3-in-1 Jacket with Soft Shell Inner Jacker with Embroidery of Name and IEA Logo	\$ 185
Making the Drop	two gift certificates for Surfing Lessons for two	\$220 each
Johnson & Wales University	Chef's Choice Cooking Classes for two	\$180
Equi In Style	two EIS Cool Weather Shirts (one in Chili Pepper and one in Slate Blue)	\$158
Chagrin Saddlery	gift basket that included a Schockemohle Sport Backpack, Chagrin Saddlery Socks and Crop	\$130
Essex Show Shirts	Essex Performance Flora Ladies Talent Yarn Wrap Collar Show Shirt	\$130
Amanda Garner	Team Box of 10 copies of "A Parent's Guide to the IEA"	\$129.90
Bridleplates	Jo's Premium Leather Show Halter with Engraved Plate	\$120
Pamela Laffin	one Silpada Necklace	\$109
Equestrian Life Apparel	a gift basket that included one t-shirt, one longsleeved shirt, one hat, one visor and two logo decals	\$100
Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA)	"Equestrian Professional Manual — The Art of Teaching Riding and a Composite Manual of Horsemanship"	\$69.95
Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA)	"CHA Composite Horsemanship Manual"	\$69.95

USEF Luncheon

Pictures by Adam Brennan | picturesbyab.com

Photos taken at the USEF Annual Meeting where North Gate Farm from Sudbury, MA, was honored at the President's Luncheon as the "Leading Interscholastic Team of the Year." North Gate Team won the Upper and Middle School Hunt Seat National Championship at the 2016 IEA Hunt Seat Finals.







The first of many Youth Board Columns...

What Do You(th) Think?



Kimberly Pokstis, Zone 2

A discrete aspect of the IEA has become increasingly popular: the horsemanship test. Unlike fences, flat, or reining classes,

these tests do not challenge a rider's abilities on a horse, but instead their knowledge about the horse. Keen horsemanship is imperative in IEA, which intently focuses on the gratitude for horses who so willingly give riders their all each round they compete. Horsemanship tests are available in nearly all Zones, even extending to Zone Finals! Check out the view's of Hannah Bentz and Alex Prymek, two Youth Board members who initiated and expanded horsemanship tests in their Zones!



Alex Prymek, Zone 7

With IEA's catch-riding format, it can be easy to forget about horsemanship. I wanted to start a horsemanship test in Zone 7

to not only emphasize the importance, but to also prepare riders for the test at nationals. I began by talking to the Youth Board advisors and my Zone Administrator. With their support, I was able to start a test at Zone Finals where money was raised to benefit the Benevolent Fund. Some riders shine in the show ring, and some riders shine in the barn. Both deserve recognition.



Madison Vance Zone 7 Western

Well-rounded horsemen learn not only horsemanship skills in the saddle, but genuine horse

knowledge. IEA's horsemanship test is a great way to exhibit true horse knowledge. This is just another opportunity to shine in IEA. Although Zone 7 Western is relatively new to IEA, we will

lead by offering a written horsemanship test this year at our Zone show. Check with your Zone Representative to see what your zone offers. If your zone does not offer a test, you are still eligible to take the test at nationals.

If you have any questions or ideas, contact your Zone Administrator or Youth Board rep.



Without our horses, we do not have a sport, so it is important that we understand the basics of caring for them properly.

Hannah Bentz **Alumni Representative**



IEA Zone 4 has always offered a horsemanship test at Zone Finals. Horsemanship knowledge has always been a passion of mine. Because I had participated in the post-season IEA tests, I looked for other horsemanship oriented programs such as the USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Challenge and Emerging Athletes Program. This eventually led to an invitation to be an Assistant Stable Manager at the George H. Morris Horsemastership Training Session in Wellington, FL.

In 2015, I worked with Alicia Story and Simon Towns to start a Regional Horsemanship Test in Zone 4, Region 8. We offered a horsemanship test at six regular season shows throughout the season. The top six were awarded a ribbon and the top scoring member received a prize. The IEA members with the top six overall horsemanship test points for the season were invited to take the Regional Finals Horsemanship Test, and the top three were awarded scholarship money. After a positive response from the IEA members who participated, we have gone zone wide and will offer a Zone 4 Horsemanship Test Finals for the 2016-17 season!

Without our horses, we do not have a sport, so it is important that we understand the basics of caring for them properly. Regardless of riding ability, we can all learn more about the horse; and I believe that horsemanship is just as important as the time spent in the saddle. 

HORSEMANSHIP PROGRAM

For youth members in grades 4-12 that emphasizes un-mounted horsemanship skills!

Not every horse-crazy young person finds happiness on a horse. Some find a happy-place in the barn: grooming, handling and caring for their four-legged friends.

Who is eligible?

Any student in grades 4-12 who is a Junior Contributing Member.

How Does It Work?

Each member will participate in an age category:

- Upper Elementary Members (Grades 4–5)
- Middle School members (Grades 6–8)
- Upper School Members (Grades 9–12)

Participants will record their un-mounted hours helping in the barn as well as special activities in which they learned something new. In addition, online quizzes will be available on a variety of topics for members to test their knowledge.

Contact Jennifer Eaton at:

877-RIDE-IEA (877-743-3432) x203 or

Jenn@rideiea.org for more information.





ONE TO WATCH

The Leg Up by Sue Wentzel



Growing up on a horse farm with a mother who's a riding instructor, a father who's a farrier, and a barn full of fantastic horses supporting a large lesson program would be a dream come true for many kids. For Grace Fulton, this is her reality, and life at Full Moon Farm in Finksburg, Maryland, is pretty sweet. "My parents frequently like to remind me how lucky I am. I know it and I really appreciate it! They have surrounded me and my sister, Savannah (Woodge), with great people and provided a wonderful environment in which to grow and develop a passion for horses."

Full Moon Farm joined the IEA in the fall of 2011. They are known as a team of indomitable spirit with top contenders at every level. From festive IEA cupcakes to fancy blue hair ribbons, Full

Moon Farm pride is on display in some manner at every competition. Grace fondly remembers starting out in the IEA, "I was in middle school and one of the younger team members. I looked up to my sister and several other older riders. They really made it fun to be part of the team." Six years later and Grace admits, "Now that they have all graduated and I'm one of the older ones in a leadership role, it feels a little weird. But I try to pass on the same kind of encouragement and support that helped me." Grace has enjoyed notable success competing in IEA. In 2011-12 the Full Moon Farm upper school team qualified for Nationals and Grace rode as an individual in the Future Intermediate division. Impressive accomplishments for competitors in their first IEA season! This

Grace's accomplishments are a result of considerable discipline and dedication on her part, paired with unwavering support and commitment from her parents.

year, her senior and last year as a rider member, has been particularly fun and felt extra special. "Winning the Varsity Open Championship Class at the Zone 3 Finals was super cool! This class is not usually held at the regular season shows in Zone 3 and with several levels of testing it felt like a big deal." Grace and teammate Jacob Connell will be moving forward to compete in Hunt Seat Nationals in Lexington, Virginia. They are looking forward to the big event and hopeful for continued success. In typical Full Moon Farm style, several of their teammates who did not qualify will also make the trip to Nationals to cheer on Grace and Jacob.

Horses consume a good bit of Grace's day but she still finds time to run and hang out with friends. Online schooling allows her the freedom to travel and compete. As successful as Grace is in the equitation ring, she's even more impressive competing in dressage, cross-country, and stadium! Taking up the reins on a horse named Wild Orange (barn name "Mirry"), owned by Sharon White, a four-star competitor based out of Last Frontier Farm in Summit Point, West Virginia, Grace is steadily climbing the ranks in the eventing discipline. In 2014, competing on Mirry in the North American Junior Young Riders Championships CC1* for Area 2, she was part of the gold medal team and finished 5th individually. Last fall the pair competed successfully through all three



Photo by Katherine Rizzo

phases at the prestigious Fair Hill International two-star event.

Participating in several competitions designated as selection events, Grace impressed members of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Eventing High Performance Committee and was named to the USEF Emerging Athlete Eventing 18 Program for 2017. Her older sister made the Eventing 25 list. The 28 young riders designated on these two lists have been identified as athletes with the potential to evolve into future team candidates. This program is comparable to the USEF Emerging Athlete Program (EAP) in which IEA alumni Jacob Pope and Carly Williams gained the highest acclaim. Being named to the team earned Grace a spot in a week-long training session last December in Florida conducted by coach Leslie Law. "Working with someone of Mr. Law's caliber was so educational. His fresh perspective provided me with several really helpful pointers and the team atmosphere he created within the group made things fun." Daily educational seminars and hands-on-experiences complimented the intense and informative riding portions of the program. "I'm looking forward to the next training session this

summer. I really appreciate meeting other riders from all over the country with similar aspirations and drive.”

Grace is weighing her options for the future. Although she’s been accepted to college, she is also considering working abroad with horses for a year or two before continuing academic pursuits. “No matter what I decide or direction I go, I know my experiences in IEA and eventing Mirry will help me be successful.” Grace’s accomplishments are a result of considerable discipline and dedication on her part, paired with unwavering support and commitment from her parents. This formula has provided her the foundation for success in and out of the competition ring and makes her one to watch in the coming years. 

GRACE'S EVENTING HIGHLIGHTS

- 2014 North American Junior Young Rider Championships CCI1*- Gold medal team, 5th place individual
- 2016 Bromont Three Day Event CCI1*
- 2016 Maryland Horse Trials CIC2*- 13th place
- 2016 Richland Park Horse Trials CIC2*- 14th place
- 2016 Plantation Fields Horse Trials CIC2*
- 2016 Fair Hill International CCI2*- 19th place

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INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION ZONE 9

First IEA Teams Compete in Washington State

The IEA reached a major milestone this season when new teams enrolled from Washington State. This is an exciting event because this is the first time that the IEA has had members join from Zone 9, which is comprised of Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Alaska.

In February, all Zone 9 riders, coaches and countless parents, friends and volunteers came together to collaborate on their first two hunt seat events that were held at the Clark County Event Center in Ridgefield, Washington. Connie Riker of Rochester, Washington, has been the driving force behind of the development of this area, networking with local professionals to establish the five existing

teams. Connie, and daughter Cassie Riker, are the coaches of the Belmore Team.

“The coaches and teams have been working together to make the IEA in Zone 9 a success. Seeing the smiles and camaraderie for both human and equine team members makes it all worth while!” stated Connie regarding the competitions in February, “Thank you to the horse providers for allowing our youth members to benefit from your horses and for all the volunteers that made the weekend a success.”

IEA’s unique format wasn’t only a new experience for the teams, but also for their wonderful horses. All horses needed for the

Zone 9

5 teams & 50 members:

Belmore Equestrian

Ridgefield, Washington

Coaches: Connie and Cassie Riker

Burkwood Farm

Blaine, Washington

Coach: Paige Wagter

Creidmount Saddle Club

Blaine, Washington

Coach: Kimberly Barber

Longacre Stables and School of Horsemanship

Longview, Washington

Coach: Donna Longacre

Quarry Ridge Riders

Battle Ground, Washington

Coach: Julia Richard

events were donated by Belmore Equestrian, Quarry Ridge Riders, Longacre Stables and School of Horsemanship, and Laura Flanigan. The combination of cooperative horses and dedicated members were the key to the successful competitions.

While most new teams that join the IEA have the benefit of other nearby teams to help them learn the ropes, Zone 9 is on their own. During the weekend of competitions in February, members and their families attended meetings in which they learned more about what was required to host an

IEA show, and were able to ask questions. Time was taken throughout the weekend to educate the new members about everything from evaluating horses to how carry out the random assignment of horses.

Members of Zone 9 did it all again on the weekend of March 25 & 26 when they hosted their last three regular season shows, as well as Zone Finals. Competitions were held in Bellingham, Washington. The Creidmount Saddle Club and Burkwood Farm teams provided the horses and facilities for the weekend.

Riders in Zone 9 who earn 15 points in a class qualified to compete at the Zone Finals, which determined who will represent Zone 9 at the IEA Hunt Seat National Finals being held at the Virginia Horse Park located in Lexington, Virginia in late April. Zone 9 will be sending one rider to compete in each individual class, as well as one upper school team and one middle school team.

Sights are already set on next season, with interest emerging in the eastern part of Washington, as well as Oregon. As with most newly developing areas, the IEA expects that the membership in Zone 9 will grow in the coming years, offering more competition opportunities and community resources. 



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#RiderRepost Friday

Tag @rideiea in your IEA instagram photos for a chance to be featured.



1 [@my.gray.gelding](#) Pre ride talk with my amazing trainer ♥

2 [@kingshowhorseset](#) Two days until Tennessee! Everyone remember to prepare for a chilly show day. Now is the time to take advantage of those KSH onesies 😊
[#InHotHandsWeTrust](#)

3 [@claradvorak](#) We like to have fun around here 😂 We we're high school and middle school team champions!! REGIONALS HERE WE COME 🙌 [#ieazone7](#) [#rideiea](#)

#RiderRepost Friday

Tag @rideiea in your IEA instagram photos for a chance to be featured.



4 [@kf.eventing](#) This boy is finally sound!!! I rode him last night and he was fabulous! ❤️ I had a fabulous [@rideiea](#) show this weekend and qualified for regionals! 😊

5 [@western.side](#) I had some good draws today!! My first horse was Big Al (left) and I got 2nd on him out of 8 people! Then I drew a horse named Penny and I got 5th on her out of 7!! I also am going to zones!! Great job everyone!! [#blueraidercup](#) [#ieazone4](#)

6 [@meghan_moran72](#) Just doing what I love 🐾 [#ieazone1](#) [#rideiea](#)

7 [@stonyglen_](#) Great job to all our IEA riders today! Rocking it on Mardi Gras



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