



# AGDF TIMES

Issue 3, February 8-11, 2018

2018 Adequan® Global Dressage Festival | Editor: Jennifer Wood

## GRAVES AND VERDADES HIGHLIGHT A STRONG WEEK THREE AT AGDF



Laura Graves and Verdades put in the highest scoring test ever at AGDF to win the Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by US P.R.E. at AGDF 3. ©SusanJStickle.com

ons. Their complex floorplan included passage half-pass, two-time changes on a curve melting straight into one-times and ultra-steep trot half-passes, all performed with their customary lightness, to music from the football movie Rudy.

In both the freestyle and the grand prix, Sweden's Tinne Vilhelmsen Silfvén (on Löfvsta Stuteri's Paridon Magi) finished second, and home rider Shelly Francis filled third on Patricia Stempel's De Niro gelding, Danilo.

In the CDI3\* division, Adrienne Lyle scored a double with the inexperienced but hugely talented Salvino, Elizabeth Juliano's 11-year-old stallion by Sandro Hit. Their 75.234% grand prix special score is the highest awarded on American soil this year, and their 74.543% grand prix represented a new career high score for the 33-year-old rider.

"We're pretty green still in the special as he hasn't done too many of them, but the effort he's putting in in the ring is phenomenal, and it's now just a matter of smoothing it out and him understanding what we want and when, because he's always so eager to offer it all up in there," said Lyle, who is another to train with Debbie McDonald and was quick to praise her input. "Every time he goes in there, he tries harder, and that's very special.

"The most exciting thing about him, and I've heard this from a couple of judges too, is that there's not one thing that's a weak point and could only be a seven. As he gets stronger, we'll see where the scores go. But there's not one thing where he's plateaued yet — or even come close to plateauing," added Lyle.

Canada's Megan Lane was the closest chaser, finishing second in the special with 72.383% on the 17-year-old Contango mare Caravella, while Shelly Francis was third again, this time with Doktor.

Another American rider adding to their haul of winners' blankets was Heather Blitz, who dominated the small tour ranks, winning all three classes, presented by Triple Crown Nutrition. She rode the up-and-coming nine-year-old gelding Praes-temarkens Quatero, by Quaterback. Wellington-based Blitz has been riding the horse for three years, but only launched his international career

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## PALM BEACH COUNTY CHARITIES: CELEBRITIES OF THE NINTH ANNUAL GREAT CHARITY CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY FIDELITY INVESTMENTS®



The top three teams in the GCC along with Mark, Katherine, and Paige Bellissimo, Saralyn Scaldini, VP Financial Consultant, Fidelity Investments - Boca Raton branch, Denise Parrotta, Esq., along with team and corporate sponsors and charity representatives. © Sportfot

On Saturday night, Palm Beach County cheered as the Great Charity Challenge, presented by Fidelity Investments® (GCC), distributed \$1.5 million to local non-profit organizations at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC). The GCC has become a highlight of the 12-week Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) and has distributed over \$12.2 million to more than 220 local organizations in nine years.

Determined to redefine the recognition of true stars, the GCC is an exciting show jumping event that brings hope to over 30 Palm Beach County charities every year.

This year's theme: "A Night When Everyone's a Star" highlighted the many perspectives that stardom can feature; from the hundreds of non-profit representatives and volunteers, to the event sponsors and the riders, dressed as their favorite Hollywood characters. All twelve Wellington Public Schools joined in the festivities by participating in a Chalk Art Festival, featuring the essence of the night: inspiring others to give.

The winning team of riders: Shane Sweetnam, Lindsey Tomeu, and Chloe White, sponsored by team sponsor Spy Coast Farm/Lisa Lourie and Monica Preston, and corporate sponsor Dever Golf Cars, came in the ring dressed as characters from the movie Grease. Their teamwork and sportsmanship paid off for Education Foundation, a local non-profit organization that facilitates student achievement by supporting high quality public education to more than 200,000 chil-

dren in Palm Beach County, earning them the top prize of \$150,000. The sliding scale for the balance of the proceeds, down to 29th place, won a minimum of \$15,000, ensuring that everyone is a winner.

The three riders made up the top team of the night out of 29 pro-am combinations, paired with randomly selected Palm Beach County charities. Each team was made up of junior and amateur riders competing side-by-side with top professionals, including Olympians.

James Gavrilos, President and CEO of the Education Foundation, stated, "The Education Foundation serves the nation's tenth largest school district. There are 200,000 children in this school district. With the funds that are donated tonight because of what you young people have done, we're going to change lives! We're going to educate kids. One of our donors has said it best, 'Children only make up 20 percent of our population, but they're 100 percent of our future.' If we don't educate our children, prepare them for college, prepare them for life, what's going to happen for them? That's why it's so exciting to see this collaboration of people coming together to change the world one kid at a time — or in our case, 200,000 kids at a time. The Education Foundation sponsors a number of large grants, small grants, creative teachers who are doing things to really influence lives.

"Tonight, what you three (riders) and you, Lisa, and Paige (Bellissimo),

➔ Continued on page 6

## CAPTIVE INSURANCE FREES BUSINESSES OF TRADITIONAL INSURANCE LIMITATIONS



"Captive insurance sets business free in so many ways and business owners are just starting to become aware of its capabilities," Jenkins says. "It can save your business from interruption by those 'black swan' events beyond your control that your existing carrier won't cover. While Fortune 1000 companies use captives all the time, many sophisticated owners of closely-held businesses don't realize how they can benefit the same way. We're on a mission to help businesses do just that."

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A 30-year veteran of the insurance industry, Jenkins launched CaptiveOne in 2005 to serve business around the nation from its offices in Wellington and Wilmington, Delaware.

Jenkins explains: "Insurance companies may cover loss to your building, but not supply chain disruptions, business interruption, and unforeseen consequences from natural disasters. I have seen captive insurance allow businesses to keep their doors open. A business owner knows its risks better than

anyone. We help craft the solutions and manage your insurance company."

He continues: "Although you control your insurance company, we manage it and provide the assessment, underwriting, actuarial, and claims management team that most businesses don't employ themselves. We create strategies that can help you see your company through those unforeseen events, and structure your captive insurance company so you can reinvest unused premiums and build equity. You are in the saddle, but we do the work."

CaptiveOne employs a deep bench of insurance industry professionals and technical specialists, including sons Bryan and Steven, who grew up in Wellington and in the insurance business. Those hometown roots and desire to give back prompted CaptiveOne to become an Official and Major Sponsor of the 2018 Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) and Title Sponsor for the FEI 5\* Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle Dressage competitions.

"This is an iconic, world-renowned event and we're thrilled to put our name behind it," Jenkins says. "It's a great experience for our children and families, and a perfect way to showcase Wellington for visitors and businesses from all over the world."

To learn more about CaptiveOne, visit [www.captiveone.com](http://www.captiveone.com) or call 800-781-4301.

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## PBIEC WEEK 3 & 4 UPCOMING EVENTS

### LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

On Thursday, February 8, the Lunch & Learn Series will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Wellington Club. The topic is "2018 Tax Reform Implications for Individuals and Business Owners," and is sponsored by U.S. Trust and Bank of America Merrill Lynch. This informational and educational series has a variety of subjects for horsemen and women to learn more for their horses and other subjects. Admission is free for riders, trainers, and owners. Register at the door for a chance to win exciting prizes. Contact Kailey Blasius at 561-784-1137 or [kblasius@equestriansport.com](mailto:kblasius@equestriansport.com) for more information.

### WEEK 5 GROOMS' CLASS

Calling all grooms! Come show off your skills in the popular \$1,000 Shapley's Grooms' Class during Week 5 on Friday, February 9, at approximately 3 p.m. in Ring 10. Grooms are asked to register in the Show Office prior to the class. Ribbon and prizes will be presented! And, don't forget to save the date for the Week 10 Grooms' Class taking place Friday, March 16.

### ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL "FRIDAY NIGHT STARS"

AGDF's "Friday Night Stars" Series showcases some of the world's best dressage riders as they perform freestyles at the top level of competition. The third week of CDI competition will feature 5\* grand prix musical freestyle competition, sponsored by CaptiveOne Advisors, on Friday, February 9. Held at Equestrian Village at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, gates open at 6 p.m. and competition begins at 7 p.m. General admission is free, parking is \$10/car.

### "SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS"

#### \$384,000 FIDELITY INVESTMENTS® GRAND PRIX CSI5\*

The grand prix competition during WEF 5 will be featured during "Saturday Night Lights" in the International Ring at the main grounds of Palm Beach International Equestrian Center on Saturday, February 10, at 7 p.m. The best show jumpers of the circuit qualify during the week to compete and show off their skills in the \$384,000 Fidelity Investments® Grand Prix CSI5\*. This always-exciting competition features the biggest jumps with daring jump-off rides for the best prize money. Admission is free and parking is \$20/car with \$30 valet available.

### THE VEUVE CLICQUOT SUITES – AVAILABLE SATURDAY NIGHT

Located in the Special Events Pavilion, The Veuve Clicquot Suites are available on Saturday, February 10. Prime viewing, a full buffet, and premium bar options in a semi-private suite catered by White Horse Catering, this is the place to host friends and family or even a corporate get-together. Each suite accommodates up to 22 people. Availability is on first-come, first-served basis, so book now before they all fill up! Contact Patti Miele at 561-784-1125 or [pmiele@equestriansport.com](mailto:pmiele@equestriansport.com) today.

### \$50,000 EQUILINE GRAND PRIX CSI 2\*

Watch riders in the two-star division during WEF 5 compete in their grand prix on Sunday, February 11 in the International Arena. General admission and parking on Sunday are free, so come out to PBIEC and cheer on these top riders in their biggest event of the week.

### PROELITE LAUNCH EVENT

ProElite® Horse feeds are the first Ultra-Premium Horse Feeds available. It's not bragging if it's true. Come to The Gallery on Saturday evening, February 10, during the Grand Prix for food and drinks at the ProElite Launch Event. Sip on a signature ProElite® cocktail, win prizes like Tiffany & Co® Jewelry and watch the Grand Prix. Mingle with the professionals who feed ProElite®, and the experts who created it. After all, there can only be one best.™ Register before the event for exclusive perks and guaranteed admission at [ProEliteHorsefeed.com/WEF](http://ProEliteHorsefeed.com/WEF).

### RIDE & LEARN WITH SANDY FERRELL

Looking ahead to WEF 8! The Ride & Learn Series will take place six times during WEF in 2018. Each week will feature a mounted riding clinic instructed by highly esteemed industry. Week 8 features hunter rider Sandy Ferrell, who will be training with the theme of "Young Hunters" at the Van Kampen Covered Arena at The Stadium at PBIEC (AGDF show grounds) on Tuesday, February 27, at 2 p.m. Participation to ride in the clinic is \$100 per horse/rider per clinic, so sign up today! Auditing is Free. For more information or to sign up for a clinic, please contact Jessica Nichols at 561-784-4275 or [jnichols@equestriansport.com](mailto:jnichols@equestriansport.com).

## INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB HAPPENINGS

This week at IPC, the Ylvisaker Cup Tournament continues with games on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Thirteen teams are entered in this tournament which is set to complete on Sunday, February 25. The highlight match every Sunday will begin 3:00 p.m. on the Engel & Völkers Field.

This Sunday at IPC, several new shopping vendors such as Socapri and Goldmund, will be open in addition to Michelle Farmer Collaborative. All three retail spaces will be open throughout the day behind the grand stand. Socapri will also have a small pop up boutique in the Pavilion during brunch.

The Coco Polo Lounge sponsored by Seminole Casino Coconut Creek will have a delicious brunch station, specialty cocktails, and exclusive swag bags for its guests this week.

The Pavilion will open at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday and serve a brunch buffet throughout the match, with tables overlooking the play at Engel & Völkers Field. Tickets for the Pavilion can be purchased online at [www.internationalpoloclub.com](http://www.internationalpoloclub.com).

Autograph signings with the winning team are available after the highlight game on Sunday – bring a ball or a pen and get a souvenir signed by your favorite player!

General admission seating is available and can be reserved online or purchased upon arrival on Sunday. Parking at IPC is \$5.

The Polo season at IPC, which began on December 31, continues through Sunday, April 22, and will once again be home to the U.S. Open Championship Finals, North America's most prestigious polo tournament.

To purchase tickets to Sunday polo and brunch at The Pavilion, visit [internationalpoloclub.com](http://internationalpoloclub.com).

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## The Veuve Clicquot Suites

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Included in your ticket is a full buffet and open bar for \$150.00 per person for a regular show and \$200.00 per person for a 5\* show.

Specialty Bottle Pricing Available for Veuve Clicquot.

The Suites are available for the following Saturday Night Lights Events:

Regular Shows: January 13, 20, 27 • February 3 • March 3, 17, 24

5\* Shows: February 10, 24 • March 10, 31

For more information and booking please e-mail [suites@equestriansport.com](mailto:suites@equestriansport.com)



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## My Lady Honored AT AGDF 5 IN RETIREMENT CEREMONY



The plan was that we would share her and we'd both ride her, but very quickly after we got her I won the five-star grand prix special at the World Dressage Masters at Jim Brandon, and Janne said, 'OK, you'd better keep the ride,' — as it was going a little better than we had predicted!"

My Lady was bred by Marlene Lindholm and born in her native Denmark. She is by Michellino, prolific producer of talented dressage horses, including Mistral Hojris, Elmegardens Marquis, Michigan, Smeyers Molberg and Mane Stream Hotmail. My Lady was the only foal for her dam, Marion, who was by Ritterstern.

My Lady has shown successfully in the international dressage arena since 2012. She has been

one of the most successful horses at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival since the show's inception in 2012, accruing a staggering number of more than 50 ribbons at grand prix level. Her real trump card was the freestyle class.

Mikala, who is based at Bell Tower Farm in Wellington, said: "She loved to do the freestyle — as soon as the music came on she turned into a dancing queen. It was like she listened to the music and wanted to follow the rhythm. It felt like she said, 'I got this — just hang on and let me do my job.' When I saw the movie 'Burlesque', I knew we should use that music and she clicked with it. I think the freestyle is what people will remember us for."

Indeed, their freestyle performances garnered over 75% eleven times in their illustrious international career. Their career high score was 79.9%, which won them the FEI World Cup qualifier in Saugerties, NY, in September 2015.

But things were not always plain sailing with this hot-headed mare.

"She ran off with me a couple of times in the arena," recalled Mikala. "One was in Fritzens in Austria; in the test she took the bit and ran, and I knew I just had to give the rein. Then, the next day, she won the consolation class. And in one of the last classes we did together at Global, she ran off in the prize-giving when she got scared by a flag. You also can't lead her without a chain on, otherwise she just walks her own way, but with one on, she

doesn't pull at all. She knows exactly how strong she is. But that's her personality and we learned to work around her and with her, but she's really always in charge. She's an alpha mare and has an opinion about everything, but she gave me her heart in the ring."

Janne, who at 73 is still an active dressage competitor, added: "To have My Lady and Mikala in top dressage sports has been amazing and wonderful to be part of. They have always been so beautiful to watch together."

Spectators expecting My Lady to perform her signature freestyle routine will have to adjust their expectations as the mare is pregnant and due a foal by Vitalis in three months. Her ceremony will include video clips from her ADGF 5\* freestyle victory put together by the man behind her iconic freestyle, Gary Patterson, and Mikala will present her in-hand, for the final time.

"She is big and fat and pregnant right now, but My Lady is a once in a lifetime horse and I am forever thankful to have had the opportunity to ride her," added Mikala, 49. "She's done everything for us and we have to know when the time is right to stop. We always wanted to have a foal but didn't want to do embryo transfer while she was competing, so we decided she could carry her own foal. Friday is definitely going to be emotional, but we are going to try to make it a fun event. It's been an amazing journey and I'm forever thankful to Janne and Lady. And for sure I am going to cry!"

Alice Collins



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**PALM BEACH COUNTY CHARITIES: CELEBRITIES OF THE NINTH ANNUAL GREAT CHARITY CHALLENGE**

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

you and your family – you’ve done a great thing with an incredible amount of love. The love that I see in this community and the camaraderie, that’s the way we change the world. When we hold hands, when we band together, when we love one another, and we look at someone who needs, and we don’t ask why, we ask why not? Thank you for honoring us and letting us be part of this.”

Team sponsor Lisa Lourie said, “Monica Preston and I really enjoy doing this every year. We’re very fortunate to have people who are so committed and make sure that they have really good horses. They really give it their all. But more importantly of course, is the Education Foundation and the other charities that we’ve been able to assist. It’s very special. Monica and I are both residents of this area, of Palm Beach. It means a lot for us to give back. It’s a great way for them to see what we do and the heart that we put into things. I think it’s a way for other people here in our family at Wellington to appreciate what all of these charities do. That’s the most important thing, that they get their visibility.”

This was the third year in a row that the Spy Coast Farm/Preston team has won the GCC, including team riders Shane Sweetnam and Lindsey Tomeu. It was the first time competing for Chloe White. For winning the third year in a row, Lourie and Preston donated a \$15,000 bonus to Meals on Wheels.

Shane Sweetnam, who has ridden in the GCC every year, was captain of the winning team riding Catch a Star HHS with riders Lindsey Tomeu on Gold Lux and Chloe White riding Miss Understood II. All three riders jumped clear over their courses and had the fastest combined time of the night in 88.157 seconds.

“We thought we left the door open a little bit,” said Sweetnam. “I had a younger horse, a little bit of change of dynamics to the team. So it wasn’t as fast as last year, but everyone did a great job. We’re here at the top again. Someone had to really take chances to beat us. It’s great for the Education Foundation.”

Tomeu, who was competing for the fifth time in the GCC, said, “For me it’s a great experience every

year. I love it. I love going fast. I was a little nervous, because I didn’t have the same horse that I’ve had in past years, but she stepped up to the plate tonight. She helped the team, and I’m really proud of everybody.”

First-timer Chloe White added, “It was amazing. It’s great that we get to do something that we love and raise money for other people while doing it.”

GCC Founder Paige Bellissimo said that the impact of this event is incredible.

“We’ve actually been measuring the impact, and last year alone, we touched over 200,000 lives,” she said. “That’s the work that everyone is doing. It’s been really special. I just want to say a big thank you to the sponsors, the riders, especially the charities, and the executive directors like James who have just such incredible vision and execution. Thank you for making our community a better place.”

Coming in second place was the team for Quantum House, sponsored by Pine Hollow as well as corporate sponsor, The Shaughnessy Family. The team consisted of Carly Dvorkin, Daisy Farish, and David Blake, who finished with a combined time of 89.918 seconds to earn \$125,000 for their charity.

Stem HQ dba TechGarage finished third and won \$112,500. The team was made up of Gia Rinaldi, Kennedy McCauley, and Haylie Rolfe, sponsored by CP and corporate sponsors The Bainbridge Companies. All three riders finished the course and had a combined time of 94.559 seconds.

All of the riders had fun with the this year’s theme of “A Night When Everyone’s A Star”, with costumes ranging from Lord of the Rings and Avatar to Toy Story and Top Gun.

“All of us with Fidelity Investments® here in Palm each County are delighted to be involved with the Winter Equestrian Festival and with the Great Charity Challenge, a wonderful event that helps so many charities in Palm Beach County,” said Heath Odom, Manager of Fidelity’s Investor Center on Palm Beach Gardens.

Equestrian Sport Productions’ CEO Mark Bellissimo congratulated everyone on an exciting event.

“I just want to thank this team and the dedica-

tion of everyone for giving their time and energy,” Bellissimo stated. “This is a big gesture. The owner doesn’t get the money and the rider doesn’t get the money; the charity gets the money, and it will touch thousands of lives in the years to come. Surpassing the \$10 million milestone makes the GCC the legacy of the Winter Equestrian Festival and the sponsors involved.”

“This event was created to find heroes in the community, and I think we found some here. I can’t think of a better group to pull it off, we are very grateful to everyone,” he concluded.

In addition to the competition, the evening featured several grants and donations, highlighting a grand total of 57 locally based nonprofit organizations. Local representatives included Mayor Anne Gerwig, Vice Mayor John McGovern, Council Member Michael Napoleone, Council Member Michael Drahos, Council Member Tanya Siskind, Kelley Burke on behalf of Mayor Melissa McKindley, and sponsors, Carlene Ziegler, on behalf of the Ziegler Family Foundation, Founder of the Grand Prix Society, Saralyn Scaldini, VP Financial Consultant, Fidelity Investments®, Boca Raton branch, and Stephanie Glavin, Senior Vice President, Palm Beach County Market Manager of Bank of America, joined the festivities to award grants and randomly draw additional organizations.

**About Fidelity Investments®**

Fidelity’s mission is to inspire better futures and deliver better outcomes for the customers and businesses we serve. With assets under administration of \$6.8 trillion, including managed assets of \$2.4 trillion as of December 30, 2017, we focus on meeting the unique needs of a diverse set of customers: helping more than 26 million people invest their own life savings, 23,000 businesses manage employee benefit programs, as well as providing more than 12,500 financial advisory firms with investment and technology solutions to invest their own clients’ money. Privately held for 70 years, Fidelity employs more than 40,000 associates who are focused on the long-term success of our customers. For more information about Fidelity Investments, visit <https://www.fidelity.com/about>.

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**Friday, February 9**

**5:30 – 6:30 p.m.**

to benefit the



founded by Robert Dover.

Cocktails and passed hors d’oeuvres will be served.



ABOUT CAPTIVE ONE: CaptiveOne Advisors, LLC, is a national captive insurance management firm with offices in Wellington, Florida and Wilmington, Delaware. It specializes in building captive insurance programs so that businesses can essentially self-insure against the unexpected. Founded in 2005, CaptiveOne, an industry leader, creates 82B strategies that protect companies by providing them with the stability they need to not only sustain themselves when the unforeseen happens, but also to thrive.



Photo by Stacy Lynne

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**THE AMERICAN ADVANTAGE**

**AGDF**  
*Week 3 Photos*  
Kim Beaudoin



**GRAVES AND VERDADES HIGHLIGHT**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE

earlier this month, in the opening week of the AGDF.

“Q Ball” is extremely powerful with a big personality and always wants to give 120%. But the power works in his favor, and he now trusts that I know what I’m doing. His confidence is growing with each test,” added Blitz, 49, who credits work out of the saddle including yoga, pilates, weight lifting and cardio, for her ability to “keep up with the youngsters in the sport”.

Britain’s Susan Pape emulated Blitz’s unbeaten record, topping two CDI1\* classes, the prix st. georges and the I-1, with new ride Harmony’s Eclectisch. The nine-year-old, who is another black stallion (by Zenon), sired over 69% in both tests.

The AGDF circuit continues through March 31 and includes seven CDI shows.

Alice Collins

**TRYON INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER**

**2018 Dressage Series**  
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at 3:00 p.m.  
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THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018  
at 7:00 p.m.



For the complete schedule of events:  
**WEFSPOHORSEAUCTION.COM**  
Contact: [melanie@horsemls.com](mailto:melanie@horsemls.com)  
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For horse trials and information,  
contact Janko van de Lageweg:  
Cell: 0031-651815225 or 832.706.3407  
e-mail: [janko@vdlstud.com](mailto:janko@vdlstud.com)



Skara Glen's Machu Picchu ridden by Paul O'Shea, graduate of 2016 auction.



Panna, owned by Sue Grange, ridden by Daniel Coyte, graduate of 2016 auction. Winner of 7 yr old Canadian Young Horse Championships.

# Sponsor Awards Week 3



Tyra Vernon wins the Custom Saddlery Most Valuable Rider Award.



Anna Marek and Dee Clair win the Vetrolin Grooming Award.



Megan Gardner and Zaffier were the winners of the Omega Alpha Healthy Horse award.



Michael Klimke was honored with the Premier Equestrian Award.



Katie Robicheaux is presented with The Horse of Course High Score Award by Beth Haist.



Nicholas Fyffe and Louise Cote's Hitchcock were awarded the Vita Flex Victory Pass award at week three of AGDF.



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Continuing the improvements PBEC has recently made to their facility, a Computed Tomography, or CT Scan, machine has been installed on-site at the clinic. The CT scan gives PBEC veterinarians the unique opportunity to conveniently explore areas of a horse's body that they were not otherwise able to see.

According to PBEC president Dr. Scott Swerdlin, the continuing advances in technology makes the comprehensive list of services at PBEC more and more thorough.

"Our CT machine takes 3-D images of a horse's neck and gives us the ability to see things we would not be able to detect otherwise," said Dr. Swerdlin. "It is a really unique technology that we can now use in so many aspects of our work. Since we treat some of the finest equine athletes in the world, we strive to offer cutting-edge technology and diagnostics to ensure that we provide the best level of care possible."

The neck is one of the areas that has most clearly benefited from the progression in advanced ima-

ging, such as CT scans. While neck problems have likely been prevalent for some time, veterinarians are now finding them more common, as they are able to more accurately locate the issue. Often these issues will go undiscovered or undiagnosed in the field, but they can be identified at PBEC, thanks to readily available imaging tools.

Whether it is a top-level show horse or a backyard friend, the veterinarians of Palm Beach Equine Clinic are here to help with all veterinary needs. Make Palm Beach Equine Clinic a part of your team! To find out more, please visit [www.equineclinic.com](http://www.equineclinic.com) or call 561-793-1599.

Lindsay Brock



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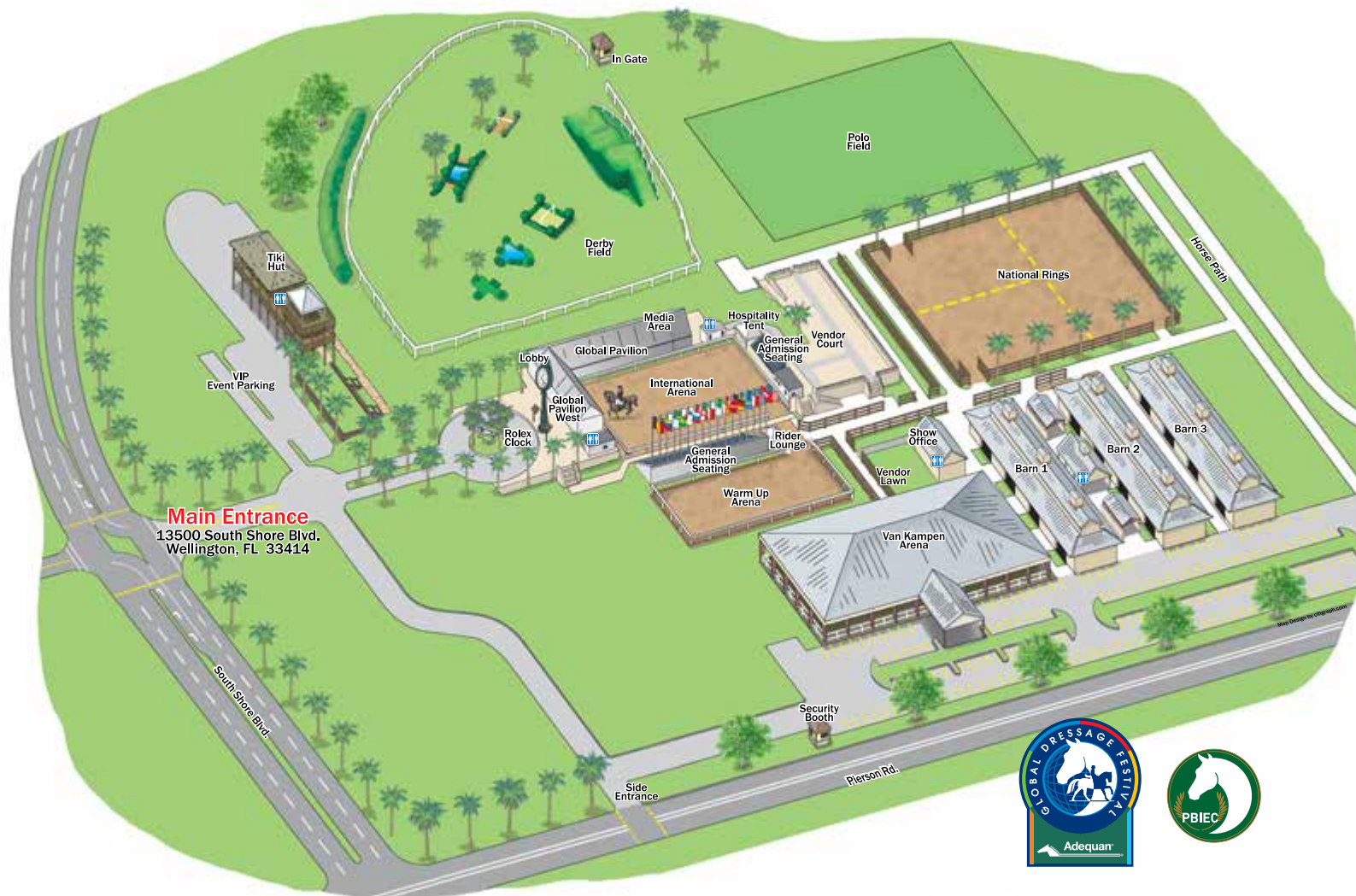
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## FACES OF AGDF: *Susan Pape*

This British rider is in her third year spending the winter season enjoying Florida's sun and capitalizing on the opportunities to further her horses' careers. This year, she has four horses in the sunshine state, and is so far unbeaten on her new small tour ride, Harmony's Eclectisch. Though Pape rides for Britain, she has never actually lived there, despite both her parents being British. She is married to German rider and trainer Ingo Pape. They live in Germany and have a daughter, Laura.



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### WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO ON YOUR DAYS OFF?

We have almost 100 horses at home on the farm, so it's very rare to have a day without horses and we don't take so many holidays. But we try to make time for long weekends, and we really like going to the seaside and going on the water in the East of Germany.

### WHAT IS AN EXCITING MEMORY FROM YOUR CAREER?

I was the groom for Karin Rehbein when she rode Donnerhall in his first grand prix test. It was an incredible experience to grow up with him. I also got to ride him a little bit and, for that time, he was far beyond any other horse. He gave an incredible feeling and was so good in the mind. Now his offspring are worldwide and we also stand stallions at our stud with his blood. I am an absolute fan of Donnerhall.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?

It's got to be wild deer or wild boar, with potatoes, dumplings and red cabbage. It's real winter-time food, and I particularly love it when my mother-in-law cooks it.

### WHY DO YOU CHOOSE TO RIDE UNDER THE BRITISH FLAG?

My parents are British and, although I have never lived there, I've always had a British passport. Although British dressage has boomed over the past few years, it used to be that the sport there was not top, so it was a bit easier for me to get entries into international shows, as Germany has always had so many good riders, which makes it harder. It's an honor to ride for Britain.

### WHAT PIECE OF ADVICE CAN YOU OFFER TO ASPIRING YOUNG RIDERS?

I'd say that experience is so important, and riding a lot of tests gives you that. I'd also say how important it is to grow up with a young horse and develop it yourself, if possible.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY SUPERSTITIONS?

Before a test, I always have to put on my left boot first – I really don't know why!

### WHAT CAREER WOULD YOU HAVE PURSUED IF NOT HORSES?

When I was at school I really liked art and architecture, and I still like walking around old cities and going to museums, so probably something to do with that. My daughter Laura is 12, and she's very into art and not into horses, which is fine by me.

### HAVE YOU HAD A CRINGE MOMENT WHILE COMPETING?

I've ridden so many tests for so many years – I'm 55 now – but last year I went wrong in the test in the Hamburg Derby. I knew as soon as I turned that that I had gone the wrong way. I guess that's not so embarrassing, but I was disappointed with myself.

### WHEN ARE YOU HEADING BACK TO GERMANY?

We stay until the end of February because the stallions (grand prix horse Harmony's Don Noblesse and small tour ride Harmony's Eclectisch) have to be there for the breeding season. Don Noblesse was second in the grand prix with 70.435% in week one of the AGDF, but he picked up a little injury after that, so we are just bringing him back into full work now. I also have two seven-year-old horses here I am competing in the national classes.

### WHAT IS YOUR UNBEATEN HORSE, HARMONY'S ECLECTISCH, LIKE?

We found him at Helgstrand Dressage in Denmark at the end of last year, and it was love at first sight. He's not the biggest horse, but he has incredible movement; he's very nice to sit to and in the bridle. He's powerful and very controllable and not spooky. It's not normally my thing to start with older, trained horses, but I am not so young any more and if I buy a three-year-old I am not sure anyone will want to see me in the ring by the time it is ready for grand prix!

Alice Collins

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Reservations

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# 2018

## AGDF WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**February 8-11: AGDF 5** - Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 5\*, presented by CaptiveOne Advisors  
Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 3\*, presented by Wellington Equestrian Realty  
Small Tour CDI 3\*, presented by Rowan O'Riley  
Small Tour CDI 1\*  
Schedule includes National Show

**February 16-17: AGDF 6** National Show

**February 22-25: AGDF 7** - Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI-W  
Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDI 3\*, presented by Chesapeake Dressage Institute | Small Tour CDI 3\*, presented by Wellington Regional Medical Center | Small Tour CDI 1\*  
Schedule includes National Show

**March 1-4: AGDF 8** - Palm Beach Dressage Derby - Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI-W, presented by US Trust  
Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDI 3\*, presented by Peacock Ridge | Small Tour CDI 3\* | Small Tour CDI 1\*  
Schedule includes National Show

**March 10-11: AGDF 9** National Show

**March 15-18: AGDF 10** - Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 4\*, presented by Havensafe Farm  
Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDI 4\*, presented by Mission Control  
Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 3\*, presented by The Dutta Corp  
Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDI 3\* | Small Tour CDI 3\*, presented by CaptiveOne Advisors | Small Tour CDI 1\*, presented by Horseware Ireland  
Schedule includes National Show and Florida International Dressage Youth Championships

**March 24-25: AGDF 11** National Show

**March 28-31: AGDF 12** - Stillpoint Farm FEI Nations Cup CDIO 3\*  
Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 3\*, presented by Harmony Sporthorses | Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDI 3\*, presented by Grand Prix Services | Small Tour CDI 3\*, presented by Yellow Bird Farm  
Small Tour CDI 1\* | CDIO U25, presented by Diamante Farms | Schedule includes National Show

\*\*Tentative schedule, subject to change. Dates are actual competition days.



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