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## United States Para-Equestrian Association



**For Immediate Release:**

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### Para-Dressage Riders Impress Judges at 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire CPEDI3\*

**Del Mar, CA -March 10, 2012** - Day two of the 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire CPEDI3\* at the Del Mar Horse Park concluded with impressive results from the Para-Dressage competition. Multiple horse and rider combinations built upon yesterday's scores earning top results under FEI ground jury Hanneke Gerritsen 5\* (NED), Marco Orsini 4\* (FRA), and Ulf Wilken 5\*. Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games participant Laura Goldman (USA) topped Grade Ia with a 64.250% aboard the Knabbstrupper stallion, VPRH Pegasus vom Niehaus-HOF. Sydney Collier (USA) of Ann Arbor, Michigan shared the Knabbstrupper with Goldman and earned the top spot in the Grade II competition. In Grade III, Briana Beckworth (USA) rode Mette Rosencrantz's Basquewille

increasing Friday's score to 63.056%. Lastly, Canadian Lynne Poole led the Grade IV competition with a 64.032% aboard Vasco E.



Laura Goldman (USA) and VPRH Pegasus vom Nieh-HOF (owner Patrick Truxillo)

Earning the highest score on Friday of the Para-Equestrians was Laura Goldman aboard Patrick Truxillo's Stallion VPRH Pegasus vom Niehaus-HOF. "Pegasus is such a great horse," smiled Goldman. "Friday was the first day that I rode the Individual Championship Test aboard him and he was great. Pegasus maintained a smooth gate throughout the test, he was always responsive to my cues, and I really appreciated his perfect head carriage. I feel lucky to be able to ride this type of horse."

In July 2011, Goldman had a hip replacement just five weeks prior to a CPEDI3\* competition in September 2011. She noted, "It's been tough and my hip is still sore and stiff however, I can still mount from the left side of the horse and I can still dismount."

With the help of Goldman's trainer in Cleveland, OH and the assistance of an entire circle of support Goldman will be heading to the 2012 London Paralympics Selection Trials for the United States Team this summer.

Goldman agreed, "From Kai Handt who allowed me to borrow one of his horses this year to the owners of Pegasus this journey would not have been possible without everyone. I have to thank all of these wonderful people who have gone above and beyond. A few of those people include the Collier's (Sydney Collier is a fellow Para-Equestrian), Pegasus' owners who took us in, and the woman who has fought for the Para-Equestrian discipline, Hope Hand (President of the USPEA). They need to be applauded, they give us the opportunity to do what we love."

For Grade III rider Briana Beckworth (USA) doing what she loves at an international show was made possible by the gracious involvement of Mette Rosencrantz. Beckworth explained, "This journey has been amazing, Mette is the most incredible instructor. I know that I am quite lucky to be able to work with her. Within the last three days Mette has expanded upon my foundation exponentially. For instance, I went into the warm-up on Thursday and Basquewille and I just clicked. When we demonstrated our Team Test I held the counter-canter which I had never done before."



Briana Beckworth (USA) and Basquewille (owner Mette Rosencrantz)

Like many Para-Equestrians Beckworth has had to learn how to utilize her disability to challenge herself each day. After a car accident in 2004, Beckworth suffered a spinal cord injury resulting in leaving the riding ring for many years. In 2010, while watching the World Equestrian Games in Lexington, KY, Beckworth felt that desire to ride again. Beckworth commented, "In 2010, I began working with Felice Rose who is an 81 -year-old classical dressage rider. She is the reason I started riding again and she is the reason I am here in California. For the past two years I have been searching for a horse of the type of caliber for FEI International competition. This was the first time that a horse was lined-up for me and I can't believe the horse and trainer we got. I keep calling Felice and telling her that we did it!"

She continued, "Without Mette, her assistant Anna Dahlberg, Para-Equestrian Rebecca Hart, Para-Equestrian Ellie Brimmer, and

Hope Hand we would not have been at the jog on Wednesday. I also would like to thank Felice, and the show organizers and USEF officials who helped us get all of our official papers together

within three days."

As Selection Trials and the London Olympics approaches 2010 World Equestrian Games rider, Susan Treabess is focused on the future. With a barn full of horses (12 in training and 50 boarding), being five months pregnant, and working with her Terry Waechter's horse Fugitivo XII, Treabess has been quite busy. She noted, "In April 2011, Fugitivo and I began this partnership thanks to a connection through one of my sponsors. As a stallion just pushing ten-years old I have been very pleased with him over the last two days. It took two years for my partnership with Moneypenny (2010 WEG horse) to know how I need to warm her up to achieve the scores we wanted. With Fugitivo we are still working those kinks out. He is a fabulous horse and a blast to ride but right now we are focusing on getting him out, showing him, and forming a confident partnership. Our game plan is to compete for the 2012 year in FEI Prix St. George and then hopefully try for the Norway World Equestrian Games."

She continued, "For this weekend we are just focused on us. Fugitivo is such a wonderful horse: He is incredibly intelligent, has a huge personality, and of course since he is a stallion he has opinions about things. As a rider I can't just get on him and tell him what to do. I have to form a relationship with him where we negotiate what we want. For my personal goals as a professional this horse is more of a professional challenge. With Moneypenny it was about learning how the international world works and with Fugitivo it's about reaching that next level."



Susan Treabess (USA) and Fugitivo XII (owner Terry Waechter)

As Susan completes each test at the 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire CPEDI3\* owner, Terry Waechter, keeps a close eye on her PRE stallion. Waechter noted, "Susan and Fugitivo have

a wonderful relationship. When I am watching her in the dressage ring I think about how Fugitivo has excelled within his breed standard and is continuing to open the door for a greater presence of Baroque horses in the international dressage ring. I am very excited to see what the future holds for Susan and Fugitivo."

On Saturday evening, spectators will be treated to dazzling dressage including FEI Intermediare I, \$5,000 FEI Rancho Valencia Grand Prix Freestyle Test, FEI Grand Prix Test for Special, FEI Young Rider Individual Test, and Junior Rider Individual Test. Para-Equestrian Holly Bergay will perform during the break of the Saturday evening ceremonies showcasing the Para-Dressage discipline. In addition to the evening's activities, a Silent Auction will occur to benefit the National Breast Cancer Foundation and the United States Para-Equestrian Association (USPEA). Sunday morning will open to the last day of competition. On Sunday, The Para-Equestrians will ride their freestyle tests concluding the day with an awards ceremony.



Sydney Collier (USA) and VPRH Pegasus vom Niehaus-HOF (owner Patrick Truxillo)



Lynne Poole (CAN) and Vasco E



Lynne Poole (CAN) and Frisbee



Mary Jordan (USA) and Navarro (owner Alis Carbone)



Barbara Adside (USA) and Jazzman (owner Donna Richardson)



Holly Bergay (USA) and Rubino Bellissimo (Owner Violet Jen)



Morgan Webb Liddle (AUS) and Vallos Romeo (owner Cheri Ellstrom)

### **Fast Facts: 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire CPEDI3\***

**WHEN:** March 8-11, 2012

**WHERE:** Del Mar Horse Park in Del Mar, CA

**ABOUT THE DRESSAGE AFFAIRE:** Riders, officials, and spectators will be treated to a first-class horse show at the beautiful Del Mar Horse Park in Del Mar, CA. Once again Keenan Productions will be managing the four-day Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire, March 8-11, which is an event that combines a USEF National Level show with an International Level show that qualifies both able-bodied riders and riders with physical disabilities for Regional, National and International Teams.

The 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire is recognized by FEI, USEF, USDF, California Dressage Society (CDS), and DASC. The March 8-11 horse show is a USEF High Performance

Qualifier for:

- \* 2012 Olympic Games
- \* 2012 Paralympic Games
- \* 2012 Reem Acra FEI World Cup™ Dressage Finals
- \* 2012 Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF National Grand Prix and Intermediare Championships and Festival of Champions
- \* 2012 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships

FEI CDI ground jury will consist of Gustav Svalling 5\* (SWE), Bo Jena 4\*(SWE), Lilo Fore 4\* (USA), Jeannie McDonald 4\*(USA), and Joan MaCartney 4\*(CAN).

The FEI CPEDI3\* ground jury is Hanneke Gerritsen 5\* (NED), Marco Orsini 4\* (FRA), and Ulf Wilken 5\* (SWE). Lastly, the Open classes judges are Dolly Hannon 'S', Kem Barbosa 'S', and Beverly Rogers 'S'.

### **Mette Rosencrantz Clinic March 12-13, 2012 Del Mar Horse Park**

**Mette Rosencrantz Clinic:** There will be a dressage clinic for both able-bodied riders and for Para-Equestrian riders March 12-13, 2012. Please contact USPEA President Hope Hand by phone (610) 368-1416 or email [Wheeler966@aol.com](mailto:Wheeler966@aol.com) to reserve a ride time. The 2012 Mette Rosencrantz Para-Equestrian Dressage Clinic is co-hosted by Keenan Productions Dressage Affaire and the United States Para-Equestrian Association. The cost of the clinic is Free to current and future USPEA members and free to auditors, \$100 for non-USPEA members, and \$300 for able-bodied dressage riders.

For more information about the Mette Rosencrantz clinic please visit this link: <http://www.uspea.org/pdf/February282012Mette.pdf>

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

#### ***Saturday, March 10th, 2012:***

1.)FEI Intermediare I Test, \$5,000.00 FEI Rancho Valencia Grand Prix Freestyle Test, FEI Grand Prix Test (2009) for Special, FEI Young Rider Individual Test (2009), Junior Rider Individual Test (2009)

2.)Dinner, Freestyles, and Dancing

-Dinner after the Grand Prix (for Special), then head right into the Grand Prix Freestyles, and finish with dancing in the Hospitality Tent with our friends in the Steal Dawn band. All are welcome for the dance party. Sponsors and VIP Box Seat patrons will have a wonderful dinner at their box/table prepared by Pony Espresso catering. Grand Stand admission patrons can purchase dinner at the on-site Pony Espresso restaurant. In addition to the Grand Prix for Special and the Grand Prix Freestyle, we will have other Musical competition AND **Steffen Peters will perform his winning Pan Am Games Intermediare I Freestyle just for you!** Dinner should start around 5:30 pm or directly after Grand Prix. 20% of Silent Auction and Grandstand admission each will benefit the National Breast Cancer Foundation and the United States Para-Equestrian Association.

**\*We have opened up the limited seats still available for purchase to the Saturday night dinner only for \$50.00/person and \$300 per box.**

\*Parking is free and access to the USEF National Show is also free!

***Sunday March 11th, 2012***

1.)\$2,500.00 FEI Intermediare I Freestyle Test, \$2,500.00 FEI Rancho Valencia Olympic Grand Prix Special Test (2012), \$1,500.00 FEI Young Rider Freestyle Test, and\$1,500.00 FEI Junior Rider Freestyle Test

2.)Freestyle competition begins for CPEDI3\* riders: Adding to the excitement this year for the CPEDI3\* will be \$5,000 divided among the top five riders in the freestyle competition in each of the five Grade divisions.

3.)Join us on Sunday for the \$5,000 Rancho Valencia Olympic Grand Prix Special, the \$5,000 CPEDI Para Equestrian Freestyle Classes, followed by the \$1,500 Pegasus Training and Equine Rehabilitation Center JR Freestyle Class, the \$1,500 Wilson Cunningham West Insurance YR Freestyle Class, and finally the \$5,000 Custom Saddlery Intermediare I Freestyle Class. Champagne and pastries will be served for VIP/Sponsor patrons.

**SILENT AUCTION INFORMATION:**

The Silent Auction will take place Friday through Saturday evening. Silent Auction will benefit the National Breast Cancer Foundation and the United States Para-Equestrian Association (USPEA). The auction begins Friday morning and will end on Saturday Night after the Grand Prix Freestyle Class.

**Auction Items:**

Rancho Valencia Piece of Paradise Package - 3 (three) luxurious nights for two guests at the newly renovated Rancho Valencia, recently rated #1 in California and #7 in the United States by U.S. News & World Report Travel, in your very own 3-bedroom Villa after their grand re-opening in summer 2012. Enjoy all inclusive meals each day including full breakfast, lunch with a sommelier selected wine pairing, and a 5 course dinner prepared by Executive Chef Eric Bauer each night with a wine pairing. The package also includes 2 hours of tennis lessons and a spa package including a couples massage and pre-massage soak. You will never want to leave!

*Value: \$10,000.00 | Starting Bid: \$5,000.00*

*Donor Site: [www.ranchovalencia.com](http://www.ranchovalencia.com)*

**The Bridges Golf Experience** - 1 (one) amazing round of golf for party of 3 (three) led by Gordon Cooke- Director of Membership at the stunning private club golf course The Bridges at Rancho Santa Fe in Rancho Santa Fe, CA. Includes a great lunch for the golf party at the Clubhouse Grill.

*Value: \$600.00 | Starting Bid: \$300.00*

*Donor Site: [www.thebridgesrsf.com](http://www.thebridgesrsf.com)*

**The Bridges Olympian Dining Experience** - An exquisite dinner for 4 (four) guests along with

your favorite Olympians Guenter Seidel, Steffen Peters, Christine Traurig and Sue Blinks in the fine dining room of this Members Only Club with wine pairing.

*Value: \$1,500.00 | Starting Bid: \$750.00*

*Donor Site: [www.thebridgesrsf.com](http://www.thebridgesrsf.com)*

**"The Dolphins" limited edition bronze sculpture by Laran Ghiglieri.** This beautiful statue unites Laran's artistic mastery with a tender maternal theme of a mother Dolphin and her offspring.

*Value: \$7,500.00 | Starting Bid: \$1,500.00*

*Donor Site: [www.masterpieceinvestments.com](http://www.masterpieceinvestments.com)*

**Footing Perfection Package** - This package includes Airfoot footing compliments of Footings Unlimited for your dressage court. Your horse will be so happy! Includes installation of this amazing footing but excludes shipping.

*Value: \$10,000.00 | Starting Bid: \$4,000.00*

*Donor Site: [www.footingsunlimited.com](http://www.footingsunlimited.com)*

**Gloverall Ladies Short Duffle Coat** - Look at this coat! You will be stylish AND warm and toasty anywhere in it. A welcome addition to anyone's wardrobe in a beautiful camel color with plaid lining and a style that can be dressed up or down. Size 36 (M)

*Retail value \$ 500.00 | Starting bid \$ 250.00*

*Donor site: [www.lasaddlery.com](http://www.lasaddlery.com)*

**Journey to the Adobe Guadalupe Valley** - 2 (two) night stay for two guests at the beautiful Mexican Vineyard and Inn in the Guadalupe Valley Region of Baja. Package includes lodging, all-inclusive meals and wine pairing, wine tasting and horseback ride through the vineyards of Adobe Guadalupe vineyards. This is an incredibly peaceful place to unplug from your every day world!

*Value: \$750.00 | Starting Bid: \$400.00*

*Donor Site: [www.adobeguadalupe.com](http://www.adobeguadalupe.com)*

**Judge for yourself!** - Have you always wondered what the judge really sees from their seat? Well now you can find out! Our 5 (five) fabulous judges from the Olympic Grand Prix Special have opened up a seat just for you in their box during this very important class. See the rides from their perspective and hear their comments. Talk about an education!

*Value: Can you really put a price on education? Starting Bid: \$100.00/seat*

**Artistic Impression** - A 16" x 24" print of Terri Miller's photograph "Dressage Dream" that won the World Cup Dressage Photo Contest in Las Vegas. Printed on shimmery metallic paper, pillow wrapped and float mounted, this ethereal image is ready for display on your wall!

*Value: \$225.00 | Starting Bid: \$100.00*

**Dreaming of Dancing on Horseback** - Do you dream of one day dancing with your equine partner at the FEI Grand Prix level but don't want to wait? Well now your dream can come true! Just a quick trip up to Temecula (45 minutes northeast of San Diego) to Encore Ranch and Iana Gonzales will give you a classical lesson on a wonderful Spanish schoolmaster, where you can passage and piaffe to your heart's content...well for 45 minutes anyway.

*Value: \$125.00 | Starting Bid: \$75.00*

*Donor Site: [www.iandressage.com](http://www.iandressage.com)*

**On the Bit** - A beautiful sterling silver snaffle bit bracelet would look amazing on your wrist right now! This bracelet is beautiful. You just must have it!

*Value: \$400.00 | Starting Bid: \$200.00*

*Donor Site: [www.caracolsilver.com](http://www.caracolsilver.com)*

**Raffle Items:**

Complimentary Raffle tickets will be given upon entry for both VIP and Grand Stand Admission Guests for a chance to win the following items: (must be present to win)

- (2) Stallipops Gift Baskets - ([www.welovestallipops.com](http://www.welovestallipops.com))
- (2) Caracol-Inspired Jewelry Gift Certificates - ([www.caracolsilver.com](http://www.caracolsilver.com))
- (2) YourSano Gift Basket - ([www.yoursano.com](http://www.yoursano.com))
- (1) Adobe Guadalupe Gift Basket - ([www.adobeguadalupe.com](http://www.adobeguadalupe.com))
- (1) Equine Massage from Patricia Salem - ([www.cantamarequine.com](http://www.cantamarequine.com))

**About Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire-** The Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire is a landmark event in the San Diego Community offering qualifying opportunities for the following pursuits in the equestrian discipline of Dressage:

- 2012 Olympic and Para Olympic Games
- 2012 Reem Acra World Cup Finals
- 2012 Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF National Grand Prix and Intermediare Championships
- 2012 Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF Pony, Junior, Young Rider and Brentina Cup Championships
- 2012 FEI North American Junior/Young Rider Championships
- 2012 Markel/USEF National Young Horse and Developing Horse Dressage Championships (sponsored by the Dutta Corp. and PSI)

This event attracts competitors from all over the United States, Canada and Mexico with the heaviest concentration coming from a local base of riders as well as the Western Region of the U.S.

**SPONSOR INFORMATION:**

**Rancho Valencia** is the presenting sponsor of both the **\$5,000.00 Rancho Valencia Grand Prix Freestyle** (amended) and the **\$5,000.00 Rancho Valencia Olympic Grand Prix Special** (amended) classes

**Custom Saddlery** will be presenting the **\$2,500.00 Custom Saddlery Intermediare I Freestyle Class**.

**Wilson Cunningham West Insurance** sponsoring the **\$1,500.00 Wilson Cunningham West Young Rider Freestyle Class**

**Pegasus Training and Equine Rehabilitation Center** presenting the **\$1,500.00 Pegasus Training and Equine Rehabilitation Center Junior Freestyle Class**.

If you would like to be a part of this Olympic Level event as a competitor, spectator, sponsor or advertiser please visit us at [www.dressageevents.com](http://www.dressageevents.com) for more information or call 866.933.SHOW!

**About Keenan Productions and Events-**

KP Events president Kim Keenan Stordahl provides full-service planning and management services for equestrian events in the United States that allow competitors to qualify for National and International pursuits. Services include all aspects of show management including sponsor development, facilities preparation and decor, sub-contracted electronic scoring team, entertainment, auctions, and event promotion.

**About Rancho Valencia-**

Set in the exclusive idyllic valley of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., Rancho Valencia sits on 45 lushly landscaped acres. The resort features 49 luxuriously appointed guest casitas averaging approximately 1,000 square feet, each with a fireplace and private garden terrace, an award-winning tennis program, a world-class spa and playing privileges at three nearby golf courses. Rancho Valencia recently was ranked #11 Best Small Hotel in the United States by *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report* and #52 Best Hotel in the United States by *Travel + Leisure*, garnering the highest score among San Diego Hotels making the list. Rancho Valencia consistently has been ranked as a favorite North American resort by readers of *Tennis* magazine, who ranked Rancho Valencia the #1 Tennis Resort in the U.S. for the fourth consecutive year. The resort is a member of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux collection and is the only Relais & Châteaux property in Southern California. For more information about Rancho Valencia, visit [www.RanchoValencia.com](http://www.RanchoValencia.com) or call (800) 548-3664.

## KP EVENTS

Kim Keenan Stordahl

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866.933.SHOW

To download the 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire CPEDI3\* Prize list please visit <http://www.dressageevents.com/>.

For questions or comments contact President Kim Keenan Stordahl [kkeenan@dressageevents.com](mailto:kkeenan@dressageevents.com) or Show Secretary Bettina Longaker at [blongaker@dressageevents.com](mailto:blongaker@dressageevents.com) or (866) 933-SHOW.

**Photo Credit:** All Photographs taken at the 2012 Rancho Valencia Dressage Affaire CPEDI3\* in Del Mar, CA at Del Mar Horse Park. Photo © 2012 Lindsay Y McCall

### **About United States Para-Equestrian Association:**

The USPEA is a network of riders, judges, national federation board members, and equestrian enthusiasts. The association gives athletes the ability to get involved and expand their knowledge and experience in the Para-Equestrian sport. The USPEA encourages para-athletes to participate in all disciplines under the para-equestrian umbrella.

The USPEA is a recognized affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) which serves as the National Governing Body for the equestrian sport. This relationship between the USPEA and USEF is to encourage para-equestrian competitors, leisure riders, coaches, fans and enthusiasts to network and get involved with the entire equestrian sport.

Ultimately the goal of the USPEA is to foster growth in the para-equestrian discipline. From growth in the number of participants to growth as a team, and growth in the experience and knowledge of all involved. From local horse shows to international Olympic Games, the USPEA will provide para-equestrians the knowledge of what they need to succeed. The USPEA connects with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI), the United States Dressage Federation (USDF), and USEF which provides Para-Equestrians the top equestrian resources.

In June 2010, the USPEA earned its 501 (c)(3) status which has encouraged supporters to help supply funding to the Para-Equestrian Team as a recognized affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation(USEF).

For more information about the USPEA please visit [www.USPEA.org](http://www.USPEA.org) or contact USPEA President: Hope Hand by e-mail: [Wheeler966@aol.com](mailto:Wheeler966@aol.com) or by phone: (610)356-6481.

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