

The National Riding Instructors Convention

10-12-05

October 20-23, 2005

- Instructor Certification testing held on October 20th -
The Florida Mall Hotel, Orlando, Florida

To register: Call 239-948-3232

For room reservations, call 407-859-1500 or 800-588-4656 and ask for National Riding Instructors Convention rates

IMPORTANT: Please wear your name tag each day and at each session, throughout the Convention.
No one will be admitted to any Convention activity without their name tag.
(No excuses; no exceptions) There will be a \$15.00 charge to replace a lost name tag.

Tentative Time Schedule

Sufficient time for your lunch and dinner period has been scheduled each day, so you'll have plenty of time to get meals. We urge you to join other attendees to meet and talk while having your lunch and dinner. Use this relaxing time to make new friends and do important networking!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:00 AM - 3PM **Test Center Open. Salon II.** Candidates for certification only. Hand in your videos or DVDs, essay tests and photographs. (Level III candidates must start testing at 7 AM in order to finish by 3 PM.)

9-11 AM **Salon II.** All Level I and II candidates must have signed in no later than 8:45 AM. (You may start earlier if you wish). Each candidate for certification will be assigned to one of four rooms where Candidate Presentations will be given from 9-11 AM. (Please be aware that CPs must stop at 4 minutes, so please prepare so that you will not exceed that time.)

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. **Salon II. Welcoming Reception for all Convention attendees. Sponsored by UlcerGard.**

Early registration - pick up your gift bag and name tag. Meet the Director, Staff, Speakers, Sponsors, and the other instructors from across the nation. Relax and enjoy!

A special drawing, courtesy of UlcerGard, will be held between 6:30 and 8:00 PM. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

8:00 AM **Registration. Salon II.** (Feel free to bring coffee, donuts, etc. into the meeting room) If you have already registered and have your gift bag and name tag, you do not need to stop at the registration table.

8:45 AM **Welcome and Introductions.** Didi Arias & Bob Allen, Convention Co-Chairmen.

9:45 AM **Work Smarter, not Harder,** with Bob Allen. Bob shares tips he's learned in 40 years of teaching.

10:30 AM **Break** (After each speaker's presentation, there will be either a 20 minute break or a lunch or dinner break. Please use that time to approach the podium to ask the speaker any questions you may have, and visit our Sponsors' booths)

10:50 AM **That's Classic: Timeless Teaching,** with Susan Harris, Keynote Speaker. The fundamentals that are common to good horsemanship, riding and teaching, regardless of discipline or level.

11:50 AM **Lunch** (on your own) Zone Reps - Meet with Joni Fitts. Want to learn about becoming a Rep? Come join Joni! Meet her at the book sales table.

2:00 PM **Saving your Student's Life: the importance of helmets,** with Roy Burek, Charles Owen & Co.

2:50 PM **Drawing for a helmet gift certificate donated by Charles Owen & Co. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

2:55 PM **Break**

3:15 PM **Putting Yourself on the Line - Why or Why Not to Compete**, with Peggy Brown.

4:00 PM **Break**

4:20 PM **10 Ways to Improve your Teaching Skills**, with Dr. Jessica Jahiel.

5:00 PM **Dinner** On your own - meet some new friends, expand your network of contacts - ask someone you haven't yet met to dinner!

6:55 PM **Drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate from Dover Saddlery. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

7:00 PM **Ulcers - a new study shows that even lightly-used recreational horses are susceptible to ulcers**, with Virginia Loy.

7:30 PM **Break**

7:50 PM **Identifying the 4 Stages of Burnout: Is it happening to you?** with Carolyn Firch.

8:20 PM **Break**

8:40 PM **Teaching in a Tourist Economy - Aloha Style**, with Dale Rosenfeld.

9:15 PM **Video: *Every Time, Every Ride***. You'll never ride without your ASTM SEI approved helmet again after watching this important video. (20 minutes)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

8:25 AM **Drawing for a helmet gift certificate from Phoenix Performance Products. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

8:30 AM **Accentuate the Positive: Teaching, Discipline and the Psychology of Positive Reinforcement**, with Susan Harris.

9:25 AM **Break**

9:45 AM **Teaching Techniques**, with Bob Allen.

10:40 AM **Break**

11:00 AM **What Instructors Need to Know about the Law**, with Julie Fershtman, Esq.

11:55 AM **Awards Luncheon. Salon I.** Presentation of Master Instructor, Instructor of the Year, School Horse of the Year, and many other awards. Awards Banquet tickets are \$25. each, and must be purchased in advance. Award plaques are sponsored by **Markel Insurance Company**.

1:55 PM **Drawing for a \$100.00 gift certificate from Beval Saddlery. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

2:00 PM **Insurance for the Coach and Trainer**, with Debi DeTurk Peloso, CPCU.

3:00 PM **Break**

3:20 PM **Bombproof your Horse**, with Sgt. Rick Pelicano.

4:15 PM **Break**

4:30 PM **Keep your Horse's Mind in the Comfort Zone**, with Rod Bergen.

5:10 PM **Dinner**. On your own.

7:10 PM **Drawing for a helmet gift certificate from Phoenix Performance Products. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

7:15 PM **Instructor Ethics**, with Peggy Brown.

8:00 PM **Focus Groups. (*Or TCA Course - see below*)** Specialized topics will be discussed in each group, and ideas will be shared. **Bob Allen, Jessica Jahiel, Roy Burek, Susan Harris, Peggy Brown, Rod Bergen, Rick Pelicano, and Carolyn Firch.**

ARICP Test Center Administrator Course, conducted by Cameo Miller & Susie Baumgartner. A course for those wishing to become ARIA Test Center Administrators. **Must be a currently certified ARIA Instructor.** Advance preparation: Study the ARIA information booklet so that you are equipped to answer questions candidates may ask about ARIA and about certification at your future Test Centers. Lecture, Demonstration & Role Playing. No charge. Approximately 2 hours. **Must pre-register. Space Limited.**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

7:55 AM **Drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate from Dover Saddlery. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

8:00 AM **Preparing your Juniors for Intercollegiate Riding Teams**, with Gina Hall.

8:30 AM **Break**

8:50 AM **Understanding your Students' Emotional Development Stages**, with Allison Thurston.

9:25 AM **Break**

9:45 AM **Profit vs. Integrity: Can you have both in your business?** with Bob Allen.

10-15 AM **Drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate from Dover Saddlery. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

10-20 AM **Break**

10:40 AM **Emergency Procedures and Wound Healing**, with Eric Witherspoon, DVM.

11:15 AM **Break**

11:35 AM **Establishing a Lesson Level System for your Program**, with Kelly Mahloch.

12:10 PM - **Lunch**, on your own.

1:55 PM **Drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate from Dover Saddlery. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.**

2:00 PM - **The Visible Rider - How and Why the Rider's Body Moves: Tools to Prevent Sports Injury and Improve Riding Skills**, with Susan Harris & Peggy Brown.

2:50 PM - **Break**

3:10 PM **Tips for Teaching - from YOU!** Share your best teaching tip (1 minute maximum time) with your fellow instructors. Ten \$50.00 Gift Certificates, donated by **State Line Tack**, will be awarded to the Top Ten. Space is limited - register early.

4:10 PM Raffle for \$100.00 Gift Certificate from Tractor Supply Co. Names will be drawn from all Convention Registrants. You must be present to win.

4:15 PM **Closing Comments** from Didi Arias and Bob Allen, Co-Chairmen of the Convention.

4:45 Board our chartered bus to the **Arabian Nights Dinner Theatre** - a great show starring Arabian horses in an entertainment spectacular! **Space Limited.**

Tickets are \$37.50 each, including round-trip transportation, all taxes and tips. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

We have reserved a chartered bus, and space is limited. We regret that once the bus is filled, we can accept no further reservations. Dress is casual.

About our Speakers

Bob Allen • Moorestown, New Jersey

Bob has served as Chairman of The National Riding Instructors Convention for over 20 years. He is an instructor, clinician, judge and show manager. He is an original member of the panel and staff of ARIA and ARICP since its founding in 1984, and has been in the horse business for over 40 years.

Rod Bergen • Malibu, California

Rod holds ARIA Level III certifications in Mounted Patrol, Recreational Riding and Dressage, and is the California ARIA Rep. In 2001 he was named ARIA's Mounted Patrol Instructor of the Year, and in 2004, he was named the ARIA State Rep of the Year and the ARIA Volunteer of the Year.

A Mounted Training Sgt. with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept., he was certified by the California Peace Officer's Standards and Testing (POST) as a Police Horse/Rider Instructor.

He is a horseback riding instructor at Pierce College in Woodland Hills, CA. and an author and lecturer on the subject of horse behavior, specializing in Equine Stress Control Therapy (working from within the horse's mind to emotionally stabilize the horse and increase his learning potential).

Rod was active in getting several California Mounted Patrol organizations to require helmets during all of their training exercises and, for years, has been assisting in attempts to get the state of California to require helmets in all POST law enforcement mounted training.

He is a Superior Court approved Equine Forensic Consultant (Horse Expert Witness) and has been involved in over three dozen legal cases.

Peggy Brown • Toledo, Ohio

Peggy has trained horses and riders for over 30 years, and she and her students have competed in nearly every discipline. She is a Level IV Centered Riding and Centered Driving Clinician, and holds a Bachelors degree in Education.

Peggy is certified in multiple disciplines as an Expert Instructor and Instructor Educator with the American Riding Instructor Association.

Working in the US and abroad with author and illustrator Susan Harris, Peggy Brown as The Visible Rider helps riders learn more about their own bodies and how the rider's body effects the horse's body.

Roy Burek • Wrexham, United Kingdom

Roy Burek is President of Charles Owen, the helmet and safety vest manufacturer. He is a member of the ASTM standards, the European standards, the BETA standards and British standards committees for helmets and safety vests.

He is technical delegate to the USEF safety committee, and a BETA helmet fitting trainer and lecturer. He received the first "Safety Good Guy" award from the British Horse Society, and an award of appreciation from ASTM for his work on helmet standards.

He is currently a member of a major research project with the University of Dublin, Ireland; looking at improving helmets for racing jockeys. He is an avid supporter of the development of trainers.

Julie I. Fershtman • Farmington Hills, Michigan

Julie, a lawyer for 19 years, is one of the most experienced and accomplished equine law practitioners in the United States. She has achieved numerous courtroom victories and has drafted hundreds of contracts for her clients. She was honored with an "AV" rating, the highest possible rating a lawyer can receive, by the *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*, an independent lawyer rating service.

In 1998, the ARICP presented her with its *Outstanding Achievement Award*. In 1995, the American Bar Association's *Barrister Magazine* named her one of "21 Young Lawyers Leading the Nation Into The 21st Century."

Ms. Fershtman is the author of two books, *Equine Law & Horse Sense* and *MORE Equine Law & Horse Sense*. With speaking engagements in 22 states, she is the nation's most sought after national speaker on Equine Law. Her articles have appeared in over 400 publications and websites, including *EQUUS*, *Horse Illustrated*, and *Riding Instructor*.

Carolyn Firch • Springfield, Illinois

Carolyn is retired from her position with the State of Illinois, where she spent over 23 years conducting training for state employees in areas including stress burnout, communications and motivation.

She has been active in the Morgan horse world and specializes in driving, side-saddle and saddle seat.

Carolyn is an ARIA Test Center Administrator, and a long-time member of the ARIA Convention Staff, where she manages all aspects of the Annual Awards Luncheon.

Gina Hall • Charlotte Hall, Maryland

Gina began riding at the age of seven and went on to college at Southern Seminary, where she was a member of the Intercollegiate Riding Team and graduated with an AS degree in Animal Science and a Certificate in teaching horsemanship.

In 1987 she lived, trained, and competed successfully in West Germany. Since 1988, she has been certified with ARICP for teaching Beginner through Advanced Level in Hunt Seat. Gina is a long-time staff member of ARIA, a National Test Center Administrator, and the Maryland State Rep.

Her Fair Weather Farm Equestrian Center offers lessons for both recreational and competitive riders, as well as boarding and training students' show horses. Gina is working on a judge's license with the Maryland Horse Show Association and frequently volunteers as a clinician for 4H and Pony Club, as well as helping the Girl and Boy Scouts earn their horse-related badges.

Gina holds certification with the American Red Cross in CPR and First Aid, and is a certified Jazzercise instructor.

Susan Harris • Cortland, New York

Susan travels throughout the world giving clinics and teaching. A beloved instructor, illustrator and author, she was awarded the ARIA Master Instructor Award in 2004. Breyer Horse Models is producing a model of her design of *The Visible Horse*.

Dr. Jessica Jahiel • Sidney, Illinois

Jessica is a popular international clinician, speaker and award-winning author, and is a regular columnist for *Riding Instructor* magazine. She has taught dressage, jumping and horsemanship for more than 30 years.

Her passions are classical dressage, natural horse management, and improving communication between horses and their riders. Her teaching specialty is the education of adult riders.

Kelly Mahloch • Plymouth, Wisconsin

Kelly has been successfully instructing for 27 years. She holds Level III certification in Hunt Seat and Stock Seat & Level II in Dressage and Eventing. She was recognized as Wisconsin Judge of the Year for her special expertise with youth.

In 2004 she received the Wisconsin Horse Person

of the Year Award for her contribution to the horse industry and her skills in educating young people. Kelly has coached over 50 riders to State 4-H Equestrian Championships; in addition, she has directed a youth drill team of over 30 members for 25 years.

Her Lesson Level System has produced some of the most well-rounded equestrians in the Midwest.

Sgt. Rick Pelicano • Olney, Maryland

Rick holds Level 3 certification as a Mounted Patrol Training Officer, and was named ARIA's Instructor of the Year in 1995.

He has appeared in movies and documentaries, winning the Discovery Channel's *Making of a Knight Tournament* in the U.K. He is the author of *Bombproof Your Horse: Teach your Horse to be Confident, Obedient and Safe no Matter what you Encounter*.

Debi DeTurk Peloso • Greenville, Florida

Debi is an Equine Insurance Specialist with Markel Insurance Company. As a Pony Club member, Debi bought her first pony with her babysitting earnings at age 13, and then showed and taught riding lessons until her graduation from the University of Michigan. After several years of selling alternative financing and lease options, she welcomed the opportunity to get back into the horse world in 1982 selling equine insurance.

She has been with Markel Insurance Company for 23 years, specializing in farm and liability coverages. She is the author of articles published in national trade journals, and a presenter at universities and equine conferences.

Dale Rosenfeld • Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii

Dale is certified by the American Riding Instructors Certification Program and has studied with top level competitors and trainers including Linda Tellington-Jones (TTEAM), Sally Swift (Centered Riding), Bob Allen (Monte Foreman Technique) and Francois De Ruffieu (The Handbook of Riding Essentials).

She also practices The Komitor Method of Healing Touch for Animals.

Allison Thurston • Easton, Connecticut

Allison has been an international riding instructor and clinician for over 25 years, with students ranging from pony club to FEI and CCI, and from

handicapped to competition riders. Her students are involved in dressage, cross country, western, carriage, endurance, hunter/jumper, drill, driving, therapeutic, polo and mounted police.

With an extensive background in French and Portuguese dressage schools, Centered Riding®, and TTEAM® techniques she conducts workshops, riding clinics, instructor clinics, USPC rating preps nationally and is a popular lecturer and convention speaker.

Eric Witherspoon, DVM • Yamhill, Oregon

Dr. Eric Witherspoon earned his DVM degree in 1980 from the University of Tennessee. Upon graduation he began private practice in Carlton, Oregon and over the next 20 years built a large and successful practice. Eric now has three small animal veterinarians and two equine veterinarians working for him at the Carlton Veterinary Hospital which he still owns.

During the course of his practice, and tired of dealing with often caustic wound care products and antimicrobials/antifungals that just didn't work as advertised, Dr. Witherspoon began working with various mixtures of naturopathic ingredients such as tea tree oil, comfrey, and goldenseal for wound care management and topical skin care issues such as rain rot and scratches. The naturopathics had merit but he discovered that when mixed with specific amounts of pharmaceuticals, such as hydrocortisone and benzylthionium chloride, the results were spectacular. The synergy of action was much greater than the sum of the parts.

As the demand for these products by his clients increased, Eric founded Healing Tree Products, Inc. in 1997 and began commercially producing and selling the line in January 2000. He is no longer practicing medicine but is still licensed as a veterinarian and working full time with Healing Tree Products.

Dr. Witherspoon is a founding member of the Northwest Equine Practitioners Association and has been the Equine Sessions Chair Person for the Wild West Veterinary Conference in Reno, NV from 1997 to the present. In addition, he is the Equine liaison between the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association and the College of Veterinary Medicine at Oregon State University.

Eric resides in Yamhill, Oregon with his wife and four daughters.