

## Academy of Achievement 2015 Alumni Honorees

Jennifer Goss Heather Rosenker Brian Sabo Lisa Sabo Each year several USPC alumni are inducted into the Alumni Academy of Achievement, and join the delegates during the 2-1/2 day Congress. The alumni honorees play a vital role in the National Youth Congress because they bring



the voice of experience into the discussions. They listen, encourage, laugh, and commiserate with the young people, and share personal stories of success and failure, helping the youth delegates to recognize that life is filled with the unexpected and that flexibility and a sense of humor can be as important as excellent goals and plans.

### Class of 1999

Sophie Pirie Clifton, JD Stirlin Harris Tracy Moore Jarman Pat Maykuth, PhD Paula Parker Raye Henry S. Taylor Nancy Todd, PhD

### Class of 2000

Susanna Colloredo-Mansfield lan M. Grant Lendon Gray Jill Hassler-Scoop Donald B. Hebb Marian Zerfoss Kessler Jean Swank, PhD

### Class of 2001

Sally Garner Sali Gear Tad Leithead, Jr. Catherine Stoppani-Johnson John Strassburger

### Class of 2002

Liesl Clark
Tremaine Cooper
LTC Lorelei Coplen
Laurie Penfield Fichter
Anita Huntsman
Mary Kahan, DVM
Tom McLaughlin
Dorothy Smith
Emily Wiley, PhD

### Class of 2003

Georgia Gerber Patti Jo Hassler Gary Keating Richard Lamb Kelly Wycall Phillips LTC Stacy Yike

### Class of 2004

Beth Clarke, JD Ben Duke Dorothy Eisenberg Dr. Anthony Patt, PhD Rhonda Rathgeber Anne Tuttle-Roller

### Class of 2005

Nancy Ambrosiano Gillian Clissold Christine Harris Donald McLean, Jr. Michael B. Richardson Catherine Scott, MD Peter Zimmerman

### Class of 2006

Jillian Dunham Ann Haller Christine Knox Mary Beth Larsen Brian O'Connor David O'Connor

### Class of 2007

Tom Eversole, DVM Susan Knox, JD John A. Kosanovich Linda Miller Carol Ripple, PhD

### Class of 2008

Erika de Papp, DVM Russell Gilfus Liz Halliday Kevin Price Sharon Turner, PhD Carey Williams. PhD

### Class of 2009

Holiday Banta Jim Hamilton Caroline McCabe John Staples Kate Sweeney

### Class of 2010

Conrad Adams Stephanie Drachkovitch Janell Hoffman Michael Hoffman Gina Miles

### Class of 2011

Lola Blackwell Chambless, M.D. Janell Goode Hoffman Sondra Russman Marshall H. Jerry Schurink Melanie Smith –Taylor

### Class of 2012

Loranne Ausley Laurie Chapman-Bosco Parker Pearson Yvette R. Seger, Ph.D. Jennifer S. Welter, DPT

### Class of 2013

Heather Bell Dr. Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM Margaret "Meg" Johnson Dr. Amy Story, Ph.D.

### Class of 2014

Stephanie Church David Courreges Katharine Devereaux Byron, MFH Mark Lloyd



### **Alumni Biographies**

### **Jennifer Goss**



Jennifer (Gilbert) Goss is an H-A Graduate from Berks Pony Club in the Eastern Pennsylvania Region. During her ten years in Pony Club, Jennifer took full advantage of the Pony Club experience although her favorite rallies were Show Jumping and Combined Training. Many years of her Pony Club experience were spent aboard her first horse, a Quarter Horse mare named Dance of Roses. In 1999, Jennifer was a member of the inaugural National Youth Congress in Seattle. A graduate of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, Jennifer went on to earn her Master's Degree in Holocaust & Genocide Studies from West Chester University (PA).

In 2012, Jennifer produced the Emmy-nominated, award-winning film, *Misa's Fugue*, which tells the extraordinary story of Holocaust survivor Frank Grunwald. The film has also played at film festivals around the

world and to date, several thousand copies have been distributed to further the teaching of the Holocaust worldwide. Although life "post-Pony Club" has been an adventure, Jennifer still finds time to maintain her ties to the organization to which she credits her path in life. She currently volunteers for her local club, Glenmore Hunt Pony Club and also serves on the club's board. A full time teacher at Robert E. Lee High School and adjunct instructor at Blue Ridge Community College. Jennifer and her husband, Matthew, live in Staunton, VA with their 1-year-old daughter and future Pony Club Member, Ashleigh and their two dogs.

### **Heather Rosenker**

Heather Rosenker is a seasoned, accomplished strategic communicator experienced in the federal, state, association and corporate communications arenas.

Ms. Rosenker is the former director of public policy and government relations communications for General Motors. Her public relations agency experience includes eight years at Fleishman-Hillard International Communications. She co-led that firm's Global Security Practice and managed teams for a number of Department of Homeland Security programs/agencies. She was part of the start-up team at the Transportation Security Administration established following the 9/11 terrorist attacks. She has held positions at the Internal Revenue Service and the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

Horses were a stable part of Heather's formative years, having started riding when she was seven years old. For the next 17 years, Heather joined and participated in the Somerset Hills Pony Club where she rallied and she earned her 'A' rating. She hunted with New Jersey's



Essex Fox Hounds and showed equitation and hunter/jumpers culminating with qualifications at both the finals for the Medal and ASPCA Maclay. Over the years, Heather has helped to leg up horses for friends and periodically hunted.

Heather is married to Mark V. Rosenker, former chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board and current CBS News Transportation Safety Analyst.



### **Alumni Biographies**



### **Brian and Lisa Sabo**

Brian and Lisa Sabo are living a classic love story. While growing up on the same street in Southern California both became interested in riding horses. When Brian was riding ponies at a Los Angeles area barn his mother Kitty Sabo began a long friendship with a then very young and now internationally famous Olympic dressage rider, judge and clinician, Hilda Gurney. Before long Hilda had struck out on her own as a trainer and Brian followed her. Hilda and Kitty founded the Woodland Hills Pony Club in 1965. Lisa's family moved to the same street in 1970 and Lisa's interests soon turned to horses. After years of training together and competing from coast to coast each went their separate ways. In 1981 Brian moved and bought land in Paso Robles on California's Central Coast with the plan of starting an equestrian center. Lisa left home in 1982 for Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to pursue her education. Realizing how much they missed being together they began dating and eventually married in 1985.

In 1974 Brian passed his A rating. Brian served as D.C. of this club two times (1975-1977 and 1980-1983). Lisa passed her H-A in 1983 and her A in 1984. Lisa is now running the Newport Riding Center and Newport Mesa Pony Club. Lisa has also had a very successful competitive career which continues today. A member of the Silver Medal Area VI Young Riders team in 1984 and also USEA Area VI leading rider a number of times.

Lisa has always specialized in starting young horses, working with difficult horses and competing and teaching both Young Riders and Adults. Lisa has been recognized as one of the leading riders in USEA Area VI and produced a large number of higher level horses between 1984 and 2009.

Brian is currently teaching a full schedule of clinics across the nation and is the past President of the United States Eventing Association (USEA). This past year Brian wrote the Forward and helped revise the cross country jumping portion of the Advanced Horsemanship HB – A Levels Manual for USPC.

Lisa and Brian's other business interests focus on developing the Sabo Group which is a national and international Amway business. Their focus on health, wellness and sports nutrition was nurtured through the years of conditioning horses and riders for the highest level on international competition. Learning proper use of foods, supplements, vitamins, minerals and herbs have enhanced the performance and energy levels of many of their riders and business associates.



# National Youth Congress Class of 2015 Delegates

The USPC National Youth Congress was established in 1998 in order to recognize outstanding older Pony Club members that have achieved a National Certification. The National Youth Congress delegates are selected yearly by



their regions and come from all over the country. Two days prior to the Annual Meeting, these delegates are brought together for a series of workshops and discussions intended to expand their awareness of themselves and of the rapidly changing external world into which they will soon graduate.

The Congress provides opportunities for youth delegates to think about their own strengths and weaknesses and to examine ways to overcome obstacles that may face them in the future. It enables them to share ideas with their peers from around the country through group discussions, role simulations, and other interactive activities, thus expanding their awareness of the "wider world" around them.

### Madeline Auch Madeline Backus Clair Beale **Emily Carney Shannon Case** Katelyn Cobia Kyla Dewald **Emily Dingwell** Chessie Donini Leah Fitzgerald Micaela Forsyth Julia Gates Nina Gilbert Rebecca Guerrera Dana Hammerle Kayla Harvey Elicia Hazelwood Devon Hoffman Sarah Beth Hood Jillian Howland Nikhol Kelley McKenzie Kielman Suzanne Lamb Esin Namoqlu Jenna Peth Jessica Pieracci **Shady Sayers Emily Setton**

Elsa Taylor

**Kelly Tighe** 

Chi-Leigh Warren

Madeline White

Beartooth Pony Club, Big Sky Region Hunter Hill Pony Club, Rocky Mountain Region Lost Coast Pony Club, Sierra Pacific Region Tidewater Pony Club, Delmarva Region Seneca Valley Pony Club, Capital Region Wasatch Pony Club, Intermountain Region Fallbrook Pony Club, Southern California Region Orchard Hill Pony Club, Great Lakes Region Peace Point Pony Club, Tri-State Region Woods Riding Center, Hawaii Region Pickering Hunt Pony Club, Eastern Pennsylvania Region Greenville Foothills Pony Club, Carolina Region Charlotte Pony Club, Western New England Region Jockey Hollow Pony Club, New Jersey Region Miami Valley Pony Club, Midsouth Region Tidewater Pony Club, Delmarva Region Cerro Coso Pony Club, Camino Real Region Good Choice Farm Riding Center, Capital Region Hilltoppers Pony Club, South Region Kalamazoo Valley II Pony Club, Great Lakes Region River Riders Pony Club, Deep South Region Silver Bits Pony Club, North Central Prairie Crescent Bay Pony Club, Old Dominion Region Pickering Hunt Pony Club, Eastern Pennsylvania Region Skagit Valley Pony Club, Northwest Region Golden Hills Pony Club, Middle California Region Greenville Foothills Pony Club, Carolina Region Fox Valley Pony Club, Lake Shore Region Lost Coast Pony Club, Sierra Pacific Region Lost Hounds Pony Club, Tri-State Region Mill Creek Pony Club, Midwest Region Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club, Virginia Region





**Madeline Auch** H-B, Big Sky Region

Activities: Enjoys art, music and being around animals. Future Plans: Graduate with a Bachelors in Business

Administration next year.

Favorite Horse(s): Gabriel, Misty, Blaze and Oops.



**Clair Beale** C-3 Traditional, Sierra Pacific Region

Activities: Attending Butte College in Chico, CA and a working student for Valerie Owen.

Future Plans: Achieve her A Certification and owning her own barn.

Favorite Horse(s): Juvaal a 19 yr. old Swedish Warmblood



**Madeline Backus** H-A, Rocky Mountain Region

Activities: Clarinetist and Intermediate level Eventer Future Plans: Compete Advanced level at Rolex and represent the U.S. in the Olympics Favorite Horse(s): Arianna ps.



### **Emily Carney** C-3 Trad/SJ, Delmarva Region

Activities: Assistant trainer at Glendale Riding School. Future Plans: Becoming a professional rider and a registered judge and achieving her A and a National Examiner.

Favorite Horse(s): Odds on Owen



Shannon Case C-3 Traditional, Capital Region

<u>Activities</u>: Besides riding, she enjoys art and is a sculptor. <u>Future Plans</u>: Interested in architecture and design. <u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Mardi Gras her first pony who was a 14 h TB/Welsh



**Kyla Dewald** H-B, Southern California Region

<u>Activities</u>: Attending Mira Costa College, majoring in mechanical engineering. Enjoys drawing and playing guitar and piano.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Bringing a 4 year old OTTB up the levels of eventing and a career in mechanical engineering. <u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Seattle, TB



### **Katelyn Cobia**

### C-3 Traditional, Intermountain Region

<u>Activities</u>: Senior at Layton High School, Utah. Involved in track and cross-country running.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Going to college and eventually Veterinarian medicine or something in the medical field.

<u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Chase a Shetland Pony. Doc and Elvis a close second!



### Emily Dingwell H-B, Great Lakes Region

<u>Activities</u>: Senior at University of Michigan studying mathematics and computer science. She is a licensed HAM Radio Technician.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Software industry and continue horses as a hobby and be involved in PC at some level.

<u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Dancer, TB gelding and Goodie her first pony.



Chessie Donini C-3 Dressage, Tri-State Region

<u>Activities</u>: Enjoys learning foreign languages. Senior in High School but also attends West Liberty University in the Advanced Academy of West Virginia.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Hopes to go to Franciscan University and study as a Spanish major and become certified to teach Spanish.

<u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Buddy, a quarter horse with a heart of gold!



Micaela Forsyth H-B, Eastern Pennsylvania Region

<u>Activities</u>: Attending West Chester University Honors College majoring in biology. Enjoys reading, cooking and travelling.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Hopes to be able to continue her service to others through a job in the medical field and stay active in the USPC organization.

Favorite Horse(s): Tommy, a 14.2 Anglo-Arab



### Leah Fitzgerald H-B, Hawaii Region

<u>Activities</u>: Currently attends University of Utah and studies Speech Pathology. Enjoys hiking, movies and going to games.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Move back to Hawaii and work as a speech Pathologist. Achieve her H-A. <u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Adonis



### Julia Gates B Traditional, Carolina Region

<u>Activities</u>: Sophomore at Clemson University as a preveterinary major and competing on the Clemson Intercollegiate Eventing Team.

Future Plans: Become a Veterinarian.

Favorite Horse(s): Has had three phenomenal horses.



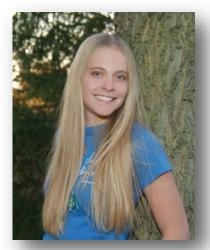
Nina Gilbert C-3 Traditional, Western New England Region

<u>Activities</u>: Currently a working student for Cathy Frederickson in VA.

Future Plans: Take her B and H-A in 2015.

Favorite Horse(s): Barefoot Bubbly "Wilco" a 6 year old

chestnut TB gelding.



Dana Hammerle H-B, Midsouth Region

<u>Activities</u>: B.S. degree in Management and Leadership and Media Studies. Loves to paint, play guitar and wakeboard. <u>Future Plans</u>: Envisions owning a ranch and working with horses that have behavior issues.

Proudly ended the 2013 season with a successful completion of a Classic Training Level 3-Day Event.



### Rebecca Guerrera H-B, New Jersey Region

<u>Activities</u>: Sophomore at SUNY Cobleskill in NY in the Equine Studies program. Member of the Intercollegiate Hunt Seat Equitation Team.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Hope to make a career somewhere in the horse world, managing and or putting her photography skills to use.

Favorite Horse(s): Zoe, 16.3 hand TB mare



### Kayla Harvey H Traditional, Delmarva Region

<u>Activities</u>: Freshman at University of Maryland and is involved in the Maryland Equestrian Club. Major in Animal Science.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Unsure but it will involve horses.

Favorite Horse(s): Slick, 7 year old, 16.3 hand bay TB gelding



Elicia Hazelwood H-B, Camino Real Region

Activities: Attending Cerro Coso Community College and works part time at a local Veterinarian Hospital.

<u>Future Plans</u>: College degree and a family, hopes to still be in the horse industry and involved in Pony Club.

<u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Tootsie and One Tough Lady



Sarah Beth Hood B Traditional, South Region

<u>Activities</u>: Working student for Sandy Osborn. Senior at Walnut Grove High School.

<u>Future Plans</u>: To attend University of Kentucky to study nursing and ride on the UK Eventing Team.

Favorite Horse(s): Cocoa Fina, Swedish/Dutch Warmblood



### **Devon Hoffman** C+, Capital Region

<u>Activities</u>: Rides at Good Choice Riding Center and loves it! <u>Future Plans</u>: Achieve her B certification and to attend Championships in Lexington, VA at the Training level in 2015.

Favorite Horse(s): Getty and Dinnerandashow (Din)



### Jillian Howland C-3 Traditional, Great Lakes Region

<u>Activities</u>: President of Great Lakes Junior Board. Attending community college and pursing a degree in biological sciences.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Stay well connectd to USPC, give back to the community and would like to become an examiner.

Favorite Horse(s): Danny



Nikhol Kelley H-B, Deep South Region

<u>Activities</u>: Attending Louisiana State University with an emphasis in Animal-Dairy-Poultry Science & Pre-Veterinary Medicine.

Works as a Veterinary Technician & Shift Supervisor at Associated Veterinary Services the past 4 years.



Suzanne Lamb
C-3 Traditional, Old Dominion Region

<u>Activities</u>: Currently at Old Dominion College majoring in Exercise Science. Enjoys sports and the beach. <u>Future Plans</u>: After graduating, she plans to continue on for a masters in Athletic Training. Would like to work with a

Favorite Horse(s): Golden Rifle

collegiate or H.S. team.



### McKenzie Kielman

### H-B, North Central Prairie Region

<u>Activities</u>: Besides riding, she has been a swim instructor and lifeguard. Varsity girl's track and field and tech team in High School.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Pass her C-3 and H-A before she moves on to college.

Favorite Horse(s): Loves them all!



### Esin Namoglu

### C-3 Traditional, Eastern Pennsylvania Region

<u>Activities</u>: Freshman at West Chester University's Honors College studying biology. Enjoys skiing, eating ice cream and time with her dog Desi.

Future Plans: Unsure but she anticipates she will remain

active in the horse world.

Favorite Horse(s): Coal and Lucy



Jenna Peth H-B, Northwest Region

Activities: Serves as unmounted coordinator for her club. Involved in Key Club, Art Club, and Honors Society.

Future Plans: Plans to attend George Washington University or University of Virginia to pursue a degree in International Relations and Foreign Policy. Eventually working for the State Department.

Favorite Horse(s): Koala, 16.2 Dutch Warmblood



**Shady Sayers** H Traditional, Carolina Region

<u>Activities</u>: Attends Clemson University as an Environmental and Natural Resources major. Besides eventing and dressage, enjoys rodeo and barrel racing too!
<u>Future Plans</u>: Work for the U.S. Forest Service or the

Department of Natural Resources. Favorite Horse(s): Mehmet



### Jessica Pieracci H-B, Middle California Region

<u>Activities</u>: Senior in High School, works at a local farm instructing and also at another farm helping rehabilitate horses.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Attend either Davis or Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and to become a Veterinarian.

Favorite Horse(s): Thunder Road, 21 year old TB



### Emily Setton H-B, Lake Shore Region

<u>Activities</u>: Attending University of Wisconsin and pursuing majors in Biology and Anthropology. Student-athlete on the lightweight women's rowing team.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Hopes to become a pathologist and active

USPC member in her region.

Favorite Horse(s): Scotch, APHA registered



Elsa Taylor H-B, Sierra Pacific Region

<u>Activities</u>: Freshman at Sonoma State University and is in the pre-nursing program. Also a member of the Sonoma State Equestrian Hunt Seat Team. Certified EMT and plans to use her knowledge to improve the safety of Pony Club.



Chi-Leigh Warren H-B, Midwest Region

<u>Activities</u>: Freshman at Iowa State University studying Spanish and Industrial Engineering.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Working abroad in Spain or South America as a sales or contract consultant with a technical background. <u>Favorite Horse(s)</u>: Gnash, 14h chestnut quarter pony



### Kelly Tighe H-HM, Tri-State Region

<u>Activities</u>: Freshman at the University of Rochester and majoring in Biomedical Engineering and competes on the IHSA Team.

Favorite Horse(s): Oh SoHo, aka Tony



## Madeline White H-B, Virginia Region

<u>Activities</u>: Freshman at William and Mary. Is an author and a recreational fencer.

<u>Future Plans</u>: Imagines working in government, with a farm of her own and giving back to Pony Club.

Favorite Horse(s): Brogan