

## Mark Your Calendar



Riders and horse lovers are invited to “jingle and mingle” with **Days End Farm Horse Rescue** at the non-profit rescue’s “Cheers to 30 Years” 30th Anniversary Holiday Appreciation Celebration on Friday, December 6. The annual holiday celebration will kick off at 7 p.m. at the **Turf Valley Resort** in Ellicott City, Maryland. The evening will include dinner, dancing, drinks and a look back at three decades of intervention, education and outreach at Days End, as well as celebrating and honoring the great work and support of volunteers and donors. Limited tickets remain and are available for \$50. Additional information can be found online at [www.defhr.org](http://www.defhr.org).



Pomponio Ranch in Rancho Santa Fe, California

The **Split Rock Jumping Tour (SRJT)** will host a new concept in show jumping as part of its 2020 national tour. The \$1.5 Million “**Ante Up**” Grand Prix will debut April 7 at **Pomponio Ranch** in Rancho Santa Fe, California. “The main purpose of the Ante Up Grand Prix is to introduce a completely new dynamic to show jumping that currently does not exist at the highest level,” said **Derek Braun**, founder and CEO of the SRJT. “Riders, owners, sponsors and spectators will each play a valuable part in helping the sport progress to unprecedented heights. The format will allow each participant to be part of a unique, high-intensity grand prix that is sure to draw attention and raise awareness around the world.”

“In this unique format, riders and owners will have a chance for a pay day unmatched in American show jumping,” Derek added. “Qualified riders will have the right to choose whether or not to invest their own money to win 100 percent of the profits, or choose to have their entry paid for them and compete for 25 percent of the prize money with the remaining 75 percent going to whomever invested in them to compete. Having fewer riders competing will give each entry a better chance of winning the highest pay day in show jumping.”

The grand prix will be limited to 15 riders. Invitations will be extended to the top five entered U.S. and top five entered foreign riders based on the Longines FEI World Ranking list, five Organizing Committee “wild cards” and two on-site reserves.

The grand prix will be run under a “winning round” format with the first round run against the clock. The top five riders will return for a second round in reverse order of qualification from round one with faults carrying over into the second round. Time in the second round will break all ties. The winner will receive \$1 million with \$350,000 going to the second place finisher and \$150,000 to third.

Derek thanked **Karl Cook** for hosting the event. “Karl has competed at many of our events in the past and he has been a great supporter of our tour. His farm will be a great location for what we’re planning and his letting us host the event there is truly amazing.”

## In the News



Melody Liu, West Coast Final Winner

Photo by Kim F. Miller

Congratulations to **Melody Liu** of San Marino, California, on her victory riding **Carnutelabryere** in the **2019 Hollow Brook Wealth Management Show Jumping Hall of Fame West Conference Year-End Final**. The Final was held during the Blenheim EquiSports International Jumping Festival at the Rancho Mission Viejo Riding Park in San Juan Capistrano, California.



Hannah Selleck and Elita Toscita DF

Photo by JXB Photography

Former **Sidelines** cover girl **Hannah Selleck** has been on a hot streak with **Elita Toscita DF**, bred and owned by Hannah’s own **Descanso Farm**. The 7-year-old mare (**Lamarque—Tosca, Casch**) was one of the first offspring of Hannah’s breeding operation, and the mare’s results this fall are a testament to the success of Hannah’s program. Elita kicked off her winning fall season with victory in the 1.10m Power & Speed at the **Split Rock Jumping Tour’s CSI2\* Sonoma** in September, and followed that win up with 1.00m and 1.10m speed class victories during the **Del Mar International Welcome Week** and the **CSI2\*-W Del Mar World Cup Week** in October in Del Mar, California. Learn more about Hannah and the horses of Descanso Farm at [www.DescansoFarm.com](http://www.DescansoFarm.com).



John Mason

Photo by Susan Stickle

**John Mason** of Spring, Texas, was presented with the 11th annual **Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award** at the **2019 Region 9 Championships**. He received the \$5,000 award for demonstrating adherence to sound dressage principles and the ability to communicate these principles so that students develop themselves and their horses in a logical, progressive and humane way up through the levels. John has been the head trainer at **Tex-Over Farms** in Conroe, Texas, since 2013. He is a licensed