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MAGAZINE

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October
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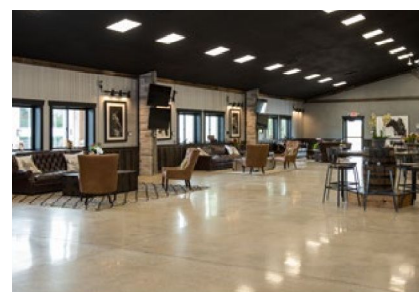
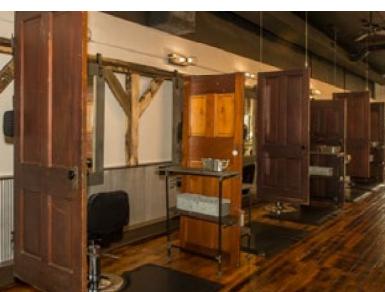


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W

elcome to the Fall issue of the *World Equestrian Center Magazine*. As the Seasons change, we reflect on a great Summer filled with fun, family and horses. We hope that you enjoyed Summer too with some quality time spent in the saddle.

To us, Fall means back to school, cooler weather and a shift to indoor horse shows. We're excited for Fall! In 2018, we've expanded our Fall Series Horse Shows to include five shows and we'll celebrate the culmination of our second World Equestrian Center / Kentucky Horse Shows LLC National Hunter Derby Series.

Inspired by our unique Hunter Derby collaboration, in this issue we take a look at the history of the Hunter Derby here in the United States and how it has changed and enhanced the show hunter industry.

Our 24 Hours feature is double the fun this month as we spend time with twins Jonathon and Joseph Fishchetti of Reflecting Heaven Stables. Driven by a commitment to family values, the twins are balancing business and fatherhood with aplomb.

Our Stable Spotlight shines on the wonderful Sugar Run Farm. Located in Ohio, Sugar Run is a charming show facility, with winning philosophies and a menagerie of horses, ponies, donkeys and minis.

Young Alex Alston is the subject of our Junior Rider Focus. Propelled by a passion for riding and a super support team, he's come a long way from riding ponies to the 3'6" Junior Hunters.

The Tech Equestrian column introduces us to a rider who created a valuable equestrian-focused-service fueled by true entrepreneurial spirit.

In the Equestrian Style column, stylist Dana Miller shares her knowledge on appropriate dress for the Hunter and Equitation rings.

We hope you enjoy the stories in these pages and getting to know the equestrians that contribute to making the World Equestrian Center special. May you have a safe and successful Fall season!

God bless,

The Roberts Family

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Stable spotlight

We take a moment to shine the spotlight on a featured Barn or Stable to learn a bit about their business, their philosophy, and just hear their story ...



Jen and For the Crown display winning form in the Hunter Derby at WEC

Photo: Third Shutter from the Sun

The Dynamic Team of Jen Nadalin and Chris Eadline

Behind Sugar Run Farm LLC, Plain City, Ohio has a Rich History of Competitive Riding and Training to Offer their Clients the Best in

HorsemanSHIP at a World-Class Facility.

The World Equestrian Center Magazine had a chance to learn about their backgrounds, family, work-life balance, horses, and a behind-the-scenes tour of their lovely stable!

by **Juliana Chapman**



Jen and Chris with Maximus
Photo: Michael Parry

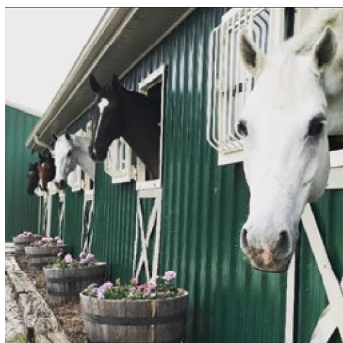


The distinct green and white colors of the 25 stall main barn
Photo: Michael Parry

Equestrian Backgrounds Bring Them Together

Jen and Chris met in 1992 in Palm Beach, Florida. Jen was riding Amateur hunters and jumpers and selling horses. Chris was grooming and managing Jane Clark's horses for Leslie Howard at the time. Chris previously had experience working for five-time Olympic show jumper, Anne Kursinski at Hunterdon in addition to running her own business in Southern New Jersey.

"We found ourselves complimenting each other, her riding ability was intuitive and I really liked that," recalled Chris. "Jen had the ability to get the best out of 'quirky' and difficult mounts and she still does 25 years later," noted Chris.



Above: The horses at Sugar Run Farm admiring the flowers. Photo: Michael Parry
Right: Sugar Run Farm displays its spring colors. Photo: Michael Parry



“Jen had the ability to get the best out of “quirky” and difficult mounts and she still does 25 years later.

The Midwest was Calling

Shortly after they met; Jen went on to manage Coker Farm with Judy Richter and Andre Dignelli but soon decided she missed the Midwest. Leaving Florida behind, she and Chris agreed to move to Central Ohio to start their own business. "We started at Jen's sister's farm and eventually built our own place in 1998, which is now, Sugar Run Farm

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Jen (foreground) and Chris in their 'home office'
Photo: Michael Parry



“ We found ourselves
complimenting each other...

LLC,” said Chris. Jen brought to the table extensive knowledge of barn building because of her background as a general contractor building barns for The Nadalin Company.

“When the barn and house were originally built in 1998 there were just 4 stalls and a cornfield,” explained Jen. They had to work

out of other facilities and over time added on little by little with a focus on efficiency and aesthetics. “We wanted the view from our house to be the best and we were always coming up with things to improve on. I’m in my happy place when I’m tinkering at home and on the farm,” Jen confessed.

“It’s hard to choose a favorite construction project, because they were all unique and special. Otterbein University’s Knowlton Center was a challenge due to scope, however it turned out beautifully and the new Kensley Farm and New Hope Farm projects are also very nice,” Jen said proudly.

“ I’m in my happy place when I’m tinkering at home and on the farm.

In 2001, Chris became the Assistant Director in the Equine Department at Otterbein University and an IHSA Regional Director up until 2005.

A Welcome Addition

Their daughter Caroline was born in 2005 and started riding at a very



Above: Caroline with one of her favorite mounts, Maximus. Photo: Michael Parry
Left: Jen and Caroline at this year's Great Lakes Festival. Photo: Chris Eadline



early age. “She has been a joy to watch as she learns and progresses on both ponies and horses,” Chris smiled. Caroline is 13 now and rides in the pony hunters, equitation, children’s hunter and high children’s jumper, with the plan to soon move up. She helps with riding, daily chores, night check, and organizing the stable to help keep things running at Sugar Run. “We hope one day she will take it over and carry on the business, if she wants to.”

A Sweet Oasis at Sugar Run

The expansive farm features a 25 stall heated main barn with offices and tack rooms. There are two additional barns, the retired and

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Stable Spotlight: *Sugar Run Farm*

“Our training philosophy is pretty straight forward,” stated Chris. “We believe in helping every horse and rider find their comfort zone ...”

heated pony barns with another 15 stalls combined and attached are large run in stalls. For turnout, there are 10 grass pastures and 6 all weather paddocks and to provide their clients an all-year-round riding environment they have a 170' x 80' indoor ring, a 120' x 220' sand ring, and a 6 acre grass riding

field equipped with natural jumps including a bank and a ditch jump.

“Our 20 customers focus on the hunter/jumper discipline and range from ponies to Grand Prix. There are currently 45 horses on the property with about 25 that are active showing horses and several

more that are lease horses,” Chris detailed.

“We rely on our staff, which is headed by Katie Borden, assistant trainer and barn manager, to keep things organized. Katie does everything from riding, to



Henry Pfeiffer (photo by www.3rdshutter.com)


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Caroline aboard Pingree in the NAL Classic at Country Heir. Photo: Anne Gittins

“Jen has a way with quirky horses. She is patient with them and adapts to each horses needs. That’s a real break from traditional methods ...

teaching to keeping up with records and medical treatments. Gustavo Dominguez is our facility manager and can also do anything...including fix everything!” explained Chris.

A typical day at the farm you’ll find Jen up at 5:00 am, since she is a morning person. This is her time

to focus on the books and return emails, since her days are filled with training, sales, and riding. “We usually organize the day over coffee, although it seems like things are always changing before we can get them started!” Chris pointed out. Chris handles the logistics and planning of the day-to-day

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Chris, Caroline and Jen at the OHJA Banquet 2018
Photo: Chris Eadline



Photo: Michael Parry



Photo: Michael Parry

Jen's

Competition & Professional

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Many zone and top national 'horse of the year' in Amateur Jumper and Amateur Hunter
- HITS Ocala Circuit Best Amateur Rider and Circuit Champion
- Several National and Regional awards with the hunter 'Mountaineer' and jumpers 'Midnight Cowboy' and 'Company Man'
- Several top finishes in Grand Prix
- USEF Zone V Trainer Sportsman of the Year
- Trained several zone and regional winners
- Winner of multiple national derbies
- Was 2x trainer of the year for OHJA
- 2x Sportsmanship award for OHJA
- Trained a National Children's Hunter Champion 'Ramazotti'

“ We feel very blessed to be able to do this and have wonderful customers in our barn.

operations and that includes vet and farrier care as well as all vendor and customer relations. Then there is the fine balance of managing their 'mom duties' with Caroline.



Happy Horses, Happy People

“Our training philosophy is pretty straight forward,” stated Chris. “We believe in helping every horse and rider find their comfort zone, which





.....

means we don't over-train." She pointed out that a majority of the horses jump very little at home, and instead the training and focus is on flatwork and fitness. "As I said before, Jen has a way with quirky horses. She is patient with them and adapts to each horse's needs. That's a real break from traditional methods, but it works for us and we have had a lot of success with some tough horses," said Chris.

Even though they both own several horses and ponies, Jen likes to keep one horse for herself. Currently she is riding "For the Crown", (barn name: Will) who is a 16.2 hand 12-year-old chestnut gelding that they have owned for 2 years. "He's been a lovely horse for some other top trainers, but has a couple 'special needs,'" Jen explained. "He's a versatile horse and likes the show ring but needs trail rides to keep him happy and he always makes me smile, so we call him my emotional support horse!" said Jen with a laugh. Jen is also riding Westeros (barn name: Renly) who is a 17 hand 11-year-old chestnut gelding. Jen has worked with him for owner Katie Jordan for about 4 years. "He's a wonderful horse who


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For the Crown

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Circuit Champion WEC 2018 in 3'3 performance hunters
-
- Circuit Champion Great Lakes Equestrian Festival 2018 "GLEF 3' Hunters"



Jen and For the Crown winning the Hunter Derby at WEC in April 2018 Photo: Third Shutter from the Sun

“Our goal for this year is to have our customers reach their goals ...and enjoy the journey along the way.”

shows in the Performance Divisions and some Derbies. He's a big, lovely, kind "St. Bernard" that can do anything," she said and added, "I'm also really lucky to show several horses, owned by the Gajoch family"

Sugar Run Farm shows all winter at the World Equestrian Center and absolutely loves it! "We feel very blessed to be able to do this and have wonderful customers in our barn. It's a lot of work, but at the end of the day we feel good about stewarding animals and people through this sometime chaotic horse world," said Chris. "Our goal for this year is to have our customers reach their goals and potential and enjoy the journey along the way." ☺



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