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OFFICERS 2003 - 2006

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Mr. Doug Denby

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Ms. Mercedes Jimenez-Horwitz

Ms. Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen

Executive Director

Miss Norma Pearce

Introducing... The New Executive Board

In our last edition we introduced some of the members of our new Executive Board. We continue with that introduction with the remaining two members of the Board:



TREASURER: Douglas Denby

Doug is a Chartered Accountant by profession and has been involved in sport for disabled people for over 20 years – particularly in the equestrian organization, Riding for the Disabled of Australia. He has held the position of auditor before becoming President of the National Association for 8 years, Treasurer of the N.S.W. State Association for over 18 years and is currently Treasurer for the local centre – "Tall Timbers" – the largest centre in New South Wales.

Doug is very involved with the Paralympic movement and has been Director of Finance and Administration of the Australian Paralympic Committee for the past 7 years. Doug has held positions with other sporting organizations (Pony Club Association of New South Wales and the New South Wales Sports Council for the Disabled.) He has been Treasurer of FRDI for the past 3 years and chairman of the Planning and Fundraising Committee.

BOARD MEMBER: Mercedes Jimenez Horowitz

Mercedes has been a member of the FRDI Board for the past 3 years. She is President of the Fundacion Caballo Amigo in Madrid, Spain.

Mercedes has been coach for the Spanish Paralympics Equestrian Team; Co-Director of the Program for Equestrian Therapeutic Experts – Complutense University, Madrid; Technical Director for Equestrian Sports – Spanish Sports Federation for the Intellectually Handicapped and Head Equestrian Coach of Equestrian Therapeutics for the Disabled, Equestrian Center, Madrid.

Mercedes' equestrian training was gained at the Saumur National Riding School – France, and at Bobigny University, Paris, France where she took the Equestrian Therapeutics Experts Course in 1995. She had previously taken the Equestrian Therapeutics Course with Federation Nationale Handi-Cheval – France.

Mercedes has a B.Sc. in Computer Science, University of Granada, Spain.



Above: Mercedes, Sanna and Marie-Therese at work.

Our new Board members have diverse skills which they are willing to share as they work towards the further development of FRDI.



Executive BOARD MEETING

England • October 3 - 5, 2003

The new Executive Board held its first meeting in England – October 3-5, and presented a good opportunity to become acquainted and establish a good working relationship. The Board is grateful to the Director and staff of the Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy who offered the use of their facilities for the meeting. The meeting was chaired by the new President, Gundula Hauser. As is usual at Board Meetings the agenda was comprehensive and provided the necessary framework to focus members' attention on various aspects of the work of F.R.D.I.

A brief report follows outlining the topics which were discussed.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIP

An official agreement between Samsung and F.R.D.I. has now been signed. Samsung has agreed to sponsor the publication and distribution of the F.R.D.I. Newsletter for two years. F.R.D.I. will assist Samsung in the provision of expertise in training their personnel in therapeutic riding activities. The Board is most appreciative of this sponsorship and looks forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with Samsung.

F.R.D.I. BROCHURES

It was decided that a review of the content of our brochure was required. Various members of the Board will be engaged in this. Currently the brochure is available in English, French, German, Greek, Italian, & Spanish.

DIRECTORY AND SKILLS BANK

The Past President (Octavia Brown) published the Directory which was distributed to Full Members in Budapest. It had been intended that a Skills Bank of qualified F.R.D.I. personnel in member countries would be included with the Directory. Insufficient replies were received by the time of publication. Full Members are reminded to supply a list of qualified people in their country, in each area of therapeutic riding for inclusion in

an international Skills Bank which will be published. The Skills Bank would be used to assist new members and others wishing to develop programs. FRDI has a wealth of experience and expertise among its members and the Board is keen to make use of these skills where possible. It has been observed that there is a diversity of terms describing practice in current use by FRDI members worldwide. There is a need for an explanation of these terms. The Board proposes to publish these explanations in succeeding issues of our Newsletter and possibly as an insert to the brochure.

It is important that the terms in use accurately describe the programs offered by members.

SECURE SECTION OF THE F.R.D.I. WEBSITE

A secure section of our website is to be established where reference material would be provided. Members would have free access to this site using a membership number. Norma will arrange this and advise members.

W.H.O. (World Health Organisation)

The President will seek assistance and advice regarding the possibility of F.R.D.I. joining the World Health Organisation.

CONSTITUTION

The new Constitution approved by members at the International Council Meeting in Budapest in June has been sent to our legal representative for submission to the relevant Belgian government authority for ratification. We are awaiting their reply. Full Members will be advised as soon as a reply is received.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

As promised in Budapest the question of the category of Associate Membership was one of the first items to be discussed and the following motion was passed: *"The FRDI Executive Board approves the creation of the category of Associate Membership with fees as previously*

approved. Associate Membership is open to individuals and organizations not necessarily legally constituted in their own country. Associate Membership does not carry the right to vote but entitles the member to all other aspects of membership."

The Planning Committee Chairman will prepare a paper on other forms of non-voting membership (e.g. Honorary, Life, Corporate)

SOLIDARITY FUND

This concept was proposed by the Treasurer in Budapest in response to concern expressed regarding Full Member countries in financial difficulty. These members would apply to the F.R.D.I. Executive Board for assistance from the fund. Such members would pay the Associate Membership fee and the balance of the Full Member fee would be paid from the Solidarity Fund.

The Planning Committee Chairman will prepare a paper with details of the fund and its operation.

CONGRESS ORGANISATION

A report was received from Hungary and will be forwarded to Brazil for their information. The Executive Board will liaise closely with Brazil over the organization of the 2006 Congress. National displays are to be encouraged.

2009 CONGRESS

The location of this Congress was not resolved at the Council Meeting.

Countries interested in offering to host this Congress should apply to the Office for details and supply a detailed offer for distribution to Full Members who will then make a decision.

COMMITTEES

Lists of personnel interested in F.R.D.I. Committees were compiled in Budapest. Committee chairmen will review the lists and advise a program for the coming three years.

The next meeting will be early in 2004 and will be conducted by telephone link.

Farewell...

to a much loved pioneer in the
field of Therapeutic Riding



Lida McCowan

U.S.A. • Died September 6, 2003

Many original members of F.R.D.I. will be saddened to hear of the passing of Lida McCowan – a co-founder of NARHA and an energetic supporter of equine assisted activities. Lida was always willing to share her knowledge and to enthuse others – both in the U.S.A. and further afield.

Those who visited the Cheff Center in Augusta, MI can attest to her professionalism, and willingness to share her knowledge and assist in the establishment of new programs. We salute her abilities, enthusiasm and vision.

F.R.D.I. extends sympathy to her family and friends in NARHA.

A tribute to Lida published by NARHA is reproduced here with kind permission.

The Passing of a Legend, Lida McCowan

*It is with sadness that NARHA acknowledges the passing of Lida McCowan on September 6th of this year. Lida was a co-founder of NARHA and one of the most significant forces that helped shape the field of equine assisted activities. Already an accomplished horsewoman, in 1968 Lida was tasked with developing and running the first specifically built therapeutic riding center in the United States. She traveled to Europe to learn from programs in existence there and opened the doors of the Cheff Center in Augusta, MI in January 1970. She served as the Executive Director there for twenty-three years as it evolved into the largest riding center for riders with disabilities and the only training center for therapeutic riding instructors in the country. Lida served as NARHA Board President and worked on many committees over the years. She authored one of the first textbooks on riding for the disabled in 1972, **It Is Ability That Counts** and co-authored **Aspects and Answers** in 1990. Her daughter, Bliss Brown, later followed in her footsteps at Cheff and her son, Doug, is currently Program Director at Hawk Ridge Therapeutic Riding Center in Washington. She will be remembered by all who knew her as a remarkable woman with a large vision, a forthright manner and the energy to turn dreams into reality. The McCowan family suggests memorials in honor of Lida be given to NARHA.*

North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, Inc. (NARHA)

NAHRA.news@nahra.org

International Directory of Education and Training

6th edition
2003

Price: US\$10
postage paid US\$15

**Contact the Office
to order a copy**

**ORDER
YOUR COPY
NOW!**

RDA-Samsung — NEWS —

A Day out for all of us!!

RDA-Samsung had planned a day out course for the children of the welfare center. We have formed such a program to be carried out once a month, but the situation is not always on our side all the time. The reason for that is the difficulties in arranging the park or the equivalent area. With these difficulties, sometimes the weather decides to change its fortune against us, making this event only the third one of the year.

On a little chilly day of the fall, we hurried our ponies to get ready for an hour long drive and for nice hard work for the children. As we arrived, the children arrived too.

Eighteen children and two horses got ready to enjoy the day. Most of the children were mentally handicapped with a few who were physically handicapped. Five of them were too scared of the horse and too severely handicapped, so they decided to watch other friends' ride.

As the time passed, more smiles bloomed on their faces and they became comfortable. The same could be seen with the leaders and the side walkers helping the riders.

The weather was on our side that day because the sun shone very warmly so the wind could not blow. (Just for reference, on that morning, the temperature was the lowest in this year so far.)

Without any trouble, all of them rode our horses and enjoyed the game on the horse's back.

We hope that such an activity can bring a gleam of hope for those who have disability and opportunity to challenge themselves.



THE XI SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Share the feeling

"Share the feeling" was the motto of the XI Special Olympics Summer Games in Ireland and it was great!! The first week was "Welcome to Ireland Week" – at different host towns.

The XI Special Olympics summer games were the first summer games to take place out of the USA.

It was Ireland which obtained the contract and it was an enormous event.

7,000 Athletes, 3,000 trainers, 30,000 volunteers and 80,000 spectators made these games an event that no-one will forget!

The whole country did its best to welcome the athletes and you felt it was coming from the heart.

As each group left the plane they were acclaimed by everyone at the airport, never mind who it was. The owners of the shops and restaurants, the buyers, the guests, all queued up and clapped their hands. It was the first big impression and the games continued in the same spirit.



The Opening Ceremony in Dublin took place on Saturday 21 June, where some of the world's best artists gave their performance. The most popular people from the world of sport and politics included Mohammed Ali and Nelson Mandela who brought their messages, and of course Eunice Kennedy-Shriver, the woman who founded the Special Olympics and her son-in-law Arnold Schwarzenegger were also there to welcome the Athletes.

The riding centre in Kil was rebuilt for this event and Fintan Flanelly as venue manager, Shirley McDermott as sports commissioner and Jagoda Maciaszek as technical delegate did their best to ensure that the equestrian events developed to a big festivity.

Approximately 160 riders competed in about 25 disciplines and it was always an exciting feeling when the athletes gave their best at the competition.

Gold, silver and bronze medals were given and ribbons up to eighth place.

The farewell evening was on 29 June.

There was pure joy, but also big tears and emotion which could be seen.

At the end everyone was happy and said goodbye to the "most beloved" horse for a short time – that was equestrian sport at the Special Olympics 2003!

Gundula Hauser



NEWS from *around the World*

Many enquiries are received from various parts of the world – some areas are well-known to us while others are often names we have read about, but never visited. Earlier this year we received enquiries from Ecuador. Lack of space prevented the inclusion of this information in previous issues, but we can correct that now. Members will find these reports of great interest.

A WINDOW ON *South America*

The following reports help to provide a window into the activities of our members in South America where FRDI members are actively providing therapeutic equestrian activities to a wide range of people with disabilities.

Brazil

Equotherapy (Therapeutic Riding) in Brazil

Equotherapy (therapeutic riding) in Brazil is conducted by the National Association of Equotherapy (ANDE-BRASIL), which is based in Brasilia, the capital city, and is present all over the national territory.

There are 156 Equotherapy Centers under ANDE's direct control currently with other institutions that are within administrative regularisation processes.

In 2002, 11,570 appointments were registered to people with disabilities or special needs, and this number has been increasing every year.

Another interesting indicator to be noticed is the spread of technical knowledge being

developed through the Equotherapy Basic Course, searching the capacity of people to work in Equotherapy Centers. Since 1992, 50 editions of this course have been provided, with the preparation of 2,082 participants. These people are from different parts of Brazil and also from other South American countries, representing the following professional areas:

• Physiotherapy:	25%
• Horseback Riding:	18%
• Psychology:	14%
• Physical Education:	10%
• Occupational Therapy:	5%
• Pedagogy:	5%
• Phonoaudiology:	4%
• Other:	19%

There are two other modalities of preparation courses offered by ANDE with the following objectives:

ADVANCED: To extend the knowledge on equotherapy

- To develop specific techniques in health and education areas
- To improve knowledge on horseback riding and hypology.

POST GRADUATION / SPECIALISATION

- To deepen scientific and technological knowledge
- To produce scientific knowledge applicable to equotherapy in Brazil
- To form equotherapy professionals to research development
- To contribute to the improvement of the educational and rehab process of equo-therapeutic method

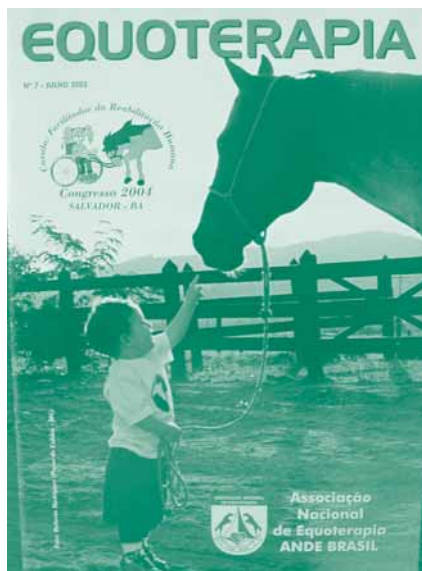
ANDE-BRASIL has organised national congresses, in 1999 and 2002, approaching:

- Spread of Equo-therapeutic work
- To favour the complete expansion of equo-therapeutic activities in Brazil
- To allow the scientific community an opportunity to share new techniques and rehabilitation programs
- To exchange experiences concerning this therapeutic method.

Apart from all this, lectures in universities are organised and also seminars in different Brazilian cities. An exchange lecture and seminar program has been developed with professionals from Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and Uruguay.

In 2004, in Salvador city, Bahia, Brazil the first Ibero-American Congress of Equotherapy will be held simultaneously with the Third Brazilian Congress. At these events both Portuguese and Spanish will be the official languages.

In 2006, in Brasilia, Brazil will be hosting the XII Congress of FRDI. Being the first time this kind of FRDI congress is held in Latin America a significant adhesion is expected which will largely contribute to the development of Equotherapy worldwide.



Glycerio Proenca
ANDE-BRASIL



Ecuador



**By Heidi Paliz of AM-EN
(Amor y Energía, Love and Energy)**

The Foundation AM-EN in Ecuador, South America is a private institution which, since its establishment in 1965, offers hippotherapy to disabled people of all social and economic levels, especially to children..

Heidi reports that almost 15% of the Ecuadorian population has some kind of disability, which means that over a fifth of Ecuadorians (if you include the family) are involved in that matter.

There is not much done by the government to help these people. Aware of the objectives of AM-EN in Ecuador, the *United Nations Voluntary Fund for Disability* gave a grant to AM-EN for a three year period. This project gave AM-EN the funds to train institutions which work with disabled people, professionals and parents or family members of disabled people in this new way of rehabilitation and recreation – hippotherapy – which was introduced by AM-EN in Ecuador.

Part of this project was to organise an international congress:

“Congreso Internacional por La Inclusion de Las Personas con Discapacidad. Sur Derechos: Leyes, Educacion, Rehabilitacion y Recreacion”
(for the inclusion of disabled people, their rights: Laws, education, rehabilitation and recreation) 18 –22.11.02

This congress, the first of its kind, was an enormous success in Ecuador. Around 300 people were expected to participate, but over 600 people came from all over the country, even from the very distant Galapagos Islands. Participants from neighbouring countries like Colombia, Peru and Panama also attended the congress which was covered by all newspapers and TV channels of the country. Events like that help to draw the attention of society to those who are less fortunate and have a disability and especially need our help.

The event was sponsored by UN Headquarters together with the Ministry of Special Education, the Municipality of Quito and CONADIS (Consejo Nacional de Discapacidades). The First Lady of Ecuador spoke about her experience as the mother of a disabled child, and took an active part in the congress.

The congress lasted for one week with discussions being held in the mornings and different seminars about the conventional and alternative therapies applied at Foundation AM-EN and teachings for conventional and alternative education were held in the afternoons.

Among the lecturers were several ministers, the Mayor of Quito’s wife, the First Lady of Ecuador, specialists in human rights, psychologists, the Resident representative of the UN in Quito, representative for State Politics of Colombia, an architect from UN Volunteers (architecture on diversity), doctors in motor function, neuro-psychomotricity, psycho-rehabilitation, nutrition and sociology. These specialists came from Argentinian, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Finland, Germany, Peru, Switzerland and the USA. And all contributed with their knowledge.

AM-EN has been training the Ecuadorian cavalry and on the last day there were testimonies from those in the Military and Police Corps. They have horses, the necessary infrastructure, like riding arenas and people that have a good knowledge of horses in order to carry out this expensive therapy all over the country. AM-EN has also trained the Peruvian cavalry next to the Ecuadorian border. Three years ago a peace treaty was signed between between the governments of Ecuador and Peru. Now, all the soldiers that are stationed on the border and who, in the past, fought against each other now work together to help in applying riding therapy to disabled children.

There were testimonies from parents of children with disabilities and from the children themselves.

Ing. Cadena, father of a young man who is now 20 years old, spoke of the car accident in which his son was involved on

the day of his graduation. After the accident the young man was in a coma for one month. As a consequence he was unable to walk or speak. Eighteen months ago he came to AM-EN in a wheelchair – unable to hold his head up. Doctors were not optimistic about his recovery. Alvaro Cadena came to AM-EN foundation for hippotherapy twice weekly. Eventually he began to hold his head up and after a couple of months he took his first step after riding and pronounced his first word on horseback. Alvaro now attends University on a part time basis taking two subjects. Alvaro spoke at the congress expressing his gratitude to AM-EN and the horses. He is now learning how to be a good rider – no more therapy.

A sergeant in the Ecuadorian Army requested permission to speak at the congress. He was not listed to speak, but was there with his ten year old son, Julio, who has been mentally retarded since birth. Although he was a Sergeant of Cavalry and an army officer he had never considered that he could put this disabled child who could neither walk nor speak, on a horse.

Two years before the Congress was held, AM-EN carried out s seminar in Cuenca, as part of the training program for the UN and this sergeant participated. When he saw how other children with disabilities were put on horses, he requested that he be able to participate with his son. AM-EN has pictures of Julio and his first approaches to a horse. Now his father lets him ride whenever he has a chance. During the Congress Julio came running up on to the stage so that everyone could see his ability – and he even said some words to thank his friends, the horses.

AM-EN believes that testimonies such as these helped to show people that there are things which can be done for people with disabilities – that there is hope.

Comment: This is a heart-warming report – most encouraging to hear such accounts of national and international co-operation between former enemies. We look forward to welcoming AM-EN as a member of FRDI soon. – Ed.

Uruguay



Ce. Na. F.R.E. (Centro Nacional de Fomento y Rehabilitación Ecuestre)

This report from our new Full Member introduces Ce.Na.F.R.E. and its activities.

May. Edmundo Camara, General Secretary, gives some background to the formation of their organization.

The "Escuela de Equitación del Ejército" is an institution of the Uruguayan Army, that

offers education and certification programs to produce several kinds of professionals in equestrian disciplines (both to military officers and civilians), since 1948.

The principal degree is the only one recognised by the Ministry of Education and Culture, and our graduates are very successful in their careers. The experience of therapeutic riding and driving started in 1996, as a way of offering a social service by supporting disabled children in their development. At first, some the graduates obtained their qualifications in foreign centers (Italy and Argentina). Those graduates became the transmitters of the knowledge. The subject is now incorporated into the curriculum, so that the new

graduates will be able to extend the practice in their future professional activities.

May. Camara reports that their great achievement over this period is the creation of 15 centers distributed all over the country, that offer the opportunity to more than 500 children and teenagers with different disabilities.

All of these programs (including the degree programs) are given totally free of charge. The expenses are covered by contributions from the Government and private donors (obviously insufficient!)

Comment: We congratulate Ce.Na.F.R.E. on their energy and enthusiasm and look forward to hearing more of their activities.

Centro de Rehabilitación Ecuestre "Sin Límites"

This report was received from another of our members in Uruguay – Lydia Lercari. We were pleased to meet Alina Camacho and Vivian Lataste (also of this center) at the Congress in Hungary.

Lydia founded this center in 2000 after her return from the United States where she completed an internship at STRIDES therapeutic riding center. In the early days therapeutic riding was largely unknown so publicity about this methodology was required. Support was received in this area from TV, newspapers, magazines – both national and international.

At present the Centro de Rehabilitación Ecuestre "Sin Límites" serves 65 weekly riders and works twice weekly with the Riding Police Department. At first, the latter was done only for the children with disabilities who were sons and daughters of policemen. This has now extended to serve a population of 68 riders and is done as a community service.

The Veterinary College along with Medicine and Psychology Colleges created a project to do research on Therapeutic Riding. In this project there are 15 riders with an interdisciplinary approach with different professionals.

Doctors have seen the benefits of this rehabilitation and are sending patients to them – an important development in a comparatively short time.

An instructor course lasting nine months is offered with a minimum of 10 hours weekly is offered – including theory, practice and riding lessons. Various health professionals are invited to speak and there are three evaluations and a final exam that includes all the topics studied in the year and a short dressage test.

Lydia is working with the Education and Health Ministries to regulate the use of Therapeutic Riding. (Keep up the good work! Ed.)

Gulf of Mexico

Horse Journey to the Gulf of Mexico: Alison Tyas from U.K.

Alison Tyas, a former rider from the Diamond Centre for Handicapped Riders is undertaking a horse journey to the Gulf of Mexico. Lindsey Tyas, Alison's sister is also an FRDI member whom some of you may have met at our recent Congress in Budapest.

We received the following press release from Alison & Lindsey's mother Elizabeth.

"Alison Tyas from Norfolk, has travelled to America to help with Michael Muir's 1,000 mile "Journey to the Gulf of Mexico". Mike is the President of the US Driving for the

Disabled and is retracing his Great Grandfather's route from Louisville, Kentucky through Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida to Cedar Keys on the Gulf of Mexico. For the duration of the journey he will also be accompanied by fellow team USA member Cindy Goff who was paralysed as a result of a riding accident 20 years ago. This international horse journey team will promote equestrian sports for people with disabilities and en route will be visiting hospitals and rehabilitation centres.

In 2001 Mike undertook a similar project, travelling from San Diego on the west coast through deserts and over mountains to

Washington DC in the east. This trip of 3,000 miles took him 10 months and Alison and her sister Lindsey joined the crew for the last 500 miles driving over the Appalachian Mountains and on to Washington.

If you are interested you can follow the trail and escapades of these intrepid pioneers on www.horsejourney.com and if you would like any information on previous horse journeys please contact horsejourneyuk@aol.com for further information."

We extend our best wishes to Mike, Cindy, Alison and all the members of the team as they undertake this 1,000 mile journey. We shall follow their progress with interest.



Coming Events 2003/2004...

NOVEMBER 2003:

8-9 November, 2003

Assessment and Classification of Disabled People for Equestrian Competition:

I.P.E.C. (International Paralympic Equestrian Committee) Profile System Workshop

Venue: Tsunashima Suzuki Clinic,
Tsunashima, Yokohama-City,
Kanagawa, Japan

Main Lecturer: Dr Christin Meadan PhD MCSP

Qualification necessary for the course:
In order to complete an IPEC assessment card,
the qualifications necessary are – Membership
of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, or a
medical doctor specialising in rehabilitation,
physical medicine, neurology, with an interest in
disabled people, or with an interest in sport.

Fixed number: 15 students.

Language: English spoken by the lecturer
interpreted into Japanese.

Course fee: 15,000Yen for RDA Japan members.
20,000Yen for non-members

Contact Address: Masako Nakata,
a board member of RDA Japan

E-mail: ma-ma-ma@mub.biglobe.ne.jp (PC)
mahyper@ezwab.ne.jp (Mobile)

Telephone: (81)-90-6115-9656
(Japanese & English)

RDA Japan: 3-5-2-301, Otsuka, Bunky0-ku,
Tokyo 112-0012, Japan

E-mail: rdaj@thanks.biglobe.ne.jp

Telephone: (81)-3-3946-4204 (Japanese only)

Fax: (81)-3-3946-4204

15 November, 2003

OnTRA Fall Clinic – Featuring Pippa Hodge

Venue: Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Theme: Observation and Analysis of the
Rider's Problems and Strengths

Participants will learn to develop the ability to
identify areas to be worked on; recognise
problems which can be changed and those
which cannot be changed. You will also learn
the theory behind the right choice of horse and
tack for each rider. Learn about attainable goals
for your riders – how to set and measure them
and decide whether they have been achieved.

Contact: Helen Broko, 19 Alcaine Court,
Thornhill, Ontario L3T 2G8, Canada
E-mail: brcko@sympatico.ca

17-19 November, 2003

Coaching basic Riding Skills – Basic Knowledge towards FRDI National Instructor

Venue: Avalon Hill-side Farm in Yokohama,
349 Miho-cho, Midori-ku,
Yokohama-city, Kanagawa, Japan

Main Lecturer: Ms Mary Longden

Course open to RDA instructors holding a log
book for RDA instructors.

Fixed number: 12 students

Language: English spoken by the lecturer
interpreted into Japanese.

Course fee: 25,000Yen for RDA members
30,000Yen for non-members

Contact Address: Masako Nakata, a board
member of RDA Japan

Details above.

17-22 November, 2003

North American Riding for the Handicapped Association Inc. (NARHA) Conference and Annual Meeting – U.S.A.

Venue: Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort &
Spa, Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A.

Exciting activities are planned including
informative pre-conference workshops in Equine
Facilitated Mental Health, Center Administration,
Hippotherapy and Therapeutic Riding
instruction. An extensive program of educational
sessions on Friday and Saturday of the
Conference week, regional caucuses, forums,
annual meetings and other exciting events are
also anticipated. The NARHA "Horsefair" with
live equestrian demonstrations will be held
directly at the host hotel since the Sheraton has
a brand new equestrian center on site. As
always the NARHA awards banquet will be the
highlight of the conference. NARHA hopes that
this year (like every year) many international
guests will join them in the U.S. for this
educational opportunity.

Contact: NARHA at www.narha.org OR
Michael Kaufmann at:
mkaufmann@narha.org

Fax: 1 303 252 4610

19-23 November, 2003

EQUITANA Asia Pacific

Venue: Melbourne Exhibition and Convention
Centre, Victoria, Australia

Non-stop equine action and excitement.
Hundreds of presentations and demonstrations
from the world's leading equine specialists,
including Klaus Balkenhol, Martina Hannover,
Pat & Linda Parelli.

Competition program will include Cutting Series
Grand Final; Indoor Cross Country; World Cup
Dressage & World Cup Showjumping.

Contact: Definitive Events Pty. Ltd.,

Telephone: 61 3 9596 8744

Fax: 61 3 9598 0936

E-mail: equitana@definitiveevents.com.au

For event details: www.equitana.com.au

MAY 2004:

26-30 May, 2004

RDA Australia National Dressage Championships

Venue: Sydney International Equestrian
centre, Horsley Park,
New South Wales, Australia

This is the same venue that was used for the
Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games equestrian
competition.

Contact: Mrs Susan Cusack, RDA Australia,
P.O. Box 424, Ascot Vale, Vic. 3032,
Australia

Telephone: 61 3 9372 2126

Fax: 61 3 9376 6698

E-mail: scusack@rda.org.au

NOVEMBER 2004:

25-27 November, 2004

Iberian-American Congress of Equotherapy and III Brazilian Congress of Equotherapy

The National Association of Equotherapy will
hold this Congress in Salvador City, Bahia State,
Brazil. It will provide an opportunity to
interchange experiences in both the Portuguese
and Spanish languages. Check the website for
more information.

Contact: www.equoterapia.org.br

Peace and goodwill to all our members as we approach the end of 2003 and the beginning of 2004. We look forward to a year of development for all FRDI member countries and peace and safety for everyone.

Thank you

FRDI gratefully acknowledges the support of Samsung
in the publication and distribution of this newsletter.

