

## *ANRC Newsletter – March 2012*

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### **ANRC Advisory Board**

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### **2012 ANRC National Intercollegiate Championship**

The ANRC Intercollegiate Equitation Championship will be hosted by Centenary College in Long Valley NJ on April 20 – 22. **Entries close on March 16.** It is open to full-time college students in teams of two or three (or individuals, space permitting). There are two levels of competition – Novice at 2'6" and Nationals at 3'. Riders generally compete on their own horses, but horses may be available for lease.

Riders compete in the following phases:

- Program Ride – a program ride with USEF Hunter Equitation tests
- Medal Phase over jumps in the ring
- Derby Phase over jumps in the field
- A written test on riding theory and a specified stable management topic

In each phase, competitors will be expected to demonstrate a strong intermediate level of riding and will be judged on their ability to demonstrate a secure, working position and use of intermediate techniques to achieve a good performance. Schooling is allowed in each riding phase on Thursday and/or Friday. The competition officially begins with the written test on Thursday and the Novice (2'6") Division Program Ride on Friday. The Nationals 3' Program Ride is held on Saturday and the Medal and Derby Phases for both divisions are held on Sunday. See the ANRC website [www.anrc.org](http://www.anrc.org) for a prize list and study guide. Contact Tara Clausen, Meet Director, at [clausent@centenarycollege.edu](mailto:clausent@centenarycollege.edu) for more information.

### **Great New Prices**

For a limited time only, the ANRC DVD series called "*American System of Forward Riding: Life Lessons Learned with Horses*" by Shelby French and R. Scot Evans is now offered at just **\$57** for each volume (containing two DVDs and one workbook) and **\$98** for both volumes. Purchase your DVDs directly from the ANRC website [www.anrc.org](http://www.anrc.org).

### **Clinics and Certification Centers**

Sweet Briar College will host riding clinics on May 8 – 10, May 13 – 15, and May 21 – 23, 2012. Certification testing will be held on May 24. Contact Mimi Wroten at [mwroten@sbc.edu](mailto:mwroten@sbc.edu) for more information.

## **Board Members in the News**

Peggy McElveen, Head of Riding at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, presented “An Introduction to ANRC” at the College Preparatory Invitational in Wellington, Florida, on January 14, 2012.

## **A New Look**

Check out our new website at [www.anrc.org](http://www.anrc.org) for all the latest info, great articles, and photos. Contact Marion Lee at [marionhlee@verizon.com](mailto:marionhlee@verizon.com) with news you would like posted or suggestions to make our website even better.

## **First USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Competition Successfully Held in North Carolina**

Adapted from the article by Maggie Whittemore, Taylor Shearin and Kat Rodwell

On February 18, 2012, Cottonwood Farm in Vanceboro, North Carolina, hosted the first ever USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Competition as part of their annual Hunter Trials. Twenty-one riders competed in the four-phase event that tested everything from a rider’s knowledge of the horse to their ability to memorize complex tests and execute those tests while mounted. The judge for the competition was Sarah Rhymer of New Bern, North Carolina.

Riders competed at one of five levels, three of which were rated by the United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA) and ANRC. In the three rated levels, riders took a written test, performed a program ride and a course of jumps in the ring. The upper two levels also rode an outside derby course. Ribbons to six places were awarded for each phase in each division. At the end of the day, overall champion and reserve champion awards were given for each division.

Riders first completed a program ride that tested their ability to perform a smooth accurate test with a calm responsive horse. The rides included movements such as the counter canter, half-turn on the haunch, and a trot jump.

Questions for the written tests were supplied by USHJA based on their on-line USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Study Guide. There were different tests for each of the three levels. The questions included topics such as horse conformation, riding theory, barn management, and horse care.

The derby phase was held on what was once sprawling empty acreage. The challenging derby course was built by the owners of Cottonwood Farm, Jill, Rhett, and Caroline Taylor. It included log jumps, a snake jump, and an enclosed heart-shaped obstacle to be jumped through. The course simulated the hunting fields of the past with no related distances, and it encouraged a forward flowing pace. Riders were judged on their equitation and control. Many riders found this phase to be the most challenging as it was unfamiliar to most riders and their mounts.

The final stage of the competition was the medal phase – a course of jumps in the ring. It proved to be more demanding than most had anticipated, as the jumps were decorated extravagantly, and the course was quite challenging. As in the other two phases, riders were judged on their equitation, control and their demonstration of The American System of Forward Riding.

The driving force behind the first ever USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Competition at Cottonwood Farm was East Carolina University’s equestrian coach, Laura Underhill Norment. Laura’s dedicated coaching has given East Carolina their first ever opportunity to send a team to compete at the ANRC National Intercollegiate Equitation Championships in April. Ten ECU students gained valuable experience in the Cottonwood Farm competition, as it is modeled after the ANRC national competition. The four riders who will travel to Centenary College in New Jersey for “Nationals” felt fortunate that the Taylors and Norment gave them this competitive opportunity to demonstrate the results of their hard work. Overall, the day proved very educational and successful for everyone involved in the competition, including spectators and volunteers. Photos and winners in each phase have been posted on the ANRC website [www.anrc.org](http://www.anrc.org).

### **The Next USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Program Competition**

The next scheduled competition will be held at Sweet Briar College on March 31- April 1, 2012. Contact Mimi Wroten at [mwroten@sbc.edu](mailto:mwroten@sbc.edu) for more information. Mimi says that, although entries are limited, there may be room for a few non-students in the competition.

### **More information on the USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Program**

Additional information on how to hold a USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Program competition may be found on the USHJA website [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org). Managers may conduct the USHJA/ANRC Horsemanship Program classes in conjunction with a regular horse show or offer it as a stand-alone event. Look under Outreach Level Competitions for show requirements, materials to conduct and score any level or phase of the competition, and other information.

To learn more about the “American System of Forward Riding” visit the ANRC website at [www.anrc.org](http://www.anrc.org). You can also view segments of a program ride, derby course, and medal course from the 2011 ANRC National Intercollegiate Equitation Championship at the Savannah College of Art and Design.