

## around town: EVENT



A "DRAG" FOX HUNT



JUMPING EVENT



PHOTOS COURTESY XXXX  
POLO MATCH

## SADDLE Up!

*Inaugural Equestrian Exposition comes to Lowcountry*

Sandy S. Termotto, D.M.D., wants to share his love of equestrian sports with the Lowcountry, and that's why he is a chairman of The Inaugural Hilton Head Equestrian Exposition planned for Sunday, April 3, at Rose Hill Plantation Equestrian Center in Bluffton. Local historian and event co-chair Iva Welton, synonymous with local polo events for years, has again contributed her expertise and event orchestrating magic.

Termotto, president of Equus Ventures, LLC, wants to introduce the people of the Lowcountry to the many horse and rider disciplines available in the area. He said polo has been very successful in the Lowcountry, but not many people are familiar with the other disciplines.

In recent years, there has been increased attention given to an equestrian lifestyle in the Lowcountry. Plantations such as Rose Hill, Rose Dhu and Palmetto Bluff are equestrian-friendly communities.

"It's my hope that by providing the public the opportunity to witness the interaction between horse and rider, it will also give the community an occasion to join together in a charitable outreach benefiting many charitable causes."

Several charities will benefit from the exposition, including The American Cancer Society and Parkinson's Support Groups. The Rotary Club of Savannah South and "Holy Horses" of St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church in Bluffton are both participating beneficiaries. Net proceeds will go to charitable causes.

The exposition will feature several demonstrations, including: Dressage – the discipline that displays the ability of horse and rider to ride together; Hunter/Jumper demonstrations, which involve jumps in a natural hunting country; Barrel Racing, which requires the horse and rider to negotiate a course containing barrels; and a Saddle Seat demonstration highlighting seating and posture that enable the horse and rider to move like one body.



CO-CHAIRS  
DR. SANDY TERMOTTO  
AND IVA WELTON

PHOTO BY ROB KAUFMAN

There will also be Dash for Cash horse races, carriage driving, a Rainbow Parade of Horses displaying various breeds of horses and their riders, a Drag Fox Hunt and a Polo match.

"The rainbow parade is meant to give horse owners in the area a chance to show their horses of a unique breed," Termotto said. "There will be many types of horses... There are a whole different string of horses in the area."

Termotto and Welton are looking forward to the exposition and said it's taken a lot of work and thought to organize it. He has been a horseman for the past 50 years and said his experience has helped in planning the event.

"The spirit of the horse and rider has a calming effect and kind of brings us back to the basics of man and animal working together," Termotto said, "and I seek to make the public appreciate the equestrian sports enjoyed in the Lowcountry. In this fast-paced world, the pace of life has become so hectic that man and horse working together has a calming effect."

Gates will open at 11 a.m., and the exposition will begin at 12:30 p.m. The polo match will begin at 2:30 p.m. Tailgating is encouraged.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission. Patron packages are available for \$200 and \$400. Corporate sponsorships range from \$2,500-\$7,500. Advertising in the event program is available from \$75 to \$1,000.

"This is a wonderful event, for a worthy cause, which offers sponsors and advertisers a unique opportunity to exhibit products and services and entertain friends and clients. It's fun for the whole family," said Welton.

Termotto expects a couple thousand people to attend the exposition. In the event of rain, the exposition will be held April 10.

For more information, call Sandy S. Termotto, DMD, at (843) 815-5400, or Iva R. Welton at (843) 671-4865. — Amy Coyne Bredeson

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### Sea Pines Horse Wins World Championship

Mosette, a one-year-old female horse who lives at Lawton Stables in The Sea Pines Resort, was named champion at the All-American Cup in Indianapolis in September. At the time of the championship, Mosette was only 4 months old.

The cup is basically a beauty contest, according to Tom Galbreath, owner of Lawton Stables. The horses are judged by appearance, which is called confirmation, and by their beauty in motion, which is called movement.

As a weanling, Mosette's earnings topped \$90,000. She won more money than any saddlebred has ever earned in a year. She is owned by a group called Harbour Horses, LLC, which is partnered with Lawton Stables. Galbreath is the managing partner of the group.

### Teenage Girl Rides to Championship

Thirteen-year-old Katie Boysen has always loved horses. Her mother, Patty Boysen, said she was never interested in playing with dolls; it was always horses. The seventh grader at Hilton Head Christian Academy had her first riding lesson at The Cloister on Sea Island when she was only about 4 years old. Katie, pictured here with "You're the Berries," recently won first place in both of her divisions in horse shows in Statesboro, GA, and Brunswick, GA. Crystal McClaran at Lawton Stables in Sea Pines Resort has been Katie's trainer for about a year-and-a-half.

"Her confidence level has gone sky high," McClaran said. "She used to be really timid about stuff, and she's just always wanting to challenge herself."

Katie plans to compete in several shows in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Kentucky over the next year. - Amy Coyne Bredeson



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