



ADVOCATE • ENHANCE • PROTECT

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

Message from the President

It's been a great ride...

Hard to believe but my 6-year term is coming to an end. I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your outpouring of support for this wonderful organization. MET has come a very long way in a few short years, in number of followers and contributors, in activities held at the park, in presence within the equestrian community and at large, in productivity, none of which could have been accomplished without the best, hardest-working board of directors, and most importantly, you, the MET supporters.

As suburban sprawl continues to affect equestrian communities all over the country, it is especially important that we are aware of the uniqueness of Masterson Station Park, and the impact we would all suffer, should we lose it. Few of us truly consider the significance of the Parks & Rec Riding Program at Masterson Station—it is critical that we equestrians support that program and its endeavors—it puts people on horseback that would never otherwise have that opportunity, and it gives reason to keep our space protected in the eyes of our city leaders.

Special mention must be given to Georgia Ockerman, director of the riding program, and Tad Morel, maintenance director, for all their hard work behind the scenes at Masterson.

Accomplishments generally speak for themselves, but recent improvements and activities worthy of note and needing mention are the revamping of the Novice water facility and the Preliminary bank, the addition of the baby schooling ditches, the purchase of new stadium jumps, the repair of the permanent dressage ring perimeter fence, the removal of vacant holes on the Prelim XC course, better signage at the park, a line of great apparel (do you have a sweatshirt yet?), a fresh and enhanced look on our website, and most of all, a much more visible presence area-wide. Sponsorships of our

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Masterson Equestrian Trust Foundation is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to the preservation of Masterson Station Park for use by all equestrian enthusiasts and to the improvement and enhancement of facilities and services available to the equestrian public. MET acts as an advocate for all MSP equine enthusiasts, thus strengthening Lexington's distinction as the Horse Capital of the World.



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events have increased dramatically as a result, and we extend our gratitude to the local businesses who have been willing to help us out whenever needed.

Our Annual Hunter Jumper show (now all but maxed out on attendance), our inaugural Hunter Pace in 2013, our volunteer work days, now all established dates on community calendars, and lots of other equestrian events at the park throughout the year, make Masterson Station Park a busy place it seems, and yet, the beauty and tranquility of the park as a place to come and hack around, go for a trail ride, is unsurpassed in this area...let's continue to work to protect these outstanding facilities and enjoy them for years to come.

You will be relieved to learn that as a result of several years of lobbying, the roads at the park are scheduled for repaving in 2014. You will have noticed that a couple of the washracks have been revamped and there are plans to add a perimeter fence to these to make them better. Thanks go to LFUCG and Parks & Rec for both those improvements.

MET and the equestrian community at large lost a wonderful friend and supporter in 2013 and the MET board has voted to purchase and install a memorial bench at the dressage complex in memory of Christine Brown. We also hope to purchase a schooling corner in 2014 (perhaps two, one at Novice level and one at Training

level) to add to the XC jump inventory. If you would like to earmark your 2013 donation for the memorial bench or schooling corner, or both, please do so and we will certainly honor those requests.

So as I bid farewell to my term as president, I want to thank you all for your support and assistance with the many endeavors and accomplishments we have achieved, and ask you to continue to support MET and the incoming board as they continue their mission to protect and improve the equestrian facilities at Masterson Station Park.

Ride on... ■

—Sally Lockhart

Save the Date

Spring Bay Horse Trials
April 5-6, 2014

MET Benefit
Hunter/Jumper Show
&

MET Cross-Country Schooling Day
April 19-20, 2014

Annual Sayre Horse Show
May 10, 2014

Midsouth Tetrathlon Rally
June 14 - 15, 2014

*Watch our Facebook page and
website for more details.*

Your Donations and Volunteer Hours Make it All Possible



Jump maintenance



New wash rack



New fence around dressage ring

**“It’s wonderful to
have somewhere for all
disciplines to ride!
Great asset for our city.”
—Julie West Ward**

Visibility Is Crucial

by Mary Robertson Pierson

When I first came to Lexington in 1998, I was amazed by what Masterson Station Park had to offer the equestrian. Where I had lived in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the closest 'public' cross-country course was in the northwest Chicago suburbs, about 8 trailer hours distant and required the purchase of a yearly Forest Preserve pass to be able to ride. To my knowledge, there were no public dressage arenas, hunter rings or outdoor hunter courses ANYWHERE. I mentioned this to Tessa Dole, who, with her husband, founded the Woodford Hounds. Tessa stressed that we were very privileged to have Masterson Station Park and that we had a grave responsibility. "Let them see you ride," was Tessa's sage advice. By that she meant that the general public needed to see people on horseback on a regular basis. They needed to see horse trailers

lined up behind minivans going to and from the soccer arenas. Folks at the dog park needed to see folks taking a trail ride along the fence line. Visitors to the Bluegrass Fair needed to know equestrian activities were taking place, maybe not at exactly the same time, but at least before the hoopla began. They needed to see showbills, prize lists, and show results in local publications. They needed to know horses were an integral part of Masterson Station Park even if they didn't have an equestrian connection.

We need to take Tessa's advice to heart; we need to get out to the park to school, to compete, to trail ride, to teach—whatever we can do to "let them see you ride" so that the equestrian component is front and center in the



minds of the other park users and the powers that be in Lexington-Fayette Urban County government. If we're not visible, no one will understand how much each and every one of us needs this facility to prosper and grow. ■

Hunter Pace Exceeds Expectations

Over 210 riders and their mounts from a wide variety of disciplines descended upon Masterson Station on Sunday Nov. 3, 2013, to participate in the MET inaugural Hunter Pace. To say a good time was had by all would be an understatement. Everyone had a blast! We hope to make this an annual event. ■



"Hands down the best time I've had with my horse this year! Thank you to everyone who put this together :)"

—Tess Shull Utterback, MET Hunter Pace participant

"We were delighted with the turn out for the Hunter Pace. Not only did the numbers exceed our wildest dreams, the types of horses on course and the different styles of riding proved that Masterson Station Park is truly THE place to be with your horse on a beautiful fall day."

—Mary Pierson, event co-organizer

Become an Associate Member

Instructors and coaches are not charged when they use the Masterson Station Park facilities for their lessons, but LFUCG does ask that such professionals make an annual donation of \$100 to Masterson Equestrian Trust Foundation (MET). MET greatly appreciates these donations, which are used to support the upkeep and improvement of the park's equine facilities.

If you are a professional who uses the park, please consider making this donation and becoming an MSP Associate member. A list of contributors is posted at the hunter ring.

For more information, please send an email to mastersonesquestrian@gmail.com.

Thank you, 2013 members:

Dreamfield Farm, Jorge Montalvo
Harrington Mill Farm, Mary Fike
Wayne Quarles
CEO Eventing, Megan Moore
Mongon Farms
Mary Pierson
Cathy Wieschhoff



Kentucky Mounted Patrol Depends on Masterson to Help Hone Skills Needed to Serve the Community

Fluorescent yellow vests set this group apart from the rest of the horse people that frequent the park. According to Robert Milward of the Kentucky Mounted Patrol, the group hosts multiple organized training sessions at Masterson each year. They rent the indoor arena for training in both the spring and fall. They meet an additional six times a year for outdoor training and practice. The patrol is composed of members from all over the state and Masterson serves as a central meeting place. The mounted search and rescue team has completed the over 40 hours of training necessary to be certified as a critical team of first responders. The members, along with their mounts, are dedicated to the important work of keeping people safe. ■



MET Clothing and Gear Available Now!

Check out the new line of Masterson Equestrian Trust merchandise. We are offering shirts, fleece jackets, caps, tote bags and more, each beautifully embroidered with the MET logo. ■

To order, go to the MET store at mycompanyattire.com and enter code 121220.



New Class Takes Hunter Riders Outside the Main Ring

This year the MET Benefit Hunter/Jumper Show added an interesting twist to its lineup of special classes, the Scheffelridge Hunter Pairs Derby. In a pairs derby teams of two are asked to compete over two separate courses. The first member of the team tackles a handy hunter course inside the ring. Once finished the first rider "tags" the second rider who then heads out of the arena to ride over a field hunter course set up on the outside hunt course. Bonus points were awarded to the pairs that chose to jump the higher fences. The judge took to the bed of a pickup truck to score the outside rounds and the spectators enjoyed the view from top of the hill. Twelve sets of pairs participated in this exciting class! ■



Courtesy of Ray Schulte Photography

MET '13
Scheffelridge
Hunter Pairs Derby
winner: Libby
Richie on NataLea
and Mackenzie
Rockefeller on
Highlands Johnny J



\$100
Gamblers
Choice
winner
Tag Heuer
ridden by
Beth Clinch

CONGRATSI!

The gift that keeps giving all year long

Are you looking for a great birthday or holiday gift idea for your trainer, vet, or farrier? How about a unique gift for that hard-to-buy-for horse person on your holiday list? Or perhaps you want to memorialize the passing of a special friend, horse, or pet?

Consider making a donation in their name to Masterson Equestrian Trust Foundation.

Your gift will go toward improving and maintaining the equine facilities at Masterson Station Park, a gift that keeps on giving.

Go to mastersonquestrian.org today to donate online or print out a donation form.



For more information, join Masterson Equestrian Trust on Facebook or visit our website at www.mastersonquestrian.org



Courtesy of Leigh Walkup

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**Served final term in 2013*

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Courtesy of Sive Photography