

ABBE RANCH USEA RIDING CLINIC
May 7-10, 2009

Susan Farmer's Abbe Ranch USEA riding clinic, with 112 horses, was back to normal despite the current economic downturn. As always over the past 30 years, each entry gave the rider six hours of instruction over two days or twelve hours over four days, four noon and two evening lectures, free open pen stabling, and opportunities for recognition as most improved. Also there were options for roofed stall stabling and first evening dinner out with the hosts and instructors. There is nothing else like it in the area.

Six of the best instructors available in the US were on duty. Regulars Laura Backus of Larkspur, CO, Tom Ordway of Princeton, ID, Karen Paul of Sedalia, CO, Deeda Randle of Cheyenne, WY, and Lindy Weatherford of Fort Collins, CO, were joined by Rochelle Costanza of Franktown, CO.

Awards were given to these performers for most improvement under instruction. The horses got carrots, and the riders got trail mix or M&Ms.

Thu-Fri Rider

Jan D'Alessandro
Kristen Erickson
Mickey Hlavinka
Mark Lewis
Garcia Wood

Sat-Sun Rider

Susan Bantis
De Chapman
Lauren Chroneos
Rachel Clemens
Elizabeth Gillmor
Bonnie Grenney
Tessa Huffstater

Four-Day Rider

Chelsea Bratten
Lynden Fasso
Leigh Kuehn
Polly Leach-Lychee
Anne Sand

Thu-Fri Horse

LUCY
Rebecca Rapue
MEISHA
Lynn Long
MY MULLIGAN
Mary Jane Hosch
UPTOWN LADY
Jennifer Hershner
ZALIG
Cindy Moore-West

Sat-Sun Horse

CLYDESCOPE
Lyn McCormick
ECHO
Denise Elliott
PS AMERICAN GIRL
Anna Gilbertson
MAGDALENA
Trish Clayburgh
SACRED STETSON
Brooke Benham
STORM
Marion Mallard
WANNA TALK ABOUT
Connor McPeak

Four-Day Horse

BAY WOLF
Nicole Jones-Taylor
BRONWEN
Heather Lafferty
FAUVETTE
Rachel Bantis
GLORY
Anna Weatherford
NILLA
Tony Milazzo

Nearly a third of the horses, in 23 teams, stayed for their 3/4-mile-long Special Pair Pace Events on Friday and Sunday. There were 14 obstacles on each of five courses, laid out especially for the clinic. These were the best performances on each course:

T 3'3", 450 mpm single, 42 sec slow ONYX Rosemary Strong	N 2'11", 400 mpm single, 8 sec slow SHADOWS Natalee Franz	BN 2'7", 350 mpm single, 4 sec slow CIRRUS Elizabeth Gillmor	Elementary 2'3", 325 mpm pair, 43 sec slow BO GTO Jeanne Davis TOBY Elizabeth Clavette	PreSchool 1'6", 300 mpm pair, 6 sec slow CHILI De Chapman UNK Biven Chapman
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Next up at Abbe Ranch - Susan Farmer's 34th consecutive annual presentation of the Abbe Ranch Horse Trial over the last weekend in June.