

owner to bring her back for the Mare Performance Test, with possibility of upgrading to the Main Studbook. Completing this class was the 15-year-old Oldenburg mare Guardiola, by Grannox-Doreen/Douglas, owned by Anne Hedge of Aubrey, Texas. This mare has a proven show hunter record but was retired due to an injury. She was accepted into the Main Studbook with a 7.0.

Following the non-Hanoverians, four Hanoverian mares were presented for inspection. The Champion of this group was the aforementioned Cinderella WH who had free jumped earlier in the day. Her score of 6 for correctness and a 7 for everything else equated to a final score of 6.83. However, when her free jumping score of 8 was factored in, this resulted in a final score of 7.0 and with it, Elite Eligibility. We look forward to seeing her under saddle at a future date to achieve her full EMC status. Cinderella's owner was one of the first to utilize the policy introduced by the AHS board this year, which means she did not have to be shown under saddle, but could have her free jumping scores factored into her inspection scores in order to become Elite Eligible and additionally be considered for the AHS Jumper Breeding Program.

Another mare who might have benefited from the new policy was El Lolita, by El Bundy-Tanita/Grannus, owned by Janet Book, Weatherford, Texas. This mare entertained us all as she jumped everything she could while she was turned loose. We understand that this mare is in fact an accomplished jumper and we encourage the owner to show her in the free jumping next year, when she might be able to raise her current inspection score of 6.83.

Seven foals were presented, representing the stallions Bergamon, Fabuleux, Sinatra Song, Soliman de Hus, Rousseau, and his son Wamberto.

The top foal on this day was a colt by Soliman de Hus (Sandro Hit/Donnerhall) out of Weltkin, by Weltmeyer, owned by Kimberly and Carsten Meyer of Plain Dealing, La. This typey foal had a beautiful expression and showed us impressive, elastic uphill movement. Honorable mention went to Jackie Nixon-

Fulton's Rousseau colt out of Wiesentanz/Wolkentanz I, who while not as typey at first glance, demonstrated very convincing movement with unflappable good rhythm and ground covering strides. One of the more typey fillies of the day was by Sinatra Song out of Whitney/Wolkenstein II, also owned by Jackie Nixon-Fulton – she showed us a very athletic canter.

The owners of all the foals are to be commended for having them in such fine form so soon after weaning. They looked to be well fed, but not overly so, their joints were clean and their coats showed a healthy glow.

We were able to avoid a flight segment (always a bonus) and after negotiating our way through Dallas, we enjoyed the drive through the Texas countryside to Richmond, near Houston.

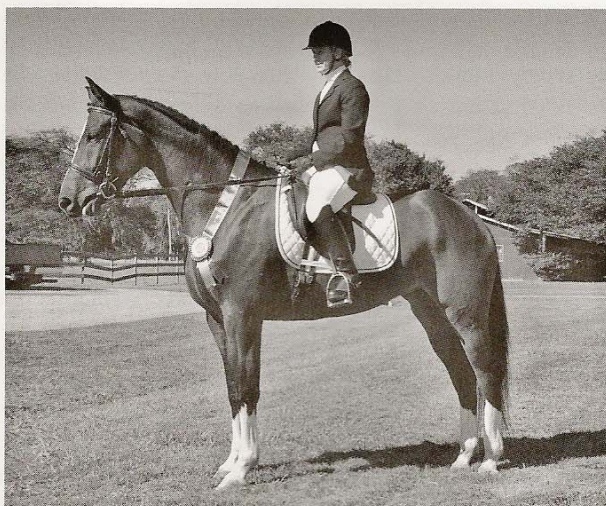
Creek Colony Ranch Richmond, Texas

WE HAD A VERY SATISFYING DAY at Creek Colony, home of hostess Mary Goldberg, where we saw well-prepared horses in the Mare Performance Test – both under saddle and through the jumping chute. The first mare was the five-year-old Feiner Fantasy, by Feiner Stern-Diende/Diamont, owned by Rebecca Pennington, Texas, who produced the site program. This mare proved to have the best jumping ability of the three seen this day, scoring an 8.5 for technique and 8 for ability. This strong jumping score of 8.25 would carry her to first place in

the Mare Performance Test by day's end. Under saddle she was equally pleasing earning 8's for her trot and canter, 7 for the walk, and an 8 for rideability for a final score of 7.97. This, combined with her prior inspection score of 7.0 made her an Elite Mare Candidate.

She was followed by the impressive three-year-old Ana Isabellah, by Autocrat-Indullah/Inschallah x, who justified her owner's determination to get a foal out of her mother (to the extent of utilizing embryo transfer when it was determined that the dam could not carry a foal). Ana Isabellah had been well prepared for the jumping and received 7.5 for both technique and scope. Under saddle she was calmly but energetically presented and impressed us with 8's for her walk and trot, 8.5 for her canter and an 8 for rideability. She allowed her rider to ride her forward and upward at the canter and demonstrated rhythmical, harmonious movement at the trot; she finished her test with the excellent score of 7.88. She completed her studbook inspection as our Champion Hanoverian Mare with a final score of 7.66 which included a 9 for her walk and 8 for impulsion and elasticity, as well as 8's for saddle position, frame, foreleg and overall impression and development. Congratulations to Janice Graham-Marquardt, Willis, Texas on this new Elite Mare Candidate.

The third in the Mare Performance Test was Raphaella P, by Raphael Son II-Parade/Pointmaker, owned by our host Mary Goldberg. While this mare was ▶



CREEK COLONY RANCH –
The five-year old mare, EMC Feiner Fantasy, by Feiner Stern-Diende/Diamont, owned by Rebecca Pennington, Texas, showed strong jumping talent (8.5/8) and also good rideability with a score of 8. With a final score of 7.97 she became the MPT Champion.

COURTESY/REBECCA PENNINGTON



COURTESY JANICE MARQUARDT

CREEK COLONY RANCH – *The Champion Hanoverian Mare Ana Isabellah (Autocrat-SPS Indullah/Inshallah x), owned by Janice Graham Marquardt and bred by Sherry White, Ohio, received an overall score of 7.66 with a 9 for walk, 8 for impulsion and elasticity, saddle position, frame, foreleg, and overall impression and development.*

not quite as talented through the chute as the other two mares (she had very limited experience), she finished with a respectable free jumping score of 6.25. Under saddle she showed consistent performance with a gaits score of 7.33, and rideability of 7.5, equating to a final score of 7.02. She too became an Elite Mare Candidate as she finished her in hand inspection with a score of 7.16.

Five mares were presented in the non-Hanoverian class, comprising two Thoroughbreds, an Oldenburg, a KWPN Dutch Warmblood, and a Westfalen. Champion of this group was the very attractive and composed Sadine – an impressive Dutch mare by Quattro B-Nadine/Cocktail, owned by Melinda Walton and T. L. Smith, Kenney, Texas. This mare showed us a 9 for her very elastic uphill trot movement, coupled with an 8 for her head, hindleg, typiness and femininity, walk, and overall development for a final score of 7.83. With this excellent result, Melinda has now completed her goal of gaining Hanoverian breeding approval for all of her broodmares. Congratulations.

Of the two Thoroughbreds, one was the stately 22-year-old One of Four xx, by Hoedown's Day xx-Crazy Gold xx/Crazy Kid, owned by Celeste Chiamonte, Kingwood, Texas. We cannot recall when we last inspected a mare of such advanced years; however it was well worth the effort. One of Four xx was in

tremendous condition and entered the Studbook with a final score of 7.16. Also attaining 7.16 was Miller Proof xx, by H. E. Miller xx-Spy Proof xx/Raise a Spy xx, who demonstrated an 8 for impulsion and elasticity and for her walk. The owners of Miller Proof, the Grahams, also own Miss Miller xx, another daughter of H. E. Miller, who this year produced a very nice colt by Wolkentanz I.

The three-year-old domestically-bred Oldenburg Dolce Rhosa, by Routinier-Divali/Donnerschwee, owned by Janice Graham Marquardt, and the 13-year-old Westfalen Dinara, by Dinard L/Bardame/Ramiro's Son, owned by Lynn Puana, Kamuela, Hawaii, were also accepted into the Main Studbook with scores of 7.33 and 7.0 respectively. Dinara was inspected prior to her departure to Hawaii where it is intended she will produce future AHS-registered foals. We are happy to have these five quality representatives of non-Hanoverian mares in our studbook.

Six very nice foals were presented representing the stallions Bonheur, Glorioso Noir, Royal Prince, Rubino Bellissimo, Sinatra Song and Wolkentanz I. All these foals were a credit to their breeders and in this group we also saw a positive Thoroughbred influence in several of the foals. Sadine, the KWPN mare produced a very nice colt by Royal Prince, who has Prince Thatch xx

on his dam's side. He was followed into the ring by a Bonheur colt out of the Prince Thatch mare xx Portiana – also owned by Melinda Walton. They in turn were followed by the Wolkentanz I foal out of the Thoroughbred mare Miss Miller xx, by H. E. Miller xx, owned by Janice Graham Marquardt. A fourth foal, owned by Nina Springer, was a filly by Glorioso Noir out of the Thoroughbred mare Millers Pub xx. It is good to see this positive use of Thoroughbred blood in our breeding program. Sharon Pike brought her two fillies – one by Sinatra Song and one by Rubino Bellissimo into the ring at the same time, and they too put on a pleasing performance. Our Champion foal for the day was the Bonheur colt out of Portiana, who impressed us with his type and movement. It was indeed a pleasure to watch these six foals move around the arena.

Creek Hollow Ranch Ramona, Calif.

NESTLED IN THE MOUNTAINS SOUTH east of San Diego is the busy Creek Hollow Ranch, owned by Colleen Burman. Devastated by a fire a couple of years ago, the farm seems almost totally recovered from this tragedy. Fortunately, none of the humans, horses, or buffalo were hurt, but much of the infrastructure was destroyed, including Colleen's custom-built home where we had previously spent many pleasant hours.

The only non-Hanoverian mare presented at this site was Weltmarie by Weltmeyer-Lollipop/Landino, a 16-year-old chestnut Westfalen mare. While she showed some of her age in the lack of muscling over the croup and topline, it was easy to see that she had a good frame. She had the expressive, large eye often seen through the A-line, in this case from Weltmeyer's dam. Her walk had probably lost some of its overstep over the years, but still showed a good, clear rhythm. Weltmarie scored 8 for conformation, and also for typiness and femininity and was accepted into the AHS Main Studbook with a final score 7.33

Three Hanoverian mares were presented and the deserved Champion of this group was Gallipoli's Guinevere, by Gallipoli-Boahic xx/Young Commander xx, owned