

NRHA

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HORSE ASSOCIATION
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2010 NRHA EUROPEAN FUTURITY OPEN CHAMPION
Rudi Kronsteiner & Kaystein



TYING THE

Knot

Ben Baldus, Electra, Texas, and Cameron Gniffke, Weatherford, Texas, have recently announced their engagement. Baldus works for the Waggoner Ranch in Electra, with NRHA Hall of Famer Doug Milholland, training futurity and derby horses as well as ranch/versatility horses. Gniffke is employed by Deary Performance Horses and is studying

equine production and management at Weatherford College.

The two first met in 2004 at a family camp that Gniffke attended. At the time, Baldus was traveling and working as the horse specialist for trainer/Christian evangelist Lew Sterrett with a program called Sermon on the Mount. They kept in touch over the years and in 2007, Ben moved from Pennsylvania to Texas and the Waggoner Ranch. In addition to training, Ben began showing in NRHA and teaching reining in the Stock Horse of Texas clinics. Gniffke enjoyed successes in 4-H horse judging and all-around events, as well as a custom sewing and accessories business (Let 'er Bling!).

They will be married on May 30 at Silverado On the Brazos in Weatherford and will make their home at the Waggoner Ranch in Electra.

McQuay Joins SmartPak™ Family

Multiple NRHA Futurity Champion, Two Million Dollar Rider, Million Dollar Owner, and Hall of Fame member Tim McQuay, Tioga, Texas, has joined forces with NRHA Corporate Partner SmartPak™. McQuay joins the list of 20-plus other Olympians and professional equestrians in Team SmartPak who are currently using the patented daily-dose supplement feeding system for their horses.

"Supplements have been part of our game plan for years, whether they're for the horses in training, breeding, or competition, so this is an ideal match," says McQuay.

McQuay's introduction to Team SmartPak comes on the heels of SmartPak's new "What the Pro's Use" campaign, giving horse owners a glimpse into what's involved

in taking care of some of the nation's top equine athletes. Via their website, Facebook, and print advertisements SmartPak shares interviews from top riders across multiple disciplines discussing how they use supplements to keep their horses performing their best, what some of their favorite equine products are, and why they choose SmartPak for their horse's health care needs. Horse owners also have the opportunity to learn more about the everyday lives of these top riders including what riding superstitions they have, what they like to do in their free time, and even what they like to eat. Learn more at SmartPakEquine.com/WhatThePro'sUse or call 800-461-8898.

AQHA Elects New Executive Committee

Johannes Orgeldinger is the new AQHA president.



Johannes Orgeldinger

Johannes Orgeldinger, of Grosswallstadt, Germany, was elected president of the American Quarter Horse Association at AQHA's annual convention in Kissimmee, Florida, March 8. Orgeldinger is a long-time member of the NRHA, as well. A 25-year breeder of American Quarter Horses, he is the first person from outside the United States to serve as AQHA's president. Orgeldinger and his wife, Astrid, own and operate a gravel and stone company and JOMM Ranches in Grosswallstadt as well as Main River

Quarter Horses in Gainesville, Texas.

Peter Cofrancesco III of Sparta, New Jersey, another NRHA member, was named first vice president. Cofrancesco is chair of the Grinnell Group of Companies, which includes several entities, including solid waste and recycling, real estate and concrete products manufacturing.

Cofrancesco was American Quarter Horse Youth Association president in 1991 and is the first youth president to serve on AQHA's Executive Committee.

Gene Graves of Grand Island, Nebraska, was elected second vice president. Graves is auctioneer of Diamond G Auction Company and is a realtor for Century 21.

New members were also named to the AQHA Executive Committee. John Dobbs of Champaign, Illinois, and Johnny Trotter of Hereford, Texas, were elected.

Dobbs, a director from Illinois, owns John Dobbs Equine Insurance. She becomes the second woman to serve on the AQHA Executive Committee.

Trotter, a director from Texas, is president and chief executive officer of Livestock Investors Ltd.



Young Riders Need Your Help!

With the Adequan® FEI North American Junior/Young Rider Reining Championships presented by Gotham North coming up, reining teams from various U.S. regions and breed associations are in need of regional coordinators and chef d'equipes to help facilitate the success of young reiners at the SmartPak® North American Young Rider

Reining Championships. The event takes place July 28-August 1 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

For more information on the duties of regional directors and chef d'equipes and how to become involved, contact Vonita Bowers, USEF Reining Director, 859-825-6001, vbowers@usef.org.