



December 14, 2011

PRESS RELEASE

From: Nan Chapman, Media Relations Chair
650-701-0543
nan@menlohorseshow.com

Menlo Charity Horse Show Receives New National Honors

Atherton, Calif.....Committee members of the nationally recognized Menlo Charity Horse Show announced today that next year's event is the first in Northern California to be selected to feature a \$10,000 National Derby Competition. After applying for this honor, the committee was informed by The U.S. Hunter Jumper Association that, after careful scrutiny, the association awarded this event to the horse show because of the quality of competition the event had offered throughout the last 42 years.

Designed to add excitement in the Hunter arena, the event features more challenging courses, more spectator interest and more money for the victors. According to committee member, Nancy Robinson of Woodside, "Its goals are to return Hunters to their hunt field roots and to encourage Hunter competitions at an international level." There will be 2 segments to the competition. One will take place on a Hunter Classic course; the other will take place on a Handy Hunter Course. While the former features horses and riders competing at a very even, safe pace, the latter event will reward riders for choosing more difficult routes which may include optional fences. Courses will be built to encourage and reward brilliance and daring from the rider and true athletic ability from the horse. Among other challenges, riders may be asked to trot over an obstacle, open a gate while mounted, or walk over a jump.

Menlo Charity Horse Show • 190 Park Lane • Atherton, Ca. • 94027

A non-profit organization benefiting the Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Tax ID # 77-0456950 • WWW.MenloHorseShow.org

Sponsored by Dr. Daryl Hoffman of Atherton, the 2012 Hunter Derby will take place at the Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park Lane, in Atherton on Thursday, August 9th. It will actually be one of the first such competitions in that year, and winners will qualify for the 2013 championships.

Dates for the Menlo Charity Horse Show are Tuesday, August 7th through Sunday, August 12th. A benefit for Vista Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired, the event has raised millions of dollars for that agency which serves over 2,000 clients in San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties.

For further information, please visit: menlohorseshow.com

###