

Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame announces 2015 inductions

The Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame & Western Heritage Center (MCHF & WHC) announced the eighth class of inductions into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame. The inductees were chosen from a field of candidates nominated by the general public. Inductees are honored for their notable contributions to the history and culture of Montana.

"The board of trustees, our volunteer network from around the state, has reviewed this year's nominations and completed the voting process," said Bill Galt, White Sulphur Springs rancher and MCHF & WHC president. "This process gives local communities a strong voice in who will represent them in the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame exists to honor those—famous cowboy or not—who have made an impact in their community and serve as a symbol of Montana's authentic heritage for future generations."

The MCHF & WHC board of directors has designated 12 trustee districts across the state from which up to 20 trustees may be appointed. Nomination criteria established by the board for the Class of 2015 inductions allowed the election of up to one Living Inductee and two Legacy Inductees from each of the 12 districts. In the case of a tie, winning nominees are jointly inducted.

The 2015 inductees into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame are:

- District 1 (Daniels, Phillips, Roosevelt, Sheridan, & Valley Counties): Living Award – Miles "Bud" Geer, Nashua. Legacy Award – Circle C Ranch, Zortman and Montie Montana, Wolf Point.
- District 2 (Dawson, Garfield, McCone, Prairie, Richland, & Wibaux Counties): Living Award – Marvin K. Ley, Glendive. Legacy Award – C.A. "Bud" Kramer, Jordan and Chappel Brothers Corporation (CBC's), Prairie Elk.
- District 3 (Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Rose-

bud, & Treasure Counties): Living Award – Jack L. "Slug" Mills, Boyes (tie) and Doug Wall, Miles City (tie). Legacy Award – Charles G. Patten, Broadus and Manly Anderson Moore, Sr., Broadus.

- District 4 (Blaine, Chouteau, Hill, & Liberty Counties): Living Award – Robert "Bud" Boyce, Big Sandy. Legacy Award – Larry Kane, Big Sandy and Harry Stuart Green, Big Sandy (tie) and Miller Brothers Land and Livestock, Chinook (tie).

- District 5 (Cascade, Glacier, Pondera, Teton, & Toole Counties): Living Award – Jay Joseph Contway, Great Falls. Legacy Award – Alfred Bertram "Bud" Guthrie, Jr., Choteau and Mary "Stagecoach Mary" Fields, Cascade (tie) and Doctor Ernest Bigalow Maynard, Choteau (tie).

- District 6 (Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, & Wheatland Counties): Living Award – Eldon H. Snyder, Lewistown. Legacy Award – Montana Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Western Music Rendezvous, Lewistown and Merle J. Boyce, Winifred.

- District 7 (Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, & Yellowstone Counties): Living Award – Henry Albert "Hank" Scobee, Hardin. Legacy Award – Malcolm S. Mackay, Roscoe and Charlotte "Rusty" Linderman Spaulding, Belfry.

- District 8 (Broadwater, Jefferson, & Lewis and Clark Counties): Living Award – Joseph W. "Joe" Enger, Helena. Legacy Award – Auchard Creek School, Augusta.

- District 9 (Gallatin, Meagher, & Park Counties): Legacy Award – Robert "Bob" Shiplet, Clyde Park and Thomas R. "Tom" Hunter, Clyde Park (tie) and Robert Anderson "Bob" Haugland, Belgrade (tie).

- District 10 (Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, & Sanders Counties): Living Award – Richard B. "Dick" & Patricia B. "Tricia" Vinson, Thompson Falls. Legacy Award – C.R. Williams, Kalispell.

- District 11 (Mineral, Missoula, & Ravalli Counties): Living Award – Frank R.

Mason, Jr., Corvallis. Legacy Award – Vernon Woolsey, Stevensville and Clarence Barron "C.B." Rich, Seeley Lake.

- District 12 (Deer Lodge, Beaverhead, Silver Bow, Granite, Madison, & Powell Counties): Living Award (three-way tie) Edward Francis "Butch" O'Connell, Butte, "Gunner" Gun Again, Dillon, and John W. "Jack" Briggs, Dell. Legacy Award – Melvin R. Icenoggle, Ennis and Scottish Chieftain, Hamilton. Since the initial round of inductions to the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2008, including this year's inductions, 240 inductees have been honored. Full biographies for past inductees are available on the MCHF & WHC's website, <http://www.montanacowboyfame.org>. In August, the MCHF & WHC commenced its first phase of construction in the central location of Big Timber, Mont., with modifications to the Hall of Fame headquarters and the creation of a world-class outdoor arena. The arena's programming will allow the MCHF & WHC to highlight and celebrate the many traditions of our western heritage and cowboy way of life through quality western sporting events.

For more information about the MCHF & WHC, or for more details on the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame inductees, please contact Christy Stensland by calling (406) 653-3800, emailing Christy@montanacowboyfame.org, or visiting <http://www.montanacowboyfame.org>.

The mission of the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame & Western Heritage Center is to "honor our cowboy way of life, American Indian cultures and collective Montana Western heritage." We exist to serve as a resource to all who wish to see this way of life passed forward to the next generation. Our vision is "to be the state's premier destination attraction that celebrates and passes forward Montana's unique western culture and heritage."

Madden and Cortes 'C' Win Second Consecutive Longines King George V Gold Cup at CSIO5* Hickstead

By Kathleen Landwehr

Hickstead, GBR - Another exciting day of competition took place at CSIO5* Hickstead on Sunday, August 2, as 42 athlete-and-horse

combinations entered the International Arena in hopes of winning the Longines King George V Gold Cup. Bizzie Madden made history with Cortes 'C' last year, becoming the first woman to ever win the prestigious Grand Prix. Following this year's six horse jump-off, the pair did what did not seem possible and claimed the win once again.

"I thought Cortes was amazing, as he usually is. The first round was great and the jump-off was even better; everything just kept coming up right," Madden explained. "It feels amazing, but I don't think it has quite sunk in yet. I have a great team behind me, including Abigail Wexner, who is a fantastic owner. When you have a great day, it feels really good to have done it for the team."

In the first round of the Longines King George V Gold Cup, two U.S. combinations moved forward to the jump-off after having faultless rounds over Kelvin Bywater's large track. Madden (Cazenovia, N.Y.) and Abigail

Wexner's 2002 Belgian Warmblood gelding had an excellent first round, as did teammates from Friday's Nations Cup, Todd Minikus and Babalou 41, a 2005 Oldenburg mare owned by Two Swans Farm.

With six combinations returning for the jump-off, it proved to be an exciting finish. Though some came close, none went clear under the time of 43.06 laid down by Madden and Cortes 'C', earning them top honors

for the second year in a row. Minikus (Loxahatchee, Fla.) and Babalou 41 had a single rail in a time of 44.32 to finish sixth. Penelope Leprevost (FRA) and Flora de Mariposa were second with a time of 43.42, while Jur Vrieling (NED) and Vdl Zi-

rocco Blue N.O.P. were third with a time of 49.54. Complete results from the Longines Royal International Horse Show can be found at: <http://www.hickstead.co.uk/entries-and-results/the-longines-royal-international-horse-show/>.

The USEF International High Performance Programs are generously supported by the USET Foundation, USOC, and USEF Sponsors and Members. Without the support of these organizations and individuals, it would not be possible to support our athletes. The USEF is especially grateful to individuals who give generously of their time and money to support the equestrian teams.

Photo: Bizzie Madden and Cortes 'C' in the Longines King George V Gold Cup awards ceremony (© Julian Portch Photography 2015)



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Acknowledging the Try: Your Evolution of Horsemanship, Part 2 of Anna Twinney's 6-Part Webinar Series

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According to Twinney, the three main areas to focus on are recognizing each horse as an individual, recognizing the different learning styles, and understanding how horses learn.

It is also important to realize the role that physiology plays in the way a horse learns. "The more you understand about how the horse's mind works, their memory, their emotions; when you look at their eyes, how they work; sound, the hearing, all of the horse's senses; you come to understand the way they operate in the world. And truly to realize what a try is, because if you're not aware of a blind spot with a horse, you're not aware of how hard they're trying," says Twinney.

Generally speaking, most horses have a blind spot up to about six feet in front of them, due to their eyes being located more on the sides of their heads. This means that if we enter that blind area on a horse, even putting a hand on their forehead, requires a lot of trust on the horse's part. And it's good for humans to be mindful of this area when working with a horse. Twinney feels that rather than seeing one movie such as humans see in their heads, horses see two movies—one for the right side, one for the left, so it is important to show and teach the horse on both sides because of the different perceptions the horse has on each side.

Reading the eye is where we "capture the whisper. We can capture the thought in the eye, just as much as they can capture our thoughts. It's how subtle we can get. It's in the eye that we can see how hard they're trying, what it means to them," says Twinney. Reading the eye is a skill and an art to develop, where we can see the mood of the horse, what they're paying attention to, what they are feeling.

"When we acknowledge the try, they know that they're being heard. We're giving a voice to the voiceless. When you're voiceless, you're somebody who doesn't speak our verbal language. It's no different from any other species—humans who are too young, too old or hearing impaired.

"If somebody feels that they are being heard, if they're being acknowledged, it changes their world. They try so much harder. They interact. They find friends. They have a life. That's what being heard means.

"They're also being seen. What is being seen? Being seen for who you are as an individual, being respected for the way you learn, being respected [by] how you're being treated. Instead of just putting them in the category of a horse, they're being seen for who they are as an individual.

There are many doorways that open up and many beneficial results that come from recognizing and acknowledging the try. Less resistance and more fluidity develop. "If you constantly apply pressure, they will not do it [the requested action] after a while. They tend to give up; they tend to not try. They back up, throw their head in the air, feel like lead, go into the halter, bite you, body slam you. This is what it means when you don't acknowledge the try—you get less fluidity.

"When you acknowledge the try, those feet will move. The same goes for any other action. When you acknowledge the try, you get less frustration, less force, and more communication."

By moving into asking versus telling, there is less learned-helplessness and more motivation. "An ask is softer, meeting them where they are at, versus telling or shouting at them," says Twinney. "Learned-helplessness is the glazed eye, standing at the back of the stall, having their butt to you, not looking at somebody, not acknowledging an individual, not engaging (such as turning the head, licking). Learned-helplessness is where the horse becomes more robotic, compliant, and you become a passenger instead of a rider. They're a commodity instead of a companion. Acknowledging the try takes out the learned-helplessness and replaces it with motivation.

It's important to not use the nature of the horse against him. That means, in the language of ROTH, using positive reinforcement in training: no pressure, food rewards, a stroke or verbal praise, being exceedingly patient,

even doing nothing at all. It's important to support not using their nature against them, for example: Horses are flight animals, so we as predators know they will move forward when we drive them. You know a horse will go into flight (leave or move away from a situation), fight (protection of the self or others, frustration), or freeze, so don't hold or use that against them. "Bring the nature of the horse into play and support them with it," says Twinney.

"A freeze is usually done by a not very spunky individual. They are waiting for release. You'll see the glazed eye, disassociating, leaving their bodies, laying down, shaking or buckling. Using a horse's nature against them is snubbing them to a post, knowing they will freeze or fight, and doing it anyway.

"Review it. Look at it: Am I working with and for my horse or am I using his nature against him?" states Twinney.

"This bleeds into dominance versus passive leadership. Dominance is using force, fear, 'my way or the highway.' Passive leadership is leading by example, leading by trust and respect.

"I don't want my trust and respect gained through fear. I don't want that. I want to gain it because it's truthful, it's authentic, it's my body, it's my mind, it's my spirit, it's 100 percent for the good of the horse. [I want to say to the horse]: I don't want to snub you, put a tarp on you til you lie down and your spirit goes away, and then say, 'It's for the good of the horse.' I needed to spookbust you—'It's for the good of the horse.' That's pure justification; there's nothing right in that.

"You should be able to spookbust a horse at liberty, with the freedom of choice and allow them to come and go. That's where you want to end up—when you put that saddle pad on them, you want them to want to stand there, that they have that choice," says

Twinney in her webinar.

"Be mindful of what your horse perceives as an ask versus a tell. Some horses are thick-skinned; some are highly-sensitive. The gauge is on the horse as to what they perceive is an ask versus a tell.

"If you encourage them in what they volunteer, you will have a partner who will make decisions with you, and that's what we are seeking when we look for horsemanship, for true partnership; where we look for the relationship; where we look to succeed in any way. That's what we're looking for," says Twinney.

Entering a training session or relationship with your horse with an attitude of gratitude is important.

It implies having a no-goal agenda, being present. "With an attitude of gratitude, you're open-minded, open-hearted, and you can see their tries," says Twinney.

Acknowledging the try. Simple and so often overlooked. It can transform your relationship with your horse. And with others—we all can benefit from a little acknowledgement, being seen, being heard. What have you got to lose?

For more information on Anna Twinney's work at Reach Out to Horses®, please go to www.reachouttohorses.com. There is an abundance of free information available: podcasts, articles, blog posts, and webinars that are available for purchase.

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