

Decade Team Interview Questions

Please fill out with answers to as many questions as you wish to answer. You are welcome to send a photo for use on the AERC website – please be sure you have the photographer’s permission to reproduce the photo, and include the photographer’s name and contact information.

Return to: endurancenews@foothill.net. Thank you!

Rider’s name: Holly Corcoran

Horse’s name: Poete

Year of First Endurance Ride (first year in the decade): 2012

Region: NE

Current rider lifetime mileage?

Endurance: 5625

Limited Distance: 700

Tell us about your horse. When/how did you come to get him/her?. Acquired from Asgard Arabians when he was a 4-year-old

What is your horse’s breeding? Bandjo DeFalgas X Poetikka

Sex: Gelding

DOB: 6-12-2007

Horse height: 16HH

Approximate weight: 1000#

Color: Chestnut

Why did you decide to purchase this horse? I was training him for Asgard Arabians and fell in love with him. He is my heart horse.

Did you do endurance with any other horses before this horse? Yes

How many different horses have you ridden in this sport? 17

Do you participate in any other horse sports or activities? Dressage

How many years have you been involved with endurance? With horses in general? 2003 began; 1963 as a child

What got you interested in endurance riding? What was it that kept you interested? Decided to try something beyond the show ring. I did my first 25 and fell in love with the sport.

How old was your horse when first started in endurance? 5

How many rides did you do your first three ride seasons? 8

What mileage distance did you start with? (25, 50, etc.) started with a 25

How long until you top tenned or raced (if you did)? first top ten in LD was in 2003 and first top ten in 50s was in 2009

How much time off do you give between ride seasons? I try to give them 2 months off per year as I compete year-round.

If you have done 100s, how much time off do you give after doing one? I give 2 weeks off and then start back walking.

If you have done multadays, how much time off do you give after doing one? It depends upon the overall distance.

Do you use any special type of tack or shoeing with your horse? Poete rides in a Specialized Saddle and it is fit for him as his body shape changed. I use a good farrier with steel shoes and sometimes pads as necessary depending upon the footing.

What kind of problems have you overcome with your horse?

He has had metabolic (tying up) in his early career and we adjusted exercise and feeding as well as competition strategy.

Describe the best ride you ever had on your horse. 2018 National Championship at Biltmore where he won and won BC.

What was your most humbling experience? Recently I had to RO at 87 miles in a 100 when I had continuing problems with trail markings

What lessons have you learned along the way that you feel are the most important? Take care of the horse and the horse takes care of the rest.

What advice would you give to new riders? Ask questions & find a good mentor.

Looking back, what do you feel you did right? Attending to the horse's soundness, continually checking in on them, trot outs. Addressing issues as they arise and partnering with my veterinarian.

What would you do differently? I found early that keeping weight on my horses and balance conditioning with keeping them in good shape.

What was your highest goal for your horse, and did you achieve it? To attain a place on the USA International Endurance team & accomplished in May 2021.

Describe your horse's personality? How is it like or unlike yours? He loves to compete and I do too. He can get wound up and I work on keeping him calm. I think our personalities are similar.

What kinds of rides do you enjoy the most (50s, 100s, multiday, etc.)? One day 100 miles

In what ways has endurance riding made a positive influence in your life? Chunking things down and taking one step or one loop at a time to accomplish any large or overwhelming task

Is there anything special about your nutrition program you attribute to your success? KER original, 30%TC, Platinum Perform Equine

Are there any major changes you've made to your nutrition program (i.e., changed from one hay to another, added something special) that you feel made a noticeable improvement or solved a problem?

Using low starch, high fiber feed, soaked beet pulp, alfalfa occasionally but all they want in competition.

What kind of supplements (if any) do you use? Platinum Performance Equine, MagRestore, salt

Do you give any kind of joint products? Adequan, Legends & sometimes joint injections as necessary

Describe your electrolyte protocol. Peak Balance and MER, Mad Barn

How do you choose which rides to attend? I look for what the horse needs to bring them forward or later in their career to meet our higher competition goals. There are a few rides that I just love in the NE and try to make it to them.

Do you go to many rides outside of your region? Yes, NE and SE, I have gone out west and mountain in the past.

Name three people involved in the sport of endurance that you look up to, and why. Steve Rojek-high mileage, excellent horsemanship skills

Did you have a mentor or first trail partner? Tell us about him/her/them. I did not directly have a mentor, but observed and asked questions as I was able.

In choosing your next horse, what would you look for?

I like the Asgard Arabians for their athleticism. I like a forward and willing horse that is smart and loves to compete as much as I do.