



Academy of Achievement 2013 Alumni Honorees

Heather Bell

Dr. Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM.

Margaret Johnson

Dr. Amy Story, PhD.



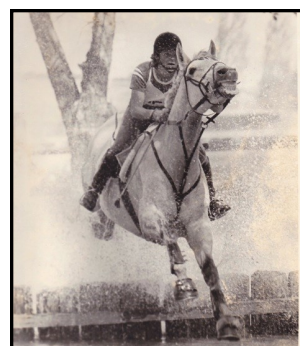
Heather Bell

A Graduate A, National Examiner, 4th Level Dressage and Preliminary Event rider who has now settled down to riding with my son either exploring the Rocky Mountains or firing six shooters from a galloping horse in a sport called Cowboy Mounted Shooting.

I have always found it exhilarating to buck tradition and embrace change - from developing my own major in college (Evolution and its theories) to reinvigorating and modernizing a carriage driving tradition during my term as Director of Riding at the University of Massachusetts; to starting American Airlines onboard recycling program after being told it would never work to traveling in and conducting biological research in countries hostile to women. In my current position as an endangered species biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, I have been dubbed an “agent of change” and am charged with reinventing the way a very stodgy government agency does business – my biggest challenge yet!

While invigorated by change I also find comfort in studying the past -from studying evolution in species and our earth, to sharing American history with my son, and collecting antiques with my husband. We currently reside in Evergreen, Colorado, with four horses, a hound, and a couple of lively cats.

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Dr. Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM.

Mary Sarah Bergh is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, an Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, and the Director of Canine Rehabilitation Services at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Ames, Iowa, USA. She is board certified in Small Animal Surgery and Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Mary was born and raised in Madison, Wisconsin, but she first became involved with horses and Pony Club when she was 9 years old and moved to Barrington Hills, Illinois with her family. She joined the Fox River Valley Pony Club and was an active member, participating in numerous camps,

lessons, and Rallies. She was an avid eventer and represented the North Central Region at the Pony Club National Championships twice, before achieving her A rating when she was 17 years old.

Mary had aspirations of becoming a veterinary surgeon and after her graduating with a BS in Wildlife Ecology; she was accepted into veterinary school at the University of Wisconsin. She then continued her training with an internship at University of Pennsylvania and a residency in small animal surgery at The Ohio State University. She also earned her Masters of Science degree at The Ohio State University in 2008, while investigating fractured central tarsal bones of racing greyhounds. She has been an orthopedic surgeon at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine since 2009, where she evaluates and treats and dogs with musculoskeletal and neurologic conditions, helps train the next generation of veterinarians and surgeons, and performs research to advance the field. She is a sought-after lecturer and teacher and gives lectures and continuing education courses around the world. Her clinical and research interests include total joint replacement, sporting injuries, treatments for cranial cruciate ligament disease, and rehabilitation therapy.





Margaret Johnson

Meg is originally from Atlanta, Georgia, where she attended Woodward Academy, and graduated with honors. Meg obtained her B.A., with departmental honors, from Auburn University, where she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority and Psi Chi Psychology Honor Fraternity. In the summer of 2000, Meg moved to Texas to pursue her legal education and obtained her Juris Doctorate from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. She is currently a senior litigation associate with Touchstone, Bernays, Johnston, Beall, Smith & Stollenwerck, L.L.P. in Dallas and manages the Farm, Ranch, and Equine Law division of the firm. Meg is also an adjunct professor of Intellectual Property Law and Music Publishing at Dallas Baptist University. In 2009, she was admitted to the prestigious Bar of the United States Supreme Court during a swearing-in ceremony conducted by Chief Justice John Roberts in Washington, D.C.

Meg has been involved with horses for over twenty years competing in many different arenas from eventing, dressage, and show jumping to barrel racing and reining. She and Joker, her upper level event horse, were part of the Area III Young Riders program and competed through the Intermediate level. During her senior year of college, as Captain of Auburn University's NCAA-charter Equestrian Team, Meg won the titles of Open Reining Champion and MVP. After an extended break from competition, in 2006, Meg earned the title of North Texas Eventing Association's Senior Rider of the Year with her long time mount, Joker, who is now enjoying his retirement. Currently, Meg is competing in reining with her new AQHA gelding, Jac Smart. Meg is a "B" graduate of USPC and now serves as a National Examiner.



Meg's husband, Jared, is an Associate Managing Director with the wealth management firm of Baker Avenue. They have a 2 year old son, Charlie, who appears to share his mother's passion for all things equine and his father's love of sports.



Dr. Amy Story, PhD.

Amy E. Story grew up in North Carolina owning and riding horses. She worked mostly in Combined Training, competing through the Preliminary level and graduating a B Pony Clubber. Upon entering college at Emory University in Atlanta, Amy sold her horses but continued to teach in the summers through the Visiting Instructor program. Amy majored in philosophy and religious studies, spent a year of college studying in London, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude. Amy went on to get a Masters and PhD in Philosophy at the University of Oregon, specializing in ethics and race and gender theories. She is now an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Baldwin Wallace University outside of Cleveland, Ohio. Recently, Amy also became the Director of the University Honors Program, where she works with students to build research and leadership skills and to foster academic excellence across the university.