

EQUINE INTERVIEW

GENE, continued from page 18

kids I left in Paraguay need help and I wish I could take care of them. This is why I ask people to donate to the Phillips Fund, if they want to help me.

What is the Phillips Fund?

It is a scholarship fund that sets money aside for students from Paraguay to come to the U.S. to get an education. But they have to agree to return to Paraguay and work for at least the time they spent in the U.S. in school, helping others in Paraguay. You asked me earlier what keeps me going? It is the kids of Paraguay and knowing that I may be helping them.

Gene, you ride mostly highways and through towns and cities, versus some that ride mostly trails. What is that like?

Yes, this way I get to meet nice people. I learn a lot out here. I am getting an education you can't buy at a university. And when I talk to people...

maybe it's because I am moving on tomorrow, but they tell me things they wouldn't tell anyone. I learn who they really are.

What was the hardest place to travel?

Cambridge (Massachusetts) was hard because so many people walk on the sidewalks and they would just walk out and reach for the horses. Frank was just not ready for them and I had to basically retrain him. He was pretty spooked for quite a while.

What was kindest state you've gone through so far?

Nebraska. You have to remember this is where the Oregon and Mormon trails are, and these towns were built by people who broke down while moving West. These people are descendants of the overland travelers, and they know the hardships of travel. They were so kind and fed me very well.

Gene, you gave me a gift before my trip, which I carried with me the whole way. It wasn't the gift, but the idea that you truly cared about my success and my well-being. I am very blessed to have met you, and so is everyone else who does likewise.


Well, I don't know what to say except thank you.

What do you tell people who are considering a trip of equestrian travel?

I first ask a few questions, to see if they are truly capable of such travel. Then I tell them, Go for it! It will be something you will never forget and it will make you a better person for doing it.

Gene, what do you have to tell anyone reading this article?

Look for the brightest star and follow it. It will always lead you to help others.

If you want to help Gene's charity, the Phillips Fund, please contact the Pensacola Christian College, P.O. Box 18000, Pensacola, Florida, 32523-9160, Attention: Phillips Fund. To learn more of Gene's travel, visit <http://www.geneglasscock.org>. 

MELINDA, continued from page 19

of my training business is with the Leaks, I feel it is a primary business goal for me to coach them and their horses to success in the show ring.

What is the philosophy behind training at your stable?

My philosophy as a trainer is; strive to get the best performance from your horse and yourself. This is a continuing goal and should be the basis for a successful training program.

What sets your stable or style of training apart from others?


My training style has always been modeled around individual attention. Lessons, as well as the training of the horses are always tailored specifically for each student and/or horse. I tailor my training regimen for the open horses differently than those horses



Above: Darius sails over the poles.

Photo by Jumpshot.

that will be ridden by their owners. The open horses are trained to perform best with me riding them in the professional classes. The horses that I am training for my clients to ride are on a completely different program, and I tune them to the best of my ability to be suitable for their owner's success and enjoyment.

For more information, visit www.sovereignfarms.com or e-mail contact@sovereignfarms.com. 

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