

# AWARDS NIGHT 2017

Honouring 2016 Champions

*On behalf of the entire board of directors of the Alberta Standardbred Horse Association, I would like to congratulate all those nominated for an award this evening. It's great to take time to recognize all of the hard work that trainers and grooms put into our equine athletes that culminates into creating amazing champions. I would also like to congratulate all of the owners and breeders who have horses nominated or may be nominated themselves tonight. It is with the involvement of all of the owners and breeders in our industry that we have that helps enable us to have a night like this to celebrate this year's Champions. We are also here to celebrate our industry. Each and every owner and breeder deserves to be celebrated this evening.*

*Tonight, some of you will be recognized as the 2016 Champions in the industry, for others, you have been nominated because of the achievements you have made through your dedication and hard work. There are many things that have to go right to get our equine athletes to the winners circle, and for that, you are all winners.*

*As much as tonight is about crowning our Champions, I really want to acknowledge everyone involved in our industry. We have been tested beyond most limits, yet we have persevered. This industry is on the verge of better times. We have a solid commitment from government, we have a board of directors that is working hard on your behalf to ensure that Standardbred racing continues its strong growth. This growth and professionalism will ensure we will continue to be leaders in our industry. Best of all, our industry has you. We have some of the best horseman, owners, and breeders in the country right here in Alberta. It is everyone's joint commitment and professionalism that will lead us into a future that looks brighter than it has in many years.*

*Let's not keep this success a secret. Get the news out there. Let's grow this industry with the same hard work and commitment that got everyone through all of these tough years and certainly, let's share what this group of nominees has accomplished.*

*For some of you, it may be your first nomination, or first win, for others this may be one of many. No matter, what you have accomplished this year is truly remarkable. Congratulations to each and every one of you.*

*On behalf of the Alberta Standardbred Horse Association, I would like to thank both our race track partners, Century Downs, and Northlands Park for not only providing us with their fine facilities to race at, but also for their commitment to provide racing and co-operation to help us grow our industry. It is with this co-operation that I am confident that we are on the right path for a better future. Of course none of this would be possible without the continued support of our provincial government. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the honourable Minister Ceci, for his vision and support of our industry that provides thousands of jobs and helps support thousands of others, all involved in the racing industry here in Alberta. Our past and present board of directors would like to thank Horse Racing Alberta, and especially Shirley McClellan for all the hard work and extreme dedication that they have provided to our industry. We thank you all for believing not only in our industry as a whole but in each and every member of the industry.*

*I would also like to thank Fred Gillis and the staff for all of their tireless work. They go above and beyond on all of our behalf in everything they do and we owe them a big THANK YOU!!*

*Please enjoy this amazing evening that allows us to celebrate not only our Champions, but also the great Standardbred horse. We wish you all the best in racing in 2017, as we will get to see more Champions grow and develop.*



*Blair Corbeil, President*

2016 Champion  
2 Year Old Alberta Sired Filly

**Outlaw Fireball**

4 4-0-0 \$66,366

Owners: J F Gagne, Peter Van Seggelen,  
Carl Warnaar, Tapron Holdings

**Triple Thick Shake**

4 2-0-1 \$23,121

Owners: Don Richardson

**Wedding Dance**

4 2-4-0 \$27,999

Owners: Don Richardson

Sponsored by: *The McIsaac Family*

Presented by: *Terry McIsaac*

# 2016 Champion 2 Year Old Filly

## **Outlaw Fireball**

3 1-2-0 \$18,333

Owners: J F Gagne, Peter Van Seggelen,  
Carl Warnaar, Tapron Holdings

## **Shesamysterytome**

2 1-1-0 \$16,666

Owners: Ashlee Sluggett, Trevor Williams

## **Wedding Dance**

3 1-1-1 \$14,666

Owners: Don Richardson

Sponsored by: *Moore Equine*

Presented by: *Dr. Jordan Cook*

2016 Champion  
2 Year Old Alberta Sired Colt/Gelding

**Mateo**

4 0-2-2 \$30,231

Owners: Christine Cutting, Jim Marino

**Senga Nitro**

4 4-0-0 \$72,616

Owners: Ken Gunn

**Wabash Cannonball**

3 2-0-0 \$27,233

Owners: Kelly Hoerd, Peter Giannakopoulos,  
Blair Corbeil

Sponsored by: *Alfa Tec*

Presented by: *Connie Kluthe & Leo Hazenberg*

2016 Champion  
2 Year Old Colt/Gelding

**Da Magician**

3 2-1-0 \$32,500  
Owners: Serge Masse

**Mateo**

4 0-2-2 \$30,231  
Owners: Christine Cutting, Jim Marino

**Senga Nitro**

4 4-0-0 \$72,616  
Owners: Ken Gunn

Sponsored by:

*Northlands Park Racetrack & Casino*

Presented by: *Scott Sinclair/Jason Teague*

2016 Champion  
3 Year Old Alberta Sired Filly

**Ba Bye Ceia Later**

3 1-0-1 \$39,818

Owners: Bryan Brook, Diane Harries

**Monstrous**

2 1-1-0 \$54,525

Owners: Warren Fuller

**Outlawburntpopcorn**

2 1-0-0 \$34,400

Owners: Fun For Fans

Sponsored by: *Mobile Commercial Insurance*

Presented by: *J.F. Gagne/Marjorie Dumont*

2016 Champion  
3 Year Old Filly

Brighten Your Life

4 1-1-1 \$43,800

Owners: Kelly Hoerd, Blair Corbeil,

**Monstrous**

4 3-1-0 \$46,666

Owners: Warren Fuller

Outlawsurshotshark

3 2-1-0 \$32,000

Owners: Don Byrne Stables Inc.

Sponsored by: *Olds Regional Exhibition*

Presented by: *Tami & Tracy Gardner*

2016 Champion  
3 Year Old Alberta Sired Colt/Gelding

Classy Artist

2 1-1-0 \$41,475

Owners: Tony Chan, Rod Starkewski

**Outlaw Turn N Burn**

4 2-1-1 \$88,156

Owners: 8113564 Canada Ltd.

Wrangler Cash

3 1-0-2 \$41,410

Owners: Kelly Hoerd, Blair Corbeil,  
Dr. Maurice Stewart

Sponsored by: *Gunnholme Farms*

Presented by: *Ken Gunn*

2016 Champion  
3 Year Old Colt/Gelding

Appellate

3 1-0-0 \$37,800

Owners: Keith Clark, Robert Jones

**Blue Star Jet**

4 3-0-1 \$70,500

Owners: Lorne Duffield, Rod Hennessy

Wrangler Cash

3 1-1-1 \$21,150

Owners: Kelly Hoerd, Blair Corbeil,  
Dr. Maurice Stewart

Sponsored by:

*Manitoba Harness Horsemen Inc.*

Presented by: *Trevor Williams*

# 2016 Champion Aged Mare

## Nighttraintovegas

11 3-3-5 \$29,588

Owners: Dick Schneider, David Halmosi

## Sing Like An Angel

15 4-7-4 \$44,250

Owners: Keith & Margaret Hannah  
Jodie Cullen, Travis Cullen

## **Tajmeallover**

21 13-3-5 \$83.085

Owners: J. F. Gagne, Peter Van Seggelen  
Carl Warnaar, Tapron Holdings

Sponsored by: *Bill & Denise Andrew*

Presented by: *Terry McIsaac*

# 2016 Champion Aged Horse

## **Audreys Dream**

16 10-4-2 \$65,080  
Owners: Ashleigh & Ed Hensley

## **Get Thereovernight**

14 2-4-8 \$30,770  
Owners: Peter Giannakopoulos, Kelly Hoerd  
Blair Corbeil

## **Sterling Cooper**

4 4-0-0 \$20,750  
Owners: Jeffrey Elchuk

Sponsored by: *Crowfoot Wine & Spirits*

Presented by: *Harold Haining*

# 2016 Champion Claimer Fillies/Mares

## Mach Away

38 12-0-6 \$36,544

Owners: Bryan Brook

## Mystery Mania

24 12-3-3 \$31,202

Owners: Keith Clark, Doris McDougall

## Runway Model

25 14-3-5 \$51,925

Owners: Jason & Keith Hannah  
Travis Cullen

Sponsored by:

*Alberta Standardbred Horse Association*

Presented by: *Sharon Steil*

# 2016 Champion Claimer Colts/Geldings

## **Justabitcrazy**

37 7-8-6 \$50,038

Owners: Ryan Grundy

## **Raging Fingers**

20 14-3-0 \$34,222

Owners: Travis Cullen, Keith Hannah

## **Rain Gauge**

22 13-3-4 \$45,103

Owners: Blair Kidd

Sponsored by: *Boston Pizza*

Presented by: *Lorne Duffield*

# 2016 Champion Fastest Girl

## **Tajmeallover**

1:53.2 July 23, 2016

Century Downs Racetrack and Casino

Owners: J F Gagne, Peter Van Seggelen

Carl Warnaar, Tapron Holdings

Sponsored by: *Stollery Children's Hospital*

Presented by: *Beverly Sawchuk*

# 2015 Champion Fastest Boy

## **Sterling Cooper**

1:52.1 August 21, 2016

Century Downs Racetrack and Casino

Owners: Jeffrey Elchuk

Sponsored by: *Airdrie Over 50 Club*

Presented by: *Ron Graham*

# 2016 Rising Star

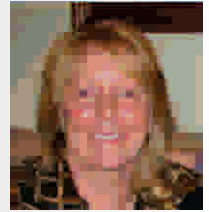


**Chris Lancaster**

12-6-3 \$36,057 URS .495

**Catherine Reid**

154 9-16-19 \$100,106 URS .222



**Mona Roy**

43 5-8-8 \$31,579 URS .282



Sponsored by: *Don & Frances Byrne*

Presented by: *Don, Frances & Michael Byrne*

# 2016 Caretaker of the Year

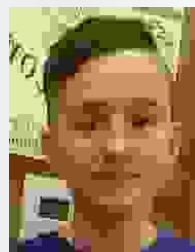


**Brinsley Brooking-Lutz**

Brandon Campbell Stable

**Jacob Cutting**

Darryl Cutting Stable



**Meghan Kelly**

Kelly Hoerdts Stable

**Ashlee Sluggett**

Ryan Grundy Stable



Sponsored by: *Raceway Tack*

Presented by: *Carole Gubbles*

# 2016 Trainer Of The Year Under 200 Starts

## **Brandon Campbell**



188 46-28-22 \$258,132 URS .368



## Darryl Cutting

163 22-29-30 \$284,738 URS .295

## Marjorie Dumont

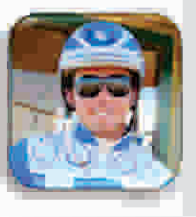


143 30-21-24 \$272,726 URS .347

Sponsored by: *Olds College Groom School*

Presented by: *Darci Peterson & Haylee Labossiere*

# 2016 Trainer Of The Year



**Travis Cullen**

504 187-95-57 \$916.934 URS .513

**Rod Hennessy**

392 55-62-57 \$513,923 URS .277



**Kelly Hoerd**

397 57-63-68 \$578,147 URS .289



Sponsored by: *Univet Pharmaceuticals*

Presented by: *Melinda Smith*

# 2016 Driver Of The Year Under 200 Starts

**Rene Goulet**



116 11-13-21 \$120,542 URS .217



**Serge Masse**

103 15-13-13 \$118,876 URS .258

**Brad Watt**



60 9-6-6 \$68,648 URS .239

Sponsored by: *OnTrack Media*

Presented by: *Randy Miller & Bill Farrant*

# 2016 Driver Of The Year

**Brandon Campbell**

428 87-59-58 \$500,769 URS .325



**Travis Cullen**

529 197-100-66 \$926,195 URS .519

**J F Gagne**

211 47-28-39 \$530,233 URS .358



Sponsored by:

*Century Downs Racetrack and Casino*

Presented by: *Geoff Smith*  
*Alberta Managing Director*  
*Century Casino*

# 2016 Owner Of The Year

Warren Fuller

16 6-7-1 \$129,999

**Lorne Duffield & Rod Hennessy**

164 24-24-17 \$212,989

Ashleigh & Ed Hensley

221 49-37-30 \$287,123

Sponsored by: *Standardbred Canada*

Presented by: *Shelley Gray*

# 2016 Breeder Of The Year

Meridian Farms ~ Bill Andrew

70 \$568,956

**Outlaw Stable**

52 \$591,167

Dr. James Rhodes

27 \$196,223

Sponsored by: *Rocky Mountain Turf Club*

Presented by: *Katie Graham*

# 2016 Horseperson Of The Year

**Travis Cullen**



**J F Gagne**



**Mike Hennessy**

Sponsored by:

*Alberta Standardbred Horse Association*

Presented by: *Blair Corbeil*

# Breeders Award of Recognition

Sponsored by Meridian Farms

Presented by:

**Terry McIsaac**

For more than 40 years, Jim Rhodes has devoted his life to the care and well being of animals and to the breeding of Standardbred racehorses. What started out as part of his veterinarian training, has become a labour of love.

“I worked a couple of summers for Brad Gunn who had developed Gunnholme Farm at Lloydminster. At the time, Brad operated one of the top breeding farms for Standardbreds in North America. I fell in love with the whole breeding part of the equine industry. Even getting up at 3 o’clock in the morning to tend to foaling mares. I fell in love with it all, and that’s never really stopped over the years.”

“We had to do everything from feeding, to trimming yearlings that hadn’t been handled, anything that came up. There was some supervision provided by one of our professors, so we were learning stuff on that farm that fit into what we were learning in the classroom. After graduating from the University of Saskatchewan, I spent a couple of breeding seasons at Spendthrift Farms in Lexington Kentucky. That was a thoroughbred operation with about 32 stallions on the premises. I came home from that experience hoping to set up a breeding operation in Alberta. At that time, there really wasn’t anything that employed a vet. I knew of David Dyrholm because of his embryo transplant company. I met him in Lexington in 1979 and we wound up starting what came to be known as “Pacer Park”. David brought in 4-5 investors, we bought 20 mares in Lexington that fall and imported a stallion from New York and off we went.

At one time, we had about 120 mares,” said David Dyrholm. “Royal Arms was an un-raced Standardbred that did okay as a sire. In 2000 we bought As Promised from Keith Clark and he kept us busy. One year we bred 317 mares. We sometimes had as many as 100 yearlings to go to various sales. Jim was the farm manager and did a lot of our veterinary work. One year, we ran into a problem called parrot mouth and Jim helped find a solution, not just for the problem on our farm, but for others in the district who had run into a similar situation.” “Jim always did his best. He was great with the horses.”

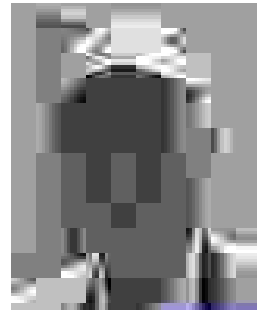
When Pacer Park was wound down, Jim moved on to work for Gordon Gregory and later for Meridian Farms. “I was doing the vet work in addition to running my own practice, so it was pretty busy. I kept a few mares of my own on the side and ultimately started my own operation just west of High River. Getting on for 20 years now. Ever since my days at Gunnholme, I had wanted to be able to jog a few horses, so I wound up putting in a small track. Then, four years ago, I sold my veterinary practice and now I can spend all my time at the farm. About six years ago, Meridian moved all their horses over to my place, so we’ve got a full quarter section of land. I now have 15 mares of my own and parts of a couple of stallions, Vertical Horizon, and Mystery Chase.

It’s a lot of work to get yearlings ready for the sales. They have to be groomed, you have to take care of their feet and legs, and they have to get used to being handled before they go to the sale. It’s not scientific, it’s just a lot of work. It’s a good thing I love what I do”

“We have had some success with horses like Super Sunrise, who was a good honest racehorse. I still ride him occasionally. We also raised Comes Home First who went to JJJ Stables in BC, and is still racing. I bought a share in Sunshine Beach. I have a nice filly from him and I have a mare in foal to him this spring. I’m proud of Shesamysterytome who Ryan Grundy trained to the races and did pretty well in 2016. I’ve got 10 yearlings for this years ASHA Yearling Sale, and I’ve got a bunch of mares to foal out this spring. I still do most of the work myself, although I bring in a little help during foaling season and as I get horses ready for the sale.

A lifetime of work, a labour of love. The Alberta Standardbred Horse Association is proud to salute 2016 Breeder Award of Recognition recipient, Dr. Jim Rhodes.

**Dr. Jim Rhodes**



# Ron McLeod Award of Recognition

Sponsored by: Alberta Standardbred Horse Association

## Presented by: *Rod Starkewski*

The late Ron McLeod was a fixture for many years in Alberta's Standardbred industry. An accountant by trade, he started his career at Gulf Canada where he worked for many years before opening his own practice. An avid sportsman, Ron loved all sports but his passion was harness racing. He performed many services for his friends in the backstretch, and was a regular at the races until his death from cancer on August 21st, 2003.



## *Chelsea Chase*

This Award of Recognition was created to honour a person who made a special contribution over a period of years to the industry in the province.

It should come as no surprise that this year's winner is very much at home in the backstretch, or at the finish line as her horse surges to the wire, or astride a Standardbred in a charity race, or in any number of other roles that assist, or promote, or otherwise enable the Standardbred industry to be an important part of Alberta's agricultural sector.

When I caught up with Chelsea Chase on a recent cold Saturday morning, she was helping to care for a dozen horses at a stable southwest of Calgary. In the midst of seeing to their well-being, she had some thoughts on being singled out as this year's honouree.

"I was surprised to learn I'd won," she told me. "I knew some people had put my name forward for the award. I didn't know who, exactly, but I was flattered. The backstretch is really part of my family. My parents both work in the industry, and I've always felt at home here."

Indeed, quite a number of people took the time to support this nomination. Hall of Fame horseman, Keith Clark, notes that Chelsea has worked for him on several occasions. "She's a hard working, conscientious employee," says Clark. "I've never had an employee who loved her horses more. She cared about how they raced and always wanted to know how she could make them better."

"As we got to know her, we could appreciate all the things she was involved in to support and promote the harness racing industry. She helped organize and participated in Powder Puff Derbies and Racing Under Saddle. She worked at the yearling sales and the awards banquets, and lent a helping hand to anyone who needed a hand on race days. And she spent hours taking pictures and posting them to a Facebook page she started so that owners could follow how their horses were doing on the Alberta circuit," said Cliff & Kathy Coonfer of Olds, AB.

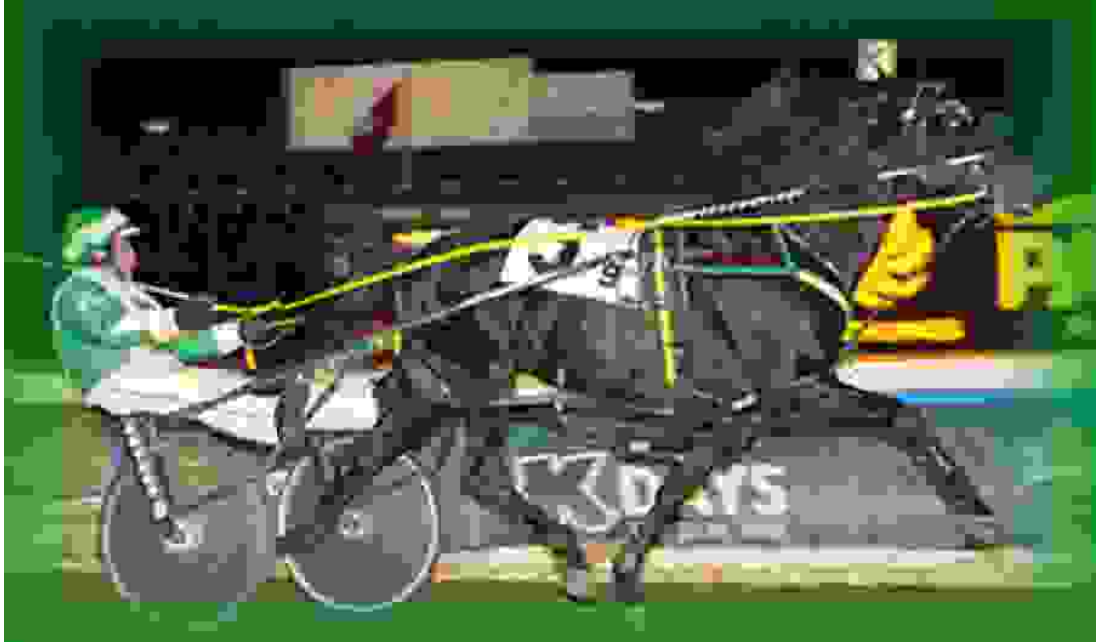
Kathy Sunberg of Performance Standardbreds notes "Chelsea's passion for both the breed and the sport of racing has contributed to our efforts to fundraising and promoting our Placement Program." Indeed, Chelsea has ridden in the Pacing Under Saddle events and last year, raised about \$800 dollars in support of the program.

And in the past year, she has renewed her trainer's license and taken on the development of a now three year old filly, Never Say Sorry, which she co-owns with Dr. Jim Rhodes. As a two year old, Never Say Sorry, posted a 1-1-3 from 15 starts and earned \$15,294. After a couple of months off, the filly is back in training with Chelsea doing what she enjoys most, jumping on a jog cart and going a few laps on the track.

"I just love the industry and I'll do anything I can to promote it. I don't do it to be noticed, I do it because I love it". Oh, people have noticed Chelsea, A lot of people. And somewhere, I dare say, Ron McLeod has noticed. And would be pleased to see the name Chelsea Chase as the latest winner of the award that bears his name.

For service to the industry, the Alberta Standardbred Horse Association is proud to salute Chelsea Chase as the 2016 recipient of the Ron McLeod Award of Recognition.

# 2016 Horse Of The Year



2015 Horse Of The Year

*First Class Horse*

Sponsored by: *Horse Racing Alberta*

Presented by: *Shirley McClellan*

**Tajmeallover**

## ~ ASHA AWARD CHAMPIONS 2015 ~

**Two Year Old Alberta Sired Filly**

Divas Dragonfly

**Two Year Old Filly**

Divas Dragonfly

**Two Year Old Alberta Sired Colt/Gelding**

Wrangler Csh

**Two Year Old Colt/Gelding**

Blue Star Jet

**Three Year Old Alberta Sired Filly**

Fire Watch

**Three Year Old Filly**

Thats Extra

**Three Year Old Alberta Sired Colt/Gelding**

Johnny Gun

**Three Year Old Colt/Gelding**

First Class Horse

**Aged Mare**

Sing Like An Angel

**Aged Colt/Gelding**

Who Doesnt

**Claimer Fillies/Mares**

Gottaluckydeal

**Claimer Colts/Geldings**

Raging Fingers

**Caretaker Of The Year**

Kaitlin Haining & Danielle Schedlosky

**Trainer under 200 Starts**

Marjorie Dumont

**Trainer of the Year**

Travis Cullen

**Driver under 200 Starts**

J F Gagne

**Driver Of The Year**

Travis Cullen

**Horseperson Of The Year**

Travis Cullen

**Owner Of The Year**

Kelly Hoerdt/Blair Corbeil

**Breeder Of The Year**

Meridian Farms/Bill Andrew

**Fastest Girl**

Feeling Flush

**Fastest Boy**

Ghost Pine

**Breeders Award of Recognition**

Pieter Besselink

**Ron McLeod Award**

Rod Hennessy

**Horse Of The Year**

First Class Horse

*Congratulations to all our past  
Winners!*

# *Congratulations!!*

2016

National Driving Champion

*Brandon Campbell*

Representing Canada



Kyle Meller/Coady Photo



# WDC

**WORLD DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP**

CANADA 2017



**ALBERTA STANDARDBRED  
HORSE ASSOCIATION**



# ★★ Awards Night 2016 ★★

Co-Hosts: Jackson Wittup ~ Margaret Graham

Presentation Photography: Coady Photo

Entertainment: 5 On The Side

Video Production: Bill Farrant ~ OnTrack Media

Video/Picture Credits: Chelsea Chase, Kaitlin Haining, Thalia Martin

Theresa Sealy, Ryan Haynes, Evelyn Sabraw, Kevin Tunney, Jill Delaney

ALL STATS ARE UP TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

## *“Thank You to Tonight's Sponsors”*

Airdrie Over 50 Club

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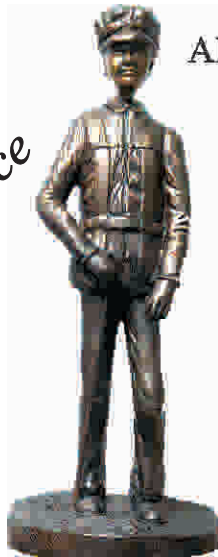
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*You make a difference*

*Your generous support  
is an essential part of  
making Awards Night  
an event to remember.*

*Thank you  
and  
Congratulations!!!*



*God made the horse from  
The Breath of the Wind  
The Beauty of the Earth  
and  
The Soul of an Angel  
May they forever run with our Hearts*

*~ Bonnie Piper*