

Bericht von Connie Dorsch nach dem 1.Hunter-Lehrgang Berlin Juni 2011

The first Hunter Clinic a small step towards a big project !!! I arrived in Berlin and was greeted by a small group of curious , nervous and very enthusiastic riders wishing to learn more about the North American Hunter . We started with a discussion of what a hunter actually is , the variety of hunter classes offered in North America with opportunity for not only horses of all levels but also classes for riders of all levels and ages .What a conceptchildren , adults , juniors , amateurs and professionals all have their own divisions to show in. And of course we also have Baby Green for young horses , Pregreen 1st and 2nd year , Green Hunter 1st and 2nd year and Open Hunters . With so much to digest the participants were now realizing they could compete at their own level , at their own rate of progress and that they would certainly be able to win ribbons.Well , as we know this is in the future for hunter riders in Berlin but it is a vision we all share !

Imagine the untapped market of ridersmen , women and junior riders who love horses and would love to compete over jumps but they do not want to jump high or ride fast . These are perfect candidates for the hunter program .They are left out and we want to include them all .Hunter riding is a skill that can be learned by the most timid rider because they are able to participate at a height that does not intimidate them.A hunter horse should be pretty , move well , jump well and have good manners. The turnout of the hunter is immaculate ,paying attention to small details that are very traditional.To be honest this should be a very exciting concept not only for riders but trainers as well . New customers that are interested in lessons , going to shows , buying horses and equipment ...a whole new market.

Our participants varied in age and experience but I think one thing they all had in common was they all had fun . It was not only a learning experience but also a social one as well . So much to talk about , so many questionscan this happen , will this happen . It is now up to them to help convey the news . Hunters in Berlin . People who have never jumped were jumping little courses by the end of two days and having the time of their lives . They could not believe it was possible !!

Of course we said this is a vision but I believe the Hunter has a very big future in Germany . Why not ?? Compare it to International riders who all ride under FEI rules , German riders could learn the North American hunter style , rules and traditions just as easily .

Our new Hunter stable will open it's arms to those who would like to learn more about our Hunter Club.