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Pictured above: **Shane Powell**, **Debbie Smith**, and **The Full Monty** accepting the Grand Performance Hunter Circuit Championship during Equus Events' Fall Festivals, September 7-18, 2022



**The Aiken Horse Park Foundation** is pleased to announce a \$250,000 gift from **Deborah Ann Smith** as part of the AHPF Capital Campaign. Gifts at this level qualify for naming rights to newly built barns and are critical sources of new funds to finance recent construction, as the AHPF makes significant strides towards its goal of financial sustainability. Tara Bostwick, VP of the AHPF noted that *“Debbie's generosity is a welcome gift to our fund-raising efforts and will surely encourage others to also support The Next Chapter of Bruce's Field.”*

**Debbie Smith**, a lifelong equestrian originally from New Jersey and now residing in Beverly Hills, Florida recently spent two weeks in Aiken with her trainers, Matt Martin and Shane Powell of Marketmoor, an Ocala FL based training and sales operation focused on producing winning show riders and horses. Debbie had a successful junior career in the hunter, jumper and equitation division and has continued this success throughout her adult life, which has included numerous Horse of the Year Awards. Debbie appreciates competing at Bruce's Field for numerous reasons. She likes the nice/safe barns with large, matted stalls and their convenient vicinity to all the rings. A horse lover first, Debbie loves that Bruce's Field is horse friendly, providing plenty of grassy areas to graze and hack in addition to the easy access to the beautiful trails.

*"We are so grateful to Debbie for her support and belief in our mission," said Daniel Geitner, AHPF board member and fellow equestrian. "her gift not only validates our efforts to make Bruce's Field a unique competition venue but provides important funding and momentum to the Next Chapter Capital Campaign as we move into the fall months."*

Earlier this year the Aiken Horse Park Foundation launched its \$7 million **Next Chapter** Capital Campaign, Phase I: Path to Sustainability. This phase includes the completion of 10 new barns, initial execution on a landscaping plan, building a new competition arena, and expanding practice areas for competitors.

The foundation has come a long way in the past several years and the park's reputation and capacity has put it at the very top of elite competitive equestrian destinations in the country. Long term, sustainability goals will provide a unique ability to impact our community in an increasingly positive fashion. The legacy gift from Debbie Smith allows the campaign to stay on target to reach its goal.



Debbie and her newly adopted pal Howard



A big pat for Diamant's Legacy, Debbie's partner in the jumper ring

The first new barn was dedicated in early March 2022, thanks to an anonymous donor who wished to name a barn in honor of **Evie and Phillip Dutton** in recognition of the significant relationship Phillip had with Bruce Duchossois and in acknowledgement of his ongoing leadership role at the Aiken Horse Park Foundation. Three more barn dedications were held in May, thanks to the generous contributions of **Jack Wetzel, Dayle and Ed Fortino**, and the **John R. Ingram Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee**. We will dedicate the **River Edge Farm Barn** early next winter and we look forward to scheduling **Debbie Smith's** barn dedication very soon.



We have long recognized that in order to remain the venue of choice to our many friends in the equestrian industry, we must continue to reinvest in the property. In that spirit we have added permanent stalls so that more of our guests can enjoy a comfortable and memorable horse show experience.

Additional barns also represent a clear path to financial sustainability for the Foundation, thus allowing us to focus on our Mission and perpetuating Bruce's Legacy.

**The Next Chapter Capital Campaign** was conceived in the Fall of 2019 with hopes to launch in the Spring of 2020. While the Pandemic interrupted our progress, we have now resumed our efforts to engage all stakeholders in the Next Chapter.



## PHASE I - SUSTAINABILITY

### Permanent Stabling for all 600 horses

- Safety of horses
- Satisfaction of competitors
- Revenue for AHPF

### Additional Competition Arena

- 5th competition arena capability
- Stand-alone special events arena
- Incorporating Park atmosphere by including an island of trees within the arena

**COST: \$7 MILLION**

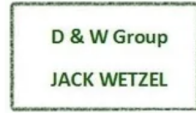
We are very fortunate to have forged a strong partnership with **Security Federal Bank**. Their commitment to us has allowed us to flexibly move forward with our goal towards sustainability while the campaign momentum remains strong. We will be using additional campaign contributions to retire our loans and provide fresh capital to execute on 2022 projects. We have raised **\$4.93 million** to date but we still have a ways to go to reach our goal of **\$7 million**.

Please join us in writing Aiken's Next Chapter...

## THE NEXT CHAPTER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR GENEROUS PARK SPONSORS





## 2022 AHPF PARTNERS



The Aiken Horse Park Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Its **MISSION** is to promote Aiken's equestrian way of life and to encourage the community's civic, educational, and charitable endeavors.

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