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New Officers Elected to Equine Land Conservation Resource's Board of Directors

By Yellow Horse Marketing for the Equine Land Conservation Resource

The Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) has announced the election of new officers to its Board of Directors for 2012, bringing together a team of equine industry experts with a wealth of talent and experience to direct the country's only national organization dedicated to saving land for horses. These new appointments, which were approved during the ELCR Board of Directors' Annual Meeting on April 26, 2012 in Lexington, KY include Susan Harding as President; Dan Rosenberg as Vice President; Patsy Mattingley, Secretary; and Betty Biszantz as Treasurer.

Susan M. Harding of Bethesda, MD, is a well-known U.S. equine industry professional with more than twenty years experience in the equine publishing industry. She is a publishing consultant with Active Interest Media, a special interest media company, and is the former Vice President and Group Publishing Director of Source Interlink Media's Equine Network, which published leading equine magazines and web sites including EQUUS, Horse & Rider, EquiSearch.com and DiscoverHorses.com. Prior to entering the horse world, Susan worked at the Congressional Research Service in Washington, D.C., McKinsey & Co. in London and Newsweek magazine in New York City, and. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Harvard Business School. Susan has served as President of American Horse Publications and on the Board of Trustees of the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA). She currently is on the board of Horse and Humans Research Foundation (HHRF) and serves as chairman of the US Hunter Jumper Association Marketing Committee and on their board of directors.

Harding was elected to the ELCR Board of Directors in 2010, and served as Vice President in 2011. During this time, she has learned the critical importance of conserving equestrian land, and is excited to pursue these efforts in her new role as President. "My years as a horse owner and equine industry professional have shown me the importance of ensuring that future generations can enjoy horses and the equestrian lifestyle."

Former ELCR Treasurer and newly-elected Vice President Dan Rosenberg of Midway, KY is no stranger to equestrian life and culture. Prior to starting his own company, Rosenberg Thoroughbred Consulting, he worked for thirty years as General Manager and then President and CEO of the famous Thoroughbred breeding operation Three Chimneys Farm. Rosenberg has also lent his considerable expertise to the community through Thoroughbred Charities of America, as a Director of the Gluck Equine Research Foundation, Executive in Residence for the UK Equine Initiative, and on the Board of Bluegrass Tomorrow, and has served on the ELCR Board of Directors since 2008.

During her four years on the ELCR Board of Directors, Patricia Mattingley has brought a wealth of experience not only from the equestrian world, but also in nonprofit governance and a volunteers-eye-view of operations. Currently living in Sequim, WA, Mattingley began her love affair with equestrian life at the age of seven when she began riding in the Chicago area. Later, she became involved with the US Pony Club through her daughter, and within three years she was serving as Regional Supervisor in Texas. Her involvement with US Pony Club has included organizing annual meetings and festivals for the Pony Club, serving on the Board of Governors and chairing both the Governance and Development Committees. Mattingley also serves on her hometown park advisory board and the Whitman College Board of Overseers. In 2012, Mattingley will be serving her second consecutive term as Secretary for the ELCR Board of Directors.

Newly-elected Treasurer Betty Bizantz of Lexington, KY, became an ELCR Board member in 2011. Since 1995, she and her husband Gary Bizantz have been the proud owners of Cobra Farm, a 340-acre Thoroughbred breeding facility with a rich history of producing such champions as 1977 Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew. In 2005, they placed a conservation easement on the farm through the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) Purchase of Development Rights program. The couple also runs Tranquility Farm in Tehachapi, CA, a nonprofit Thoroughbred retirement, retraining and adoption operation which is currently home to more than 70 off-the track racehorses. As an equestrian, Bizantz competed in the hunter/jumper discipline, and today she regularly takes equestrian adventure trips to locations such as Africa, the Andes, and Mongolia.

The new Board officers are committed to continuing to support the vision of retiring President Larry Byers. "I believe that conserving land to feed our horses into the future should be an issue every horseman is aware of and involved in," noted outgoing ELCR Board President Larry Byers of South Carolina. "I'm proud to have been a part of this effort during my term, and I look forward to continued and successful work with our new officers."

About the Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR): *The Equine Land Conservation Resource is the only national not-for-profit organization advancing the conservation of land for horse-related activity. ELCR serves as an information and networking resource for land and horse owner, organizations, agencies and all equine enthusiasts on issues related to farm and ranch land conservation, land use planning, farm and ranch land stewardship/best management practices, trail access and sustainability, liability and equine economic impacts. For more information about the ELCR visit our website at www.elcr.org or call (859) 455-8383.*