



# ROYAL CAROUSAL Friesians

*Located in the beautiful Salt Lake Valley in Utah, Royal Carousel Friesians is home to three magnificent stallions named FPZV approved Stallion Sam. Ster Stallion Gallahan, <sup>8</sup>invited for 70 day testing<sup>9</sup> FPZV, and the King, FPS approved breeding Stallion Feike 395 Sport.*

I am honored to be the dressage trainer for these truly phenomenal stallions. They never cease to amaze me with their willing attitudes, endless work ethic, and athleticism.

**The owner of Royal Carousel Friesians, Annette Coester, personally runs the facility and oversees every aspect of the breeding and training programs. With acute attention to detail, Annette ensures the highest possible standard of care.**

I first saw Feike 395 at a local dressage show in the summer of 2000. I had seen many Friesians before but none like him. He is just magnificent to behold with an athleticism to match. He leaves a lasting impression on all who see him. At the time I was training and showing another set of horses but couldn't shake the feeling that one day, I would be the one to train him. Two years after my first introduction to Feike 395 Sport, that impression became a reality. I had never trained a Friesian before in dressage so there was a significant learning curve to navigate. When I started riding him he was at First Level, training second. To help me solidify a good foundation in our training, Annette brought the very talented Susan Wind-Bouwman in from Holland, Head trainer of Stallion testing at KFPS to work with me. Her in-depth understanding of this breed was and continues to this day to be invaluable to the progression of all three stallions.

All the good care and training in the world is wonderful but it is these stallions that make this journey all the more exciting. Sam is a highly sensitive yet sensible boy with the highest scores rarely seen in his linear score sheet given by the Judges in Holland just before he was imported with a 92.2% unbelievable. When working with him I frequently compare him to a highly tuned sports car.

Impressive gaits with a high degree of ride-ability make this handsome horse a once-in-a-lifetime partner & Sam is Annette's equine other half. It is clear they adore each other and make a wonderful partnership. They are now training at the Prix St Georges level with a view to attain the USDF Silver Medal. Sam has effortless extensions and wonderful tempi changes. We are focusing on polishing his collection so that he has a true FEI flavor. Sam passes his matchless temperament and breathtaking movement on to his progeny. If there has ever been a stallion that truly "stamps" his offspring - it's Sam. To me the mark of a breeding stallion depends on their ability to consistently do this and Sam passes with flying colors. The next couple of years are going to see great things from Sam and Annette. FEI here we come!

Gallahan is a highly talented upper level dressage prospect. I will personally be competing on this stallion for the foreseeable future and I'm excited! He is training at 4th level and will be showing at third level this year. Our goal with him is to achieve the five scores over 65% he will need for his approval through the FPZV. He is highly intelligent and loves a challenge. It is worth noting his natural talent for passage. He has taken to this movement with ease and as I incorporate the movement into his training it has had an excellent effect on all his other upper level work. There is also clearly no shortage of personality with this wonderful stallion and one can be sure his larger-than-life character will serve him well in the competition arena.

There isn't much more to say about the incredible Feike 395 Sport that hasn't already been said. I rode him recently at a local equine expo and after that experience some thoughts came to mind. Feike is the epitome of everything we all love about



*© Kelly Starnes*

## ANNETTE COESTER

**Hosted the clinic to introduce her riding companions to a once in a lifetime dream of being a knight/ladyknight that puts a real dose of reality into the Weekend Warrior.**

the Friesian. He is first and foremost an ultimately noble soul. He has in his 21 years of life achieved greatly through the levels to FEI level dressage competition, attained the approval of the FPS & approval of offspring, has well over five hundred beautiful offspring throughout the world, and most importantly, has captured the hearts and imaginations of all who had had the privilege of coming into contact with him. Our goal with Feike is to keep him fit and healthy as he enjoys his golden years. He is without doubt the king at Royal Carousel Friesians!

Even though our focus is dressage, we believe in giving our stallions other challenges to keep them interested in their work. On the 5-7 April 2013 we

had world champion jouser Patrick Lambke come to Royal Carousel Friesians to give us a clinic. I for one never thought I would ever learn these skills but we all had a tremendous time and so did the horses! On the first day we learned the various positions of holding a lance and the techniques needed to prevent fatiguing too early (these 11 foot lances are heavy!). We then had an unmounted competition with lances and shields! I must add here that Patrick's first priority was everyone's safety and I can speak for everyone who attended when I say none of us ever felt uneasy or unsafe. Once we had completed the unmounted competition we all saddles up and Patrick taught us how to ride with swords. The second day proved to



be the most challenging. First we all learned who to throw spears and javelins with pinpoint accuracy as well as use our sword fighting skills to slice apples off 5 stakes mounted in the ground all while at a spirited canter! Then we all proceeded to graduate to a level 4 jousting ability which means we all saddles up and cantered at each other taking hits on our shields from either Patrick or his assistant. We were all well protected with genuine metal armor. Despite how drastic this sounds, it was hugely challenging but never frightening. That evening we all had a wonderful renaissance themed dinner with spectacular entertainment. The third day saw us all learning the art of sword fighting and knife throwing - again all in a very controlled and safe environment. At this point we all felt like we should be on a movie set!



I think the most important outcome of this event was what the horses came away with. Every horse there truly enjoyed themselves. It was very plain to see them all come alive and treat each new challenge with excitement! We look forward to having Patrick return and teach us and our horses more of these fun skills. 🐾

**Royal Carousel Friesians is undoubtedly a place where dreams become reality. A breeding program of this stature when based upon the beauty and majesty of the Friesian horse has no choice but to have this effect on all those involved. Our training program being founded upon competitive dressage gives us the facility to experience these horses in other ways as we seek to express ourselves and discover other ancient equine skills that helped form some of the greatest civilizations known to man.**

David Macmillan  
(Trainer of Royal Carousel Friesians)  
USDF Gold Medalist  
long listed for the Olympic's  
representing South Africa,  
International clinician & winner of over 170 National  
& International Dressage Awards

It is such an honour for K.E.J.A. to share Medieval Equestrian Arts with experienced dressage horses and riders at Royal Carousel Friesians in Utah. It is my goal to bring the modern art of dressage in combination with ancient war horse skills such as light armour jousting and the accompanying games. The clinic participants and their mounts had no previous experience, but did attain a level 4 competency. /This is usually achieved in weeks of training and because of the experienced riders, they were able to move up to level 4 in three days.

K.E.J.A. instructs men & women of all ages with a wide variety of equestrian skills.

*I would like to thank the Colorado State University Jousting Club for their assistance in making The Edge of Magic clinic a success. CSU is the first jousting team sanctioned by a State University in the United States. This the beginning of the sport recognition at a state level and eventually a international status. Again, I truly am grateful for having the experience of working with such unbelievable people and their mounts.  
Annette, you ROCK!*

Patrick Lambke  
CEO/Manager - Knights Edge Jousting Academy –  
Knightsedgejousting.com  
7 time World Champion Jousting  
Stunt Coordinator several films including, Band of  
Pirates, Cable Guy, Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Daus  
Volt, Legend of Pirates, U.S. Special Forces Navy



# Contemporary Jousting War Horses

by Helen Daniel

*Dressage maneuvers that date back thousands of years and are based on ancient battle tactics where the horses were an intricate part of the act of war. The fashionable renewed interest in medieval knights and their steeds has given the impetus to many equestrians to try a new challenge. The Knights Edge Jousting Academy <sup>8</sup>K.E.J.A. <sup>9</sup> respects the history of dressage on the battlefield and incorporates it into the Medieval Martial Art Equine Games and Light Armour Joust.*

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PHOTOS OF ROYAL CAROUSEL FRIESIANS



PHOTOS OF DAVID MACMILLAN RIDING GALLAHAN: OF ROYAL CAROUSAL FRIESIANS



**The first “Knight” Battle was the Battle of Poitiers, in 732 AD. It was also known as the Battle of Tours. The first reliable tournament recorded was held in Wurzburg in 1127 AD (Richard Barber). The contemporary version may not preempt national security, but has become a very popular equine activity. (picture of battle of tours)**

Each skill educates and prepares the student for different aspects of the joust. The running of the rings teaches accuracy and correct lance technique. The spear throw teaches accuracy and balance of the rider on their mount while in motion. The quintaine tests strength and the ability to remain on the horse during an impact with the lance. All game skills require the horse to be balanced, collected and in sync with their rider.

The joust also requires the horse to overcome natural reluctance to charge head on towards the opponent and other challenges such as the noise of impact, and the rider wearing battle gear.

Donning battle gear was part of the new experience for 10 students in Utah at the Royal Carousel Friesians on April 5-7th 2013. The Edge of Magic production was more than just another jousting clinic. Annette Coester hosted the clinic to introduce her riding companions to a once in a lifetime dream of being a knight/ladyknight that puts a real dose of reality into the Weekend Warrior. These weekend warriors had one advantage and that was their riding skills. Most of the participants are extremely skilled dressage riders such as David MacMillan, a USDF Gold Medalist (Dressage).

*‘I really enjoyed the games and working with the lance giving hits. I enjoyed the precision and artistry required to be successful. When one thinks of jousting, one has a tendency to only think of heavy armour and people falling off. However, Patrick showed us the ‘lighter’ side of the sport which is highly enjoyable for both horse and rider’*

**endorses David.**

*‘I saw a spark of life come into their eyes and they shined like a diamond. Cross training is so important for a horses athletics and attitudes’,*

**says Teresa McCarty a USA National Champion of the AERC 50 Mile Endurance Race.**

Karen Israelsen of Chase Creek Farms in Draper Utah shares her passions with four Andalusians that have participated in dressage and polo, but this has surpassed the amount of competition and fun. Karen brought her Andalusian Mare Venteesa, but was thinking that her horse just would not be suitable because she is so high strung. “No way she would be able to do this”, stated Karen. Patrick Lambke, (President of K.E.J.A.) offered to ride Venteesa and introduce her to the activities. “By the time Patrick was through, she loved it and has found her calling. You have to find a horses niche and we found what she loves”, adds Karen. Karen expressed her appreciation of the medieval period that required a well-trained, athletic and fearless mount.

“Wonderful! THE best horse clinic I have ever attended”, promotes Karen. Jousting has become very popular recently due to the airing of jousting shows on National Geographic, The History and Travel Channels in the past 2 years.

Knights Edge’s version of this sport is less brawn and more brains for both horse and rider. If you are searching for an exciting, challenging past time for you and your horse, consider jousting. Really! This is not about knocking each other off horses. It’s all about putting back the warrior into the dressage arena! 🦋



DAVID MACMILLAN

**T**he Friesian Horse has a long and colorful history. Originating in the lowlands of what is today the Netherlands, the Friesian has been shaped to meet the needs of the populace many times over. The Friesian, known as Friesian in Fryslan<sup>8</sup> Friesland<sup>9</sup>, has been mentioned in the literature as serving as a *KHdestrieren* or knight's horse. <sup>8</sup>Bouma, Dijkstrat and Osinga<sup>9</sup>

# THE FRIESIAN HORSE

# IN WAR

Compiled by Laurie Bell

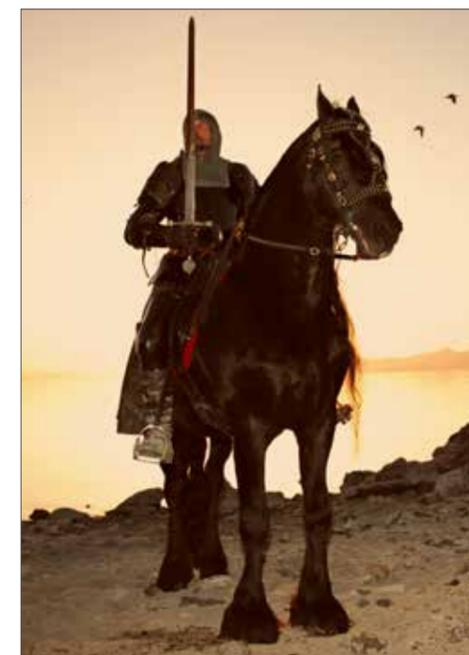
photos of Photo of Patrick Lambke on Feike 395 Sport  
from ROYAL CAROUSAL FRIESIANS

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**F**riesians were from an area that spread from present day Belgium to the Weser in Western Germany, along the coast of the Frisian Sea (present day North Sea). Friesland dates to around 500 BC. Later this area extended beyond the borders of Denmark. The people were seafarers, tradesmen, horsebreeders and farmers. They sailed the Frisian Sea and had a trading post in the English town of York for centuries (Bouma, Dijkstrat and Osinga). By 1000 AD the territory was restricted to the north of the Netherlands and nearby Germany. The Friesians built mounds during this time to protect their homes from increasingly high flood waters.

One can go back to primitive cave drawings to see evidence of both large and small equines. Bones of both sized equines have been found in the Frisian mounds. The researcher Labouchere groups the two large horses, *Equus occidentales* (Western horse) and *Equus germanicus* (German horse) together as one type, *Equus robustus* (Big horse). The Friesian Horse descends from *Equus robustus*.

Frisian horsemen served in the Roman Legions in what was called the *Equites Singulares* of Emperor Nero. Horses were known as 'types' or by the area



they originated during this period of history, but it can be expected that a horseman would take his own trusted mount to serve with him. Frisian horsemen also served the roman army in Great Britian in 120 AD near Hadrian's Wall. A tombstone of such a Frisian soldier was found in Cirencester (presently Gloucestershire).

An infusion of Arabian blood influenced the horse descended from *Equus robustus* via the Andalusian of Spain in the 1500 – 1600 time frame. This resulted in higher knee action and a small head on a craning neck. (Bouma, Dijkstrat and Osinga)

In 1526, the Hungarian King Louis II reputedly used heavy Frisian horses in battle against the Turks. (Bouma, Dijkstrat and Osinga) Louis executed the Ottoman ambassador who was sent to collect the annual tribute to the Ottoman Empire for Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent. Louis was counting on the support of the Papal States to assist him but Hungary itself was in a financial shambles. The Sultan was aware of this situation and declared war on Hungary, taking Belgrade and many important castles. The Hungary army consisted of many equines including the destriers and cavalry mounts. Louis held the rest of Hungary until the Sultan made a second expedition. Louis met them in an open field for battle – the Battle of Mohacs. The Ottomans made a pincer move, catching Louis' heavy knights and infantry in the center of a pincer move. (Wikipedia) Hungary utilized heavily armoured knights on armoured horses (Gendarme Knights) in this battle. According to the Chronicle of Dubravius, King Louis used a heavy Frisian stallion in the field against the Turks on June 15th, 1526.



**A DOG MAY BE MANS' BEST FRIEND,  
BUT THE HORSE WROTE HISTORY.  
~AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

Historians of the Friesian breed note that the Electoral Prince George William (Georg Wilhelm) of Prussia imported Frisian horses. Prince George William, of the Hohenzollern Dynasty, ruled the Margoravate of Brandenburg and the Duchy of Prussia from 1595-1640. He paid homage to the King of Poland. History shows he attempted to remain neutral during the 30 Year War, but was unsuccessful and his country suffered greatly during the war.

When the Swedish were defeated in 1634, Prince George William withdrew Brandenburg from the war and signed the Peace of Prague with Emperor Ferdinand II on May 30, 1635. He further withdrew from his leadership role in 1637 and lived in retirement until his death. (Wikipedia) Frisian horses would have served in the 30 Year War.

The army of the Netherlands had a history of utilizing horses. In 1884 the Internal Agriculture Exchange in Amsterdam showed research that only 21 Friesians were acquired by the army that year, most army horses by

this date were from the Oldenburg stock. The army needed saddle horses with a strong canter for the cavalry, but still needed heavier types for artillery and to pull equipment. The government paid well for horses and still had a strong enough need for horses after 1880 to continue to stay in the breeding business. The army was involved in several stud farms and breeding stations in the Netherlands. Slowly this need changed to breeding for transportation (saddlehorses or carriage horses) and breeding for sports.

The strong relationship between the Friesian Horse and the army of the Netherlands is exemplified by the 4th Armoured Infantry Battalion, known as the 'Johan Willem Friso'. This infantry battalion was housed at Zuidlaren and had a Friesian colt as a mascot. The colts would be sold when they reached one year of age and another colt would take the honor of mascot. This lasted until 1990 when the Battalion moved location. (Bouma, Dijkstrat and Osinga) 🐾

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