

# Named as one of the top 50 riding instructors in America

Karen Pikovsky, owner of Darby Downs Equestrian Center in Penn Township, has been named by the American Riding Instructors Association (ARIA) as one of the Top 50 Instructors in America for 2007. Established in 1984, the ARIA'S goal is to promote safe, knowledgeable riding instruction. The goal in establishing a Top 50 Riding Instructor in America list, which appeared in the Summer 2007 edition of their publication, *Riding Instructor*, is to give national exposure to some very talented teachers.

Pikovsky, a certified instructor for 12 years, was chosen through nominations sent to the ARIA. Others listed in the Top 50 include well-known names in the equine industry such as: Jane Savoie, Susan Harris and Clinton Anderson.

This isn't the first time Pikovsky has received such an award. In 2006, she was named Certified Horsemanship Association Instructor of the Year, and there is news that there is more in store for 2008. Pikovsky's goal is to continue advancing her education and knowledge by riding, training and participating in programs involving interaction & exposure to top instructors and trainers in the world. She remarks,

"Through advancing my knowledge, I can be assured my students have current knowledge of our sport, providing them opportunities to grow and improve their skills safely and correctly, as well as to be competitive if that is their goal."

Pikovsky will be honored during a special recognition ceremony at an awards luncheon during the ARIA National Riding Instructors Convention to be held December 2-5 in Naples, Fla.

For more information on Darby Downs, visit their Web site at [www.darbydowns.org](http://www.darbydowns.org) or by phone at 724-864-6044.

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