

A Change of Reins

Introducing the Atlanta Spring Classic's Official Veterinarian and Farrier

By Lisa Engel

The Classic Company is pleased to announce that Dr. James Hassinger, Veterinarian of Hassinger Equine Sports Medicine will be the Official Veterinarian of the Atlanta Spring Classic and Tim Patrick, CJF from Brookeville, Maryland will be taking over as the Official Farrier for the shows.



Welcome Hassinger Equine as Official Atlanta Classics Veterinarian

Dr. Hassinger is a graduate of North Carolina State University and Auburn University School of Veterinary Medicine. He has been actively practicing veterinary medicine for 31 years. In 2003, Dr. Hassinger narrowed his focus and opened Hassinger Equine Service in Aberdeen, North Carolina as a sports medicine and performance centered practice dedicated to equine lameness, performance management, rehabilitation and imaging. Dr. Hassinger is also an active rider both at Hassinger Farm and at shows along the East Coast, including Classic Company shows.

Hassinger Equine Sports Medicine is one of the only clinics in the United States to have a cutting-edge, mobile veterinary hospital. The mobile clinic is a state of the art facility in which they are able to complete all the same services as in their home location in a surgically sound environment, such as intra-articular joint injections. The clinic provides a climate controlled, horse-friendly environment while traveling to horse shows around the nation and private facilities.

"While our focus is sports medicine, we also handle all colics, lacerations and any other problems your horses may have," said Dr. Hassinger. "Many of our clients show at the Classic Company and we're very much looking forward to being on site so we can provide the vet care they may require," he added.

According to Dr. Hassinger, his wife Amy is the "boss" of the operation and is equally available during the events as are a number of staff. Dylan Thomas, Dr. Alison Roth, office manager Krystal Gray and groom Reuben round out their team. "In 2013 we were on the road for 32 weeks at horse shows and we're looking forward to adding the Atlanta Classic shows to our list of events," Dr. Hassinger added.

Emily Hertz, Assistant Trainer who works with David

Pelligrini at Spring Mill Farm in Memphis, Tennessee said, "I think Dr. Hassinger did a great job for us. He is very thorough, provides excellent care, tied up all the loose ends and made it really easy for us. His team is very professional and they have a great way with the horses," she said. "We're definitely excited to have him in Atlanta," she added.

Besides traveling to shows and caring for horses, in the Hassinger's spare time they like to sail and spend time with their two grandchildren. They travel to the shows with their full staff, as well as their three dogs (two Jacks and a Heeler). Amy competes in the Adult Amateurs and Dr. Hassinger shows in the pre-green hunters.

Tim Patrick takes the Reins as Official Farrier

Tim Patrick, CJF [Certified Journeyman Farrier] will also be joining the Classic Company as its new Official Farrier for the Atlanta Classic shows. "Troy Van Heusen has been with us for years and is a very well-loved and well-respected farrier," commented Bob Bell, President of Classic Company. "However, he told us he needed some time off and we respect his request," he said. "We are thrilled that Tim adjusted his schedule so he could join us in Atlanta," commented Bell. "Tim came to us three years ago as our Official Farrier for Pensacola from a recommendation by Patty Foster. Tim Patrick is a committed farrier who often travels to the Classic Company shows in order to take care of several of his clients, including Patty Foster and Marylisa Leffler's Rolling Acres Farm from Brookeville, Maryland," he added.



Tim Patrick brings over 30 years of experience to the Classic Company. He has shod pony champions to grand prix champions and provides all shoeing services directed to the specific needs of the horse. "I am excited to be here in Atlanta because Classic Company does great shows and I work hard to be exhibitor friendly too," he said. "I am there for the horses and riders and I'm looking forward to it!" he added.