



THE WHEELER FAMILY

HALL OF FAME

In Recognition of their extraordinary efforts, commitment and dedication to excellence in Horse Showing and the Pennsylvania National Horse Show.

2025

PAM BAKER

At 84 years young, Pam Baker has a long history with the Pennsylvania National Horse Show. A legendary coach and trainer, Pam has seen practically every competition venue across the country, and yet the Pennsylvania National Horse Show still has a special place in her heart.

She first started coming to the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex to coach her students roughly 40 or 50 years ago. "Timmy Kees said, 'You ought to go to Harrisburg. You'd really like it.' So, I started going to Harrisburg, and I did really like it. He was right."

According to Pam, attending the Pennsylvania National Horse Show did not just offer her students a chance to compete, learn and win- it also offered Pam herself an opportunity to further her own already prodigious knowledge. "I grew up in this business with a lot of great horsemen through the years," she said. "You go to places like [PNHS], and you see them ride and you learn. You compete and you learn.



And that's, to me, a big part of what Harrisburg was for me."

"We'd sit up there behind the judges, where we could see what they were seeing," Pam continued. "We would watch the trips and talk about it."

Decades after that first time walking into the atmospheric stadium at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show, Pam received some great news- she will forever have a place at the heart of the show, as part of the Hall of Fame. "I didn't expect it," Pam said. "Those are the kind of things that really make a difference. I had no idea that I'd been nominated. When I heard about it, I was just thrilled."

Winner of three lifetime achievement awards, Pam has been inducted to two Hall of Fames already- the National Show Hunter Hall of Fame in 2016 and the Virginia Horse Show Association Hall Of Fame in 2002. Her training philosophy is horse-centered with an emphasis on horsemanship and empathy that can be boiled down to one simple statement from her website: winning is a natural by-product of good riding and even better horsemanship.

To those riders and trainers who are looking to follow in her footsteps, Pam offers some advice. "Don't give up on horsemanship, and listen to your horse," she said. "Treat your horses with empathy. I think if you have empathy for the horse, and if you watch his reactions and listen to your horse, your horses are going to be happy horses and go well."

