

RIDE WITH CLAUS BERGENER

German "FN" Licensed Instructor & Grand Prix Judge

He has been called the 'gentle general'.... A combination of world-class expertise and a kind, supportive teaching style.

Born and trained in Germany and highly respected in the international circuit, General Bergener has more than 70 years equestrian experience and education to share with his students. Following his high school graduation in 1953 he continued his studies in the Science of Industrial Management. Mr. Bergener joined the armed forces in 1956 and from 1982 until his retirement in 1990; he served as a Brigadier General and Director of the Federal Armed Forces Communications. General Bergener is married and is the father of two sons. He himself rides through Grand Prix level Dressage.

He received his FRG instructor's license in 1972 and is qualified as a judge up through Grand Prix level in dressage, Show Jumping, 3-Day Eventing, and conformation classes. Additionally, he represented his region with the German Olympic Committee. He has judged numerous international shows.

Hand-in-hand with these qualifications comes a sensitive, respectful 'ringside manner' that brings out the best in his students and their horses – from beginners to seasoned competitors. He teaches a no-nonsense, gimmick-free classical approach to dressage. Claus' kind, positive, easy-going style never fails to bring out the best in you and your horse. His lessons focus on correct basics which enable horses and riders to progress, often more quickly than they anticipate. His students compete successfully at all levels – training through Grand Prix.

General Bergener has been judging USEF shows (training level to Grand Prix) and giving clinics in California, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona and Washington state since 1985. One of his students represented the US at the World Cup Eventing in 2009, with exceptionally high dressage scores.

