

Spotlight on

Missy Capone

by Kathi Williams

This year's Frederica Academy Derby Day is fast approaching. I had the opportunity to meet with Missy Capone, one of the Co-Chairs of this event and discovered that Missy has a Derby connection of her own!

Missy is a native of Santa Barbara, California, who still calls California home, despite the fact that her two children, Emily and PJ, have been in school here for the past eight years and they are only in the California house during Christmas, summers, and an occasional trip or two during the year. She loves St. Simons Island too, though, because of the incredible feeling of community and family. She said she is constantly amazed by the generosity of the people here in donating their time and talents, and the support they show for community members and organizations.


Missy has always loved horse racing. In 2002, a little-known horse named War Emblem stormed on to the scene and ran away with the Illinois Derby. After that win, Saudi Arabian prince named Ahmed bin Salman

purchased War Emblem, who later that year went on to win the Kentucky Derby. Missy's brother-in-law, Richard Mulhall, a former horse trainer, was the racing manager for Thoroughbred Corporation, the stable run by bin Salman. Richard's daughter, Kristen Mulhall is also a well-known trainer.

Missy said that she decided to chair Derby Day for the first time in 2005, because she thought it was "a great opportunity to step up and show [her] daughter the importance of being involved and leading by example, while taking an active role in supporting her education." This lesson has worked well, as her daughter, Emily, who is a now a junior at Frederica Academy took a leadership role of her own last year by co-chairing the Pooch Parade at the Brunswick Stewbilee with Cheri Leavy.

Dogs are another of Missy's passions. At her homes, she has three retired show dogs: 2 Pembroke Welsh Corgis & a German Shepherd, as well as 3 cats and a turtle named Squirt. She volunteers her time at the local humane society and with rescue groups. She says she finds it very

rewarding to take home a dog, get it healthy, train and socialize it, and then find a permanent home for it. Missy explains that seeing the difference that dog makes to a new family is truly a joy. One of her "placements" is Daisy, Dr. Marie Artman's dog. Daisy can often be seen driving around with Marie or in her exercise studio, The Pilates Loft.

These days Missy's plate is full with Derby Day plans. This year's Derby Day Luncheon and Fashion Show was the brain child of Missy and Mary McKenzie of MariMax. MariMax and Tamary's provided fashions and Ocean Forest served a delicious meal. The luncheon was underwritten by sponsors, raises awareness of Derby Day, and hopefully, will become an annual event. Frederica Academy is fortunate to have a valuable asset like Missy. We, as a community, are lucky to have so many people like her to serve as role models for our children. 



Front Row: Ellis Ross, Henry Heery, Manning Mercer Back Row: Missy Capone, Carla Cate, and Elizabeth Brunson



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