



Ever wonder how some of the best hunter barns in the country stay organized? **The secret lies in their barn managers, and now five of them are sharing their biggest time-saving tricks, best grooming tips, most used items, and [more here!](#)**



Meet the Managers!

Kassie Gustafson – Kassie Gustafson manages for Hunt Tosh Inc., based out of Alpharetta, GA.

Molly Sewell Schott – Molly Sewell Schott is a rider and assistant trainer at Over the Hill Farm in Sanford, FL, where she has worked with Bill Schaub for the last 17 years.

Kate Wood – Kate Wood has managed for Liza Boyd at Finally Farm in Camden, SC, for almost two years.

Karli Postel – Karli Postel rides and assistant trains for Archie Cox at Brookway Stables in California.

Cara Meade – Cara Meade manages for John and Stephanie Ingram, LLC, based out of Tennessee.

Q: What's your biggest time-saving trick in the barn?

Kassie: I'm a huge multi-tasker. At the end of the day when you have a tack hook full of bridles, tack cleaning takes up a lot of time. So, any little stuff you can do throughout the day – like tack cleaning, those little types of things – they really help.



Kate, pictured with Liza Boyd's daughter, Elle

Kate: Just really over communicating – even if you repeat yourself five times. Making sure that everyone knows the game plan; writing everything down.

Molly: I like to make sure that everything is organized when I close up shop every day. It saves time in the morning. I would rather stay at the barn later and then have everything smooth and efficient in the mornings, as far as tack being perfectly organized and that sort of stuff.

[Read More in Part One Here!](#)

Karli: Using your resources and using your network. I see it all the time where people are at one ring and they're like, "Well I need to check on the other ring, so I need to walk over there." You have the resource of the gate guy. Go and ask him to radio over. He won't mind as long as you aren't rude and you wait until he has a convenient moment to do it; you're saving yourself the trip.

I also like to keep my schedule on my phone so that I always have it on me, and I try to make sure that everyone has a schedule. Archie [Cox], myself, and then our head guy Carlos, just so that all three of us have an idea of what's happening.

Cara: My time-saving trick is organization.

I'm not naturally the most organized person, so the more organized I can be with all of the supplies I use each day, my thoughts, and the order of how tasks get done makes a big difference in how long the days take to get finished.



Cara Meade aboard Cuba

[Read More in Part Two Here!](#)

MORE BARNMANAGER NEWS

Managing for McLain Ward: An Interview with Erica McKeever

This fall, spectators and show jumping fans from around the globe watched as McLain Ward and Clintia delivered an incredible jump-off performance to anchor the U.S. team and clinch the USA's first World Equestrian Games (WEG) team gold medal.

What most spectators did not see however, was Lee McKeever outside of the ring, overseeing every last detail of Clintia's care or McKeever's wife, Erica McKeever, coordinating all of the logistics involved with Ward and Clintia's WEG appearance and managing the 30 additional horses back home at Castle Hill Farm. Now, Erica is sharing more about her own management career!

[Read More From Erica McKeever Here!](#)



Behind the Scenes: A Conversation with Erica McKeever

Q: What's your favorite thing about working for Castle Hill?

The family aspect. To be appreciated by McLain as much as he does. It's so special the way he involves our children in the whole thing – his father was the same. It was always about family. McLain's really, really kept up with that. I would think he would make his dad very proud with how he is. I think giving the appreciation to the people around him, that's huge for everybody.



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