



Alpha Dressage News

August 2022

Suzi's Scoop

Oh boy, summer sure is here! I hope you are all enjoying your rides in the fractionally cooler weather first or last thing in the day!

We had a very interesting members' meeting this month where a number of new clinicians were put forward by some of our board members. Over the next few newsletters we will be including information about these instructors and we would like your feedback so we can be sure we are booking the ones you want.

The scribe clinic with Marilyn Heath is just around the corner. Don't forget to sign up so we can get a head count. If any of you would like to submit a video of your test from a show, or from riding at home, please do! This is an opportunity for you to get 100% by accidentally mishearing the judge and putting down the scores you've always wanted! And imagine what you can say about yourself in the collective scores. I'm sure Marilyn won't mind just that once!!! Videos need to be from the judge's view at C so go ahead and make your home movies now!

Our next show is only 6 weeks away so don't lose your momentum just because it's hot, come to the next show whether as a rider or a volunteer ready to score big.

As always, please check the calendar for details of the activities mentioned above.

See you soon,

Suzi

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.alphadressage.org

Upcoming Events...

August 9, 2022: General Membership meeting at the Fruitville library – 6:00 – 7:45 pm

September 11, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J – Michelle Velasco, DVM, USDF L w/distinction, USEF r Western Dressage

September 13, 2022: General Membership meeting at the Fruitville library – 6:00 – 7:30 pm

December 4, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J – Judge & final date TBD



Event Roundup

Scribing Clinic

Our next clinic will be August 20. See the flyer at the end of the newsletter for further details. You **must RSVP** so we can prepare the right number of practice score sheets and lunches.

August 9th Membership meeting

Our August meeting will be held at the Fruitville library. We'll be zooming in with our guest presenter Nicole Rambo Ph.D from Tribute Feeds. Her topic will be *Equine Nutrition with Tribute*. Hope to see you there!

Reminder About Our Tribute Partners Program

By Donna Sloben

Alpha Dressage has partnered with Tribute Feed. The Tribute Partners Program allows Alpha Dressage to earn money for future events. Every proof of purchase tag (found at the bottom of the feedbag) is worth \$.25. Invoices for bulk feed are also eligible for this program.

Do you currently feed your equine partner a Tribute feed product? If so, please consider saving your proof of purchase tags for Alpha Dressage. Bring them to a meeting, a show, a clinic or just hand them off to a board member.

The money can be used for anything the club chooses and will benefit our members by helping to keep your fees down!

Clinician Profile: Jill Hardt

Editor's Note: Thank you to Suzi Jennings for contacting Jill and supplying the following information. Jill is one of the clinicians we are considering for next year.

Jill Hardt owns and operates Tristan Oaks in Plant City. She has had numerous regional placings and championships. She has developed several horses from early training to GP. She participated in The Festival of Champions in 2018 with her developing FEI horse Fein Tanzer and last year rode her Grand Prix horse Erivo to 4th in the CDI \$2000 Grand Prix and 5th in the CDI \$8000 Grand Prix Special. On the same horse she also won the 2021 Intermediate II Open 3 region 3 championship and was 10th at the USDF National Finals in the open Grand Prix. Currently she plans to show both of her FEI horses next season and a selection of younger and client horses.

Jill started as a working student as a teenager and has ridden with several notable trainers. Of particular note is her long time mentor Kathy Connelly with whom she currently works. She is grateful for positive and solid working relationships with several national and international competitors as well that lend to her progress.

Jill specializes in training from start to finish and enjoys simplifying and clarifying the key components of a training process to help a horse/rider team make progress. She enjoys working with riders of all levels and particularly focuses on helping her riders become more effective in developing distinct and clear aids to create specific rideable responses in the horses.



Tropical Rider Breeches Product Review

By Susan Smith

I knew moving to Florida would take some adjustments. I planned for sauna-like humidity, blazing summer temperatures that rival the surface of the sun, scattered bolts of lightning and fungus (ALL of which have been generously delivered). To prepare myself for Florida living 365, I purchased multiple pairs of "summer weight" breeches to be comfy and cool June-September only to discover that there is a big difference between "summer weight" and "Florida Summer Weight".

After sweating my body weight every ride and having that horrible sensation of sweat running down the inside of my boots, I turned to Facebook for help finding a brand of breeches that would keep me comfortable in Florida with the specific need for a full seat that was not silicone. The overwhelming response: Tropical Rider.

I immediately surfed through the Tropical Rider website (www.tropicalrider.com) and had a pair of Enduracool breeches in my online shopping cart when I decided to call with a size question. I was surprised when the company owner, Coral Gwyn-Williams, answered the phone and even more so when she took my measurements with the explanation that she would be cutting the material for my breeches herself and could alter them a bit for the best fit possible.

Tropical Rider pull-on breeches are made in Ocala, FL. They have a variety of standard sizes to cover your needs in both length and rise. Breeches can be customized to fit your specific measurements, at no additional charge, with a short consultation over the phone. They also make custom made breeches (altered and customized breeches are not returnable).

There are three easy care fabrics in different weights to choose from: Enduracool, a micropoly/lycra material similar in weight to breathable athletic wear, Prittec, a micro-nylon/lycra similar to high quality jersey (smooth finish and lovely give) and for those of you who need the warmth without the bulk, Toasties LITE Polartec fleece fabric. All of their fabrics have moisture control, UV protection and anti-microbial properties.



There are two different elastics to choose from to make your middle comfy and several different patch styles: full seat, extended patch, knee patch or side saddle. The patch materials offered are Clarino/Ultrasuede, lambskin and deerskin. Lambskin leather molds to the body and is a good hide for light-weight fabric and deer skin with a light grain is very durable. All of these materials can be machine washed and dried with specific instruction.

I opted for carbon colored Enduracool with a Clarino full seat, regular rise and a little extra elastic around the middle. Coral Gwyn-Williams suggested a petite based on my height but I felt tall that day and decided not to heed her sage advice. As it turns out, she really knows what she's doing after 15 years of making breeches. Though a petite would have been a better choice, my breeches with the full clarino seat are comfortable and COOL even on brutally hot days. They also have a nice smooth finish that resists dirt and dust so I still look classy leaving the barn (at least from the waist down).

I have washed and worn them several times now and they look brand new. Enduracool breeches are a serious game changer for my summer riding as the material is opaque, feather light and allows air to flow through it easily. If there is a breeze, I feel it gently through the material. No more sweat pooling down into my boots! Huzzah!



The ONLY change I will make with my next order (besides ordering a petite) is to ask to add a phone pocket (aka: treat pocket). There is a little interior pocket but I am missing the one on my thigh that I can stuff with high value, maximum performance mints. Priorities right?

I love my new breeches but even more so, that they are made locally by people who care about making their customers happy.

Getting Back into the Show Ring

By Robin Segó



This picture is me (Robin Segó) and my Russian Orlov stallion, Boris of Solstice, at the Fox Lea show in April of 2022. My last rated show was about 10 years ago and this was his first one ever. In the past, I trailered in for my classes which saved a little money but took away some of the positive experiences of showing at a rated show. Boris and I trailered down to Fox Lea on Friday afternoon to take advantage of the schooling opportunity. He is 17 years old but, up until December of 2020 when I bought him, he was used for breeding and not much else. This was a new experience for him. He settled in very nicely and we had a good schooling session and didn't embarrass ourselves in the show ring (we left some room for improvement). Most importantly, we had a fun weekend. One of the best parts of the weekend was seeing so many people showing and watching at the show. Alpha dressage was very well represented!

I bought Boris for breeding purposes and did not plan on riding or showing him, especially since I hadn't ridden at all for 5 years. When he arrived at my barn, I realized that he was not your typical stallion so I started riding him to get my "saddle legs" back. We have both come a long way in the past 1 ½ years and I am looking forward to many more rides, lessons, clinics and shows with this special horse. He takes me out of my comfort zone by never saying "no" to anything that I ask of him. He has made my life better because of his ability to do that – some of the best times in our lives take place outside of our comfort zone.

We will be at the next Fox Lea show in September and hope to see you all there too.

Our Newest Bronze Medal Recipient – Mark Hiser



Mark started off his western dressage career reading tests for his wife who was showing two horses. He decided 30 days before the WDAA World show he wanted to ride one of them, Dreamin Miracles. After 30 days in the saddle, he won Intro Test 2 at the World Show and placed in the top 10 overall division awards. He developed quite the partnership with Dreamin Miracles and continued his Western Dressage journey into 2022 struggling to move up to the next level. After getting comfortable at the lope, he quickly got his bronze rider medal through WDAFL. He plans on working to obtain Dreamin Miracles' bronze medal through the WDAA by the end of the year as well as his Silver rider medal which entails having to advance to Level 1.

Well done, Mark. Congratulations!

Alpha Dressage Classifieds

They're back! Any member may submit a brief classified ad for free each month. Send your text ad (no photos to save space) to info@alphadressage.org. Submission deadline is the 25th of the month to be placed in the next month's edition of the newsletter.

Member Ads

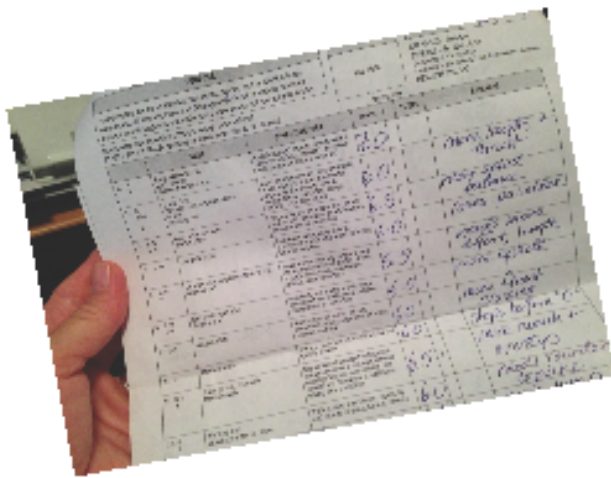
2022 Russian Orlov (warmblood) filly by Boris of Solstice out of Firefly of Solstice. This filly possesses all of the unique characteristics of this rare breed. They have the talent of a warmblood (in a slightly smaller package), the quiet temperament of a quarterhorse, the beauty of an Arabian and an incredible desire to please their human partner. This filly should mature to about 16 hands, will probably grey and be registered with the Orlov-Rostopchin Sporthorse Association (www.orlov-rostopchin.org). Offered at \$9500. Will be weaned by September 1, 2022 Contact Robin Segó at 941-735-1136 or Sego1@juno.com.



Alpha Dressage Association
Est 1972

Learn to: **Scribe Clinic**

August 20th 2022



Ever wanted to be able to help at a show?
Ever wanted to experience a test from a judges POV without being on a horse?

Attend our clinic with
USEF "S" Judge Marilyn Heath
to learn all you need to scribe at future shows.

Admission free for ADA members
Lunch included
\$15 for non members

Gulfgate Public Library
7122 Curtis Ave, Sarasota. 34231
12-4pm 08/20/22

Call Donna Sloben to reserve your space now (941)7048280

Volunteer Form

**** 6 hours minimum required annually to qualify for Year-End Award ****

Thank You for Volunteering – We Appreciate Your Time!

**Please check in with the Office when arriving for your volunteer time.
You must sign in to start your time and sign out when you are finished.**

Please print all requested information below.

Name of ADA Member: _____

Name of Volunteer: _____

(if different from ADA Member)

NOTE: If you are donating your time, you must specify the ADA member name and then provide your name.

Name of show/event attended: _____

Date: _____ Location: _____

Total hours worked: _____ Job(s): _____

**Return this form to the volunteer coordinator or office on the day of the show/event
or mail it to: Donna Sloben./ 5317 Fruitville Rd./ Box 60 / Sarasota, FL 34232**

Signature of the Volunteer Coordinator: _____

Suggested activities to complete the ADA requirement of 6 volunteer hours:

- Scribe
- Scorer
- Gatekeeper
- Runner
- Floater
- Arena Set-up
- Arena Change-over
- Arena Take-Down
- Volunteer on a Committee

Note: This form is also available on our website



Alpha Dressage Association

Membership application for 2022

Membership runs from Dec. 1, 2021– Nov. 30, 2022

NAME: _____
Adult _____ Junior (18 & under) _____ Date of birth for juniors _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PREFERRED PHONE: _____

ANNUAL DUES

Adult: \$40.00 \$ _____

Junior \$30.00 \$ _____

Please enclose \$10.00 for a group subscription to HORSE & PONY \$ _____

(If wanted) TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to *Alpha Dressage Association*.

Alpha Dressage Association is a USDF Group Member Organization; its members are automatically USDF Group Members.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE OF JUNIOR APPLICANT _____

Mail to:

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