



Crossroads Dressage & Combined Training Society

THE CROSSING

November 2015
Volume X, Issue 11

2015 Officers

President

Susan Price
865-201-9952
susanccsi@comcast.net

Vice President

Kathy Ridenour
423-912-1477
katridenour@gmail.com

Secretary

Julie Noe
865-579-3642
noeluck@gmail.com

Treasurer

Diane Carlson
865-922-3614
chasdiane@tds.net

Parliamentarian

Melissa McKenzie
865-603-4846

Member at Large

Rita Dunn
865-988-9113
Piaffe8@charter.net

Webmaster

Rebecca Brown
865-386-3100
Rbrown80@gmail.com

THE CROSSING Editor

Carol Mitchell
865-288-7093

Alternates

Jean Sullivan
Shamrockfarm3100@gmail.com

Holly Ratcliff
persefne@comcast.net

Jennifer Bolen
jbolen@legalsideofpain.com

President's Message Susan Price

This past Sunday was the third annual Hunter Pace at beautiful Riverplains farm. It also was the first one I have been able to ride in. I am going to tell you that if you have not ridden in this event before, you have got to make sure not to miss the next one we have. It was absolutely wonderful – and this is coming from a person that really doesn't love to ride outside of the arena. ☺ I feel quite confident stating everyone else who rode had as good a time as I did. Several people even rode more than once! Rachel Nicely of Riverplains Farm has graciously offered the use of her farm in the spring if we would like to plan another one. I am hopeful we can make that happen.

Thank you so much to Holly Ratcliff and Carolyn Ordal for organizing the Hunter Pace this year. They did a fabulous job! You may not realize all the work that goes into volunteering to run an event like this, or the schooling shows, or even the clinics and symposiums, but they require lots of hours of personal time both before and during the actual event. Most of the time the organizers have so much to do that they are unable to actually participate in the fun part of the event – the riding. So please be sure to thank the people that have sacrificed their time to make sure you can have fun. And pay these people back by stepping up in the future to organize something so that they too get a chance to just ride and have fun too! ☺

Hopefully you have heard by now that we have been able to reschedule the schooling show. It is November 21 at Cedar Valley Farm. Due to the short days, rides will be limited to 50 so if you are planning to ride, you will want to get your entry in ASAP.

To round out the years activities, we have the Sinead Halpin Clinic November 7 & 8 and there may be a few spots available if you hurry and sign up. The JJ Tate Clinic is on December 12 & 13. This clinic is full but you can be placed on a waiting list if you would like. And the Annual Christmas Party will be hosted by member Sue Cain on Friday, December 4th. Please note that because of the Christmas Party there will be no regularly scheduled December meeting. We will have an abbreviated meeting at the party.



Susan and Cowboy

CDCTS MEETING MINUTES Date: 10/06/2015

Members/Guests in Attendance: Rita Dunn, Kathy Ridenour, Carol Mitchell, Susan Price, Julie Noe, Jeannie Baggett, Shaelyn Baggett, Carol and Charlie Grau, Dave McAdoo, Holly Ratcliff, Carolyn Ordal, Susan Hill, Melissa McKinzie, Teresa Shafer.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 PM

Motion made and seconded to accept previous month's meeting minutes? Yes. Rita D. and Carol G.

Motion made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report as read? Yes, Jean S. and Susan P.

Old Business:

- Fall Schooling Show
 - Was canceled due to severe weather. Discussed developing method for determining reschedule date should this occur again. No way to avoid all conflicts with other scheduled events.
 - Rescheduled for Nov 21st provided weather is ok that late in the year
 - Motion was made and accepted to extend entry deadline to Dec 1st for end of year awards.
 - Need to confirm judge and venue
- Hunter Pace – (Holly R., Carolyn O.).
 - Date set for Oct 25th at Riverplains.
 - Made plans for set-up on Saturday. Dara Lindner has volunteered to help with set up.
- Cross Country Clinic – Clinic organizers – Erika Adams, Katherine McDonough, Kate Wooten
 - Date set for 11/7/15 and 11/8/15. Clinician - Sinead Halpin. Venue – Yellow wood farm.
 - Discussed needing to buy plane ticket next day if entries warrant it.
 - 12 riders have currently signed up but 15 are needed to cover clinician fees.
 - Discussed having the clinic regardless. The closing date was set somewhat late and riders may sign up late so it would be difficult to tell at this point what turn out will actually be.
- JJ Tate clinic – Teresa S.
 - Dates will be Dec 13th and 14th. Venue will be Teresa Shafer's farm unless inclement weather. Alternate venue will be Carol Grau's covered arena.
 - 11 of 12 spots are filled. Carol M. requested last remaining spot at meeting.
- Jeremy Steinberg Clinic (Melissa McKinzie) –
 - Dates set for May 7th and 8th 2016. Anticipated cost \$180/ride.
- Banquet – Jean S.
 - Date set for Jan 23rd 2016.
 - Jean reminder members to get pictures to Kim Clelland for the slide show.
 - Will need to locate projector to use. Jean to check with Jennifer Bolen.

New Business:

- Carol Grau Award – need nominations for vote at meeting. Email will be sent out.
- Discussed need to recognize members who have received medals this year.
- CDCTS Christmas party – to be held at Sue Cain's home Fri Dec 4th.
- Board vacancies – Dave M to recruit. We will have several positions to fill.

Motion to adjourn at: 8:00 PM made by Rita D. and Kathy R.

Minutes Taken By: Julie Noe CDCTS Secretary

CDCTS CLASSIFIED CORNER

For Sale: Black Ariat Field Boots. Size 9 tall, regular calf. Worn only a handful of times. \$120.00 Contact Rita Dunn at piaffe8@charter.net

For Sale: Wintec Isabell Werth dressage saddle. 17" seat, adjustable tree, in very good condition. Also included are stirrups and girth. This saddle is worth \$1300 new (SmartPak); it is for sale at \$600.00. Contact Peggy at 865-982-8040.

For Sale: TULLYMOR'S TIGGER. Tigger is a quiet, sensible, attractive 13.1 registered purebred Connemara gelding; born 5/1/11. He is a beautiful bay with correct conformation, sound body and limbs, great feet. He is easy to handle and has excellent ground manners (can catch in a big field, easy to lead, tie/cross-tie, load and haul, is good for the farrier, happy in the barn or turned out, etc.). He will cross a creek and ponies very nicely all around the farm, so should be an easy boy to take out on trails. He has shown us his scope over a 4 fence (but thankfully has not made a habit of it). He is reliable enough to become a safe driving pony or even a children's foxhunter or pony club mount, with appropriate training. He has been backed, lunges nicely and is super willing. He is ready for the next level; start him your way. Located in Athens, TN. Contact Vanessa (phone) 423-744-9071 or by email: connemaras9@gmail.com

Trailers for Sale: Tobruk Trailers – Merhow and Cherokee aluminum trailers. Custom living quarters for large horses. Hitches and repairs. Call 865-674-7041 or email tobrukfarm@charter.net

Dressage Saddle for Sale. County Connection 18inch W dressage saddle \$2250. Bought new in 2008. Excellent condition, new billets last August and flocked at that time as well. Serviced by Shirley Ferguson, a County Rep. Stored inside house. Saddle can be tried on your horse, within reason. It is a great saddle for helping the rider sit the trot and maintain position. Very comfortable, soft and supple leather. Contact Lauren Irwin 423-304-4143.

Reach the audience you want through an ad in our newsletter

AD Size	Member Rate	Non-Member Rate
Full Page (7"wide X 10" high)	\$10 per month	\$20 per month
Half Page (7"wide X 5"high)	\$5 per month	\$10 per month
Quarter Page (3.5"wide X 5" high)	\$2 per month	\$5 per month
Business Card (3.5"wide X 2" high)	FREE	\$2 per month
Classified Ad	FREE	\$1 for each 25 words

Please send ads and requests to Carol Mitchell. Call 865-288-7093 or email to ericncarol.belcher@gmail.com



Runaway Farms

Full Service Boarding

Classical Dressage Training:

starting under saddle

problem solving and re-training

advanced dressage and showing

Lessons with a focus on the Classical Seat

RUNAWAY FARMS
161 RABY HOLLOW ROAD
KINGSTON, TN 37763

CALL OR TEXT (865)603-4846
REFRAINER@YAHOO.COM
WWW.RUNAWAYFARMS.COM

RITA DUNN



USDF Certified

Dressage Instructor

Training Through 2nd Level

USDF Bronze and Silver

Medalist



(865) 988-9113

piaffe8@charter.net

USDF

Walnut Grove Stables

Home of Dene Masengill-Jones



Boarding - Training - Lessons - Foxhunting - Sidesaddle
Horse Shows - Tack Store - Horses for Sale



Walnut Grove Stables

1154 Lakeshore Road

Talbott, IN 37877

Phone: 423-580-5287

Mobile: 423-730-5287

Fax: 423-587-0400

Email: denefoxhunter@charter.net

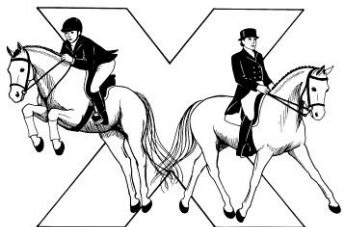
www.walnutgrovestables.com

The CROSSING

Published monthly by the CDCTS
Please submit articles for your newsletter!

Deadline for submission of articles to ***The Crossing*** is the 18th of
each month.

Please submit your article by email to:
ericncarol.belcher@gmail.com



*Crossroads Dressage and
Combined Training Society*
2016 Membership Form



GROUP
MEMBER
ORGANIZATION

First Name: _____ Middle
Initial _____

Last Name: _____ USDF

Street
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip
Code: _____

Primary Phone: (_____) _____ Secondary Phone:
(_____) _____

Email
Address: _____ Birthdate: _____

(Requested by USDF)

I would like to join Crossroads Dressage and Combined Training Society for the 2016 Membership Year (December 1, 2015 – November 30, 2016). Enclosed is a check for the following membership category:

- ☐ **\$23** Charter Membership (*Founding Members whose membership has not lapsed since the formation of the club*)
- ☐ **\$48** Adult Membership (Over 21 years old as of January 1, 2016)
- ☐ **\$28** Junior/Young Rider Membership (21 years old or younger as of January 1, 2016)
- ☐ *Family Membership – (\$48 Primary Membership + \$13 per each Additional Family Member)
- Total family dues submitted with application: \$ _____

List Additional Family Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>DOB</u>
-------------	--------------	---------------	------------

I would be willing to volunteer in the following areas (circle all that apply):

HORSE SHOWS: ☐ Scribe ☐ Scorer ☐ Runner ☐ Ring Steward ☐ Concessions ☐ Setup/Teardown
☐ Hospitality

OTHER: ☐ Phone Contacts ☐ Committees ☐ Board Member ☐ Write for Newsletter ☐ Publish
Newsletter

☐ Web Site ☐ Sell Advertising

☐ Other: _____

Please make your check payable to CDCTS, and return by **December 1, 2015** to:

Julie Noe, CDCTS Secretary

Date

Received: _____

1031 Martin Mill Pk

Check

Rockford, TN 37853

Amount _____

This organization is a USDF GMO and its members are automatically USDF Group Members

\$20 of your membership fee goes directly to USDF for your Group Membership

Membership Forms submitted by E-mail will be held until payment is received.

Yes, that's right...it's NOW that time of year when you renew your membership. The membership year runs from 1 December-30 November so this year is almost up. Help Julie out by getting your membership dues in to her at the address above before 1 December.



Making Your Application The Best It Can Be:

Tips from
The Dressage Foundation's
Selection Committee
Members and Staff

Each year, The Dressage Foundation receives hundreds of grant applications. It is always difficult for our Selection Committees to choose the best candidates for each funding opportunity. How can you stand out from the rest?

We've put together some guidelines and tips for you to consider, in order to help you make your application be as competitive as possible. While we can't guarantee that any one individual will receive financial assistance, since the final decision is always in the hands of our independent Selection Committees, we can offer some suggestions.

1. Begin the process early. With work, school, riding, and family obligations, finding the time to devote to the application process can be difficult. If you feel rushed, you will skim over important details in the application. Incomplete or incorrect applications are not sent to the Selection Committee for review, so be sure to give yourself enough time to gather all required parts of the application and double (or triple!) check to make sure that everything is included before you submit your application.

Allow enough time for your application to reach our office. If the deadline is September 15th, that means that your application MUST reach our office on or before September 15th. There are no exceptions to this rule. The earlier you start the process, the more relaxed you will be, the more your application will follow the format required, provide all necessary information, and allow you time to call with any questions.

2. Read all information before beginning the application process. Remember to do this every year as requirements may change from year to year. If the instructions say to submit your application online, do so. If the instructions say to mail a certain number of copies to our office, then proceed in that way.

3. Consider the funding opportunities. What are your goals? How do your goals fit with the grant or scholarship that interests you? Sometimes it is easy to "stretch" the interpretation of a program or fund's stated purpose to match what you want to do. Be aware that other applicants will take a more literal approach and those that most closely match the stated purpose of the fund will score better with the Selection Committee.

Do you meet the criteria as stated by The Dressage Foundation? What is the amount of the financial assistance available from the Foundation? Is your application appropriate?

Also consider what other assistance is available to you. Does your GMO or dressage club offer scholarships?

4. Review your application. Proofread for grammar and typos, as these can make even the best application look as if it was thrown together at the last minute. If possible, have someone else read through your application. Consider how it will look to someone on the Selection Committee. If you were on the Committee, how would you score the application? Take a close look at the requirements. Do you meet or exceed all the requirements? Do you "somewhat" meet the requirements? Are there areas where you do not meet the requirements? If so, you may want to work on those areas and wait a year to apply for the grant or scholarship.

5. Closely review your budget. Do the numbers add up correctly? Have you included all expenses and income? Double-check your math and explain any areas that may be unclear to the Selection Committee.

6. Keep a copy for yourself. Before submitting your application, be sure to print or otherwise keep a copy for your records. You will not receive your application back after the selection process.

Now that you've made sure that your application will be a contender, how do you make it rise to the top?

Our Selection Committee members are busy people. They don't have time to read a book about each applicant, so keep your application simple and relevant. Answer the questions completely, but keep the information pertinent to the question (don't go off on a tangent, telling a long story that wanders away from the point of the question).

Make sure the information clearly and concisely illustrates WHY you are the best candidate for this grant or scholarship.

Feel free to call the TDF office at 402-434-8585 if you have questions, we are here to help!

Good luck!

TDF's Two-Tempi Challenge



WHAT IS TDF'S TWO-TEMPI CHALLENGE?

Riders who have horses capable of doing two-tempi changes are invited to participate in a Regional and National competition to raise funds for The Dressage Foundation (TDF).

Each rider works with an individual, GMO, stable, or any group of dressage friends that is willing to make a pledge to TDF for each two-tempi change.

All donations are used to support TDF's programs, grants, and scholarships.

A Two-Tempi Challenge can be held at a show, during a clinic, or even at your local barn with your friends. It is a fun way to bring your equestrian friends together to support the dressage community.

RIDERS

The horse and rider teams may use the best of three efforts. Start the count with "one" on the first flying change and count to the last two-tempi. If a change is not clean, it still counts as a two-tempi. As soon as the horse loses count (by doing a one-tempi, a three-tempi, or no change), the effort is over. A horse and rider combination can participate monthly in the Two-Tempi Challenge.

SUPPORTERS

Any individual or group may pledge to support the horse and rider team. The group or individual may pledge any dollar amount per change that the rider successfully completes (see above).

THE WINNERS

At the end of each calendar year, TDF will announce National and Regional Two-Tempi Challenge Champions and Reserve Champions, based on the number of completed consecutive two-tempi performed.

There will also be awards for the top two groups that raise the most donations for TDF.

SUBMITTING YOUR VIDEO

Your Two-Tempi Challenge must be videoed and sent via YouTube, email, or DVD to TDF (using a cell phone to video is acceptable). A link or file can be emailed to info@dressagefoundation.org, uploaded on our website, or mailed to TDF's office. You will receive confirmation that TDF has received the video and pledged donations.

TDF's Two-Tempi Challenge will be open to interested riders and donors until December 31, 2015.

QUESTIONS?

For more details about TDF's Two-Tempi Challenge, please contact us at:

(402) 434-8585

info@dressagefoundation.org

www.dressagefoundation.org/two-tempi-challenge

The Dressage Foundation
1314 'O' Street, Suite 305
Lincoln, NE 68508



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CONTACT:

JENNY JOHNSON, THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION

TEL (402) 434-8585, EMAIL jenny@dressagefoundation.org

**Valegro's Shoe from Las Vegas World Cup to be Auctioned
to Benefit TDF's Skvarla Fund**

September 22, 2015 - Join us this winter for the opportunity to win a piece of dressage history AND support The Dressage Foundation! The top bidder will receive Valegro's winning shoe from the 2015 Las Vegas World Cup Finals, a photo of Valegro autographed by Charlotte Dujardin, and a Certificate of Authenticity from Carl Hester, all in an elegantly framed set. The auction will be held online at www.32auctions.com/ValegroShoeTDF, and will run from December 1st through December 11th. Bidding is open for North American residents only.

"We are thankful for the generosity of Carl Hester and Charlotte Dujardin, who so kindly donated these special items for this auction," said Jenny Johnson, TDF Executive Director. "It is incredible to know that they support the education of dressage professionals around the world."

Proceeds from the Valegro Shoe Auction will support the Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Dressage Professionals. The Skvarla Fund was created in 2014 by Diane Skvarla, in memory of her sister, Karen. Karen was a budding equestrian when she passed away in 1968 at the age of 9 years old. Her family created this Fund to honor Karen, her love of horses, and joy in riding. The purpose of the Karen Skvarla Fund is to provide grants enabling young dressage professionals to pursue training or educational opportunities. Grant applicants should be in the beginning stages of their dressage careers as instructors and/or trainers.

For more information, please visit www.dressagefoundation.org or call 402-434-8585.

The Dressage Foundation

The Dressage Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, tax-exempt, donor-driven organization that is dedicated to educating, supporting, and advancing the sport of dressage. The organization solicits contributions, appropriately allocates the donations, and awards grants and scholarships to dressage riders, judges, instructors, breeders, high performance teams, and nonprofit equestrian organizations. For more information, please visit www.dressagefoundation.org.



Do or Do Not; There is no Try

by Trish Conk

I would love to lay claim to this nifty little phrase, but, alas, I can't. The honor goes to our favorite Jedi Master, Yoda. For those of us who are fans of the original Star Wars--that's episode 4, 5, and 6--we remember Luke Skywalker's quest to become a Jedi Knight. Actually, what I remember is our dear Luke whining his way through the first movie and into the second before Yoda put him in his place. It took a life threatening situation for Luke to realize he was unprepared to accomplish his goals.

As dressage riders we don't face the Darth Vaders of the world, but riders have their own demons: Our lessons seem unproductive; our scores are not what we hope; our horses have vague lameness issues. Dissatisfaction can show up in many forms. If we are feeling that dissatisfaction, the first person we should turn to is our trainer. Unfortunately, that often doesn't happen. What amateur riders do is turn to each other--their friends--or worse, discussion forums on line. That is simply a case of the very limited vision leading the blind. We, also, may think the trainer is at fault.

I reached out to trainers and asked what they expect in their students. What they like. What they don't like and I received some interesting answers. One of the "things" if you will, that stood out was the idea of a mind set. Riding dressage well is very, very hard. I suppose we could say that about any riding discipline. To do it well takes very hard work, time, and financial investment. Trainers want their students to succeed. However, if riders are not willing to do this, the end result will not be a happy one.

Trainers are realistic about the fact that there is a big difference in the quality of instructors. Unfortunately, here in the U.S. anyone can put out a shingle and say they're a riding instructor. What should an amateur do to protect themselves? One way is to look for results. Who has students that do well? Another thought is how students feel about their progress. One rider told me that it was her rider score that had improved moving from a 6.5 to an 8. Her instructor had improved her seat and aids and her riding had improved overall. On the other hand, if you have watched a trainer's students over a long period and they continue riding poorly, don't make progress, improve their skills, or break bad habits, look elsewhere for instruction.

A trainer mentioned the fact that a student should feel they are important to the trainer and the trainer is invested in them, their horse, and their success. They're more than a paycheck. This trainer went on to say riders who flit from clinic to clinic each with some big name clinician usually don't succeed in the long run. They are little more than that paycheck.

A trainer brought up the history of dressage--training war horses. To survive, they needed to be very strong and balanced. This trainer viewed the developing of strong muscles with correct systematic gymnastic exercises over years of hard work to be critical to our horses and helps to prevent injuries. She believes what we do as riders should lead to the well being of our horses and riders need to be committed to this.

One of the worst demons, according to several trainers, is bad habits that plague a rider. We all have them. The big question is what do we do with them? If your instructor has now told you for the 15th time in a 45 minute lesson that your reins are too long, it's now time for you to realize your bad habits are obstacles to good riding. Trainers say they need honest discussions with their students on what the bad habits are and, more important, how to fix them. There can be no hurt feelings here but only a desire to change.

I, myself, have seen lessons where riders spend more energy whining about how hard they're trying (remember Luke Skywalker?) then actually making an effort to improve. One trainer said they like to see a little improvement in every lesson. Chronic bad habits can make improvement hard. As riders, it is our responsibility to own our bad habits and, more important, replace them with good ones. Having this discussion with our trainer and not in Starbucks with our friends can be our first positive step.

Well, little Grasshoppers, what would Yoda think of us as students? Are we whining about how hard it is? Yoda made no promises to Luke Skywalker that the path to a Jedi Knight was easy. Dressage is no different. What would Yoda tell us: Be on time; Be prepared; Be alert; Be focused; Be quiet; Work hard. The trainers who shared believe as a group that if we, as riders, do not embrace how difficult dressage is we will not succeed. Just getting our minds wrapped around that idea is a big leap toward accomplishment and developing that "fire in the belly" will lead us to the mind set of success.

It's Raining Bronze

Who would have believed it but since our article on Melissa's USDF Bronze achievement, we have had two more successful candidates for the USDF Bronze! Congratulations to CDCTS members Susan Hill and Dara Lindner! Outlined below are their individual journeys to this milestone.

Susan Hill and *Liberty, Please*

Susan began riding when she was a small child, having successfully campaigned for her first pony at age eight. She kept riding through her adolescence and teens but got out of horses in her 20's. However, she saw the light in her 30's and took up polo for nine years. The horse she currently owns and which she rode on her quest for the Bronze actually has a link to Susan's polo playing past. That horse, *Liberty Please*, was the foal of Susan's last polo pony. Liberty is 12 years old, born on Memorial Day in 2003. His sire, *Dream in Gold*, was a Palomino Thoroughbred and his mother was a chestnut. Susan had her fingers crossed that the foal would be a Palomino as well and her wish was granted.



Liberty as a foal

The process that Susan and Liberty took to the Bronze was long and fraught with challenges. "I had my doubts about this every step of the way," she said. "A big struggle I had was that he has been complicated. He improved at glacial speed. We had our Second Level scores five years ago but he just wasn't ready to show Third Level then. It took till now to get him there; he's very smart but also very high energy and anxious."

Susan persevered though because horse and rider had formed such a special bond. "I mean really, how many other horses will come running and whinnying when they see you? That's what Liberty does when he sees me. He's always so happy to see me. He's got such a great personality, kind of like a juvenile delinquent. He always acts so young; he picks up chairs if he can reach them and takes them off into the paddock."

So how did she strike a balance between entertaining and training her clever horse? She worked with her long-time trainer, Gigi Nutter and Gigi infused her with confidence to succeed with Liberty. She mixed up his training to keep him interested: jumping, cross country work, overnight camping trips. "He gets

stagnant otherwise," Susan explained. "Trying to out-think this horse has been a challenge."

Liberty has always been a cribber and he has colicked often over the years but a few years ago he had to undergo colic surgery, and, naturally his colic was one of the rarest forms of colic. During the following two years after his surgery, the team did not show. This summer, however, it all came together. In his shows this summer, Liberty's lead changes weren't confirmed but Susan did a "Hail Mary" and they crossed the diagonal together without any rodeo movements. Their qualifying shows were in August in Conyers Georgia and Rainsville, Alabama in September. They only had one instructor-led lesson this year, so Susan still can't believe that it all worked and that they got the scores needed to qualify. "He's correct, accurate and obedient—that gets sufficient scores to meet the qualifiers. But...he's neither fancy nor loose in the body."



All that was left to do was fill out the USDF application and, once it was submitted, Susan was surprised at how quickly her Bronze qualification got back to her. "I'll be wearing that thing like an earring; it was so long in coming!"

Susan would like to thank Gigi Nutter for her work and her belief in them. Also, she has Jim Korford to thank as well; she has ridden with him often over the years. Finally, she thanks Rita Dunn and Debbie Schwartz for their long term, ongoing support.

Photo Left: at 2010 TN State Championships, winning at First Level "Future's so bright, I gotta wear shades".

Below: 2012 Region 3 Championships, Second Level AA—4th Place

Bottom: Conyers, GA 2015 3rd Level Scores for USDF Bronze



Dara Lindner and *Wolke Neun*

Dara rode as a child, loving the thrills of fox hunting and eventing. In college, she began to respect and enjoy dressage, having found a horse that loved dressage but not eventing. For several years, she rode at Training and First level. Her current horse, *Wolke Nuen* (that's *Cloud Nine* im der Deutsch), is a 14 year-old Hanoverian mare bought in South Carolina. *Wolke* was working at Training Level when Dara bought her. She decided to try their improving their skills to Second Level. Because she did so much of her training on her own and not with regular lessons, this level took longer to achieve.

This year, Dara was determined to progress and she made a regular practice of monthly training with Jim Koford at Erica Adams' Yellow Wood Farm. Jim improved her skills and pushed her to the next level. "He's a real confidence builder and built our tools to move up," Dara explained.



The road to Bronze was long and complicated, like Dara's life. Dara and *Wolke* achieved their Second Level scores three years ago. Since then, life happened. Dara and *Wolke* both took time off for maternal matters. Dara had a baby and *Wolke* had a foal...in case you were confused! And work happened: Dara is an equine veterinarian who owns a busy equine reproductive practice, Advanced Equine Reproduction of New Market

TN, which involves everything from artificial insemination to embryo transfers.

This was the year of their return to dressage competition with the intent to succeed at the next level: they went to the Regionals to confirm the Second Level scores. Then, at the August Regional Dressage Show in Atlanta (Conyers), they achieved two scores of 60% or better for their Third Level Scores—all achieved in that huge rain event that struck Atlanta and just narrowly missed Knoxville. Despite the pouring rain and sloppy footing, success was theirs. Dara showered *Wolke* with “lots of carrots and an apple for her hard work.”



Dara submitted her application and the USDF confirmed her Bronze status very swiftly. Dara was surprised and delighted at the speed of USDF's response back to her.

Dara felt that “as an amateur on a horse that I trained myself, it was a very rewarding journey to the Bronze. Of course, it took longer this way and was fun. The destination is great but the process itself was rewarding.”

Dara owes a big thank you to Susan Hill who was extremely

supportive throughout and to Rita Dunn who helped her and *Wolke* expand their limits, always encouraging them to persevere and get it done.



Our Year-End Banquet is coming soon and here is a reminder note from our Banquet Organizer, Jean Sullivan:

Dear Members,

Our banquet is scheduled to be at Buddy's Banquet Hall on **January 23, 2016**. We will be collecting pictures to show of you and your horses through the duration of the banquet. Kim Clelland is putting that project together so your pictures need to be sent to her starting now. Her email address is santamomclelland@gmail.com Don't wait until close to the banquet because after a certain date it will be too late to include your pictures!

The closing date for accepting scores for year-end awards will be **December 1, 2015 (date changed to reflect the delayed Fall Schooling Show)**. For any scores in rated dressage shows, I need a copy of the score and the judge's signature. You can take a picture of the appropriate page and email it to me or make a copy and hand it to me at the October meeting. For eventers, I have accepted scores off the USEF website and those emailed to me. If you have any questions, email me at shamrockfarm3100@gmail.com or call me at 865-986-9014. If you get the recording, just leave me a message.

Thanks, Jean Sullivan

Helping Equines in Haiti

Ashley Phillips is organizing a saddle pad donation drive in response to the request from Dr. Gordon below. Ashley will be accepting any saddle pads or monetary donations at the November 21 Schooling Show at Cedar Valley Farm, 2040 Ellejoy Road, Seymour TN 37865. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause but cannot attend the show, please contact Ashley on her cell phone, 865-621-9513, or via email, timberwayfarm@yahoo.com to coordinate a drop off. Thanks for caring about these hard-working animals in Haiti.

Nominations for open CDCTS Board positions

This year we will have three board positions open so if you are interested in becoming a board member or know of someone who has expressed a desire to become a board member, please contact Dave McAdoo, our Parliamentarian at tobrukfarm@charter.net. Let Dave know what position you are interested in filling. He will be submitting the names to the board and CDCTS members for their voted approval. The new board will meet during the Annual Banquet to determine who will fill what positions. Following their meeting, the club membership will be informed of the new Board composition. The selection process and the necessary qualifications to become a board member are available on our website. Finishing their terms this year are the following members: Susan Price, CDCTS President, Julie Noe, CDCTS Secretary and Diane Carlson, CDCTS Treasurer. Thank you for all you have done to support the club!



Crossroads Dressage & Combined Training Society

Fall Schooling Show Saturday Nov 21, 2015 Cedar Valley Farm - Seymour, TN

Laura Wolfe, "L" Graduate-TN, Judge

*** Show will run rain or shine ***

SHOW SPONSORED IN PART BY **HORSES AND HOMES INSURANCE CONSULTANTS**
(Lisha Marshall Agent)

DRESSAGE CLASSES (2015 Tests!):

\$ 20.00 / Members
\$ 25.00 / Non-members

USDF Intro A, B & C
USEF Training 1 – 3
USEF First Level 1 – 3
USEF Second Level 1
USEF Second Level, Test 2 and above. Scored on a percentage.

Prix Caprilli Intro Level

New Rider Tests: Training, First Level, Second Level

Western Dressage: Intro, Basic, First

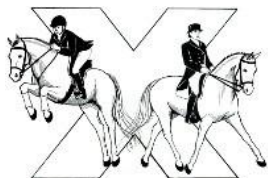
Western Gaited Dressage: Intro, Basic, First

COMBINED TRAINING TEST:

\$ 35.00 / Members; \$ 45.00 Non-members

Green as Grass 18" max jump
Elementary Novice 2' max jump
Beginner Novice 2' 6" max jump
Novice 2' 11" max jump
Training 3' 3" max jump

USDF Intro Test A
USDF Intro Test B
USEF Beginner Novice Test B
USEF Novice Test B
USEF Training Test B



EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

All entries **MUST** include a current negative Coggins and a release form signed by parent and / or rider. Entries are limited for this show and will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

Entries are now **CLOSED** for this event as they were due to Janet Wolff on September 28.

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRIES TO: (*** Allow 5 days for delivery ***)

Janet Wolff: 1824 Roane State Hwy, Ste 209; Harriman, TN 37748

Fax: 865.354.2102

AWARDS: Ribbons awarded in all classes 1st through 6th place

ARENA: All Dressage tests will be ridden in sand arena.
CT and Intro A, B & C will be ridden in a 20m x 40m arena. All other dressage tests will be ridden in a 20m x 60m arena
Jumping in grass arena

ATTIRE: Appropriate informal schooling attire. ASTM-SEI approved helmets and appropriate footwear required and must be worn at all times when mounted.

PARKING: Ample parking for horse trailers. Please use caution when tying your horse to the trailer! PLEASE follow ALL Parking signs and park **ONLY** in designated areas!!

CONCESSIONS: on premises

NO DOGS – NO EXCEPTIONS!!

REFUNDS: No cash refunds after closing date. Show credit given with Vet or Doctor's certificate. **RETURNED CHECKS** will incur a \$40.00 fee and void entry.

RIDE TIMES: Official ride times available at <http://www.cdcts.org> on Thursday Oct. 1st

DAY STALLS: Contact Lisa Morrison at 865.984.5940

****** Don't forget to visit the Tack Shop for its Closing Sale!!! ******
All clothing 40-60% off. All other inventory 30% off

Did you know CDCTS members receive discounts on all classes and clinics sponsored by CDCTS, as well as year-end awards? Membership applications are available online at <http://www.cdcts.org>

DIRECTIONS TO CEDAR VALLEY FARM

2040 ELLEJOY RD, SEYMOUR, TN 37865

[HTTPS://WWW.BING.COM/MAPS/DEFAULT.ASPX?CP=35.80614~-83.79343&WHERE1=CEDAR%20VALLEY%20TACK%20%26%20FARM&SS=YPID.YN814x13848171#Y3A9MzUuODA2MTQwfi04My43OTM0MzAMBHsPTQM3R5PXImc3M9eXAUWU44MTR4MTM4NDGxNzF+cGcuMX5YyWQUODA=](https://www.bing.com/maps/default.aspx?cp=35.80614~-83.79343&where1=Cedar%20Valley%20Tack%20%26%20Farm&ss=yPid.YN814x13848171#Y3A9MzUuODA2MTQwfi04My43OTM0MzAMBHsPTQM3R5PXImc3M9eXAUWU44MTR4MTM4NDGxNzF+cGcuMX5YyWQUODA=)

From 411 towards Sevierville turn right on Doc Norton Rd. (left coming from Sevierville), Right on Prospect, Right on Jeffries Hollow Rd., Left on Ellejoy to farm.

Questions: Call or email Show Manager/Secretary Janet Wolff 875 258-8387 or email elektra2167@gmail.com

WHAT IS A PRIX CAPRILLI??: The Prix Caprilli Test is for horses with jumping experience, ridden in snaffle bridle, competing at the Introductory Level and above. Test will be performed in 20x40 meters dressage arena. Maximum height of fences 2' cross rails. All trot work will be performed rising. The horse should be asked to change though the trot. The quality of the change will be evaluated. Test may be called. Refusals and knock-downs will be penalized as an error of course with appropriate deduction of points. Knock-downs will be penalized at the judge's discretion. In the case of a rail in the path, the judge will ring the bell for the rider to stop without penalty. After the jump is replaced, the bell will be rung again telling the rider to continue from where he stopped. Score will be calculated in percentage.

WHAT ARE THE RIDER TESTS??: "The new tests are designed to evaluate the proficiency of the rider relative to the requirements of the given level, without giving extra credit for the horse's gaits, impulsion and submission. Riders will receive constructive evaluations that they can put to use in improving their abilities as a rider. The principles of correct application of the aids, correct riding biomechanics and the accurate geometry of the figures are assessed through 5 scores evaluating rider's position, correct and effective use of aids, horse's response and performance, accuracy of the exercises and harmony between rider and horse plus written commentary." From the USEF update notice 24 Sept 12.

Training level:

<http://www.dressage-news.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/2013TrainingLevelRiderTest-1.pdf>

First level:

<http://www.dressage-news.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/2013FirstLevelRiderTest.pdf>

Second level:

<http://www.dressage-news.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/2013SecondLevelRiderTest.pdf>

WHAT IS WESTERN DRESSAGE OR WESTERN GAITED DRESSAGE??: Western Dressage is geared towards western style and gaited horses to give them an opportunity to to showcase their skills in the dressage arena. More information and test rules can be found here:

<http://www.westerndressageassociation.org/western-dressage-rules-tests/>

<http://www.westerndressageassociation.org/faqs/>

Sinead Halpin Clinic
Sponsored by CDCTS

November 7th - 8th

Yellow Wood Farm
4562 Kingston Hwy
Lenoir City, TN 37771

Opening Date: 9/15/15 Closing Date 11/3/15

Saturday 7 November: Gridwork/Gymnastics

Sunday 8 November: Show Jumping Coursework

Levels: starter, beginner novice, novice, training, prelim, and higher if needed with about 4 riders per group.

Stabling: STABLING IS EXTREMELY LIMITED! If you can haul in each day, please try to do so. Contact Katherine McDonough if you need stabling at cdcts.clinics@gmail.com Limited stabling is available at Yellow Wood for \$30/night. When that fills, we have other options on a case-by-case basis.

Camping: Primitive camping for \$10/night is available at Yellow Wood. The barn has a shower, refrigerator, and a microwave, but no hook-ups.

Two-Day Clinic Cost: \$200 for CDCTS members / \$250 for non-members (This includes the two-day ring fee). Make checks payable to CDCTS

Auditing: Free for CDCTS members; \$10/day for non-members

Late Fee: Entries received after 11/3/15 will incur a \$30 late fee (if space is available)

When you send your entry, please be sure to include your completed entry form, payment in full, Coggins, and a signed release.

****Entry fee is non-refundable unless your place can be filled from the waiting list****

The clinic will run rain or shine since Yellow Wood has a lovely covered arena with quality footing!

If you have any questions you can email Katherine at cdcts.clinics@gmail.com or 865-789-1332

Sinead Halpin Clinic Entry Form

Name: _____ Horse: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

CDCTS Member (circle one): Yes No

Level Currently Showing _____

Level Currently Schooling _____

Preferred clinic level* (circle one): ST BN N T P Above

*we will do our best to accommodate your preference, but we may have to move things around depending upon the entries.

Clinic Cost – Checks payable to CDCTS

Clinic Fee (CDCTS Member)..... \$ _____

(CDCTS Non-Member)..... \$ _____

Late Fee (after 11/3/15 if applicable)..... \$ _____

TOTAL..... \$ _____

Please mail check along with entry, Coggins, and release to:

Sinead Halpin Clinic
C/O Sue Adams
11316 Birch Springs Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37932

Stabling Cost – Checks payable to RLT Upon Arrival

Stabling at Yellow Wood

Saturday night..... \$ _____

Friday and Saturday night..... \$ _____

Primitive Camping at Yellow Wood

Saturday night..... \$ _____

Friday and Saturday nights..... \$ _____

TOTAL..... \$ _____

Sinead Halpin Clinic November 7-8 2015
Clinic Release Form

I _____ understand the inherent risks involved in equestrian sports and do hereby release Crossroads Dressage and Combined Training Society (CDCTS), Yellow Wood Farm, and Road Less Traveled, LLC from any liability. I further agree that no legal action shall be instituted by me or on my behalf against the Provider herein, and that if any such legal action is instituted, this agreement may be pleaded as a complete bar to such action, and I will indemnify Provider for all costs of such legal action, including attorney's fees.

Signed _____

By Parent if rider is under 18 _____

Printed _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Date _____

WARNING: UNDER TENNESSEE LAW, AN EQUINE PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISK OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES, PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 44, CHAPTER 20, SECTION 1.

2015 Events

Next CDCTS meeting will be held on **November 10, 2015** at the **Puleo's Grill**, 260 N. Peters Road, Knoxville 37923. The Meeting will start at **7:00 pm** sharp so please come earlier to order your meal and to socialize. The restaurant's website is <http://puleosgrille.com/our-locations/puleos-cedar-bluff>. Please mark your calendar and plan to join your fellow members.

Sinead Halpin Clinic. Sponsored by CDCTS and held at Yellow Wood Farm, 4562 Kingston Hwy, Lenoir City TN 37771 on **November 7-8 2015**. Registration entries received after November 3, 2015 will incur a \$30 late fee if space is still available at that date. Info and entry forms included in this edition

Cathy Fox Clinics. Merry Hour Farm holds monthly lessons with Cathy Fox of Lexington KY. Should you wish to bring your horse to train with Cathy, please contact Carol Grau at 865-984-2532 for available ride times. Cathy will be at Merry Hour Farm during the following weekends: **November 14-15 and December 5-6**. To learn more about Cathy Fox, please visit her website www.pineknollfarm.com. For more information on Merry Hour Farm, please visit the website at www.merryhourfarm.com

Fall Schooling Show. Rescheduled to **November 21, 2015** at Cedar Valley Farm, 2040 Ellejoy Road, Seymour TN 37865. Judge will be Laura Wolfe.

CDCTS Christmas Party. Sue Cain has offered to host the party at her home, 196 Country Drive, Kingston, TN 37763 on **Friday 4 December**. A brief CDCTS monthly meeting will be held at the party. RSVPs to Sue by no later than November 23, 2015 at sucain@comcast.net. Meal details to follow but those attending are requested to bring a side dish to share.

Saddle Fitting Clinic. December 5-6, 2015. David Young, British Master Saddle Fitter, will be available for saddle fitting appointments at Merry Hour Farm. Please contact Carol Grau at 865-984-2532 for appointment times and fee information.

JJ Tate Clinic. December 11-12, 2015. Held at Teresa Shafer's farm, 8712 Holingsfeld Drive, Knoxville. In the event of inclement weather, it will be held at Merry Hour Farm. All available slots are filled and a waiting list is available. Please contact Susan Price (susanccsi@comcast.net) to add your name to the waiting list.

2016 Events

Annual CDCTS Banquet. To be held **January 23, 2016** at Buddy's Banquet Hall 5806 Kingston Pike, Knoxville TN.

THE CROSSING



Region 3 USDF GMO #0319
Affiliate USEA #149430

CDCTS is a USDF Group Member Organization that caters to dressage and combined training (eventing) riders and enthusiasts in the Knoxville area and throughout East Tennessee. CDCTS is also an affiliate member of USEA to better serve our eventing members.

By joining CDCTS, you will be on the fast track to learning about shows, clinics and other great educational opportunities in our area. You will get to meet other like-minded, horse-loving people, and you will become part of a group that is continually working to promote dressage and eventing in your area.

In addition, by joining CDCTS, you automatically become a Group Member of USDF and an Affiliate Member of USEA, which provides you with many additional benefits in the dressage and eventing arena.

Visit us on the web for more information and downloadable content at www.CDCTS.ORG
Contact our webmaster, Rebecca Brown at rbrown80@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CDCTS

From the Editor's Desk

How great is it that we have two more members achieve the USDF Bronze qualification? If you see Susan or Dara in your travels, please take time to congratulate them on their successes! I learned of their achievements from our members who let me know: my constant nagging to get info to me must be working! But...I never rest. So, this is again my opportunity to remind you that if you learn of an interesting equine event or concern in our community and you want to get the word out to our members, please get the information to me by the 20th of each month and I will happily include it in our newsletter for all our members to see. This is a win-win for everyone involved.

Last month, I was glancing through the October issue of USDF *Connection* and stumbled across an interesting tidbit of information that caught my eye (pages 26-27). A study in how horses respond to wither-scratching and/or neck pats while under saddle outlined how differently we and horses perceive each interaction. According to the combined studies from New South Wales at Charles Turt University, California State University and University of Melbourne, horses prefer a scratch of the wither area over a pat as a reward for performance. The study compared heart rates and behavioral responses to determine that the greatest duration of relaxation. The greatest relaxation happened with wither-scratching. I remember one of my trainers in Kansas telling me that she used a wither-scratch to reward her horse in training and she also used it during shows...she could sneak in a little rub with her fingers after a movement and the judges wouldn't see it. Her horses performed well so I have to think it worked for her and it may work for you.

I'd like to thank Trish Conk for sharing her article "Do or Do Not; There is no Try" with us this month. She is active with her local combined dressage and eventing society in Virginia and had written this article for them. I met Trish several years ago in Manassas, at the stable where we both boarded our horses. Trish is a great example of a supportive fellow horseman: she is forthright and funny and interested in how you and your horse progress without any of the snide nastiness that can creep into the horse barn community. She is a dressage rider residing in Winchester VA where she owns and operates her training barn, Bright Moon Farm. Her daughter, Karen Conk, owns and runs Bright Moon Eventing at the facility. To learn more about Trish and Karen's activities, you can visit them on the web: www.brightmooneventing.com or on FaceBook (brightmooneventing).