



2016 Officers

President

Kathy Ridenour
423-912-1477

katridenour@gmail.com

Vice-president

Susan Price
865-201-9952

susanccsi@comcast.net

Secretary

Carol Mitchell
865-288-7083

ericncarol.belcher@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jean Sullivan

Shamrockfarm3100@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Melissa McKenzie
865-603-4846

Alternates

Holly Ratcliff
865-659-1615

persefne@comcast.net

Janet Wolf
865-258-8387

elektra2167@gmail.com

Carolyn Ordal
443-670-2108

carolyn.ordal@youthvillages.org

Member at Large

Teresa Shafer
865-988-9113

Piaffe8@charter.net

Webmaster

Rebecca Brown
865-386-3100

Rbrown80@gmail.com

THE CROSSING Editor

Carol Mitchell
865-288-7093

President's Message Kathy Ridenour

Finally, some great riding weather. Most of May was spent trying to ride between rain and cold. Now we can look forward to warm days and blue skies. I hope you are all sending in your entries for our spring schooling show. I am looking forward to it!

June also brings the JJ Tate clinic. We have a full slate of riders and a nice waiting list to fill in rides if the unthinkable happens. I have been the unfortunate rider whose horse loses a shoe on Friday before the clinic on Saturday and my farrier is out of town. Let's hope no one has any bad luck before this clinic. Anyone not riding should plan on coming to audit the clinic. Auditing can be just as good as riding with a clinician like JJ as the visuals she presents may help you find that one key you need to help with your riding and training. JJ is always entertaining with her many stories. I find them as informative as riding with her.

The summer has many club events planned. I'm looking forward to the club picnic and used tack sale. We don't have dates yet so watch the newsletter for updates.

In a Presidential election year, I want to say that no matter what you think of any particular candidate, it is the team they put around them that makes the difference in how they govern. It takes a team. I want to thank the team that surrounds me. Great board members and committee chairpersons make up my team. I know they are busy making our GMO one of the best in Region 3. Thanks Team!!!

Kathy



CDCTS MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to order

President Kathy Ridenour called to order the regular meeting of the CDCTS Board at 7:30 pm on May 10, 2016 at Puleo's Grille, 260 N. Peters Road, Knoxville 37923.

II. Roll call

President Ridenour conducted the roll call. The following Board members were present: Kathy Ridenour, Carol Mitchell, Carolyn Ordal, and Melissa McKenzie. The following Board members were absent: Susan Price, Holly Ratcliff, Jean Sullivan, and Teresa Shafer. There was a quorum. The following CDCTS members were in attendance: Christina Cardenas, Janet Wolff, Kristin Clark, Carol Grau, Charlie Grau, Rita Dunn, Julie Noe, Diane Carlson, Erika Adams, and Dave McAdoo. Visitors: none.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from April 12, 2016 meeting were sent out via club newsletter "The Crossing" to members. Motion to approve the minutes: Susan Price; seconded by Jean Sullivan. Minutes were approved as read.

IV. Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report. As the Treasurer was away, Diane Carlson presented the financial report. Motion to approve by Carolyn Ordal. Seconded by Carol Grau. Approved.

Spring Schooling Show. Event Coordinator is Janet Wolff. To be held on June 4, 2016 at White Stables Equestrian, 170 Rarity Bay Parkway, Vonore TN 37885. Judge is Debbie Schwartz. Prize list was distributed via Facebook and email to club members.

Jump course will likely take place in a grass field. Janet to liaise with Ashley Phillips regarding best way forward on jumps and were to source them.

Emily Brollier Curtis Clinic. Susan Price is the coordinator and was not at the meeting to provide an update.

Jeremy Steinberg Clinic. Melissa McKenzie reported that those who attended felt it was an educational and enjoyable clinic. She plans to bring him back again in May 2017. In order to finalize total costs to the club for beyond cost of flight (one way only) Melissa is awaiting the return of the treasurer so that disbursements for hosting and dinner can be paid out.

J.J. Tate Clinic. Event Coordinator is Teresa Shafer; no further information provided as she was not in attendance. The clinic is filled with those riders who were on the cancelled November clinic; Kathy Ridenour is coordinating those who wish to be on the alternate list. Clinic dates are June 25-26 at Teresa's farm or Yellow Wood, in the case of inclement weather.

Fall Schooling Show. Janet Wolff has agreed to coordinate this event. The event still requires a location. Cedar Valley and Elders in Maryville were suggested.

Eventing Clinic. Erika Adams passed on Shaelyn's info on this clinic. A clinic is anticipated for the fall with potential clinician Sinead Halpren, once she is back from Rio.

V. Old Business

Volunteers for the spring show. Volunteers needed in many areas. Contact Janet Wolff if you can assist.

Acquiring jumps for the club. **Tabled** until the July meeting, after the spring show.

CDCTS Insurance Kathy Ridenour is coordinating this process. She is awaiting a few more estimates from insurance agents. **Tabled** until the next meeting.

Time to Ride Challenge. Kathy Ridenour reminded everyone that 1 June is the due date to initiate any club activities. 23 July is the day of the event kick off. This would be a worthy event for the club as it is designed to educate people about horses, which is part of our club mandate.

Review of Awards Rules. Susan Price and Susan Hill have formed a committee to resolve the wording confusion for combined event awards; in addition they are developing some fun type of awards. **Report/update pending.**

VI. New Business

Club Bylaw Review. A committee has been formed to review the by-laws. The members are Kathy Ridenour, Rita Dunn, Carol Grau and Diane Carlson. Any suggestions, please send to one of these members.

Website. Melissa McKenzie requested that the webmaster add the contact information of the CDCTS officers, and that fillable forms be set up on the website.

Picnic/Shrimp boil. Discussion determined that the club should hold a picnic this summer. Motion to hold it on 30 July at Charlie and Carol Grau's Merry Hour Farm moved by Carolyn Ordal; seconded by Melissa McKenzie. The club will provide meat and beverages. Attendees are to bring a side dish.

Tack Sale. Coordinated by Christina Cardenas. Moved by Christina Cardenas; seconded by Melissa McKenzie. Approved. It will be held at Merry Hour Farm on 30 July from 9 am- 3pm. Proceeds from the rental of space will be donated to the United States Para Equestrian Association. To reserve a spot, RSVP to Christina at 606-875-3627.

VII. Adjournment.

Adjournment proposed by Rita Dunn and seconded by Erika Adams. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm on May 10, 2016. Next meeting to be held on June 14, 2016 at 7:00 pm, in the same location. Minutes submitted by Carol Mitchell, CDCTS Secretary.

From the Editor's desk

I want to thank CDCTS for bringing Jeremy Steinberg in as a clinician. Not only did I meet some of the nicest people in the art of dressage but I also can't praise Jeremy's teaching style and quality of information enough. I wish I lived closer so I could attend the meeting. My best to you all,
Sincerely,
Bob Crane

Bob Crane sent a kind shout out to the club, thanking us for putting on the Jeremy Steinberg clinic. Kudos to Melissa McKenzie for making this event such a success.

Esther Bell continues to advocate for the humane treatment of horses and a letter she wrote to the *News Sentinel* on the importance of not ignoring the plight of Tennessee Walking Horses, while some horse enthusiasts actively campaign for a return of horse racing to Tennessee. You can read her Letter to the Editor as it was published on page 6 of the newsletter and her more detailed article starts on page 7 and continues onto page 8.

Thank you Esther for all you do to keep attention on this worthy cause.

Two events that are coming up soon are our CDCTS members' Picnic and a Tack Swap/Sale. They will take place on the same day and in the same location but at different times. The Tack Swap takes place from 9 am to 3pm and the picnic starts at 4 pm. Tell all your horse friends and acquaintances to come to the sale and buy tack at great prices. If you have extra stuff (and who doesn't?) that you are no longer using, please consider renting space and selling it. For more information, please see the flyer on page 9.

CDCTS CLASSIFIED CORNER

NEW PRICE! For Sale: Black Ariat Field Boots. Size 9 tall, regular calf. Worn only a handful of times. \$80.00 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.

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

Full and pasture board.
Daily turnout. Outdoor and
covered arena. Dressage and
jumping instruction. Training
and working with problem horses. Access to riding trails
on the property. Safe and experienced lesson horses
available for beginner and advanced riders.



Louise von Clef

1826 Calderwood Hwy. Maryville, TN 37801 (P)#865-856-8500

www.ridemountainmeadow.com

RITA DUNN



USDF Certified

Dressage Instructor

Training Through 2nd Level

USDF Bronze and Silver

Medalist



(865) 988-9113

piaffe8@charter.net

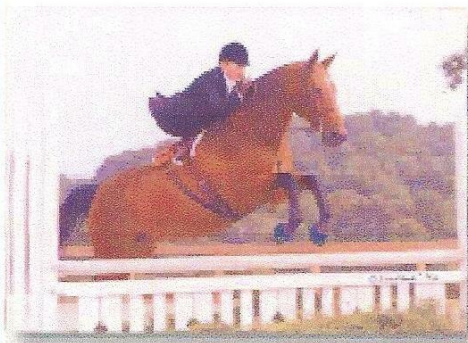
USDF

Walnut Grove Stables

Home of Dene Masengill-Jones



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



Walnut Grove Stables

1151 Lakeshore Road

Talbott, TN 37877

Phone: 423-586-3287

Mobile: 423-736-3287

Fax: 423-587-6466

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

Stop abuse before restoring racing

Esther Roberts Bell, a CDCTS member who is dedicated to reducing the suffering of horses had the following letter published in the Knoxville *News Sentinel* on Thursday May 26, 2016 under the banner *Stop abuse before restoring racing*.

To the Editor:

There is no reason to reintroduce horse racing into Tennessee. Your article states: "In the 19th century, Tennessee was an equine hotbed . . ." Tennessee remains an "equine hotbed" - for equine abuse - and until Tennessee stops the abuse, we should not even consider bringing racing back to this State.

The majestic Tennessee Walking Horse is tortured all across Tennessee with stacks and caustic chemicals inflicted on these gentle creatures to force them to perform the exaggerated, unnatural gait known as the "big lick." As Tennesseans have evolved in social awareness, we have come to rightfully classify the "big lick" as animal abuse just like dog and cock fighting.

To those who argue, "the 'big lick tradition' brings in large revenues" I respond: your "tradition" argument echos the slave owners and blacksmiths who decried ending slavery due to the alleged catastrophic economic impact to white plantation owners and the blacksmiths who forged slave chains. But they found new ways to generate income; big lick owners/trainers/farriers will do likewise when they are similarly forced to do so. Some argue that those within the big lick industry can effectively self-police under the Horse Protection Act of 1970, but the reality is, despite having over four decades to eliminate the abuse, soring remains a rampant and accepted practice among those who show "big lick" horses. Indeed, industry insiders openly admit this irrefutable fact: it is IMPOSSIBLE for a horse to perform the big lick WITHOUT being sore.

While notions of lovely racehorses and hats, gentry and gambling may appear to be idyllic means of generating revenue within our State, let us first clean up the cesspool of equine abuse so rampant throughout Tennessee and thus our current international reputation as a "powerhouse" of equine abuse.

Respectfully, Esther Roberts

And now...The full version

Esther's original treatise on the suffering of the Tennessee Walking Horse is offered below. It was too long for the *News Sentinel* newspaper's 300 word limit but makes a compelling argument against those who would practice soring on these animals in order to achieve the exaggerated movement referred to as 'the big lick'.

In response to today's editorial on the potential viability of horse racing in Tennessee, I offer the following: There are plenty of online gambling opportunities for those who engage in pari-mutuel betting and there is no valid reason to reintroduce horse racing into Tennessee at the present time. Your article states: "In the 19th century, Tennessee was an equine hotbed . . ." Alas, here in the 21st century, Tennessee remains an "equine hotbed" - for equine abuse and slaughter - and until Tennessee stops the abuse, we should not even consider bringing racing back to this State.

The majestic Tennessee Walking Horse is abused and tortured on a daily basis all across the state of Tennessee due to the stacks, chains, weights and caustic chemicals utilized on these gentle creatures to force them to perform the exaggerated and wholly unnatural gait known as the "big lick." As Tennesseans have evolved in social awareness over the past century, we as a people have come to understand that the "big lick" belongs in the same class of animal abuse as dog fighting and cock fighting. For those who are unfamiliar with the soring process required to force a horse to perform the "big lick" allow me to illustrate in terms most humans can understand.

Imagine you have a pedicurist rub the soles of your feet raw almost to the point of bleeding. Imagine you have a set of five-inch stiletto heels with "mary jane" straps on them. The pedicurist takes a crystal goblet, crushes the glass into fine shards, places the shards into the shoes, and then puts your nearly-raw feet into the shoes on top of the shards. The pedicurist tightens down the mary jane straps so you cannot take off the shoes. Next, the pedicurist scrubs your lower legs raw. Caustic chemicals are applied directly to your skin and plastic wrap is wrapped around your lower legs so the chemicals cannot evaporate but, instead, "bake" into your skin and cause chemical burns. You are placed into a very small space and never allowed to sit down or lie down - you must always stand in the glass-filled high heels with your

spine horribly out of alignment and your legs frying in the chemical wraps. Once a day, you are taken from your small room, a sharp metal gag is wrapped tight through your mouth to force your chin down and in, thus restricting your airway, and caustic chemicals are placed in your anus (in a horse, to make it lift its tail from the pain). Metal "bracelets" are placed around your ankles to aggravate your burned flesh when you move. You are then forced to run with a large child on your back who saws at the metal gag to make certain you keep your chin down and in, and to urge you to run faster in your glass-filled high heels. As horrible as it feels to have your foot in the air, the pain of your body's weight (plus heavy child) striking the ground, pounding your bloody feet in high heels, forces you to take huge, exaggerated strides to try and keep your feet elevated as high as possible for as long as possible.

Welcome to the world of the big lick.

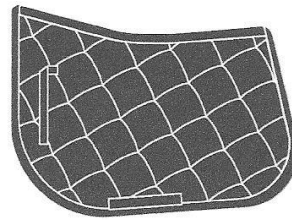
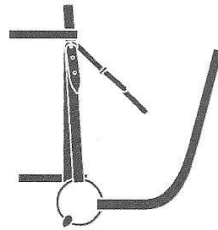
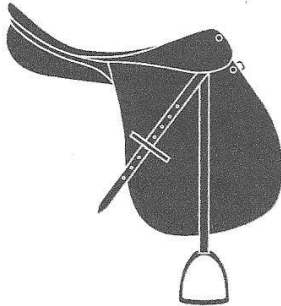
To those who belabor the outdated and invalid argument, "we must retain the big lick 'tradition' because this type of horse show brings in such large revenues and sustains a certain populace" I respond: your argument lacks both moral and economic foundations. This "tradition" argument sounds very much like the landowners and blacksmiths of the 1850s who decried ending slavery due to the alleged catastrophic economic impact to white plantation owners and the blacksmiths who made their living forging slave chains. After the Emancipation Proclamation, those plantation owners and blacksmiths found new ways to generate income; the current big lick owners, trainers, and farriers will do likewise just as soon as they - like the slave owners of old - are forced to do so. Some argue that those within the big lick industry can effectively self-police under the Horse Protection Act of 1970, but the reality is, despite having over four decades to eliminate the abuse, soring remains a rampant and accepted practice among those who show "big lick" horses. Indeed, industry insiders openly admit this irrefutable fact: it is IMPOSSIBLE for a horse to perform the big lick WITHOUT being sore.

Along with being held in contemptuous disdain worldwide as the center of equine soring abuse, Tennessee is a major hub of the equine auction-to-slaughter pipeline that runs all across the United States. Over-breeding and various other factors have contributed to a glut of unwanted horses throughout this country. While it is placebic to imagine all these slaughter-bound horses as old and decrepit, in reality the vast majority of them are young and sound; many are riding animals in the prime of life. Instead, however, of working to re-home these animals, they are sold by the thousands each week throughout Tennessee and other states and shipped to Canada or Mexico to be slaughtered for human consumption. In addition to the moral travesty of 150,000 American horses dying each year via inhumane slaughter methods, there is a human health risk, as well: American horses are not raised to be consumable meat, thus, many of the pharmaceuticals used in their care are unapproved for human ingestion and render the meat unfit for human consumption.

While the notions of beautiful horses and hats, gentry and gambling may appear to be idyllic means of generating revenue within the State of Tennessee, let us first turn our attention to cleaning up the cesspool of equine abuse so rampant throughout our State. Instead of theorizing about the viability of "Tennessee [regaining] its historic position as a horse racing powerhouse," let us focus first on bringing Tennessee out of the basement of the equestrian world's international disdain.

Crossroads Dressage &
Combined Training Society

TACK SWAP & SALE



Come and sell your used tack and horse gear!

When : Saturday July 30th

9:00 am -3:00pm

Where : Merry Hour Farm

4728 N Wildwood Rd

Maryville, TN 37804

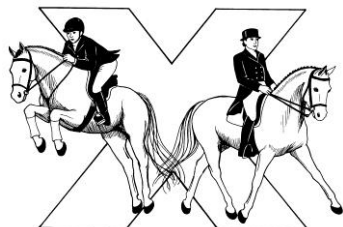
RSVP : 606-875-3627



\$10.00 per space.

Proceeds will go to The United States Para Equestrian Association.

We'll provide a 12 x12 space you provide the rest (change, chair, table, etc.) Set your own prices, mark and label as you like, take whatever offer you want! All sales you make are yours.



*Crossroads Dressage and
Combined Training Society*
2016 Membership Form*



First Name: _____ Middle Initial _____ Last name: _____ USDF # _____

Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

New member? Y /N

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:

Carol Mitchell, CDCTS Secretary
1909 Hidden Meadow Dr
Knoxville TN 37922

Date Received: _____
 Check # _____
 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
Electronic copies of CDCTS applications will be held until funds are received.

***You may join CDCTS at any time during the year.**

Renew today
and stay
connected
with your
local
dressage
community!



By joining, you also
receive complimentary
issues of the award
winning *USDF
Connection*.





2017 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championship Dates and Locations Selected

Lexington, KY (April 28, 2016) - The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) has selected the dates and locations for the 2017 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championships, presented by SmartPak.

Region 1 (October 5-8) at the Senator Martin Center, Williamston, NC

Region 2 (September 14-16) at Majestic Farm, Batavia, OH

Region 3 (October 6-9) at the Palm Beach Equestrian Center, Wellington, FL

Region 4 (September 28-October 1) at the Maffit Lake Equestrian Center, Cumming, IA

Region 5 (September 14-17) at the Stanley Park Fair Grounds, Estes Park, CO

Region 6 (September 20-24) at the Idaho Horse Park, Nampa, ID

Region 7 (September 21-24) at the Murieta Equine Facility, Murieta, CA

Region 8 (September 21-24) at HITS on the Hudson, Saugerties, NY

Region 9 (October 5-8) at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center, Katy, TX

These championships recognize the outstanding efforts of riders in each USDF region and provide an excellent opportunity for spectators to view the top competitors in their respective regions. Additionally, the top amateur and open riders at each of the championships, who have submitted a declaration of intent, and completed all other requirements, will receive an invitation to compete at the US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan®.

Kathy Sedlak of Great American Insurance Group added, "Our role as title sponsor of the regional and breeders championships has afforded a great opportunity to acknowledge outstanding individuals and the sport of dressage."

Competitors qualify for Great American/USDF Regional Championships by competing in designated qualifying classes throughout the year at USDF-recognized competitions. For more information on the regional championship program or the US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan®, visit the USDF website at www.usdf.org, or contact the USDF competitions department at regchamps@usdf.org.

Founded in 1973, the United States Dressage Federation is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For more information about USDF membership or programs, visit www.usdf.org, e-mail usdressage@usdf.org, or call [\(859\) 971-2277](tel:(859)971-2277).

Copyright © [United States Dressage Federation](http://www.usdf.org).

Photos courtesy of USDF. All rights reserved.

4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

Phone: [\(859\) 971-2277](tel:(859)971-2277) Fax: [\(859\) 971-7722](tel:(859)971-7722)

E-mail: usdressage@usdf.org

USDF Congratulates 2016 USDF/IDA National Quiz Challenge Winners

Lexington, KY (May 12, 2016) - The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) would like to congratulate Alexandria Belton, overall winner of the 2016 USDF/IDA National Quiz Challenge held on April 22, 2016 at the Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA) Nationals. Alexandria, a member of the class of 2017 at Cazenovia College, was entered in the First Level division. As the grand prize winner, she will receive a four-week internship at Hilltop Farm, Inc. in Coloma, MD.

Alexandria shared her enthusiasm for the challenge and the internship in saying, "Participating in the USDF/IDA Quiz Challenge at IDA Nationals gave me the chance to test my knowledge of dressage and what I have learned while at Cazenovia College. I had fun studying with the other members of my team, who also qualified. I'm very excited that Hilltop Farm has offered me this four week internship opportunity to learn about the operations of their business."

USDF would also like to congratulate the winners in each of the other divisions of competition: Kristen Kelley, of Averett University, was the winner of the Introductory Level, Catherine Meyer, of Cazenovia College, was the winner of the Lower Training Level, and Hannah Walter, of Averett University, was the winner of the Upper Training Level.

This competition, open to all IDA members, consisted of three rounds of competition. The first two rounds took place online through USDF's eTRAK, focusing on classical dressage theory related to the rider's seat, position, and aids, classical training and lungeing, as well as dressage competition rules. The ten highest scoring individuals from the first round, in each of the four categories (Introductory, Lower Training, Upper Training and First Level) moved on to compete in the second round; the five highest scoring individuals in each of the four categories from the second round advanced to the finals at the 2016 IDA Nationals, held at Centenary Riding Center at Centenary College in Hackettstown, NJ.

For more information on the USDF/IDA National Quiz Challenge, please visit the IDA website at www.teamdressage.com, the USDF website at www.usdf.org, or contact the USDF Youth Programs Liaison at youth@usdf.org.

Founded in 1973, the United States Dressage Federation is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For more information about USDF membership or programs, visit www.usdf.org, e-mail usdressage@usdf.org, or call (859) 971-2277.



Alexandria Belton, winner of the Grand Prize 4-week internship at Hilltop Farm, Inc. Photo by Sofia Agnifilo.

Get the USDF App Today and Stay Connected

Go to your app store for a free download of "**USDF: Your Dressage Connection**". Once you have downloaded the app, open it and look for "Subscription" at the bottom. As a member, click on "Subscription" and you will be prompted to enter your member number, e-mail address, and zip code. For additional help, please view the tutorial videos on how the app works on different platforms, by visiting the [USDF website](#).

This app provides access to USDF media and publications, and features stream and social media components. In addition to the digital editions of *USDF Connection*, *USDF Member Guide*, and the *Online Stallion Guide*, this app will also feature new online-only content, as well as streaming and dynamic content connected through the USDF website and social media channels. USDF members have full access to all content and features of the app, with the exception of retail titles. This is just another way that USDF is "Your Connection to the American Dressage Community." Take advantage of this new member benefit today.



Join the American Horse Council's Time to Ride Challenge!

Time to Ride is an initiative of the American Horse Council's Marketing Alliance designed to connect new people to horses and grow participation across the entire horse industry. This year, USDF is partnering with Time to Ride on its largest program, the Time to Ride Challenge. The Challenge offers \$100,000 cash and prizes to the stables, clubs, and businesses who introduce non-riders to horses and riding.

USDF is excited to offer additional recognition at the 2016 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention in St. Louis, MO, JUST for members of USDF who compete in the Challenge! Join the Challenge to grow your own club, attract beginner riders, increase participation in dressage, and compete for amazing cash and prizes. Registration is free, and opens April 1. The Challenge takes place June 1-September 30.

Be sure to sign up under USDF when registering for the Time to Ride Challenge.

Timeline:

- **June 1:** Challenge begins (participants may host events starting this date). Enrollment is open throughout the Challenge - continue to promote registration!
- **July 23:** National Meet-a-Horse Day - encourage all participants to host a meet-a-horse event today for national promotion.
- **September 30:** final day to host events - Challenge ends.
- **October 10:** final deadline to submit newcomer data/event reports.
- **Late October:** results reported to each association and winners announced.

Submit Articles for new USDF E-publication, *Your Dressage*

We're excited to inform you about a new electronic publication USDF is developing, *Your Dressage*, which will feature human interest stories and articles. USDF is asking GMOs to submit stories or articles, written by GMO members about their experiences or about your GMO's activities, to USDF! USDF also welcomes you to submit photos and/or videos of club events. These photos and videos can range from candid to professional. We can't guarantee that all stories or articles will be published, but all will be kept on file for possible inclusion in the publication. If you are interested in submitting a story or article for consideration, please complete the [Editorial Release Form](#) (which must also be submitted for photos and videos) and send it, along with the article (in Word format) and any photos/videos, to epubs@usdf.org.

GMO Spotlight Form

The new GMO Spotlight, a section in the new publication *Your Dressage*, will highlight various GMOs. Take this opportunity for your GMO to receive national exposure! The [GMO Spotlight Form](#) can be found on the [GMO Guide](#) page of the USDF website. The form must be signed by the GMO's current president, and will be kept on file for possible inclusion in *Your Dressage*. Please send these forms to epubs@usdf.org.

Keep your Youth Members Involved and Informed!

We are rapidly approaching that time of year when the USDF youth recognition and award programs are either in full swing, or have deadlines rapidly approaching.

Please share these opportunities with your youth members, and help us increase interest and participation in these opportunities:

- [USDF Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pin Program](#)
- [Youth Convention Scholarship](#)
- [USEF Youth Sportman's Award](#)
- [Youth Programs Advisory Subcommittee](#) (ages 16-25)
- [USEF/USDF Dressage Seat Medal Program](#)
- [USDF Dressage Sport Horse Youth Breeders Seminar](#) (ages 14-27)

There are also two awards your group might want to nominate one (or more!) of your youth members for:

- [Youth Volunteer of the Year Award](#)
- [Shining Star Award](#)

Save the Date!

The [2016 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention](#) will be in St Louis, MO, November 30 through December 3, 2016. The host hotel is the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch. We hope to see you there!

2016 GMO Award Nominations

It isn't too early to start thinking about submitting nominations for the 2016 GMO Awards. GMOs can submit nominations for [newsletter](#), [website](#), [photography](#), and the [Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year awards](#). Nominations are due in the USDF office by August 31, 2016.

View the 2015 GMO Award winners on the [USDF website](#)!

Grant to Attend Convention

Group Members can apply for the Ruth Arvanette Memorial Fund Grant, which allows one deserving individual to attend the Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, by providing funds to cover the cost of attendance. Applications are due in the USDF office by August 31, 2016. [Questions?](#) Go to gmoliation@usdf.org



Copyright © [United States Dressage Federation](#). All rights reserved.
4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: [\(859\) 971-2277](tel:(859)971-2277) Fax: [\(859\) 971-7722](tel:(859)971-7722)

2016 Events

Next CDCTS meeting will be held on **June 14** at Puleo's Grill, 260 N. Peters Road, Knoxville 37923. The Meeting will start at **7:00 pm**.

Cathy Fox Clinics. Held at Merry Hour Farm, 4728 N Wildwood Road, Maryville, TN 37804. Contact Carol Grau at 865-984-2532 for available ride times. Cost is \$60 per lesson. Cathy's schedule is **June 4-5, July 2-3, August 6-7, September 10-11, October 1-2, November 5-6, December 3-4**. To learn more about Cathy Fox, please visit her website www.pineknollfarm.com.

Spring Schooling Show. Held on **June 4, 2016** at White Stables Equestrian, 170 Rarity Bay Parkway, Vonore TN 37885. Judge is Debbie Schwartz. Event coordinator is Janet Wolf elektra2167@gmail.com

JJ Tate Clinic. Held on **June 25-26** at Teresa Shafer's farm, 8712 Holingsfield Drive, Knoxville TN or Yellow Wood Farm, in the event of inclement weather. The clinic is filled with those riders who were on the cancelled November clinic. Those individuals must send new checks for the event, as the checks for the November show were shredded.

Emily Brollier Curtis Clinic. 16-17 July 2016. Facility TBD. Price is anticipated to be approximately \$85.00 per person per ride. Contact Susan Price for additional information at susanccsi@comcast.net.

Dressage by the River. Held on **July 23-24, 2016** at River Glen Equestrian Park, 1834 London Road, New Market, TN 37820. Judge will be Elizabeth Lewis.

CDCTS Tack Sale. Held on **July 30, 2016.** Christina Cardenas is coordinating this event. It will be held at Merry Hour Farm, 4728 N Wildwood Rd, Maryville TN 37804 from 9 am to 3 pm. Cost to rent a space is \$10. All proceeds from space rental go to the United States Para Equestrian Association.

CDCTS Picnic. Held on **July 30, 2016.** It will be held at Merry Hour Farm, 4728 N Wildwood Rd, Maryville TN 37804 starting at 4 pm. The club will provide the meat dish and beverages. Attendees are requested to bring a side dish to share.



THE CROSSING



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, which provides you with many additional benefits in the dressage 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