



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

The definition of *perspective*: noun - a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something; a point of view.

I am normally a pretty laid back, easy going person and it generally takes a lot to make me lose it, but I got pretty upset about something recently. I happened to be talking about the incident to a very wise friend of mine who gave me a great analogy. She said "It is just like when a person rides. You might have a ride where 10 things were great, but there was one thing that you had trouble with. Instead of being super excited about the 10 great things that happened, we get upset and worry to death about the one thing that wasn't right." And that is so very true. I can't tell you how many lessons I have had where I finished a lesson and all I could think of was the thing that I didn't get right (canter transitions at the current moment ☺) Not the things that went right or really improved in the lesson. I thought that was great advice and it really gave me the new perspective I needed.

I know it will be difficult because it is just human nature to focus on the bad, but when things don't seem to be going right and something has got you down, either in your riding or your life – take a minute to try to look at it from a new perspective and focus instead on all the great things that are happening. I am sure you will find there are far more good things happening than bad, and I bet it will make that one thing that is bothering you seem a lot less important!

Now, I would like to take a moment to thank Jean Sullivan for all her work on the awards banquet. It was fantastic! She had a fun, interactive game for us to play and Rita Dunn gave a wonderful talk on her journey to Grand Prix. It is always fun to see the slideshow that Kim Clelland puts together for us that shows our adventures throughout the year. The food was amazing and there was some stiff competition for all the great items that were donated for the auction. Kudos to you, Jean for a job well done!



Susan and Cowboy

January 24 2015 Year End Awards Banquet and Silent Auction

Congratulations to the following award winners

Combined Training Awards:

Combined Training, Prelim, Open—Erika Adams and *Williston*

Combined training, Training Level Jr. Yr.—Megan Van Son and *Arioso*

Dressage Awards:

Dressage Third Level Open—Joni Abney and *Denmark* 67.80

Dressage Second Level Open—Melissa McKenzie and *Dusters Legacy* 70.00

Dressage First Level Open—Melissa McKenzie and *Ebony Von Grace* 74.28

Dressage First Level Schooling Show—Jean Sullivan and *Damascus* 63.3

Dressage Training Level, Adult Amateur—Teresa Shafer and *Isaac* 70.9

Jack Foster Award—Highest Schooling Show Score—Jean Sullivan and *Damascus* 72.0

Laurel Ann Crowe Award—Highest Combined Training Schooling Show— not awarded as no one applied

Merry Hour Award—Dave McAdoo

Volunteer of the Year Award—Susan Price

Photos from the Awards Banquet



Master of Ceremonies
Jean Sullivan



Guest Speaker Rita Dunn

Our apologies for the quality of the photos but that's what happens when your faithful editor uses her cell phone as the camera, having left her regular camera at home.



Combined Training, Prelim, Open - Erika Adams



Combined Training, Training Level Jr/Yr - Megan Van Son



Dressage 3rd Level Open – Joni Abney



Dressage 2nd Level Open – Melissa McKenzie



Dressage 1st Level Open – Melissa McKenzie



Dressage 1st Level Schooling Show – Jean Sullivan



Above Left: Dave McAdoo accepts the Merry Hour Award

Above Right: Susan Price (r) accepts the Volunteer of the Year Award

Left: Jean Sullivan (l) accepts the Jack Foster Award

Far Left: Erika Adams accepts two gifts from CDCTS President Susan Price given in recognition of her generosity in allowing the club to use her facilities for numerous events. The gifts were a three-step mounting block (Erika is demonstrating how to use it) and a \$500 check to assist with the purchase of footing for the lower ring.

CDCTS CLASSIFIED CORNER

Free! 21 year-old Percheron mare, free to a good home, great pasture buddy. She is rideable but has slight navicular. She is an easy keeper, on grass and in pasture with run-in, and is very lovable and easy to work with. She does drive, as well. Contact Kathy Ridenour 423-912-1477.

Ansur Dressage Saddle: Lightly used, meticulously maintained Ansur Classic treeless dressage saddle. Seat size is 18 inches. Will fit any horse, and has been used on very narrow and very wide horses, especially good for horses with shoulder problems. Comes with specialize pads and adjustable/ removable knee blocks. New, these saddles cost over \$3000 so this one is a fantastic deal at **\$800**. Contact Melissa McKenzie 865-603-4846

Collegiate Baron Dressage Saddle: 18 inch seat with medium tree. In very good condition, excellent starter saddle for a great price! \$400. Contact Melissa McKenzie 865-603-4846

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
 RETRAINER@YAHOO.COM
 WWW.RUNAWAYFARMS.COM

RITA DUNN

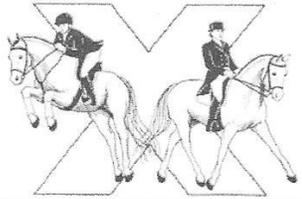


USDF Certified
Dressage Instructor
Training Through 2nd Level

USDF Bronze and Silver
Medalist



(865) 988-9113
piaffe8@charter.net



*Crossroads Dressage and
Combined Training Society*
2015 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 2014 Membership Year (December 1, 2014 - November 30, 2015). 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, 2015)
- \$28 Junior/Young Rider Membership (21 years old or younger as of January 1, 2015)
- *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, 2014 to:

Julie Noe, CDCTS Secretary
1031 Martin Mill Pk
Rockford, TN 37853

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

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

COUNTRYSIDE *Veterinary Services*



2930 LITTLE DUG GAP RD
LOUISVILLE, TN 37777

Phone: (865) 983-3155



Rebecca B. Lillard, DVM
James D. Lillard, Jr., DVM
Cindy S. Backus, DVM, MS, PhD
Monica S. Webb, DVM
Phillip D. Hammock, DVM, MS, DACVS
Monique Hanrath, DVM, DACVS
Jennifer A. Miller, DVM, MS, CVA

www.CountrysideEquine.com
www.CountrysideVetServices.com

- Full Service Small & Large Animal Hospital
- Equine Surgical Center
- 24 Hour Emergency Service

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
Talbot, TN 37877

Phone: 423-586-3287

Mobile: 423-736-3287

Fax: 423-587-0460

Email: denefoxhunter@charter.net

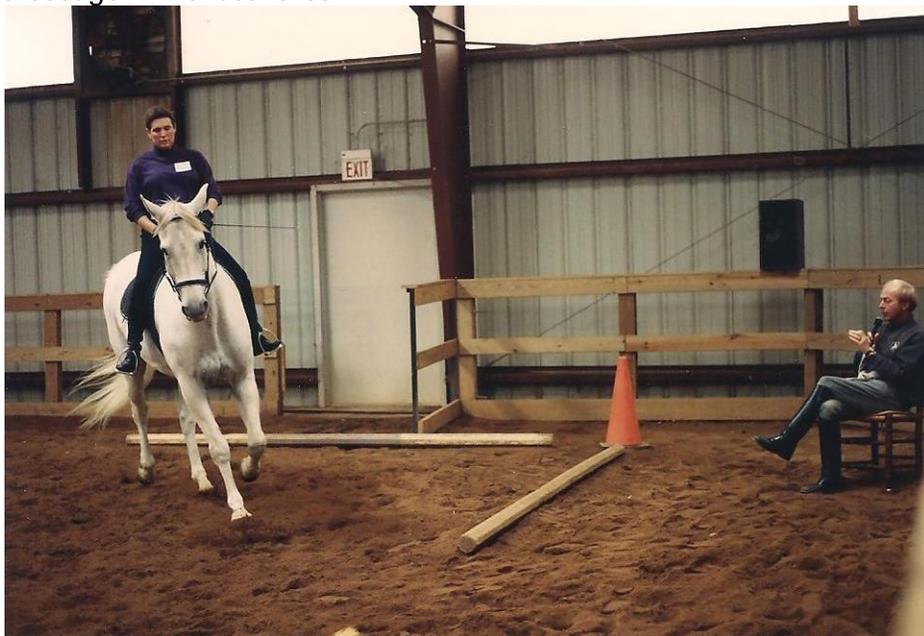
www.walnutgrovestables.com

The Way We Were

“It is important that we know where we come from, because if you do not know where you come from, then you don’t know where you are, and if you don’t know where you are, you don’t know where you’re going. And if you don’t know where you’re going, you’re probably going wrong.” (Terry Pratchett, *I Shall Wear Midnight* (Discworld, #38).

Terry Pratchett has brought up an important concept about knowing our roots, and in that spirit, I thought it might be important and fun to understand where our club came from, how it started and who was involved in its inception, early years and growth. We have many new members, myself included, who were not here at the start of the club and have no recall of those times. So this one is for us!

I had the opportunity recently to interview Carol Grau at her home, Merry Hour Farm, and discuss how it all started. When Carol came to this part of Tennessee 26 ½ years ago, there was only combined training available for horses and riders. Dressage was an unknown country. Coming from Oklahoma where there was a small but determined dressage community, Carol found herself alone and needing help with training flying changes. She searched around and finally came across Penrose Farm and then-owner Christine “Teeny” Hayworth. Teeny thought her event trainer for Penrose Farm, Debbie McKenzie, might be able to help her with those pesky lead changes but there were absolutely no trainers or stables solely dedicated to the sport of dressage in the local area.



Carol riding *Soon Enough* (Sooner) under the watchful eye of Charles de Kunffy, in Atlanta, circa 1988.

Carol was determined to change that and, as she was new to the area, she started the process by building friendships with other similar-minded riders. In her Merry Hour living room, Carol hosted the first meeting, consisting of foxhunters and dressage enthusiasts, which started the fledgling club that would eventually become CDCTS. “We needed each other’s help to get started and to get enough members to meet the requirements that would lead to USDF approval.” Carol recounted. “Eventers at the time weren’t much interested in the USDF, but we worked together and eventually prevailed.” USDF put the fledgling club on trial for one year and then club was officially approved as a USDF member club. It was named “Crossroads Dressage” after the intersection of the two major highways in the region—Interstates 75 and 40.

The first year was challenging, as the foxhunting crowd was not especially interested in keeping their USDF membership after the first year. But other members did join or chose to stay and the small club continued to grow; the first year's membership total did not exceed 30 members. In first months, meetings moved from Carol's home to a restaurant in Lenoir City, to an after-hours office space and to other restaurants, setting up like vagabonds, enjoying meals, beverages and good fellowship. During that time, the club's constitution and by-laws were solidified with the overarching theme of education, to meet the USDF requirement. Good to learn

that our habit of using restaurants for our monthly meetings is rooted in a long and fun-filled history.

To gain an appreciation of how under-served the dressage community was in the area at that time, Carol relayed how Mike Huber had to travel to the East Coast to ride in recognized events. Carol brought Charles de Kunffy to her farm for a dressage clinic in the club's second year. She laughingly related how de Kunffy was willing to come, as long as she had a covered judge's area for him. "We had to rush to get it done and it was finished the day before the start of the clinic." De Kunffy never knew of the scramble to get it completed on time and the clinic was a huge success with the attendees and auditors.



Carol and *Seize the Moment* (Micky) at River Glen in 1997

The Iron Leaders

The club brought in many excellent clinicians that could improve the educational experiences of the members. It faced many challenges as it grew and, through the efforts of several key members, the club thrived. Carol felt it was important to highlight three of those key members for their efforts to keep the club growing, despite the challenges.

In the mid-1990's, **Tina Henderson** stepped into the role of club President, on short notice and at a time when the club's future was not assured. She was instrumental in keeping the club focused and relevant to its members, while working assiduously to move the club forward.

During the ensuing years the club continued to flourish and during the years 2005-2012, **Rita Dunn** stepped up to take over the club's Presidency. Under Rita's leadership and superior organizational skills, the meetings became more effective and the club membership grew again. Despite her diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer, Rita never intended to let that issue affect her determination to have the club succeed. She rarely missed meetings, refusing to allow her medical treatments to get in the way of the club's schedule. Rita ushered the club into the IT age and was responsible for much of its computer-based activities that continue today. Rita is, in Carol's opinion, one of the unsung and stalwart heroes of the club, having done so much more for the club than most members realize.

And then there is **Diane Carlson**, a long-time member of the club. She has held several positions on the club's board over the years—most frequently as Secretary or Treasurer. She is a volunteer *par excellence* and can be counted on to attend or volunteer at almost every event the club holds. She has been and continues to be a positive influence on the club. You can always catch her smiling face at the membership table or helping at one of the vendor's positions during the showing season.

Becoming the CDCTS

Approximately eight years ago, Crossroads Dressage joined with the East Tennessee Combined Training Association to become Crossroads Dressage and Combined Training Society. The eventing club had been experiencing a shrinking club membership and approached the dressage society to join forces and, in doing

so, both clubs capitalized on a wider membership pool that brought much needed resources, people and diverse interests. CDCTS grew and thrived.

There were many clinics offered by CDCTS over the years that showcased the incredible talent offered by the clinicians. They included a long and august group: Lilo Fore (FEI "I" 4* judge and trainer), Hilda Guerny (FEI "I" Judge, large "R" Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Judge, competitor and contributor to USDF), Lendon Gray (1988 US Olympic team member who is extremely active in USET, ASHA and USDF), Michelle Gibson (achieved a bronze medal in team dressage and placed 5th in individual competition at the 1996 Olympics), Tami Crawford (made the top 12 for the 2000 Olympic Selection Trials with her long time equine partner Dakota), Charlotte Bredahl (won bronze in team dressage at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona Spain), Jim Koford (Grand Prix rider and trainer with a gift of bringing horses along to levels that others said they couldn't reach) and Cathy Fox (Grand Prix dressage trainer).

During the early years, there were several schooling shows held annually in the Oak Ridge area. Frank Daigle held several schooling shows at his Jefferson City facility until he sold his farm and moved to Florida. However, the siren call of Tennessee brought him back in the summers until he was killed here in a freak accident. Merry Hour Farm and Wind Rush Farm held several, as well, in the Knoxville area.

Favorite Memories

Carol laughed at the question and remarked that for her, the favorite memory was "having de Kunffy at the barn and building the judge's stand to keep the sun off of him."



Students riding the Quadrille at a local show, circa 1997

And starting a quadrille for her students in the late 1990's was a joy for both Carol and her students. Carol had a barn full of lesson horses that were available for students to ride for free on Sunday afternoons, even if the mares weren't that cooperative with the drills. It was a way for the students to highlight the riding skills needed and they would "pretty much show up at all sorts of horse club and pony club events, after I got permission from the show organizers," Carol recalled. Her final four quadrille students were Christina Barber, Rebecca Brown (our CDCTS webmaster), Stephanie Bivens and Angela Hillis. The free styles were sponsored by Lisa Morrison and Carol and they "were a lot of fun."

And of course, she loves the memories of her students and her at Christmas time, regaling the neighbors with Christmas carols, all the while on horseback.

The Future

When asked what Carol would like to see for future activities to keep the club invigorated, Carol was very clear on what she saw as the way forward. First, she sees the need for barns to continue hosting schooling shows, even though there are few dressage-focused training barns left in the area. Second, she feels it is important to continue growing the dressage and eventing community and to continue holding high-quality symposiums. Third, she believes it is important to continue supporting the River Glen Facility at Newmarket. Finally, the club should look into supporting and cultivating serious young riders through scholarships, if possible.

But most importantly, she wishes more CDCTS members would ride in the shows so that they continue to improve their skills and to gain valuable knowledge in determining which trainers work best for them. She

wishes more members would volunteer to support the club because “the original members are starting to slow down, as we are all of a certain age!”

Carol and Charlie Grau own Merry Hour Farm located on N. Wildwood Road, Maryville TN. To learn more about the facility, you can visit their website at www.merryhourfarm.com.

Corrections to USDF Tests Printed in 2015 Member Guide

Members riding the following tests should be aware of **corrections** to the tests printed in the 2015 Member Guide:

- **USEF First Level Test 1**; movement #11 should read F-X-H
Change rein. X Working trot
- **FEI Prix St. Georges**; movement #2 should read C Track to the right, M-X-K Medium trot, K-A-F Collected trot
- **FEI Intermediate I Test**; movement #15 should read H-X-F
Extended Canter

These corrections have been incorporated into the [Online Member Guide](#)

Information downloaded from www.usdf.org

2015 Events

Next CDCTS meeting will be held on **February 10, 2015** at the Blue Coast Grill, 37 Market Square, Knoxville. The Meeting will start at **6:30 pm** sharp so please come earlier to order your meal and to socialize. The restaurant's website is www.bluecoastgrill.com.

Coming in May 2015. Dr Jenny Susser Clinic **May 9-10.** “Riding with Confidence”

RIDING WITH CONFIDENCE 2-DAY MOUNTED CLINIC

Fear is real, and it can be paralyzing. Technically, fear is our mental (and subsequently physical) response to a real threat. Anxiety, by the way, occurs without a real or external threat, but is powerful just the same. Our minds and bodies develop “muscle memory” to our fears and anxieties and before you know it, all you have to do is think about riding and your body responds with sweaty palms, elevated heart and breathing rates, and that pit in your stomach. Riding with fear is something many of us do everyday because we love our horse enough to withstand the discomfort—and mostly hope that it will just go away some day. If this sounds familiar, this clinic is for you...

How about “show nerves”, do they ever get in your way? Do you wish you could ride as well at a show as you do at home? Do you avoid showing your wonderful horse altogether because you get anxious just thinking about it? Do you wish you had some magic formula to make your brain go away so you could just enjoy showing or clinicing...join Dr. Jenny Susser for an exciting new clinic to help you RIDE BETTER MENTALLY!

“Riding With Confidence” is a 2-day clinic for riders given by Dr. Jenny Susser. Start off both days with an hour-long lecture on Sport Psychology and begin forming a new foundation of mental toughness. Learn how to improve focus and self-confidence, two integral parts of riding better mentally. Then, get on your horse and ride! With a gallery of on-lookers, your trainer, and a sport psychologist, you'll feel as nervous as you've ever been at any horse show. With your fears or “show nerves” palpable, Dr. Jenny will help you develop confidence and learn new ways to control your physical responses right there on the spot! If riding is too much anxiety to think of, audit and learn from those on their horses...you'll feel nervous enough watching for it to have an impact, and will get one-on-one time during the breaks. Then, finish out the day with a Q & A discussion, a great way to solidify the learning from the day.

For more information on Dr Susser's activities, please visit her website at <http://www.jennysusser.com>

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 www.facebook.com/CDCTS

From the Editor's Desk

I have a riddle for you. When is a horse like an attack dog? Don't know? Not sure? Well, in a recent 2013 Connecticut Superior Court decision, a horse is like an attack dog at all times because it belongs to a category of animal that is "naturally inclined to do mischief or be vicious."¹ "What?!" you say, "That's just crazy talk!" Maybe so, but the case ruling has some major repercussions in Connecticut and may, in future, affect these types of cases in other states.

Here's how it all started. On 18 May 2006, at the Glendale Farms operation in Milford Connecticut, a third-generation family owned business that sells plants to the general public and provides a horse-boarding operation, had two visitors that would change state law as a result of their own actions. The two visitors were Anthony Vendrella and his then-two-year old son. Mr. Vendrella purchased some plants, put them in his car and then took his son over to see the horses in a nearby paddock. Despite the signs that requested visitors not feed the horses, Mr. Vendrella petted one horse named Scuppy and then turned to pet the other horses. When he turned away, Scuppy nipped his son on the cheek, resulting in a serious injury that required plastic surgery to repair and leaving a permanent scar.

Mr. Vendrella sued the owners of Glendale Farms, and his legal team argued that the posted signage around the paddocks indicated that the owners knew that their animals were dangerous to the public and that posting signs were not adequate protection for the general public. The initial case was dismissed but that did not stop Mr. Vendrella or his legal team. They appealed the decision and won, taking the case to the Connecticut Supreme Court. The court's opinion, released on 1 April 2014, makes for alarming reading, if you are a horse owner or own a boarding facility. The court cited *Bischoff V. Cheney* when it stated that, "this court recognized that domestic animals fall into three general categories: (1) animals that 'have either mischievous or vicious propensities which are known by [the owner]'; (2) those that belong 'to a species naturally inclined to do mischief or be vicious'; and (3) those that neither have known mischievous propensities nor belong to a species with naturally mischievous propensities."² Horses were determined by the court to be in Category 2.

According to Frederick J. Mastele, acting president of the Connecticut Horse Council, the impact of this decision could be far reaching, as he pointed out that if horses are " 'deemed vicious animals,' they would be uninsurable and any and all uses would be affected"³, to include all aspects of horse owning, training and boarding.

I am concerned with the public's general lack of horse knowledge that exists today. In our horse world, we have invested significant amounts of time around horses, such that most of us can 'read' a horse's expression and can anticipate the next behavior. Most of the time. We also know that even with all of our experience, we can get hurt because we didn't read the horse and react quickly enough to avoid an injury to ourselves from an animal that is not 'inherently vicious' but because it's a prey animal with hair-trigger reactions.

¹ Equus, January 2015 Issue 448, *The case of the 'vicious' horse*; p.p. 33-37.

² Ibid. p.p. 36

³ Ibid. p.p. 36

The general public has no such experience to draw upon when they interact with horses today; this fact I discovered a few years ago at an army post in Kansas when I was asked how to make the stable on post safer for the motorists driving through the stable area on their way to and from work. The horses had to cross a road to get from the stable to their paddocks and were led across each morning and evening. Most of those motorists viewed the horses they passed like large dogs on 'leashes' and didn't realize that a spooking horse could land on the hood of a car and flip onto the roof, causing terrible damage to car, driver and horse. My suggestion to route through-traffic around the stable altogether and put in speed bumps was met with surprise.

Even 65 years ago, the general public had a much more educated view of horses because horses were still a significant aspect of American culture and horses were still used by the majority of people. General horse 'experience' existed inside the culture and general knowledge of how to act around horses was the norm. With increased mechanization after World War II, we progressed away from using horses in everyday life to where horses are today, in a niche, a small enclave of the few. Horses are seen, mostly through TV and on-line, as large but 'pretty' creatures that exist for pats, treats and other innocuous interactions. Given the lack of knowledge about horse behavior today, it's perhaps no surprise that the event of May 2006 occurred.

So what can a horse owner or horse-boarding property do? Signage in stables and on horse properties seems to imply that we 'know' that our horses are dangerous. Should we have double fences around all horse properties with "No Trespassing" signs every few feet on the outer fence and state-specific equine liability signs posted every few feet on the inner fence? Will that keep the uninformed out and safe from their equine ignorance?

How does this ruling affect us in other states? I checked with my equine insurance company—they hadn't been following this case. They are discussing it with their underwriters and will get back to me. They recommended that I seek the legal opinion of an attorney in my state who is experienced in equine law regarding the best way forward. On a positive note that might signify a light at the end of the tunnel, the law in this specific case was mitigated by the recent actions of Connecticut's Governor. In February 2014, he introduced legislation to protect horse owners, specifying that all equine species are not 'inherently dangerous.' The legislation, Malloy's Law Public Act No. 14-54, was passed unanimously by both State Senate and the House of Representatives and was signed into law in July 2014. (Ibid. p.p. 36)

A horse is dangerous on both ends and uncomfortable in the middle. Ian Fleming

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