



Collective Remarks

VA Dressage Association Central Chapter

January 2019

President's Letter

Greetings,

Our Year End Awards Banquet and Silent Auction are right around the corner – January 27! Let's shed those barn boots for the afternoon and have some good food and fun.

Dressage at the Ritz is our theme this year. Robin Floyd has so graciously offered to be our theme designer, so we know we are in for a special time. Marie Taylor will wow us with the wonderful offerings in the Silent Auction donated by our members and sponsors. Let Marie know if you are bringing an item for the auction. If you want to be festive, dress up in your finery and bling. Remember to R.S.V. P.

The Shel Gafford Nominations are being forwarded to the membership this week by our Secretary, Marci Drewry. Please read the email upon receipt, make your selection, and return to Marci. Several of us had computer issues so we need to get our Chapter's reply back to VADA. The members nominated have certainly given a great deal to our equine community.

Jane Kelly, our Activities Committee Chair, has

been busy! On March 17, 2019, there will be a New Tests clinic presented by Debbie Rodriguez, USEF 'S' FEI 3* dressage judge, at Oakdale Farm. Applications for riders will be forthcoming. Auditors are welcome and encouraged. Let's get ready to ride those new tests.

Dressage at the Meadow is just around the corner. Our officials are set. We will soon be starting the show committee meetings. Shanda King, our Show Committee Chair, will be putting out the word for pre-show volunteer show committee opportunities. Heather Escobar, our Volunteer Coordinator, will be publishing the sign up website for volunteer opportunities at the show. Remember, if you want to personally sponsor a class, you can sign up at the banquet. There is a Facebook page for the show itself, and there is also a separate page for the volunteer announcements. Stay tuned!

Thank you to our new Board members for stepping up with such eagerness to make 2019 a great year. Hopefully, we can ride in sunshine soon.

See you at the Banquet,
Susan

From the Editor

Hello from your new newsletter editor! I have been to a couple of board meetings now, and am relieved to find that, at least of the members I've met, everyone seems quite willing to bear with me as I learn the ins and outs of 1. Virginia, 2. VADACC, and 3. your newsletter. I'm new to all of those and I don't always know what I'm doing, but I'm willing to give it all a shot. Thank you to the board and the members I've met, who have all been warm and welcoming to myself and my business partner, Bethany Larsen. We are looking

forward to many years of working with and for VADACC!

Although this particular newsletter is quite late, I am really going to try to work my way back to getting it out on the 1st. I will need a lot of help to get there. Please try to get your articles, show results and other things to me by the last few days of the month (please don't read that as *last day*). I'm fine with .doc files and .pdf are fine for forms.

Please contact me (LyndaMcCannVA@gmail.com) if you have any questions or need help.

DRESSAGE AT THE MEADOW 2019

by Susan Ellis

As most of you know, Dressage at the Meadow, will be on a new weekend this year, May 10-12, 2019. The breed show will again lead off the show on Friday.

Our show officials are:

Show Manager:

Nancy Lowey

Judges:

Carter Bass 'S'

Cindy Canace 'S'

Technical Delegate: Tamla Nickols

Show Committee Chair:

Shanda King

Our 2019 Show Committee meetings will commence by early February. We will organize our committee around a professional show manager this year.

Our Show Committee will break down in to subcommittees to add efficiency to our operation. These areas of focus will need volunteers to step up as sub-committee representatives are Hospitality, Vendors, Sponsorship, Breed Awards, Awards, and Programs. As we organize, there may be other areas designated. We appreciate the members who have stepped up to help and look forward to others joining in when the first meeting date is set. As our Committee is organized, points of contacts for these areas will be designated and their contact information provided.

A Sponsorship sheet to sign-up for individual classes and special awards will be present at our banquet. The Sponsorship flyer is being prepared. Vendors for our vendor row are desired.

Every one of us as VADA CC Members can be an ambassador to Dressage at the Meadow. Sponsor a class or get a friend, equine service provider, or outside company to sign up as a sponsor. Do you know an individual who might like to showcase their business or specialized service as a vendor at the show? We need vendors and sponsors in addition to our favorite exhibitors. Let's get creative in our ideas and support our show!

Stay tuned to the Dressage at the Meadow Facebook group page for show updates as we get closer. Join the Facebook group Dressage at The Meadow Volunteers! if you have not already joined.

Let's get ready to host this show run by the best volunteers we know!

Volunteers Needed!

Shanda King, Competition Committee Chair, (shandaking@verizon.net) and Heather Escobar, Volunteer Coordinator, (Hgescobar84@gmail.com) are looking for members to volunteer to help. Positions needed are: advertising for show and program; sponsorships; vendors; hospitality; scribes; stewards; runners; etc. The online signup for show day volunteer positions will be posted. All are welcome. Help is always greatly needed!!

2019 VADACC Board

President:	Susan Ellis 804-467-3897 <i>Patriotic58@aol.com</i>	Activities Coordinator:	Jane Kelly 734-277-5623 <i>hardscrabblefarm@hotmail.com</i>
Vice President:	Paige Stewart 804-314-5216 <i>Dpstew1@gmail.com</i>	State Representatives:	Alison Douglas/MarieTaylor 804-314-5216 <i>dabneymill@aol.com</i>
Secretary & Membership:	Marci Drewry 757-371-5056 <i>hedgewitchfarm@hotmail.com</i>	Junior Chair:	Heather Crawford 804-291-8544 <i>Heathercrawford1129@gmail.com</i>
Treasurer:	Alison Douglas 804-339-7495 <i>shortydouglas@gmail.com</i>	Awards Chair:	Deb Howard 804-598-5477 <i>debbiehoward08@aol.com</i>
Webmaster:	Tara Dean 540-259-2628 <i>taradean@hotmail.com</i>	Volunteer Coordinator:	Heather Escobar 804-739-3775 <i>Hgescobar84@gmail.com</i>
Competition Chair:	Shanda King 757-810-1706 <i>shandaking@verizon.net</i>	Newsletter:	Lynda McCann 804-464-4992 <i>LyndaMcCannVA@gmail.com</i>



**Pierucci Dressage
at Chestnut Oak
Stables in Doswell, VA**

**ACCEPTING
STUDENTS
TRAINING LEVEL
TO GRAND PRIX**

**Positive Approach
for Both
Horse and Rider**

Please find us on Facebook



TRAINING • LESSONS • CLINICS • SALES

**USDF BRONZE, SILVER & GOLD MEDALIST
LONG LISTED IN 2000 • 5 STAR CLS RATING**

★★★★★

Contact Pati Pierucci
561-628-0018
patipierucci@hotmail.com



OPPORTUNITIES FOR FLORIDA WINTER SEASON

VADACC Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Contact	Type
JANUARY			
9	VADACC Board of Directors Meeting		
27	VADACC Year End Awards Banquet		
FEBRUARY			
10	VADA State Year End Awards Banquet		
MARCH			
3	Oakdale Farm Dressage, Powhatan	www.oakdaleequestrian.com	schooling
30-31	March Magic Dressage, Williamston, NC	www.sportingservices.net/march-magic-dressage-show.html	licensed
APRIL			
6	Saddlebrook Stables, Powhatan	www.saddlebrookstables.org	schooling
7	Oakdale Farm Dressage, Powhatan	www.oakdaleequestrian.com	schooling
13-14	Williamston Spring Dressage, Williamston, NC	www.rosinburg-events.com	licensed
13-14	Airfield C/W Series, Wakefield, VA	www.airfieldconference.com/page/equestrian	schooling
MAY			
4	Saddlebrook Stables, Powhatan	www.saddlebrookstables.org	schooling
5	NE-VADA at Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA	804 263-4223	schooling
10-12	Dressage at the Meadow, Doswell, VA	www.meadoweventpark.com	licensed
18-19	Lexington Spring Dressage, Lexington, VA	www.rosinburg-events.com	licensed
18-19	Airfield C/W Series, Wakefield, VA	www.airfieldconference.com/page/equestrian	schooling
19	Oakdale Farm Dressage, Powhatan	www.oakdaleequestrian.com	schooling
25-26	VADA-Ch Isabel F. De Szinay	www.vadach.org	licensed
JUNE			
15-16	Virginia Summer Dressage, Culpeper, VA	www.rosinburg-events.com	licensed
16	Oakdale Farm Dressage, Powhatan	www.oakdaleequestrian.com	schooling
22-23	Airfield C/W Series, Wakefield, VA	www.airfieldconference.com/page/equestrian	schooling
30	NE-VADA at Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA	804 263-4223	schooling
AUGUST			
11	Oakdale Farm Dressage, Powhatan	www.oakdaleequestrian.com	schooling
31	NE-VADA at Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA	804 263-4223	schooling
SEPTEMBER			
21	Saddlebrook Stables, Powhatan	www.saddlebrookstables.org	schooling
21-22	Airfield C/W Series, Wakefield, VA	www.airfieldconference.com/page/equestrian	schooling
29	NE-VADA at Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA	804 263-4223	schooling
TBA	VADACC Championship Show		
OCTOBER			
13	NE-VADA at Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA	804 263-4223	schooling
19-20	Dressage at Airfield, Wakefield, VA	www.airfieldconference.com/page/equestrian	licensed
26	Saddlebrook Stables, Powhatan	www.saddlebrookstables.org	schooling
26	Airfield C/W Series, Wakefield, VA	www.airfieldconference.com/page/equestrian	schooling
NOVEMBER			
3	NE-VADA at Edgehill Stables, Aylett, VA	804 263-4223	schooling
16	Saddlebrook Stables, Powhatan	www.saddlebrookstables.org	schooling

VADA Central Chapter Championship Schooling Show

The VADACC Championship Schooling Show is on for 2019!

For those who participated several years ago, this was a fun and festive show for our riders with lovely awards and great Central Chapter team spirit.

Riders will be able to qualify for the Championship show through their participation in our current year sanctioned shows. Paige Stewart is heading up our Show Committee. Planning has begun.

Stay tuned for more details soon! Please plan to attend!

Volunteer Hours

Happy 2019 from your new VADACC Volunteer Coordinator. In an effort to consolidate and organize volunteer hours more readily, I have created a google form. Please use this form to submit your volunteer hours throughout the year. The link and a sample of what the form looks like are posted below and will be added to the facebook page as well. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

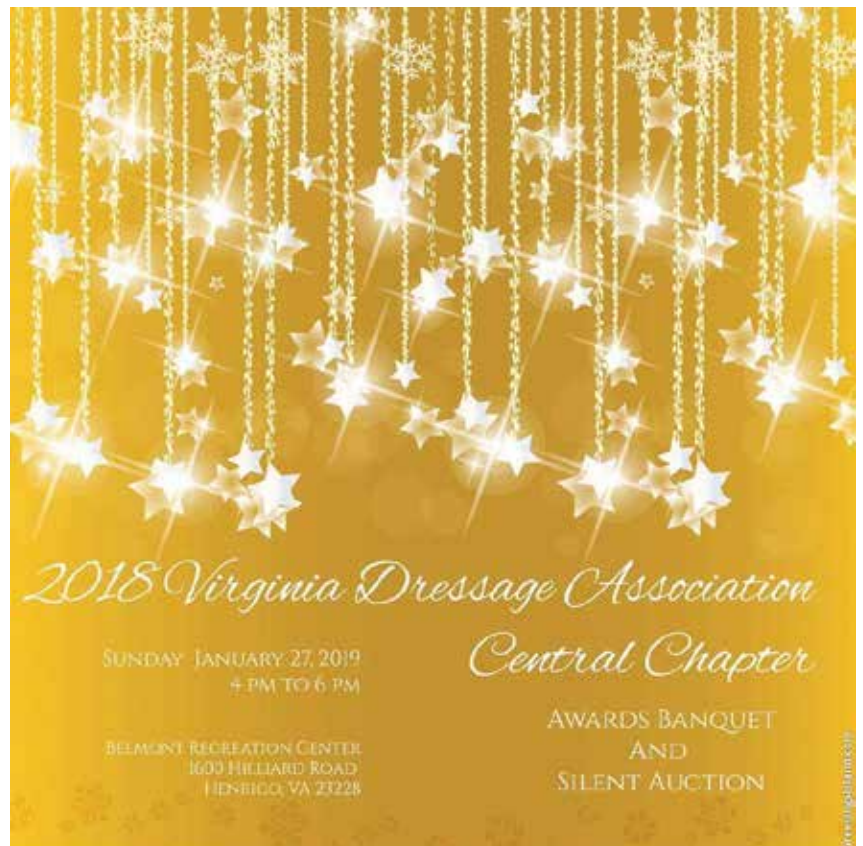


Thank you,

Heather Escobar

hgescobar84@gmail.com

<http://bit.ly/VADACCvolunteerhourform>



NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE USDF CONVENTION

by Michelle King

Things were so busy at the USDF Convention, held the week after Thanksgiving in Salt Lake City, that it took me a few days to make it outside of the hotel to see the spectacular holiday lights in Temple Square! Given how much was going on, I thought it would be useful as a VADA GM Delegate to share some of the highlights with our members.

MFS Qualifying Scores

This was the topic that generated the most buzz all week long. A rule change proposal was initiated by USDF and submitted to USEF to change the minimum score required to ride a Musical Freestyle from 60% at the highest test of the freestyle level or any test of a higher level to 63%. USEF adopted this revision to DR 129.9 as an extraordinary rule change (pursuant to GR 152.3) with an effective date of December 1, 2018, to coincide with the start of the new test cycle. Concern was expressed throughout the Convention regarding both the substance of the new rule, as well as the method used to adopt it. This concern resulted in a motion that was presented at the Board of Governor's meeting, requesting that the USDF Executive Board send a request to the USEF asking that they pass a new extraordinary rule change, rescinding the prior rule change and reinstating the 60% qualifying score requirement. The motion passed overwhelmingly. However, it is important to keep in mind that there is a process that even extraordinary rule changes must go through and this process takes time. And of course, there is no way of telling whether the USEF will decide to move forward with this request. So, the bottom line is this - until further notice, in order to ride a musical freestyle at a licensed show, you must first receive a qualifying score of 63% at the highest test of the level of the freestyle you wish to ride or any higher level. If you feel strongly about this rule change one way or the other, submit your comments to USEF.

Increased GMO Dues

After many years without an increase, the USDF voted to raise the dues of GM members by \$4.00, from \$20 to \$24. This is the same % increase as the increase in Participating Member dues that took effect last year. The GM dues increase will take effect in 2020 and every GMO and Chapter will need to make a decision on how to handle the increase in its membership fee structure.

New USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program

So, what am I going to get in return for this dues increase, you might ask? One of the most exciting items rolled out at the Convention was the new USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program for USDF GM Members who participate in schooling shows. The program is still in draft form with some things still to be finalized, so I won't go into a lot of details here, as some are still evolving. What we do know is that the program will be effective in the 2020 competition year. Riders must pay a nomination fee that will be good for a year and shows must also pay a small fee to participate. There will be multiple divisions of riders (e.g., open, Jr/YR, etc.) and multiple levels per division. Award standings will be tracked and calculated based on a rider's region of residence in the USDF database, but scores can be earned at participating shows anywhere in the country. Riders will be ranked against their peers and depending on their final placings, will be eligible for certificates and ribbons. Check back (on usdf.org) in a few months for the final program details and in the meantime, if you have any comments on the draft program, please send them to kwright@usdf.org.

SafeSport

This was another topic that generated much discussion at the convention. Several takeaways here. First, this mandate stems from a Federal statute that applies to all Olympic sports, and so it is not going away. Next, it is clear that some of the finer details about the program are still being fleshed out and I expect that we will have a lot more answers after the USEF Convention in January. Finally, the bottom line – if you are a USEF Participating Member (PM), you must complete the current Safe Sport training program in order to be able to participate in any USEF activities, including competing at licensed shows. The initial training takes about 90 minutes to complete (annual refreshers will be significantly shorter) and is the perfect thing to check off your to-do list on the next nasty winter day.

On top of all these hot topics of discussion, add in many great educational opportunities and a gala awards banquet honoring George Williams for his service to the USDF as well as the silver medal winning US riders from the WEGs, and it really was an action packed 5 days. If all of this sounds intriguing, mark your calendars now – next year's convention will again be the week after thanksgiving in Savannah – much closer and much warmer than Salt Lake City!

WINTER GALA ~ AWARDS BANQUET ~ SILENT AUCTION

Sunday, January 27, 2019

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm



RSVP FORM

Belmont Recreation Center
1600 Hilliard Road
Henrico, Va 23228

Bring a dish to share!

Name(s) of Attendees

Contact Address

Contact Phone/Email

Total number of people _____ X \$5 = Amount enclosed _____

Reservations: Make checks payable to VADACC
Banquet reservations must be received by January 18th, 2019

Send your check and reservation form to:

Alison Douglas
11909 Halcyon Way
Prince George, VA 23875
(804) 339-7495 cell

Banquet / Pot Luck Questions:
Susan Ellis
(804) 467-3897.
patriotic58@aol.com.

Silent Auction Donations/Questions
Marie Taylor
(804) 314-5216
dabneymill@aol.com

Online Pot Luck sign up to follow!

VADA
Annual Awards Banquet
Sunday, February 10th, 2019
Pippin Hill Farm & Vineyards
5022 Plank Road
North Garden, VA 22959
434-202-8063

Reception starts at 11 am with buffet lunch beginning at noon

\$35 per person

Banquet reservations must be received by **January 31st, 2019**

More information and a complete list of awards are available on the VADA website.

Name(s) of attendees _____

Contact address _____

Contact Phone/Email _____

(Important in case of inclement weather)

Total number of people _____ **X \$35 = Amount enclosed** _____

Interested in volunteering at the banquet? YES/NO

Make checks payable to VADA

Send your check and reservation form to:

Alison Douglas 11909 Halcyon Way Prince George, VA 23875, (804) 339-7495 cell

STAY ON TOP OF THE DRESSAGE COMMUNITY'S MINDS FOR 12 MONTHS- THE 2019 PURPLEBOOK



The Purplebook is VADA's annual directory, which is mailed to all 750 members of the Virginia Dressage Association in February of each year. Contact information for individual Chapter Board Members and key activities for each one of our eight Chapters is included in addition to a listing of each member's address, phone number and email address.

Consider listing your business in this Membership Directory to make sure that your business gets noticed throughout the year. This publication has a 12 month shelf life and at the prices indicated below, that's certainly an excellent and cost effective way to stay top of mind with the Virginia dressage community!

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Listing (up to 6 lines of print) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Card (Black and White) | \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Half Page (Black and White) | \$70 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Page (Black and White) | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inside Back Cover (Color) | \$125 |

Business Listing Text:



CHECK TOTAL: _____ (Made payable to VADA, please)

Ad can be sent by snail mail (hard copy) or via email. Email ads can only be accepted in .pdf, .jpg, Word or Publisher. Please do not send using a smartphone as the quality of the file is greatly diminished.

Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check here if you advertised in 2018 and want to use the same ad _____

Send ad, check and form to: Robin Dannels, 7044 Covingtons Corner Road, Bealeton, VA 22712-6913
540/439-0994; reigndear01@aol.com

All ads must be received by January 20th, 2019 to be included in the 2019 Purple Book!

Collective Marks Monthly Advertising Rates for 2019

Please mail payment with ads; there is no billing and ads must be paid before they will run. Checks are payable to VADACC and can be mailed to Lynda McCann (pls email at LyndaMcCannVA@gmail.com for the address). Ads may be emailed to Lynda. Please send file attachments in MSWord format or as a JPG file, or check with Lynda if you need help. Deadline for ads is the 20th of the month for the following month's newsletter. Note: At the end of the ad the notation (mm/yy) will appear. This indicates the last month that the ad will run unless renewed. All FREE classified ads run for four issues and can be renewed or cancelled via email to Lynda.

VADACC Member

\$ *20.00/month* - Full Page
\$ *15.00/month* - Half Page
\$ *10.00/month* - Quarter Page
\$ *10.00/year* - Business Cards
Free in Classifieds (no pictures)

Non-Member

\$*25.00/month* - Full Page
\$*20.00/month* - Half Page
\$ *15.00/month* - Quarter Page
\$ *20.00/year* - Business Cards
\$.15/word, \$5.00 minimum – Classifieds

THE ADVENTURES OF TINK AND FRADO **A TEST OF WHAT?**

*The story that was labeled on The Chronicle of the Horse Chat Room as
"A story that should be required reading for all dressage riders."*

"You won't believe the day we had!" Susie blurted as she quickly led Percy into the barn and into his stall, leading him with her right hand while she carried a bundle in her left—something wrapped up in her riding coat.

Susie and Percy had been to a dressage show with Susie's mother and her horse, Big Mike. It had been a very large, fancy show, the biggest Susie had ever shown at, and they had left the night before and spent the night. All evening her friends Erin and Lily had waited in the barn for Susie's return to see how she had done. It had been a very competitive show so they weren't expecting too much in the way of ribbons, but they were looking forward to hearing about every moment of the show from start to finish.

After shutting Percy's door, Susie unwadded her coat, carefully shielding what was in it from view. First she withdrew a large white ribbon and put it on Percy's door. The other two girls oohed and aahed, suitably impressed, as Susie said, "That was our first test. Percy was so good; I was so proud of him. And Mom was really proud of both of us. It was a really large, first level, junior class and there were a lot of *really* nice horses and riders. Big, fancy, expensive horses. Percy and I felt kind of puny. But he really behaved well in the test and the judge liked him, and so we got fourth." She stood back and surveyed the ribbon dramatically. "Not very colorful though, is it? Oh well, this one from our second test is more colorful!" With a flourish Susie whipped out a blue ribbon from her bundle and placed it next to the other on the door.

"You *won*?! You *won* a class at that big fancy show?" Oohs and aahs were now replaced with squeals and hugs.

"Oh yes. We won. You wouldn't believe the test that Percy did. It was so good that we got this even more colorful ribbon." With the final, and largest, flourish Susie held up an even larger, blue, red, and yellow championship ribbon. "First level high point! Do you believe it?"

Well no, they didn't believe it. This was so far from the realm of what had been expected from this show that they couldn't quite fathom it. It took a few minutes of standing around with their mouths hung open and listening to Susie's story before the girls could really begin to understand that this really *had* happened!

It had been a gorgeous day. Seventy degrees, with low humidity and a cool, light breeze. Not a cloud in the sapphire

Con't on page 10

blue sky and the surroundings still dripping with green, now touched with pinks and golds. The show grounds were beautiful and immaculately groomed, with heaps of flowers in golds and rust everywhere. There were large grandstands with many spectators, and rows of booths selling tack and foods and other things. Beautifully turned out horses with gleaming coats and rippling muscles strode confidently about the grounds and warmed up intently in the area provided. It was an intimidating atmosphere for a smallish Quarter Horse/Thoroughbred cross and a young teenaged girl. It was with butterflies in their stomachs that they began their first test.

It was a very nice test. Always obedient, his nervousness caused Percy to turn even more to Susie for guidance. Susie, for her part, relaxed as the test went on and seemed to be going well. The pair did a very accurate, pleasant test, one they could be pleased with. They were even more pleased to find that they had placed fourth. "I guess we can hold our own with all these fancy horses," Susie whispered in Percy's ear. So it was with new confidence that the pair began their second, and final, test of the day.

Percy trot down the center line and made a nice halt. He felt happy; he felt relaxed; he felt full of life and joy. And then the magic began. Percy trotted boldly forward into a test where nothing existed for him but the feeling of perfection, and Susie went along for the ride. She rode well and asked for things correctly, but every time she asked, she received more than she could possibly have expected, more than Percy had ever before been able to give. A bigger trot, a more active canter, a steadier cadence, a rounder and yet more relaxed carriage, every step was the best ever. By halfway through Susie was grinning from ear to ear. She knew when something special was happening; so did the spectators. An already appreciatively quiet audience grew completely silent, and the feeling spread to the booths where vendors and buyers alike turned; all were riveted on the little horse in the ring. Full of the joy of being young and healthy, of feeling fit, of the beautiful weather, of the gorgeous surroundings, of moving and feeling and having it all work just right, Percy was showing just how spectacular a horse can be. And then came the *piece d'resistance*, the lengthening at the trot, in Percy's case a full extended trot. All the overwhelming joy burst out of Percy as he floated across that diagonal, covering more ground than a horse of his size

Con't on page 13



Riding, training and showing with
Bronze & Silver Medalist Bethany Larsen

Board your horse with us • Truck your horse in for lessons
Ride our through 4th level schoolmaster

www.toplinedressageva.com • 804-464-8067 • Powhatan



Providing noninvasive therapy options for Equine Athletes by using non-invasive, drug-free therapies such as:

- ▶ Theraplate
- ▶ Pulsating Cold Lasers
- ▶ Magna Wave Blankets
- ▶ and more

"Therapy Solutions for your Equine Athlete!"

CONTACT: SHANDA KING
SHANDA@ALTERNATIVEEQUINETHERAPIES.COM
(757) 810-1706



WALNUT ACRES FARM

Walnut Acres is a picturesque horse boarding facility in beautiful Williamsburg, Va.

The farm boasts classic white post and rail fenced paddocks, stabling for 27 horses and experienced team of equine professionals.

A genuine focus on equine care, affordable rates and a relaxed atmosphere makes it the perfect choice for local horse owners.



Shanda King
Email: shandaking@verizon.net

Tel: 757-810-1706
[www: walnut-acres.com](http://www.walnut-acres.com)

VADACC Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2018

Location: Jane Walker's Residence, Ashland, VA

Board members present: Jane Walker, Marci Drewry, Susan Ellis, Alison Douglas. Members present: Anne Draine, Tara Dean (incoming Webmaster).

President's Report – Jane Walker. Meeting called to order at 7:06pm.

Quorum not met for the Executive meeting (4 board members).

General discussion on having hired a Meadow show manager and insuring all judges know not to book flights out of town that are not consistent with the hours of operation for the show and allowance of enough time to complete all tests without rushing and still be able to easily get the judges to the airport in Richmond.

The December meeting time and place was discussed as it will be the annual change over of the board members for the new year. J. Walker suggested we meet at 7:00 pm at the Trackside Grill.

Vice President – Susan Ellis, no additional report

Treasurer's Report – A. Douglas, no treasurer's report.

Secretary/ Membership/Volunteer Report – M. Drewry reported that all of the volunteer hours had been sent to the awards committee and executive board members for review. A roster of those with volunteer hours will be posted to the Facebook page as well.

Committee Reports-

Activities Planning Committee – No report.

Competition Committee, Licensed – Dressage at the Meadow officials status discussed. The Competitions Committee will initiate meetings and preparation for the 2019 show after the new year begins.

Competition Committee, Schooling – No report.

Fundraising/Public Relations Committee – No report.

Awards & Banquet – The banquet was discussed. The date is set for January 27, 2019. Planning is underway. All board members present indicated that there would be an extension to get EOY awards packets in to the 10th of December instead of the 1st of December.

Junior/Young Rider Committee – No Report.

Website – Tara Dean will be taking on the position of Webmaster. Susan Ellis will contact Patty Werth to get the website access transferred.

Newsletter – M. Drewry identified that a member, Lynda McCann, has volunteered to take on the responsibilities as our new newsletter editor.

VADA report – No report.

New Business – None to report.

NEXT BOARD MEETING will be a gathering of the 2018 and 2019 Board members on 13 December, 2018 at the Trackside Grill located at 301 South Railroad Ave., Ashland, Va.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

VADA Central Chapter, Inc.

Show Sanctioning Form

The fee for 2019 will be \$125.00. Checks need to be made payable to “VADACC” before your first event in order for scores to count. Your shows will be listed in our newsletter and on our website, so please provide that information as well. For scores to count, the class must follow the guidelines of our chapter schooling shows.

Checks and this form should be sent to VADACC Treasurer:

Alison Douglas
11909 Halcyon Way
Prince George, VA 23875

Show information (dates, prizelists and results) should be sent to: **Paige Stewart** at dpstew1@gmail.com.

Name of organization to be sanctioned: _____

Contact name and information: _____

Con't from page 10

should be able and producing an extension few other horses ever would. Finally the test ended and, after a stunned moment, the audience responded wildly. Susie loosened the reins and walked Percy up to the judge, still grinning.

“I was going to give you a 9 on that extended trot, but said to myself, ‘It was one of the best medium trots I’ve ever seen; how can I give it less than a perfect 10?’ I only do that once every few years. Remember this test, young woman. Very few of us are ever given the privilege of riding such a test in our entire lives. And by the way, that smile of yours must have earned you an extra point or two in there. It’s a common misconception among dressage riders that a smile won’t help. I like to see a rider happy with her ride. Keep up the good work.” The judge’s words would bring a similar smile to Susie’s face every time she remembered them for years to come.

In fact it took Susie a long time to get over that test. Dressage was her “thing” she decided. She would dedicate her life to being the best dressage rider ever. Susie was thrilled to have found her calling in life and set about making it all come true.

A few days after the show the excitement had worn off for most and life had gone on. The barn went on about its normal routine and the beautiful ribbons fluttered on Percy’s door, not forgotten but no longer generating the excitement that they had. Erin and Lily were already at the barn when Susie arrived to ride Percy.

“This may be the last warm day we have this year,” Erin began.

“So we thought we ought to hack the horses to the lake and let them splash in the water.” added Lily. “We can take a picnic lunch and make a day of it.”

“How’s *that* for a great idea?” finished Erin.

“It sounds really good,” replied Susie, “but I can’t. Percy and I need to work on our tests for our next show. It’s coming up really fast, you know.”

Erin and Lily agreed. It *was* coming up really fast, and they admired Susie’s determination. And so what turned out to actually *be* the last warm day of that summer was spent in the ring, where everyone diligently worked on their dressage. It wasn’t as much fun as the trip to the lake, but it was necessary, although not *everyone* agreed with that thought.

“Jeez, Percy,” Tink complained that night. “We almost got a trip to the lake!” (Trips to the lake were the horses’

Con't on page 14

very favorite thing to do.)

"I understand your desire to work on your dressage, Percy," Babette added somewhat more diplomatically, "but it *would* have been fun, wouldn't it?"

"Well yes, of course it would have, but Susie and I need to work really hard to do as well as we did at our last show. It's important."

Babette sighed. "I guess."

Susie and Percy worked very hard every day. It wasn't long before Erin and Lily, with Babette and Tink, were off together, jumping and trail riding, picnicking and playing pony games. It wasn't the same without Susie and Percy, but after all, they did have their work to do.

The next show came and went. It was just a small show and Susie and Percy did ok. They won one of their classes, and were second in the next, but there were only three horses in each class and Susie and Percy each thought that perhaps ok wasn't enough. Shouldn't they have done much better than ok after all that work? There certainly wasn't any magic in their tests. They each dedicated themselves to working and trying harder.

There were more shows. The tests were accurate, they were "nice," but they were flat and mechanical. They were a lot of work and there was no joy in doing them. Susie and Percy tried harder and harder to regain what they had once had.

Once or twice Erin and Lily joined them in the ring and worked on their dressage too. Susie and Percy felt pleased (but only to themselves) that they were indeed much better at their dressage than Babette and Tink were. This was obvious as they all worked. Susie and Percy enjoyed it very much when the three horses and their riders all walked leisurely down the road to cool out after they worked.

Lesson day. Erin and Lily opted to have a cross country lesson and worked on their galloping in between jumping those wonderful cross country jumps. It was a brisk fall day and their cheeks glowed and eyes shone when they returned to the barn with the ponies.

"How was your lesson?" they asked as Susie and Percy returned from the indoor ring.

"Very good," replied Susie solemnly. "We worked on the extended trot. I think we'll have it pretty soon if we keep working hard."

At the other end of the barn Susie's mother leaned against a wall and watched Susie and the girls with worried eyes. Susie's instructor entered the barn, glanced at the girls, and shot a meaningful look at Susie's mom. "Tonight," her mother said. "I'll have that talk with Susie tonight."

Meanwhile the horses in the barn had also all been talking about Susie and Percy. As usual it was Tink who was elected to have "that talk."

"Percy" he began, "are you having fun? I mean with all the work you are doing?"

"Fun?" Percy asked, like it was a new concept. "Well, no. We have to work very hard to be the best. We don't have time for fun."

"Don't you think, just maybe, that something is missing? If there's no fun, no joy, in your work, then maybe that's all your tests are anymore. Work."


This was an interesting thought. Percy certainly didn't have any of the feelings in his shows now that he did when he did that magical test. He really did miss that. Maybe something *was* missing. Meanwhile, at the house, Susie was being given similar ideas.

It was actually with a bit of a sense of relief the next day when Susie suggested a trail ride. It was a long one, with a couple of good gallops. This time Susie's cheeks glowed too.

It would be nice to say that at their next show Susie and Percy did the magical test again. They didn't. A person, or a horse, is lucky to have that magic a moment once in a lifetime; it didn't come back that easily. But they had fun and found joy in performing their tests. There were moments that made them very happy and helped them remember why they were doing this in the first place. There were moments that needed work. And then there was that moment after their first "fun" test. The moment when they left the ring and the joy and happiness that once again filled Percy and he burst out in a huge buck. A horrified Percy gazed down at a shocked Susie who sat in the dirt at his front feet. "You bucked me off!" Susie exclaimed. Then giggled. Then laughed and laughed. "Oh Percy, you silly beast. You bucked me off. That's really too much fun for you to be having." She laughed on as she picked herself up, and a sheepish Percy laughed inside along with her.

(This is a copywritten story, used here with permission)

Membership Renewal Form

	VADACC 2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION DECEMBER 1, 2017 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018
	<p>Membership is for the <i>Central Chapter</i> of the Virginia Dressage Association. VADA is a USDF Group Member Organization. All members of VADACC are automatically USDF GROUP Members. Membership expires on November 30, 2019 for the 2019 year.</p> <p>Your VADACC Individual, Junior or Family Membership entitles you to the following benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One subscription to the VADACC Collective Marks monthly newsletter. 2. Eligibility for USDF Rider, Pas de Deux and Quadrille Team awards. 3. Eligibility for USDF/Dover Saddlery Adult Amateur Medal Program. 4. One subscription to USDF Connection magazine. 5. Refunds of Multiple GMO dues.
<p>Enclose check payable to "VADACC" and mail with application to: Marcia Drewry, VADACC Secretary 34356 Turkey Pen Road Wakefield, Virginia 23888</p>	

Were you referred by a current member? If so whom _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (check one box): ☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL

Select ONE of the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$55
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (17 and under on 12/31/2018)	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Family (2 or more members who live at the same address) Primary Family Member: _____ Supporting Family Member: _____	\$75 first 2
Additional Family Member(s): _____ _____	\$20 each
<input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate (Members of other VADA chapters who wish to participate in VADACC-sponsored clinics and year-end awards) Please provide the name of your primary VADA chapter: _____	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend (Newsletter Only)	\$22
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron (Organizations/businesses interested in VADACC activities and and opportunities but are ineligible for VADACC awards or programs.)	\$35

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

DOB (if 21 years old or younger as of 1/1/18): _____

How do you prefer to receive your monthly newsletter (check one box)?

☐ E-MAIL (PDF format, full color) ☐ US MAIL (Print format, black & white)

Volunteer Interests: Please volunteer for ONE VADACC Committee: We are seeking chairs, co-chairs and volunteers for these committees and need our members' participation. This is a great opportunity to be creative, meet other members and have fun! Your efforts are greatly appreciated and needed.	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Activities / Planning Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Junior/Young Rider Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Competition Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising/Public Relations Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Awards Committee
--	---