



NEWSLETTER

March 2013

ODS Board:

Sherry Guess, President
guessdrsg@aol.com

Clydette Womack, Vice President
cwomack44@yahoo.com

Lisa Jewell, Secretary
jewell1957@hotmail.com

Marta Koeing, Treasurer
martakoe@yahoo.com

Members at Large:

Rainee Boyd
raineeboyd@gmail.com

Pamela Byers
pamela@galleryfarm.us

Beth Circle
bcircle@rentechboilers.com

Anne Kuhns
akuhns1122@gmail.com

Kalea Maxwell
kaleamaxwell@gmail.com

Sharon O'Banion
skob@tulsaconnect.com

Committees:

Awards

Stacia Wert-Gray
gtgray@aol.com

Chapter Coordinator / Schooling Show Coordinator

Rainee Boyd
raineeboyd@gmail.com

Directory

Fran Ferrari

Education

Sharon O'Banion
skob@tulsaconnect.com

Liaison to USDF

Sherry Guess
guessdrsg@aol.com

Membership/Welcome

Beth Circle
bcircle@rentechboilers.com

Newsletter Editor

Carol Miller
carol_lee_miller@yahoo.com

Show Committee

Lyn Francik

Website

Jeanie Eaton
webmaster@dressageoklahoma.org

Protective Headgear Rule Change for Dressage to Go into Effect April 1, 2013

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) wishes to remind all dressage competitors of the rule change to DR120. This change goes into effect on April 1, 2013 and necessitates the usage of protective headgear by anyone mounted on the grounds at all USEF dressage competitions.

DR120 has been amended to require protective headgear as follows:

From the time horses are officially admitted to the competition grounds by competition management, anyone mounted on a horse at any time on the competition grounds including non-competing riders, riders on non-competing horses, and those competing in all classes and tests, including Para-Equestrian tests must wear protective headgear as defined by this rule and otherwise in compliance with GR801. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place. Protective headgear is defined as a riding helmet which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. The harness must be secured and properly fitted.

If there are questions regarding this rule or the use of protective headgear at USEF dressage competitions please contact Hallye Griffin by email at hgriffin@usef.org or by phone (859) 225-6918.

Horse Slaughter Ban (H.B. 1999/S.B. 375)

Legislation to overturn Oklahoma's current horse slaughter ban has been introduced. As part of the equestrian community, you may make your feelings about this topic known by contacting your legislator.

You can look up the wording of the legislation, as well as find the appropriate legislator, by going to www.oklegislature.gov/BasicSearchForm.aspx and searching HB1999.

Got a Great Training Level Freestyle?

USDF is looking for examples of the new Training Level Freestyle rides to use on the USDF website. If accepted, your ride could be used to help promote the new test, as well as enhance judges' education. For directions on how to submit your freestyle test, please contact freestyle@usdf.org for more information. We need your help grow our sport!

OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY

SPRING SHOWS I AND II

April 27, 2013 and April 28, 2013

Shawnee Exposition Center in Shawnee, Oklahoma

Official Qualifying Competition For

2013 Great American Insurance Group / USDF Regional Championships

2013 Southwest Dressage Championship

Also Featuring

2013 Dover USDF Adult Amateur Medal Program

Training and First Level Opportunity Classes

Para-Equestrian Classes

AQHA Dressage Program Recognized Show

Recognized by

United States Equestrian Federation

United States Dressage Federation

Southwest Dressage Championships

American Quarter Horse Association

Entries are now open for the ODS Spring Show. Closing date for entries is April 10, 2013. Entries postmarked after the closing date will be charged a \$15 late fee and will be honored only if space permits. These shows will fill quickly so get your entries in. To enter, go to www.showsecretary.com to download the prize list and entry form.

This year, we will be featuring the following cash and breed awards, which include a \$75 high point cash award for each level: High Point Oldenburg Award; High Point Trakehner Award; High Point Dutch Award; High Point Morgan Award; High Point Hanoverian Award; High Point RHPSI Award; and High Point Arabian Award.

We are also featuring opportunity classes as a part of this year's show. Opportunity classes are a USEF program designed to encourage riders to step into the recognized show arena. In the past, when a rider entered a recognized show, they were required to have a USEF membership number or pay a non-member fee in addition to drug fees. This program allows riders who enter only opportunity classes to do so without payment of these fees. As an added bonus, ShowSecretary is waiving the office fee exclusively for the 2013 ODS Spring Shows in Shawnee. If you have questions about the program, please contact **Stacia Wert-Grey** by calling 405-204-3870 or e-mailing gtgray@aol.com or contact **Amanda Edwards** by calling 918-269-1716 or e-mailing rideforward@cox.net.



Photo by Jeanie Eaton (www.onetulsa.com)

The Loot!

Check out this sampling of prizes that will be awarded at the ODS Spring I and II Shows, including the beautiful **Bob Pape Memorial Trophy**, which is awarded to the overall high point ride in both shows. We hope you'll be there to compete—and win!

Exhibitors Party



Get your party hat on and join us for this year's **Exhibitors Party**! We will celebrate with wine, cheese and hors d'oeuvres. Everyone can play our "Minute to Win It" game with over \$200 worth of prizes to be given away! We'd like to offer our tremendous thanks to **The Holmes Organisation** and **Red Earth Feed & Tack** for sponsoring this exciting, fun-filled event.

VIP Tables Available in The Horse of Course VIP Lounge

Located just alongside the main show ring is the VIP Lounge sponsored by The Horse of Course where you can enjoy the view with your own private ringside table. Each table comes complete with tablecloth and center piece, and will accommodate seating for up to six persons. Your name will be prominently displayed on your VIP table. You can have your own VIP table for only \$100. Tables are limited so reserve yours today!

Paint a Horse Competition

Red Earth Feed & Tack presents the *Paint a Horse Competition*. Breyer horses will be available for painting by our junior riders. Each rider will paint and display a horse for judging. The winning painted horse will receive a prize. Judging will be done by exhibitors at the show. Register at the show office to participate in this competition. No money required; it's first come, first served!

Used Tack Sale

Gather your gently-used tack/apparel and bring with you to the used tack sale at the ODS Spring Show. We will sell it for you for a small percentage to benefit ODS. This is a great opportunity to clean out your tack room and garage. For more information, contact Fran Ferrari at fm4re@cox.net. *Please see the consignment form elsewhere in this newsletter.*

Program Advertisement Opportunities

We hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to advertise in the official ODS Spring Shows Program. Advertising options/rates are as follows:

Inside Cover, Color, One Only:	\$75
Full Page Black and White:	\$50
Half-Page Black and White:	\$35
Quarter-Page Black and White:	\$25

How You Can Help

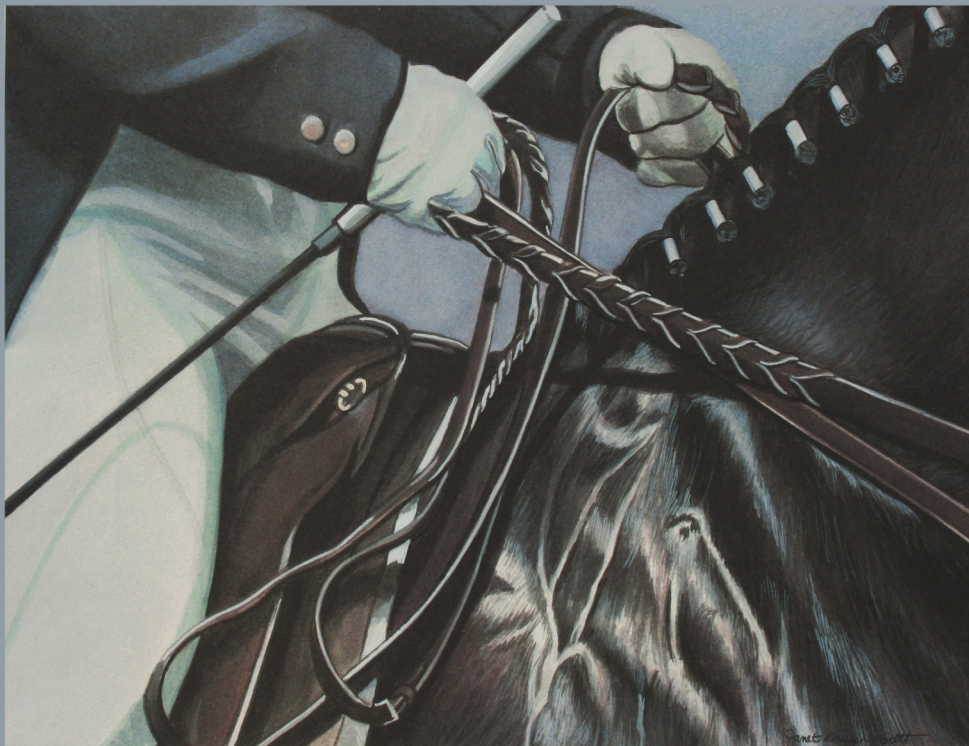
Fundraising is always an important part of any horse show campaign, and this year's show is no exception. Our committee needs sponsors as well as donated items for the silent auction. If you know of potential sponsors or donors, please share with them the sponsorship information included in this newsletter. Also, feel free to contact Diane Smith at dsmith@varsitymrtg.com or call 405.641.1718. Diane has an entire sponsorship kit she can send to you to assist you with recruiting sponsors and donors for our show.



SPRING SHOWS I & II

APRIL 27 - 28, 2013
SHAWNEE EXPO CENTER
SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

“Take a Seat”



ENJOY THE RIDE...

This beautiful commemorative show poster, designed by Judy Rivers in a collaborative effort with Diane Smith, can be yours! A 20" x 30" poster print is available for only \$19.95. Reserve your copy today by contacting Diane Smith at dsmith@varsitymrtg.com or Judy Rivers at riverscrossing@gmail.com.

ODS SPRING SHOWS

Silent Auction - Sponsors

Lisa Karen Jewelry - Six pieces of elegant jewelry with rubies, pearls, turquoise, and cut crystals valued at \$1,200
Exclusively Equine Veterinary Services - Gift certificate for dental floating / sedation / farm call valued at \$170
Charlotte Kin - NeriumAD Anti-Aging Night Cream valued at \$100
Starbucks Coffee - Coffee beans and cup valued at \$20
Diane Smith and Lyn Francik - Framed show poster print valued at \$200
John Muldoon / Muldoon Equine - Two gift certificates for farrier service valued at \$150 each
Cracker Barrel - Pioneer Breakfast Basket valued at \$45
MGE / Laurie MacDonald Saddle Fitting - Saddle fitting valued at \$150
Tractor Farm Supply - Apple snack lick and refill valued at \$50
Van's Pig Stand Restaurant in Shawnee - BBQ sauce & fixings valued at \$40
Southern Hills Tack Shop in Tulsa - Anky dressage double bridle valued at \$315
Equine Medical Associates in Edmond - Soya oil supplement valued at \$60
Southern Agriculture Feed & Tack - \$20 gift certificate plus assorted horse care basket valued at \$50
Judith Brown - Falier Chatarra (Spanish sculptor) scrap metal horse sculpture valued at \$50
Dr. Tim Aldrich - Teeth whitening kit valued at \$100
Joe Cooper Ford / Chrysler - Four gift certificates for one-ton diesel oil change valued at \$60 each
MD Trailer Service & Repair, LLC - Gift certificate for trailer bearing pack (four tire hubs) valued at \$185
Big Red Shop / Bedlam Zone - Oklahoma Sooners fan gear basket valued at \$75
Big Red Shop / Bedlam Zone - Oklahoma State fan gear basket valued at \$75
Nutrena - Nutrena feed valued at \$250
Atwoods Farm Store in Shawnee - Riding tee & socks valued at \$30
Schleese Saddlery - Saddle fitting valued at \$150
Pond Pro Shop - Red Pottery firepot valued at \$60
Dede Wasemiller - Two riding lessons valued at \$55 each

Silent Auction Basket Challenge

Your group (barn, farm, chapter, etc.) is being challenged to enter a basket in the silent auction. All baskets will be sold at the auction but the winner of the basket challenge will be determined by individuals voting for your basket. Photos of the winners will appear in the newsletter and on the website.

Some suggested basket categories include:

- It's a Dog's Life - Items to pamper your canine.
- Bathroom Bliss - Spa items to pamper yourself.
- Wake Up, Sunshine! - Coffee and other accessories to get you going.
- It's All About the Chocolate - Speaks for itself. ☺

Make up a catchy name, find fun items, and bring them to the show to enter your group in the silent auction basket challenge.

We already have the following groups participating in the challenge:

- Show Committee Members – Gourmet Pasta Basket
- North Central Chapter – Everything Chocolate Basket
- ODS Board Members – Spring Fling Basket
- Sherry Guess Dressage – Chocoholic Basket

We hope that each chapter and trainer's group will enter the fun!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

GOLD SPONSORSHIP - CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$500 OR MORE

BANNER PLACEMENT AROUND COMPETITION RING (SPONSOR PROVIDES BANNER)
TWO TICKETS TO THE EXHIBITORS PARTY SATURDAY EVENING
FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE SHOW PROGRAM (BLACK AND WHITE / DOES NOT INCLUDE
INSIDE COVER)
ODS WEB SITE ADVERTISING & E-MAIL BLASTS SHOWCASING YOUR PRODUCTS
SPONSORSHIP LISTING IN SHOW PROGRAM
SHOW ANNOUNCER MENTIONS THROUGHOUT BOTH SHOWS
TAX DONATION FORM
10 X 10 BOOTH SPACE
"WALL OF FAME" NAME INSERT FOR DISPLAY IN RESPECTIVE CATEGORY (DISPLAYED BY SHOW
OFFICE)

SILVER SPONSORSHIP - CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$200-\$499

TWO TICKETS TO THE EXHIBITORS PARTY SATURDAY EVENING
SHOW ANNOUNCER MENTIONS THROUGHOUT BOTH SHOWS
ODS WEB SITE ADVERTISING
HALF-PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE SHOW PROGRAM
SPONSORSHIP LISTING IN SHOW PROGRAM
TAX DONATION FORM
10 X 10 BOOTH SPACE
"WALL OF FAME" NAME INSERT FOR DISPLAY IN RESPECTIVE CATEGORY (DISPLAYED BY SHOW
OFFICE)

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP - CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$50-\$199

SHOW ANNOUNCER MENTIONS THROUGHOUT BOTH SHOWS
SPONSORSHIP LISTING IN SHOW PROGRAM
ODS WEB SITE ADVERTISING
TAX DONATION FORM
QUARTER-PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE SHOW PROGRAM
"WALL OF FAME" NAME INSERT FOR DISPLAY IN RESPECTIVE CATEGORY (DISPLAYED BY SHOW
OFFICE)

FRIENDS OF ODS - CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$49 OR LESS

SPONSORSHIP LISTING IN SHOW PROGRAM
TAX DONATION FORM
ODS WEB SITE ADVERTISING
"WALL OF FAME" NAME INSERT FOR DISPLAY IN RESPECTIVE CATEGORY (DISPLAYED BY SHOW
OFFICE)

CLASS SPONSORSHIP - CONTRIBUTION OF \$100

CLASS SPONSOR'S NAME WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM AS PART OF THE CLASS LISTING. ANNOUNCER WILL MENTION SPONSOR'S NAME DURING CLASS. ADDITIONALLY, SPONSOR WILL RECEIVE SILVER SPONSOR CONSIDERATIONS. PLEASE SPECIFY CLASS:

INTRODUCTORY LEVEL	COMBINED	RIBBON OR MEDAL
TRAINING LEVEL	AMATEUR	RIBBON OR MEDAL
TRAINING LEVEL	JUNIOR/YOUNG RIDER	RIBBON OR MEDAL
TRAINING LEVEL	OPEN	RIBBON OR MEDAL
FIRST LEVEL	AMATEUR	RIBBON OR MEDAL
FIRST LEVEL	JUNIOR/YOUNG RIDER	RIBBON OR MEDAL
FIRST LEVEL	OPEN	RIBBON OR MEDAL
SECOND LEVEL	AMATEUR	RIBBON OR MEDAL
SECOND LEVEL	JUNIOR/YOUNG RIDER	RIBBON OR MEDAL
SECOND LEVEL	OPEN	RIBBON OR MEDAL
THIRD LEVEL	COMBINED	RIBBON OR MEDAL
FOURTH LEVEL	COMBINED	RIBBON OR MEDAL
FEI PRIX ST GEORGES	COMBINED	RIBBON OR MEDAL
INTERMEDIATE I		RIBBON OR MEDAL
INTERMEDIATE II		RIBBON OR MEDAL
GRAND PRIX		RIBBON OR MEDAL
MUSICAL FREESTYLE		RIBBON OR MEDAL

GUESS THE NUMBER OF COOKIES SPONSOR - CONTRIBUTION OF \$50

A LARGE SEE-THROUGH JAR OF HORSE TREATS WILL BE FEATURED PROMINENTLY NEAR THE SHOW OFFICE. PARTICIPANTS CAN PAY 50 CENTS TO GUESS HOW MANY COOKIES ARE IN THE JAR WITH THE WINNER TAKING HOME THE JAR OF COOKIES. SPONSOR OF THIS FUN CONTEST WILL GET BRONZE SPONSOR CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS THE SPONSOR'S LOGO FEATURED AS PART OF THE CONTEST DISPLAY.

SPONSOR APPRECIATION

ODS would like to express its appreciation to the following sponsors for their generous support of the ODS Spring Shows:

GOLD SPONSORS:

The Holmes Organisation
Land Rover
Nutrena
Red Earth Feed & Tack
Anonymous Donor

SILVER SPONSORS:

The Horse of Course
Oakridge Equine Hospital
Oklahoma Sports & Orthopedics Institute
Sherry Guess Dressage
State Farm Insurance



Thanks To Our Show Committee

The ODS Show Committee has been working diligently to make the 2013 Spring Shows our best yet. Your ODS Show Committee members are **Rainee Boyd, Judith Brown, Roberta Clark, Amanda Edwards, Diane Smith, and Lyn Francik**, Show Committee Chairperson. ODS is most grateful to the members of the Show Committee for their time, energy and talents. We hope you will take the time to express those sentiments to each show committee member and let them know how much you appreciate their hard work and dedication.

Consignment Tack Sale

ODS Spring I and II Shows

April 27-28, 2013

Provide this completed form when you present your tack for sale, including as much information as possible. Please note:

- For easy identification and sales tracking, remember to tag your items with the code you have chosen below.
- Remember to include your asking price on the tag.
- For best results, present only clean items for sale.

Remember to pick up any items that did not sell by 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 28. ODS will mail a check to you less a 20% commission fee. For any sales that total over \$200, ODS will retain only 10% commission.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Cell Number:

Your Personal Sales Code

Inventory

Item Description	Price	Sold
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		

Please use additional forms if more space is needed for inventory. Thank you.



The USDF in Partnership with DressageTrainingOnline.com is Pleased to Announce New and Exciting Opportunities Available Exclusively to USDF Members

One (1) Free Month of Membership to DressageTrainingOnline.com to current USDF members. This offer is for new or renewing members to DTO. Please use code **USDFFreeQ1** in the Apply Discount Code field, found on the DressageTrainingOnline.com/Membership page. **Offer expires 3/23/2013**

25% discount off all membership types on DressageTrainingOnline.com for current USDF members. Please use code 95122013 in the Apply Discount Code field, found on the DressageTrainingOnline.com/Membership page.

One (1) Free Personal Academy session for current USDF members and active DTO members. No code required, simply have yourself filmed during a schooling session or ride a test at home to receive audio synched coaching or have a test judged, from one of our participating trainers or judges, after uploading your video into our Personal Academy section of DressageTrainingOnline.com.

Discounts can be combined and are applicable on 1-, 6- and 12-month memberships. Act now and get a jumpstart on your show season.

Don't allow your training to be limited by time, money or travel. For the first time ever, you don't have to travel to shows or clinics to learn the secrets of the masters - we bring them right to you!

DressageTrainingOnline.com has the largest online dressage training library in the world! With over 1500 different training pieces, easily findable using our search field or by flipping through our subject categories, you can get the help you need, at your convenience.

Nowhere else can you view training sessions broken into 15-minute segments, with text explaining exactly what is within that segment, so you can determine if you want to view that portion of the video.

Nowhere else can you save your favorites for quick retrieval and review

Nowhere else can you watch the Judge's View, where judges go back through a test they have judged, giving you the per movement scores and in depth explanation as to why they gave that score.

Nowhere else can members list their horses for sale for **FREE!**

For those who are not yet members of DressageTrainingOnline.com, jump on board! To join, visit us at www.DressageTrainingOnline.com.

NAJYRC Application Deadline Approaching

Riders must submit their Application (formerly the Declaration of Intent) either by April 1, 2013, with a \$50 fee or by April 30, with a fee of \$300. No applications will be accepted after April 30, 2013. Certificate of Capability forms are due in to USDF by July 8, 2013. Each rider is responsible for submitting their own forms to USDF.

Used Tack Sale

The Region 9 FEI Junior and Young Riders will be hosting used tack sales at these upcoming shows: the Texas Dressage Classic in Tyler, the HDS Spring Show and CDI in Houston, and the DDC Spring Show in Dallas. Riders should start collecting used tack from friends and fellow riders. Have questions or would like to make a donation? Contact Inez Campbell at kcampb9@ttglobal.net.

NAJYRC Jackets and T-shirts Now on Sale

New Reduced Prices and Free Shipping! Both garments sport the NAJYRC logo on the back bottom hem showing your support of the Region 9 riders. The art work on both garments was designed by FEI Bronze Medalist and 2012 junior team member, Kalie Beckers. To see all the styles and colors available—and to place your order—please visit www.uswarmblood.com/NAJYRC-Shirts.html.

Want More Information about the NAJYRC?

If you would like more information about Region 9's NAJYRC program, please contact Ed Lavalley, Region 9's FEI Jr/YR Coordinator, at ejlava@sprynet.com. To be added to the email list and receive updates about the program, contact Inez at kcampb9@attglobal.net.

US Dressage Finals

The 2013 US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan will be held on November 7-10, 2013 at the Kentucky Horse Park. It will be the first head-to-head competition in dressage showcasing Adult Amateur and Open riders at Training through GP levels who are US citizens. The event will include an Open Division at Training through Grand Prix levels and all Freestyles, as well as an Adult Amateur Division with Training through Grand Prix. Horse/rider combinations who qualify through the nine GAIG/USDF Regional Championships, will have the opportunity to compete on the national stage.

Champions and Reserve Champions who have achieved a minimum score and filed a "Declaration of Intent" will be eligible to compete. "Wild Card" invitations are also available to high-scoring competitors in the Regional Championships who are not otherwise eligible. To learn more about the official criteria and review the full Entry and Invitation Qualifications document, go to www.usdf.org/usdressagefinals/competitors/eiq.asp.

Fun Team Competition

Looking for a fun team competition? Don't miss the USDF Region 9 Adult Team Competition to be held June 15-16 at the Claremore Expo Center in Claremore, Oklahoma. Please contact **Susan Peacock** (susan@showsecretary.com) or **Anne Kuhns** (akuhns1122@gmail.com) for more details.

E-Mail Address Check

Are you receiving e-mail blasts from ODS? If not, please confirm your e-mail address with us by sending to webmaster@dressageoklahoma.org. Thank you for helping us help you stay informed!

Grants for Pony Club Riders Available Through The Dressage Foundation

The Trip Harting Fund has been created with donations to The Dressage Foundation from Trip's friends and supporters. This fund will provide grants up to \$500 for a current or graduate rider with a Pony Club Rating of B or A to assist in attending the USDF 'L' Education Program or USDF Instructor Certification Program.

Currently, one annual grant of \$500 is available to the chosen rider, as determined by the Selection Committee. Six (6) complete application sets are due to The Dressage Foundation by March 25th of each year, with selection determined and announced no later than June 1st. Recipients will initially receive \$375 and the remaining \$125 will be distributed once The Dressage Foundation receives a written report upon completion of the Program. As the Trip Harting Fund grows, additional annual grants may become available. Please visit www.dressagefoundation.org/The_Trip_Harting_Fund.htm for more information.

The International Dream Program for Advanced Young Riders

The Dressage Foundation's International Dream Program for Young Riders is ready to go for the twelfth year! The concept of the program evolved as a result of former Olympian Michael Poulin's wish to offer an opportunity for gifted Young Riders to enhance their understanding of dressage theory through a European tour. The program is both funded and administered by The Dressage Foundation.

The program is open to USDF Young Riders, riding at Fourth Level or above, who are 16-21 years of age. Also, 22-year-old graduates of the 2012 Advanced Young Rider Program may apply. The tentative dates for the trip have been set for August 5-15, 2013.

The current plan is to visit Ingrid Klimke, Jean Bemelmans, Wolfram Wittig, Matthias Rath, Hubertus Schmidt and former American team coach, Klaus Balkenhol—depending on each trainer's availability. Plans also include attending the CDI in Verden, Germany, which also serves as the World Championship for Young Horses. While traveling, the participants will record their observations in daily journals and chronicle events with photos and video to share with their home dressage organizations.

A Selection Committee comprised of leading American dressage persons selects four candidates based on their applications including an essay, DVD, and written recommendations. Committee members want to see riding proficiency and commitment to training in the sport of dressage.

The application and further information on this extraordinary program is available on the TDF website at www.dressagefoundation.org or you may contact Jenny Johnson or Beth Baumert (contact information listed below).

The **2013 applications are due Friday, April 19, 2013**. Candidates are encouraged to apply early and follow directions carefully.

This program is made possible by donors to The Dressage Foundation (TDF), a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization whose mission is "To cultivate and provide financial support for the advancement of dressage."

Jenny Johnson
The Dressage Foundation
1314 'O' Street, Suite 305
Lincoln, NE 68508
Telephone: 402-434-8585
Fax: 402-436-3053
Email: jenny@dressagefoundation.org

Beth Baumert, Administrator
Cloverlea Dressage LLC
266 Route 87
Columbia, CT 06237
Telephone: 860-228-9242
Fax: 860-228-4242
Email: BethBmrt@aol.com

Conrad Schumacher Clinic
Bona B Ranch, Eustace, Texas - February 2, 2013

by
Christina Harmon

It could not have been a more beautiful February day to attend the Conrad Schumacher clinic in Eustace, Texas. Eustace is a tiny town, nestled between Ennis and Athens, Texas, almost an hour south of Dallas. The Bona B Ranch is gorgeous facility, and the organizers did a fabulous job setting up this amazing clinic of 12 riders at various levels of training and backgrounds.

It was on a whim that I decided to attend this clinic and I'm so glad that I did! Mr. Schumacher is an amazing clinician. He was wonderfully kind to the riders and their horses. It is quite apparent that he loves what he does, and has a love for the horses. His approach was entirely about the horse. He said time and time again that we need to focus on "Happy Horses".

The clinic was organized with a nice variety of horses and riders at different levels and different backgrounds. There were young horses (4- and 5-year-olds) working at Training and First Level, all the way up to more advanced horses training in the Grand Prix movements. Not all of the horses were Warmbloods. There was also a Fresian and an 8-year-old Quarter Horse stallion that has competed in professional rodeo before being restarted as a Dressage horse.

Mr. Schumacher had an amazing variety of exercises for all the riders. Each rider had to ride over cavalletti at some point in their lesson. He seemed to use the cavalletti to determine how soft and supple the horses were becoming in their work. Cavalletti work was done at the walk, trot, and canter. For the young horses, he used a lot of walk-trot transitions to focus their attention on the riders. Serpentine were followed by canter, walk, and trot transitions for all levels of riders and horses. The horses were ridden forward, not in a running fashion, but balanced with energy. "The horse needs to be quick enough to open up, but slow enough to control the movements."

A lot of focus was spent on keeping the necks of the horses straight and long enough for the horse to move easily and without tension. The horses must be round into the contact. "If the neck is stuck up high, then the horse cannot do anything, it makes him stuck in his body. We have to train the horse to use his body in the easiest way—and the easiest way is to have the neck round and soft."

Mr. Schumacher spent a lot of time talking about making the aids invisible. Having quiet hands and quiet aids, but still being effective through the use of softening the shoulders and feeling the horse in the shoulders, rather than stiff arms or elbows. We should have solid contact, but that means that the contact is not strong but steady. The shoulders are the key. Mr. Schumacher gave the example of thinking about our shoulders as the donut in side reins. "When your shoulders are relaxed they act as the donut, they give a release to the horse when the horse needs it. When the shoulders are stiff, then the horse is not able to take a release." We should have our shoulders relaxed, fists shut, and sit quietly with relaxed hips.

Mr. Schumacher mentioned that Dressage riders need to do everything with both sides of the body. If the right hand gives, then the left hand takes. We have to learn how to sit properly, then we have to learn the aids, then we have to learn how to combine the two. Not an easy task, but the exercises that were demonstrated helped pave the way to achieving that goal.

What really stuck out was how the riders all seemed to be in perfect harmony with their horses. Listening to what the horses gave them, and then using their bodies in a way to redirect their energy and bring out the best their horses had to offer.

It was truly an amazing clinic, and I felt that I learned so much that I could apply to my own riding. The riders and horses were all just fantastic, and it was great to see such soft, happy and relaxed horses. I truly recommend the drive to Dallas to see Mr. Schumacher teach! It was a fun clinic and Mr. Schumacher taught in such a way that anyone at any level of riding could apply his exercises to their own program.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Christina Harmon for providing this wonderfully enlightening recap for us. Next month, we will hear from Kay Kamish who will provide a report for us on the FEI Trainers Symposium with Steffen Peters and Scott Hassler. If you have attended a recent educational event, we encourage you to share your experience with us, as well.



Educational Opportunities

March 22-23

Anne Gribbons Clinic
Wild Oaks Ranch
Contact: jackie@wild-oaks-ranch.com

March 23-24

Dressage for Horses of Different "Shapes"
ODS Symposium featuring Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez
Kellyville, OK
Contact: skob@tulsacconnect.com

March 30-31

Laurie Hedlund Clinic
Ada, OK
Contact: ladw23@yahoo.com

April 1-4

Michael Rohrmann Clinic
Contact: Anthea Kin - 918-232-0752

May 10-13

James Shaw Ride From Within Clinic
Claremore, OK
Contact: aspenell@aol.com

May 10-12

Jeff Moore Biomechanics Clinic
Houston, TX
www.equestrianventures.com

May 11-12

Laurie Hedlund Clinic
Ada, OK
Contact: ladw23@yahoo.com



Our newsletter publication needs a name and we need your help in selecting one. If you have a creative name for our ODS newsletter, please e-mail your suggestion to Carol Miller, newsletter editor, at carol_lee_miller@yahoo.com. We will collect your suggestions and vote on a name for our publication at the ODS summer meeting. Thank you for your creative assistance!

Horse Registrations Through February 28, 2013

Number	Horse	Owner
550	Valley Boy	Camille Fuller*
723	Harley Go Lightly	Deena Moore‡
584	Titanium	Janelle Williams*
2119	Divino	Roberta Clark
2120	Jagger	Traci Clark
2121	DF Blue Moon	Laura Eddy
2122	PH Gai Linseyn	Laura Eddy
2123	Boston Ace of Spades	Jessica Foster
2124	Lemmon Gray	Robin Grain
2125	Romantic Prince	Kimberly Kulczycki
2126	Beloved Victory	Debbie Nutt
2127	Leo Bar Star Jingles	Mindy Roland
2128	Spiritual Invitation	Cheryl West
2129	Top Bug Baber	Cheryl West
2130	Wersache	Shelly Williams

*owner change

‡ owner and name change

ODS ADVERTISING RATES

Newsletter Advertising

Basic Ad Rates:

Full Page - \$40

Half Page - \$20

Quarter Page - \$10

Business Card - \$7.50

Schooling Show or

Clinic Announcements:

First Insertion - \$20

Additional Months - \$15

Advertising Deadline:

Copy and payment submitted

by 7th of month

(Newsletter publishes mid-month)

Website Advertising

Banner Ads:

3 Months - \$30

6 Months - \$60

1 Year - \$120.00

*Placement at the discretion of
webmaster; includes site link*

Schooling Show or Clinic

Announcements:

\$20 - First Insertion

Additional Months - \$15

Calendar Listing:

Free (as space allows)

Non-Commercial Classified Ads:

Members - Free

Non-Members - \$5

May be modified if space is limited

Great opportunity for trainer to lease part of beautiful 120 acre equestrian facility at Woodridge Farm, Claremore. We have available 12 stall training barn with tack rooms and laundry; shared use of indoor and outdoor arenas and 10 stall barn for clinics; negotiable amount of acreage/paddocks/runs for turn-out; 3 bedroom/2 bath house with sunroom, garage, and additional storage building. Would also consider leasing house only. For those who know the farm, this is the house my parents built. Call Vanessa at 918-629-0814.

HORSES FOR SALE

AVIATOR - 4-year-old bay Hanoverian Gelding by the Elite Hanoverian stallion, Arrian; out of Hanoverian mare, Vi Dora Tia.

LANDOLET- 2-year-old bay filly by the Elite Hanoverian stallion, Lankonig; out of Hanoverian mare, SO-LEI.

Please call Joanne Eberstein at 918.633.1023 for more information.

Don't Forget to Renew Your ODS Membership

Your ODS membership provides the following benefits:

- A group membership (GMO) in the USDF that includes the USDF monthly magazine *USDF Connection*
- Region 9 Annual Omnibus that provides detailed information on recognized shows throughout Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana
- The on-line ODS newsletter that includes upcoming events statewide, dressage-related articles, show results, news, information, and advertisements, as well as news from the ODS board activities and meetings
- A web site that provides late breaking news, forms, etc., at www.dressageoklahoma.org
- Optional membership in the local dressage chapter of your choice
- Statewide annual membership directory
- ODS supported USEF/USDF recognized shows, ODS recognized schooling shows, clinics, and other educational events and programs
- The Junior/Young Rider Program that includes special activities for riders aged 21 or younger. (Age as of January 1st.)
- You have the opportunity to participate in shows, share your insights, and make new friends!

The Oklahoma Dressage Society's Board of Directors is comprised of volunteer leaders who truly care about the future of dressage in Oklahoma and Region 9. We are planning activities for this year, hoping that we meet the majority of our members' educational and competitive needs, including yours! To renew—or join—please see the membership application elsewhere in this newsletter.

OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ODS is a Group Member Organization (GMO) of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) and belongs to Region 9
See also www.usdf.org and www.usdfregion9.org and www.dressageoklahoma.org

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewing Membership ☐ Information Change Only

Last Name _____ First Name _____ USDF ID No _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____ Spouse's Name (for Invitation Use) _____

USDF membership year is December 1 through November 30. Apply this membership to year 20 ____

ODS Membership – Select One Category. *For family memberships consisting of more than two family members, please check both Family and Add third family member.*

☐ \$45 Senior / Adult / Vintage ☐ Open ☐ Amateur ☐ Vintage

☐ \$20 Charter / Life (for ODS founding members and members with lifetime memberships)

☐ \$35 Junior - Under 18 as of December 1 of current membership year _____ Birth Date _____
For example, for 2013 membership, must be under 18 on December 1, 2013, even though membership year begins in 2012

☐ \$55 Family (for two family members) - Name of second family member _____

☐ \$10 Add third family member - Name of third family member _____
Please include birthdates for junior family members

Chapter Membership – Check the chapter you would like to join. *Chapter membership is not required for ODS membership, but is required to participate in the chapter awards programs. Chapter membership cost is the same for an individual or family.*

☐ \$10 Green Country Chapter (GCC)

☐ \$10 North Central Chapter (NCC)

☐ \$10 Great Plains Chapter (GPC)

_____ OPTIONAL donation to ODS. ODS is a tax exempt 501(c) organization

_____ **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

ODS membership is an opportunity to promote dressage in your community. The club is ONLY as good as it's most ACTIVE members. We need your help! What are your skill sets?

☐ Scribing ☐ Scoring ☐ Organization/Management ☐ Accounting ☐ Spreadsheets ☐ Website

☐ Photography ☐ Fund Raising ☐ Other _____

I hereby release the Oklahoma Dressage Society, its officers, members, employees and agents from any liability and all claims of every kind, including costs, expenses, or attorney fees that might result from damages, injuries, or losses resulting directly or indirectly from the negligent act or omissions of the officers, members, employees or agents of the Oklahoma Dressage Society Club. I agree and sign below:

Signature _____ Date _____

(If Junior Rider, this form must be signed by parent or guardian)

Mail this form with appropriate check payable to "Oklahoma Dressage Society" to
Beth Circle, 5433 Oak Leaf Drive, Tulsa, OK 74131 - bcircle@rentechboilers.com

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing by USDF