



Centerline

A monthly publication dedicated to communicating the latest local & regional dressage news & information to enrich Oklahoma dressage riders' equestrian experience.

MARCH 2022

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OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY



Letter From The President

Hello, friends.

There is an old phrase ~ nothing is guaranteed except change. How true is that?! Weather changes, time changes, and now GCDC changes. As we all know by now, the venerable 20+ year old GCDC Show had to be cancelled, driven, it appears, by the wicked (and changeable) February weather that had people feeling they could not get horses properly prepared to show. The change? ODS will pick up this show in 2023 ~ check out further information in the newsletter.

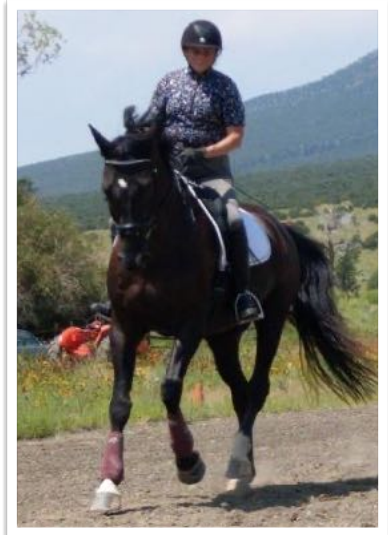
Another phrase I especially like is: If you can dream it, you can do it! I think there is a lot of 'dream content' in this newsletter, lots of riders fulfilling dreams. There are 19, yes that's right, riders for our Lilo Fore Symposium, all of them filled with some kind of dream about making their horses and riding better, and dreaming of advancing up that dressage scale. ODS helped with the dreams of three members by awarding scholarships to attend this Symposium. There is information about the ODS dream of bringing the USDF "L" Program back and how people are signing up to fulfill their dream of becoming an "L" graduate, able to judge schooling shows, and maybe dreaming on of entering the National judging training. Yours truly fulfilled a years long dream of making a trip to Florida to train last month! Look for the article and photos of this adventure.

I think the bottom line of this month's newsletter is to show how changes can be handled (either resist and be frustrated and unhappy, or adapt and flourish) and how imagination can form an idea that becomes a dream, and how with planning and a little help, that

dream can become a reality. What dreams do YOU have? What lights up *your* imagination and gives you the extra drive and determination to strive for what you want? And most pertinent to us ~ how can ODS help you toward your dressage-related dreams? Let us know!

Stay safe and well, my friends, enjoy your rides, and I hope to see you soon!

~ Kay



Danny & Kay

New ODS Registered Horses

2541 - Baldomero - Susan Mohler

Save The Date! ODS Summer Meeting

July 16, 2022 @ Oklahoma County Extension Center

11:00am to 3:00pm

2500 NE. 63rd Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73111



GCC Schooling Shows Fun

Check out the GCC Schedule for Schooling Shows, and be prepared for some innovative and fun events during the shows. Ideas abound for something 'special' at each show! Will it be a musical ride? Carriage Driving exhibition? Sno-Cone machine? Stick Pony class for the Juniors? Costume class? Inquiring minds want to know ~~~ stay tuned for more details on the fun!

We Love Our Newsletter Advertisers!



The ODS Summer Shows I & II brought us new sponsors along with a continued relationship with some of our long-term advertisers. This month marks the ODS community's introduction to our third new sponsor, **Redbud Equine Veterinary, PLLC**.

Dr. Kimberly Rasmussen is an equine veterinarian in Moore, OK, and her practice is Redbud Equine Veterinary, PLLC. She graduated from Iowa State College University of Veterinary Medicine in 2004 and then did an equine internship at Pioneer Equine Hospital in Oakdale, California. She practiced in OKC for 3 years before opening her own practice in 2008. She specializes in osteopathy in horses as well as dogs (and even livestock). Her initial training and osteopathic certification was completed in 2008, and she has had advanced training with several human osteopaths including Dr. Pam Wilson and Dr. Ed Stiles.

ODS extends a warm welcome, and thank you to **Dr. Kimberly Rasmussen** and **Redbud Equine Veterinary**!

ODS Spring 2022 Scholarships Awarded - Congrats!

The ODS Scholarship Committee received applications from several applicants by the March 1 deadline. Qualified and selected applicants are scheduled to take part as riders or attendees in the April Education Symposium with Lilo Fore taking place at Ranger Arena, Tulsa State Fairgrounds in early April. All applications were rated by the committee on the applicant's stated intentions and plans on how to use this opportunity to the betterment of each applicant's personal goals in riding. Each application was also evaluated on their history of participation and volunteering in the ODS community. ODS 2022 Spring Scholarships were awarded to **Gwyneth Baggett** and **Pamela Rhodes**.

There are still places available for attendees at the ODS Education Symposium with Lilo Fore on April 2-3, 2022. Sign up for your spot via the ODS website or contact Pamela Byers at pamela@galleryfarm.us or 405.990.8963 (text only).

USDF "L" Program Updates

Session A of the USDF "L" Program will be hosted by ODS on May 21-22: "Introduction to Judging & Biomechanics" by Joan Darnell. See the flyer inside this issue for more information. ODS scholarship money is eligible to be used for this educational event. More information on the scholarships and an application are also available inside this newsletter issue.

Proposed Ground Clinics

ODS is exploring the possibility of hosting an In-Hand Clinic to introduce the training technique of using Long Lines, as well as showing the way to begin a horse in developing half steps in preparation for Piaffe. *If you are interested in this, please contact Kay Kamish.*



Events



**SAVE
THE DATE!**

ODS Symposium with Lilo Fore April 2-3, 2022

Being held at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds, Tulsa, OK

Originally from Germany, outside Dusseldorf, Liselotte (Lilo) Fore is the former owner of "Sporthorse America" in Santa Rosa, California for which she has been honored for her major role in raising the quality dressage training and horses to an international level. She served as an FEI 5 Star judge; in that capacity she has been a member of the Ground Jury for numerous international competitions such as the World Cup final in Las Vegas, Olympics, Pan American Games, and World Equestrian Games including WEG in Normandy. She is among the founders and served as chair of the USDF Instructor-Trainer Certification Program. She is continuously involved in many educational programs for Dressage trainers, teachers and judges throughout the United States. Among countless accolades and awards, in 2017, Lilo was inducted into the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame for her contribution to the sport of dressage in the United States. Though now FEI 5*retired, she had the privilege to serve on the Olympics in Tokyo on the JSP Panel, (Judges Supervising Panel).

**Further details will
be sent out soon.
Contact Pamela Byers at
pamela@galleryfarm.us
or 405-990-8963 (text) to be
put on the mailing list.**



Lilo Fore Spring Symposium Update

Riders have been selected for the Lilo Fore symposium and final planning is underway! It is exciting to have a full range of riders, with a good distribution from Training Level through the Upper Levels of FEI. There is a mix of Amateurs and Professionals, demonstrating again that these Symposiums are a fine venue for all levels of rider participation. Additionally, it is exciting to see that three members have availed themselves to the ODS Scholarship Program and received financial help to attend. If you would like to apply for scholarships for future educational event that you would like to attend, see inside this issue for details on how to apply.

The Saturday Schedule is posted here. On Sunday the order of go will reverse to allow the FEI horses to go first, as many of them are out of state and may want to leave earlier. Exact Sunday ride times are tentative pending Lilo's travel schedule.

Auditors! Please sign up by **March 23** if you want to have lunch provided. Otherwise, you may sign up at the door on the day of the Symposium.

Lilo Fore Symposium Rider Schedule

0900-0945	Joanne Baum/ Deb Girlinghouse	Training/1st
0945-1030	Laurie Hedlund/ Audrey McKenna	1st/ 2nd
1030-1115	Dallas Sweat/ Laura Taylor	2nd/ 1st
1115-1200	Richal Flannery/ Kay Kamish	4th/ 3rd
1200-1245	Lunch	
1245-130	Roberta Clark/Nicole Riffe	3rd/4th
130-215	Jackie Schwartz/ Molly Ralstin	4th/ 3rd-4th
215-300	Gail Abele (Christobal)/ Whitney Vess	4th - PSG
300-315	Break	
315-400	Gwyneth Baggett/ Erin Boone	PSG
400-500	Gail Abele(Teodoras)/ Mimi Benton/ Bay Greenhill	I-1, I-2 - GP
500 - 530	Q&A	

**ODS Symposium
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April 2-3, 2022**

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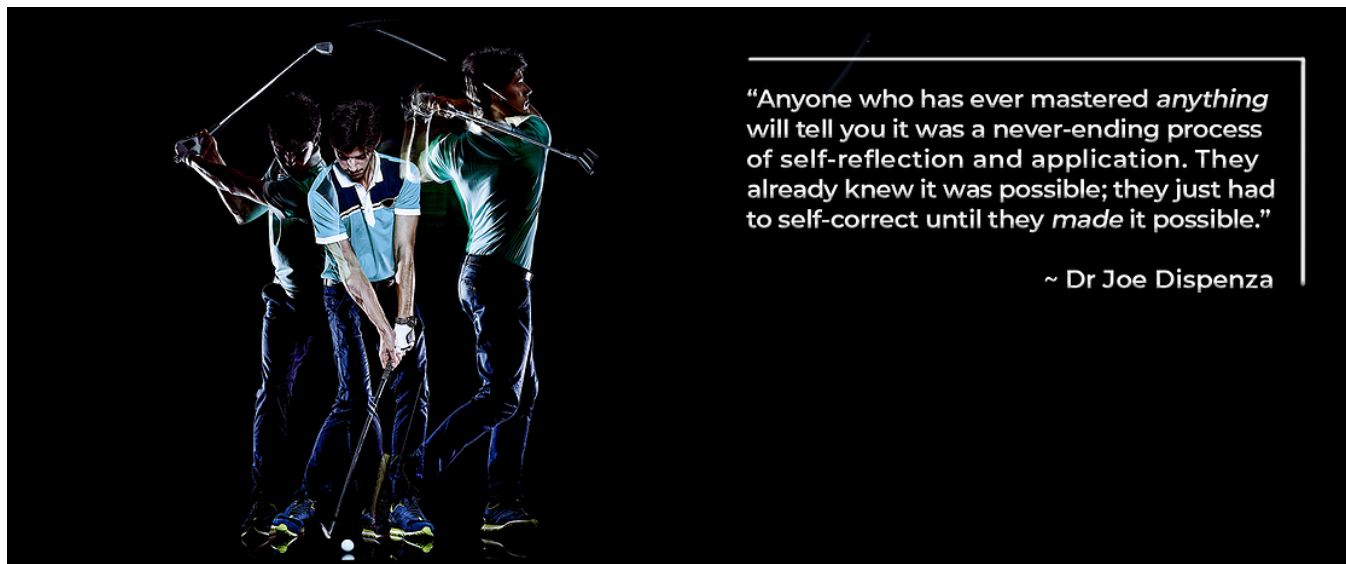
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Oklahoma Dressage Society Education Scholarship Fund Application Form

Please review the ODS Education Scholarship information before filling out this application form.

Be as specific as you can.

Date of Application: _____

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Telephone (Cell): _____

Email: _____

Are you an ODS Member in good standing? ☐ Yes ☐ No Status: ☐ Junior ☐ Amateur ☐ Open

Do you compete in dressage? ☐ No ☐ Yes If Yes, Please check all applicable below.

☐ Schooling Shows ☐ Recognized Shows ☐ Locally ☐ Regionally ☐ Nationally

Who is your current riding instructor? _____

Name and date of anticipated educational event or training you would like to attend:

Tell us about the instructor and / or educational event you would like to attend.

(Please attach any printed material / flyer and a copy of your completed application to event).

How do you intend to benefit from attending this educational event? What are your goals for attending this event?



Oklahoma Dressage Society Education Scholarship Information & Application

The ODS Education Scholarship provides financial assistance to Oklahoma Dressage Society members to further their dressage education.

Criteria for Eligibility:

1. This ODS Education Scholarship is open to all Oklahoma Dressage Society Members: juniors, adults, or vintage riders, amateurs or professionals, including ODS member volunteers and committee members.
2. The candidate must be a current member in good standing of Oklahoma Dressage Society (ODS). In addition, the applicant must have been an ODS member for at least the 2 previous years.
3. The candidate must have a background of attending previous ODS dressage educational events. The more ODS event attendance, the stronger the candidate for the ODS scholarship. Attendance at non-ODS dressage educational events will be considered as additional input.
4. The candidate must have a background of volunteerism for ODS. This includes volunteering on at least one (1) ODS committee or have accumulated five (5) hours of volunteering at ODS events. The more ODS volunteerism, the stronger the candidate for the ODS scholarship. Volunteerism for non-ODS dressage related events will be considered as additional input.

Criteria for Use:

Scholarships may be used toward the registration/entry fees for the following types of dressage educational events:

1. Acceptable activities will include ODS and its affiliated chapters educational events, USDF Region 9 and USDF educational events. Additionally, any educational event or clinic given by a USDF/USEF judge, USDF/USEF technical delegate, USDF Certified Instructor, USDF "L" Program graduate, or USDF Medalist.
2. Scholarship candidates must receive ODS Scholarship Committee approval for the use of this scholarship at a specific dressage educational event prior to the event occurring.

The ODS Scholarship Committee will review applications for funds and make recommendations to the Board for their vote. The Governing Board will select members to sit on this committee for a period of one year.

Application Deadline:

The ODS Education Scholarship committee will meet a minimum of two times per year. Each scholarship application must be received by the following schedule:

January 1 – May 15 Scholarship(s) to be awarded by June 15.

Presented at the ODS Summer Meeting.

May 16 - November 15 Scholarship(s) to be awarded by Dec. 15.

Presented at the ODS Annual General Meeting.

Please note: Your application must indicate an educational event that is after the award date.

Volunteer Hours: Volunteer hours counting towards ODS Education Scholarships include:

1. Volunteering at ODS, its affiliated chapters and Region 9 sponsored shows, clinics, educational events, fundraisers, etc. Volunteer hours must be recorded and itemized on the ODS Education Scholarship Application Form. Validation of hours will be confirmed by the ODS Volunteer Coordinator from each event.
2. Write an article in the ODS newsletter.
3. Consideration will also be given for attendance at ODS, its affiliated chapters and Region 9 sponsored activities or functions. (ex: Summer Meeting, AGM or auditing the ODS Educational events).

Scholarship monies will not be awarded until after successful completion of attendance at the

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Oklahoma Dressage Society Education Scholarship Information & Application

approved dressage educational event with validation of the attendance; and, the submission to ODS of the required post report. An amount of \$200 will be awarded. Scholarship winners must write a post report article about their educational experience for which the scholarship was used and submit it to the ODS Scholarship Committee within 30 days of the event. This report / article will then be published in the newsletter.

The ODS Educational Scholarship is non-transferable and may only be used for the candidate's education. (ex. It may not be used for someone else riding your horse in a clinic.) Scholarships must be used within 1 year of the time it is awarded. No extensions will be granted.

The ODS Educational Scholarship Funds to administer the program should be held in a separate, interest-bearing account or with its own sub-account in ODS general funds. The ODS Educational Scholarship Fund must maintain a balance to fund this venture and a minimum of \$200 must remain in this account at all times. The funds generated by the silent auction at any AGM will be placed in the ODS Education Scholarship fund. Any sponsorship donations to this account will also be welcome.

Additional Information:

Scholarships may be applied for at any time of year by the corresponding deadline.

The ODS Educational Scholarship Committee will meet a minimum of two (2) times per year (June & December) to review all applications received up to that point and make the decisions about its awards. The ODS Educational Scholarship Committee may award zero (0) scholarships, or may award more than two (2) scholarships at each of these meetings as they deem fit. A maximum of four (4) Scholarships may be awarded each year. Not all allotted scholarships must be awarded in a single year. Determination of eligibility is at the sole discretion of the ODS Education Scholarship Committee.

An ODS member may only be awarded a scholarship once per twelve (12) months period. Once awarded a scholarship in a given twelve (12) months, a candidate may not apply again within that same twelve (12) months period. However, priority for subsequent years will be given to eligible candidates who have not received an education scholarship previously.

The ODS Education Scholarship Committee will include at least one (1) current ODS Board Member. The committee must consist of a total of three (3) to five (5) ODS members in good standing. The committee shall not exceed five (5) members.


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Florida Dreamin'

By: Kay Kamish



Have any of you dreamed about what it would be like to take a horse to Florida for the winter? Or at least, part of the winter? Who hasn't, when Canada sends her cold and freeze down the corridor of the Central Plains! It helps if you know someone there and you have a place to go. My coach, Sarah Martin, started wintering in Florida several years ago, and was very encouraging about her students making a visit. The idea was daunting to me....so far, two-day haul, what would it cost, how could I leave my place, and on and on. But every journey starts with that single step, every dream starts in the imagination, and I love that phrase: if you can dream it, you can do it.

Mine started with a big envelope that said on the front: "It starts with a dream". Whenever I had some spare cash, into the envelope it went. At first the two or three \$20 bills seemed pretty pathetic, but over time there were more; I traded the \$20s into \$100s, and eventually I had ten of them! I originally was looking to go last year, but there was too much chaos in my life and it wouldn't work. Fine ~ a bigger start for 2022! Finally, with cash in hand (or in envelope!) my Danny and I set off for Ocala, Florida on February 9! Yes, I drove the whole way by myself, so that can be done (Audio books are a God-send!). We had beautiful weather going and coming, a well defined route, and a place to stay overnight part way there. We arrived at dusk, greeted by smiling, welcoming faces to the simple and friendly farm of Valerie Carter. Up on a hill, covered by trees, it is a little piece of horse heaven. The sand arena is on level with the open barn, adjacent to the west the land rolled off down a grassy hill that had four Kentucky-styled fenced huge paddocks, and a short trek through an adjoining field was an amazing 400 acres tree farm with wide lanes where we could ride. Who could ask for more?!

The first order of the week was to get Danny's polar fleece coat off! Just two work sessions in 70 degree weather proved that was necessary. Slicked off, we were ready to rock, and launched into what can only be called 'dressage boot camp!' We had three weeks to be there and Sarah wasted no time in defining the demands, lifting the withers, gaining elevation, more engagement and carrying from the hind legs. Sarah had recommended we show the second weekend, so that was part of the whole experience. And guess what ~ showing in Florida feels exactly the same as showing in Oklahoma, just a different venue, different set of horses, and a collection of very capable riders. Danny is stepping into Third Level

and those demands were a challenge. I was so pleased with his efforts, managing the more elevated frame, and still working on that elusive coordination of the changes. Show over, back to work on that strength and coordination. There was a perfect convergence of people at Sarah's that second week, with two riders who had come from Colorado for the winter, Nancy Burba coming in from Oklahoma and riding one of Sarah's horses, and a trainer from Omaha coming to ride her client's horse who is with Clayton and Sarah for the winter. Everyone and their horses were in the same place as it turned out, finding that feeling of the elevation appropriate for Third Level, finding what it takes in attention to detail and concentration from us riders to hone the balance of the horses so they can find and sustain the elevation and engagement. The horses were all of such different body types, some with a little more or less experience at this level, yet all having similar struggles. What a learning experience!



Nancy Burba



Danny at the show.



Kayaking with manatees

Sarah and Clay had their own 3 horses, along with a resident horse and 4 others in training, so there was hardly ever a time when there was not a horse doing something in the arena that we could watch and learn from.

It wouldn't be Florida without at least one water-based excursion! There was a rare day off the first weekend that three of us went kayaking at Silver Springs, and got to experience that thrill of finding a manatee! Being that close, in a little kayak floating just a couple of feet above the peacefully grazing manatee was nothing short of a miracle.

Later in the stay was time to visit the incredible World Equestrian Center! Part of my original plan involved entering a show there, but that didn't work out. I was just as glad, since the show the

(Cont'd on next page)

ShowSecretary.com

Florida Dreamin'



Laura Graves on SenSation

(Cont'd from previous page)

previous weekend took quite a lot out of Danny; he was weary! Two in our group did show, so we got to vicariously experience it, and toured the barns and arenas that went on for miles. Written description doesn't do it justice ~ and neither do the few pictures. We got the extra thrill of seeing Laura Graves show her new ride, SenSation, a 9-year old Westphalen gelding going at PSG. Remember that name.... this horse is a real athlete, and I'm sure he will be seen as Laura's partner in the years to come. We capped off the weekend by watching some Grand Prix jumping in the main arena in front of the massive hotel. What a spectacle.

The hard part of any time away is that it eventually comes to an end. We packed up and headed for home on March 2, again with perfect weather that was almost identical in both Florida and Claremore, except temperatures here were about 10 degrees lower at night. Or at least, for the first two days home, then the bottom dropped out, then got nice, then it snowed! You get the picture of winter in the Midwest ~ so hard to stay consistent, especially if you do not have access to an indoor arena. Which lends credence to my dream of the effort of Florida....at least I got the opportunity of that training boost in the middle of winter that I would not have had if I had not followed that dream.



Danny in his sun-dappled Florida paddock

If you can dream it..... there are ways you can do it. All it takes is courage, a plan, and the dedication to follow what you love! I have an envelope marked Florida 2023 with a single \$20 bill in it....

And by the way, always remember that The Dressage Foundation has many grants available, to both amateurs and professionals alike, and they *want* to give it away!! I did not avail myself of that financial help this year, but I will look into it next year, for certain!

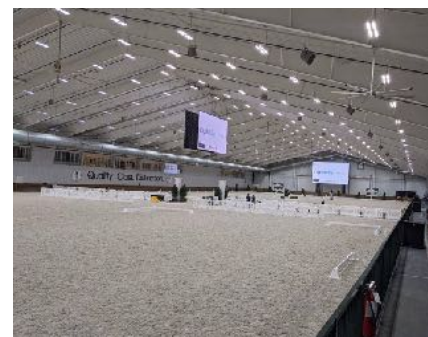
Dream Big



Kay and Nancy at the WEC



World Equestrian Center



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be a horse rider,
that is
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OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY

SPRING I & II

April 30 & May 1, 2022

Level 3*

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Dorie Vlaten-Schmitz "S"

TD: Susan Lang

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- USEF Children Dressage Championship
- USEF Pony Rider Dressage Championship
- USEF JR/YR Dressage Championship
- USEF Young Adult 'Brentina Cup' Championship
- Markel/USEF Young and Developing Horse Championship
- GAIG Regional Championship
- Southwest Dressage Championship

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 FHANA
 Friesian Horse Society
 Georgian Grand/IGGHR
 Hanoverian/Verband or NA
 ALHA

Oldenburg German OHBS/GOV
 Oldenburg IRS/NA
 KWPN – NA
 Morgan
 NA Danish Warmblood Assoc.
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Oklahoma Dressage Society

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Announcements

NEW DEADLINE FOR FALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: April 21, 2022

This second **30 days before the event deadline** has been initiated by the ODS Board & the ODS Scholarship Committee because of the 2022 joint sponsorship of the USDF "L" Program, Part 1 and the three (3) sessions that event will include. The ODS Scholarships are available only for ODS members in good standing.

Part 1 of the USDF "L" Program consists of both classroom sessions (lectures and videos) and live demonstrations. The program takes a systematic and orderly approach to explaining the judge's methodology. It examines bio-mechanics of the horse's gaits and the rider's position; the scoring system; appropriate comments; and, how the horse properly demonstrates the basics through the first three levels of dressage (Training through Second Level). Individuals may register as Participants or Auditors. Participants are granted access to training materials and homework on the USDF website. Auditors are also provided information on the website, but do not need to complete homework. Auditors are able to listen and view the entire program, but are not permitted to ask questions unless time permits.

Session A will take place May 21-22, at Rogers State University in Claremore, and Rocking C Ranch in Inola, OK. Session B will take place July 30-31, at Valley View Equestrian Center in Stillwater, OK. Session C will take place October 15-16 at Capall Stables in Wichita, KS.

For further information or applications for the "**L**" Program, please contact the Program Coordinator: Sherry Guess guessdrsg@aol.com or 918.640.1204. Information is also available on the ODS website: <https://www.dressageoklahoma.org>. For **ODS Scholarship Applications**, please download the forms & information from the ODS website or contact Nancy Trait-Lira ntraitlira19@gmail.com.

GCDC Show Update: Postponed to June 2023

The difficult decision was made by the GCC Board to cancel this year's GCDC Show on March 12, 13. Even with a strong phone campaign to encourage entries, there just were not enough to make the show financially feasible. The rough February weather seemed a big deterrent, with many riders and trainers feeling they just did not have their horses up to show condition. GCC did not have the financial depth to take a loss on the show, and there was concern about how the cancellation penalties would affect them. Through the good grace of the two judges, Charlotte Trentleman and Judy Downer, neither are charging a penalty fee, nor are the TD or announcer, so that helps GCC save quite a bit of money. After a discussion with the ODS Show committee (Roberta Clark, Sherry Guess, Anne Kuhns) and Kara Garde, GCC President, the ODS Board voted to take on responsibility for GCDC in 2023, and return to a June date at the Claremore Expo! So this fine show, with an over 20-year history, will be back! Tentative date: **June 10 - 11, 2023**

Over \$225,000 to be Awarded at 2022 Great American/USDF Regional Dressage Championships

Lexington, KY (March 2, 2022) - The United States Dressage Federation™ (USDF) and Great American Insurance Group are pleased to announce that prize money totaling over \$225,000 will be awarded at the 2022 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Championships. This prize money will be divided evenly among the nine regions and 35 divisions that are offered, allowing each region to present competitors with over \$25,000 in prize money and awards. Champions in each region and division will receive \$437 in prize money, an embroidered vest provided by SmartPak, official supplement feeding system of USDF, and an embroidered nylon stall guard. Reserve champions in each region and division will receive \$291 in prize money, along with a saddle pad provided by the Great American Insurance Group, title sponsor of the championships.

"It is with great pleasure that we continue to provide recognition to these outstanding competitors through our sponsorship of the regional championship program," stated Kathy Sedlak, Great American Insurance Group Vice President of the Equine Division.

"We're so pleased that through the generous support of our sponsors, we are able to see this prestigious championship program continue to grow and be so well received by USDF members," adds Stephan Hienzsich, USDF Executive Director.

The Great American/USDF Regional Championships are presented by SmartPak and supported by Platinum Performance. For more information about the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championships, please visit the USDF website at www.usdf.org, or contact the USDF office at regchamps@usdf.org.

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

St. Patrick's Day Fun

Source: Better Homes & Gardens (www.bhg.com)

Fast Facts About Four-Leaf Clovers

- There are approximately 10,000 three-leaf clovers for every "lucky" four-leaf clover.
- There are no clover plants that naturally produce four leaves, which is why four-leaf clovers are so rare.
- The leaves of four-leaf clovers are said to stand for faith, hope, love, and luck.
- It's often said that Ireland is home to more four-leaf clovers than any other place, giving meaning to the phrase "the luck of the Irish."
- If you're lucky enough to find a four-leaf clover, look for more! If a clover plant produces a four-leaf clover, it's more likely to produce another four-leaf lucky charm than plants that only produce three-leaf clovers.
- The fourth leaf can be smaller or a different shade of green than the other three leaves
- If you're the superstitious type, give your four-leaf clover to someone else. It's said that this will double your good luck!



The Difference Between Four-Leaf Clovers and Shamrocks

Both shamrocks and four-leaf clovers are associated with St. Patrick's Day, and they're commonly mistaken to be the same thing. A shamrock is a clover that only has three leaves, and the four-leaf clover is considered lucky because they're much rarer. But shamrocks are still an important part of the holiday.

The Story of the Leprechaun

Leprechauns were first written about in old Irish fables, so it makes sense that they'd be associated with a holiday dedicated to Irish culture. If you're not familiar with the original legend of the leprechaun, it goes like this: Leprechauns were small pint-sized men who worked as shoemakers and hid gold coins in pots at the end of rainbows. Legend has it that these tiny creatures were very hard to catch, because they were so small—but if you were able to catch one, you'd be granted three wishes by the leprechaun in exchange for setting him free.

Because of these old fables, leprechauns have been associated with Irish culture for centuries—likely even farther back than the original St. Patrick's Day. But they actually didn't become tied with the holiday until much more recently.



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Announcements

L EDUCATION PROGRAM



**ODS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
ARE AVAILABLE TO ATTEND
THIS EDUCATIONAL EVENT!**

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION™

USDF "L" PROGRAM 2022

Through the groundbreaking combined efforts of three area GMOs, this highly valued and educational program will be presented in 2022!

The program is open for those interested in participating as "L" Candidates seeking to test for their designation as "L" Graduates and available for judging Schooling Shows.

Those not wishing to test are welcome and encouraged to attend as Auditors.

SAVE THESE DATES

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Session A | May 21 – 22 | Rocking C Ranch/Mounted, Inola, Oklahoma
RSU Claremore/Classroom sessions
Hosted by Oklahoma Dressage Society
Introduction to judging and biomechanics | Joan Darnell |
| Session B | July 30 – 31 | Valley View Equestrian Center, Stillwater, Oklahoma
Hosted by Central Plains Dressage Society
Judging Criteria for gaits, paces, movements, and figures | Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez |
| Session C | October 15 – 16 | Capall Stables, Wichita, Kansas
Hosted by Kansas Dressage and Eventing Association
Collective Marks, equitation, rider biomechanics and basics | Kathy Rowse |

For further information or applications please contact the Program Coordinator:
Sherry Guess guessdrsg@aol.com 918.640.1204

"L" Program Update

Sherry Guess, the ODS program coordinator, reports that, at press time, there are 16 Participants (Judge Candidates) coming from Oklahoma as well as Kansas, Texas, Arkansas, Nebraska and Iowa! It was anticipated that this program would be popular - how exciting to see how true this is!

If you have any thoughts to learning more about judging, whether you intend to go on through the whole program or not, please sign up. If you are hesitant because you do not yet have the scores required to go on to test for your "L," remember that you have two years to acquire those scores; they do not have to be in place as you go through Part 1.

There will be room for Auditors, so be sure to sign up — the earlier the better, as it will help Sherry with the necessary planning.

Location:

Sat/ Sun morning Unmounted sessions
Rogers University/ Dr. Carolyn Taylor Center,
Claremore, OK

Sunday afternoon Mounted session
Rocking C Ranch (Patty Couch)
Inola, OK

Note: The PGA Tournament is in Tulsa during the same weekend, so it is advised to book lodging ASAP.

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Meet Ms. Rocket: ODS's New Editorial Staff Member

Please welcome Ms. Rocket, the new ODS Newsletter columnist who is ready to answer any of your burning questions (horse and farm -or mouse- related of course!). Ms. Rocket will answer your questions here in the ODS newsletters, so be on the lookout for them! If she doesn't know the answer, she will creatively make one up. This might be "interesting!" Send her your comments or questions you'd like her to answer...who knows...you could end up hearing more of her cat "paw-losophies!" 🐾



Please send your questions to Ms. Rocket at: **ntraitlira19@gmail.com**. She's looking forward to hearing from you!

Cat Friendships: Reader Photo Shares

Since I'm spending a LOT of time inside where it's warm & cozy, I'm making sure to pick a favorite friend to snuggle up with. Are you? We're keeping special places warm, scoping out the closest spots to the fire (without becoming cajun-blackened-kitty), and dreaming of those hot sunny days just around the corner. We each spend a lot of time with kitty-television. My human slave puts bird seed out in the back yard just so we can watch all the birdies. Yuuummmmm.....claw lick'n good. I've also been receiving photo-shares from some of my readers. From the photos shared, I decided this was the purrr-fect opportunity to re-visit and expand my January topic: 5 Reasons Why Your Horse Should Have a Special Relationship with a Cat. Or.....Why Cats & Horses Make **Purrrfect** Friends.

I figured I would probably need to expand my purrr-losophies because I know there are a lot of you humans out there in the outside world that love dogs better than cats. I actually don't know how that could be possible, but I thought I'd demonstrate my mag-nan-i-mouse (I LOVE little mousies to eat them, yes I dos) side and include friends other than horses. Oh Bother.....! (Although, if I **must** confess, I have them doggie friends, too.)

Photo-share #1 is from my friend, **Snots**. Now, Snots is a wonderful, cuddly lady who is also a wonderful mother. She really has the cutest kittens & knows how to teach them the correct skills. Snots does have.....hmmmmmm.....how shall I say this delicately.....a certain difficulty with her nose. She doesn't have Covid, but many have suggested she wear a mask because of her constant sniffles. I think she's cute & **Waylon**, her best burro buddy, says he loves the way she winkles her nose when she's sniffing. He also doesn't mind at all when Snots does her nose-rubbing on his back. His back is broad & warm & has a lot of fluff to it. He'll do a lot for those he loves. You should see his antics with his human best friend. He loves to pull on her special pink knit hat on cold mornings. That human friend looks really funny with the pink knit hat askew on her head.

Photo-share #2 is another photo that Snots sent. Snots has lots of friends that she takes care of. Snots LOVES sitting on **Gracie's** head best while she's catching the "rays", but will settle for Gracie's warm back. See. Told ya dogs would be included this time. Snots is available for therapy sessions, too. You must allow the sit-on-your-head position.



Snots and her other best friend, Gracie.



Snots and her friend, Waylon.

(Cont'd on next page) 🐾🐾🐾🐾



The Dressage Foundation's grant deadline for those interested in being a part of horse show management/TD/Judging:

Apply by March 15: [Shannon Foundation Fund for Judges Licensing](#): Grants of at least \$1,000 to provide financial support to dressage judges to participate in activities related to obtaining a judging license of "recorded" ('small r') or higher.

Learn more and apply here: <https://bit.ly/2O7ifqf>

Cat Friendships: Reader Photo Shares

🐾🐾🐾 (Cont'd from previous page)

Photo-share #3 is one from my own neck-of-the-wall. This is **The King** in our household. Known for his demanding presence & his no-nonsense wack of a paw, **Roscoe** is our Lion King. Most of the time, Roscoe allows me to snuggle with him in the wicker chair & share the heat from the wood stove in front of it. He's actually really very sweet.....unless he hasn't been fed on time. Aren't most lions like that?

Well, it looks like I've used up enough of the space in this newsletter edition sharing my friends. Here's hoping you are all staying cozy & warm, but aren't getting too soft. Next month's purr-losophies will be getting us back on your horses with the idea that horses are great for the woman, or man, or CAT in you! Keep hangin' out with your favorite 4-legged person-----



Ms Rocket



Roscoe likes to snuggle where he can be color-coordinated.



Share the
beauty
of dressage



THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION

Thanks to grants made possible by TDF donors, many instructors, judges, and breeders participated in training to help them improve as professionals this year. Adult Amateur riders from across the country spent dedicated training time with their horses, which renewed their commitment to our sport. FEI-Level riders realized their dreams of competing successfully on the international stage and received training from some of the best instructors in the world. With the help of TDF grants, dressage clubs in 20 states organized events for riders in their areas, making high-quality education more affordable. Youth riders learned the importance of the basics, how to teach their horses correctly, and how to grow into the future leaders of U.S. dressage. Senior riders and their horses were recognized through the ever-popular Century Club program, inspiring others to continue (or begin!) riding.

Please consider a gift to The Dressage Foundation to help even more riders experience the beauty that dressage offers. Thank you!

www.dressagefoundation.org/support/donate.html



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DUE MARCH 15



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Virtual Spotlight Horse Shows Return in 2022

ODS will once again work with Gail Mathues and Spotlight Horse Shows to offer not one, but two opportunities to participate in virtual shows! You can sign up for a show, then have a week to video a ride to submit for judging.

Just think, the convenience of your own familiar arena, riding at a time that suits you! This is a fun and easy way to have your ride scored by a nationally recognized USEF "S" judge! **ODS will accept one score from either of these shows to count toward your Schooling Show Year End Awards.**

Not interested in hauling your horse? The Gail Mathues Virtual Shows are a great option! Two are offered this year, the Cabin Fever show entries open **April 3** and Beat the Heat opens **May 23**. Send your entry, get a show placard, and display it before you ride and video your test.

For every entry to these shows, ODS receives \$10.00 from Gail's show business. ODS received over \$400 for one show last year. This goes toward ODS schooling show awards. One score from these shows will be allowed to count toward your year end totals!

Cabin Fever Link: <https://www.spotlighthorsheshows.com/events-2/oklahoma-dressage-society-cabin-fever-show>

Beat The Heat Link: <https://www.spotlighthorsheshows.com/events-2/oklahoma-dressage-society-beat-the-heat-show>



GAIL MATHEUS
Spotlight Horse Shows

Phone: 734-679-5019
Gail@SpotlightHorseShows.com
www.SpotlightHorseShows.com

CABIN FEVER VIRTUAL SHOW

Entries Open Dates: April 3 - 24, 2022
Video Submission: through May 13, 2022
Judging Dates: May 14 - 22, 2022

Beat The Heat Virtual Show

Entries Open Dates: May 23 – June 13, 2022
Video Submission: through July 1, 2022
Judging Dates: July 2 - 11, 2022

ODS's Green Country Chapter 2022 Schooling Shows Announced

April 23 - Riverbend arena
May 15 - Riverbend
June 25 - Riverfield Stables
July 16 - evening show at YOLY
Sept 11 - Riverfield Stables
Oct 15 - YOLY
Nov 5 - Schooling Show Championships/ Riverbend Arena



Central Plains Dressage Society Recognized Show Dates 2022

March 26-27
April 23-24
June 4-5
June 25-26
Sept 3-4
Oct 29-30

Check out the CPDS educational opportunities listed on their website! March 19th is their judging symposium with Jodi Jones Lees. For details on that event, call/text Robin Hessel at 405-747-7121.



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Events

It's Show Time! ODS Spring Show Update

By Roberta Clark Roberta.clark@sbcglobal.net

Entries open **March 15!** Show Dates: **April 30 & May 1 @ Tulsa Expo Center**

Features:

- ODS will be hosting the Friday night Stall Crawl!
- Wine and cheese party Saturday during the award presentations.
- Bring your checkbooks for the Silent Auction!



The Oklahoma Dressage Society's Spring I & II show are just around the corner. This show will have the Stall Crawl on Friday evening, so come prepared with a favorite dish to share with horsey friends as everyone "crawls" around neighbors' stalls. It's such a great time to meet new people and converse with old friends.

Sherry Guess is working on another amazing silent auction. Please consider putting together an awesome basket of items that others would love to bid on and take home with them. Contact Sherry for details on how you can contribute: guessdrsg@aol.com.

Saturday after the last ride, ODS awards will be presented from the day's competition. It's a special time as the Bob and Bee Pape Award will be presented. Cathy Orban and Pam Rhodes have been working hard to organize all the breed awards. Be sure to have your ODS membership with your particular breed organization to qualify for special ribbons and awards. Awards with drinks and hors d'oeuvres after Saturday's last ride will be condensed so that everyone can tend to their horses and make dinner plans or even get to bed early.

Volunteers are the backbone to any organization and especially true for ODS. So many of you are gracious to work days to make this show the success that it is. Sherry and I look forward to your support again this year. Contact me (Roberta) at Roberta.clark@sbcglobal.net to find out how you can volunteer. Contact me early to secure your preferred volunteer role!

Please share about this upcoming show with your horse friends and encourage them to turn in their entries early.

There are many opportunities for vendors and sponsorships at the spring shows. Contact me (Roberta) at Roberta.clark@sbcglobal.net for more information. There are many levels of options for your business such as vendor booth spaces and advertising in the show program, among many others, all of which have great benefits to help you reach customers!

On behalf of ODS, we are looking forward to seeing many in the saddle or on the ground supporting our awesome club, the Oklahoma Dressage Society!



YOUR CONNECTION TO DRESSAGE • EDUCATION • COMPETITION • ACHIEVEMENT

USDF will be hosting the [USDF Region 4 Jr/YR Clinic](#) featuring George Williams at Pine Hill Farm in Kansas City, MO on April 23-24, 2022. [Rider applications](#) are being accepted through **March 21 at 8 AM EDT**. All applications must include a video link of the rider **completing a test**, on the horse they wish to ride at the clinic. You must be a current USDF Participating Member, with an active USEF Competing membership to apply. Consideration will be given to riders who are competing in U25 classes as space permits. Auditors for this clinic are welcome. Auditor registration will open March 4 and will close March 28 at midnight EDT. The USDF Jr/YR Clinics are funded with the continued support of [The Dressage Foundation](#) and the [United States Equestrian Federation](#).

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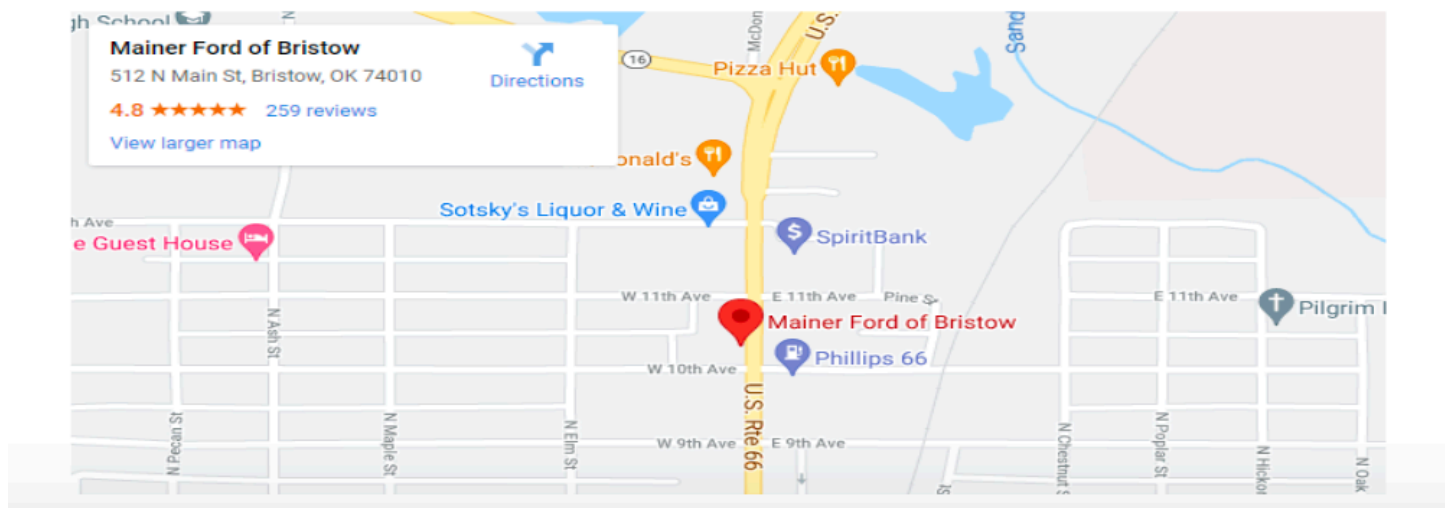
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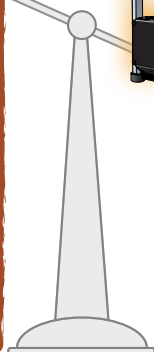
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PLUS, Round Bale Saver's efficient ELEVATED design can cut hay loss to as little as a buck a bale!

By comparison, the total 20-year cost of each Round Bale Saver (unit + hay loss) is only about \$3,000!

Tired of having your rusty rings kicked around? Round Bale Saver is **BULL-PROOF • STUD-PROOF • RANCHER-PROOF!**

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OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

ODS is a Group member organization (GMO) of Region 9 of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF).

New Membership _____ Renewing Membership _____ Information Change only _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ USDF ID# _____

Address _____ City/State Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____ Birth date: Mth ____ / Yr ____

USDF membership year is Dec 1st - Nov 30th . Membership dues are late after November 30th .

ODS Membership – Select One Category. For family memberships consisting of more than two family members, please check both boxes for that section (Family and Add third family member).

\$54 Adult: Please check which applies: Open ☐ Amateur ☐ Vintage (50+) ☐ \$ _____

\$20 Charter / Life (for ODS founding members and those members who have lifetime memberships) \$ _____

\$44 Junior, under 18 as of Dec 1 of the current membership year \$ _____
(For example, must be under 18 Dec. 1 of 2015 for 2015 membership)

\$64 Family (for two family members)

Name of second family member _____ Birth Day Mth ____ / Yr ____ \$ _____

\$10 Add third family member

Name of third family member _____ Birth Day Mth ____ / Yr ____ \$ _____

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

\$10 Green Country Chapter (GCC) \$ _____

DONATION to ODS. (ODS is a tax exempt 501.c. organization) OPTIONAL \$ _____

\$5 DISCOUNT for memberships received before November 30th . - (\$ _____)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please tell us about your USDF/USEF accomplishments by checking any of the following boxes that apply. We plan to publish a list of member accomplishments on the website and in the directory.

☐ Gold Medal ☐ Silver Medal ☐ Bronze Medal ☐ USDF Rider Performance (Training, 1st, 2nd) ☐ "L" Judge

☐ USDF Instructor Certification - Level _____

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? Please circle all that apply.

Scribing ☐ Scoring ☐ Organization/Management ☐ Accounting ☐ Spreadsheets ☐ Arena Set-Up/Tear-D own ☐

Photography ☐ Fund Raising ☐ Other _____

I hereby release the Oklahoma Dressage Society, it's 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: _____ Dated _____ (Parent or Guardian Signs for Jr. Rider)

Mail this form, with check payable to "Oklahoma Dressage Society – Membership" to: Marta Koenig, PO Box 1101, Kellyville, OK 74039.

Email Marta Koenig at martakoe@yahoo.com Phone: 918-232-0675

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing by USDF.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Sell your horse, trailer, tack, property or other equine related items here in the ODS newsletter classified ads.

Non-commercial ads are FREE for ODS members and only \$5 for non-members.

Ads will run one month unless owner re-submits.

To advertise, email the editor: newsletter@dressageoklahoma.org.



Inexpensive Pain Drug Gets a Boost for Treating Horses

Researchers found acetaminophen is readily and rapidly absorbed, and most of the horses appeared to feel and move better.

Editor's note: Always consult your veterinarian before giving your horse any pharmaceuticals, including over-the-counter drugs.

If a little bit of acetaminophen makes your horse feel better, a little bit more might make him feel a little bit better for a little bit longer. This is welcome news for owners who are managing horses with chronic aches and pains.

Acetaminophen is a cheap and effective over-the-counter pain reliever that provides an alternative to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) with undesirable side effects such as gastric ulcers and kidney damage. Researchers confirmed that acetaminophen is safe for horses at a higher dose than tested previously, even when administered for weeks at a time.

The study, led by Melissa Mercer, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM- LA, a resident who is working toward a PhD in veterinary clinical pharmacology at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, in Blacksburg, Virginia, concluded that 30 milligrams per kilogram of

body weight of acetaminophen twice daily for 21 days produced no ill effects. In practical terms, this is approximately 15,000 milligrams for an 1,100-pound horse (30 500-milligram tabs) given at 12-hour intervals. The research builds on an earlier study that showed acetaminophen was safe for horses at 20 milligrams per kilogram of body weight twice daily for two weeks. Mercer reported these findings at the **2021 American Association of Equine Practitioners Convention**, held Dec. 4-8 in Nashville, Tennessee.

The latest trial included 12 therapy and lesson horses, ages 13-23, from the **Ride-A-Rescue/Winterfrost Farm** program. All were healthy but exhibited mild, chronic lameness, for which most had routinely receive NSAIDs to remain comfortable. They were withdrawn from any medications prior to beginning the study. Each horse was scored for lameness using body-mounted electronic sensors and human evaluators as they trotted in a straight line on pavement. Six horses were scoped for gastric ulcers, and six horses had their livers biopsied pre- and post-treatment to check for evidence of toxicity.

One positive the researchers reconfirmed is that acetaminophen is readily and rapidly absorbed in the horse. In less than an hour, its pain-relieving properties are already at work. How exactly it works is still not yet fully understood, but it's believed to impact the endocannabinoid, opioid, and serotonergic systems, in some of the same ways scientists believe cannabidiol (CBD) works, Mercer said. And while its anti-inflammatory effects are not on par with, say, phenylbutazone (bute), it's more benign in the digestive tract. In fact, several horses in the study with gastric ulcers showed marked improvements after 21 days on acetaminophen. The break from NSAIDs gave their preexisting ulcers time to heal, Mercer explained.

Another plus is that acetaminophen does not accumulate in the horse's body even after three weeks of twice-daily dosing. Because it clears the system rapidly, researchers believe a higher dose might maintain a therapeutic level until the next dose is given. Peak concentration is typically an hour after ingesting the drug, and most of the horses appeared to feel and move better. They also maintained their riding schedules throughout the study.

Preliminary results also showed "transient improvement" in lameness scores at 21 days, but researchers are still analyzing the data, Mercer said. She concluded that although acetaminophen might not be the best stand-alone treatment for managing chronic lameness, it's proving to be a safe and effective option for reducing our horses' everyday aches and pains.

Source: thehorse.com; Betsy Lynch, Feb 2, 2022



Events Calendar

Go to the Events Calendar tab on dressageoklahoma.org for more details about the events listed below. Registration information and forms are available through the Event Calendar tab. To get your event listed on the website, contact the ODS webmaster Lindsey Greco at webmaster@dressageoklahoma.org. To get your event listed in the Centerline newsletter, contact the newsletter editor Melissa Furman at newsletter@dressageoklahoma.org.

The most current, up-to-date event listings and information are posted online.

- Apr 2-3** ODS Spring Symposium w/Lilo Fore (Tulsa)
- Apr 3-24** Cabin Fever Virtual Show
(Entries Open; Video Submissions through May 13)
- Apr 30-May 1** ODS Spring I & II Recognized Shows (Tulsa Expo)
- May 14-22** Cabin Fever Virtual Show (Judging)
- May 21-22** USDF "L" Program, Session A (Inola, Claremore)
- May 23-June 13** Beat The Heat Virtual Show
(Entries Open; Video Submissions through July 1)
- July 2-11** Beat The Heat Virtual Show (Judging)
- July 30-31** USDF "L" Program, Session B (Stillwater)
- Oct 15-16** USDF "L" Program, Session C (Wichita, KS)

The ODS Trailer has had its spring service and is ready to go to all the upcoming educational and competition events like these:

**FUN
FACT**



Current ODS membership is 107

Monthly ODS Meetings Open To All Members

Every Oklahoma Dressage Society member is welcome to attend via phone the monthly Board of Directors meeting, usually held on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 7:00pm.

You may call in to attend virtually by dialing 712-432-3900 (conference code #535614).

**Next ODS Board
Meeting:
April 13
@ 7:00 pm.**



ODS Board Members

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 Vice President - **Lindsey Greco** lindseymgreco@gmail.com
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