

NEWSLETTER

January 2014

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

<u>Coordinator</u>

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

Improve Your Collective Dressage Scores with William "Bill" Solyntjes

Make plans to be part of the 2014 ODS Educational Symposium, "Improve Your Collective Dressage Scores" with William "Bill" Solyntjes. The symposium will be held March 22-23, 2014, at Lily Pond Estates in Kellyville, Oklahoma.

The symposium will feature a lecture presentation on how judges judge including determining base score; adding criteria focusing on the essence and factoring modifiers; the biomechanics of horse, rider and gaits; and the collective marks. The symposium will also incorporate rider demonstrations with constructive critique and instruction, and several question/answer sessions with the clinician.

Bill Solyntjes is a U.S. Dressage Federation (USDF) bronze, silver and gold medalist, a USDF "S" judge, "R" Sport Horse judge and is a member of the USDF "L" program faculty. Bill has trained and shown several horses to Grand Prix. Based in Hamel, Minn., he operates Brandywine Farm, a dressage training and breeding facility that has produced many year-end award winners both in hand and under saddle.

Auditor registration form can be found at the ODS web site (www.dressageoklahoma.org) or by clicking <u>here</u>. For demo rider application, please click <u>here</u>.

2014 Region 9 Omnibus Available

The 2014 Region 9 Omnibus is now available. You can purchase a copy on-line at https://www.usdf.org/online-services/region-cc-processing/index.asp?region=9 or you can mail your request to Bruce Lawrie at PO Box 832872, Richardson, TX 75083. The cost of the Omnibus is \$15. The Omnibus features all tests and information about judges, trainers and shows.

The 2013 Region 9 Omnibus is now available for download at http://www.usdfregion9.org/PDFs/2013Omnibus.pdf.

Platinum Performance/USDF Region 9 Jr/YR Clinic

The Platinum Performance/USDF Region 9 Jr/YR Clinic, featuring **Jeremy Steinberg**, will be held February 1-2, 2014 at Twinwood Equestrian Center in Simonton, Texas.

For more information, please visit www.usdf.org/education/clinics/jryr/dates-locations.asp. Auditors of all ages are welcome and pre-registration can be completed online! Contact the USDF office for more information.

Message from the President

Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you've survived our abysmal start to the winter without too many broken pipes. Caring for horses in below freezing weather is never easy, and our record-breaking low temperatures made things more difficult.

The best suggestion I've read was regarding keeping water for horses that live out. If you cut a hole in the ice and then leave the water level below that hole, the ice will help insulate the water and the horses will be able to continue to break through. I think I ended up with giant solid ice cubes in my water barrels, but perhaps the idea will work better for you.

I hope to see all of you at our Annual General Meeting on Saturday, January 25 at Freddie's in Sapulpa. We begin at 10:00 a.m. with an open meeting that anyone can attend followed by a luncheon and then the awards presentation. You may attend any of the segments, only the luncheon needs prior notification and registration. All the information is available on the ODS website: www.dressageoklahoma.org

Wishing you a safe, warm, productive New Year!

Sherry Guess

Ruth Anne Korver Attains USEF Honor

Congratulations to ODS member Ruth Ann ("Ruthie") Korver and Mi Ddreamweaver for being selected as the Region 9 Arabian Hunter Pleasure Amateur Reserve Champion and Region 9 Arabian Hunter Pleasure Open Champion.

Ruthie's exceptional accomplishment affords her the honor of being included in the 2013 United States Equestrian Federation Horse of the Year Awards. To commemorate her achievement, USEF will recognize Ruthie in their special Horse of the Year issue of *Equestrian* magazine, which is published in March.

Horses Develop Confidence Through Compassionate Riding

The nervous or anxious horse is lacking confidence from a myriad of reasons and comes in all forms. It is the rider's responsibility to give the horse confidence. This confidence comes from the rider in a compassionate manner. The rider needs to be able to dissect and understand the origins of such behavior. With some horses, it may be innate within their character and something that should be dealt with on a daily basis. I do not believe the natural horsemanship's answer is the final answer for these types of horses, although some of the techniques may be helpful.

First and foremost, punishment is not the answer and will only make the horse more nervous to the point of being fearful. One must remain calm and not in a hurry. This will create trust; your horse will understand your care for him and that you would not force him into a questionable situation. These type of horses will and can walk through fire for you because they know of your love for them, and that becomes more important than their own Life. Think about the horse and its history, and what we have put them through, and you will get the proper perspective.

The rider's aids are the way of communication. With the nervous horse, the beauty is that, ultimately, the dialogue needs only to be at a whisper. But to get to that point there should be a thorough understanding that your aids are never for punishment.

With this horse I do what I call a period of Indian riding. That means my legs, arms and body encompass all of the horses body in all dressage exercises and they realize there is nothing to fear.

Hector Carmona, Jr., FEI Trainer hectorcarmonadressage.com

Teaching Excellence Award Nominations Open

The vast majority of prizes and awards are won at horse shows by top competitors. Occasionally, a trainer/instructor can apply for and receive a scholarship or grant for continuing education purposes. It is time to recognize those who teach well.

Those individuals who are selected for the \$5,000 Teaching Excellence Award will have many, if not all, of the following attributes:

- A USDF Region 9 member in good standing; permanent residence in Region 9 (required)
- A teacher of dressage, regardless of level (required)
- Adherence to sound dressage principles as outlined by the USDF Training Pyramid
- The ability to communicate these principles of training so that students develop themselves and horses in a logical, progressive and humane way (required)
- A reputation for honesty, integrity and community/regional service
- A USDF Certified Instructor (encouraged, though not required)

A dressage instructor may be nominated by students or peers. Nominations should be made by letter. Letters can be emailed or mailed to Jenny Johnson, Administrative Director, The Dressage Foundation:

The Dressage Foundation 1314 'O' Street, Suite 305 Lincoln, NE 68508 jenny@dressagefoundation.org

The nomination period is from January 1st to June 1st of each year. Current year nominations will not be accepted after June 1st. Once received, the nominee will be notified and may submit a completed application by the deadline date of August 1st. Applications must also be mailed to The Dressage Foundation at the above address.

A person is not eligible to win the award two consecutive years in a row. Therefore, a current award winner should not be nominated the year following their receipt of the award.

The goal for this Fund is to develop initial, one-time financial donations, as well as annual donations from individuals. On-going annual contributions may continue until the fund is fully endowed. This award will total \$5000/year. The Dressage Foundation is enthusiastically supportive of this award and willing to manage the endowment and help it grow.

UDSF Announces New Instructor/Trainer Program Faculty

The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) is pleased to announce that Heidi Chote, CA, Kathryn Fleming-Kuhn, IL, and Katherine Simard, CO, have been appointed as new faculty members for the USDF Instructor/Trainer Program at Training-First Level. Each of these new faculty members is a USDF Certified Instructor through Fourth Level. In addition, Heidi is a USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medalist; and Katherine is a USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medalist, as well as a USDF "L" Graduate with Distinction.

The Instructor/Trainer Program workshops are an opportunity to learn about classical theories of riding, training, teaching and lungeing and are open to anyone. "We are pleased to add these new members to our Instructor/Trainer Workshop Faculty, and we hope that by providing more qualified faculty, our program will continue to grow," stated both Lilo Fore and Chris Hickey, co-chairs of the Instructor/Trainer Committee.

For more information on scheduling a workshop, visit the USDF website at www.usdf.org or contact the USDF office at instructorcertification@usdf.org.

ODS 2013 Schooling Show Awards

ODS Horse Registration No.	Horse	Rider	Score	Placing
Intro Level Junior				
665	Jurgen van Bluffview	Kristen Coon	70.000	Champion
2161	Salem	Emily O'Melia	67.812	Reserve Champion
855	Cartwheels Belle Star	Kari Nichols	67.500	3
1033	Illusive Mirage	Shannon O'Melia	65.000	4
2148	Master Eye Opener Titan	Kayla Sherrill	64.718	5
2150	Prince Pippen	Shannon O'Melia	64.462	6
651	Kaigenutt	Hunter McConnell	63.125	7
1013	Onyx	Rachel Whitton	63.000	8
959	Sundance	Jami McKibben	62.968	9
1031	Eyota Creek	Lily Rhodes	60.000	10
961	April Showers	Sami Harp	58.750	11
Intro Level Amateu	<u>r</u>			
986	Dazzlemeister	Hailey Delay	67.812	Champion
2150	Prince Pippen	Pam Rhodes	67.750	Reserve Champion
2160	Noah BEH	Annie Houchin	63.593	3
2138	Red River Tom	Lauren McCully	63.437	4
550	Valley Boy	Sara Scott	63.000	5
990	Gold Dust	Christian Harman	60.625	6
Intro Level Open				
2171	Galaxy Paint Design	Cheryl West	72.656	Champion
2157	Gallant Prince Von G	Patty Couch	70.000	Reserve Champion
2129	Top Bug NR	Cheryl West	68.750	3
2128	Spiritual Invitation	Victor Glunt	62.750	4
Training Level Juni	<u>or</u>			
582	Skip Along Callie	Sierra Phillips	69.200	Champion
2129	Top Bug NR	Kayla Sherrill	66.933	Reserve Champion
2162	Kismet	Ivy Orban	64.366	3
797	Pecan Creeks Bright Shadow	Kristen Acevedo	64.275	4
855	Cartwheels Belle Star	Kari Nichols	62.137	5
913	The Patchwork Kid	Miranda Thibodeau	61.111	6

ODS 2013 Schooling Show Awards

ODS Horse Registration No.	Horse	Rider	Score	Placing		
Training Level Amateur						
986	Dazzlemeister	Hailey Daley	68.162	Champion		
949	Staas	Sharon O'Banion	66.600	Reserve Champion		
550	Valley Boy	Sara Scott	65.104	3		
1073	Lust in the Wind	Holly Luke	65.000	4		
909	Just Call on Me	Kathy Burrows	62.600	5		
991	Oreo	Christiana Vogel	61.875	6		
1013	Onyx	Rachel Whitton	61.042	7		
867	Splash of Salsa	Cathy Orban	61.000	8		
1064	Think of Me	Ashlyn Dildine	59.300	9		
1074	Easily Uno	Trista Milliman	58.705	10		
Training Level Open						
986	Dazzelmeister	Audrey McKenna	69.643	Champion		
651	Kaigenutt	Audrey McKenna	68.421	Reserve Champion		
797	PC Bright Shadow	Marilyn Bassett	66.964	3		
957	Genna	Richal Flannery	64.853	4		
2139	Gee Josie	Audrey McKenna	58.749	5		
First Level Junior						
No Qualifiers						
First Level Amateur						
672	Mi Ddreamweaver	Ruthie Korver	62.200	Champion		
First Level Open 2012	Clair NAF	Tamera Mayo	64.419	Champion		

Attention Region 9 Youth Schooling Show Riders

Are you up for a challenge? Would you like to earn a lovely personalized certificate showing everyone that you met the challenge? If so, please participate in the Region 9 Youth Schooling Show Challenge. All you have to do is keep track of your scores throughout this year and send them to Anne Kuhns, Region 9 Youth Programs representative. They can copied and sent by mail or scanned and sent by e-mail. If you meet the challenge, Anne will send you a certificate by e-mail that you can print out and display for everyone to see! All of this is no cost to you. If you would also like a patch to put on a jacket or item of your choice, that will be delivered to your door for \$15.

For more information, please visit http://www.usdfregion9.org/JRYR/Region9YouthSchoolingShowChallenge.pdf.

Region 9 Nutrena/USDF Adult Clinic Series featuring Hilda Gurney by Christina Harmon

The beautiful Willow Draw facility in Weatherford, Texas, played host to the Region 9 USDF Adult Clinic featuring Hilda Gurney the weekend of November 2-3, 2013.

The horses and riders provided the auditors with a variety of skill levels to observe. All were quite accomplished riders, both the amateurs and professionals. No matter the skill level of the horse or the rider, Hilda found a lot to work on and offered guidance to help the riders improve their technical skills and their riding in general.

Hilda focused on several things throughout the course of the clinic. Most of the discussion was focused on bend and the importance of having the horse correctly bent. Not just a bend through the neck or head of the horse, but through the body. This is a very important distinction. If the horse was not correctly bent throughout their body, the movements became more and more difficult to execute, especially as the horse and riders advanced up the levels, and the harmony between horse and rider was lost. Timing and precision of the aids are also very important and were addressed throughout the entire clinic.

The clinic started with a very young horse: a three-year-old Oldenburg mare. Hilda talked about how at this age and level of training, it takes an entire year for the horse to adjust to the weight of the rider. Hilda likes to show her young horses in the *Materiale* classes towards the end of the three-year-old year and start work on the training level classes. In a horse this young, we are starting at the bottom of the training scale, with the focus on rhythm first, then looseness (relaxation). Most important in the training is the rhythm. Without rhythm, it's not dressage. Positive tension is also being developed and we want to establish an immediate response to the aids. Hilda talked a lot about immediately softening your aids once a response from the horse was received, even if it was a tiny response. This is very important, because the softening is the reward for the horse. The aids should be a push forward, never a pull backwards. Pulling backwards will teach the horse to brace rather than soften and accept the contact. It is also important to recognize when a young horse is getting tired in their training. They are building muscles to carry the rider. Hilda gave an excellent piece of advice: "Never, ever, have a fight with a tired horse because they are physically exhausted they are not able to concentrate."

The next rider and horse team consisted of an 11-year-old Appendix Quarter Horse and an amateur rider, fairly new to dressage. This team worked primarily on consistency of tempo and rider biomechanics. The focus for this pair was sitting trot. Hilda had the pair working on a bigger and bigger trot and obtaining and maintaining the correct bend in the horse. Over and over again, Hilda emphasized the importance of the horse working inside leg to outside rein and also maintaining softness, roundness and bend before the transitions.

A seven-year-old Oldenburg was the next horse up. Hilda wanted to help this pair work on their canter and balance. She started the pair by having the rider get the horse to stretch into the contact. The purpose was to help the horse become steadier in the contact. She mentioned that steadiness is where you get your good points. As the rider started out in her lesson, her reins were too long and the horse was unbalanced through his body and unsteady in the contact. As they progressed through their lesson, they became steadier in the contact and the bend became better throughout the horse's body. This horse didn't have a consistent contact or connection when they started their lesson but became better towards the end. Hilda said several times that having the horse go faster in the canter was not teaching him to take weight behind, but we need to encourage him use his back and anticipate when he is about to come off of the aids.

Every lesson that Hilda taught worked toward harmony between the rider's aids and the horse's gaits. The ability between the horse and rider to achieve harmony was achieved through the correct use of the aids, steadiness of the tempo, and consistency on the part of the rider's position. Every level built upon the basics that were previously established in the level before it. It was very educational to see how establishing the basics of rhythm and relaxation (looseness) with a very young horse carries through to the higher levels, only with a higher degree of refinement. The response and effectiveness of the aids never stops being the focus of the training, no matter the level. From a three-year-old all the way up to a seasoned Grand Prix horse, establishment of the aids is critical to ease of teaching the horse dressage.

The USDF Adult Clinic Series provided an excellent opportunity to learn from a top-notch dressage educator and competitor. Auditing the clinic was an invaluable experience and one that I hope to repeat in the future.



Events and Opportunities

January 25

ODS Annual General Meeting Sapulpa, Oklahoma Contact: GuessDrsg@aol.com

February 1-2

Jeremy Steinberg JR/YR Clinic Simonton, Texas

Contact: <u>www.twinwoodequestriancenter.com</u>

February 8-9

Judging Seminar with Stephen Clarke Georgetown, Texas Contact: www.austindressageunlimited.org

March 1-4

Jeff Moore Biomechanics Clinic Houston, Texas Contact: www.equestrianventures.com

March 22-23

ODS Educational Seminar with Bill Solyntjes Improving Your Collective Scores Contact: skob@tulsaconnect.com

April 26

Great Plains Chapter Recognized Show Stillwater, Oklahoma Contact: gtgray@aol.com

May 10-11

ODS Spring I and II Shows Shawnee, Oklahoma Contact: gtgray@aol.com

June 14-15

GCC Classic I and II Shows Claremore, Oklahoma Contact: akuhns1122@gmail.com

FEI Introduces New and Revised Dressage Tests Effective January 1, 2014

The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) has announced revised and new dressage tests that will come into effect January 1, 2014. The FEI has revised its Intermediate II, Grand Prix, and Grand Prix Special, which will be applied at the start of the 2014 competition season.

Additionally, a Medium Tour has been announced to assist horse-and-rider combinations transition from the Small Tour to the Big Tour. The Medium Tour will utilize the newly introduced Intermediate A and B Tests and may be offered at either CDI Events and/or USEF/USDF Dressage Competitions.

These new and revised tests will impact USEF and USDF programs and championships as outlined below:

- USEF Dressage Competitions may offer all FEI Tests effective January 1, 2014. CDI Organizers should refer to the updated FEI rules.
- For the USEF Young Adult 'Brentina Cup' Dressage National Championships, when ridden in a CDI within the qualifying period, riders may choose to count either the FEI Intermediate II or the FEI Intermediate B towards the ranking list. There will be no changes to the tests ridden at the Championships.
- For the Markel/USEF Developing Horse Grand Prix Dressage National Championships, there will be no changes to the tests that the horse/ rider combinations ride in the qualifying competitions or at the Championships.
- To qualify for the GAIG/USDF Regional Championships, horse/rider combinations will need to use either the Intermediate B or Intermediate II test to qualify for Intermediate B (formerly Intermediate II) Championship. At the Regional Championships and US Dressage Finals, horse/rider combinations will ride Intermediate B test.

All FEI Tests can be found at www.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/dressage/tests.

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

PEPPY SUE ZAN (Goldie) is available to raise your next sport/dressage horse. She is a 15-year-old registered QH/Palomino and is a wonderful broodmare and 'mom'. She has raised four big foals sired by Belgian and Percheron stallions. \$1,800

JUNO is a beautiful buckskin QH/Percheron mare. She stands 16 hands and will turn four-years-old in May. She was imprinted as a foal and has some basic ground work. \$3,200

Photographs of both horses are on my Facebook page at Lonesome Dog Photography. For more information, contact Debbie Fimple at 918-244-6627 or

Whispering Willow Stables in Mounds, Oklahoma, currently has **openings for boarding**. Whispering Willow Stables is a private, gated equestrian facility located on 80 lush acres. Amenities include 12×12 stalls with mats, indoor wash racks with hot water, tacking stalls, security code tack rooms, fly spray system, day turnout paddocks and free flow exerciser. We offer three arenas: a 100×200 covered lighted arena; a 120×240 all-weather outdoor arena; and a 280×150 outdoor arena. Full board or pasture board (limited availability). Please call Marlee Walker at (918) 364-5009 for further details.

EYORE - 14.2hh bay gelding, approximately 16 years old. This first level horse has an extensive show career in three-day eventing. Owner no longer has time to show. \$2,500 to approved home. Call Lora Shipley at 918.760.6750 for more

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

	ew Membership	·	,	DE ID No		
	SS					
	tate			Zip		
	ess Phone					
USDF	membership year is December 1 thro	ough November 30. Appl	y this membership to year 20			
	Membership – Select One Category.	For family memberships	consisting of more than two family	members, please check both		
- \$2	45 Senior / Adult / Vintage 🗖 Op	oen 🗆 Amateur 🗖	Vintage			
- \$2	20 Charter / Life (for ODS founding r	members and members w	rith lifetime memberships)			
□ \$3	5 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					
- \$5	55 Family (for two family members)	- Name of second family	member			
- \$^	10 Add third family member - Nam Please include birthdates for junio	e of third family member r family members				
	er Membership – Check the chapter ed to participate in the chapter award					
- \$^	10 Green Country Chapter (GCC)					
- \$^	10 North Central Chapter (NCC)					
5	10 Great Plains Chapter (GPC)					
	OPTIONAL donation to ODS.	ODS is a tax exempt 501	(c) organization			
	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED					
	membership is an opportunity to poers. We need your help! What are yo		r community. The club is ONLY a	s good as it's most ACTIVE		
☐ Sc	ribing 🗖 Scoring 🗖 Organiza	ntion/Management 🗖	Accounting	☐ Website		
☐ Ph	otography 🗖 Fund Raising 🗖	Other				
kind,	by release the Oklahoma Dressage So including costs, expenses, or attorney egligent act or omissions of the officers :	fees that might result fro	m damages, injuries, or losses result	ing directly or indirectly from		
Signat	ure		Date			
- 5.144	ure(If Iunio	r Rider, this form must be	signed by parent or guardian)			

(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, 19705 So 43rd W Place,, Mounds, OK 74047 - bcircle@rentechboilers.com

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing by USDF