



December 2011

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sydneypageash@hotmail.com

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dalevanstratten@huntel.net

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felicerose2900@gmail.com

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dresagfan@aol.com

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amy@neb.rr.com

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USDF Region 4 Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore The Classical System Simplified

By Lauren VanNorman

When it was announced that Lilo Fore would be the clinician for the USDF adult clinic series, I thought what a wonderful opportunity it would be to ride with her.

Little did I know then that the Region 4 clinic would be held at Providence Farm, my "horse home" for almost 6 years. Only one problem, I had no horse when the clinic location was announced, having just sold my mare and not yet having a new partner. Fast forward a few months, I had found my new horse and we were doing well together. I decided to put together my application which required a recent video. In spite of filming on a day when the temperature was pushing 100 degrees, we were selected to ride. The effort proved to be well worth it!

The clinic was truly a wonderful experience. Combine years of classical dressage experience as a rider, trainer and international judge with a great sense of humor

and an encouraging manner and you have Lilo Fore. She worked with 8 horse and rider teams from training level to Grand Prix and I can assure you all riders and auditors came away feeling educated and inspired. All benefited from her emphasis on basic equitation skills while schooling horse and rider on exercises designed to be appropriate for the level of the development of both.

The states in Region 4 were well represented. The riders were Claire Filkins from Manhattan, KS riding her 12 year old Oldenburg gelding, Rhythm and Blues. Sara Davisson of Calamus, IA rode her 6 year old KWPN mare, Amidala. Pernille Andre from Olathe, KS showed off the striking mare, Brauna, a

continued on page 8

SAVE THE DATE!!

Cornhusker Classic

Lancaster Event Center

May 18-20

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy December!

As we approach the end of 2011, I am still in awe of how fast the year has gone. I hope everyone enjoys their Holiday Season! Let's hope the weather doesn't get too cold so that we can keep our horses in shape!

With the ending of another year brings the annual USDF convention. This year the convention was held in sunny San Diego from November 30 – December 2nd. I attended all 3 days and enjoyed the chance to catch up on Region 4 and USDF news. The big news this year at the convention was the voting on a 2013 US National Dressage Championship. The Board of Governors approved a US National Dressage Championship beginning in 2013. The championship will showcase Adult Amateurs and Open riders at training level through grand prix. This championship has been in the making for 20 years so it was a very exciting debate and vote. The first championship will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park in November 2013, at least 3 weeks after the regional championships. The vote on this matter was very exciting and the debate was spirited. Many delegates brought to light the concern that the JR/YG riders were not represented at the championship and the delegates asked the Board to consider adding this category moving forward.

Further, the Board of Governors was given a chance to elect 3 at-large directors. The at-large directors will act as liaisons between the executive board and the regional directors. The Board of Governors approved the 2012-2013 Budget, Audit Report and miscellaneous committee reports.

In addition to the important votes, I heard the USDF President and USEF CEO provide a "state of the union" update. Not surprisingly, USDF and USEF reported that membership numbers are down significantly due to the economy. GMOs across the board are also reporting lower membership numbers and

decreased attendance at horse shows. Both organizations are working diligently to increase these numbers. One program in the works is an AQHA, 4H, USDF and USEF partnership. Specifics were not provided, but the USDF President said they would be forthcoming.

USDF is rolling out a more interactive website which will have educational programs in the form of a radio show and video clips to draw in more members. USDF is also looking towards getting out of the print business and will be going towards a more web based publication system. This should provide a significant budget savings as USDF spends approximately \$600,000 in publishing costs. Finally, USDF is working to provide a more rewarding show experience for competitions, especially adult amateurs.

The convention was a great experience. I think as a GMO we should take note of what USDF is doing and work to increase our membership base by reaching out to the 4H clubs and other horse clubs in the area. Further, to keep the current members, NDA should strive to provide a more rewarding show experience and add as much value to the membership as possible.

I would like to thank the 2011 NDA board for their support during my reign as NDA President. I could not have done it without your help and wonderful work ethic. Also, I would like to thank the NDA membership as a whole...NDA has a wonderful base of members and should continue working to keep members happy. I look forward to 2012 and I hope to see all of you at NDA events!! Reminder, I will be acting as the NDA membership chair so please email me with any questions.

Sydney Ash
NDA President



USDF NEWS

YEAR END RESULTS

NDA members were busy in 2011; working hard and showing well. In fact, NDA members did quite well this year on the national front. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!

USDF Performance Awards:

Rachael Norton Boone	Bronze Medal
Tillie Jones	Performance Award - Training
Dallas Van Stratten	Performance Award - Second
Dallas Van Stratten	Bronze Medal
Kristina Wang	Gold Medal
Kristina Wang	Freestyle Gold Bar

USDF Horse of the Year - up to 100th place:

Jami Kment	Zania	Third Level	4th Place
Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	Second Level	67th Place

USDF Adult Amateur - up to 100th Place:

Kristin Feese	Celebrity	Second Level	77th Place
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Dover National Merit Winners:

Kristin Feese	26th Place
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USDF JR/YR - up to 100th place:

Tillie Jones	MGRM Darby O'Gill	Training Level	40th Place
Tillie Jones	MGRM Darby O'Gill	First Level	44th Place
Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	Second Level	4th Place
Sarah Dweikat	Auke	Second Level	23rd Place
Samantha Kenik	Flavio	Third Level	86th Place
Kristina Wang	Belladiva	Interm. II	2nd Place

REGION 4 NEWS

REGIONALS & MIDWEST CHAMPIONSHIP

GAIG/USDF Regional & Midwest Championships

Tillie Jones	Dressage Seat Equitation - 13 & Under			1st Place
Tillie Jones	Training Level	JR/YR	MW Champ.	6th Place
Tillie Jones	First Level	JR/YR	MW Champ.	2nd Place
Sarah Dweikat	Second Level	JR/YR	GAIG/USDF	4th Place
Dallas Van Stratten	Second Level	JR/YR	GAIG/USDF	1st Place
Jami Kment	Third Level	Open	GAIG/USDF	4th Place
Rachael Norton Boone	Third Level	AA	GAIG/USDF	1st Place
Kristina Wang	Interm. II	JR/YR	GAIG/USDF	2nd Place



Dallas Van Stratten aboard Vainqueur E during their victory lap at the GAIG/USDF Region 4 Championships

NDA NEWS

YEAR END AWARDS - 2011

SCHOOLING SHOW MEDAL SERIES

QUALIFIED RIDER CERTIFICATES

INTRODUCTORY LEVEL

Jr. 14 and under

Gold: Michelle Rohman – 70.437%

Silver: Danielle Drbal – 69.75%

AA

Gold: Kathryn Hanford - 61.875%

Silver: Judith Bell – 60.94%

Bronze: Sheila Purdum 55.625%

TRAINING LEVEL

Jr. 14 and under

Gold: Carly Knapp – 66.25%

Silver: Danielle Drbal 65.478%

Bronze: Tillie Jones 64.8%

Jr. 15-21

Gold: Maddie Romjue - 65.185%

Silver: Kathleen Miller - 62.428%

AA

Gold: Diana Spaulding – 65.567%

Silver: Sheila Purdum – 60.233%

FIRST LEVEL

Jr. 14 and under

Gold: Tillie Jones - 63.958%

Jr. 15-21

Gold: Ashley Murray – 64.69%

Silver: Kathleen Miller 57.914%

AA

Gold: Heidi Helmer – 63.382%

Silver: Diana Spaulding – 59.600%

SECOND LEVEL

AA

Gold: Kristin Feese – 66.568%

Melonie Manning

Danielle Drbal

RIDER ROSETTES

BLUE

Kathleen Miller

Tillie Jones

Kathleen Miller

Tillie Jones

Ashley Murray

Dallas Van Stratten

Intro Level

Training Level

Training Level

First Level

First Level

Second Level

RED

Kathryn Hanford

Madison Romjue

Heidi Helmer

Sarah Dweikat

Melonie Manning

Intro Level

Training Level

First Level

Second Level

Third Level

WHITE

Cynthia Olson

Diana Spaulding

Training Level

First Level

NDA NEWS

YEAR END AWARDS - 2011

RIDER AWARDS (awarded through 4th place for scores earned at USDF recognized shows for Juniors 14 and under, Juniors 15-21, AA and Adult, Non-Amateur)

TRAINING LEVEL

14 and under

1st Place: Tillie Jones – 65.8%

AA

1st Place: Diana Spaulding 61.735%

2nd Place: Cynthia Olson – 59.6%

3rd Place: Sheila Purdum – 59.2%

Open

1st Place: Jami Kment (Winselo) 69.783

FIRST LEVEL

Jr.14 and under

1st Place: Tillie Jones – 64.431

Jr. 15-21

1st Place: Dallas Van Stratten 66.966

SECOND LEVEL

Jr. 15-21

1st Place: Dallas Van Stratten – 68.000%

2nd Place: Sarah Dweikat – 63.702%

AA

1st Place: Kristin Feese – 64.497%

Open

1st Place: Melissa Piennett – 63.510%

THIRD LEVEL

Jr. 15-21

1st Place: Samantha Kenik 64.884%

2nd Place: Melonie Manning 56.65%

AA

1st Place: Rachael Boone – 63.120%

Open

1st Place: Jami Kment – 73.455%

INTERMEDIARE II

1st Place: Krissy Wang - 65.889%

GRAND PRIX

1st Place: Krissy Wang - 69.166%



NDA Board Meetings (6:30 p.m.)

January 9 - Parker's Smokehouse, Ashland

February 13 - Breadeaux, Ashland

March 12 - Parker's Smokehouse, Ashland

April 9 - Breadeaux, Ashland

May 14 - Parker's Smokehouse, Ashland

NDA NEWS

YEAR END AWARDS - 2011

HORSE AWARDS (awarded through 4th place based on median score from USDF recognized shows)

TRAINING LEVEL

1st Place: Winselo - 69.783%
2nd Place: MGRM Darby O’Gill – 65.8%
3rd Place: Jungle Flyer – 61.735%
4th Place: Murphy – 59.600%

FIRST LEVEL

1st Place: Vainqueur E - 66.966%
2nd Place: MGRM Darby O’Gill - 64.431%

SECOND LEVEL

1st Place: Vainqueur E - 68%
2nd Place: Celebrity - 64.497%
3rd Place: Auke - 63.702%
4th Place: Don Camillo – 63.510%

THIRD LEVEL

1st Place: Zania - 73.455%
2nd Place: Flavio - 64.884%
3rd Place: Talus - 63.120%
4rd Place: Arabella - 56.65%

INTERMEDIARE II

1st Place: Belladiva - 69.166%

GRAND PRIX

1st Place: Bella Diva - 69.166%

WESTERN DRESSAGE TROPHY:

Shelia Purdum –64.25% (Intro) and 66.666% (Training)

SEDLACEK ROSE SWEDISH WARMBLOOD AWARD:

Diana Spaulding –70.357%

PETER ROSE MEMORIAL TROPHY:

Michelle Rohman – 70.437%

DAVID FUNK MEMORIAL AWARD:

Jami Kment – Zania 73.455%

FEI PERPETUAL TROPHY:

Belladiva - 69.166%

NDA RESERVE HORSE OF THE YEAR

Winselo 69.783%

NDA HORSE OF THE YEAR:

Zania - 73.455%

7 year old Canadian Warmblood, owned by Stacie Coder. We were fortunate to watch Wake Up, a 6 year old American Warmblood stallion, owned and ridden by Emily Wagner of LaCygne, KS. This pair has been much in the dressage news as they have represented the US in the Young Horse championships in Germany and were the USEF National Young Horse Champions in 2011. Mimi Stanley travelled from North Dakota with PR Captain Hook, a 15 year old Arabian cross. The horse most advanced in training was Daina ridden and owned by Melissa Allen of Kansas City. Daina has competed at Grand Prix and is a 13 year old Hanoverian mare. Finally, Providence Farm's residents, my horse Montagny von der Heide, (fondly known as Montage or Monty) a 7 year old Trakehner gelding and Zania, a 7 year old KWPN mare, owned and ridden by Jami Kment. Jami is preparing Zania for the USEF Developing Horse program.

Approximately 60 auditors attended the two days of the clinic. Wrapped in blankets against the chill, there was much enthusiasm and give and take with Lilo. She was excellent at involving the auditors in the teaching of horse and rider and welcomed dialogue. Recently returned from the Pan Am games in Guadalajara, Mexico, where she served as head of the ground jury, she had many interesting tales to share. She was thrilled with the performance of the horses and riders she had the pleasure of judging and in particular the US team, which swept the team and individual medals.

Mike and Linda Smith and Kevin and Jami Kment proved to be excellent hosts for the event, providing a tailgate theme lunch on Saturday, a nod to the Nebraska Cornhusker home football game that day. Food and hot drinks were available throughout both

days as well. Jenny Johnson from The Dressage Foundation also attended and provided everyone a copy of "The View from C". Thanks, Jenny! Numerous volunteers from NDA worked throughout the clinic assisting with registration, setup and cleanup and generally creating a welcoming atmosphere. To add to the fun, High Performance Equine from Kansas City brought a trailer full of tack and rider apparel so shopping was also available.

There were a number of NDA members in attendance and I know everyone shares my enthusiasm for having had such a quality instructor as Lilo Fore. Thanks goes out to USDF, the Dressage Foundation, Farm Vet and Jane Heart Jewelry who sponsored the event and made donations. And a special thanks to all the volunteers, particularly Lisa Van Stratten, who worked so hard to put the clinic together. We are indeed fortunate to have a GMO with the energy and motivation to sponsor such a valuable event.



The *Contact* **deadline** is the **10th** of the month prior to the month of publication.

SUBMISSIONS ARE ENCOURAGED FROM ALL NDA MEMBERS.

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Wishing All Competitors A Successful 2011 Show Season



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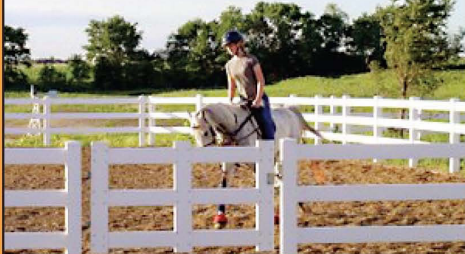
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Ps. 23:2,3

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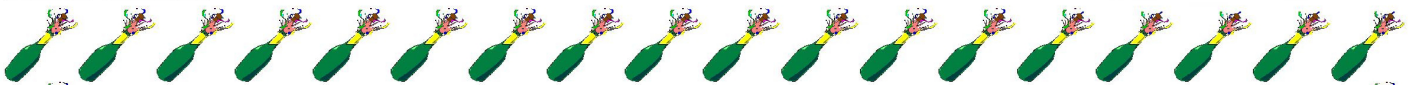


Keep riding into the New Year with the paddock!



Left: Kerrit's Unbridled Half Zip Top with Flex Tights

Right: Saratoga Horse Works Quarter Sheet

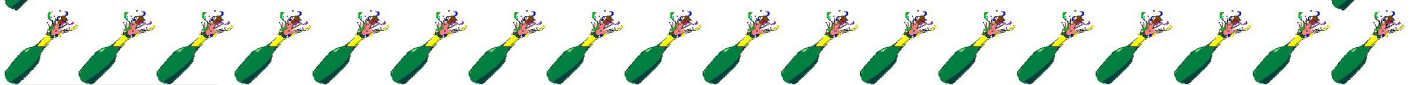


10 things to make you a better rider in 2012

10. Drop a heavy steel object on your foot. Don't pick it up right away. Shout, "Get Off, Stupid! GET OFF!"
9. Leap out of a moving vehicle and practice "relaxing into the fall." Roll lithely into a ball and spring to your feet.
8. Learn to grab your checkbook out of your wallet and write out a \$200 check without even looking down.
7. Jog long distances carrying a halter and a carrot. Go ahead and tell the neighbors what you are doing; they might as well know now.
6. Affix a pair of reins to a moving freight train and practice pulling to a halt. Smile as if you are having fun.
5. Hone your fibbing skills: " See, hon, moving hay bales is FUN! "and, "no, really, I'm glad your lucky performance and multimillion dollar horse won the blue ribbon. I am just thankful that my hard work and actual ability won me second place"
4. Practice dialing your chiropractor's number with both arms paralyzed to the shoulder and one foot anchoring the lead rope of a frisky horse.
3. Borrow the US Army's slogan: Be All That You Can Be: bitten, thrown, kicked, slimed, trampled, frozen...
2. Lie face down in a puddle of mud in your most expensive riding clothes and repeat to yourself, " This is a learning experience, this is a learning experience, this is..."

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CLINICS

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