



The

Contact

2010

2010 NDA Board

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My Experience at the International Society of Applied Ethology (Animal Behavior)

Sheila E. Scheideler, Ph.D.

This summer I had the privilege to attend the International Society of Applied Ethology (Animal Behavior) Congress in Uppsala, Sweden, and the International Equitation Science Conference held in the same city just prior to the Ethology Congress. The emphasis of the meetings was Animal and Horse Welfare and Behavior. I would like to share with our membership comments from several very good equine papers presented at both meetings. It is really very remarkable how much research is done with the horse at Universities world-wide. The concentration of this research is European based primarily within the worlds of Dressage and Jumping Disciplines.

The most interesting theory introduced and discussed at the Equitation Science Meeting was introduced by Dr. McLean from Australia as the "Conflict Theory" which is further defined as the conceptualization of horse behavior problems due to negative reinforcement and too much negative stimuli which exceeds the horses toleration level resulting in hyper-reactive behavior to escape the stressor. Dr. McLean stressed the importance of changing training methods to less obtrusive pressure (aids) and to more positive reinforcement, overshadowing and counter-conditioning. He stressed the importance of improving communication between horse and rider to avoid conflict behaviors such as resistance, mouth gaping and tongue movements.

Dr. Ian Ludewig from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, boldly stated in his presentation on Human Safety and Horse Welfare that "Horses are not companion animals. They do not live together with us but have a life of their own. During that time (23-24 hrs/day) their physical and behavioral needs must be fulfilled, particularly their need for full contact with conspecifics (other horses) under outdoor conditions". Dr. Ludewig along with Swedish researchers went on to present data during this week supporting group housing conditions and the positive results of group housing versus stall housing on equine behavior. The merits of group housing were reported to outweigh the negatives (biting, competition, etc), when managed correctly.

Continued on Page 2

One of the more interesting presentations I attended addressing training theory was a research trial conducted on "Training on Both Sides" by Dr. Webb from Cambridge, England. Dr. Webb tested the horses ability to transfer learned visual association from one side of the brain to the other from monocular vision exposure. The results of the research indicated that the horse cannot transfer monocular association from one side of the brain to the other, so what the horse sees on the left side will not be communicated to the right side. The horse must be exposed to the element by monocular vision on both sides to establish a memory on both sides.

Binocular exposure (from the front) was actually the best exposure for memory and association to a new object.

There was considerable discussion during the Equitation Science Conference about bit pressure and hyper-flexion. The research being done in this area is relatively preliminary but should be forthcoming with good data in the future about the true definition of collection and how that is bio-mechanically accomplished at different

levels of riding. Technological advancements in bio-mechanics is rapidly changing the capabilities of researchers in this area.

Overall, the awareness of animal welfare and behavior affects all of us regardless of country of origin or discipline/use of our animal. Scientists from around the world are diligently researching important issues across species relevant to societal concerns and expectations. As an Animal Scientist and horse owner, I am very pleased with the state of research being conducted with farm animals for their future well-being .



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Minutes
NDA Board Meeting
August 10, 2010

President Gillian Howell called the August meeting to order at Bredeaux Pizza in Ashland at 6:45 p.m.

Board Members Present: Gillian Howell, Diana Spaulding, Karen Stricklett, Loye Jaeger, Sydney Ash and Lisa Van Stratten

Board Members Absent: Nancy Dostal, Amy Blum and Casey Blum

NDA Members Present: None

Loye moved to approve the July Board Meeting Minutes with one correction; Sydney seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

President: No report

Vice President: Banquet is scheduled to take place at Quarry Oaks in Ashland on Saturday, November 6th. Possible themes were discussed including a Kentucky Derby theme. Methods of speeding up the voting process were discussed, such as providing all members with candidate bios and voting slips at the time of registration. Tracie Wang has agreed to head up the Nominating Committee.

Treasurer: Diana presented the Treasurer's Report as of August 10, 2010. The balance in the Main Account was reported to be--- \$11,533.47. The balance in the Show Account was reported to be \$3,514.89. Total amount was \$15,048.36. Loye moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Karen seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary: No report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Membership: There were no new members this past month.

It was agreed that membership dues for 2011 will need to be increased due to the increased costs of doing business and the proposed increase in USDF dues for next year. Karen, Diana, Lisa and Sydney agreed to meet to prepare an Operating Budget for NDA which will help establish dues for 2011. This meeting will take place at the offices of Stricklett and Associates, Inc. on Monday,

August 30th. The proposed budget and due increase will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Competitions: Gillian reported on behalf of this committee. She reported that we need to book our judges for 2012 so she will begin working on that. It was noted that she had received 10 entries thus far for the Schooling Show Championships. It was agreed that a current Coggins certificate would be required for each horse.

The need for additional Schooling Shows for 2011 was discussed. Loye reported that she would investigate the possibility of holding dressage classes at the Cornhusker State Games next year.

Awards: Julie Hutfless Fowler will be handling awards at the Banquet again this year. This will be her last year, however, so a replacement for 2011 will be needed.

Communications: No report

Publicity: Loye will be in charge of the Horse Expo again for 2011. She will be preparing a budget once she has the opportunity to review expenses for the last two years. It was agreed that NDA should probably have demo rides in 2011.

Fund Raising: Heidi Helmer will soon begin soliciting donations for the Annual Banquet Silent Auction.

Equipment Management: No report

JR/YR: No report

Education: The NDA sponsored Trot to Tunes Educational Event was a great success. This clinic might be offered again in the Spring at a location in Lincoln. Other potential educational events would be an Emily Wagner clinic in the Spring.

OLD BUSINESS: Gillian will be meeting with a representative of the Dressage Foundation to present our gift/donation in recognition of Lowell Boomer's 99th birthday.

NEW BUSINESS: Topics for future discussion include an increase in membership dues in 2011 and future educational events. A budget will also be prepared and presented to the Board at the next meeting in September.

ADJOURNMENT: Loye moved to adjourn the Board

meeting. Sydney seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Karen L. Stricklett

NDA Secretary



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Wishing All Competitors A Successful 2010 Show Season



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NDA Members are Winners at the 2010 USDF Region 4 Championships

By Lisa Van Stratten

The 2010 Great American Insurance Group/Region 4 Championships were held in St. Louis, Missouri, October 8th, 9th, and 10th. To qualify for a championship, riders competed in designated qualifying classes at USDF Recognized competitions. Two qualifying scores at the highest test for a level, from two different shows, from two different judges, within the same qualifying year are needed. There are many rules about qualifying for a championship and they can be found here: <http://www.usdf.org/competitions/competitions-championships/regionals/index.asp>.

The Championships were sponsored by the St. Louis Dressage Society and were held at The National Equestrian Center in Lake St. Louis, which is east of St. Louis. It is a very large facility that can accommodate three outdoor and two indoor rings. The weather was beautiful for early October and everyone decorated their stall areas with festive fall colors.

Region 4 consists of riders from Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. There is also an opt-in option for riders to change regions for their championship but this must be declared in advance and each rider can only complete at one regional championship each year. Competing at the regional show gives riders a much wider perspective of the top riders and horses in their area.

Being a three day show, you are able to ride in your Championships class as well as take advantage of an open show and enter classes that will count toward your 2011 awards because the USDF year end cut-off for scores is 9/30.

There were many winners during the Championships and open show.

*There were 23 riders in the JR/YR Training Level Test!

This was Tillie Jones' first

Day	Class	Rider	Horse	Score	Place
Fri	USDF Introductory Test A Jr/Yr/AA	Jennifer Tyler	Nicolodean	62.000%	1
Fri	USDF Introductory Test B- Jr/Yr-AA	Jennifer Tyler	Nicolodean	60.500%	1
Fri	First Level Test 1 Jr/Yr/AA	Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	66.333%	1
Fri	First Level Test 4 Jr/Yr/AA/Q	Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	67.368%	4
Fri	FEI Test of Choice Jr/Yr/AA/Q	Casey Blum	Fendi	54.474%	1
Fri	GAIG/USDF Second Level Ch.-Open	Jami Kment	Chivalry	65.833%	4
Sat	USDF Introductory Test B Jr/Yr/AA	Jennifer Tyler	Nicolodean	61.000%	2
Sat	Training Level Test 1 Jr/Yr/AA	Jennifer Tyler	Nicolodean	60.435%	1
Sat	Training Level Test 2 Maiden Horse	Jami Kment	Chambray	67.500%	1
Sat	Training Level Test 3 Open	Jami Kment	Chambray	68.800%	2
Sat	Third Level Test 1 Open	Jami Kment	Chivalry	70.256%	1
Sat	Third Level Test 3 Jr/Yr/AA/Q	Samantha Kenik	Flavio	64.884%	2
Sat	GAIG/USDF Training Level Ch.-Jr/Yr	Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	67.400%	3*
Sat	GAIG/USDF Training Level Ch.-Jr/Yr	Tillie Jones	M.G.R.M. Darby O'Gill	62.800%	12*
Sat	GAIG/USDF Fourth Level Ch.-Jr/Yr	Casey Blum	Fendi	59.288%	2
Sat	Dressage Equitation Medal Semi-Finals 13 & Under	Tillie Jones	M.G.R.M. Darby O'Gill	72.000%	2
Sat	GAIG/USDF Intermediaire Freestyle Champ.	Kristina Wang	Belladiva	64.375%	1 1
Sun	USDF Introductory Test B Jr/Yr/AA	Jennifer Tyler	Nicolodean	68.500%	1
Sun	First Level Test 1 Jr/Yr/AA	Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	65.000%	2
Sun	GAIG/USDF First Level Ch.-Jr/Yr	Tillie Jones	M.G.R.M. Darby O'Gill	63.421%	10
Sun	GAIG/USDF Third Level Champ.-Jr/Yr	Samantha Kenik	Flavio	55.814%	8
Sun	First Level Test 4 Jr/Yr/AA/Q	Dallas Van Stratten	Vainqueur E	67.632%	1

Regional Championship appearance. Tillie has been riding M.G.R. Darby O'Gill for one year and is doing a fantastic job. She worked hard over the summer and qualified at both Training and First Levels! At the Championship she placed 12th out of 23 riders at the JR/YR Training Level and 10th out of 14 riders at First Level. This is an outstanding accomplishment since she is only 9 years old and is competing against riders up to age 21. Tillie also competed in the Dressage Equitation Medal Semi-Final for 13 & Under. Tillie placed 2nd and will be representing Region 4 at the National Equitation Finals next year. Good Luck to Tillie and Darby at Finals!

Dallas Van Stratten has been riding Vainqueur E for one year as well. Vainqueur E had only been shown three times before he came to

What are they doing?

Sometimes it is nice to see what others are doing in their respective “horse world.” These photos are from Polo for Patients, a benefit polo match put on by the Nebraska Medical Center this summer in Carter Lake, Iowa. This was the second Polo for Patients, the second time that NDA members Molly and Cade Pearson attended, and it was a huge success. The Budweiser Clydesdales made an appearance after the match.





Nebraska Dressage Association Membership

- ◆ NDA Year -End Awards ◆ Contact ◆ Discounts
- ◆ USDF Group Membership ◆ The Connection ◆ USDF Rider Awards

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION 2011

Voting Member #1

USDF # First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Voting Member #2
(Family Membership)

USDF # First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Address

City State Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell) Email Address

Phone (work) Birthdate - Required for JR/YR

Adult Individual Membership (\$40)

Junior Individual Membership (\$30)

(Must be under the age of 21)

Junior/Pony Club- 4H Membership (\$30)

(Must be under the age of 21 and must submit proof of current membership in Pony Club or 4-H)

Family Membership (\$60)

Additional Family USDF Group/Non-
Voting NDA Memberships (\$20 each)

(Must be members of the immediate family residing in the same household)

Membership Fee includes online subscription to the Newsletter

Mail Subscription to the Newsletter (\$15)

Total Paid: _____

New Member

Renewal

HORSE REGISTRATION

New Lifetime Registration (\$25.00)

Horse is already registered

(For record-keeping purposes only)

Note: Horse must be registered with NDA to qualify for Schooling Show Championships and Year-End Awards.

Member Name _____

Name of Horse _____ Breed

Foaling Year _____ Sex (M, G, S) Color

Name of Owner _____ Address

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO: Karen Stricklett, 15809 Burdette St, Omaha, NE 68116 or kstricklett@stricklett.com

Nebraska at 7 years old. They placed 3rd out of 23 riders in the JR/YR Training Level Championship Test. This is an outstanding finish for a horse that does not care for indoor arenas. For those of you who were at the Cornhusker Classic in May, this is the same horse that refused to go into the arena the entire first day of the show. But Dallas stuck with him and worked hard to gain his trust. They kept showing over the summer to gain experience and earn qualifying scores.

Other Championship results:

Samantha Kenik placed 8th for their Third Level Championship ride.

Jami Kment and Chivalry placed 4th for their Second Level Championship ride.

Casey Blum and Fendi won Reserve Champion for their Fourth Level Championship ride!

Kristina Wang and Belladiva won Champion for their Intermediaire Freestyle Championship ride!!

It was good to see so many representing NDA. Congratulations to all the riders and their accomplishments!

If you have never been to a regional championship show and would like to know more about qualifying, feel free to contact me for more information at dalevanstratten@huntel.net.

One of the highlights of the weekend was getting to meet the famous WakeUp who was in Germany this past August with rider Emily Wagner. Emily was presented with a \$200 American Express Gift Card from the NDA Membership to help her with expenses from competing in Verden. On Saturday, Emily and Wakeup earned an 80.729% on their First Level Freestyle Championship ride! Keep an eye on this pair. They are destined for huge accomplishments.



G



F



A



D



E



B



C

A: Casey Blum and Fendi (photo by Amy Blum)

B: Casey Blum, Dallas Van Stratten, Emily Wagner and WakeUp (photo by Lisa Van Stratten)

C: Jennifer Tyler and Nicolodeon (photo by Amy Blum)

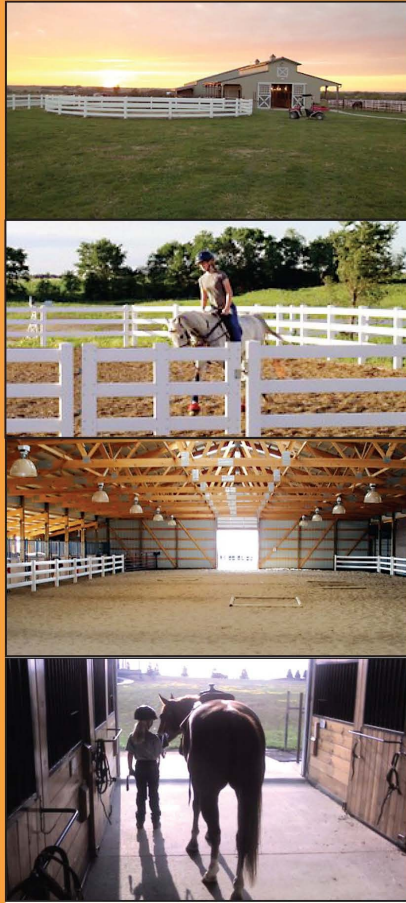
D: Samantha Kenik and Flavio (photo by Amy Blum)

E: Jami Kment and Chivalry (photo by Amy Blum)

F: Dallas Van Stratten and Vaniquer E (photo by Amy Blum)

G: Tillie Jones and M.G.R.M. Darby O'Gill

Photo by Chris J. Mautz, CJM Photo



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Ps. 23:2,3

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