

# Straight Forward News

**California Dressage Society, Marin Chapter  
August/September 2006**

## August

No Meeting in August, due to the 2006 California Dressage Society Junior/Young Rider Championships which are being held at Murieta Equine Complex, Rancho Murieta, Ca on August 10 thru the 13<sup>th</sup>..

Our meeting would have been on August 8<sup>th</sup> and past history has shown that our members are very busy getting ready for the show.

**Volunteers are needed!! If you have the time and would like to contribute to our Junior & Young Rider program please call Mary Schrader: 415 479-3104.**

You may have received a call from Sam as she is looking for donations for the silent auction.

There are some very talented, and hard working junior and young riders out there. Please ,if you have the wish and the time come out and help with the show!!

## CONGRATULATIONS !

**To Christine Rivlin-Henke and Lyra for their performance at the Collecting Gates Farm in Gladstone, New Jersey.**

Christine finished with an overall score of 64% at Intermediare I and a 70% in her Freestyle.

She said that it was quite exciting to be in the warm up arena with some of our Olympic Riders like Steffan Peters on Floriano, and Guenter Seidel on Aragon and numerous other really great horse and rider combinations.

Lyra is owned by Stacy McCarthy. She is a 9 year old imported Hessen mare.

## Marin Chapter Show

At the Board Meeting Mary Schrader reported that the Chapter had made approximately \$1,500 dollars. The income was \$5,250 and expenses were around \$3,750.

This year our Chapter will donate \$350 to the Jr./Yr. Program.

The Chapter is working on redoing our By Laws. If you have any strong feeling or opinions about the By Laws, please be in touch with one of our Board Members.

We will be voting in a new board soon. If you would like to nominate someone, please submit their names to our Chapter Chair along with a Bio on the candidate by mid October. It is a one year position. The Treasure is an appointed position, while the other positions are voted in. The new Board will elect a new Chapter Chair. We will also be looking for co-chair persons.

Please keep in mind that you, the members, are where we are looking for our new board. New energy for next year is needed to keep our Chapter going strong. We have had some very interesting and informative guest speakers at our meetings this year. Our Chapter has some serious FEI competitors, a nice group of Jr. and Young Rider members and some talented Amateur Riders. If you would like to be a part of the inner workings of the Chapter please don't be shy, by all means do come forward!!!

## **Feature Rider: Becky Cushman**

It was an exciting day for the Marin Chapter when Becky Cushman was presented the Marin Perpetual Trophy at the Marin Chapter Meeting, June 6<sup>th</sup> at La Vigna Ranch. It was a nice birthday gift for Becky, who turned 30 three days before but for those who know her well it was hardly a gift, but a well earned recognition. Becky and her partner, Laneur, a 14 year old Danish gelding, received a 72% for their I-1 test at the Marin Chapter Show at Fairwind Farm. An impressive feat for sure, but not really a surprise. Becky has been working hard developing her dressage riding, training and teaching skills for 17 years. She has earned this score and the trophy many times over! Also very exciting for the Marin Chapter that Becky was born and raised right here in Marin County.

Becky has gradually built a business in the dressage industry to facilitate her dressage competition goals and in the past 5 years has garnered quite a bit of experience competing at the international level in local venues. Most impressively, Becky has been entirely self-supported in her efforts, covering costs on her own out of her training and teaching income.

Nearly two years ago she teamed up with Sue Curry Schaffer, noted FEI trainer, judge and owner of Fairwind Farm. In Sue she found a trainer who is extremely capable, experienced and supportive of her efforts to compete at the international level. Fortunately, Becky also has a support network at home that affords her the time to travel and compete.

As we all know, this sport requires the right combination of horse *and* rider, and any rider's success cannot be greater than the talent of the horse with which they are matched. Becky

has shown great skill in getting each horse she has had the opportunity to compete at the FEI level to rise to its potential. And given that the trajectory of improved horse quality and Becky's competitive success in the past few years has been significant, the probability of her achieving her goal of international competition is getting closer each day.

In case anyone might be wondering if the I-1 score at the chapter show was a fluke, Becky and Laneur have since gone on to make their musical freestyle debut at I-1 at the Pebble Beach CDI in July. The pair scored another impressive 70% and won their class and another Perpetual Trophy. Way to go!!

So from all your students, clients and supporters, Becky we say CONGRATULATIONS on a job well done! Your hard work and commitment to the sport of Dressage is an inspiration, and as a Made in Marin competitor you make the entire Chapter proud! Keep up the good work!

Becky trains and teaches at Fairwind Farm in Santa Rosa and at Meadowbrook Farm in Nicassio.  
Contact Becky at 415-717-1775.

Thank you to Holly McArthur and Becky's students for this contribution.

## **June Meeting**

Thank you to Clare, Heather and La Vigna Ranch for having our Chapter as their guest for our last meeting.

Our speaker was Sheri Brodsky, PAS, ARPAS. Sheri spoke on Building a sound Nutrition Program for your horse. The following information was covered:

- 1) Define the animal by age, weight work load, pregnant, breeding, nutritional idiosyncrocies and or special needs.

- 2) Determine nutrient requirement. A guide has been established by the National Research Council. The NRC. One can email them at horse nutrition101 and they will email back specific requirements for your horse.
- 3) Determine Nutrient content of Feeds by taking samples, and studying the feed tags, you can go to the above web site and ask for a calculated analysis. Feed tags are required by law.
- 4) Formulate the program for protein and energy needs.
- 5) Provide the missing nutrients without over supplementing. You can customize your program by careful use of shelf products.
- 6) Evaluate and Re-evaluate your program by learning to Body Score your horse according to his attitude, his over all look and feel.

You can calculate total lbs. As a % of the important nutrients. Pearson square, was discussed and explained.

A 1200 lb. Horse eats 2 ½% of his body weight or 24 lbs. of feed per day. Which could be a combination of 6% oat hay 20 % alfalfa and the rest Grass Hay. She did mention the benefits of Alfalfa as an energy feed for working horses. Energy feeds are divided into groups, for example:

Protein 20%, fiber 16% and Ash 10 % ratio. Feed straight grains for energy. The most common problem is determining the Calcium/Phosphate ration. She cautioned not to go over a 3 to 1 ration. Red Bran can be used. to balance the Calcium/Phosphate ratio.

Your goal is to fuel the body of the horse for the work he will be doing. She explained the Body condition score and demonstrated on a horse. This score is related to their internal fat content and can be determined by a physical exam of the horse, and examining his fat storage patterns and his muscle development.

Sheri also talked about the endurance horses as related to this scoring method. Any horse that had a score lower than 3 did not finish the Tevis cup. All horses with a score of 4 or better finished the race.

Sheri has been studying feeds of all kinds for a long time and is very knowledgeable. She is available for consultation. If you are interested in a nutritional consultation for your horse please call me at 707 338-4184 and I will put you in contact with Sheri.

Thank you Sheri it was a very informative talk.

### **Note:**

**The FEI World Equestrian Games (Formerly the World Equestrian Games) Have been awarded to the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington Kentucky for 2010. Go to [www.aachen2006.de](http://www.aachen2006.de) for this years games, 8/20 thru 9/3.**

### **Wall Street Info.**

Dover Saddle Company went public and is now trading on the NASDAQ exchange. It is the first Equestrian related company to go public.

### **Calendar**

August 5-6 Yarra Yarra Dressage

Pat Adams 925 829-5017

August 10-13 CDS Yr. Championships

Mary Schrader 415 479-3104

August 19<sup>th</sup> Dressage at Riverside

Ellie Kennedy 415 328-4559

August 20 Fieldstone Farm

Sandra Labrucherie 707-837-8997

August 26-27 Fairwind Farm

Mary Schrader 415 479-3104

September 2<sup>nd</sup> Rapp Ranch

Sherry Harker 707 944-9620

September 10 Yarra Yarra Dressage

Pat Adams 925-829-5017

### **Classified Adds**

Albion SLK Saddle, 17.5" seat, black. Well maintained and looked after. XW/32cm tree. Asking \$1,950. Please call 415 225-3064 or email [Virginia@bbmediaservices.com](mailto:Virginia@bbmediaservices.com) for more details.

1999 Bay imported gelding, the perfect amateur horse. He has three very good gaits and is easy to sit. Willing temperament and a personality you will fall in love with. Easy at shows with nice ground manners. He has been shown at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> levels. At Rancho Murietta he scored a 68% at 1<sup>st</sup> level. He showed 2<sup>nd</sup> level in June with a 65% A manageable height at 16.1 yet can still take a tall rider. Video available upon request. Please contact [Hrssale@aol.com](mailto:Hrssale@aol.com) for more information

### **Local news:**

Emily Giammona has taken a new position as the Head Trainer at Black Sterling Friesians in Sonoma. Good Luck Emily1

Emily also purchased and imported a new mare from Holland for breeding. She says she is beautiful and can't wait to see what she produces.

Also she has "Nessy" a 13 year old Dutch mare by Final Pool whom she purchased from Judy Hedreen in Washington.

Ellie Kennedy's Pik Solo mare Pandora, has a new baby colt by her side.

Christine Rivlin-Henke bought a beautiful young imported bay gelding in Washington state. He is very pretty with wonderful gaits.

Michelle Martin has the cutest new puppy, very fuzzy!

Stefan Peters taught a clinic at Riverside on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was \$25.00 to audit and really worth it to watch him for a day.

Jeanette Derammelaere imported several new horses for her clients, they have all arrived safely.

### **Clinic in Napa**

For those of you who have visited the Wild Horse Valley Ranch in the past you may remember how beautiful it is up there. I recently watched a Miguel Tavora Clinic near the ranch at a new private barn owned by Marilyn Hite and Michael Labrum. They are starting a breeding program for Lusitano horses with mares and stallions from three major lineages, Andrade, Veiga and Coudelariaa Nacional (CN). Several of the horses are in Australia with Major Tavora. In Napa they have one stallion and three mares.

The trainer is Nicole Prows who comes from Oakdale and has worked for 7 years with Major Tavora. She has been in this area for the past year.

The clinic was very interesting. At the end of each lesson he worked from the ground with a whip for the ½ steps. The horses were all quiet and relaxed in their work.

The owners have big plans to build a very nice facility with covered arena and new barns at their lovely location on top of the mountain.

Next clinic August 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>

For more information on MajorTavora his web site is [www.migueltavora.com](http://www.migueltavora.com).

Nicole can be reached by email  
Coco0079@aol.com or phone 707 226-1111.

Straight Forward News is published bi-monthly, and sent out to all Marin CDS Chapter Members. Contributions are welcome and encouraged. Next deadline is September 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Call 707 338-4184 or  
Piperkaren@earthlink.net

Thanks to Virginia Chatham at Bits and Bridles ([webmaster@bitsandbridles.com](mailto:webmaster@bitsandbridles.com)) you can visit our website at <http://www.marindressage.org>. Check it out.