

Straight Forward News

**California Dressage Society, Marin Chapter
December/January 2007**

Christmas Party !!!

Please join us, one and all, for the Marin Chapter Annual Christmas Party! Which will be held at the Cacti Restaurant in Novato on **Tuesday, December 12th. Cocktails at 6:00 P.M., Dinner at 7:00**

Order your dinner at the Restaurant. Choice of a Pasta, Fish, or Chicken dish or a Beef Enchilada. Salad, Desert, Tax and Tip are included for \$26.00.

The Chapter will treat everyone to a beverage of their choice. The Dana Allen Sisters will hopefully be there to sing carols with everyone!

Please bring an un wrapped children's gift for our annual gift drive to be donated to Toys for Tots.

**RSVP to Dana by 415 883-7760.
ASAP**

Address: 1200 Grant Street, Novato
Phone: 415 898-2234

See you there!

Board Meeting/November

The Board discussed the changes to the By- Laws, which are still being worked out. If anyone has any strong feelings about the Chapter By-Laws, please be in touch with the CDS office in Carmel.

The Chapter needs to vote on a New Chapter Chair person this month. If you would like to nominate someone, please submit their names to Dana Allen. This is a one year position. Our current Chair, Dana will act as Vice Chair. The Chapter Chair runs the meetings, attends the board meetings and goes to the National Meeting. This position is voted on while the other offices are appointed.

We also need a Secretary, someone who attends the Board meetings and takes notes, and a Membership person. Mary Schrader will continue as our Treasurer.

Please, if you have the time and would like to make a big contribution to the Marin Chapter, Be our New Chapter Chair!!! You will have lot's of support from members.

Marin Chapter Show

Our Marin Chapter Show will be held at Fairwind Farm in Santa Rosa on May 27th. The judge will be Shirley Rector, (S) from Arizona. Contact our show secretary, Kathy Goldstein 415 892-4560 for information.

Start thinking about what you would like to donate to our silent auction. This is our Chapter's money raising event. We always put on a good show and the silent auction is a big part of it.

NOTE: Dues for your CDS membership are due in December. Get them in on time for the new show season and to be listed in the Roster for 2007. Try to stay current with your memberships as it will make the entry process much easier for everyone and save you filling out an affidavit of membership on the day of the show. Also USEF dues are due at this time.

NOTE: If you did not receive your year end award, contact Dana Allen. In the future if riders do not arrange to have their award mailed or picked up by the 1st of April, they will be tossed out. We do have an awards banquet every year, so plan to attend, if you are receiving an award.

Congratulations to Heather PollardKrause

Heather has moved her business to Baywood Equestrian Center in Fairfax where she will be the Dressage Trainer. She will also be continuing her rehabilitation program with the horses. She can be reached at 415 215-8354. **Best of Luck Heather**, I am sure you will be very successful in your new endeavor!

Marshal Patterson

Our hearts go out to Patti Schofler for the loss of her husband, Marshal, who died recently from Lou Gehrigs disease. Marshal was a sweet and loving person. He was often scene at the CDS shows watching Pattie ride. He will be missed. Donations to www.als.org, in Marshal's name.

The L Program

The first session: Session A Introduction to Judging with J. Ashton Moore was held recently in Novato. Mr Moore covered many subjects including: Judging Issues, A General Understanding of Judging, Judging Methodology, Comments and Terminology, Decimal Thinking, Biomechanics and Training your eye to see the correct performance.

Mr. Moore discussed in depth just what the judges are looking for and how they come up with the scores for each movement.

The lectures were very informative and Mr. Moore has a great sense of humor when it comes to Dressage. The second half of the day was at Riverside Equestrian Center with riders demonstrating the different movements for each level.

The goal of the L program is to give competitors, trainers and instructors a broader insight into the evaluative techniques used in Dressage judging.

The following sessions are open to auditors. A \$25.00 fee will be charged per day. Please join other members and attend the these very informative L program educational sessions:

Session B, Gaits, Paces, Movements & Figures with Axel Steiner (O).
1/13/06-1/14/07 Santa Rosa

Session Collective Marks, Basics & Freestyle with Aleksandra Howard (S).
2/17/07-2/18/07 Location TBD

If you are interested please contact, Ellie Kennedy Armstrong, 415-328-4559 or ellie@yahoo.com.

Classified Ads

KIWI, 12 yr. old, Chestnut Thoroughbred cross gelding. 16.2h. Kiwi has a lot of dressage show experience. Shown 2nd level this year, schooling 3rd. Quiet at shows. Started his flying changes, also likes to jump. Asking \$10,000.OBO, owner off to college. Call Jeanette 415 725-2195.

New Test Clinic

The Marin Chapter will hold a "New Test Clinic" around the first of the year at La Vigna Ranch in Petaluma.

Demonstration riders will go through all the tests and show the changes that have been added and how they should be ridden. We did one several years ago with Tracey Lert, it was very informative and interesting.

A flyer will be sent out as soon as we have the date, and clinician lined up.

We will be needing Demo. riders for each level. Please contact Kathy Goldstein if you would like to ride. 415 892-4560.

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

Thank you to Virginia Chatham at Bits and Bridles for our very web site,
(webmaster@bitsandbridles.com)

CDS Marin Chapter Web site:
<http://www.marindressage.org>.