

Straight Forward News

California Dressage Society, Marin Chapter October/November 2004

October Meeting

The October meeting will be a Kathy Goldstein's house, 9 Cricklewood Dr., Novato, 415 892-4560, on Wed, Oct. 6th, at 7:00 pm. NOTE: This is the 1st, not the usual 2nd Wed of the month! The meeting will include a video on how to deal with emergency situations involving your horse. Bring some food to share (and a bottle of wine wouldn't hurt). To get there: Take Hwy 101 north toward Novato and exit on Rowland Blvd. Go left (west) over the freeway and turn left on Redwood Blvd, (the first left past the freeway on ramp). Go about ¾ mi and turn right on Cricklewood. Kathy's is the first house on your right (on the corner).

Straight Forward News is published bi-monthly and sent out to all CDS Marin Chapter Members. Contributions to this newsletter are welcome and encouraged. Please contact your editor with anything of interest. Dick Evans, 4200 Green Valley School Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472-9712, 707 829-8721, 2horse@mindspring.com. Thanks to Virginia Chatham at Bits and Bridles our website is up and running at <http://www.marindressage.org>

Four Marin Chapter Juniors went to the Murieta Equine Complex for the CDS Junior State Championships North August 12-15. Julie Dodd on Chase in her first year of competition placed 7th at Training Level, and Caitlin Evans on Kiwi, Camille Kusin on Little Joe and Cristina Torres on Galliano all rode 1st Level taking 3rd place in the team competition. Camille took 3rd, Cristina 4th and Caitlin 5th in their divisions in the individual competitions.

As always, the competition was filled with individual moments of triumph and despair. Through it all our Juniors handled themselves with grace and dignity, supported each other through the ups and downs, treated their horses kindly, their competitors with respect and represented our chapter as we would want them to do. We should all be proud!

JUNIORS TAKE NOTE

Next year you will only be able to use one score from a schooling show such as Hoofbeats to qualify for the CDS Junior State Championships. In 2006 you won't be able to use any. And for 2nd Level the qualifying score has been raised to 57%.

2004 JUNIORS

First Person

(Some thoughts on show etiquette from Dana Strauss Allen)

I love dressage. I grew up riding western, a teenager bent for leather running the barrels in all the local gymkhanas. College came, my backyard horse I'd had since he was three and I was seven, finally made it to horse heaven at the ripe old age of thirty. I reached that age, too, and rediscovered riding after a 10-year hiatus. I knew I was no longer interested in speed but required something with more purpose. Dressage gave me goals and I began to learn better communication with my horse and to focus on my horsemanship.

As a first level rider, I have aspirations of moving up the ranks. I always watch upper level riders I see in hopes of making some observance, which will improve my skills. While grooming for my trainer at a show, my attention turned from the Friesian I was braiding to the woman across from me dressed in tails and a top hat. As she was preparing to ride, she dropped the halter from her horse's head and began to lift the bridal up, reins draping below her on the ground. Her horse took three steps back and finding nothing to curtail her freedom, took off across the show grounds showing quite lovely movement. I almost lost my braid as my Friesian began to dance about trying to keep his eye on the fleeing mare. Other horses started and called to their friend

with her new found freedom. The rider, watching her mare in the distance commented, "#*%!! She did the same thing yesterday!"

Yesterday? Hello?! Was I hearing things correctly? Did this rider not know the basics of etiquette at a show, safety first? I was shocked. Surely a rider of her caliber would think of the training level riders warming up or any other rider for that matter. Fortunately, the mare was captured quickly and no harm came to anyone.

Possibly we all take our abilities to communicate with our horses for granted whatever our experience may be. Maybe we should all remind ourselves to think of safety first. Our chapter chair, Jeannette, an experienced horsewoman, was severely injured recently when a horse running in a nearby pasture excited her horse. I can only imagine what may have possibly happened with this situation had it continued. Accidents happen-that's why they are called accidents-animals are unpredictable. So isn't it prudent to take extra precautions to keep ourselves, our horses and the others around us safe? Especially when we put our horses outside their comfort zone away from their home environment?

So the next time you and your horse are in new territory, make an extra effort to provide for the unexpected. Remind yourself and others not to take these beautiful creatures for granted. Review your Omnibus and keep in mind the etiquette of our sport. Value yourself, your horse and others. Come

home safe to your families and focus on higher and higher goals.

DSA

WELCOME BACK!

Jeannette Derammelaere, our Chapter Chairperson, is back on her horse after having been very seriously injured when she was kicked in the chest 2 months ago. She was at the Juniors to support her students within days of leaving the intensive care unit at Santa Rosa Memorial, and (to her doctor's amazement) was back on her horse a month later. Welcome back, Jeannette! It's nice to have you back in the saddle.

SCHOOLING SHOW

Marin CDS will have a "Winter" Schooling Show at Riverside Equestrian Center, 7600 Lakeville Road, Petaluma, on Sunday, November 7, 2004. Margo Hoagland will be the Judge and Introductory Level through PSG will be included. Show attire is not required (but it always looks nice), but helmets and boots are. Warm up will be in the covered arena with rides in the outdoor arena. Planning to go up a level next year? Come try it out at this show. An entry form is included in this mailing. Contact Kathy Goldstein (415) 892-4560

WEST NILE VIRUS

West Nile Virus is here to stay, and if you haven't vaccinated your equine friends, it's time to think about it. Past time, actually.

West Nile Virus uses birds as a reservoir and is spread by mosquitoes to horses, people and many other mammals. The mortality rate in horses developing clinical symptoms is about 50% with complete recovery in most of those that don't die. In the USA the most common symptoms are:

- 1-hyperesthesia (increased sensitivity to touch and sound)-this is one of the most common features in the USA.
- 2-depression, somnolence or (paradoxically) mania.
- 3-fever, decreased appetite.
- 4-blindness, weakness or staggering, decreased coordination.
- 5-chewing movements, head pressing, "sawhorse" stance, circling.
- 6-convulsions

Diagnosis can be complicated and may require blood spinal fluid samples.

Treatment: There is an anti serum available from Novartis pharmaceuticals, but I'm not sure that its effectiveness is proven and the cost is in the \$500-1200 range.

Prevention is the key to protecting your horse(s). Vaccines are available and entail two initial injections about 3-6 weeks apart (depending on the vaccine used) followed by yearly (or some suggest every 6 month) boosters. The vaccines seem to be very effective but not 100% so. Data is still being gathered in this regard.

Foals born to mares that have been previously vaccinated pose a particular problem as to when to vaccinate. Your vet's advice can be helpful here. Older horses and/or horses whose health is already compromised in some way are at increased risk for contracting significant infections. Many healthy horses may

seroconvert (*i.e.* develop evidence of infection on blood tests) without having any detectable clinical evidence of the disease.

For a much more detailed discussion of this very important topic, visit <http://www.horseadvice.com>. You can become a member for about \$30.00/yr and have access to a wealth of information on just about anything having to do with horses, including summaries of the published articles on a given subject. My recent print out on gastric ulcers in horses included 31 pages (!) of article summaries.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Echoman (*Oman x Echo Daal), 12 yr, 15.3h grey Shagya Arabian gelding. This breed, originated in Hungary, developed from Arabians crossbred with Warmbloods to develop a horse with the athleticism and stamina of the Arabian, but the size and temperament of a Warmblood. Echo has been trained in dressage for the past 6 years, but his true love and talents lie in jumping. He is wonderful on the trail and he would make an exceptional 3 day eventer. He has a great mind, is always sound, and is an easy keeper. Echo has personality plus! He loves people and will win your heart. \$15,000. Contact Bobbie Head, 415 925-5002 days, 415 454-2676 eves.

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For information please contact:

Cheryl Larson-Hrdlicka, Novato, CA.
415 893-0186 (home), 415 819-0186(cell).

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Logo wine glasses & coffee mugs for sale. Etched with the Marin Chapter logo, \$7.00 each. Contact Kathy Goldstein at 415 892-4560.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*****Oct 7-10, CDS Championships and USDF/Great American Regional Finals (LAEC, Burbank)** Contact Glenda McElroy 818 841-3554-New Date...(last day to qualify Aug 29).

*****Oct 9-10, Fairwind Farm, Cancelled.**

Oct 24, Hoofbeats Schooling Show (Healdsburg) Judge M Hoagland. Contact Judy McHerron 707 431-2920.

Nov 7, Marin CDS Schooling Show, (Riverside Equestrian Center Petaluma) Judge M Hoagland. Contact Kathy Goldstein 415 892-4560, Mary Schrader 415 479-3104.

Scenes From The Jun



Julie Dobbs with Camille Kusin on Little Joe



Julie Dobbs on Chase At Their 1st Juniors



Cristina Torres on Galliano



Galliano Hard At Work With Cristina Aboard



Caitlin Evans Showing Off Kiwi's New Hat



Camille Kusin Savors The Moment

ior Championships

