

WPDA NEWSBITS



AUGUST 2019

It's not too late to Renew Your Membership in Western Pennsylvania Dressage Association

...

Membership covers the 2019 competition year & includes:

- Participation in WPDA shows and clinics
- Individual membership in the USDF
- Eligibility for year-end awards
- Voting & office holding privileges
- WPDA Team competition for Juniors and Adults
- Social events
- Annual banquet
- WPDA Handbook
- Membership Directory*
- Monthly Newsletter

*Available on request.

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For more up-to-date info and
pics, click here wpda.club
and our Facebook page at
What's New - Western
Pennsylvania
Dressage Association.

Editor's Note: The Juniors participated in their favorite show of the year last month and did a spectacular job of representing their club. I'm always impressed by how well they work together and support each other. They always do their best to watch their teammates ride and cheer them on! We also have some super supportive siblings that were there to cheer on the team! Check out some of the photos on the Juniors page.

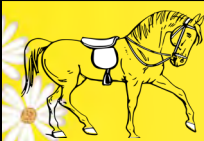
~ Jina



Spot Light



Congratulations to Don Ahlerich, owned by Emily Morris on Hanoverian High Score and P&H&R Champion & Reserve at the Mid Ohio Classic last month!



In the Region & Update

Upcoming Recognized Competitions

ERAHC Virginia Classic Open Dressage Show, Lexington, VA	8/22
VADA/NOVA Summer Wind Down I & II, Leesburg, VA	8/24 – 8/25
Cool Down Dressage, Pinehurst, NC	8/31 – 9/1
NCDCTA Labor of Love I & II, Raleigh, NC	8/31 – 9/1
PVDA at Waredaca 1 & 2, Gaithersburg, MD	8/31 – 9/1
Dressage at Stone Tavern I & II, Allentown, NJ	9/6 – 9/8
VADAF Dressage at Rose Mount Farm 1 & 2	9/7 – 9/8
Dressage at Dunmovin, West Chester, PA	9/11
Tryal Fall Dressage 2, Mill Spring, NC	9/12 – 9/15
Good Times Farm Dressage Show III, Freehold, NJ	9/14
Last Chance @ Dressage, by Chance?, Union Bridge, MD	9/18
Pinehurst Fall Dressage, Pinehurst, NC	9/21 – 9/22
Crescendo Dressage Shootout, Ephrata, PA	9/22
Dressage at Devon, Devon, PA	9/24 – 9/29

Check the USDF website calendar for more show details.

[Click here](#)

SCHOOL'S IN SESSION

USDF Regional
Schooling Show
Awards Program



Photo by Bob Tarr

NEW FOR 2020

Recognizing USDF Group Members for finishing at the "top of their class" in each of USDF's nine regions, for their achievements at schooling shows.

4 DIVISIONS

Open*
Junior/Young Rider
Adult Amateur
Non-Professional

*Introductory not awarded in Open Division

7 LEVELS

Introductory Third
Training Fourth
First FEI
Second



NOMINATE AT
www.usdf.org

USDF



Club News

Need some Canter Cash? Volunteer at the upcoming show! We need scribes, runners, setup crew, tear down crew, concession stand help...etc. and earn canter cash which you can redeem for year-end awards. Contact Jan Bauman (janispbaumann@gmail.com) and she will get you plugged in. Check the WPDA website to download the volunteer hour form and submit to Kim Baierl (kbaierl@zoominternet.net) within 30 days of your activity. Don't wait until the last minute as these need to be processed in a timely manner.



One of our Juniors is asking for help for a Pony Club project. Please read her essay in the Juniors section and consider helping her and/or if you know of anyone who may be interested in this project, please pass it along.



SAVE THE DATES!!

Aug. 17 **WPDA II at Fair Haven Farms**
www.wpda.club/events/fairhaven2

Aug. 31 **Royalty Stables**
www.royaltystables.wixsite.com/equestrian

Sept. 1 **Coventry Equestrian Center**
www.coventryequestriancenter.com

Sept. 21 **Royalty Stables**

Sept. 28 **WPDA III at Fair Haven Farms**
www.wpda.club/events/fairhaven3



Education Corner

LET'S REMEMBER WHY WE DO DRESSAGE

In a sport that often encourages us to focus on achieving goals, Janet "Dolly" Hannon reminds us of a critical element in the dressage journey that should not be forgotten.

I wish I had not lost sight at times over the many years that I have worked as a dressage professional of the big question of why we do this. The obvious reason is for the love of the horse. Why would someone work for years and years to hand-walk recovering horses by the hour and go blanket horses in the middle of an ice storm or, better yet, carry water to those horses when their water trough froze if they did not love horses beyond a reasonable doubt?

It is so easy in this business to get wrapped up in achieving goals and hopefully making enough money to have some sort of retirement that we might sometimes forget why we got into this in the first place. We tend to get stuck in the sand box on that 20-meter circle and forget the joys of a horse's first encounter with trail riding and cavalletti. Or when you feel them understand a concept as simple as a diagonal of canter–trot–canter, and once that light bulb goes off, that sense of pride in those baby steps.

It is the smile on your face as the wind whips by as you gallop along, and it is the feeling that a balanced canter gives you that is too hard to put into words. When was the last time you laughed for no reason other than just for the sheer joy of riding a horse? I have certainly felt it before but due to circumstance and life events and the inevitable tragedies that can accompany horse ownership had not felt that feeling in a long time. But I am so grateful to feel it again and advise all my fellow dressage professionals not to forget the joy of horse ownership. That special horse can do so much for your soul and, in turn, your health and ability to be effective in your job. We are so lucky to have a job that involves these amazing animals, and we get paid to either train them and/or teach others to appreciate their generous nature and amazing abilities. I feel so privileged to be able to walk this path and look at the beauty of my horse with love and gratitude.

I wish I had not waited so long to get another horse for myself, and I wanted to share this in the hope that someone else will think about it and rediscover the joy of a very special horse just for you—not a client's horse, but your own.

Janet "Dolly" Hannon is a U.S. Equestrian Federation (USEF) "S" judge and a U.S. Dressage Federation (USDF) bronze, silver and gold medalist. Currently, she is the chair of the USDF Freestyle Committee. Based in Golden, Colorado, she teaches and trains at Legacy Valley Farm in Arvada, Colorado (legacyvalleyfarm.com)

REPRINTED FROM DRESSAGE TODAY – APR 2019



Junior News



My name is Raegan Porter and I am a new junior WPDA member. As an already registered participant at Lendon Gray's Youth Dressage Festival, the WPDA junior team members invited me to be on their team. Though D4K wasn't a first-time experience for me, it was for my pony, Laurel. She had never been to a big show until D4K, and she handled all the activity of people, other horses, dogs, and golf carts very well. In going to D4K, I learned a lot of things we need to work on by watching my teammates, competitors, and from my own ride. It was great to once again be part of a team. Everyone was very welcoming, and very supportive of one another.

I'm looking forward to returning to Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival again next year.



Dressage Youth Festival (D4K) 2019



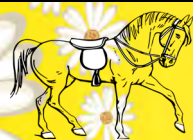
Junior News - cont.

My name is Grace Baierl and I am a member of Harts Run Hunt Pony Club. I am working towards my HB knowledge rating, and one of the things you must accomplish is a land conservation project. Due to the fact that my barn is landlocked, I have begun to notice that local farms are becoming more and more surrounded by development. There have been 31 million acres of farmland lost to development between 1992 and 2012. That is 175 acres per hour of agricultural land lost to development. With all the development encroaching on properties, it has become difficult to find land to spread manure. I also understand that local farming and fresh food is on the rise for demand. As many farmers know, horse manure is a good fertilizer because it supplies good nutrients back to the soil. Manure contains important elements required for plant growth and helps with soil structure. Due to a better soil structure, there is increased water infiltration. This leads to reduced soil erosion and improved nutrient preservation. With the lack of land around barns, it can be particularly difficult to find somewhere to spread manure leading to a deficiency of space and a rise in parasites around the barn. However, I think there is a simple solution to both of these problems. My goal is to connect local farmers with horse barns, so the manure can be repurposed. My hope is that there will be more land available for farmers to grow crops, and it will help provide space at the barns while also controlling the parasites. It will allow more pastures for grazing and keep more water sources from contamination. If we keep more farmland, we can also better protect native plants and pollinating insects. I believe this will help kindle a better relationship between barn owners and farmers. I was hoping you would be able to help me and allow me to put your name and contact information on a website I am creating.



On the website, I plan to have a list of farms, who have manure available, as well as farmers or nurseries looking for manure. The website will be focused on the greater Pittsburgh area. The purpose would be to connect the farmers and barn owners so this could be the first simple step to having another purpose for manure. I do hope you consider my proposition. If you would like your contact information on my website, please email me back at gbaierl2@nastudents.org with the name of the organization or farm you represent, and what contact information you would be ok with me sharing.

Thank you again for your help; it is greatly appreciated. ~ Grace



Officers & Directors

WPDA Officers:

Pam McCready, President (2019 + 2020) , Silver Crest Equestrian Center,
pgm1208@aol.com

Jerri Anesetti, Vice President (2018 + 2019), Skyline Stables,
janesetti17@gmail.com

Barbara Wozniak, Treasurer (2018 + 2019), Silver Crest Equestrian Center,
barbara@wozniaks.net

Kaley Tomsic, Secretary (2019 + 2020), Greenmoor Commons Equestrian Center,
kaleytomsic@gmail.com

Board Directors:

Jan Baumann (2019 + 2020), Greenmoor Commons Equestrian Center,
janispbaumann@gmail.com

Nancy Sholtz (2018 + 2019), Silver Crest Equestrian Center, nancy.sholtz@lhh.com

Stephanie Bitz (2019 + 2020), Headacres Farm, sjbitz@gmail.com

Tina Vensel (2019 + 2020), sewdressage@aol.com

Committees

Sanctioned Schooling Shows – Jerri Anesetti

Adult Clinic – Stephanie Bitz

Awards – Stephanie Bitz

Hospitality – Nancy Sholtz,

Membership – Nancy Sholtz

Banquet – Nancy Sholtz

Education – Jan Baumann



Committees – cont'd

Junior/YR Team – Nina Teff, cnteff@zoominternet.net

Website and Social Media – Kaley Tomsic, kaleytomsic@gmail.com

Canter Cash – Kim Baierl, kbaierl@zoominternet.net

Newsletter & Communications – Tina Vensel

WPDA Junior Officers:

President – Hanna Hudec, huddechanna@gmail.com

Secretary – Maggie Goddard, meg5901@psu.edu

Team Competition Co-Chairs – Grace Baierl, catskillnola@icloud.com

Team Competition Co-Chair - Erin Vensel, erin.vensel322@gmail.com

Team Education Chair – Emma Teff, eteff@zoominternet.net

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Adding cross-training to a dressage program is analogous to adding that special hint of spice to a recipe. Everyone is fascinated by its inclusion and curious as to why this particular ingredient changes the recipe's intricacies, depth and structure."

Nicholas Fyffe

2019 WPDA Dressage Schooling Shows

June 29 | August 17 | September 28

Series Sponsor



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At Allegheny Equine, our practice is dedicated to the highest quality care for the equine patient. Our doctors are “horse people” themselves and have chosen this profession out of desire and interest in improving the condition of their patients.

Our doctors and animal health technicians are committed to serving the horse owner in a professional and compassionate manner. Together with our office and support staff, we strive to provide education, services, and compassion to our clients.

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- Ambulatory & Emergency Care
- Equine Reproduction
- Dentistry
- Integrative Therapies

2019 WPDA Dressage Schooling Show Class Sponsors



Series Class Sponsor - First Level, Test 1

In memory of all the horses that have gone ahead of us... who have trusted us, taught us, loved us, and changed us forever.

- Anonymous

Series Class Sponsor - Training Class, Test 1



June 29 Class Sponsor - Intro Level, Test B
August 17 Class Sponsor - Intro Level, Test C



August 17 Class Sponsor - Training Class, Test 3

2019 WPDA Dressage Schooling Show Friend Sponsors

The Basso Family | Karen Puchalsky | Dawne Sohn

WPDA Dressage Schooling Show Sponsors: June 29 & September 28



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WPDA Dressage Schooling Show Sponsor: August 17



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June 29 lunch generously donated by:

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Warrendale, PA — 15086
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