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Layout & design of newsletter courtesy of Lindsay Feller

ON THE COVER:

Ariana Chia and Wishtadanz have been competing very successfully in Florida this winter.

Photo by Amy McIlwham

inside this issue:

Mark Your Calendars	4
Message from the Chair	5
Clinics Corner	6
An Open Invitation	7
Show Preview	9
Canadian Inter-Provincial Championships.....	10
DW Member Survey - Results!	11
Goal - To Find Some Help with Show Expenses.....	12
Charting Your Tests	13
Reviews.....	15
Goal Setting for Sports.....	16
What I Did On My Winter Vacation	17
Introducing Jane Fudge, DW Sponsorship Chair.....	24
Introducing Susan Canal, DW Treasurer	25
2013 Manitoba Equestrian Championships.....	26
New Dressage Scholarships 2013 - For Junior and AA Riders	27
Footloose and Fancy Free.....	28
Pony Club Dressage	30
Are You Training Your Horse While Grooming or Is He Training You?	32
Manitoba Horse Trails Spring Fling Eventing Derby.....	34
Improving the Halt on Centreline	36
Hello Again from Germany!.....	37
Dressage Winnipeg Development Camp 2013.....	38
Michael Rohrmann Working the Horse `in hand` Session for Dressage Winnipeg	39

Mark Your Calendars!

MAY

MB Horse Trails Derby

May 10 & 11, 2013

Kendra McBain Memorial Bronze & Gold Competition

May 11 & 12, 2013 - **CANCELLED**

Pony Club Spring Classic

May 24 – 26, 2013

JUNE

Capt. DeKenyeres Memorial Bronze & Gold Competition

June 15 & 16, 2013

MB Horse Trial Combined Event

June 29 – July 1, 2013

JULY

Midsummer Madness Fun Show & Gold Competition

July 6, 2013

Ebon Dressage Show

July 6 & 7, 2013

Saskatoon, SK

DW Dressage Development Cam

July 7 – 10, 2013

PineRidge Equine Park, MB

Westman Dressage Lemonade Daze

July 13 & 14, 2013

Brandon, MB

DW Capt. de Kenyeres Scholarship Program Deadline for Entries

July 16, 2013

AUGUST

Fall Classic Bronze Competition & MB Provincial Championships Gold Competition

August 31 & September 1, 2013

SEPTEMBER

MB Equestrian Championships

September 6 – 8, 2013

Westman Dressage Fall Festival

September 14 & 15, 2013

Brandon, MB

Western Regional Dressage Championships

September 13 & 14, 2013

Red Deer, AB

Canadian Inter-Provincial Equestrian Championships

(First Level only)

September 13-15, 2013

Calgary, AB

OCTOBER

DW Awards Banquet

October 18, 2013

"There is no secret so close as that between a rider and his horse..." Robert Smith Surtees

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Message from the Chair

Courtesy of Merelyn Hunkin

Hopefully, by the time this is published winter will have ended! It has been a long one. Also the excess of snow has caused numerous problems for riders, horses in their diminishing pastures, and for maintenance of all buildings and yards.

In contrast to all these difficulties is the news of exciting new or revamped dressage programs, which our board has worked hard to organize. In this newsletter are reports on the revitalized scholarship programs, including two adult amateur scholarships.

Then, you will see that the Manitoba Equestrian Championships(MEC) have become a truly East/ West challenge, pitting the DW riders against the Westman dressage riders and offering the opportunity to show our freestyles! What fun that will be! Also, for the first time our province is sending a team to the Canadian Inter-Provincial Equestrian Championships(CIEC) in Alberta in September. Our First Level riders will have the opportunity to qualify for this provincial team. Check out these important new programs with opportunities for the lower level riders in our club!

This winter also saw increased communication and collaboration with our sister club, Westman Dressage. They have agreed to participate in our scholarship programs, as well as playing a key role in organizing the revamped MEC competition and the selection and organization of a dressage team for the CIEC. Thanks especially to Susana Danyliuk, Westman's liaison throughout these inter-club negotiations.

I have to thank my board for the numerous jobs they tirelessly complete for the Dressage Winnipeg membership, and also the work they do to help promote the sport of dressage in Manitoba. They organize and run your shows, seek sponsorships to support our programs, set up dressage camps, plan and attend many meetings, organize our award program and banquet, publish our newsletter and website and Eblasts, as well as completing all the organizational tasks too numerous to mention. If you see them at a DW event, take a moment to thank them, or more importantly see if you can give them a hand. Without these hard-working ladies there would be no DW club.

Enjoy reading Passage and have a great season of shows camps and clinics!

NOTICE - CANCELLATION OF DW KENDRA MCBAIN MEMORIAL SHOW

Unfortunately, due to the poor conditions at the Bird's Hill Park facility, which is still covered in snow and ice, the Dressage Winnipeg board has decided to cancel the May 11-12 show. After lengthy deliberation, and also consultation with the Manitoba Horse Council who operate the BHP facility, the DW board felt they would not be able to hold their May dressage show. It is very doubtful that MHC could prepare the park show facility in time, especially since the weather in Manitoba continues to be much colder than normal. Also, this earlier cancellation is more economically responsible, since fewer entries were predicted, and cancellation fees for judges etc. are less if we cancel sooner.

There is a possibility that the July DW show might be extended to an extra day and offer Bronze classes as well. Further announcements regarding the July show will be made as soon as the Show Committee can make arrangements.

Thanks to the DW board, and especially the show committee, for taking this difficult situation into consideration and making the best decision possible.

DW Chairman, Merelyn Hunkin

CLINICS CORNER

A CLINIC WITH MICHAEL ROHRMANN

May 17 - 19th, 2013

Contact: Ashley Fudge 204.485.7433 or ridingdefined@hotmail.com For more information about Michael please go to www.michaelrohrmann.de

JACQUELINE BROOKS

May 25 - 26, 2013

Contact Ashley Fudge 204.485.7433
ridingdefined@hotmail.com

BONNY BONNELLO CLINICS

May 3 - 5, 2013

June 7 - 9, 2013

August 21 - 23, 2013 - *Tentative*

September 27 - 29, 2013

November 1 - 3, 2013

AUDITORS WELCOME - NO CHARGE

Contact Heather Thomas 233-2825 or email hthomas@mts.net

ARMAND VALKENBORG CLINICS

April 26 - 28, 2013

August 20 - 22 (Tuesday to Thursday), 2013

October 4 - 6, 2013

November 1 - 3, 2013

November 29 - 30, December 1, 2013

Please contact Liane@dressagewinnipeg.ca for more information

DOMINIQUE BARBIER

June 7 - 9, 2013

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Contact Brenda McCann at (204) 834-3998 or by e-mail bmccann1@mymts.net

IRENE SCHWECKENDIECK CLINICS

May 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 2013

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Please contact Alison Elliott at trgunlim@mymts.net or call 204-284--3976 for more information.

EDDO HOEKSTRA CLINICS

Clinic dates in July/August

Two day clinic in Portage on Wednesday, July 31 and Thursday, August 1, 2013, followed by a three day clinic in Winnipeg, August 3 -5 (Saturday, Sunday, Monday).

Contact Pam Langstaff 204-612-3660 or eddoclinic@shaw.ca



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An Open Invitation!

Courtesy of Lori Versavel

Westman Dressage has planned two Equine Canada Sanctioned Bronze levels shows this year. They are two days shows and are held in the outdoor rings at the Keystone Centre. Levels offered are from Walk Trot Beginner Horse and Beginner Rider to Fourth Level. As it is a sanctioned show we use the Equine Canada tests, except for Training level Freestyle and walk trot Freestyle and our new class – pee wee dressage to encourage some of our youngsters who are graduating from the Lead Line Class! In September we are also offering the Prix Caprilli test at a training level.

We have a relaxed atmosphere at our shows, with ample warm up space, excellent stabling and a quiet atmosphere with one ring. Of course that means our shows fill quickly and although we offer several miscellaneous classes they were cancelled last year to make room for more competitors in the dressage classes.

One really fun aspect of our shows is our egalitarian approach to the judge which has been very successful this last year. Because we have such a small group that organize the shows and also want to compete, we invite the entire show to have dinner with the judge on

Saturday evening. It is purely to be fair since we don't have any board members who do not show, we just invite all the competitors! It is an enjoyable evening – we get to spend some time with the judge and all of our competitors. Of course not everyone goes out for dinner – but all are invited!

We have a number of riders who join us from Saskatchewan. You are all invited to come out and compete, an excellent location for those who have young horses that don't want as busy a place as the fabulous Birds Hill site to introduce them to their first competition. Please keep your eye peeled on www.westmandressage.com for our prize list to be made available!

See you in Brandon this summer!

For more information visit www.westmandressage.com

Lemonade Daze, July 13 and 14, 2013 Judge is Ms. Lynne Poole, Scholmberg, Ontario

Fall Festival, September 14 and 15, 2013 Judge is Ms. Nancy Carter, King City, Ontario



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Show Preview

Courtesy of Karine Duhamel

June 2013: Captain De Kenyeres Memorial Competition

As the weather heats up, we hope that the competition will too! The annual June show at Bird's Hill Park on June 15th and 16th will feature both the FEI Young Horse class and a North American Young Riders' Championship qualifier! In addition, scores obtained in an equitation class at this show are eligible for the Captain De Kenyeres Scholarship Program.

July 2013: Midsummer Madness Gold Show and Fun Show

In July, Dressage Winnipeg will host the Midsummer Madness Gold Show at Pine Ridge Equine Park on the Saturday before dressage camp begins. On the same day, our annual Fun Show will also be held at Pine Ridge with a variety of fun classes- including a couple of new ones- designed to test your riding skills and to generate FUN! See upcoming Prize List for Details. The ever-popular Bribe Your Horse at Liberty will be a lot of fun, as will the always entertaining Prancing with the Stars class featuring the coveted Mirror Ball Trophy! Since both shows occur just before camp, we encourage you to come for the show-- AND to stay for camp!

August 2013: Autumn Classic and Fall Championships

To round out the season, Dressage Winnipeg is proud to host its Autumn Classic and Fall Championships at Bird's Hill Park on the weekend of August 31st to September 1st. To avoid conflicts with polo, we have moved up our show dates by one weekend from last year hoping that this will alleviate some of your concerns – as well as those of your horse! As with the May and June shows, the Autumn Classic will offer the FEI Young Horse class as well as the final Captain De Kenyeres Equitation class, mandatory for those who have signed up for the scholarship program.

And there you have it: one season summed up in just a few paragraphs! We hope to see you all in May, despite the soggy weather, and we hope that you'll return in June, July, and August! Dressage Winnipeg's Show Committee has worked very hard this year to ensure a fun and productive show season, and we hope that you will take advantage of these new opportunities!



Canadian Inter-Provincial Equestrian Championships!

Courtesy of Susan Canal

Dressage Winnipeg is excited to announce that we are working with Manitoba Horse Council, Westman Dressage and the Pony Club to send a team of four Manitoba Dressage riders (2 juniors and 2 seniors) to the 2013 Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships to be held at the Rocky Mountain Show Jumping facility, Calgary, Alberta September 13 - 15, 2013.

This is an excellent opportunity for Manitoba riders who may not have had the opportunity to compete in multi-provincial events to get to experience this type of championship. Qualifying shows will be held early in the year so that riders chosen to represent Manitoba and MHC have enough time to organize and plan.

Open to all Manitoba Level 1 Dressage Riders, we worked together to develop a list of our selection criteria in conjunction with the rules set out by the CIEC Committee.

Here are some highlights of the rules and qualifying shows:

Riders vying for a spot on the team will be required to compete at TWO of the six following shows:

- Dressage Winnipeg May 11-12
- Red River Pony Club May 24 - 25
- Dressage Winnipeg June 15 - 16
- Dressage Winnipeg July 7
- Westman Dressage July 13 -14
- Ebon, Saskatchewan July 6 - 7

Riders vying for a team position will be required to obtain scores of 60+ from two separate judges in Level 1 tests 1, 2 or 3.

Riders may not compete in these Championships if they have competed at the dressage championships for juniors or at the NAJYRC in 2013. Riders must not have competed above second level in 2013 in order to be eligible.

Scores for riders who wish to compete for a spot on the team will be collected by their respective clubs and sent to Manitoba Horse Council for final selection.



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DW Member Survey - Results!

Courtesy of Sandra Hobday

To all 28 Dressage Winnipeg members who responded to our on-line questionnaire, thank you very much!

Here is a summary of the responses:

1. Putting on shows is the #1 priority of DW
2. September long weekend (to avoid a conflict with the polo championships) is OK with almost everyone
3. 22/28 members indicated that they will enter show this year
4. 70% felt that we should continue with the fun shows
5. 20% indicated they would attend camp and 70% felt having camp annually is fine
6. Our sponsors were well supported
7. 60% would not want to pay more for a FEI judge
8. Our website was #1 for getting information
9. Some of the suggestions for education clinics are: natural horsemanship, cross training, show manners and rules, travelling shows, bits and bridles, saddle fitting, warming up a horse, group work (freestyle, pas de deux, quadrille), exercise for riders, clinics with demo riders...
10. Some general comments were: better ribbons for championships, fun awards (barefoot horse, most improved, 2nd career award, 7 award), none or very small auditing fees, prepay and order lunches in advance at the canteen

DID YOU KNOW?!

You can donate your gently used ribbons back to the club??

It is exciting to receive ribbons and fun to display them on your stall. Some people take them home and save them but not everyone collects ribbons so if you don't really need them consider donating your class ribbons back to the show office at the end of the show. Each ribbon costs us about \$3 so it can make a big difference....if you collect 4 ribbons during the show and hand them back in, you have saved the club \$12.... imagine if 10 or 20 people did that!



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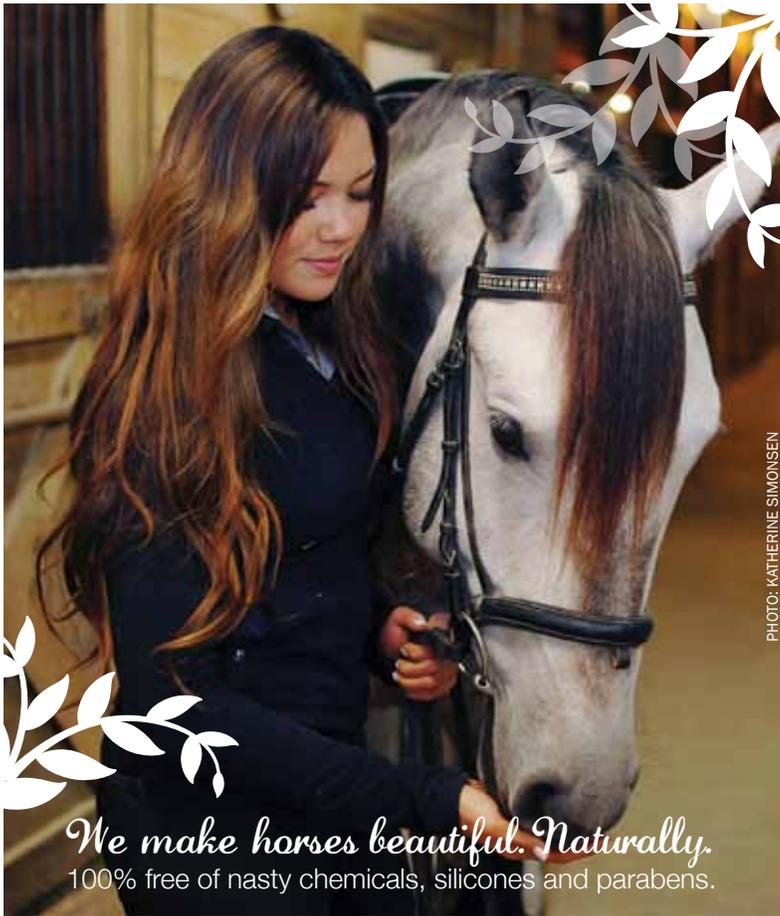


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Goal – To Find Some Help with Show Expenses

Courtesy of Barb Wansbutter

Have you ever thought of getting some personal sponsors? Some of our members have had the good fortune to receive private sponsorship but it isn't likely to happen if you don't ask for it. A couple of years ago the daughter of a friend of ours put together a very good letter asking for help. She was involved with the Appaloosa Club in Saskatchewan and was regularly showing her horse in various events. She sent this letter to family members, friends of the family and her father took it to work to show his co-workers (which is where we came in, seems a better deal than buying chocolate bars).

Her letter asking for sponsorship started off by introducing herself and her horse. She wrote about the work they had done in the past and the level of competition that they were now entering. She said what she expected her show expenses to be for the season and how she was making money towards them – in her case by babysitting every weekend. Another section of the letter outlined the work she was doing

to be successful in the shows – riding most days, taking weekly lessons, doing Pilates and going out running to increase her own fitness. Then she outlined her goals for the season which included what classes she intended to enter and the placements that she was working towards.

The last part of the letter asked for help in achieving these goals and financing her show season. She asked if we could give \$10, \$20 or whatever we wished to. She had put so much effort into this letter and was obviously working very hard in her sport so we were happy to contribute. In return she kept us all well informed via email about her show season, her placings and various awards. She also sent photos of her competitions. It was a lot of fun to go through the season with her and was a great way for her to take in some money to help defray the cost of lessons and showing.

Charting Your Tests

Courtesy of Barb Wansbutter

One of the most valuable tools you have to keep track of your goals is looking at your tests. There are many ways to study your tests but one that I find very interesting is that developed by two-time American Olympian Lendon Gray. I came across this in her book – “Lessons with Lendon” (PIMEDIA Equine Network, 2003) a series of lessons for Training Level riders which first appeared in Practical Horseman magazine. It is a fantastic book full of great ideas.

Lendon suggests that you make a show booklet that charts your progress throughout the season. First you list all your test movements (I have only included some for the example below). Then you pick a base score which is the number you would be happy to get on every movement...I picked 6.5 as a 65% is a good score for my horse...working from your tests you fill in the difference between your score and your base score. For example, if the base score is 6.5 and you got a 6, then you enter -.5 for the movement. This will give you a clear idea of which movements are going quite well and which ones need improvement. Sometimes a movement will be fairly good going one way and weaker going the other which is good to know for your training.

Now choose a movement to study more closely... eg. the travers which needs work. First, read over the directives on the test – “consistent tempo; quality of trot; angle; bend and balance in travers” – next, take note of your comments on the test – “more bend”, “more bend and position”. This would be the time to reread the requirements from the EC Dressage rule book which states “ the horse is slightly bent round the inside leg of the athlete, but with a greater degree of bend than a shoulder-in. A constant angle of 35% (four tracks) should be shown.” Now we have a good understanding of the problem and will be able to make good use of our valuable lesson time.

Repeating this whole process at the next show will make it easy to chart your progress through the season. With hard work, you will be sure to be getting closer to positive marks for every movement.

Second Level (May show)	Sat Test 2	Sat Test 3	Sun Test 2	Sun Test 3	Total
Enter, Halt, Salute	+0.5	-0.5	+0.5	+0.5	+1
HXF medium trot	0	-1	+0.5	-1	-1.5
MXK medium trot	-0.5	-0.5	-1	-0.5	-2.5
Free walk	+0.5	+0.5	0	-0.5	+0.5
Renvers left	--	-0.5	--	-1.5	-2
Renvers right	--	-1	--	-2	-3
Travers right	-1.5	--	-0.5	--	-2
Travers left	-1	--	0	--	-1
Counter canter	+0.5	+0.5	+1	+0.5	+2.5
Test score	64.2%	61.4%	65%	58.1%	
(ideal 6.5)					



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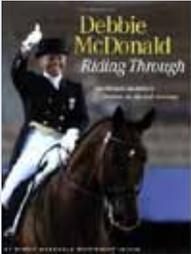
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Reviews:

I thought it would be interesting to have an area in the newsletter where we can share the interesting horsey things that we come across – articles, videos, tack & equipment, books, games, apps, whatever
Email your review to Barb! barb@dressagewinnipeg.com



Riding Through
By Debbie McDonald with Nancy Jaffer
Reviewed by: Sheryl Feller, Bluebear Farms

While on holiday in late January, I had the opportunity to read Debbie McDonald's book, *Riding Through*. The book combines Debbie's autobiography with an instructional manual on her system. The autobiography opens in 1988 at a Del Mar California horse show. At the time Debbie was a professional hunter/jumper rider and had a terrible fall over a small jump (a 2'6" vertical) in a hunter warm up ring. That fall ultimately changed Debbie's horse life forever.

The book then returns to her childhood and when Debbie was just into her teens she mucked 10 to 20 stalls A DAY to be able to have a pony as her family could not afford the costs of keeping one. This wasn't just weekend work, this was every day on top of school.

The story continues through Debbie's years as a professional hunter/jumper rider, the decision she made one year after her fall to switch to dressage and then follows the rest of her dressage journey - to the Pan Am Games, the World Cup, the Olympics and the World Equestrian Games.

Winnipeg is an important part of her story as the 1999 Pan Am Games was the competition where Debbie and Brentina won both team and individual gold medals and Brentina became a star in international competition. This part of the story was very interesting, but I read it with some regret as my own role as show jumping's volunteer coordinator during the 1999 Pan Am Games meant I spent all of my time at the Red River Exhibition venue and did not get to see any of the dressage or eventing.

The book is an easy, entertaining read with all of the chapters including the instructional ones being written in a conversational tone. As well, there are excellent illustrations and pictures so the book has a lot of appeal for both auditory and visual learners. Debbie's recipe chapters are great summaries and riders from all disciplines will take away some "nuggets" or new perspectives.

Throughout the book there is emphasis on straightness and "long and low" work. Some of the quotes which resonated with me include:

- (following the description of an exercise) ... "Do this until it is very clear in the horse's mind that changing

the bend does not mean a flying change. Changing your leg position is what will determine the flying change."

- "When you're trying to get the rein back straight, instead of moving the haunches over to be in line with the shoulders, move the shoulders over to be in line with the haunches."
- "To test self-carriage, give a moment on the inside rein and see if the horse can still maintain the balance and rhythm." (This is one of my favourite exercises so I found this very reinforcing.)
- "Do not make a horse feel pushed or stressed in his work. My horses work 30 minutes a day, five days a week in combination with lunging, turnout, time on a walker or a combination of all three on the off-days. I've never had a horse come out of his stall sore from the previous day's work." (I was curious as to how long her normal warm-up time is prior to the 30 minutes work as I can't imagine she meant 30 minutes total ride time.)
- "When you get ready for new boots, remember that hunter/jumper boots are designed to enable you to drop your heel deeply in short stirrups. In dressage, to be effective, your leg must hang longer, so it lies differently on the saddle The stiffer leather boots used for dressage helps promote the proper leg and foot position."

This book was written while Adrienne Lyle was Debbie's talented working student and she is in several of the photographs. Today, Adrienne is a "star" in her own right. Reading this book after having the opportunity to experience some of the World Dressage Masters competition also provided "food for thought".

I watched several riders warm-up for the Grand Prix on January 25th and the differences in the warm-ups were fascinating. At one extreme was a warm-up of about 30 minutes virtually all "long and low" and with very little lateral work. At the other extreme was a European who worked his horse for at least an hour, working through all of the test movements and what, to my eye at least, were periods of hyperflexion. One of our Canadian riders rode a warm-up that was somewhere in the middle of these two extremes. The low stress, "long and low" warm-up reflects the principles Debbie describes in her book.

All in all, I am glad I now have this book in my library and am looking forward to incorporating some of the exercises and her ways of explaining principles and techniques into my own programs.

Goal Setting for Sports

Courtesy of Barb Wansbutter

It is very important to have a framework for your schooling. Writing down your plans will help to make each ride move you closer to where you want to be. There are three different types of goals coaches set to help athletes develop sport skills:

1. Outcome Goals are those that compare the performances of athletes with those of other athletes. For example, finish in the top three of your class at the Provincial Championship show.
2. Performance Goals are used to improve an athlete's individual performance. For example, increase your Test 3 score from 60% to 63%
3. Process Goals are used to improve the execution of a skill. For example, show a clear difference between medium trot and collected trot. .

The next step is how to make your goals realistic and powerful. One popular method is to use the SMART Goals. SMART stands for:

S – be SPECIFIC

M – make sure you can MEASURE it

A – make sure the goal is ATTAINABLE

R – Make the goal RELEVANT to what you are working on

T – set a TIME for achieving the goal.

As you can imagine, you will generally be working on several Process Goals during your schooling sessions. One example would be collecting the trot.

S – I want to see a clear difference between our working trot and our collected trot.

M - my horse's working trot is 15 strides along the arena wall, I will collect this to 18 strides without losing rhythm.

A – I will work on this over time to help my horse build the muscle needed to maintain the collected trot over the required distances.

R – Second Level requires a collected trot to be shown.

T – I will be able to show a good collected trot at the June show.

If all goes well, you will achieve your three types of goals:

- **Outcome goal** – you will improve your placements.
- **Performance goal** – you will improve your scores.
- **Process goals** – you will have developed the ability to collect the trot.



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What I Did On My Winter Vacation!

BRANDY CATTON, CALIFORNIA

Horse fun in the sun!

by Brandy Catton



My horse Welwyn surely had a better winter than I did. He traveled to southern California with Minnesota dressage trainer Natalie Hinnemann for 6 weeks of fun in the sun! Welly stayed at Adventure Farms in Murrieta, California where he and Natalie worked hard under the daily tutelage of former Olympian Kathleen Raine.

It was a working holiday for Welwyn as he also made his show ring debut at Prix St. Georges in February at the Midwinter Dressage Fair CDI in Burbank, California. Accompanying me to watch the show and to assist in Welly's cheering section were his breeder, Helen Page, and her daughter, Katherine. Born in Headingley, Manitoba in 2001, Welwyn was the first foal out of Helen's home-bred Hannoverian mare Ramira (Ramiro's Bube) and sired by Warkanson (Warkant). This has proven to be a successful cross, also producing full sister Prix St Georges horse Elite Mare Windsor CA.

While his scores of 58 and 59% were modest, there were some bright highlights including a couple of 7.5's for his gaits (from FEI judges!) and some beautiful photos to hold dear forever. It was an incredible experience to see my own horse in a class with world renowned competitors including Olympians Steffen Peters and Guenter Seidel.

While in California, Welly and I were able to have some lessons with Kathleen Raine. Adventure Farms was

beautiful. Nestled in the southern California mountains and surrounded by white fences, the main barn had huge foaling stalls for every horse, as well as each stall having its own drop down window to the outside and a big ceiling fan. The weather is so beautiful down there, the arenas don't have walls... just a roof to protect you from the sun and occasional bit of rain. My lessons with Kathleen were the same as for all her other riders. At first I was intimidated to ride with them, but I quickly learned we are all at different spots on the same journey. No matter if they were amateurs or professionals, or whether they were riding young horses, Grand Prix schoolmasters or sensational stars, the theme never changed: inside leg to outside rein, half halt, go forward... It's true, the training scale never changes. If only I had listened to my instructors better at home!

It has been my dream to show Welwyn at FEI level dressage since I purchased him as a 4 year old eight years ago, and I would like to thank everyone who ever helped us and contributed along the way. Welly will be returning home to Winnipeg shortly to start his new career as my schoolmaster. There is definitely a lot of work (and fun) ahead of me.



What I Did On My Winter Vacation! (continued)

MIKOLAJ FALK - MEXICO

On February 2, 2013, my best friend and I experienced the most thrilling, hair raising and terrifying adventure we've ever been on. It started innocently enough as a lovely week long vacation in beautiful Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico where my parents rent a condo. As an avid equestrian for my entire life, and Shay-la most of hers, we agreed quite in advance that we must find some healthy Mexican horses to ride! My travel savvy mother took to the internet and managed to come up with a place that seemed suitable for what we were looking for. There were a multitude of options to choose from and we ended up settling on a 5 hour "wonderful waterfall" ride that seemed a bit more experienced (no children under 10 allowed). I think the "no children under 10" resonated with me during the ride when at times I firmly believed that only a contortionist monkey should have done what we did, nevermind "children over 10".

Saturday dawned hot and sunny as we loaded into the car and headed for Puerto, Vallarta where our ride was waiting for us to take us to the ranch. We jumped into the old truck and spent a good half hour rumbling down broken cobblestone streets in rural Mexico, dodging stray dogs and sleeping bulls along the way – fencing really doesn't mean much in Mexico! We finally arrived at a quaint little ranch nestled at the base of the Sierra Madre mountains with about a dozen horses milling about. We were introduced to our guide Tomas, and our new partners for the next 5 hours. I was given Patricia, a big headed and long legged chestnut Thoroughbred cross. Shay-la was given Confetti, a tiny yet stout loudly colored pinto mare of unknown ancestry. Our tack was fairly crude and quite padded up as "one size fits all" in Mexico, but we were delighted to soon find our mounts were fairly sensitive and listened well to both leg and rein. We began our journey down the rural country roads, getting accustomed to our mounts and their ways before heading up the mountain side. Our guide was enchanting and knowledgeable, a genuine lover of horses and a good horseman, though later on I came to suspect he had a bit of an evil bone somewhere in his body as he seemed to take great delight in the terror he subjected us to! In retrospect, I'm fairly certain his good natured ribbing and chuckling was the only thing that prevented me from dismounting and demanding a helicopter at several points.



Our journey up the mountain side was fairly uneventful. We rode up in a steep switchback fashion, the trail about 2-3 feet wide in most places with mountain on one side and a sharp drop on the other. Neither Shay-la nor I have a penchant for heights, so we hugged as close to the mountain side as we could get. The scenery was beyond compare however, as we rode higher and higher and the view of Puerto Vallarta and Nuevo Vallarta became smaller and smaller. As we neared the top, the climbing got a little more nerve wracking as our game ponies scrambled up long 45 degree angle inclines covered in loose rocks and crevices. There are so many times your inner horse woman takes over and wants to choose the best path, but it didn't take long to realize these horses knew exactly where they were going and interference was not only unnecessary, but likely dangerous. We finally arrived at the top of the peak, a little relieved to be on some flat ground again. We had the most stunning and surreal view of Puerto Vallarta and Nuevo Vallarta below us, and out across the Pacific ocean and also of the mountains surrounding us from behind. We took a moment to take it all in and just ingest the enormity of the beauty all around us. And let's face it – to postpone the inevitable descent we now realized we would have to take. Our guide Tomas definitely had a visit from the little red man on his shoulder as he informed us of our choices – go back the way we came, or we could circle around down to the river and view the waterfall. He did warn us, the second option involved a bit of a "narrow trail" at times and was only for experienced riders. This would be comparable to selling a horse and saying he "didn't look too good"

What I Did On My Winter Vacation! (continued)

and discovering he was totally blind. The steepness of the rocky inclines we had ridden for the last half hour made us decide on option number two – I mean, how bad could it be? It couldn't be any worse right?

Wrong. I will do Tomas the grace of stating at least he admitted he only took "experienced" riders this route. Because had he tried to tell me that a 10 year old child had gone this same route the day previous, I may have dismounted and marched off in disgust if I could have gotten my knees to stop shaking for long enough. The first 10 minutes weren't bad, but within about 20 minutes I wanted to be just about anywhere but on top of that horse on top of that mountain staring down into what can only be described as jungle like abyss. The trail he took us down was not "narrow". "Narrow" implies that a trail EXISTED. What we did for the next hour would have put a mountain goat to shame. Gone were the gentle 45 degree angle rocky switchbacks I would have given my right arm to have back. The best I can figure, we appeared to ride down an old empty stream bed that went mostly straight down the mountain side. At times, my pony tail ticked my pony's tail from leaning back so hard as my horse carefully calculated and then jumped straight down into solid rock.

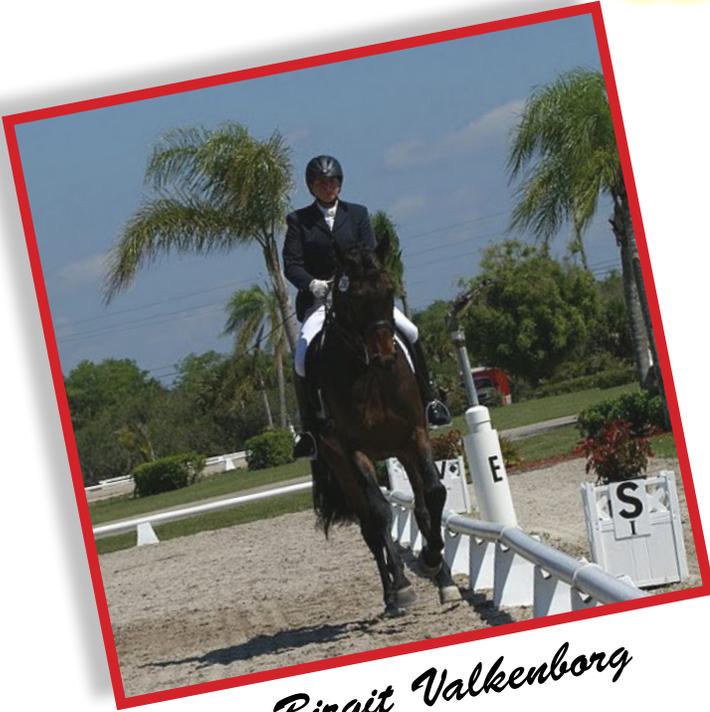
When we weren't defying the laws of gravity with our completely vertical descent, we were picking our way along ridges so narrow and so rocky, our horses stepped one foot in front of the other. One wrong step and we would plummet to our unpleasant deaths – though my heart was pounding so hard and my stomach was so upside down, death, at times, seemed like a pleasant alternative! Our guide seemed well equipped to note when our terror was becoming unmanageable, and would stop and chat with us, a chuckle in his voice and a sparkle in his eye. At times, the descent was so severe, our horses simply walked with their front legs and slid for yards at a time with their back legs, rock flying in every direction. I do believe the blisters I obtained from hanging on to the back of my saddle for dear life are permanent and serve as a reminder to never trust a guide with a sparkle in his eye ever again. I informed him about halfway down that he was mistaken because we had signed up for the "Wonderful Waterfall Ride", not the "Sudden Tourist Death" ride.

But as you can see, we made it! The worst of it lasted for about an hour and then smoothed out into somewhat manageable vertical drops to the terrain below. My heart soared and my knees sung when we finally spotted the river below us and saw an end in sight! I think we may be eligible for an entry in the Guinness Book of Records as I am fairly positive neither of us breathed for about 60 straight minutes. We continued down the river and back up a little ways to find the lovely waterfall. We sat and had a drink and just absorbed the nature and our surroundings as we chatted to our guide about his life as a horse trainer. It turns out both our mounts were born at the ranch, and our guide trained them himself! He told us stories of buying a colt and teaching it the Spanish walk, pride evident in his voice and expressions. He was delighted to see Shay-las photos of her pony performing the tricks she's been taught. We wandered back down, re-mounted and continued on to a hidden gem of a little Mexican restaurant at the base of the mountains where we dined on the finest quesadillas I have ever enjoyed. After a leisurely meal, we headed just a few short blocks back down to the ranch and the conclusion of our ride! We thanked Tomas profusely, and he proudly smiled as he cued Confetti and had her bow for us! The joy and happiness this man experiences around horses was truly heart warming to see in a country where animals are so often still treated as third rate citizens.

The rest of our vacation was amazing, and several days later I was able to cross an item off my bucket list as we found some decently healthy horses in Bucerias and were able to go for a canter down the beach in the ocean surf. These horses were much less trained and responsive than the ranch horses, but we marvelled at the smoothness of their gaits and their adorable walk to canter transitions they clearly had learned to prevent as much bouncing on their poor backs as possible by much less adept tourists.

My parent's have already re-booked the condo for 2014 and Shay-la and I have already started saving to go again – we haven't decided on one week or two weeks this time! The jury isn't out yet on whether we will be braving the "Wonderful Waterfall Ride" again!

Dressage Winnipeg's 5th Annual Dressage Development Camp



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Welcome BBQ - July 6

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www.valkenhofdressage.ca

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Have you ever wanted to ride in a Quadrille?

New this year will be the opportunity for training and first level riders to work with Birgit on the development of a Quadrille. Quadrille is a choreographed dressage ride, commonly performed to music, which is often compared to an equestrian ballet or to a drill team. A minimum of four horses are used, although many times more (always in pairs), which perform movements together. Quadrille may be ridden as a performance, such as those given by the Spanish Riding School, or as a competitive test with judging.

Contact Ashley Fudge: ashley@dressagewinnipeg.com

For a complete listing of evening lectures available and registration package go to: www.dressagewinnipeg.com

What I Did On My Winter Vacation! (continued)

SUE BRAUN - ARIZONA

Sue's Sunny Arizona Winter Adventure

I was fortunate enough to get away this winter to sunny Phoenix, Arizona. My husband Murray and I spent 6 weeks in Cave Creek, a northern suburb of Phoenix. Cave Creek is right next to Scottsdale. This was our 3rd winter trip down to that area. The area provides us both with what we need. I had leased horses the past two years but this year I decided I needed more down time so decided against a lease. That didn't mean I did not fill my days doing horsey stuff.

During the previous winters I had made dressage contacts, and this year I made a bunch of new ones. Thanks to Krista and Mackenzie Thiessen (fellow DW members), I made a connection with two great dressage riders in the area, Paula Paglia and Ashleigh Luca-Tyson. It was through a Facebook post of Mackenzie's that I found out they were in Scottsdale just as we were arriving in January. Mackenzie posted a video of a horse she was riding at Paula's. I then contacted Paula to ask if I could stop in for a visit. As it turned out Paula had a client from Alberta who was moving her two horses to her facility. What made that even more intriguing was that they were Arabs, if you hadn't noticed I am very fond of Arabians. Paula teaches out of her own facility as well as Los Cedros. Take a snoop online at this incredible facility <http://www.loscedros.com/index.html>. Paula invited me to watch as she gave lessons and trained there as well as at her home.

While visiting Los Cedros I met another dressage coach & trainer Teri. As well as traditional dressage Teri dabbles in western dressage. It was interesting to pick her brain about this new discipline as I am retraining my purebred Arabian mare, Mercydes, from dressage to western pleasure. You can check out Paula's and Teri's personal websites through their links on Los Cedros page of trainers. It was also through the Thiessens that I heard about Ashleigh Luca-Tyson. Ashleigh is a Canadian, grew up in BC, who now lives and trains in Scottsdale. I spent many days sitting beside her dressage ring, with sunglasses on and lots of sunscreen applied, watching her coach and train. I can't thank Ashleigh enough for welcoming me and allowing me to just hang out and be a fixture there for a month. Ashleigh had invited her friend Shannon Peters (wife and business partner of Steffen Peters) from California for a private

clinic at her place during my stay. I had the good fortune of being able to audit her 2 day clinic. I took many pages of notes. Check out Ashleigh's business facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Westwind-South-Dressage/174638279248434>. It would be amazing if I could swing getting my horses down to AZ to work with anyone of these dressage coaches in the years to come.

What a spectacle the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show is! Many a day was spent by me patrolling the barns and the show grounds. It is held at the huge West World facility. The trade show shopping at the Scottsdale Arabian show is an event onto itself. As belts are my thing, I picked up a new blingy belt while I was there. It is pretty sparkly! This year I was especially keen on watching some events because I plan to show for the first time at an Arabian show. I took in sport horse events as that is where I will show my new Anglo Arabian mare, Melody. Mercydes and I are new to the world of Western Pleasure so I had a watchful eye on that event as well. I was pleased to see some good lope (canter) from the Arabian western pleasure horses. You don't always see that in the Quarter Horse shows.

The other horse event we, yes I managed to wrangle Murray into going with me, took in was Cavalia Odysseo <http://www.cavalia.net/en/odysseo/videos>. Spectacular performance, very entertaining. I strongly suggest you take this in if you ever get the opportunity. No need to buy high priced tickets, there wasn't a bad seat in the house. When I wasn't doing horsey stuff I was golfing. I haven't played the game much for the last twenty years but I have a husband that is very passionate about the game of golf. Fortunately for me he's a very patient player and encouraged me; not always easy when I'd get tired and frustrated. I did take a couple of lessons that made a world of difference as I was really struggling with my ball striking. It was an enjoyable time spent on the links, even though I may not play again until next winter. When it comes to choosing where to spend my free time the barn always wins.

What I Did On My Winter Vacation! (continued)

JEANETTE HIEBERT - ARIZONA

What's better than heading somewhere warm for a vacation during a long (very, very long) cold winter? Add friends . . . better . . . add horses . . . perfect!

This year Lorne and I were lucky enough to spend 2 weeks in beautiful Scottsdale, Arizona visiting with friends Les and Rita Leiman (Superior Equestrian Centre). While there, we were able to spend a few days enjoying the 58th Annual Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show & Shopping Expo. With 2,200 horses and 400 exhibits (at least that's what we were told), there was plenty to see and do. Classes were for purebreds, half-Arabian/Anglo Arabians, and the Arabian Sport Horses. It was amazing to see how versatile and talented the Arabian horse really is as we watched a diversity of events for kids aged 10 and under to adults 55 and over.

With several rings running at the same time, it wasn't hard to find something interesting to watch. We checked out the dressage (of course), but it unfortunately made up a very small part of the show. Reining seems to be the new big attraction with big prize money as encouragement. We caught the Freestyle reining which demands certain elements (like a dressage freestyle) with lots of room for creativity. These riders and horses were dressed in costumes to make it even more fun. I cheered for the horse and rider doing their pattern to "Ghostbusters" – complete with little monsters and ghosts in the corner that they slid up to and "blasted". I still think they deserved the win! Other events we saw included: Cutting, Halter Classes, Hunter Pleasure, Hunter Over Fences, Jumper, Country English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, English Show Hack, Ladies Side Saddle (sorry, looks too uncomfortable for me!), Western Trail Horse, Liberty, Pleasure Driving and Mounted Native Costume. Wow!

During the Liberty classes, the horses owned the arena. They showed amazing beauty and grace – so spectacular to watch. But my favorite class was the Native Costume - the "Bedouins charging over the desert sands". These horses and riders were decked out from head to hoof in flowing tapestry fabrics, tassels and fringes in every colour imaginable. It was really quite a pageant. Honorable mention has to go to the Western Pleasure. Can you say bling, bling and more bling? Pass the sunglasses please!

It's always fun to be the "armchair judge" while sitting in the stands. A little competition among your friends



is also fun. But if you want to judge these beautiful Arabians in Country English Pleasure or Ladies Side Saddle, forget everything you know about dressage. Yup, I think my non-horsey friends that picked the "pretty" placed the most winners.

Although there were organized barn tours, we preferred to check things out on our own. These stables and farms take this seriously! They put down real grass, had pots of real flowers and set up pretty sitting areas complete with bars and lounge furniture at their front entrance. Towards the end of the week, there were many ribbons proudly on display.

Let's not forget that this was the Arabian Horse Show & Shopping Expo. With so much going on in the show rings, it's surprising that we had any time to browse the booths. But it was really an ambush. You had to make your way past row after row of kiosks just to get to the show. Temptation? Maybe! So what could you buy? (More like what couldn't you buy). There was casual clothing, horse-wear, tack, jewellery, art, lotions, potions, knives, BBQ's, boots, massage chairs, manure spreaders and lots and lots of food choices. I may have added a few horsey things to my tack box and closet!

Hopefully everyone was able to find a way to make their winter just a bit more enjoyable. Now let's have Spring please!



What I Did On My Winter Vacation! (continued)

ARIANA CHIA - WELLINGTON, FLORIDA



After beginning my 6th season in Wellington, I came down with the intention of focussing on my training, getting known more internationally as a rider and trainer, and getting my mare, Wishtadanz, up another level into the Intermediare division. This is the first year that I have come down here without the pressure of getting

scores for NAYRC, and although I'm sad that I've aged out of the Young Riders division, I feel blessed that I was able to experience the championships 3 times over the past few years. It has also been nice to be able to have more time to dedicate to clients down here and training and riding other horses throughout the season.

This was the first year that Wish and I entered the "big league" and in our first competition, in the Open PSG and I-1 division, we were against many top riders such as Ashley Holzer, Michala Munder Gunderson, George Williams, and so on. After finishing 4th in the class with a 64% at the Adequan Global Dressage Festival, I couldn't have been more pleased with our debut into

the Open leagues. At our second competition, Welcome Back To White Fences, in Loxahatchee, FL, Wishtadanz scored a 67.7% and won the Open FEI Test of Choice in the Intermediate 1 class. We are planning to do one more show on the 9th and 10th of April, once again in Wellington at the Global Dressage Festival.

This is my second year with my trainer, Tom Dvorak, who has played a huge part in my development and progression as a rider and trainer. 2013 marks the ninth year that I have been partnered with my 10 year old Dutch Warmblood mare, Wishtadanz, and our journey together has been irreplaceable. There is such a deep connection that comes from starting a horse yourself and training them up through the levels, and at the end of the day, I think the result is a lot more trust and willingness from your partner because you know each other so well. I will be heading back to Winnipeg for the summer, where I will resume training my local clients and developing my other young horses for the upcoming show season.

Congratulations!

Dressage Winnipeg would like to extend congratulations to DW member, **Ashley Fudge**, on being a recipient of an Equine Canada Prochaps Coaching Award! These national coaching awards are for those coaches and instructors who exemplify the National Coaching Program, and set an example promoting rider education through the national Learn To Ride programs.

Well done, Ashley!

Did You Know?!

Coach.ca now has a Concussion Awareness section on their website. These resources are designed to help reduce the incidence of brain injuries in sports and improve decision-making about when it's safe to return to play.

<http://www.coach.ca/concussion-awareness-s16361>

Introducing Jane Fudge, DW Sponsorship Chair

Wearing the multiple hats of cheerleader ;"pit crew" and volunteer at the DW shows , Jane comments on how much fun it has been over the years to celebrate riders accomplishments at the show grounds of beautiful Birds Hill Park.

Her daughter, Ashley Fudge, earned a silver medal from Dressage Canada for Open 2nd Level with Riviera JRF in 2012. Her daughter, Darcy Fudge Kamal (now a professor at Chapman University's Argyros School of Business and Economics in California) still recalls her fun at Dressage Winnipeg shows with her Arabian, Kaiak, whose memory she honours through the Adult Amateur Hi point award given at the DW September Bronze Show.

Jane commented " It is a fascination to me to watch character and ability evolve for both horse and rider as confidence is built in both through the levels of dressage."

A neighbour, Rod Allen, was the first person to introduce Jane as a young child to the back of a pony at Tuxedo Stables. Then in 1987 horses came back into my life in a big way."

The Fudge family as founding members of Sturgeon Creek Arabians partnership eventually bred and raised many Arabians including the 2006 US Trail ride champion Reason to Believe. One of their horses named SCA Dartagnan was owned and ridden by Myna Cryderman in an endurance competition in Dubai. Now there are several SCA bred horses residing and being competed in California and Jane has had the pleasure of seeing them there.

"My current riding is for fun in the company of my daughters ." Jane celebrates serenity of trail riding through Birds Hill Park., and has also ridden trails in Georgia and South Carolina, and most recently enjoyed riding in California, just last December when she got to ride at the ranch run by the Stachowski's near San Diego.

A long time association with several horse clubs in Manitoba has been just a small part of her wide ranging interests.



Jane has an extensive background in community service for many years in a variety of venues particularly advocacy for public libraries ,urban and rural, as well as several heritage organizations ; currently an active member with the Womens Committee of the RWB ; current volunteer with the Childrens Hospital Bookmart; current member of the Manitoba Historical Society Council.

Her current favourite horse to ride is a sweet Arabian mare named Tari, short in stature but big in heart. Tari is one of the horses Jane loves to hug and groom at pasture at Ashley's home.

.Jane confirms it still possible to ride horseback as long as one who is ' no longer a Spring chicken" can still climb into the saddle.. As the Nike ad says "Just do it..!"

Introducing Susan Canal, DW Treasurer



I was introduced to the world of Dressage through my daughter, who at an early age dreamed of riding horses. She had a choice, either Western or English, and well, we know what she chose. While she and I share a passion for animals of all kinds, including horses, my own desire to ride is not very strong and so I have chosen instead to participate in the club by volunteering my time. I believe strongly in volunteering, and in the past have given my time as a board member for organizations such as Safe Grad and the United Way. Currently, along with the DW Board I also give my time to assist with various canine rescue groups at their events.

Two years ago, a call was put out to fill a significant number of positions on the Board of Directors for DW. I decided that I would give it a try, even though extremely green in both the knowledge of the sport as well as the club. Incredibly, a very talented, experienced group of people came forward to fill these positions, and I took on the roll of assistant volunteer coordinator with no board voting rights, and as well, I agreed to take on the roll of verifying all cash receipts and counts for the shows for the Show Committee. When I look back on it now, it was a very sensible start for a beginner. As time moved on, two of us switched roles, and I became the Volunteer Coordinator as well as I now had voting rights on the Board, and, as well I remained on the Show Committee. I can certainly say that I received a thorough education and I don't feel so green anymore about the sport, the shows or the club.

My day job is in finance, a career I sort of fell into right out of my Secretarial/Shorthand training at RRCC. I don't think I ever made a good secretary, and for certain I never used shorthand after I finished learning it during that year at college. After gaining some work experience with several small firms in my early years, I joined MTS and my finance journey has continued with them starting as a data entry clerk and I now manage a portion of the revenue reporting department. When the role of Treasurer for Dressage Winnipeg came open, it seemed a logical move for me to take on the role.

As Treasurer for the club, my duties don't just fall into the category of depositing money and writing checks. I have a responsibility to ensure that we run the club within the financial means that we have available to us, as our cash generally comes from, but is not always limited to, three main sources; membership, sponsorship and "if" we make a profit on shows and camp/clinics. Being financially responsible includes ensuring we adhere to budgets as closely as possible without compromising events as well as ensuring we always have the funds for scholarships, awards and prizes. I am committed to ensuring that we able to "invest" back into our membership and assisting with the development of our riders of all ages through competition or education.

I am looking forward to another fabulous year, and even though my duties don't require me to be on the "front lines" per say at the competitions, I am still very much involved and won't be happy unless I get my hands dirty joining in some of the volunteer roles that may be available.

2013 Manitoba Equestrian Championships

DRESSAGE EAST/WEST CHAMPIONSHIP

Courtesy of Merelyn Hunkin

Prepared by Susan Canal, Merelyn Hunkin and Susana Danyiuk. Amended and then accepted by the boards of Dressage Winnipeg and Westman Dressage.

The Manitoba Equestrian Championships will be held September 7 & 8 at Bird's Hill Park Equine Facility. The Dressage portion will be a Bronze Equine Canada sanctioned show. Ring 2 will be used both days. Only selected team members will participate in this show. Team West will include riders from Westman Dressage/ Team East will include riders from Dressage Winnipeg. (If for some reason each group cannot field an entire team, then additions can be made taking geography into consideration)

The three Levels involved are:

Training Level- will ride technical tests 2 & 3 each day

Level 1- will ride technical test 2 on the Saturday, test 3 on the Sunday

Level 2- will ride technical test 2 on the Saturday , test 3 on the Sunday

Levels 1 and 2 will ride a Musical Freestyle on Saturday & Sunday.

Training Level will have the opportunity to ride a Fun Freestyle which will not count toward Championship Team points on the Sunday. This will be sponsored by both Dressage Clubs.

Criteria For Team selections:

The best score from tests 1, 2, or 3 (minimum score of 60%) from any one of the shows below, will be accepted as the criteria. Any of these show scores can be used, but only one score from any of these shows is necessary.

Dressage Winnipeg June Show (June 15 & 16) Captain DeKenyeres Memorial Competition

Dressage Winnipeg Show (July 7) Held at Pineridge Equestrian Centre (the day prior to the DW Dressage Camp)

Westman Dressage Show (July 13 &14) Lemonade Daze

Ebon Show (July 6 & 7), Bronze/Gold show, Saskatchewan

The highest score from each rider (Tests 1, 2, or 3) at their level, will determine who will be invited by their clubs to attend as Team West or Team East members.

Participant Fee of \$50.00 For Team Members covers:

- All technical and freestyle tests
- Free participant Barbeque ticket
- Stall and shared tack stall



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New Dressage Scholarships 2013 – For Junior and AA Riders

Courtesy of Merelyn Hunkin

After lengthy deliberation, a DW committee composed of Merelyn Hunkin, Ashley Fudge and Christine Stevens have revamped the scholarship programs offered by DW for Manitoba riders. Captain de Kenyeres had a vision to support and promote the growth of dressage in our province. We are adding the adult AA category as an extension of his dream. DW felt that this new category was significant since we have numerous riders who would qualify for and benefit from, this scholarship opportunity. We would encourage all eligible riders to enter this scholarship program. The format for participating in the scholarship program is not difficult!

DW is also pleased to welcome the participation of Westman Dressage this year. Westman Dressage riders are eligible for these scholarships as well. Westman Dressage would monetarily support the scholarship program on a pro-rated basis. If Westman members entered a section of the scholarship, then Westman Dressage will be pro-rated for that section of the scholarship program. (Example- If Westman had two riders applying for the 11-15 scholarship, then Westman Dressage would pay a percentage on that section of the scholarship.) This does not affect individual riders entering the scholarship programs.

Scholarships will be offered for the following categories:

(A) de Kenyeres Junior Rider Development Scholarships

- Two scholarships worth \$250.00 each for the age group 11-15 years
- Two scholarships worth \$300.00 each for the age group 16-21 years

(B) AA Riders Scholarships

- Two scholarships worth \$300.00 each for riders aged 22 years or older, who are AA riders competing no higher than First Level currently.

Entry Requirements:

The riders would have to pay for and send in their entry of \$10.00 for the scholarship program by July 16, 2013. The riders would have to complete the requisite quiz and return it to Merelyn Hunkin by August 16, 2013. The riders would have to enter an equitation class, either at a bronze or gold dressage show run by DW or

Westman, or at the Ebon Show (as selected by Westman because of its proximity) prior to the final DW show in September, 2013. Entrants at each level would have to be members of Dressage Winnipeg who have not won a scholarship at this level before.

All entrants who compete for the scholarships would have to enter the final de Kenyeres equitation class at the September, 2013 DW show, but would not be required to enter any other classes at the show. If they did not enter any other classes, they would still be required to pay any office fees required by the show. Entrants would only be able to win a scholarship once in each category.

Selection of Winning Entries:

The winners of the scholarships would be determined by the following criteria:

- 30% of the total marks would come from the results of the quiz.
- 30% of the total marks would come from the results of the highest equitation score, which must be 65% or more, from the rider's bronze or gold dressage DW or Westman competitions.
- 40% of the total marks would come from the rider's DK equitation score at the final DW show in September

Entrants to the program would have to achieve an overall total score of 65% to be eligible for a scholarship

Registration forms for the scholarship programs will soon be available from our website or from Merelyn Hunkin (Phone # 204-267-2889 or email merelyn@xplornet.ca).

The quizzes will be sent to the entrants immediately upon entering the scholarship programs. They can be mailed to:

Merelyn Hunkin
Box 206
Oakville, Manitoba
ROH 0Y0

or emailed to Merelyn at merelyn@xplornet.ca

Footloose and Fancy Free

CHOREOGRAPHING A FANTASTIC FREESTYLE FOR YOU AND YOUR HORSE

Courtesy of Karine Duhamel, Show Chair

Of all of the things that my horses enjoy, music is one of them. We all know that horses have extremely sensitive hearing; but did you know that many of them actually LOVE TO DANCE? Call me crazy, but when my horses hear their personalized music swell, they gain more swing and energy, not to mention happiness. The truth is, choreographing a freestyle for you and your equine partner is a lot of fun -- and it's easier than it seems!

First; figure out what you are looking for!

- Watch freestyles on the internet, get a sense of what you like, and don't like.
- Then, tape a video, or have a friend watch from the sidelines during a regular practice session when your horse is relaxed and warmed up. The key to selecting great music is to try to match it to your horse's hoofbeats, so get a baseline using BMP, or beats-per-minute, at all three gaits: walk, trot and canter.
- To help you determine when the same leg is stepping down, ie one beat, tie a small ribbon or put a piece of vet wrap on one hind leg, and use a stopwatch to determine how many times that leg steps down in one minute.

Second; consider your horse, consider yourself.

- Do you have a tall, elegant horse who exudes confidence and power, or is your mount more of a ham in the ring? In selecting music, try not to pick only what you like; consider how the tone of the music 'matches' your horse. For example, the mare I ride at another barn is a chestnut mare with a somewhat fractious, but serious, personality: as such, her music is drawn from a children's Disney movie about training a dragon. I know she loves it, because when the music is on, she performs her very best. The music is Irish and lively, and suits her personality to a T. She is my own little dragon! Sporty, my older gelding, on the other hand, is more of a ham. Since he will be performing his freestyle in a fun show setting only, Sporty's freestyle features a montage of 60s tunes that reflect his constant craving for fun and excitement. Finally, Bertha, my other mare, is an exceptionally serious horse -- she actually HAS a concentration face! -- and so her music is a

classical montage of timeless movie favourites. All of my horse's freestyles reflect both elements of my personality, and of theirs, and my scores in this area are consistently high even though they may er... lack at times in execution.

- It is also useful to PICK A THEME; disjointed music covering several different eras or genres is difficult to get into for judges, as well as takes away from the overall 'package' of a good freestyle. If you are going to go with classical, stick with it; likewise with any other style of music.
- Consider using instrumental music only: though of late, many international riders have been using music with lyrics, the overall general preference remains instrumental music with no lyrics. For some, lyrics can detract from the overall performance. If you are going to be performing your freestyle at a sanctioned event, consider using instrumental music. For fun shows, let loose!

Third; use existing resources!

- You don't have to reinvent the wheel -- search the internet for databases of freestyle music classified according to BPM. This will give you a sense of the kind of music and beat you are looking for, as well as help you consider music that may not necessarily be in your regular playlist.
- One useful site is www.equimusic.com which includes a searchable database of songs classified according to BPM. Or, if you're a musical person with a good ear, go through your own playlist to see to which type of music you and your horse might like to 'dance', and calculate the BPM yourself.

Fourth; EDIT, EDIT, EDIT!

- To edit my freestyles, I invested in an iPhone app which allows me to cut and trim tracks. Most freestyles have three 'movements', or sections, and so you will need to cut songs. When you do, consider using a fade-out, so that the change is not so abrupt, or blending in the first track with the second. There are many software programs available that are relatively user-friendly, either for iPhone or for PC, so look around and see what

Footloose and Fancy Free (continued)

CHOREOGRAPHING A FANTASTIC FREESTYLE FOR YOU AND YOUR HORSE

type suits you best. Keep in mind it is ILLEGAL to change the tempo of a published piece of music, so try to find good music versus changing something that simply doesn't work.

Fifth: Know the rules!

- Consult EC rules. EC freestyles have clearly listed movements that must be featured in your performance, as well as those that are clearly FORBIDDEN. Please pay attention to the rules, and be familiar with the elements required.

Sixth: Have FUN!

- As with anything, creating a great freestyle takes time, and practice. A freestyle will never ride exactly the same way twice, so make sure you allow for some flex in the choreography in case you have an 'oopsy' moment in the ring and need to add a movement later on, or redo one. In a freestyle, you can perform a required movement twice, and the score will be the average of both attempts, so there is always an opportunity for do-over provided that your music and choreography allows it.
- Judges like to see innovation in choreography, so vary your patterns when plotting your design. For example, in the 1st level freestyle, a 10 m

circle is required both to the right and left. For my freestyle, I perform that movement first using a figure 8 pattern; it makes it a little more interesting than simply doing a 10m circle at A, then one at C. Think about challenging yourself in this way, performing movements at different places than you normally would, or by performing many changes of direction.

- Practice, practice, practice: your horse should know the music inside and out, especially to avoid any kind of spooking or bolting. After performing a freestyle with one horse, I now know that she understands where the tempo changes are, and when extensions are required. The mare knowing her own music is helpful – though I need to be vigilant that she does not over-anticipate – and it helps me to concentrate on my riding knowing that she has at least a good sense of where she is supposed to be, and when.

If all else fails, seek help! Most of us have friends who are handy with music, or computers, or who can give you a second opinion about what you have come up with. You don't need to be an Olympian to have your own freestyle – just a person who loves to ride and who loves music -- so get out and try something new!

Congratulations!

Equine Canada News (April 29, 2013): Canadian riders Karen Pavicic and **Mackenzie Theissen Ryall** placed in the top three at the 2013 Del Mar National Horse Show held April 25-28 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds Arena, one of the oldest and most prestigious equestrian qualifying competitions in the Western USA.

Up and coming Junior Rider, Theissen Ryall of Winnipeg, MB, aboard Danao, her 15-year-old Deutsches Reit gelding pony, took second place in the FEI Junior Individual Test with a score of 61.184%. She also earned third place in the Junior Team Test on a score of 60.0%, just .856% behind second place.

Mackenzie says, "Although the judging was very tough, and the pressure was on, Danao preformed very well. I couldn't be more pleased with him, and how willing he is to try for me. Despite both our nerves we enjoyed the weekend and are so excited to be recognized by Equine Canada. So many thanks to my family and friends, coaches Ariana Chia and Ashleigh Luca-Tyson and especially the support of Dressage Winnipeg members. I would not be able to do this without my support team or the inspiration I have received over the years growing up competing in DW shows." ***Dressage Winnipeg is very proud of you, Mackenzie!!***



Pony Club Dressage

*Courtesy of Erika Rob
Photo by Susan Lisoway*



Barb asked me to write a blurb on my involvement in dressage through pony club; however, my involvement in dressage began much earlier.

At the age of 10 I competed in my first combined driving event. The sport of combined driving is based on Three Day Eventing and, thus, has a driven dressage phase. Intent as I was on racing like the wind with my horse and cart, dressage was not my idea of a good time. Particularly given my first horse, Kiowa, came from a trail riding facility. With her we received a large curb bit that has been relegated to the back of our tack room, never to be seen again. I rode Kiowa in a halter for two years, until my driving coach Fred pointed out that bits were mandatory for carriage driving.

I don't pretend like I initially had great success in driven dressage (winning on my marathon score was more the order of the day), however, being 10 feet behind a horse for thousands of hours does give one a rather good view and idea of how a horse uses their body. Falling in? Yes, my mare is on a slant. Counter bend? Yes, I can see that. When movements were pulled off correctly though, one could also easily see the poetry in motion; the bend throughout the whole body and the elevation of the front end.

A good (or competitive) driver also realizes a horse pushing off the back end is more powerful and is faster in the marathon hazards. In the latter part of my driving career, Kiowa and I trained our marathon hazards (tight weaving patterns amongst solid obstacles) exclusively in collected gaits. Thus, the day of the marathon she then instinctively

pushed from the hind end in the obstacles. This gave us a distinct speed, precision and stamina advantage that helped us move up to the intermediate level.

My under saddle dressage though started off in about as hopeless a fashion as my driven dressage. I tried to ride the head of my horse and didn't realize the advantages I could get from the use of my lower leg. I was quite young and never a person in regular riding lessons, but when I look back now I wish I could apologize to my poor, patient mares.

At the age of 16 I decided I wanted to be a better rider (so I could improve my driven dressage) and started taking lessons. At the tender age of 18 I joined pony club. Ashley Fudge, Del Grasby, Elaine Banfield, and my pony club coaches have greatly helped my ride. I was adept with my hands, but my riding lessons were crucial in teaching me to loosen and use my lower body. Spending a year developing a hot pony was also a great learning experience in figuring out where and what my aids were saying.

What was also important though were the hours I spent out of the saddle. I never miss a chance to watch high level riders and have audited many clinics. If I could give anyone advice, it would be to audit as many clinics, in as many disciplines as possible. Actively listening and watching others gave me the greatest understanding of the movement of the horse and the effects of the rider.

I would also encourage dressage riders to look at methods from other disciplines. Driving encouraged hours of long lining (there is a lot of ground work before you ever show a horse a cart). Jackson, the horse who I showed in dressage last year, started out his career with hours in the long lines, on the circle and going down the road. I easily credit his great mouth, dressage aptitude, and obedience to a solid foundation of long lining. Show jumping and eventing taught me a lot about having an effective seat and hands, and barrel racing taught me a lot about the shaping and motivation of the horse. Studying a lot of disciplines made me a lot more effective as a horse trainer and has encouraged a lot of critical thinking in the use and application of various training methods.

Last year though I put ten years of equestrianism to the test and competed in dressage on the DW circuit. It was a big step after years of competing in driving to put

Pony Club Dressage (continued)

myself out there on top of a horse (in tight white pants no less). I had a lot of fun though and I enjoyed working towards the shows. Practicing the tests encouraged me to look critically at my horse's training and to correct deficiencies. It also actively encouraged me to continually try to improve my riding abilities.

In the end I was able to have a successful season with Jackson last year. We picked up a few reserve championships on the DW circuit and later in the summer we qualified for the 2013 Pony Club Dressage Nationals. To do this we attended the regional dressage qualifier and attained two scores in the sixties (minimum qualifying average is 58%). This summer I will be flying to Calgary to ride two horses I have never met in three dressage tests (two prescribed and one mystery). Dressage and pony club have given me my first chance to travel and compete and I really couldn't be more excited.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the DW members who made me feel so welcome last year and who were so encouraging. I really had a great time last summer at the shows and look forward to riding with everyone again soon.

Erika Rob

The Top Ten Reasons To Ride Dressage

10. Found ice-fishing too stimulating.
9. I enjoy wearing full formal wear rain or shine.
8. Who wouldn't love spending afternoons riding in circles getting yelled at.
7. Just love subjecting friends and family to my latest equine video spectacular.
6. My chiropractor needs a new car.
5. Wanted to find a place my husband wouldn't go - aka. the barn.
4. Had tired of spending cold winters by the fire, and hot summers by the pool.
3. My lawyer wanted me to have 3 judges.
2. Lived for the sport where I could say "Piaffe" to the judges.
1. I had way too much money in my bank account.



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Are You Training Your Horse While Grooming or Is He Training You?



You know that in EcoLicious Equestrian we're all about grooming. And it's not just about products.

Did you know that grooming time is a great way to establish a tone for things to come? Are You Training Your Horse While Grooming or Is He Training You?

Well, of course you are! The real question to pose might be: do you KNOW that you are training your horse while grooming?

We all look forward to grooming our horses; there is no better feeling than having a thousand-pound muscle package wriggle and writhe under your ministrations, roll his eyes, sigh in contentment and offer his mutual-grooming nose in return. It is a time of pleasure for both you and your horse, a time to connect and a chance to put your worries of the day on the back burner and simply "be" with your horse.

However, underneath that feel-good moment, there is a constantly pervasive conversation going on between you and your horse that you may not even be aware of.

Horses are physical animals and most of their interactions happen in the physical realm. As humans, we are used to verbal communication and are not as "tuned in" to the physical language of horses as we can be.

Do you know what your horse is saying to you while you whisk away the grime and dirt to reveal the glossy sheen of healthy coat underneath?

HorseSpeak 101 (while grooming)

1. Stepping side-to-side/backwards-forwards: Hurry up and get over with it! He has many more important things to do other than stand around and wait for you to do you "thing".
2. Pushing you lovingly with his nose: Well, maybe it's not as loving as you think! He wants to get you to step out of his personal space.
3. Perky-eared cute face presented in anticipation of a treat: He is the herd leader and is demanding that you surrender your feed stuff to him.
4. Pawing on the ground: Similar to #1. He really has no time for you!
5. Tail swish/pinned ears/"the look": Stop whatever you are doing as it is making him uncomfortable. Beware! There may be a kick or bite coming next. (Note: Horses "think" about biting or kicking many, many times before they actually go through with it; be aware and pick up on the hints before it gets to the point where someone has to get hurt.)

Are You Training Your Horse While Grooming or Is He Training You? (continued)

6. Forward pinned ears looking at an object of interest/fear: Watch out! He may jump any second, either on your lap or in the opposite direction. The only thing he is NOT thinking about is you!

What should you do?

In all of the above cases, your goal should be to assert your leadership to your horse. For the sake of your safety and those around you (the horse is, after all, at least 8 times heavier than the average human), you need to firmly explain the boundaries to your horse.

Any pushiness should be met with your insistence that he steps away from you. You may need to push back on his shoulder or hip, or hold him by the halter and swing his hind end away. If he steps in your direction, gently push him away. If he nuzzles up to you (expecting a treat?), tell him your space belongs to you. In all cases, your space is your space and he may not infringe into that area for any reason (not even to snuggle). As a herd leader, you should be the one stepping into his space, not the other way around!

For the horse that paws, move him in such a way that his weight shifts to the pawing foot. If he has to put the foot down, he won't be able to paw!

For the horse that is giving you a warning: first, identify the source of the problem. If the horse is truly being hurt or irritated by what you are doing, then back off

and desensitize him first. Be lighter, quicker, or gentler. Work up to the strength level that you want to use. On the other hand, if the horse is being truly aggressive, then he needs a quick reprimand. Push him away, again asserting your rights to your personal space.



Correctly interpreting your horse's communications will allow you to have a much deeper and meaningful connection with your horse. If you can act as calm but assertive leader, your horse will know he is safe with you and will happily hand over the responsibilities that come with being herd boss. He will be less likely to test (although some horses continue to test regularly) and he will be more content overall.

Ride Green!

Horse Listening & EcoLicious Equestrian

Non Horsey People Say the Damndst Things

My husband caught sight of an issue of Practical Horseman and exclaimed "Practical Horseman? Practical?!? That's an oxymoron!"

*Sarah Reschly
Fox River Grove, Ill.*

I was riding in the show ring, and as I passed my husband on the rail I overheard him telling a guy next to him, "She's riding the boat I'll never have!"

*Martha Gagne Baity
Washington, D.C.*



Manitoba Horse Trials Spring Fling Eventing Derby

Courtesy of Eileen Blais

This eventing derby will take place at Bird's Hill Park's MHC Equestrian Center in the Grand Prix Ring on Saturday, May 11, 2013. The jumping will begin at 10am starting with cross rails all the way to Preliminary (approx. 3'6" or 1.10m).

Here's how it works:

- Competitors should pre-enter with Val Crowe (tel: 204-535-2368, fax: 204-535-2289 or e-mail: pvcrowe@mts.net) using the registration form found online (www.mainitobahorsetrials.com).
- Final entries will be accepted at the registration table up until 9:45am. At this time, competitors may purchase tickets for as many rounds as they wish.
- Fees: Administration Fee - \$20.00 per horse, Judged rounds - \$10.00 (only first round at each level may be judged), Each additional round - \$5.00 (un-judged, limited and run at the end of each class).
- To attend, you must have a membership in MHC and in MHT.
- Juniors with memberships in Pony Club, Dressage Winnipeg, and/or MHJA will be accepted according to our Reciprocity Agreements. FREE membership to MHT!!!
- Seniors: We have discounted MHT memberships according to our Reciprocity Agreement with Dressage Winnipeg and MHJA. If you are a Dressage Winnipeg or MHJA member, all you pay is \$10 for an MHT membership for the year; you do not need to purchase a full MHT membership to compete at our derbies!!
- Approved safety equipment required by all competitors as per EC Rules. Which means you are required to wear a safety vest. If you do not have one, consider sharing with a friend.

Here's what you will see:

- This is considered a "Discovery Day" for horses and riders wanting the experience and thrill in a casual and relaxed atmosphere. Any level and experience are welcome to compete!
- The derby is a shortened cross country course with both stadium and cross country fences interspersed in the course.
- Judging is based on closest to optimum time without going over, plus jumping faults.
- Jumping faults:
 - » Stadium fences - 4 for a rail and 4 for each refusal.
 - » Cross country fences – 20 for first refusal, 40 for 2nd refusal at same fence.
 - » 3rd refusal is elimination
 - » Automatic elimination for 'Dismounting' on course

Manitoba Horse Trials is thrilled to be working with Dressage Winnipeg and to share this opportunity at the MHC Equestrian grounds! This derby is the first of many exciting events MHT has in store this year. We are also building ~ 15 new cross country fences this year to add to the course (building with Daryl Ramsay from BC will take place June 1st and 2nd – volunteers needed!), holding a complete Combined Event June 29th – July 1st, another derby on September 13, and Horse Trials September 28 - 29th at Willville Farms!

Please check out our calendar of events on our website: www.ManitobaHorseTrials.com

The date of the Derby is currently under review.

We are looking forward to seeing you out on the course!

Improving the Halt on Centreline

By Karen Pavicic

Reprinted with permission; article first appeared in *Horse Sport*, February 2012 issue



Karen Pavicic was a member of Canada's 2007 Pan Am Dressage team. She is a Level III dressage coach in Richmond, B.C.

The halt on centreline at the beginning and end of every dressage test is an important opportunity to make good first and last impressions on the judge. The horse doesn't need to be fancy or have extravagant gaits to get a very high mark for the halt. It is generally seen only from the front, since at most competitions there is just one judge at C. The halt on centreline is, in my experience as a coach, an often-neglected movement that riders don't practice enough. Given that it's both an important movement and one in which a high mark is always possible, the halt on centreline should be a regular part of any training program.

One of the first pieces of advice I give my clients is to identify which is the horse's straighter side. It is easier to make the turn onto centreline in the direction that the horse bends more easily, so I tell riders to enter from that direction in order to make that first turn as easy as possible. If the horse bends more easily to the left, the rider should come from the left onto centre line. If the horse is relatively equal on both sides, I then look to the direction the horse will turn when it reaches C and tell the rider to enter from the same direction as the turn at C. If the test requires the horse to track right at C, then the rider with a fairly equal-sided horse should enter from the right.

Another tip I give my clients is to remember to look at the judge's booth at C while they are on centreline –

hopefully with a smile. When the rider has a focal point, she will be more likely to stay straight on the line. When the horse is straight, the halt will be of a better quality. Mirrors at the end of the ring are of great benefit when practicing straightness. I rely heavily on them when I practice centrelines. A person standing at C can also be very useful in telling the rider whether or not she is straight. The person need not be a coach; it doesn't take an expert to determine whether just the two front legs are visible – which is correct – or if three legs are visible, indicating the horse is not straight. I also remind riders to use their peripheral vision when preparing to halt at X; it's a skill that has to be developed.

Practicing actual halts should take place on the centreline or quarter lines, not only on the side of the ring where the wall supports the horse from one side. If the horse is lazy or has a tendency to anticipate the halt at X, riding the halt after X or not halting at all is a good way to remedy that inclination. Conversely, with horses that want to run through the aids, I might tell a client to halt several times on the centre line. It's almost always the case that the training should compel the horse to do the opposite of whatever he is naturally inclined to do – not in a forceful or punishing way, but to improve the quality of all movements and exercises. It's also important to remember that a halt can only be as good as the horse's understanding and responsiveness to the basic aids. If the horse is balanced and the half-halts are coming through, the horse will almost naturally halt square.

Hello Again From Germany!

Courtesy of Emma Tarvis

We are just beginning to enjoy the first signs of spring here after a colder than normal winter although I know I shouldn't complain when I hear how cold it has been for everyone at home. We may not have had the frigid temperatures of Canada but we have had more than our fair share of damp and gloomy weather.

Most of our riding here is done in a lovely outdoor ring. The farm does not yet have an indoor arena although that is planned for the future. On wet or snowy days or when the ground is too hard from frost we head to the local Riding Hall. There must be hundreds (if not more) of Riding Halls scattered throughout Germany. They are collectives made up of rider members who come and use the facilities. The Hall has a beautiful indoor arena that is used by individuals and groups. Riders from many equestrian disciplines including jumpers, dressage horses and vaulters come and train. It can be challenging trying to steer young horses around a busy ring especially when the vaulting riders are practising. Riding Halls regularly host horse shows which they set-up and organise. These shows can attract hundreds of competitors.

On days when we use the Hall we transport the horses by trailer. The horses are tacked up and loaded in pairs and delivered to the Hall to be ridden. While the first two are being exercised the trailer heads back to the stable to pick up the next pair who are waiting and ready to go. The first two horses head home after their session while the second pair begin their training. Depending on the day, we may make two or three trips. Days spent travelling to the Riding Hall are a little longer but, because the horses are so used to being traillered, it is not too much of an inconvenience.

I have been learning so much about German training practices while here. The emphasis is very much on the rider's seat and legs. I can see how important it is to make the horses "dance" through the active use of the seat. I have also had the chance to watch very accomplished riders here and have been learning by watching their techniques.

In February I rode in my first quadrille. We spent weeks choreographing, planning and practising for the test. Our ride was set to music from "The Blues Brothers" and we wore costumes that included ribbons and flowers to make it more fun. I discovered how difficult it can be to synchronize four horses who may or may not be willing to cooperate. Trying to manage your own portion of the test while closely watching the other three team horses can be very challenging. We were pleased with the result, however, and I would love to ride a quadrille again and would highly recommend the experience.

In February a filly was born on the farm. Everyone here took turns watching for signs of the birth on the camera installed in the barn. She arrived in good time and was born with a very unusual, distinctive and perfect heart on her forehead. She has been given the temporary name of "Winnie", short for Winnipeg, until a permanent name has been chosen.

I am looking forward to warmer, hopefully sunny weather and hope Winnipeg gets some too. I miss everyone including friends, family and horses very much.

Emma Tarvis

Dressage Winnipeg Development Camp 2013

Courtesy of Ashley Fudge

July 6 (evening) through July 9, 2013

PineRidge Equine Park

SO WHAT'S NEW WITH CAMP IN 2013?

FORMAT

In 2013 the format of Camp has been adjusted include the opportunity for training and first level riders to work with Birgit Valkenborg on the development of a Quadrille. Quadrille is a choreographed dressage ride, commonly performed to music, which is often compared to an equestrian ballet or to a drill team. A minimum of four horses are used, although many times more can be (always in pairs). The horses & riders perform movements together. Quadrille may be ridden as a performance, such as those given by the Spanish Riding School, or as a competitive test with judging. This segment will be offered only if 4 or more riders select this option. As a continuing theme from last year, riders will have one session with the choice of Balimo or Centered Riding exercises with Sue Leffler. Interactive theory sessions (complete with demonstration horses) will take place in the evenings. Riders wishing to split their sessions between two horses (same rider only) may do so. For a complete schedule please go to www.dressagewinnipeg.com.

LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION

In addition to riding in Camp as a Junior or Adult rider, Auditing will also be available for purchase (by RSVP only). Please note food will not be available for purchase on-site.

REGISTRATION FORM

The registration form is quite unique! By streamlining the registration process we aim to pair riders appropriately, with each other as well as with the clinician that will best suit their needs. Participants requesting stabling for additional horses will be accommodated by paying a second stabling fee.

MEMBERSHIP

Dressage Winnipeg members receive a discount on registration. Manitoba Horse Council memberships are mandatory.

TACK STALLS

The number of participants per tack stall is three horses. A private tack stall can be purchased for anyone who would prefer not to share.

WHAT IS INCLUDED WHEN I SIGN UP FOR CAMP?

- 4 x 45-min. semi-private lessons with clinicians (2 riders per lesson)
- OR 2 x 45 min. private lessons with clinicians
- OR Quadrille group
- 1 Balimo or Centered Riding private session
- 2 Interactive theory sessions with top local equine professionals
- All rider food and drink (10 meals total plus unlimited coffee and tea)
- Stabling July 6th- July 8th (stabling on July 5th not included)
- Unlimited loose shavings
- Shared tack stall (3 per stall)
- Final cleaning of stall
- Night security checks

WHAT DOES IT COST TO RIDE?

- \$550 Dressage Winnipeg Senior Member
- \$500 Dressage Winnipeg Junior Member
- \$600 Non-Dressage Winnipeg Member - Senior
- \$550 Non Dressage Winnipeg Member - Junior

PINERIDGE DISCOUNT: PineRidge Equine Park boarders please deduct \$120.00 from your entry form (this takes into account not paying for stabling twice.)

WHAT DOES IT COST TO AUDIT?

- Full camp meal package including auditing of all lessons and lectures.
 - \$225 Dressage Winnipeg Members
 - \$250 Non-Dressage Winnipeg Members
- Single full day auditing of all lessons and lectures. Meals included.
 - \$75 Dressage Winnipeg Members
 - \$90 Non-Dressage Winnipeg Members
- Single evening auditing of lecture. No food included.
 - \$20 Dressage Winnipeg Members
 - \$25 Non-Dressage Winnipeg Members

Continued on next page

Dressage Winnipeg Development Camp 2013 (continued)

CAMPING

\$25 per night (20-amp electrical hookup, no water or sewer.) Indoor washrooms and shower are available. Payable directly to PineRidge Equine Park.

CANCELLATION POLICY

If insufficient numbers register for the camp by June 21, 2013, Dressage Winnipeg reserves the right to cancel camp. If Camp is cancelled, all registration fees will be returned in full.

REFUNDS

No refunds are permitted after June 21, 2012 except upon receipt of Veterinarian or Doctor's certificate excusing horse or rider due to injury or ill health. A \$50 cancellation fee is in effect for refunds regardless of reason. If a participant must withdraw part way through the Camp (with a veterinarian or doctor certificate), refunds will be pro-rated based on number of days left. Due to contractual obligations with the canteen, refunds will be minus a fee.

WHEN IS MY REGISTRATION DUE?

Junior and Adult Campers must have their applications (complete with registration form, waiver and privacy declaration) and payment in by June 21, 2013.

Auditors must have their registration form (complete with waiver) and payment in by JULY 1, 2013. Late entries for single day or evening auditing spots will be accepted where possible, but to avoid disappointment, RSVP on time!

SEND REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO

Ashley Fudge

Box 5, Group 18, RR #2, Dugald, MB ROE OK0

Please make cheques payable to: DRESSAGE WINNIPEG.

Payment may be split into two separate cheques with half of all fees due at time of registration and a second post dated cheque for July 7, 2013. Both cheques must be enclosed with the registration form. NSF cheques will be subject to a \$30 FEE.

For questions call Ashley 444-7860 or by email (preferred) ashley@dressagewinnipeg.com

HOW DO I GET TO PINERIDGE EQUINE PARK?

See www.pineridgeequinepark.ca for map.

Michael Rohrmann Working the Horse 'in hand' Session for Dressage Winnipeg

The work in hand is fast becoming a lost art. It can start with something as simple as asking the horse to move away from you in the stable and progresses all the way through to the airs above the ground. This is a very broad topic, Michael will speak to the group and work with 2 demonstration horses in this presentation. You will see his approach, listen to his words of experience and there will be a question and answer period for discussion.

Where: Parkridge Stables - 26139 Hillside Road. Barn phone number is 204-444-2805

When: Saturday May 18, 2013 3 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Cost: \$20 for members \$25 for non-members

For more information about Michael Rohrmann please go to michaelrohrmann.de.

Please RSVP to ashley@dressagewinnipeg.com. Please bring your own chair. No photos or video please.



www.dressagewinnipeg.com