



December 2009  
Volume 21, Issue 12

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Virginia Dressage Association,  
Inc. - Charlottesville Chapter

# EXTENSIONS

## President's Message

*Hi Everyone,*

*This is my final newsletter not only for the year but because Gardy Bloemers will be taking over as our elected President for 2010.*

*It has been an interesting 4 years. I have had fun and frustration, enjoyed the company of friends and improved my riding over this time. When I started as President in 2006 I was struggling to ride at 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> level. A struggle with which I am sure many of you are familiar. With the help of trainers and teachers such as Erin Sweeney, Nancy Lowey, Jim Koford, Debbie Bowman, Matt McLaughlin and Ron Steur, Xavoy and I have climbed our way up to 4<sup>th</sup> level and hopefully next season to FEI level. I have earned my USDF Bronze Medal along the way and had a great time.*

*Our club has had a more mixed experience. As you know we decided in 2008 to stop doing the licensed Twin Shows in conjunction with VADA-Fredericksburg at Rosemont, mostly due to the logistics of running a show so far away geographically. The Fredericksburg Chapter has taken up the slack and run with it and now have a successful two day show there.*

*Our plan was, and is, to run two one day shows back to back at the Commonwealth Park facility in Culpeper, a facility which some of us remember fondly from the early days of Dressage in Virginia. Things have changed a lot in the intervening 20 odd years but it would be really nice to see a*

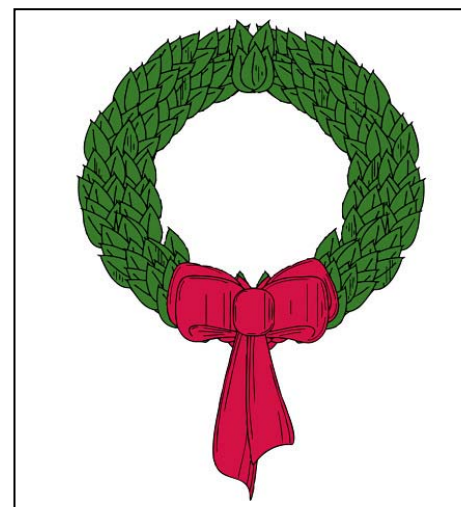
*dressage show at the Culpeper facility plus it is geographically closer to Charlottesville. We didn't get our paperwork sorted in time to run a show there in 2009 but we are planning a show in Sept 2010. This should be a lot of fun and it will be really nice to go back there. We have been running the Adult Team Competition at these grounds for the last two years so we are getting somewhat familiar with that facility.*

*The recession of 2007/8/9 has made the job of getting a new show up and running that bit harder but I feel confident that the membership is up to the challenge. Things are quite different from the way they were when we made all those plans!*

*I hope Gardy has as much fun I had being President, she brings a lot of enthusiasm and energy to the job which will be great. I wish you all the very best and hope to see you at the shows and at the various VADA activities.*

*Happy Holidays to you all,*

*Melyni Worth*



## Upcoming Events

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIPS – BOTH VADA AND USDF. THE 2010 MEMBERSHIP YEAR COMMENCED ON DECEMBER 1, 2009.**

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## November Board Meeting Minutes

*Submitted by Amelia Hellman*

The meeting was called to order and October Board minutes were approved by those in attendance.

Sheri Booye's Treasurer's Report reflected that the chapter remains at 10 new members for 2010. Dues for next year are due by November 30<sup>th</sup> and will remain at \$45 for an individual. The chapter has \$7,332.64 in its bank account and owes \$300 for one more scholarship grant. A profit in the amount of \$944.24 was realized at the Grayson Farm schooling show. Note for next year's show: Molly is not going to be able to run it and we need to find a new show manager.

With respect to the upcoming elections of chapter officers, November 20<sup>th</sup> remains the final date that members can submit their votes. Submit all votes to Sherri Booye, [mizra@earthlink.net](mailto:mizra@earthlink.net).

A discussion continued around the upcoming Labor Day show. Bettina Longaker reminded the group that this show is a LEVEL 2, not a LEVEL 3 show due to the fact that there will not be a developing horse or young rider class offerings. The show is being offered in a "Twin Show" format so that exhibitors can earn scores in two recognized shows over the course of the weekend. We have an end of year deadline to submit the prize list and Bettina is working on that project. The group agreed that offering a two day show will help draw exhibitors and that we will have an advantage over both the Fredericksburg and NOVA fall shows. The group also discussed other methods to draw entries to the show; there remains some concern about the date (Labor Day weekend) and attendance. Bettina reminded the group that it is too late to change the dates and that we will re-visit this issue for our 2011 chapter show. The "pro am" idea was accepted

by all as a great opportunity to join amateur and professional riders in a competitive team class and that we should offer this on each day of the weekend. Also, it was agreed that a "high score" award ribbon should be offered for the following categories: overall, amateur, young rider, FEI, an award for each level, Freestyle combined, Intro and USEA. An "eventing" class was also discussed as a draw for three day competitors. The group voted and approved the two pro am classes as well as the high score categories discussed. It was suggested that we fundraise for prize money and sponsorships associated with these as well as class awards. Gardy Bloemers and Ame Hellman offered to help with the sponsorships. Nancy noted that Tigger Montague is also actively soliciting select sponsorships for the show.

Lynn Childers gave a K-9 cop presentation and ended with an offer for the chapter to support her K-9 cop squad at the upcoming show. We discussed the possibility of donating a portion of our profits to the Charlottesville Police Departments K9 Foundation (C'ville Police Department Foundation, [www.cvillepolicefoundation.org](http://www.cvillepolicefoundation.org).) This program is specifically focused on finding philanthropic funding partners to help purchase a new dog for the department. The approximate cost of this effort is \$9,000. The Foundation is registered as a 501(C)(3) with the IRS and gifts to this cause are tax deductible. The group also discussed designating a portion of future profits to other community causes and non-profit organizations. Lynn agreed to "present" her dog Bret at the show in a demonstration—possibly in conjunction with the Freestyle evening event. Nancy Lowey made a motion to designate Lynn and her cause as a beneficiary from the chapter show, at a level to be determined, the group approved.

Kim Schmidt agreed to host the chapter's 2010 clinic at her indoor arena and Melyni shared that Erin Sweeney has contacted Chris Hickey regarding his upcoming availability; she is waiting

to hear back from Chris. Jim Koford was discussed as another choice—and all agreed that Jim is a fun clinician and very popular with the clinic, so a solid fall back.

Katherine Kern agreed to have the year end award dinner (pot luck) at her home. The group also discussed “Evenings With” and agreed, again, that watching videos at Sheri’s house is the best idea put forth at this time. There will not be scholarships issued this year—all agreed that this was fiscally prudent.

Winter schooling shows were also discussed as another profit center for the chapter. Far-a-fields and Ashanti were discussed as possible venues. The following schooling shows are in the queue: Cedar Creek (Melanie); Toad Hollow (Renee); Grayson Farm (we need to identify a new show manager); \*\*add another winter schooling show—either at Ashanti or Far-a-fields. Gardy will discuss with Ashanti first. Late February or March were discussed as possible dates.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

In attendance:  
Melyni Worth, Sherri Booye, Jan Templeton, Catherine Kern, Jennifer Sheltra, Gardy Bloemers, Carter Bass, Gerry Iannelli, Mary Lou Goings

## Membership Renewal

It’s that time of year! Membership renewal for 2010!!! The membership year runs from December 1 through November 30 each year in line with the membership year of the USDF. You will find the new membership application in this newsletter.

The membership application has a space to mark whether you want paper or email of the newsletter. If you do not mark this box you will be emailed the newsletter, so please complete the form.

Also - please be sure to indicate what your USDF number is so that we can get the information filed correctly with USDF. If you have junior members as part of a family membership, please say so on the application so that they are reported correctly.

Also, if you get your application in early, you won’t have to worry about having your member number or your USDF GMO membership in time for the early spring shows.

Don’t forget that for certain things, such as the year end GAIGS, you must also join the USDF as a participating member in addition to joining the chapter.

**GO TO PAGE 8 TO COMPLETE YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

# - Classifieds -

## HORSES

**Horse for Sale – Cedar Creek Stables offers a selection of nice quality, well started horses including:**

**Impulsions Pride - 2004 15.2 TB/QH mare**, does a lovely Training level test, currently schooling at 1st level. Steady and sensible, great on trail rides, bold and brave over jumps both X-country and stadium. Easy to work around, nice rhythmic steady gaits. Has done horse trials, dressage shows, & hunter paces. She's calm and sensible at shows - a great horse for a young rider or a smaller adult.

**Payana von Rosenoff, 2005, 15.2 pure bred Knabstrupper mare**, shown in Training and 1st level in 2009, scores in the high 60s and some in the 70s. Now schooling 2nd/3rd level, and should be ready to go out in 2nd level in 2010. A steady sensible ride, easy to sit and handle. Excellent jumper and does well on the trails. Has completed horse trials as well as dressage shows. A super horse for the smaller rider who is ambitious and wants to go up the levels. Great mind - very biddable and trainable.

**CCS Chatokay, 2006 Gray gelding (Hol/QH), 15.3**, should finish out at around 16.0hh, super mover, built nicely uphill. Well started, trail rides quietly, 3 excellent gaits, biddable and easy to train. A really nice youngster with a lot of potential - good for a smaller rider.

**CCS Tinuvel, dob 2007, near leopard spotted Knabstrupper mare, 16.0**. By Ravaldi out of Imperial Spice XX, big moving powerful filly, with good gaits and a good mind, just starting ground work now.

**RiverDance, 2007 15.3 bay filly** by Romantic Star, out of Hannah. Well

moving, a really beautiful filly with lovely conformation and a pretty head. Just starting ground work now. Has a good mind and is very biddable.

For more info on the above horses contact Melyni on 540-294-3003 or [www.cedarcreekstables.us](http://www.cedarcreekstables.us)

**Horse for Lease/ Loan - CCS Afton, bay gelding 16.1hh, 2003**, a truly elegant, beautiful horse with excellent manners and 3 good gaits. Quiet and easy to ride, good on trails and at shows. Currently showing at Training/1st level, schooling 2nd. Beautiful jumper would be competitive as an equitation horse. Not sound enough for an ambitious rider. Afton needs a home with a light work load, where his kindness and gentle nature will be appreciated. If you are interested contact Melyni Worth on 540-294-3003.

**Horse for Sale - Reeve is a 4 year old Hanoverian gelding, 17 hands, bay**. He is by Rienzi out of MS December (Donaumonarch x Grande). In 2009 he was shown at Training Level and USEF 4 year old classes. He is a gentleman at all times at home, at shows, on trails and also jumps a course of small fences in an ideal "show hunter" style. Check out the youtube video link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvv6fAK1Naw>. For more information contact Erin Sweeney on (434) 960-6867 or via email [erin@dressage.cc](mailto:erin@dressage.cc)

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VADA-CH Members can run classifieds and business card ads free of charge. These will run for 2 months and then must be renewed.

All ads must be in .jpg format. Send to [gardy@gardybloemers.com](mailto:gardy@gardybloemers.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please make checks payable to VADA-CH and send to Sherri Booye, 721 Lake Rd, Troy, VA 22974.

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**2009 Board**

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## 2010 Election Results

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the election ballot for our 2010 Board. The results were tabulated by our Secretary and follow:

**President** – Gardy Bloemers with 15 votes  
**Vice President** – Nancy Lowey with 15 votes  
**Secretary** – Amelia Hellman with 13 votes  
**Treasurer/ Membership** – Sherri Booye – 8 votes  
 Celia Rafalko – 4 votes

**State Board Representatives:**  
 Tina Longaker – 13 votes  
 Catherine Kern – 13 votes  
 Melyni Worth – 12 votes

Congratulations to all and big thanks to our retiring President for her dedication and commitment over the last four years!

# Report on Rider Enhancement Workshop with Debbie Bowman

By Catherine Sutton

Over the weekend of November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, I attended a workshop organized by Joyce Howard and Debbie Bowman called the Rider Enhancement Workshop. I am a regular student of Debbie so I jumped at the chance to ride and of course encouraged my students to sign up as well.

My personal purpose for attending this event was to expose my nutso mare to a week-end away with the challenge of a group lesson experience and the additional challenge to two lessons per day (e.g. wear her axx out)! Well my mare did just fine, I however was overwhelmed with the amount of work a riding workshop can be - in a good way.

Eight riders were chosen for this workshop, which gave the riders and auditors the opportunity to watch lessons being taught all day long. The riders rode in groups of three in the morning and took an individual lesson in the afternoon. Debbie pressed her riders to wow our audience with our accurate lateral work, correct transitions, and balanced extensions all while keeping up an energetic active trot.

While we rode, Debbie corrected our positions and use of aids until we flowed from movement to movement with ease. This workshop took this rider to another level of achievement.

Besides the two intense lessons each day Debbie had other professionals scheduled for the riders and auditors.

Jon de Mol, a Communication Educator and life Coach, worked with all of us on examining the positive changes we can make in our personal lives through reprogramming brain neuro-pathways. He had scientific proof of success, so keep those positive thoughts.

Brenda Stephens, an Occupational Therapist and Hippo-Therapist, worked with us on core balance buy having us ride her bare back small draft. I failed this part; I haven't sat on a bareback horse in 40 years and was scared to death. In addition, Alison Montgomery taught Pilates all day carefully teaching the building blocks of this discipline and giving us all a good workout.

Dr. Rebecca Kramer from Keswick Equine came Saturday evening, but instead of a lecture on horse care she had her audience diagnose different symptoms of injury or illness which were read as horse stories from other members of our workshop group. This was great fun and really got you thinking about emergency veterinary horse care.

While all this was going on, training videos ran continuously in the lunch room. Of course the food was both plentiful and tasty; the weather was perfect, and the location, Liberty Corner Farm, elegantly beautiful. I'm looking forward to an encore next year.



Catherine Sutton on Ethan with Brenda Stephens in Sensory Awareness Training



Lori Allshouse and Don Diego with Dr. Rebecca Kramer



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## 2009 Year End Award Standings

Please find the award standings as of the **22nd of November** below. Please submit your scores to Amy Gadsden, P.O. Box 111, Rochelle, VA 22738. If you have any questions please call Amy on 434 974-2268.

Please consult the Chapter Award Rules for 2009 on our website for eligibility requirements.

<b>Schooling Division</b>					
<i>Level</i>	<i>Rider</i>	<i>Horse</i>	<i>Avg Score</i>	<i>Vol Rqmt?</i>	<i>All Scores?</i>
Introductory	Kim Aust	Roxie	73.25%	Yes	Yes
	Jeannette Tuck	Peppy's Bootlegger	68.75%	Yes	Yes
	Lauren Forestell	Kees	65.50%	No	Yes
Training	Deb Bleisner	O Jackie	71.02%	Yes	Yes
	Sarah Kern	Rubio	69.64%	Yes	No
	Molly Armentrout	Commander in Chief	67.60%	Yes	No
	Heather Merrill	Glenhaven Timka	66.90%	Yes	Yes
	Eliza Temeles	Aurelia	64.08%	Yes	Yes
	Beth Marcinko	Stirling Castle	63.55%	No	Yes
First	Calla Bell	Esculira	67.63%	Yes	No
	Heather Merrill	Glenhaven Timka	66.66%	Yes	No
	Eliza Temeles	Aurelia	66.36%	Yes	Yes
	Tamara Showalter	Fiji	64.67%	No	No
	Elizabeth Gathright	Maki	61.66%	Yes	Yes
Second	Calla Bell	Esculira	65.26%	Yes	No
	Catherine Sutton	Prima Gracie	59.87%	Yes	No
Third	Barbara Goshorn	Belvedere	64.07%	Yes	No
	Hannah James Darnell	Rhumba	63.59%	No	No
Fourth	Barbara Goshorn	Belvedere	61.23%	Yes	No

<b>Licensed Division</b>					
<i>Level</i>	<i>Rider</i>	<i>Horse</i>	<i>Avg Score</i>	<i>Vol Rqmt?</i>	<i>All Scores?</i>
Training	Robin Silke	Cash Advance	74.65%	Yes	Yes
	Sarah Kern	Rubio	72.51%	Yes	Yes
	Tamara Showalter	Fiji	70.80%	No	No
	April Reedy	Xafaire	68.64%	Yes	Yes
	April Reedy	Payana	68.48%	Yes	Yes
	Eliza Temeles	Aurelia	67.42%	Yes	Yes
	Sherri Booye	MC Endless Echo	66.24%	Yes	No
	Susan Skalak	Oliver	60.65%	Yes	No
First	Tamara Showalter	Fiji	69.17%	No	No
	Krister Swartz	Absalom	67.54%	Yes	Yes
	April Reedy	Payana	65.64%	Yes	Yes
	Eliza Temeles	Aurelia	64.60%	Yes	No
	Catherine Sutton	Prima Gracie	64.44%	Yes	Yes
Second	Calla Bell	Esculira	66.77%	Yes	Yes
	Celia Rafalko	London Lady	61.59%	No	No
Third	Calla Bell	Esculira	64.53%	Yes	Yes
Fourth	Gardy Bloemers	Donizetti S	63.94%	Yes	Yes
	Barbara Goshorn	Belvedere	58.93%	Yes	Yes
	Melyni Worth	Xavoy	58.11%	Yes	No
Prix St Georges	Ame Hellman	Schuberts Ronaldo	68.25%	Yes	Yes
	Kim Schmidt	O'Susannah	60.70%	Yes	Yes
Intermediaire 1	Ame Hellman	Schuberts Ronaldo	67.54%	Yes	Yes
	Kim Schmidt	Portobello	64.12%	Yes	Yes
Intermediaire 2	Carter Bass	Gossamer	60.79%	Yes	No
Grand Prix	Carter Bass	Gossamer	62.66%	Yes	Yes

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**JANUARY 23, 2010 at 6pm**

**IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL PARTY AND AWARDS CEREMONY!**

Before the schooling for and the show season starts we get to let down our hair and have a little fun. This year the party is being held as a pot luck dinner at Catherine Kern's home in Crozet. We have some incredible chefs in our chapter, and thus a culinary delight awaits us. So come and party, and cheer for this year's award winners that will be presented at the ceremony after dinner.

Socializing starts at 6:00 p.m.  
Meal starts about 7:15 p.m. to allow time for all arrivals and set up of the food  
Awards Ceremony starts at about 8:15 p.m.

**Pot Luck list:**

- A to F –Dessert
- G to L – Salad or Bread
- M to R - Side Dish or Appetizer
- S to Z – Main Course Dish

Please bring your own drink choices – ice and cups will be provided.

If the weather is bad – please call Catherine's number – 434-823-4944 for a recording as to whether the party is still on. If the weather forces cancellation, the party will be one week later on Saturday, January 30, 2010.

**Directions:**

*From Charlottesville or Richmond: Take 250 West past Ivy until it splits with 240 West going into Crozet. This will be right after a bridge and right before a railroad trestle. Take 240 West and go approximately 1/2 mile. Plains Drive is the first true road on the left. Go to the end of the road and up the brown gravel driveway. The house address is 1440 Plains Drive.*

*From Afton area: Take 250 East past the Western and Henley Schools. Keep on 250 East through the stoplight and proceed for a mile or two. You will go under the railroad trestle and 240 West will go off to the left and up the hill toward the town of Crozet. Go approximately 1/2 a mile and take left onto Plains Drive. Enter the brown driveway at the end of the road. The house # is 1440 Plains Dr.*

# VADA State Annual Awards Banquet

*Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 11AM*

**Doubletree Hotel  
Charlottesville, VA**

Reception starts at 11 am with sit down lunch beginning at noon

\$25 per person

Banquet reservations must be received by **January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Remember to bring items for the Chapter Grant Silent Auction!  
For more information and a complete list of awards, check out the website.

Lunch will consist of salad, vegetable, rice or potato (hotel choice, not yours), entree and dessert. Please choose between either Tri-Colored Tortellini (tri-colored three cheese tortellini tossed with garden vegetables and gorgonzola walnut cream sauce) or Grilled Honey Dijon Chicken (tender marinated glazed boneless breast) for your entree.

Name(s) of attendees \_\_\_\_\_ Entree choice \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(Necessary for notification of any changes in case of inclement weather)

Total number of people \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25 = Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in volunteering at the banquet? YES/NO

Send your check and reservation form to:  
Alison Douglas, 11909 Halcyon Way, Prince George, VA 23875  
(804) 339-7495 cell (804) 730-1568 ext 1114 work [adouglas@fasmart.com](mailto:adouglas@fasmart.com)

VADA CH Extensions  
c/o Gardy Bloemers  
6486 Hillsboro Lane  
Crozet, VA 22932



***Virginia Dressage Association – Charlottesville Chapter***

## ***Monthly Meeting Location***

***BOARD MEETING***

***Topeka's Steakhouse  
Route 250, Pantops***

***7 pm on Monday, December 14th, 2009***