



Half-halt



The Newsletter for the Southeastern Chapter of the Virginia Dressage Association

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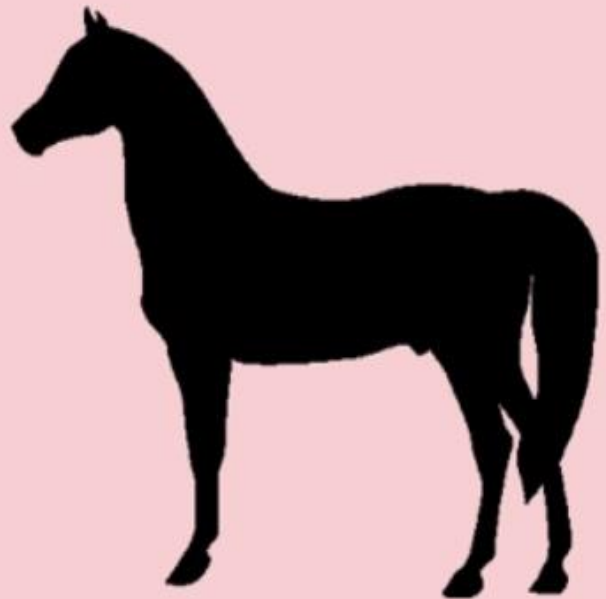
Witch of Smithfield



Hope Hughes Horse And Pet Care

Taking care of your horses while you are on vacation, sick, or at a show.

- Feeding and turnout
- Holding for Vet and Farrier
- Mucking stalls
- Feed and Hay pickup
- Horse grooming and bathing
- Blanketing
- Misc barn/pet chores
- Minor first aid treatment



Go visit family or go to a show knowing your loved ones are taken care of!

Hope Hughes (757)-613-0794

License, Insured, and Pony Club Horse Management Experience.

Old Mill Dressage

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757-582-2939

ezium

Sandy Toby
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Changes are Hard!

By Melissa Jamison

On the 3rd of July 2022 I really got back into the saddle. After a disastrous year of getting my Masters, coupled with buying a house with a really terrible water intrusion requiring a full renovation, a husband deployed to Turkey and a miscarriage, I just hadn't found the opportunity to ride consistently and dedicatedly. I sent Leggy as an established second level horse to my friend Lehua Custer in Wellington, Florida for a while so I could focus on life, and she could focus on getting him ready for third level and those flying changes!

Fast forward to getting moved from Montgomery, Alabama to Wichita, Kansas on the 3rd of July. I chose to pack my house furniture into my horse trailer and pay a hauler to move Leggy from Florida to Kansas, a 32-hour trip. I gave him a couple days off and then I started to ride again. It feels very weird to reacquaint yourself on your horse after a long time off. I really had to double down on those Orange Theory Fitness classes to help give my abs a boost since Leggy was really moving now. I took a couple lessons with Marie Maloney, the owner of my new barn and a judge as well as a gold medal dressage rider, before I got invited to a private facility to clinic with Jodi Lees, USEF R judge. Barely back in the saddle, and getting to know my horse again, I knew I needed to start getting into the community and supporting our local dressage riders.

The private facility was gorgeous and only a 17-minute haul from my boarding barn. I was able to haul-in both days and return Leggy to his own stall. My first ride was on Saturday morning, July 24th. Jodi was tough from the get-go with very high standards. As a third level horse, she did not want Leggy to do the warmup I was so used to, lots of long and low and stretches. She immediately wanted me to control his hind legs and was willing to take a shorter walk for quicker activity. Alas, my long and low concept was helping him to tip on to the forehand, setting the tone for the rest of my rides where I struggled to elevate his shoulder and keep his hindquarter coming through. She had me pushing him actively with my legs into the trot and half-halting his hindlegs underneath his as an accordion would do. I would half halt and bring him almost back to piaffe steps and then post into medium steps to get him to really stay both forward and under himself. He tends to get very slow and passage like, which is really pretty, but he uses it to avoid collection. Pushing him forward after the half halt really kept the energy up and active. We used the circle on this exercise to help with suppling. I would not recommend doing it on the sides of the arena as the horse can come into your hand a bit

more and resist through the back because they are too straight. She had me work a bit in the canter shoulder in and she saw some straightness issues there, so we shelved that for our Sunday session to look at before I showed Jodi the changes.

The second day I ask Jodi to warm me up so she could walk me through what she liked and didn't like. We again kept a much smaller walk and did only one or two laps around the arena on the buckle before getting to work. She asked me to be mindful of his more deliberate steps and even when doing a leg yield, not to let him get long through the body as that was the exact opposite of what we needed to yield from our warmup. We did several walk halts to show that he was pushing into the contact from behind, and here's the magic trick, walk-halts allow you to figure out the exact rein length needed for moving on. I asked her about using a shoulder fore into the halt and she said "no" as sometime that will get the horse a bit squiggly. We worked a bit from there into the trot and used the accordion feeling from the previous day into the shoulder in. I found it very difficult to both regulate the half halts and the forward activation and also maintain a respectable angle in the shoulder in. We moved into the canter, and she immediately got me to think of the inside leg only as the impulse leg. To get Leggy to collect more, I should only use the inside leg to help with the jump. Once we had the right jump, we did 3 large circles in shoulder fore, and finally, I straightened him at the bottom of the circle and used shoulder fore on an adjoining circle to go the other way. As I attained the new shoulder fore position, I asked for the change with a change of the seat bone and a small change of the leg. I tend to get too big with my flying change requests and it makes him lose his straightness and rhythm. I'm working on smaller aides and being ok if the aides were too small. Repeating them is ok, if it's done quickly to communicate the mistake!

All in all, it was a great clinic. I really miss SVDA, but I'm excited to see Kathy Rowse when she comes out to Kansas for the L program soon. I just put my entry in for 3-3 at a recognized show the last weekend in October in Stillwater, OK. I'm so excited to be back in the saddle. Life certainly has its challenges, and we all struggle with the changes. Miss you all!



Kathy Rowse
USDF "S" Judge
USDF "L" Faculty Member
USDF Bronze, Silver & Gold Medalist
Grand Prix Rider, Instructor & Trainer
Teaching Beginners thru Grand Prix



Also available to teach at Silverleaf Farm:

Kate Knick, USDF Bronze & Silver Medalist

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Volunteers for Championship Show, Airfield 4-H Center

October 30, 2022

To volunteer email robynnunnally@gmail.com

Opens: 10/03/2022

Closes: 10/17/2022

Entry Secretary: Wendy Corrice; see website to enter online

Scorer: Beth Rippel

Announcer: Ed Hipp

AM Show Secretary: Wendy Wilde

PM Show Secretary:

Ring transport Suffolk to Wakefield:

Ring Set up (2 rings possible):

-
-
-
-
-

Ring 1 Scribe for Carol Bishop: Lory LaGoyda

Ring 1 Scribe for Kris Hamilton: Melissa Evelyn

Ring 2 Scribe for Heather Hamilton: Harriet Hall

Ring Steward AM:

Ring Steward PM:

Ring 1 Runner AM: Skip Gardner

Ring 1 Runner PM: SVDA Juniors (?)

Ring 2 Runner AM: SVDA Juniors (?)

Ring 2 Runner PM: Katherine Gardner (check ride times)

Awards AM:

Awards PM:

SVDA Rep AM:

SVDA Rep PM:

Judges Lunch: SVDA will provide

Ring transport Wakefield to Suffolk:

Ring take down 2 rings:

-
-
-
-



SVDA 2022 Calendar

Schooling Show Schedule

Date	Location	Judge	Open	Close
10/30/22	*SVDA Championship Show Wakefield 4H Center	Carol Bishop @C Kris Hamillton @B Heather Hamillton Boyer Ring 2	10/03/20	10/17/21

Sanctioned schooling shows

Wakefield Airfield 4-H Center

Oct. 29

Crescent Bay Pony club held at Northwest River park

Oct. 2 Judge: Robyn Nunnally

Licensed Show 2022

October

01/02

08/09 Pinehurst Fall Dressage – Pinehurst, NC

Judges: Margaret Freeman 'S' NC, Jennifer Benoit 'r' FL

15/16

Show schedule for 2022

October

01/02

08/09 Pinehurst Fall Dressage – Pinehurst, NC

Judges: Margaret Freeman 'S' NC, Jennifer Benoit 'r' FL

15/16

23/24

29 Wakefield Airfield – Wakefield, VA

30 SVDA Schooling show

November

05/06

Show schedule for 2023 Dates as of Oct. 4, 2022

March

04/05 Raleigh Winter Dressage – Raleigh, NC

11/12

18/19

25/26 March Magic Dressage – Williamston, NC

April

01/02 Springtime Dressage – Raeford, NC(Cancelled)

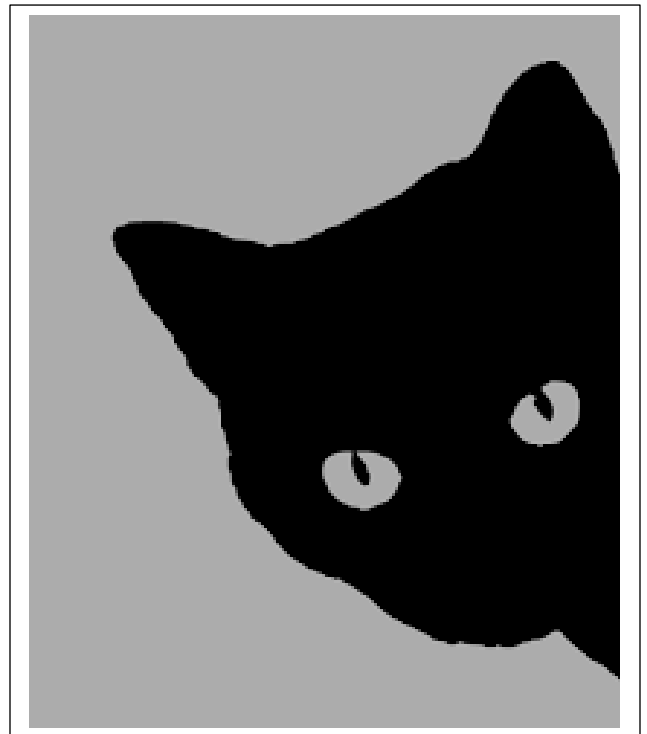
08/09 VADA/NOVA Spring April – Leesburg.VA

15/16

22/23 Prime Time Dressage – Raeford, NC

29/30 Dressage at the Meadows I & II – Doswell, VA

May



06/07
 12/13/14 **Dressage in the Sand Hills** – Pinehurst, NC
 13/14 **Raleigh Spring Dressage** – Raleigh, NC
 18/21 **Mid-Atlantic Dressage Festival & Lexington CDI2* Dressage** – Lexington, VA
 27/28 **Whispering Miracles Dressage I & II** – Va. Beach, VA
Mayday Dressage – Pinehurst, NC

June

03/04 **Capital Dressage Classic** – Raleigh, NC
 10/11 **Summertime Blues** – Pinehurst, NC
VADA/NOVA Summer – Leesburg, VA
Whispering Miracles Dressage I & II – Va. Beach, VA
 17/18 **VADA-CH Isabel FSzinay Dressage** – Culpeper, VA
 24/25 **Dressage at the Park I & II** – Raeford, NC

July

01/02
 08/09
 14/15/16 **Dressage at Lexington** – Lexington, VA
 15/16 **Rise ‘n Shine** - Pinehurst, NC
 22/23 **Summer Breeze Dressage** – Raeford, NC
Whispering Miracles Dressage I & II – Va. Beach, VA
 29/30 **Raleigh Summer Dressage I & II**– Raleigh, NC

August

05/06 **Early Morning Blues** – Pinehurst, NC
 12/13
 19/20
 26/27

September

02/03 ***NCDCTA Labor of Love I & II**
 09/10 ***VADAF Dressage at Rosemont I & II** – Spotsylvania, VA
Whispering Miracles Dressage I & II – Va. Beach, VA
 16/17 ***Tryon Fall Dressage 1 & 2** – Mill Spring, NC
 23/24
 30/01

*****From here down no shows listed on USDF Web site*****

*Denotes possible shows

October

30/01
 08/09 *** Pinehurst Fall Dressage** – Pinehurst, NC
 15/16
 23/24
 29
 30

November

05/06
 12/13
 19/20
 26/27

