



Half-halt



The Newsletter for the Southeastern Chapter of the Virginia Dressage Association

Volume Number 36

Issue Number 10

Oct. 2024



Charlene Jensen Scholarship Report

I used my SVDA scholarship to ride for three days with Lauren Sprieser with my horse Cayman. Cayman is an 18-year-old standardbred, thoroughbred cross. My goal for training was to progress my education in preparation for Cayman and me to ride second level and have a better understanding of the 2nd level movements. I wanted to strengthen second level work including balance, collection, improve use of appropriate aids and improve rider position.



Day 1 – For my first ride, Lauren had me focus on my lower body position and maintaining connection through my seat for the sitting trot and canter. She also had me focus on maintaining the jump in canter with my seat while transitioning between medium and collected canter.

Day 2 – For my second ride, we focused on timing of the aids and rider position for shoulder-in. I had an “aha” moment and really was able to effectively ask for the shoulder-in without contorting my body and started to understand how to get shoulder-in using the leg aid to lift his shoulders and the ½ halt to maintain the angle.



2024 Board of Directors

President: Cookie Parsons

Ljane77@hotmail.com

Vice President: Beth Rippel

horsemomva@cox.net

Treasurer: Shari Cutchins

Fourk9@aol.com

Secretary: Deb Sweetman

Dmsweetman54@gmail.com

Schooling Show: Lora Gibson

lorahowgib@gmail.com

Youth Chair: Charlene Jensen

Chrisandcharlene@charter.net

Clinics/Programs: Kim Bliefernich

bliefkp@aol.com

Scholarship: Whitney Kelso

Horsegalwhit@gmail.com

Ribbons: Karen Barnard

Mplcrst2@chater.net

Webmaster: Wendy Wilde

wendylilianem@gmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator: Amanda Leahy

Awards: Amanda Petroski

Amanda.petroski@verizon.net

Newsletter: Sarah Miller

ttccorporation@aol.com

Membership: Susan Gaston

Susan@gastongroup.com

Members at Large:

Joanne Smith

Jsmith-1@Verizon.net

Katherine Gardner

KatherineGardner7@hotmail.com

Sandy Toby,

omdressage@gmail.com

Pinky Hipp

pinkyhipp@gmail.com

VADA Rep:

Robyn Nunnally,

robynnunnally@aol.com

Sandy Toby,

omdressage@gmail.com

Beth Rippel

horsemomva@cox.net



Con't from page 1

Day 3 – For my third ride, we continued to focus on rider position for lower body and upper body, forward movement, connection, and timing of the aids. This gave me a better understanding of how to coordinate and separate my aids to give clear instruction to Cayman. I became more aware of how my body position was affecting the movement and potentially giving conflicting information to Cayman such as keeping my shoulders aligned with his shoulders instead of twisting/rotating my shoulders away from the movement. At the canter, we focused on how my body position can help “maintain the jump” to keep the movement coming from his hind legs and help maintain balance during the up/down transition and collection especially the canter-walk-canter transitions of 2nd level.

I audited a few rides and training of levels. I feel that this experience has taught me several things to reinforce the basics of riding and I have gained many insights into my riding. I think my biggest take home from the lessons was about my body position and how it influences the aids and the horse’s movement. It was a great opportunity to have this time and experience. I feel more confident in my position and use of the aids for collecting the canter and shoulder-in, and I was able to implement these lessons during the next show to finally get a 2nd level test 3 score above 60%. That was a goal for me this year and I’m glad I could achieve it with the help of Lauren Sprieser, Kathy Rowse and Kate Knick.

Please be aware that for all schooling shows and clinics sponsored by SVDA - a CURRENT negative coggins must be received or you will not be allowed to participate. SVDA must submit a report listing all horses, owners and coggins accession numbers to the Va Dept of Agriculture for every sponsored event. We can not make exceptions. So please get your coggins drawn early to allow processing time so that we don't have to refuse your participation on the day of a show or clinic.



New goals for SVDA members at our schooling shows: earn bronze, silver, gold, and ebony charms with scores of 70% or higher! 🏆🥈🥇🖤 Celebrate with a little bling ✨

We now have an online shop for SVDA logo items:

<https://southeastvda.itemorder.com/>

You can place orders directly to the shop, pay, and items will ship right to you.



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



1468 Peppercorn Lane
 Suffolk, VA 23432
 757.617.9505
 kathymrowse@gmail.com

Also available to teach at Silverleaf Farm:
 Kate Knick, USDF Bronze & Silver Medalist
 www.silverleaffarm.org

SVDA 2024 Calendar Schooling Show Schedule

Date	Location	Judge	Open	Close
10/27/24	SVDA Championship Show Wakefield 4H Center	Heather Hamilton @C Kris Hamilton @B Robyn Nunnally 'L'	09/30/24 Ring 2	10/14/24

*L Graduate with Distinction

**USEF WD "R" Judge

Sanctioned schooling shows

Wakefield Airfield 4-H Center

10/26/24 TBA

Crescent Bay Pony club held at Northwest River Park

10/20/24

Licensed Show 2024

October

05/06

10/13 Great American Insurance Group – Lexington, VA

November

01/03 NCDCTA Autumn Leaves & 2024 NCDCTA
 Championship – Reaford, NC



SVDA Board Meeting

5 September 2024 @ 7:30 pm via Teleconference

Secretary Minutes

Call to order by Cookie at 7:00 PM

Roll Call:

P	Cookie Parsons		Beth Ripple	P	Deb Sweetman		Shari Cutchin		Susan Gaston
	Amanda Britton		Lora Gibson	P	Charlene Jensen	P	Whitney Kelso	P	Kim Bliefertich
P	Sarah Miller	P	Wendy Wilde	P	Amanda Hard	P	Karen Barnard	P	Joanne Smith
P	Sandy Toby		Katherine Gardner	P	Pinki Hipp	P	Robyn Nunnally		

Old Business: Motion to approve July 25th minutes and seconded.

VADA Rep(Robyn):

- Final plans underway for R1 Championships - PL is on HorseShowOffice.com and link to volunteer is on the VADA website.
- The L program is full for participants but space is still available for auditors.
- The VADA treasury remains very healthy and, following discussion of SVDA executive board, SVDA donated \$50 to VADA for R1 show.
- Of note for 2025 memberships: USDF fees are increasing \$1 per individual membership and \$2 for families. VADA has a motion on the table and voting in progress to DECREASE from \$6 to \$5 the amount we pay VADA for each member; this is for 2025 only. SVDA may want to discuss this increase and adjust our membership fees accordingly. I believe it's more logical for us to increase whenever USDF does, regardless of the amount we pay VADA.

President (Cookie):

- SVDA moved to increase the annual membership fee by \$2.00.
- Due to our Treasury being low, a post for an online auction to raise monies for the club has been placed. If anyone has anything they wish to donate, please let Cookie know. We have received a few things to auction off, but are in need of a lot more. Donation deadline is Sunday September 8, 2024.
- A fundraiser has been set up with Chipotle near Chesapeake Square for December. SVDA receives 25% of the proceeds. There is a minimum of \$150.00 to received that. Use the code when you order and checkout. So SVDA can received credit.
- Our nomination committee is Robyn Nunnally and Deb Sweetman. Our membership meeting is November 3, 2024 (it was previously mentions to be Nov. 2) at the Lauren Spreiser clinic at Silverleaf. Board members are expected to attend. Nominations committee will announce 2025 board. Lauren will be giving a talk on biomechanics. Meeting should start around noon during the lunch break of the clinic. Food and drinks will be provided.

Vice President (Beth):

- Nothing to report.

Treasurer (Shari):

- Current balance is \$13,699.12

Secretary (Deb):

- Minutes were posted in the August Half Halt Newsletter

Membership (Susan):

- Nothing to report.

Scholarships (Whitney):

- Nothing to report.

Juniors (Charlene):

- **Revenues for 2024 Junior Team: \$2648.61 approximately**
- USDF Focus on Collective Marks Course Profit: \$1060

- USDF MFS Class Profit: \$143.61
- Concessions Profits: \$295
- March 24th show:\$88
- April show: \$32
- August 4th show: \$63
- August 25 show: \$112
- Reimbursement from Parents for Team Shirts: \$190
- Silent Auction Profits: \$960 (needs to verify)
- **Expenses for 2024 Junior Team: \$2799.09**
- Coaches Hotel: \$498.34
- Entry Fees: \$1505
- Shirts:\$795.75

Remaining Amount to be fundraised: \$150.48 approximately

- Need to verify the Silent Auction profits with Shari. Plan to have concessions at the September horse show and plan to have basket and 50/50 raffle at the Championship show. Several juniors have volunteered at the banquet, March, April and both August shows but the July show was cancelled which is the show that all juniors were signed up to volunteer for SVDA donation. Unfortunately, I cannot get all of the juniors to volunteer for the remaining shows due to conflicting schedules. I have a check for \$485 for the juniors (concessions and the shirt reimbursement)

Newsletter (Sarah):

- Nothing to report.

Website (Wendy):

- Nothing to report.

Clinics and Programs: (Kim):

- Lauren Sprieser Clinic at Silverleaf, Nov 2nd and 3rd, is active on the website and is open for people to sign up. Cost is \$120 for SVDA members and \$130.00 for non-members. Closing date is 25 October. Lauren will also be doing a lecture on the rider biomechanics during the membership meeting on Nov 3rd. Bring a chair.

Volunteer Coordinator (Amanda H.):

- Created an online survey to see what members would like regarding next year's shows to see if SVDA can increase rider participation.

Volunteer of the Day Program (Robyn):

- Nothing to report.

Schooling Shows (Lora):

Date	Location	Address	POC	Judge(s)
28 Sep	River Birch Farm	30470 Camp Parkway, Courtland, VA 23837	Ann Gayle	Elise Enoch, L Grad w/Distinction
27 Oct	Wakefield Championship	15188 Airfield Rd, Wakefield, VA 23888		Robyn Nunnally, L Grad w/Distinction, USDF WD "R" Judge
				Kris Hamilton, "I" Judge Heather Hamilton. L Grad w/Distinction

Championship Show (Cookie):

- Still in need of volunteers to help with show. Pinky and Cookie will work on this show but can use more help!!
- There will be box lunches from the Cockeyed Rooster to preorder
- Championship ribbons have been ordered. Cookie has obtained two sponsors to date for the show.
- The Airfield stalls are \$22 each and cleaning is \$16.50 per stall if you do not wish to clean your own.

Awards (Amanda B.):

- We will work on these later in the year unless there are suggestions.
- Our Year End banquet will be held Jan 25, 2025 at Riverstone Chophouse in Harborview upstairs. There is elevator access if needed. This will be sit-down dinner. A menu is forth coming.

Ribbons: (Karen):

- No change with the ribbons...there are plenty!

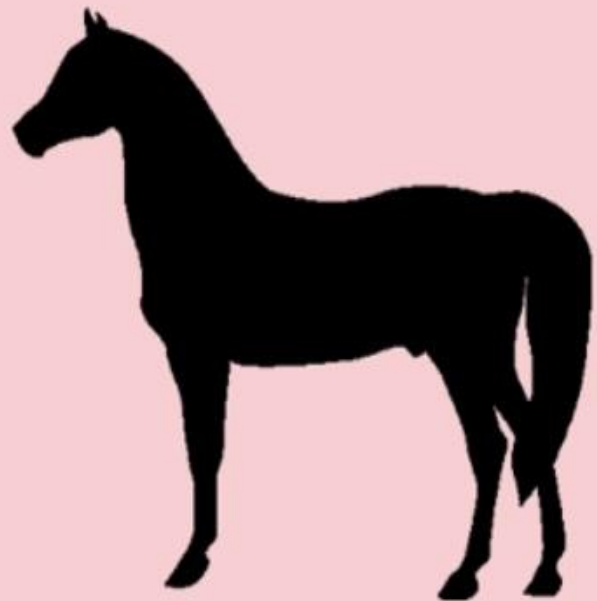
Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 PM

Next meeting will be the General Meeting on 3 Nov, 12:00 ,at Silverleaf Farm.

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



Suffolk, VA

757-582-2939



Sandy Toby

**USDF Bronze, Silver & Gold Medalist
“L” Graduate w/Distinction**

omdressage@gmail.com

**1752 White Marsh Rd.
Suffolk, VA**

www.oldmildressage.com

**October
VADACC
Emily Donaldson
5-6 October 2024
Chestnut Oak Stables, Doswell, VA**

**Northeast VADA
Fix a Test Clinic with Nancy Lowey
19 October 2024**

**Great American Insurance Group/USDF Region 1
Championships and VADA Fall Show
10-13 October 2024
Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA**

**SWVADA Working Equitation Clinic
with Holly Linz
22 October 2024
Green Hill Park, Salem, VA**

**SVDA Schooling Show
27 October 2024
Airfield Conference Center
[Wakefield, VA 23888](#)**

**VADA-Fredericksburg
27 October 2024
Clinic with Debbie Bowman
Hillcrest Farm, Spotsylvania, VA**

From VADA Website Chapter Events

**November
VADA/Nova Fall Open and Schooling Show Championship
2 November 2024
Morven Park Equestrian Center, Leesburg, VA**

**Southeast Lauren Sprieser Clinic
2-3 November 2024
Location TBA**

**US Dressage Finals
7-10 November 2024
KHP Lexington, KY**

**Northeast Virginia Dressage Association Schooling Show
10 November 2024
Edgehill Stables, Aylett, Va**

Sad but True Equine Truth #22:

Just because you can buy the most expensive, talented, AMAZING horse out there doesn't mean you can ride it.



New Rules: Microchipping & USEF Horse Identification Numbers

1. All horses competing at USEF licensed dressage competitions are required to have a USEF Horse ID number. As of 12/1/2025, each of those horses will also need to have a 15-digit ISO compliant microchip attached to the USEF Horse ID record prior to competing. USEF and USDF have worked on a data exchange so most horses with USDF numbers should also have a USEF Horse ID number. If you do not know your horse's USEF Horse ID, you can check under the "Your Horses" section of your USEF member dashboard or you can search for the horse using the USEF horse search (<https://www.usef.org/search/horses>). The horse search will display your horse's microchip if it has been reported to USEF. If there is no microchip displayed you can use the online microchip reporting tool (<https://members.usef.org/horses/microchip-search>) to add the microchip to your horse's record.

2. The USEF will issue only one Unique Horse ID Number per horse. This Unique Horse ID number must subsequently remain with the horse in perpetuity, and shall not be changed for any reason, including upgrade from Unique Horse ID to a Recording, change of ownership, change of name, or death. It is the owner's responsibility to verify the current ID status of a horse through a Horse Recording/ID search. Anyone who knowingly seeks to obtain an additional Unique Horse ID Number for a horse which has previously been issued one is subject to disciplinary action.

3. The USEF must be notified of any change of ownership and/ or competition name of the horse. Owners are requested to notify the Federation of corrections to previously submitted information, e.g., names, addresses, breed registration, pedigree, or markings. Applications for Unique Horse ID Numbers and/ or recordings can be completed online at www.usef.org.

4. There will be no charge for Unique Horse ID Numbers that are issued via the internet to members of USEF or its' affiliates for:
A) horses that are life recorded, registered or otherwise identified or listed with a USEF discipline affiliate,
B) horses registered with a USEF breed affiliate. Horses not meeting the above criteria must have a completed USEF Horse application indicating on the application the request for a Horse ID before a number will be issued. This form can be completed on the internet, free of charge, at www.usef.org.