



Half-halt



The Newsletter for the Southeastern Chapter of the Virginia Dressage Association

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SVDA Championship Show at Wakefield



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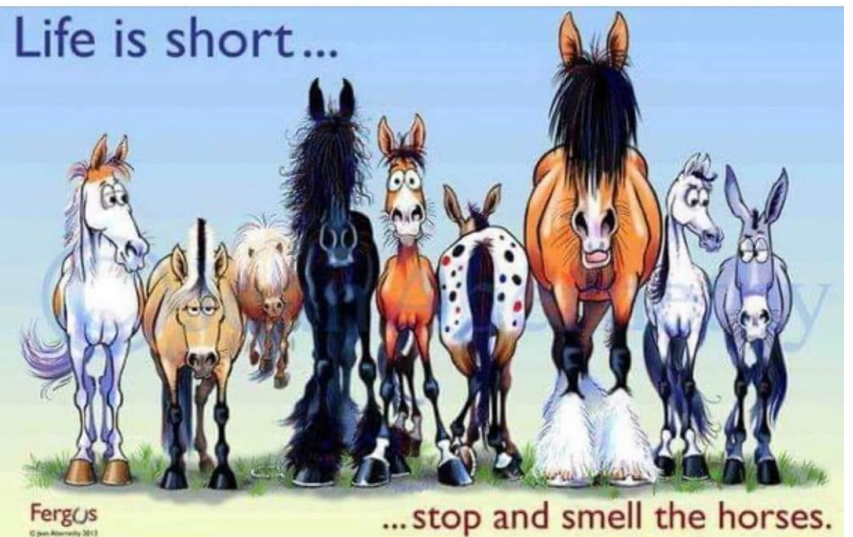
New goals for SVDA members at our schooling shows: earn bronze, silver, gold, and ebony charms with scores of 70% or higher! 🏅🥈🥇🖤 Celebrate with a little bling

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.

Don't forget 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 cannot 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.



Old Mill Dressage



Suffolk, VA

757-582-2939



Sandy Toby

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

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From Viewpoint Dressage

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.

These unique microchip numbers will be included in the horse's USEF/USDF database either with an HID number or an annual or lifetime registration.

Show management is required to verify this microchip number prior to accepting a show entry.

Help us out here. Have your horse microchipped at the same time you have a new coggins issued!



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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VADA BOARD MEETING MINUTES 10-22-24 VIA ZOOM

Participating: Sheli King (VN); Tina Longaker (C'ville); Robyn Nunnally (SVDA); Nancy Doody (C'ville); Christina Arrington (Central); Anne Draine (NE); Laura Nelson (SWVADA); Megan Irby (F'burg); Angie Stanaway (NEVADA); Rachel Rice (NOVA); Sandy Toby (SVDA); Eleszabeth McNeel (C'ville); Muffin Smith (SWVADA) and member Dianne Boyd

Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report: No update. GAIG financials aren't completed.

Membership Report: We currently have 601 members with USDF.

USDF Convention: The dates are December 5th - 8th in Houston. Sheli will carry the VADA proxy. Information regarding the agenda can be found on the USDF website.

Region 1 Meeting: The zoom call will be Nov 14 at 7:30. Information about the call can be found on the Region 1 website. You do not need to be a delegate to attend the meeting, all are welcome to participate.

GAIG Wrap up: Sheli thanked everyone who helped make the show a success. Awards participation was at 75-80% across the board, including Sunday. The weather was super. Tina was told by the competition management council of USDF that Region 1 was complimented for having the best run DSE classes of all 9 regions. Regrettably, one of our long time scorers passed away, Sandy Rokosz, who will be sorely missed. Diane also thanked everyone. We had minimal issues. Nancy Doody said the awards area ran smoothly. Rachel thanked all her wonderful volunteers.

Year End Awards Banquet: Nancy Doody gave an update that the kickoff meeting is the 28th of October. It will be very similar to last year. Deadline is December 1st for awards submission. The date is February 2nd at the Greencroft. Chapter reps please remind riders to submit pictures with their awards submissions. Chapters also need to submit their volunteer hours to Joanne Collins.

Lilo Fore Clinic: It will be held May 3-4 at Morven Park. There will be a min 8 riders max 10. Riders interested will submit an application that includes a video of a test at the level they are riding. We hope to get representation thru the levels among the different chapters. The clinic will be auditor oriented. The price for auditors will be the same for VADA and Region 1 GMO members. We need volunteers to help run and collect auditor applications. We are hoping to get Lilo to come early and do some judges' training on Friday- more info on that to come.

L Program: Sheli received an update email from Kat and everything is on track. A question was asked about providing free auditing to board members. Sheli brought up this goes against 501c3 rules about giving benefits to certain members. Sandy Toby made the motion, seconded by Anne Draine that we decline the idea. The motion passed unanimously. Nancy Doody also wants to remind the chapter membership chairs to continue to send her new member information so she can add them to the directory.

Chapter Updates: PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE SENDING INFO TO NANCY DOODY FOR THE WEBSITE.

It's free advertising for any shows and clinics you're holding.

Central- The juniors are holding several fundraisers in November, info on the website.

Charlottesville-

Fredericksburg – Debbie Bowman clinic October 27th at Hillcrest Farm.

NEVADA –Last schooling show is November 10th judge tbd

NOVA – Nov 2nd 24 Schooling Show Championship and Fall Show at Morven Park

ShenVADA – They will be holding a clinic with date tbd.

SVDA- Schooling Shows- Oct 27th at Airfield with Robyn Nunnally and Kris and Heather Hamilton for Western Dressage.

SWVADA-

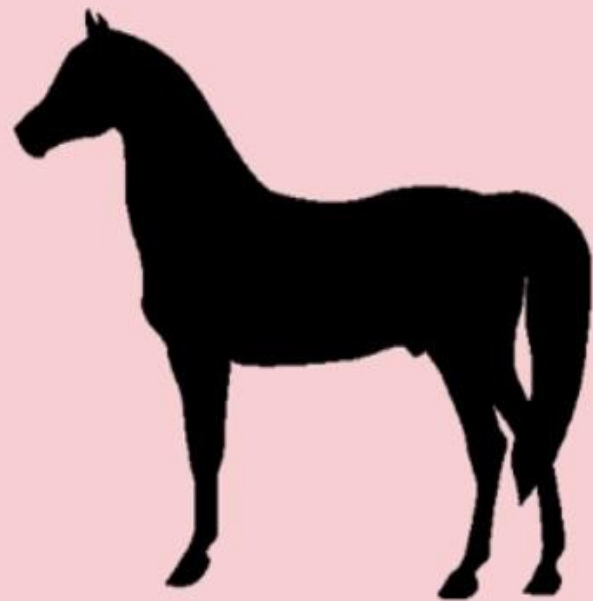
NEXT MEETING Wednesday November 20th at 8 pm

Respectfully submitted by Alison Douglas

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.



VSDA Championship Show October 27, 2014
 Judge: Kris Hamilton "K", Heather Hamilton L, Glad McElreath, USEF WD "F"
 Robyn Nunnally L, Glad McElreath, USEF WD "F"
 Location: Airfield Conference Center
 15199 Airport Rd. Henric, VA 23088

Class Title	Number	Order	Discipline	Percentage	Points	Placing
Fourth Level Test 2 Championship	8:30	1	Wedge	63.026	63.341	63.224 /
WDAA Level 2 Test 4	8:08	3	Whispered	SR		
Second Level Test 3	8:36	8	Ha	60.357	63.095	61.726 1
	8:24	7	Home Run	58.071	58.419	58.595 2
First Level Test 1 (AA)	8:32	8	Fibre	63.933	66.667	65.000 1
	8:39	13	Speyfarm LA	57.222	59.818	58.519 2
	8:46	14	JMA Startlight	57.407	58.148	57.785 3
Second Level Test 2 Championship	8:53	8	Ha	65.385	64.615	65.000 1
	8:01	7	Home Run	59.744	57.231	59.487 2
FEI COG2 Test B	9:09	15	Cooley Commander	58.634	60.000	59.318 1
First Level Test 2 (AA)	9:38	8	Fibre	63.030	66.304	64.697 1
	9:24	14	JMA Startlight	58.070	65.749	64.970 2
First Level Test 1 (D)	9:32	18	Yeats Farm Stall Belafina	64.259	72.573	68.926 1
	9:38	19	Winchester	57.718	60.516	59.352 2
IOC (FEI COG2) Test B	9:46	15	Cooley Commander	64.773	65.800	64.926 1
Morning Break 15 min 8:53-10:00						
First Level Test 1 HC	10:06	23	Bonham Light			HC
First Level Test 2 (D) Championship	10:16	18	Yeats Farm Stall Belafina	67.273	67.727	67.500 1
	10:24	25	Daily WEC	66.212	68.323	67.273 2
Training Level Test 1 (D)	10:32	27	Low Year Buttons	64.038	63.654	63.846 ①
First Level Test 2 HC	10:39	23	Bonham Light			HC
Training Level Test 1 (AA)	10:47	29	Spicy	54.801	58.462	56.635 1

USDA Modified Test A	10:54	30	Raina LeBonne	Quire Quality	66.250	65.520	65.875 1
Training Level Test 2 (D) Championship	11:01	31	Ava Miller	Whispering Keepsake	62.000	65.817	63.793 ①
WDAA Basic Level Test 4	11:09	32	Darla Holbrook	Hoodoohorsecho	58.654	61.923	60.288 1
Training Level Test 2 (C) Championship RCO	11:18	27	Jennifer Cobb	Low Year Buttons	RCO	RCO	RCO
Training Level Test 2 (AA)	11:28	29	Mary Barczak	Spicy	52.069	57.049	54.539 1
USDA Modified Test B	11:32	30	Raina LeBonne	Quire Quality	64.048	65.239	64.643 1
First Level Test 2 (D) Championship	11:39	31	Ava Miller	Whispering Keepsake	62.273	63.030	62.652 1
WDAA Basic Level Test 3 Championship	11:47	32	Darla Holbrook	Hoodoohorsecho	61.304	61.522	61.43 1
Lunch Break 1 hour 11:54-12:54							
Customer Class "During Lunch" Judged by Robyn Nunnally							
Madelyn Hall				Stars and Stripes Knap			
Hannah Fulmer				Daily WEC			
Amanda Hart				Home Run			
Katherine Gardner				Yosh			
Peyton Connolly				Fingerandthumbon			
Art Thompson				Orbita			
Libby Martin				Assets Too Smooth			
Taylor Gieffe				Elle			
Brooke Zorotian							
Training Level Test 2 (D) Championship	12:54	33	Caroline Needham	Montage	61.724	62.241	61.983 3
	1:02	35	Jennifer Cobb	Lotosandchrome	65.802	65.573	65.010 1
	RCO	27	Jennifer Cobb	Low Year Buttons	63.966	66.839	65.043 2
Training Level Test 2 (C)	1:10	38	Bennett Camp-Crowder	Scheherazade	Elim		
Training Level Test 2 (AA) Championship	1:18	41	Amanda Hart	Scale Q	61.207	62.414	61.810 1
	1:28	13	Faika Safford	Speyfarm LA	58.123	58.724	57.914 2
Training Level Test 2 (D)	1:34	33	Caroline Needham	Montage	61.000	63.000	62.000 3
	1:41	35	Jennifer Cobb	Lotosandchrome	65.800	66.600	63.200 1
	1:48	38	Bennett Camp-Crowder	Scheherazade	71.200	67.600	64.400 1
Training Level Test 2 (AA)	1:58	41	Amanda Hart	Scale Q	59.200	59.400	59.300 1

Training Level Test 1 (D)	2:02	49	Peyton Connolly	Yosh	64.058	62.881	63.462 1
	2:09	46	Libby Martin	Assets Too Smooth	65.802	65.802	65.802 2
WDAA Intro Test 1 Championship	2:18	47	Hope Hughes	Misty C Honey Do	59.250	54.620	57.800 1
Introductory Level Test C (D)	2:23	48	Madelyn Hall	Double Babe	55.250	56.710	52.000 1
Training Level Test 2 (D)	2:30	49	Taylor Gieffe	Assets Too Smooth	56.034	56.897	56.466 3
	2:38	45	Peyton Connolly	Yosh	68.421	65.172	66.917 1
	2:46	46	Libby Martin	Orbita	62.724	59.303	58.017 2
Introductory Level Test A (D)	2:54	50	Brooke Zorotian	Elle	60.625	60.312	60.469 2
	3:01	76	Art Thompson	Fingerandthumbon	65.933	62.813	64.375 1
Training Level Test 3 (D)	3:08	49	Taylor Gieffe	Assets Too Smooth	57.400	58.001	57.200 2
	3:15	45	Peyton Connolly	Yosh	65.600	67.200	64.400 1
Afternoon Break 15 min 3:22-3:37							
Introductory Level Test B (D)	3:37	50	Brooke Zorotian	Elle	65.000	60.625	62.813 1
Introductory Level Test B (D) Championship	3:44	76	Art Thompson	Fingerandthumbon	60.313	60.938	60.665 1
	3:51	47	Hope Hughes	Misty C Honey Do	63.235	57.520	60.313 3
	3:58	89	Madelyn Hall	Stars and Stripes Knap	52.813	58.326	52.534 3
Introductory Level Test B (D) Championship	4:05	90	Nancy Jones	Our Boy KC	63.125	57.813	60.469 3
	4:12	91	Karen Barnard	State of the Art New Horizons	71.523	63.438	70.200 1
	4:19	92	Jennifer Cobb	Mainway's Venetian Ice	70.712	68.225	69.249 2
Introductory Level Test B (D)	4:26	93	Allye Pines	Salters Song	60.438	64.375	63.625 1
Introductory Level Test A (D)	4:33	90	Nancy Jones	Our Boy KC	57.500	55.313	52.406 1
Introductory Level Test C (D)	4:41	91	Karen Barnard	State of the Art New Horizons	67.250	64.700	66.000 1
	4:48	92	Jennifer Cobb	Mainway's Venetian Ice	64.250	64.700	64.300 2
Show Ends 6:53							



width of a horse's ass.

The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number. Why was that gauge used?

Well, because that's the way they built them in England, and English engineers designed the first US railroads. Why did the English build them like that?

Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the wagon tramways, and that's the gauge they used. So, why did 'they' use that gauge then?

Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they had used for building wagons, which used that same wheel spacing. Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing?

Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break more often on some of the old, long-distance roads in England. You see, that's the spacing of the wheel ruts. So, who built those old, rutted roads?

Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe (including England) for their legions. Those roads have been used ever since.

And what about the ruts in the roads?

Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match or run the risk of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made for Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. Therefore, the United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot. Bureaucracies live forever.

So, the next time you are handed a specification/procedure/process and wonder 'What horse's ass came up with this?', you may be exactly right. Imperial Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the rear ends of two war horses. (Two horses' asses.)

Now, the twist to the story:

When you see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs. The SRBs are made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains, and the SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track, as you now know, is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So, a major Space Shuttle design feature, of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system, was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horse's ass.

And you thought being a horse's ass wasn't important? Ancient horse's asses control almost everything!

Coming next month

