



# Half-Halt



The Newsletter for the Southeastern Chapter of the Virginia Dressage Association  
Volume Number 37 Issue Number 3 March 2025



## **2025 Board of Directors**

**President:** Lorna "Cookie" Parsons

Ljane77@hotmail.com

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horsemomva@cox.net

**Treasurer:** Shari Cutchins

Fourk9@aol.com

**Secretary:** Deb Sweetman

Dmsweetman54@gmail.com

**Schooling Show:** Paolo Safford

ppsafford@gmail.com

**Youth Chairs:** Katie Miller & Stacey Bell

**Clinics/Programs:** Kim Bliefernich

bliefkp@aol.com

**Scholarship:** Whitney Kelso

Horsegalwhit@gmail.com

**Ribbon Coordinator:** Karen Barnard

Mplcrst2@chater.net

**Membership Chair:** Mary Barczak

1michnatv@gmail.com

**Webmaster:** Wendy Wilde

wendylanem@gmail.com

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Amanda Leahy

alleahy17@gmail.com

**Newsletter:** Lora Gibson, lorahowgib@gmail.com

**Awards:** Amanda Petroski

[Amanda.petroski@verizon.net](mailto:Amanda.petroski@verizon.net)

**2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:** If you have not already done so, please plan to renew your membership. Membership period is January 1 - December 31. You can renew and pay online:

<https://fs27.formsite.com/vablond25aolcom/form2/index.html>.

### **2025 Rates:**

Senior Member \$57

Youth Member (21 and under) \$47

Farm/Family Membership \$110

(Farm/Family includes two members - additional members can be added at \$50 each-maximum four members)

## **Members at Large:**

Joanne Smith

Jsmith-1@Verizon.net

Katherine Gardner

KatherineGardner7@hotmail.com

Pinky Hipp

pinkyhipp@gmail.com

Bailey Colon-Waite

Mary DiJospheh

## **VADA Rep:**

Robyn Nunnally

robynunnally@aol.com

Sandy Toby

omdressage@gmail.com

Lorna "Cookie" Parsons

[Ljane77@hotmail.com](mailto:Ljane77@hotmail.com)

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## **NEWS FROM VADA:**

**Lilo Fore Clinic:** 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 through 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. Lilo has agreed to do a judges education session on Friday afternoon. It will be open to L grads, L candidates, and licensed judges as participants but will also be open to members to audit. L Program. For more information please visit: [virginiadressage.org](http://virginiadressage.org)

### **Mid-Atlantic Dressage Festival and Lexington CDI3\***

15-18 May 2025

Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA

### **Dressage at Lexington**

11-13 July 2025

Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA

### **Great American Insurance Group/USDF Reg 1 Championships and VADA Fall Show**

2-5 October 2025

Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA

### **2025 US Dressage Finals presented by Adequan®**

30 October – 2 November 2025

World Equestrian Center (WEC) Wilmington, OH

### **Biomechanics Clinic with Stacy Pattison**

11-13 April 2025

Old Raptor Farm, Louisa, VA

### **George Williams Clinic**

26-27 July 2025

Stave Mill Farm, Esmont, VA

### **Weekend with Lauren Sprieser**

25-26 October 2025

Old Raptor Farm, Louisa, VA

## **ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS:**

### **SVDA Volunteer of the Day Program**

In addition to receiving volunteer hours for volunteering at a show, SVDA is implementing a Volunteer of the Day program at schooling shows. All volunteers' names will be placed in a hat (one time for half day volunteers, two times for whole day volunteers) and one name will be randomly drawn. The winner can select their choice from a variety of gifts and gift cards, each with a \$25 value. Available choices are gift cards from Chick-fil-A, Wawa, Starbucks, SmartPak, Sugar Shack at the Mingle, and a gift bag from Cypress Saddlery. At the first 3 shows, we also have vouchers for free Chick-Fil-A sandwiches for some randomly selected volunteers.

### **SVDA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:**

Each year, SVDA members are eligible to apply for Scholarship and Foundation funds to further their advancement in dressage.

The SVDA Board of Directors votes on the applications received and can award up to two (2) Scholarships in the amount of \$400. If less than two (2) scholarships are given out in one (1) year, or there are additional funds, the Board may vote to give out additional scholarships that year.

See website for eligibility requirements or contact for details:

Whitney Kelso, Scholarship Chair

[horsegalwhit@gmail.com](mailto:horsegalwhit@gmail.com)

<https://southeastvirginiadressage.org/wp/scholarship-program/>

# SVDA Board Meeting

## Secretary Minutes

Call to order: 16 January 2025 at 7:03PM via teleconference

### Roll Call:

P	Cookie Parsons	A	Beth Ripple	P	Deb Sweetman	P	Shari Cutchin	P	Paola Safford
A	Amanda Britton	P	Stacie Bell	P	Katie Miller	A	Whitney Kelso	P	Kim Bliefernich
P	Lora Gibson	P	Wendy Wilde	P	Amanda Leahy	P	Karen Barnard	A	Mary Barczak
P	Sandy Toby	E	Katherine Gardner	P	Pinki Hipp	P	Robyn Nunnally	A	Sarah Miller
E	Bailey Colon-Waite	E	Mary DiJoseph	P	Joanne Smith				

Old Business:

No old business

VADA Rep: Robyn

Please see the VADA minutes submitted for the January 2025 SVDA Half Halt newsletter.

President: Cookie

Welcome to the new officers: Katie Miller and Stacie Bell (Juniors), Mary Barczak(Membership), Bailey Colon-Waite, Mary DiJoseph, and Joanne Smith (Members At Large), and Paola Safford (Schooling Shows). Also thank you to our returning officers.

Vice President: Beth

Nothing to report

Treasurer: Shari

Current balance is \$10,000. Coming up with a different format for requesting checks. The Junior chair asked if there was a separate account for the SVDA Juniors, Shari clarified that she tracks the Juniors funds and the Junior chair also maintains a spreadsheet with their information.

Secretary: Deb

Nothing to report

Membership: Mary

No report submitted

Scholarships: Whitney

No report submitted

Juniors: Katie Miller & Stacie Bell

The Juniors will hold a kick off meeting on Feb 16 th (Sunday) at 3 PM at the Dirty Buffalo Restaurant in Grassfield.

Newsletter: Lora

Try to get info to her by the 20th of each month for the next month's newsletter. Please forward to her any articles, sponsor information, show information.

Website: Wendy

Nothing to report

Clinics and Programs: Kim

Waiting on response back from Michael Bragdell and working on others. It was recommended Donna Gatchell as a possible clinician. If anyone has other clinicians that they would like please notify Kim. Received an extra \$400 from VADA for the last clinic.

Volunteer Coordinator: Amanda Hard

New tracker has been set up with updated info.

Schooling Shows: Paola

Our first show will be March 23, 2025 at Kelly Coyne Dressage. Margaret Little will judge. Please refer to the SVDA website for a current show listing and also any added Sanctioned Shows. Porta-John contract has been done.

Championship Show: Cookie

Will be held at Wakefield again this year.

Licensed Schooling Shows:

Nothing to report

Awards: Cookie

The SVDA Banquet will be held at Riverstone Chop House on 25 January beginning at 4:00 PM. It is located at 8032 Harborview Blvd, Suffolk, VA. This is a sit down dinner in a very nice restaurant. There is an elevator to the 2nd floor for those who need assistance. Awards and ribbons have been ordered. If you are a board member, please bring something for a door prize. The Kingsley Boot fitter, Crystal Miller, will be there as well. Her fitting cost is \$150.00 and must be paid prior to the fitting, however this will be deducted from the cost of the boot. She has many options to select from to include tall and paddock boots. SVDA needs 3 paying people for her to come to the banquet, 2 have already paid.

Ribbons: Karen

SVDA still has plenty of ribbons.

## UPCOMING SANCTIONED SHOWS

<b>CRESCENT BAY PONY CLUB</b> <b>MARCH 16, 2025</b>  SHOW MANAGER/SECRETARY Sharon DeCant E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Crescentbaypc@gmail.com">Crescentbaypc@gmail.com</a> <b>ENTRY FORM</b>	<b>AIRFIELD 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER</b> <b>APRIL 19-20, 2025</b>  SHOW MANAGER/SECRETARY Marie Taylor 23034 Dabney Mill Road N. Dinwiddie, VA 23803 804-314-5216 <a href="mailto:dabneymill@aol.com">dabneymill@aol.com</a> <b>SHOW ENTRIES LINK</b>	<b>CRESCENT BAY PONY CLUB</b> <b>MAY 18, 2025</b>  SHOW MANAGER/SECRETARY Sharon DeCant E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Crescentbaypc@gmail.com">Crescentbaypc@gmail.com</a> <b>ENTRY FORM</b>	<b>AIRFIELD 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER</b> <b>MAY 17-18, 2025</b>  SHOW MANAGER/SECRETARY Marie Taylor 23034 Dabney Mill Road N. Dinwiddie, VA 23803 804-314-5216 <a href="mailto:dabneymill@aol.com">dabneymill@aol.com</a> <b>SHOW ENTRIES LINK</b>	<b>CRESCENT BAY PONY CLUB</b> <b>JULY 27, 2025</b>  SHOW MANAGER/SECRETARY Sharon DeCant E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Crescentbaypc@gmail.com">Crescentbaypc@gmail.com</a> <b>ENTRY FORM</b>
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## ***SVDA 2025 SCHOOLING SHOW SCHEDULE:***

SHOW DATE	OPEN	CLOSE	LOCATION	JUDGE
3-23-25	2-24-25	3-13-25	Kelly Coyne Dressage	Margaret Little, "r" Judge
4-13-25	3-17-25	4-04-25	Seahorse Run	Donna Gatchel, L Grad w/ Distinction
5-11-25	4-07-25	4-25-25	Gryphon Run	Kat Sepka, L Graduate
5-25-25	4-28-25	5-16-25	Seahorse Run	Elise Enoch, L Graduate
6-22-25	5-26-25	6-23-25	White Acre Farm	Wanda Escobar
8-24-25	7-28-25	8-15-25	Kelly Coyn Dressage	Robyn Nunnally, L Grad with Distinction & USEF WD "R" Judge
9-21-25	9-01-25	9-12-25	River Birch Farm	Sandy Toby, L Graduate with Distinction
<i>*CHAMPIONSHIP*</i>				
10-26-25	9-29-25	10-17-25	Wakefield	tbd
11-25-25	10-27-15	11-07-25	White Acre Farm	AnnMari Ingersoll, L Grad with Distinction

Locations and Judges to be determined, check website for updates

ENTER ONLINE: <https://fs27.formsite.com/vablond25aolcom/q6gtyzijfb/index.html>

### ***2025 LICENSED SHOW SCHEDULE (partial):***

March 1-2	Raleigh Winter Dressage, Raleigh NC
March 29-30	March Magic Dressage, Raeford, NC
April 19-20	Primetime Dressage – Raeford, NC
April 26-17	Dressage at the Deep Run - Manakin-Sabot, VA
May 15-16	Mid-Atlantic Dressage Festival & Lexington CDI, Lexington, VA
May 31-June 1	Whispering Miracles Dressage by the Beach, Virginia Beach, VA
July 11-13	Dressage at Lexington - Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA
Oct 2- 5	GAIG/Reg 1 Championships and VADA Show Fall, Lexington, VA

See USDF website for full schedule of shows - Region 1 - [www.usdf.org/calendar/competitions.asp](http://www.usdf.org/calendar/competitions.asp)

### ***IMPORTANT SHOW REMINDER:***

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. Please upload at time of show entry or upload at: <https://fs27.formsite.com/vablond25aolcom/form1/index.html>

## VADA BOARD MEETING MINUTES 1-23-25 VIA ZOOM

**Participating:** Sheli King (VN); Tina Longaker (C'ville); Jessie Ginsburg (NOVA); Nancy Doody (C'ville); Christina Arrington (Central); Anne Draine (NE); Laura Nelson (SWVADA); Angie Stanaway (NEVADA); Rachel Rice (NOVA); Robyn Nunnally (SVDA); Carolyn Briggs (F'burg); Hannah Bowers (F'burg); Lisa Powers-Freeze (NEVADA); Lori LaFave (NOVA)

**Minutes:** The minutes of the December meeting were approved with two abstentions for members who were not at the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The combined balances are 240K. Sheli brought up that without the VHC, we would not be able to hold these large shows, and she feels that we should make a donation. She will work with a member of their team to come up with ideas and give an update at our next meeting.

**Membership Report:** For the year 2025, we have 193 memberships submitted. Chapters- please remind your members that the membership year starts December 1st and chapter coordinators please send your membership lists to Beth Ripple and Nancy Doody in a timely manner. Beth has not received any 2025 membership submissions from NEVADA and SWVADA.

**Year End Awards Banquet:** Nancy wants to thank everyone who donated to the silent auction. Attendance has closed and we are at capacity.

**Lilo Fore Clinic:** It will be held May 3-4 at Morven Park. The rider applications are on the website, and we are not looking at the applications until the closing date to get proper representation between levels and chapters. The application deadline is February 15th. We've applied for a \$1000 grant from USDF. The auditor fee will be \$35 per day or \$60 for both days and includes lunch and snacks. The auditor form is under development. We are working on a location for Lilo to do a Judge's education session including a light dinner late afternoon on Friday which will be open to L grads and judges only. Everyone else can audit.

**Winter Zoom Education Session:** Rachel will be putting together a lecture by Gwen Ka'awaloa focused on providing first aid with items typically already available at your barn. We are targeting to have this in February.

**VADA Safe Sport Initiative:** We are going to establish a working group with one member from each chapter to develop implementation, reporting and documentation. Within the next two weeks please send your chapter's choice for representation to Alison Douglas.

**USDA Horse Activity legislation update:** They have amended the Horse Protection Act. Up until recently it primarily focused on gaited horses, however it now encompasses all horse activities. We have to report our activities as of Feb 1. The USEF has reached out to try to get a 60-day extension to better understand the requirements. For licensed shows, the USEF will provide the information to the USDA. We are trying to understand if we will have to report our schooling shows and possibly clinics.

**Donation for the 2025 Youth Team:** Sheli made a motion, seconded by Anne Draine, that we sponsor the ice cream social \$400 again as we did last year. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:** Nancy Doody would like to have a zoom meeting with the membership chairs of the chapters to go over the protocols for submission and updates. She also wants them to submit an additional sheet with the contact information for parents of juniors so she can add to the constant contact list and ensure they are aware of our events/awards. She'd like to have the meeting in late February.

Tina brought up that every chapter needs to make sure that on the form, we make sure that it states if the membership is for anyone under the age of 18, we cannot have the child's email address, we must have a parent.

Sheli read Kat's financial report after the first session, and we are under budget. Profit from the session was \$4600 and was budgeted to be around \$2000.

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- March 8-9 Debbie Rodriguez Clinic at Saddlebrook Stables in Powhatan

Charlottesville- Biomechanics and riding unmounted clinic with Stacy Pattison April 11-13 at Old Raptor Farm - George Williams Clinic July 26-27 at Stave Mill Farm in Esmont-Lauren Sprieser clinic Oct 24-25 at Old Raptor Farm

Fredericksburg –

NEVADA – 2025 Schooling Show dates: Sunday April 13 (Judge April Rivers) Sunday May 11 (Judge Jeslyn Vaughn) Sunday June 15 (Judge tbd) Sunday July 20 (Judge tbd) Sunday August 10 (Judge tbd) Sunday Sept 21 (Judge tbd) Wednesday Oct 1st at the State Fair (Judge AnnMari Ingersoll) Sunday Oct 19 (Judge tbd) Sunday Nov 2 (Judge tbd)

NOVA – Annual Judges' Roundtable with Lisa Schmidt (S) at Ida Lee Rec Center in Leesburg February 17th, Annual member and volunteer party February 23rd 2 day schooling show at Morven Park March 15-16 2025, Spring Licensed Show April 5-6, Midweek May Meet Licensed Show May 7 2025 June 7-8 Summer Dressage Festival Licensed Show

ShenVADA –

SVDA- 2025 Schooling Show dates: March 23 at Kelly Coyne Dressage (Judge Margaret Little) April 13 at Seahorse Run (Judge Donna Gatchell) May 11 at Gryphon Run (Judge Kat Sepka) May 25 at Seahorse Run (Judge Elise Enoch) June 22 at White Acre Farm (Judge Wanda Escobar) August 24 at Kelly Coyne Dressage (Judge Robyn Nunnally) Sept 21 at River Birch Farm (Judge Sandy Toby) Oct 26 at the Airfield 4-H Conference Center – this is the Championship Show (Judge Kat Sepka, Elise Enoch & Robyn Nunnally) Nov 23 at White Acre Farm (Judge AnnaMari Ingersoll)

SWVADA- Annual banquet February 9th Educational Sunday February 23 at VT.

### **ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH SVDA**

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