



2023, Issue 5



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Northern Ohio Dressage Association is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Education Organization

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Board Meetings Second Wed. of the Month Conference Call Notify your GMO Liaison if you want to attend Your ideas are welcome

Hello Readers,

April has been a busy month for NODA members. Sally Burton provides an overview of the education events that she and Patti coordinated on page 5. The next event is a **Ride-a-Test With a Twist in May**. At this event, you can ride your test with your coach giving you hints throughout your ride through your electronic device (cee coach etc). Read more and find out how to sign up on page 4. A big thank you to Sally Burton and Patti Valencic for all their hard work.

The first NODA Schooling Show for 2023 is at Chagrin Valley Farms and will open in early May. Go to www.nodarider.org for information on NODA'a Summer Schooling Show Series. The Schooling Show Committee is looking forward to seeing you!

The USDF Regional Schooling Show Program and the CATHERINE B. JACOB Region 2 Schooling Show Program have been suspended due to Safe Sport liability concerns. There are efforts to get the programs back up and running as soon as possible. Find out more on page 4.

Check out NODA's 2023 Member Services Directory. The listings start on page 6 and will be up on our website soon, through April 2024. If you see a mistake in your listing, please contact <u>mosie-editor@nodarider.org</u>.

As required by The Dressage Foundation, I've included an abridged version of my Gifted Memorial Fund Grant Report. Grant recipients must "give back" to their GMO, but it doesn't have to be in writing. Before I applied for the grant, I read many grant reports to see what others had done. If you think you want to apply for the Gifted Memorial Fund for 2024, my advice is to get started researching and completing your application now.

This has been a busy year for me in my equestrian pursuits. I'm not getting any younger, so I really want to take advantage of all things dressage and equestrian. On page 17 you'll find photos from my adventure at the 2023 FEI World Cup Finals. There were so many things to do, but volunteering for the FEI was the highlight for me. Thanks to Barb Soukup and Charma Fargo who volunteer at the USDF Dressage Finals each year because they are the ones who inspired me.

If you have an equestrian experience that you'd like to share with fellow NODA member - we want to hear from you. Did you earn a rider medal? Are you trying a new cross training discipline? Are you having fun on trail or did you just go horse hunting? Share with us! Send your story or photo spread to mosie-editor@nodarider.org.

See you out and about!

Mosie Welch Editor NODA News

COVER: Jen Baumert (center of photo) with participants of An Evening with Jen Baumert in the viewing room at the beautiful Endeavor Farm hosted by NODA and Art Dressage. Jen Baumert, NODA's 2023 Dressage Professional Initiative instructor, took her time to address the questions of the general membership who attended the evening event. It was an evening of sharing experiences and laughter.

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NODA News You Can Use



Northern Ohio Dressage Association

The Northern Ohio Dressage Association is a United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Group Member Organization. All members of NODA are USDF group members.

For USDF participating membership, apply directly to the USDF at <u>www.usdf.org</u>

The USDF Regional Schooling Show Program and the CATHERINE B. JACOB Region 2 Schooling Show Program have been suspended due to Safe Sport liability concerns.

With great regret, the USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program is suspended immediately by the USDF Executive Board due to SafeSport liability concerns. All 2023 USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program nominees and competition management have been e-mailed regarding this matter and all nominee and competition application fees will be refunded in the coming weeks. The USDF Program no longer shows up on the USDF Website and Debbie Savage has confirmed that the Region 2 CATHERINE B. JACOB SCHOOLING SHOW AWARDS Program has also been suspended.

NODA's First Schooling Show is Sunday 5/28 Open Date: TBD Received By Date: TBD

Judged by L Graduates, Clara Etzel (L*) & Deborah Ann Boeh (L) Chagrin Valley Farms

For more information go to www.nodarider.org/Schooling-Shows

Exciting Changes and New Pathways Culminate in Revamped USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Program

Lexington, KY (March 15, 2023) – The United States Dressage Federation[™] (USDF) is excited to announce that along with a name change, the USDF Instructor/Trainer Program, now known as the USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Program, has been revamped to better achieve its goals of educating and certifying instructors and trainers, as well as making this education more accessible to the general membership. Additionally, it will now feature new pathways that have been created to educate amateurs, as well as those looking to become professionals.

The newly established USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Seminars, which are open to anyone seeking to gain knowledge, will be delivered via live event, either in a classroom setting or virtually, with the first day being geared toward a general audience and large group and featuring demonstration riders, as available. The optional second day of the seminars are designed for a small group and feature a hands-on education experience for participants.







with co-chairs Sally Burton and Patti Valencic

Ride-a-Test With a TWIST L* Graduate, Barb Soukup Open May 5

May 27, the day before the first schooling show of the season at Chagrin Valley Farms! Check out the details on this link, <u>www.nodarider.org/event-</u> 5132780 At this event only, you can ride your test with your coach giving you hints throughout your ride through your electronic device (cee coach etc). Inspired by a conversation we had with Jen Baumert back in January, we decided to try a ride-a-test with a twist. Jen has found great luck at some Wellington events coaching riders through tests in "real life" situations, so we decided to let that be an option at our Ride-a-test. OR you can ride it the regular way. Your choice!

NODA Dressage Adventures and More, June 8-11 at Brecksville Stables is full. Feel free to sign up to be put on our wait list. You never know! www.nodarider.org

The USDF Instructor/Trainer Professional Development pathway is for those who are interested in certification and future professional development. Those participating in this pathway will have access to mentors and additional resources to help guide and advise them on their journey to certification. Other changes included in the new certification path also make it easier for professionals to become certified at their current level.

USDF President George Williams shared "USDF considers instructor education and certification to be an important goal and key to the successful development of dressage in our country. Over the last four years, USDF has solicited feedback from the overall membership and our USDF Certified Instructors as part of a comprehensive review of the certification process and I'm excited to see many of the resulting recommendations incorporated into the program."

For more information on the USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Program, details on how to get started, and a calendar of upcoming educational events, visit the USDF website or contact instructorcertification@usdf.org.

Something For Everyone at NODA's April Education Events! By Sally Burton

NODA members have been busy taking advantage of all the great programs the education committee had planned for April!

The events started with a full and rather rowdy Scribe Clinic led by L* Graduate Barb Soukup at the Bainbridge Public Library on Saturday, April 15. Barb led an extremely informative and entertaining two hour clinic on the 'hows and whys' of scribing. Funny judging, scribing and



competing stories kept us laughing as people shared really interesting antics that happened at shows.

This was followed by a chance to actually scribe while Barb "live judged" using the USDF On The Levels videos. The new scribes tried their hand at keeping up and everyone did a great job. Hopefully we have some newly trained and anxious volunteers ready to give it a try at a schooling show! The librarians mentioned to me on my way out that it looked like we were having so much fun that she wanted to join in. Special thanks to Barb Soukup for her preparation, time and expertise! Thanks also goes to Patti Valencic for getting all the food and to her husband Matt for the extra goodies. It was a wonderful experience.

On April 16-17, Jen Baumert (center in the photo below with NODA member professionals) led NODA member pro-



fessionals at the first 2023 Dressage Professionals Initiative (DPI) which took place at Endeavor Farm with support from ART Dressage in Hudson. The goal of the DPI is to offer excellent continuing education instruction to our member professionals at a reasonable price at a local farm to keep costs low. We rely on local professionals to run the program in conjunction with our clinician. This year Sarah Freeman stepped into that role.

Local horses owners generously brought in horses to be used during the DPI by the professionals and their clients so that there were safe horses to ride and learn from. Eleven professionals spent two full days learning and sharing experiences on a variety of horses under the guidance and instruction of Jennifer Baumert. We are so lucky to have such a modest, yet nationally acclaimed professional with amazing credentials come to our area to and share her knowledge. Many thanks to Jen Baumert for her excellent instruction, Sarah Freeman for organizing with Jen and wrangling the horses and Ashley Rand-Torres and Danial Rand for hosting and donating the use of their beautiful Endeavor Farm with Art Dressage.

While Jen was in town we asked her if she would do a program for "the rest of us" and since she does not like "formal talks" we created An Evening with Jen Baumert. On Sunday evening, April 16, after a full day of teaching the DPI, Jen gave of herself even more. Everyone who attended the evening program submitted a question for her to answer. We provided food, and Endeavor Farm and ART dressage hosted again in their lovely viewing room. For the next two hours we were mesmerized by Jen's stories, her honesty, and her humble answers to some difficult questions. Even though she is a Pan Am medal winner, her biggest success is winning the trust of one of her horses. Even though she fought (as all teenagers do) with her mother the person she looks up to most is her mom. Jen highly values education and says she never stops learning and hopes to learn from everyone she ever works with and teaches. She loves her new role as a Paralympic coach and continues to improve every day both as a rider and a coach. There were so many nuggets of insight throughout the evening but it was great to hear that no matter where you are in the dressage world there are so many more things to learn, fears to conquer and ways to grow.

The second session of 2023 Dressage Professional Initiative will be announced soon. Keep an eye on the NODA website for an announcement. <u>www.nodarider.org</u>

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NODA Member USEF/USDF Professionals

Rachel Aderhold, Saddle Up Riding and Training

Ravenna, OH, lessons for all ages, concentration on beginner/intro dressage, English and Western pleasure, and contesting. 330-357-9981 saddleuprt@gmail.com



Tracy Hendricks, Fly-Over Farms

Berlin Center, Northeast Ohio

USDF Bronze and silver Medalist, AAS in horse production and Management Training, lessons, boarding Experience in multiple equestrian disciplines dressage Intro to FEI, eventing, other, will travel



419-618-1165 tdoepker@ymail.com

Emily Gill, Emily's Equestrian Enterprises

New Franklin, OH, will travel. Helping clients enjoy their horses in traditional Dressage Intro to FEI, Working Equitation, & jumping. Instruction and training rides, instruction, clinics in traditional dressage and working equitation



USDF Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medalist, USDF certified instructor. NODA's Professional Liaison 330-417-0156 emily@emilysequestrian.com www.emilysequestrian.com

Lisa Gorretta

USEF/FEI Official USEF R Dressage TD, Level 3 FEI Dressage Steward, USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist

Travels internationally for competitions. Limited availability for traditional dressage lessons or coaching training to FEI. 216-406-5475 reg2@aol.com

Sarah Freeman, Serendipity Sporthorse

Chagrin Falls/Auburn Teacher, trainer, coach. Intro to Prix St. Georges, traditional and Western dressage. USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist. 440-813-7117 Serendipitysporthorses@ gmail.com



Cassandra Hummert-Johnson, Lavendel Dressage LLC

Northeast Ohio, will travel Training, instruction for intro to Grand Prix rider, sales. USDF Gold Medalist and Gold Freestyle Bar Recipient 216-926-8789 lavendeldressagellc@gmail.com www.lavendeldressage.com



Rachel Jelen, The Art of Equitation

Olmsted Township, will travel. Traditional through 3rd level and Western dressage, WDAA through Fourth Level. Lessons, Training Boarding USDF Bronze Medalist 440-429-0591 or 440-539-7482 Jelendesign@yahoo.com



Patty Keim, Patty Keim Show Services LLC

USEF "r" Dressage TD License 330-350-2775 pkeim@zoominternet.net Located in Northeast Ohio. Will Travel.



Continued on page 8



Showroom Hours: Monday-Saturday: 10am-5pm Sunday: Closed

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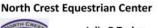
Dale Lappert, Rivendel Farm

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Julie R Taylor

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Julie R Taylor Instructor/Trainer Northcrest44@aol.com

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Kate Poulin, Poulin Dressage

Fairmount Farms, Hiram Pan Am Gold Medalist, USDF Bronze, Silver & Gold medalist. On four NAYRC dressage teams, winning two Gold Medals and has been on the USEF developing riders list since 2006. USDF Certified Instructor through Fourth Level. 386-624-3968 Advertiser katepoulin@yahoo.com



Ashley Rand- Torres, A.R.T. Dressage

USDF Certified Instructor/Trainer, USDF Bronze, Silver & Gold Medalist, B Traditional US Pony Club graduate, USDF "L" Program Participant. Lessons, training, clinics, sales Beginner through FEI. Endeavor Farm, NE Ohio, and surrounding area. NODA Newsletter Advertiser 330-715-2403 aerand@gmail.com www.art-dressage.com

Debby Savage

Northern Ohio- will travel USEF "S" Dressage Judge, Instructor, Trainer USDF Gold Medalist. Traditional Dressage through Grand Prix 908-892-5335 Debby-savage@msn.com



Barb Soukup, BaR S Ranch, LLC

Chardon/Geauga County, will travel L*Judge; Lessons/Clinics; coaching; boarding.

L* graduate with distinction, USDF Silver and Bronze Medalist; NAWD certified Western Dressage Judge; coach LEC IDA team to National Championship/2011 Traditional Dressage and Western Dressage, Intro to FEI. NODA Director at Large 440-339-3980 barbsoukup@aol.com



Sabine Walker

Lorain County and surrounding areas

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ASHLEY RAND-TORRES

USDF BRONZE, SILVER & GOLD MEDALIST USDF CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

A.R.T. Dressage



NOW ACCEPTING TRAINING HORSES AND LESSONS

Ashley is located at Endeavor Farm in Hudson Ohio. Ashley has recently come back to Northeast Ohio from South Florida. She is now accepting horses in training at her facility. Is available for haul in lessons at her farm and travels to surrounding areas. Please contact Ashley with any questions you may have.

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 ☆ 22910 Old Mill Rd Hudson Oh
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BaR S Ranch, Barb Soukup

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Blue Ridge Farm, Jeffrey Taylor and Holly Taylor

37511 Sugar Ridge Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 Full-service Facility; lessons, boarding, leasing, training, sales. Dressage and Eventing. 440-610-1606 NODA News Advertiser brfhollyt@gmail.com www.blueridgefarmeventing.com

Endeavor Farm

22910 Old Mill Road, Hudson Boarding Facilities for horses in Training. Haul-in's welcome. Trainer Ashley Rand Torres, ART Dressage 330-715-2403 aerand@gmail.com NODA News Advertiser www.art-dressage.com

Fairmount Farms, Hiram Ohio, Kate Poulin

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Flow Equestrian Center, Tracy Browne

9269 Stafford Road, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 Semi-private all breed, dressage training facility. Boarding, clinics, seminars, and short term board. 916-759-9434 tracy@flowequestrian.com <u>http://www.flowequestrian.com</u> Facebook @FlowEquestrianCenter

North Crest Equestrian Center, Julie R Taylor

31735 Walker Road, Avon Lake, OH 44012 private lessons and training, introductory lessons available, summer camp, birthday parties NODA News Advertiser 440-933-4654 Northcrest44@aol.com www.NorthCrestEquestrian.com



Karen Puchalsky NODA's Dressage Foundation GMO Liaison www.dressagefoundation.org

\$25,000 Debbie McDonald Fund for FEI Riders Announced

The Dressage Foundation (TDF) is honored to announce that its previous \$10,000 Debbie McDonald Fund for Pacific Northwest FEI Riders has been expanded and increased,

thanks to the generosity of Pamela S. Jones and the Jones Family Foundation— Malama Honua.

Beginning this year, TDF's Debbie McDonald Fund will now offer \$25,000 grants to FEI riders from across the country, to include riders in the Under 25 Division.

The Debbie McDonald Fund will provide funding for high



-level training to horse and rider pairs who are training at Prix St. Georges or higher, who show potential to succeed at FEI Levels, and who may not otherwise have the opportunity for the training. Additionally, the Fund seeks to grow the legacy of compassionate and effective dressage training embodied by Debbie.

Beth Baumert, TDF's President and CEO said, "Over many years, Debbie McDonald has repeatedly proven her ability to develop top dressage horses that are also healthy and happy. For me, that's the bottom line. Debbie's horses go the extra mile for their riders because they're physically able to and they mentally and emotionally want to. The more that Debbie's unique ability can be duplicated or at least approximated in her students, the better. Endless thanks to Pam Jones and the Jones Family Foundation— Malama Honua for making this extraordinary grant possible."

Debbie McDonald shared, "I can't thank Pam, her foundation, and The Dressage Foundation enough for giving this opportunity to riders. I am hopeful that this will help us identify and help riders that would not have this opportunity otherwise."

SAVE THE DATES 2023 USEF RECOGNIZED DRESSAGE SHOWS

MARCH 18-19, 2023

USEF/USDF Lake Erie College Winter Dressage Show Judge: Cindy Canace "S" NJ

APRIL 21-23, 2023 USEF/USDF Lake Erie College Dressage Prix de Villes Judge: Natalie Lamping "S" FL

JUNE 10-11, 2023 USEF/USDF Lake Erie College Dressage Derby Judge: Lisa Schmidt "S" NJ | Judge: Doreen Horsey "S" AB

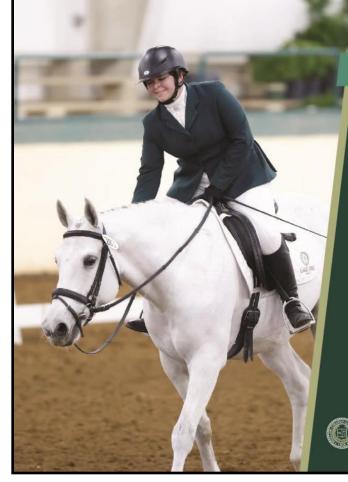
PLUS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 Lake Erie College Dressage Schooling Show to benefit the IDA dressage team Judge: TBA

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Art by Rachel Marie, Rachel Jelen

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Sabine Walker, Realtor Howard Hannah Real Estate Services 1240 Abbe Road N, Elyria OH 44035 Residential real estate services 440-258-0511 SabineWalker@howardhannah.com

About NODA's 2023 Member Services Directory

The directory is designed to provide the opportunity to our USEF/USDF professionals and NODA members who own a business to let others know about the services they offer. The Member Services Directory will be listed on the NODA Website through April 30, 2023 under Membership and available to members and non-members alike. No listings will be added to the directory until we compile the 2023 Member Services Directory. The Member Services Directory was advertised beginning in February 2021 in the NODA News, on NODA's website and in our email blasts. NODA provides this directory as a member service and makes no endorsement concerning any entry. Thank you for your membership.

If there is an error in your listing, please contact Mosie Welch so it can be corrected. <u>mosie-editor@nodarider.org</u>

End of Member Services Directory



NODA Professional Grants & Amateur Scholarships

Youth & Adult Amateur Scholarships

Available for NODA Members

NODA offers four (4) amateur scholarships annually in the amount of \$250 each

NODA Member Professionals

are Eligible for Grant Funds up to \$400!

Grants are available for 50% reimbursement of event participation

NODA Membership is required to apply

The applicant must be a "professional" horse person as defined in the USEF rule book



Visit www.NodaRider.org/Scholarships.htm

For complete details and forms

The Dressage Foundation Gifted Memorial Fund Grant Report Mosie Welch, Region 2

Events with horses seldom turn out as expected, but my immersive dressage experience through The Dressage Foundation Gifted Memorial Grant was as close to perfect as possible, even with a few scheduling and health issues thrown in. Fortunately, we had put back-up dates in our original plan for weather and other contingencies and remained flexible during the week of training.

My training goals going into this dressage immersion included working with my own trainer Emily Gill. I wanted to work on skills to improve my seat and the timing of my aids, the ability to ride in a way that improves the suppleness of my half Welsh pony, Aleksandr Robyn WH (aka Alaska), and develop a more stable seat through transitions.

We had been working on my ability to consistently ride Alaska forward with impulsion all winter especially at the canter, and we wanted to continue that work. I was hoping to gain the confidence needed for Alaska and me to



On Working Equitation day we worked on bend and transitions within and between gaits using three obstacles that Emily selected. Photo by Emily Gill.

compete in a recognized show by late spring. Emily and I talked at length about how to achieve these goals and our concerns regarding unpredictable winterweather in northeast Ohio, how to keep Alaska in a mentally positive frame of mind during the week, and what tools we could use to accomplish all our goals. We came up with a training plan that included a lunge/seat lesson on Alaska; using Working Equitation obstacles to focus on dressage basics; the precious opportunity to ride Emily's Grand Prix horse, Coulee Bend Kahlua; long lining Kahlua and Alaska; and of course, dressage lessons. We added my observation of Emily teaching lessons and rides on training horses, building a full week of activities.

Even though I had no idea that I would receive the Gifted Grant, just putting a plan down on paper during the application process helped focus my riding and lessons, so that was a win right there. I was ecstatic when I was notified that I'd received one of the Gifted Grant's for Region 2 for 2023. The anticipation began in earnest! And lucky for us, the weather was unseasonably warm for February in Ohio, and we packed everything possible into six days as planned.

Here are some highlights of our week

Day 2 was an amazing full lesson on Schoolmaster Kahlua and it was another sunny and warm day at 60 degrees! This lesson was a privilege as Emily rarely allows others to ride her beloved Kahlua. The goal is to work on me so I can translate the skills to Alaska. We worked on feeling the transitions within the gait and the change in the feeling of the energy from working gait to collection and back. Then we shifted to transitions between gaits. We tried a little forward and back at the canter and Kahlua was good at letting me know if my hands got a little too busy. We tried shoulder in and haunches in at the trot, leg yield, and serpentines. All through the lesson Emily asked what I felt, what was easier for Kahlua and what felt harder for him. I was glad my husband, Denis was able to tape this lesson as I am able to watch continue gaining nuggets of information from it.

Then I warmed up Alaska and we had a short lesson working on things we had been doing on Kahlua. I was amazed how the feel on Kahlua allowed me to be more trusting of my seat on Alaska. I am trying to do too much to balance him rather than using my good position and following connection to allow him to find his better balance. I begin to feel glimmers of improvement in my aids allowing Alaska to be more supple and forward. But sunshine was streaming in through the arena door and it was in the 60's with a breeze, so we went for a hack in the sunshine before Alaska went back in his turnout paddock.

Day 4 was longlining/driving with Kahlua and Alaska.

Kahlua long lines and is being taught to drive. After going over all the safety rules, we went over equipment and set up cones so we could work the horses through an easy

Membership News

Fran Cverna, Membership Chair <u>Membership@nodarider.org</u> NODA's 2021 Membership Year 12/01/2022– 11/30/2023



Welcome New Members!

Sincere THANK YOU to all of you who have renewed your NODA membership for 2023!

WELCOME

(or welcome back after an absence) new members



Gretchen Bender, Jennifer DiRusso, Marissa Gandolf, Kate Grant, Autumn Grogan, Tallulah Macchione, Mikaela Rainer, Alison Schmidbauer, Linda Sgambellone, Kate Skufca, Joanne White, Julie Zdolshek

As of April 22, NODA has 224 members

Tell your friends who have not renewed: Renew by mailing a membership form or renew online at <u>www.nodarider.org</u>







Pan Am Games Gold Medalist Kate Poulin now permanently located at Fairmount Farms, a custom built, world class facility located in Hiram, Ohio

> www.KatePoulin.com 1 386 624 3968 @FairmountFarmsDressage

course as well as on a circle. I watched Emily demonstrate calmly navigated the cone course at the walk, trotted cirlong lining and driving techniques with Kahlua including turning, changes of direction, navigating through cones. It was interesting to watch how in tune horse and handler look as they moved through the paces. The torso, elbows, and hands of the handler are in the same good posture as when riding creating good contact and connection over the topline. If the handler must trot along with the horse the footfalls are synchronized. I practiced with Kahlua and there was so much to manage with two lines. He was very responsive, and just like under saddle I was able to

cles, transitioned, and changed directions. We decided it was safe to try a canter. When it was my turn I felt, "all thumbs and long lines" with spotty connection. Changes of direction took more space and time, but we got the basics of it. I could feel how important the outside rein was in the process of turning, but my timing was off. I tried a little trot and canter in both directions and his transitions were very smooth. He got lots of praise throughout. What a huge success!

practice quieter aids with him. Soon I was navigating Kahlua at the walk and trot, even managing to change directions and steer through our small cone course. Now Alaska would get his first session in long lining.

Alaska is a very competent and obedient horse on the lunge, so after a quick warm up lunge, as we put on a surcingle, his bridle, and long lines we talked about how we would progress today strictly based on Alaska's responses. While I held him on lead, Emily moved the lines



A highlight of the week was long lining Alaska. He proved to be Where should you have half very good at it and I have learned quite a bit continuing to use this technique at home. Photo by Emily Gill.

Day 5 was a dressage lesson on Alaska focusing on putting "it all together." I was happy to see his attitude was positive and he was forward because I was a little worried that he would get sour by the end of the week. During this ride I really felt the results of trying to have a "ride every stride" plan and carry it out with a more correct preparation believing that Alaska would do his part. Even still, with an eagle eye on the ground, Emily asked where did you lose connection? halted? Always drawing me to think it through before she shared her observation. This,

along his back and got him acclimated to them while he got a lot of praise. Alaska was a gentleman, so Emily asked Alaska to walk on while I led him, but it was easy to tell that he didn't know if he should focus on me or Emily. Once I moved away and stood on the sidelines it dawned on Alaska that Emily was at the other end of the lines and he directed his focus to her. Alaska's demeanor at every small step was, "isn't this what all the pony's do?" Alaska

she says, is how you become a thinking and feeling rider.

I feel like I exceeded my goals. I may not yet be the rider I want to be, but I learned that trust puts horse and rider in a more successful place, especially when learning something new.

Continued on page 16



North Crest Equestrian Center



Julie R Taylor Instructor/Trainer Northcrest44@aol.com

Dressage Lessons & Training **Lesson Horses Available**

31735 Walker Road, Avon Lake OH 44012 440-933-4654 www.NorthCrestEquestrian.com Less really is more; don't fill the space between asking for FEI. Volunteerism in the community is also recognized. something and giving the

horse time to respond with another demand, be patient and allow. And most of all, keep things fun and change up the tools and exercises we use to practice skills. Throughout the week, we laughed a lot and talked about the positives, while focusing on fixing my weaknesses and I think Alaska really enjoyed himself.



Because there are grants for riders at all levels focused on the needs of professionals, adult amateurs, and youth, the grants all have different criteria and it's important to peruse what is available for you. See the box below for more information on the Gifted Memorial Fund and other grants.

As usual, the horses are

Emily used short seat lessons on the lunge to focus on my position and seat. Photo by Emily Gill.

our kindest and greatest teachers. Alaska let me know that we have developed a darn good partnership on our 5year journey. Very willing to try, I know he works for praise, and really appreciates not being bogged down with drills. He also proves that the rider is "the problem," and we must continually strive to allow our horses to be their best by working on ourselves.

Emily made the week fun and educational; we enjoyed lots of laughter along with the learning. I was a little worried about holding up physically under the full schedule we had planned and I was worried about all the new skills I was going to try. What was I thinking when I wrote the training plan? I'm grateful for trainers like Emily Gill who have their horse and rider combination's best interest at heart, "read the room," and adapt to make learning a joy. I feel like I became a better student during this process, trusting my trainer and not letting my fears prevent me from stretching outside my comfort zone.

I'm so grateful to The Dressage Foundation for the work that they do to support dressage riders at all levels. Experiences like this weeklong dressage intensive are priceless to an adult amateur, so I'm sending thanks for each donor, at any level, who made this grant possible. I also appreciate the NODA members who took their time to write letters of recommendation. Here's to continuing to learn and grow with Alaska, taking this experience of goal setting, flexibility, and focused education and applying these lessons so they serve us well into our future.

If you decide to look into a grant through The Dressage Foundation, know that volunteerism can be an important factor in adult amateur grants. All of your dressage volunteer hours at your GMO count, as well as for the USDF and The Dressage Foundation requires that Gifted Memorial Grant recipients submit their report to their GMO or that they somehow present information to their GMO membership. This is an abridged version of my full report. If you'd like to read my full report or a variety of grant reports from different grants, go to www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/ our stories/aa stories/aa reports.html Grant reports are very helpful in understanding the type of activities you can pursue with your horse through grant funding and what your experience may be like.

The Gifted Memorial Fund for Adult Amateurs: This Fund was seeded with donations received in special remembrance of Carol Lavell's great dressage horse, Gifted. Its purpose is to "give permission" to adult amateur riders to set aside quality time, in concentrated training, away from the daily pressures of job and family. The recipients will be able to spend time bonding with their horses; grooming them, giving them a spa bath, grazing them, as well as receiving lessons that they normally wouldn't be able to have.

These grants are meant for adult amateurs to have the opportunity to be in an extended training situation that is different from his/her normal training plan. Grants will not be awarded for clinics, camps, competitions or symposiums. Volunteerism is an important requirement for these grants; preference is given to applicants who have strong volunteer history with their GMOs.

www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/ apply/adult_amateurs/gifted.html

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3	Isabell WERTH DSP Quantaz	3	83.921
4	Steffen PETERS	5	
5	Thamar ZWEISTRA Hexagon's Ich Weiss	NED	78.204
6	Anna BUFFINI FRH Davinia la Douce	YS	77.843

LONGINES

Scenes From The 2023 **FEI World Cup Finals** Dressage, Vaulting, Jumping Omaha photos by Mosie Welch

My highlight was volunteering for the FEI and getting to meet other volunteers and officials, and experience areas behind the scenes including stabling, the private warm-up, and the competitor lounge.

EXIT TO

KEI WORLD CUP FINALS OMAHA 2023

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Calendar of Events

Full calendar at EVENTS tab at <u>www.nodarider.org</u>

Send submissions to mosie-editor@nodarider.org

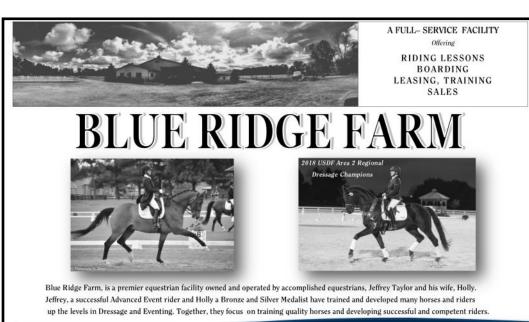
May 20 & 21 Ohio Dressage Society Recognized Show, Brave Horse

May 28 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms www.nodarider.org

www.ohiodressagesociety.com June 8-11, 2023, Dressage and More Camp. Brecksville Stables. www.nodarider.org

June 25 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Rocky River Stables www.nodarider.org

July 30 NODA Summer Series Schooling Show, Chagrin Valley Farms www.nodarider.org



For more information please contact: Holly Taylor @ email: brfhollyt@gmail.com or phone: 440.610.1606 Or visit our website at www.blueridgefarmeventing.com

NODA		NODA is a United States Dressage Federation Group Member Organization (GMO)						
Northern Ohio Dressage As <u>2023</u> Membership Fo NODA membership run 12/1/2022 through 11/30/2	orm s	A portion of your NODA membership dues goes towards your group membership in USDF. A USDF Group Membership (GM) makes you eligible for USDF Rider Awards. Group Members may participate in recognized shows without the payment of USDF non-member fees, are eligible to earn university credits, receive member discount rates for USDF events, and receive the USDF Connection magazine. (Supporting Family members do not receive a subscription to the USDF Connection – one magazine per "family.") See www.nodarider.org or www.usdf.org for eligibility to qualify for USDF regional and national championships. Note that Participating Membership in USDF is needed to compete in USDF Regional Championships.						
Important INFORMATION:								
	List and Year-F	nd Awards Program details	are mailed to members who join befor	ore March 1, 2023.				
→ The printed <u>Schooling Show Prize List</u> and <u>Year-End Awards Program</u> details are mailed to members who join <u>before March 1, 2023</u> . → NODA By-Laws, club information, shows, awards, newsletters, and events are available at <u>www.nodarider.org</u> .								
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