

Hidden Creek

Two new quadrille teams ride for hope

Last October the Never Landers and the Sorcerers battled it out in the Ride 4 Hope Quadrille Challenge to prove which quadrille team reined over the other. With the scores from the judges tied at 77%, the Never Landers pulled ahead due to spectator votes.

These votes came in the form of money that was later donated in whole to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital through their Saddle Up! Program. In all, the eleven participating riders raised \$2533.10 for the children at St. Jude's.

The success did not stop there, as the Ride 4 Hope Quadrille riders were asked to travel to Connecticut to give a lecture on their achievements at former Olympian Lendon Gray's Weekend Educational Program run by Dressage 4 Kids.

The young riders presenting talked about their journey, how to form a quadrille team, and how to ride for charity. Their assigned classroom allowed for standing

room only as they began their presentation and they received wonderful feedback from their audience.

This year, two teams will yet again battle for the title of "best quadrille" and simultaneously help fight children's battles with serious illnesses. Last year the quadrilles consisted of a team of four riders and a team of eight. This year, the playing field is leveled as each team consists of six riders.

The Sunday quadrille group has already elected to perform to music from the popular Christmas movie "Elf". The Tuesday group has unofficially decided on music from the famous Walt Disney Spectromagic parade.

While six of the 2010 quadrille riders are returning from last year, five are new and have quickly worked to catch up with the more experienced quadrille riders. These teams will compete at the NPASS Championships again this year in hopes of raising money for St. Jude's.


Christmas Magic

- *Kylie John Klein and Kause for Applause
- Haley Schierwagen and Skip, Zip and Zap
- Grace Schierwagen and Duncan
- *Georgia Skuza and I Found Nemo
- *Jessica Giuliano and Rufus
- *Rebecca Kuc and Redford's Big Mac

Spectromagic

- Brooke Jodon and Skip, Zip and Zap
- *Ashley Coleman and Duncan
- *Melodie Higgins and Masquerade
- Alyssa Wean and Oh Barney
- *Rebecca Kuc and Rufus
- Edward Kuc and Ultimate

Asterisks indicate returning riders

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Hidden Creek congratulates competitors

Bit-By-Bit Dressage Show 4/10

Rebecca Kuc and Rufus

Reserve Champion, 2nd Level
1st Place, 2nd Level Test 3
1st Place, 2nd Level Test 1

Brianna Eick and Hank

Champion, Introductory Level
1st Place, Intro Test A
3rd Place, Intro Test B

Haley Schierwagen and Skip, Zip and Zap

2nd Place, Training Level Test 4
3rd Place, Training Level Test 3

Alyssa Wean and Oh Barney

2nd Place, Training Level Test 1
5th Place, Training Level Test 2

Grace Schierwagen and Starlight

4th Place, Training Level Test 1
6th Place, Training Level Test 2

Kylie John Klein and Kause for Applause

3rd Place, Training Level Test 4
4th Place, Training Level Test 3

Jessica Giuliano and Starlight

4th Place, Training Level Test 4

Congratulations and thank you for your continuous hard work and dedication!

Best of luck in upcoming competitions

Hidden Creek Dressage Show

5/23

Ashley Coleman and Duncan

Meagan Garner and Masquerade

Jessica Giuliano and Redford's Big Mac

Crystal Goldberg and Wundra

Kelly Higgins and Duncan

Kylie John Klein and Kause for

Applause

Edward Kuc and Balladeer

Jill Kuc and Grande I Am

Jill Kuc and Ultimate

Rebecca Kuc and Rufus

Rebecca Kuc and Redfords Big Mac

Stephanie Kurtz and Skip, Zip and Zap

Keri Leventhal and Starlight

Camryn Martello and I Found Nemo

Clara Mehnert and Sharp as a Tack

Sheri Newell and Vienna

Melissa Schmedding and Skip, Zip and Zap

Riley Schreiber and I Found Nemo

Georgia Skuza and I Found Nemo

Alyssa Wean and Oh Barney

Ann Weintraub and Starlight

*****Riley and Camryn are first-time competitors! Good luck in your first horse show!*****

ESDCTA announces 2010 junior/young rider team



Hidden Creek is proud to announce that 7 of our talented child, junior and young riders have been chosen to represent ESDCTA at the Region One Junior Team Championships at Morven Park in Leesburg, VA. An asterisk will appear next to the names of our riders.

Additionally, we are proud to say that Jessica Kuc has been chosen as the team Chef d'Equipe. Being chosen for the team alone is a huge accomplishment for these riders, and we congratulate them all on making the team.

Region One Jr/Yr Team Championships

Team One—First Level

*Rebecca Kuc and Rufus (Yr)

Erika Olijslager and Delgany Flight (Jr)

Danielle Marino and My Last Good Fortune (Yr)

Team Two—Training 1&2 Child Division

Mia Olijslager and Tally

Emilie Rucci and Second Addition

Devin Smaltz and Little Bit Bolder

Team Three—Intro and Training MIX

*Stephanie Kurtz and Skip, Zip and Zap (Ch)

*Grace Schierwagen and Duncan (Ch)

*Meagan Garner and Masquerade (Yr)

*Jessica Giuliano and Starlight (Jr)

Team Four—Training level MIX

Felicia Martin-Borrero and Glorie Bee (Jr)

*Haley Schierwagen and Skip, Zip and Zap (Ch)

*Ashley Coleman and Duncan (Jr)

Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival

Christy Pelligrino and Mr. Whiskers

Cailin Shymko and Lucky Star

Chef d'Equipe: *Jessica Kuc

Do you want to learn more about the sport you love?

There has been talk over the past few years of having a "What is dressage and why am I (or my child) doing it?" clinic at Hidden Creek to better inform riders about the sport they are competing in. While tight schedules did not allow a formal clinic, all riders and parents now have the ability to learn the basics of the sport through "Jessie Kuc's Mini Guide to Dressage."

This short six page guide covers everything you need to know about dressage. What are the levels of dressage? What is the difference between USEF and FEI levels? What do the letters around the dressage ring mean and what do they stand for? How do judges score a test? FEI, USDF, ESDCTA...what do all of these letters mean? What else can I do with dressage other than my regular tests? How could I get eliminated?

If these are questions you might have, or questions you do not have the answer to, this guide is for you. Chances are there is *something* you have yet to learn! Feel free to pick up one of these guides in the office or lounge, or ask for one if you cannot find it. Some of the information covered may be on this year's Christmas Party Trivia, so brush up on your dressage knowledge! It could earn you a prize!

Ed's Ramblings: What's new this Spring at HCEC?

By Edward Kuc

Contributor

I believe that it is safe to say that another winter is behind us! Sure it will be cold and rainy some days for the next month but at least it won't be long-lived! At least for most of the time, we won't be stuck only riding in the indoor ring anymore.

The outdoor dressage ring is open and some jumps are back out in the jumping ring and these rings are now drug just about every other day. Over the winter, the indoor ring was treated again with Arena RX for dust control. Although very expensive, this stuff works really well with the heavy traffic the indoor ring gets in the winter.

As you will notice, Crystal and Brad (Wundra's owners) have completed the pain staking task of replant-

ing the pastures. That is the reason why most of the big pastures are partitioned off and the upper pastures aren't being used. The growth is looking good so the pastures should all be open again by the end of May.

Unfortunately, since the horses are turned out on the full pastures all winter, they dig up the grass. So, every spring we have to replant. Also, Crystal and Brad have been quite busy keeping the rest of the grass around the property well cut and looking great. A big Thank You to Crystal and Brad for a great job!

Most of you have already met the new addition to the barn— Buttercup. Although some of our horses, like Zip and Petey, are considered rescue horses, Buttercup is the real deal! Slaughterhouse and everything! She is owned by Amanda and is part of her horse rescue operation. Un-

fortunately, Buttercup was in horrible shape when her leg infection when internal. She was moved to HCEC to be at a nice place to die with very little chance of surviving.

HOWEVER, thanks to Thunder in the adjacent stall, Amanda's diligent hard work, and everybody giving Buttercup tons of love and attention, she is alive and doing great! She is actually well enough to go outside for a while each day now!

She still has a long road ahead of her so please continue to stop by her stall and give her attention and treats! Despite all she has gone through, she is the sweetest horse in the world!

Show season is upon us so good luck to everyone this year! Remember...more energy, more round, more bend....see, even I can be a dressage instructor!

Hidden Creek Gazette Special: Dressage Trivia

1.) What does the "K" in the dressage ring stand for?

- A. King B. Knight C. Kalypso D. Kids

2.) Which is *not* an FEI Level?

- A. Grand Prix B. Intermediare II C. Third D. Young Rider

3.) Which is *not* a USEF Level?

- A. Training B. Second C. Junior D. Fourth

4.) What organization writes the Intro tests?

- A. USEF B. USDF C. FEI D. ESDCTA

5.) True or false: There are special tests just for ponies.

- A. True B. False

6.) Which is *not* a way you can be eliminated from a test?

- A. Jumping out B. Unsafe ride C. Not moving forward D. Forgetting one movement

Answers can be found in "Jessie Kuc's Mini Guide to Dressage"

Employees earn CPR/First Aid certification

Early in March 12 individuals from Hidden Creek completed their CPR/First Aid training. Among the 12 were three instructors, three working students and two other employees. They learned various first aid techniques, the correct way to handle many dangerous situations, and practiced CPR on child and adult dummies.

As safely as all of these professionals handle the horses, horses ultimately *can* be dangerous animals. While

the responsible employees and riders at the barn are well-trained on how to minimize the risk of injury, accidents can happen.

Our employees, working students, instructors, and other borders and parents now are certified to provide first aid in the event of a fall, kick, bite and various other ailments. While the hope is to never have to use the training, in case of an emergency our riders are in good hands.

Opinion: Professional appearance can lead to better rides and self respect

The other day while teaching at the barn I looked around at the riders around me and was very impressed. One of my students wore a neat polo shirt professionally tucked in to her breeches and the other wore a Hidden Creek jacket. The working student present wore a collared shirt as well, despite the fact that she wasn't riding that day. I felt proud to be around these individuals and felt that they looked completely respectable.

Now, Hidden Creek prides itself on its family and kid-friendly atmosphere and I would never want to be thought of as anything else. Still, a level of respect and professionalism never hurt.

First of all, those of you competing adhere to a

certain "dress code" at shows to ultimately show respect for the judge. Well, why not show that respect to your instructor as well? After all, she is the one preparing you for the shows!

Secondly, the way you dress CAN affect your attitude. If you come to the barn in a baggy, ripped t-shirt and already-worn sweatpants, your attitude screams *lazy* to others *and* yourself. If you dress just a bit neater, you'll feel better and ready to work—the more professional you feel, the more seriously you'll take your riding.

Of course some riders are riding simply for fun and that's great! Still, you, your parents or your spouse are paying a lot of money for

you to be riding. Why not get the most out of it? The better attitude you have the more you'll be able to learn.

Every one of you getting on a horse is working really hard, even if it is only a hobby. You deserve respect for what you are doing. While I would never judge one of my students based on their appearance, I have to say, the ones who come out to the barn in a polo shirt, for instance, rather than a ratty t-shirt look to me like they care more. This may be entirely wrong, but this is the appearance given off.

I know full well that kids and adults alike get dirty at the barn! I'd suggest staying away from light colors, especially for young kids! I'm also not saying you

HAVE to buy Hidden Creek apparel. Still, would it hurt to wear a polo shirt rather than a t-shirt? Would it hurt to wear a collared shirt rather than a tank top?

If you don't care about the way others perceive you, good for you, I personally think that's to be commended. Still, do it for yourself—your attitude and your riding.

Should you go out and buy new clothes? No. Do you need \$60 Joules or Ariat shirts for your lessons? Of course not. Should you dress uncomfortably? Not at all. All I am suggesting is to demand the respect you deserve. Consider leaving the spaghetti straps at home and dressing to excel in the sport you put so much into.

Volunteers always needed to help our shows run smoothly

It is not too late to sign up to volunteer at our May 23rd dressage show! Volunteers are always needed as scribes, runners, ring stewards, secretaries, scorers and concession stand workers. Can't make this show? Sign up for another Hidden Creek show this summer:

June 26th ESDCTA Recognized Dressage Show

August 7th Unrecognized Dressage Schooling Show

September 11th ESDCTA Recognized Dressage and Combined Training Show

October 17th Northeast PA Show Series Championships –and– Ride 4 Hope Quadrille Challenge

Dressage
Logic Puzzle

| | | MONTH | | | | LEVEL | | | | TEST | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------|------|--------|-----------|-------|------|--------|-------------|-------------|------|------------|-----------|
| | | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST | SEPTEMBER | CHILD | PONY | JUNIOR | YOUNG RIDER | PRELIMINARY | TEAM | INDIVIDUAL | FREESTYLE |
| HORSE | STAR | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | WISH | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | MAGIC | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | DREAM | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TEST | PRELIMINARY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TEAM | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | INDIVIDUAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | FREESTYLE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LEVEL | FEI CHILD | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | FEI PONY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | FEI JUNIOR | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | FEI YOUNG RIDER | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TIPS: Each of the FEI Levels listed have four tests: Preliminary, Team, Individual and Freestyle.

The Levels, from **lowest** to **highest** are: Child, Pony, Junior, Young Rider.

Clues: Each horse (Star, Wish, Magic and Dream) won one of their tests at a show last year. From the clues below, figure out which horse won which test, at what level and in what month.

- 1.) Star was not the horse who won the Freestyle last June. The FEI Junior horse has four letters in its name.
- 2.) Dream won the Preliminary Test. The horse competing in FEI Child competed in a month with four letters.
- 3.) Wish, who isn't competing at FEI Young Rider, won a class in September. The horse who won the Individual Test did so in July.
- 4.) Magic is not a pony, and therefore cannot do the FEI Pony tests. He did not win the Preliminary Test at his level.
- 5.) The horse who won the Individual Test is exactly one level higher than the horse who won the Freestyle.