

New Mexico Dressage Association Flying Changes



The New Mexico Dressage Association is a United States Dressage Federation Group Member Organization (GMO) and all members are automatically USDF Group Members (GMs). For USDF Participation Membership, members must apply directly to USDF.

www.nmdressage.net

President's Message

In our last issue, we reflected on the accomplishments of 2009. Now it is time to look to the new year ahead, start planning and carrying out our events and activities for 2010

First, I'd like to introduce and welcome the new members of the Board of Directors. **Amy Mowins** is our new Schooling Show Chair. As the owner of "Bay Horse Designs", Amy is an equine artist. For her day-job she is an Occupational Therapist Assistant/Horse Handler at a local Hippotherapy Program and she confesses to being an addicted Dressage junkie for at least 15 yrs. **Sue Ann Kirkby** is our new Secretary and brings with her experience with management, serving with other Dressage organizations and Secretary of the Corrales Library Board. **Dianne Fay**, who has been a published writer/ photographer for the Horseman's Voice and other publications, has many years with other Dressage organizations is now our Newsletter Editor. **Virginia Gredell**, who has served as Treasurer for other organizations and has many years experience in Dressage shows is our new Membership Chair. Welcome to all of you, we are happy to have your fresh energy and support for our organization!

There are plenty of other new things to be working on. Here is a list I have so far:

- Evolve "Flying Changes" content and quality – articles and news about our members
- Hold more shows for Year End Awards
- Develop the Web Site as a place to find all the current information and celebrations
- Encourage networking among the barns and members

What do you want to happen this year? Please share your thoughts with me, with a Board Member or come to the meetings. Let us know what you would like to discuss. It will be added to the Agenda. I also encourage you to give Dianne, our Newsletter Editor, a call or email and tell her about your news: your horse, your friends or trainers. This, so we can celebrate accomplishments and events. Send photos! Write articles! Share your experiences! In this way we will get to know one another better and learn from each other!

It should be a fun and busy year for us....I'm looking forward to it!

Susan

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ANNOUNCEMENTS and SPECIAL FEATURES

Look for important information in this issue about :

- **New Schooling Show Entry Form**
- **New Board members and Contact List**
- **Hilda Gurney Clinic**
- **Bill Woods Clinic**
- **USDF Convention Report**



Flying Changes is Now On Line!! There's lots of other good information about NMDA on the web site including the NMDA Board Meeting Minutes, Standing Rules, By-Laws photos and more....check it out!! www.nmdressage.net

Advertising Rates:

Full page \$60 per issue, \$300 for 6 months. ½ page \$30 per issue, \$150 for 6 months. ¼ page \$20 per issue, \$100 for 6 months. *Classifieds ads are free to members.* Classified ads will run one month unless the member specifies otherwise. Send your ads to; nmdressage@aol.com

Contact List

The Board of Directors of the New Mexico Dressage Association is here to serve your interests. If you have suggestions, concerns, or wish to help, contact the appropriate Chair person.

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Our New NMDA Schooling Show Entry Form is here!

On page 5, in this issue of the Newsletter, the new, all-purpose NMDA Entry Form for our Schooling Shows is now available. You can also go on line a www.nmdressage.net to view and print it. From now on, *there will not be specific entry forms* published for each show, so be sure to make copies of this to keep on hand:

You will be using this new form for all NMDA schooling shows.

Please note: this form will *not* be used for shows managed by other clubs, such as the AHANM shows – they have their own entry forms that we will post to our web site.

HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM:

The web site and posted Calendar of Events will have the most updated information about the upcoming NMDA schooling shows, including dates, locations, show manager, contact information, directions to venue, and Judge. Transfer this information to the new all purpose entry form. In addition, you will be receiving regular reminders via the NMDA Yahoo email group regarding upcoming shows and events. You may also contact the Schooling Show Chair, Amy Mowins at 505-205-6820 dressagedreams@msn.com.

Deadlines for Newsletter Submissions:

For your future reference, deadline for any and all submissions to the Newsletter **must** be in by the 10th of the month preceding each publication. The Newsletter will be published six times in 2010. For instance: March 10th is the deadline for any articles, ads, etc., going into the April Newsletter. For the June Newsletter, the deadline would be May 10th, etc.....

RENEW YOUR NMDA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010

Get your renewal in now so you can continue to enjoy the benefits of your GMO membership.

Renewal form also on the web site: www.nmdressage.net

New Mexico Dressage Benefits

Subscription to the newsletter

Receive NMDA Handbook w/tests

Eligible for Year End Awards

Eligible to participate in NMDA educational programs

USDF Group Member Benefits

All Paying NMDA members are USDF Group Members

Subscription to USDF Connection magazine

Eligible to compete at USEF/USDF recognized shows

Eligible to participate in USDF Rider Award program

NMDA Mission Statement:

The New Mexico Dressage Association (NMDA) is a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of New Mexico. NMDA is also a Group Member Organization of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF). The organization's purpose is to promote the understanding of dressage and to develop skill and excellence in its use, as well as encourage, promote and conduct exhibitions, shows, clinics and other events by which interested people may develop their potential as riders and train their horses to the extent of their capabilities. Privileges of membership include but are not limited to participation in the organization's activities and receiving the Handbook/Test Book, and monthly newsletter. Members also become Group Members (GM) of USDF, with all its benefits.

NMDA Calendar of Events

February:

- 2- Board of Directors' Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 7- AHANMN Training Show -w/open Dressage - Expo NM, – (recognized by NMDA)
- 21- Discussion/Video presentation, "If Horses Could Talk" (How incorrect "modern" riding affects horses.)
- 28 – NMDA Schooling Show – Cherry Tree Farm, Barbara Burkhardt, Manager

March:

- 1 OR 2 – Mark Russell Clinic – In the Pecos, Call Sivia Gold – 470-8404
- 5 – 8 Sophie Clifton Clinic, Chaery Tree Farm
- 13 & 14 – Dances With Horses 1 & 2 – USDF/USEF
- 21 – NMDA Schooling Show – Cherry Tree Farm

April:

- 6 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 16 - AHANM dinner & discussion with Hilda Gurney
- 17 - AHANM hosts Hilda Gurney , Dressage Clinic at Cherry Tree Farm (see further information on home page)
- 18- NMDA Schooling show – Bosque Sports Complex
- 21 & 22 – Stephan Kieswetter Clinic –Windsong Dressage – 615-5050
- 23 & 24 – Bill Woods Clinic – Taos Equestrian Center – call Katherine 575/758-7542 or email : kp91@newmex.com, \$5 discount for auditors & riders.
- 25 – NMDA Schooling Show – Taos – Bill Woods judging
- 27, 28 & 29 – 3 day clinic with Mary Wanless, stabling avail. Auditors welcome, Daily Workshops for riders & auditors, for fees and information, call Maria or George 505/264-0206. email: davishatsandhorses@higherspeed.net

May:

- 4 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 6-9 – AHANM Zia Classic - Open Dressage Division, Intro thru Second 4
- 16 – NMNDA – Schooling show – Luna Rosa

May:

- 29-30 – Horses Unlimited Dressage Challenge – USDF/USEF

June:

- 1 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 20 – NMDA Schooling show – Cherry Tree
- 26-27 – AHANM – Training show – (recognized by NMDA)

JULY:

- 3-4 – Horses Unlimited – Fiesta de Dressage – USDF/USEF
- 6 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 11- NMDA Schooling show – Luna Rosa

August:

- 3 – Board of Directors meeting
- 8- NMNDA Schooling Show - Taos

September:

- 7 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 9- NMDA Schooling Show – Bosque Sports Complex

October:

- 2-3 – AHANMN Chile Roast Sport Horse – Training Show – (recognized by NMDA)
- 5 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 16-17 – Harvest Fling – USD/USEF and NM State Championships

November:

- 2 – Board of Directors meeting
- 14 & 15, Stephan Kieswetter Clinic - Windsong Dressage - 615-5050

Please Note: This is the schedule as of the time of this publication. More updated event information is available on the NMDA web site www.nmdressage.net



Tack, etc: * 28", padded, black, leather contour Girth, made in France, used once - \$50 / Flexible Fillis Irons, 4 3/4", w/treads - \$20, originally \$75 / Green, Schneider's, A-Just-A-Fit, Stable blanket w/matching hood, 74" ,Belly Band, cut-back neck, heavy weight, 16 oz. insulation. Freshly laundered, no rips, complete set \$50, originally \$125. Pictures available via email, and may be seen on the website. Contact Lynn Myers at equine12@msn.com or call 505/281-3429

More Classified Ads on line at www.nmdressage.net

CLASSIFIED ADS - TACK

Saddles: Thornhill Germania, 18W, long flap, great thigh rolls, nearly new, great Condition. Paid \$1300 new, will take \$800, OBO. Equine Fit, 18W, custom made for tall rider, \$1500 or OBO. My loss, your gain. Katherine 575/758-7542

18XW Thornhill Germania saddle. Very nice, hardly used, black saddle fro your Warmblood. Fits mine, not my behind. I paid \$1300, new – You give me \$800 or make an offer. 575/758-7542

18XW Thornhill Germania dressage saddle. Very nice, hardly used black saddle for your warmblood. Fits mine, but not my behind. I paid \$1300 for it new. You give me \$800 or make an offer. 575-758-7542.

Entry Form to be used for ALL NMDA Schooling Shows

Please copy this for future use, or it is available on the website at www.nmdressage.net Look for closing dates and specific "other" classes on the website

Name of Show: _____ **Date of Show:** _____

Dressage Tests Offered: Divisions: _____ **Divisions:** _____

USDF Introductory Tests, A & B

OPEN: Open to any horse & rider

Training Level, 1 thru 4

A/A: Adult Amateur = over 18, non-professional

First Level, 1 thru 4

Junior: Junior rider, 18 yrs. or under

Second Level, 1 thru 4

Group Classes: Jr. & Sr. Equitation, Dressage

Third Level 1 thru 3

Suitability Under Saddle

Fourth Level 1 thru 3

All classes will be ridden with the USEF or USDF 2010 tests.

Entry Form: One horse/rider combination per entry form, please.

Rider name:	Horse's Name:
Address:	Breed: Year born:
	Color: Sex: Height:
Phone: ()	Test: Level: Division: Fee:
Email:	
NMDA Member? Yes () No ()	
Owner Name:	
Address:	
	Total Class Fees:
	Office Fee: \$10
Phone: ()	Group Classes: \$10ea.
Email:	NMDA non-member fee (rider or owner) \$20
NMDA Member? Yes () No ()	Non-competing horse: \$20
Please make checks payable to NMDA	Total Fees:

Waiver of Liability

In entering the show, I recognize that injuries can occur while riding and/or receiving instruction and/or other related activities. Whereby, for my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages or otherwise, I may have against the New Mexico Dressage Association, representatives, successors, assigns and/or other related activities at all times on or after the date hereof.

Mandatory: Rider/Handler Signature: _____

Mandatory: Owner/Agent Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: Required if Rider Handler is a Minor) _____

Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Emergency contact number: _____

Mail Entries to: Refer to the Calendar of Events in Newsletter or on the web site for Show Manager name and address or contact the Schooling Show Chair, Amy Mowins at 505-205-6820 dressagedreams@msn.com

Western Dressage

by Susan Dezavelle

In August of last year, the Juan Tomas Hounds sponsored a fun, Dressage show at the Corrales, Top Form Arena. Maureen Baca managed the show and Marybeth Perez-Soto judged. Julie Wilson rode her horse, "Boots". After the show, I received a wonderful email from Julie, which went as follows. "I'd like to express my joy at having had an opportunity to ride my Quarter Horse in a Dressage show, using my western tack. I love both disciplines and yearned for an opportunity to blend his (Boot's) skills. She went on to say that....."The judge provided me with an excellent critique of those, (my) decisions and our execution – something Dressage is so good at doing,"

Julie used her barrel racing saddle because it provided a closer contact with the horse. In the interest of protecting herself from the sun, she wore her western hat but totally supports the use of helmets. She elaborated on the concept of breaking down barriers of tack and attire in order for riders to focus on horsemanship and training.

Also, Julie presented the concept of encouraging more riding without drawing strict lines about tack. Most western riders acknowledge the common techniques used by ropers, barrel racers, and pleasure riders that include Dressage principles. She said, "What is needed is to find those common techniques, work through the challenging, human interpretations of (things like) how bits work and get folks to ride their horses in better harmony. Let's work on how we can meld, blend and grow the events we already have in place with Western, Dressage and Hunt Seat."

In 2009, AQHA approved classical Dressage events with conversion scores to AQHA points. Not only will this open up opportunities for more "crossing over" of breeds in our events but it will provide educational opportunities for Quarter horse owners.

Julie Wilson manages shows for the New Mexico Quarter Horse Association and is actively pursuing the development of more beneficial relations between NMQHA and NMDA.

Using the NMDA website

The website (just type in New Mexico Dressage Association) is our link to all that is happening in NMDA. The By-Laws and Standing Rules of the organization are available should you have any questions. Also, you will find coming events, classified ads, news contact information and a lot more. While the Newsletter will be a bi-monthly publication, news on the web will be current. Get acquainted!

CLASSIFIED ADS—HORSES FOR SALE OR LEASE

Horses for sale: Gorgeous, 12 yr. old, dark Bay, TB mare, also on Oldenburg Verband and Oldenburg NA Main Mare Books. Has had two very nice foals, is also a good riding horse, jumper, quiet trail horse. \$4500 or OBO, 2008 colts by Nobel Champion and Art Deco. Great ground manners, well handled, UTD shots and worming. Load, stand for trimmer, etc., \$4500 ea. 2009 Fillies by Rosenkkoenig (Rubenstein) and Camiros (Contender), out of TB mares on Oldenburg main mare book. Well handled, good ground manners, \$2500 ea or OBO.. For information, call Katherine at 575/758-7542 or email: kp@newmex.com

Co-Lease: In the East Mountains, lovely, 1st Level, schooling 2nd level, 7 year old, 15.3h, Dutch Warmblood/Thoroughbred mare. Lease includes one lesson per month, with Ulla Hudson. Contact Randi Phillips – 293-5206 or randiphilips@msn.com

For Sale: Black/brown, 16.2h, Hanoverian gelding, German trained to PSG, schooled in Piaffe & Passage, three very correct gaits, friendly & quiet disposition, \$35K. Watch for Dost in March, at 4th Level, DVD available. Contact Sean Cunningham at 815/861-3005.....Sean@stcdressage.com

Hilda Gurney Comes to New Mexico - April 16 & 17 2010

April 16th, Dinner and Discussion at the Hotel Andaluz: Social hour, 6:00 to 7:00 pm in hotel lobby, followed by plated dinner in the Mallorca Room. Ms. Gurney will show a DVD and lead a discussion. She will also entertain your questions about the current state of Dressage.

April 17th, Clinic at Cherry Tree Farm: Rides begin at 8:00 am. Lunch available, on the grounds, provided by Bill's Bar-B-Que.

Jim Porcher answers your questions about the Clinic:

How can NMDA members sign up for the clinic? Call or email me, Jim Porcher, 505/228-6865 or email jsporch@comcast.net AFTER February 1st.

Will there be a process to select riders if you get more entries than slots available? I will be making those selections by phone or email

How many openings are available at both events? There is room for 55 dinner participants. Ms. Gurney will teach eight, 55 minute lessons at the clinic. We can accommodate 65 auditors.

What levels will be addressed? We plan to have Training Level through Grand Prix.

What will it cost to ride in the Clinic? \$175...this includes one dinner ticket and one lunch voucher.

What is the cost of just the dinner/discussion? \$45 – however, the first 30 to sign up will pay only \$10.

What is the cost to audit? \$45 – The first 50 to sign up will receive a \$10 lunch voucher.



Application Forms for the Hilda Gurney Clinic
will be available at: www.nmarab.com

USDF Convention Report—December 2 - 6 2009

Rusty Cook attended the 2009 USDF Convention and prepared this report: for the NMDA Members:

- Proposed budget presented – revenue is down, expenses are up. No USDF benefits to members have been cut. Complete Budget report available at <http://www.usdf.org/about-usdf/financials/index.asp>
- Suggestions were made to move the focus away from competition and on to education'
- For Regional News, see Terry Hunt's report, this Newsletter.
- 2010 Championships will be in Colorado, over the Labor Day weekend. It will include the Stallion Showcase as done previously.
- Arizona has bid for the 2012 show.
- A Scholarship committee has been established to award scholarships in 2010.
- The Sport Horse committee proposed having a "current year foals" class, fillies and colts in one class. Changes in the judging were discussed.
- October 30 & 31, there will be a Sport Horse Seminar at Horses Unlimited, in Albuquerque.
- Regional Championship Committee reported receiving over 800 evaluations, using the on-line survey form.
- The Four-in-one Forum (Competition Management

Council, Competitors Council, Judges Committee and TD Council) Discussed ways to improve competitions. Judging consistency was an important issue. A suggestion was made that shows not hire judges who are either too generous or too hard on riders.

- The summary of the year's progress (Moving the headquarters, more efficient record keeping, etc.) for more info, see the USDF website.
- Council and Committee reports are available online. A new Membership category, Education Membership, was established. Additional dues increases were approved. There will be a slight increase in other fees; Said fees do not go into effect until December of 2010.
- There will be no CDIs in 2010. No CDI-Ws in Calif., or the western US, in 2010.
- The Young & Developing Horse committee announced a Green Grand Prix for horse "about" eight or nine years old.
- Test Writing committee: New tests will be used December 1, 2010. The number of tests in Training Level thru Second levels, has been reduced from 4 to 3. A rising trot will be allowed through First Level. Test times will be shorter. There will be more definite delineations between levels, especially between Fourth and PSG. For more information, see USDF site.
- Linda Zang and *Brentina* were inducted into the USDF Hall of Fame. Awards to New Mexico residents may be seen on the USDF website.

CLASSIFIED ADS- HORSES

ROMEO: 4yo 17.1h gelding. Lightly shown this year receiving scores in the 70's. Very quiet under saddle and uncomplicated. Three good gaits, with an especially nice canter. He is very people oriented and sweet natured. Would be best for a tall woman or man as he may still be growing. Also has talent for jumping. Call Kim Fredenburgh at 505-877-7230 for more information
Photo on line at www.nmdressage.net

Free to a good home. Fabulous coal black Morgan (we think) 8yo pony mare. 14.2 hh. Big movement, lots of suspension, smart, sensitive. Naturally round, just started laterals. Much to special to be a lesson pony, which is why I bought her, but needs a job and her own person. Could go to at least Fourth Level with an experienced junior or small adult rider. UTD shots, worming etc. Very easy keeper. 575-758-7542, Katherine Pettus.
<http://www.sangredecrestowarmbloods.com>.

A few nice registered young stock for sale also.

FIAMA: 6yo 16+h Swedish Warmblood mare. 2008 NMDA Reserve Champion at Training Level. High 60's scores at First Level. Ready to move up to 2nd Level next season. Intelligent, sound and sane. Big elastic trot that you will love to sit! She is also listed in the Westphalian Mare Book. Show her now, breed her later. She has excellent hunter potential as well. Her fancy 2009 filly is on the premises. Call Kim Fredenburgh at 505-877-7230 for more information. Photos on line at www.nmdressage.net

FOR SALE Registered Paint Mare Foaled 1991
Sire: Gambling Man Dam: Little Miss Muffin Color - Bay/Solid w/ 3 white socks, great conformation, flashy horse Jumps, Training level dressage, trail rides, **Very versatile**
Photos available on the NMDA web site at www.nmdressage.net
Great 3-Day, Hunter, Western Pleasure prospect and/or Broodmare the sky's the limit! But wait there's more!!! She may be bred to an awesome leopard appaloosa

CLASSIFIED ADS- TRAILERS

For Sale: 95 Trails West Sierra II, 2 horse slant, bumper pull trailer. Excellent condition includes large front dressing room with water tank, rear tack with swing out 3 saddle rack, mangers with storage below, good tires. Trailer measures 7'6" height inside. Contact Sally Nelson at 505-280-6696 or salvgirl@msn.com

A Minute with the Board—December Meeting

Present: Susan Dezavelle, Barbara Burkhardt, Donald Simpson, Ulla Hudson, Randi Phillips and Sue Ann Kirkby, Dianne Fay, Amy Mowins, Virginia Gredell **Absent:** Rena Haynes, Beth Frilling and MaryBeth Perez-Soto, Harold Baskins **Members:** John Collins, Rusty Cook, Winnie Fitch, John Mowins, and Denai Meyer. **Guests:** Jim Porcher and Julie S. Wilson

Schooling Show Update – Changes in schedule reviewed. Motion made and approved to have NMDA pay for Bill Woods' judging fee and part of his transportation for judging a NMDA schooling show in Taos which will follow a Clinic that is sponsored by Taos Equestrian. This show will count toward NMD Year End Awards

Newsletter – Proposed and approved to have six, twelve page newsletters per year instead of twelve, with mailing by US Mail to those who have requested it. In between the months, publish shorter versions of the newsletter on the website only. The purpose is to reduce costs, concentrate more on content and quality and encourage the use of the web.

GMO Convention Report – See report in this publication.

Handbook Publication – Susan will be coordinating the publication. Plans are to send it out end of January.

Hilda Gurney Clinic – Jim Porcher from AHANM provided handouts and details of the clinic, being held April 17 at Cherry Tree Farm. Jim is seeking all levels of riders and hoping to have some participation from NMDA members. The Board approved giving NMDA mailing labels so AHANM can send a postcard to NMDA members (at no cost to NMDA).

AQHA Welcomes Dressage – Julie Wilson from NMQA described a program that the American Quarterhorse Association is developing to award registered AQH competing in USEF/USDF approved shows with AQHA performance points. Julie will be working with Donald to coordinate the process.

Proposal for Schooling Show Committee - Denai Meyers presented proposal for a committee to support the Schooling Show Chair. Everyone agreed that it will help to have a pool of volunteers to support the shows and thanked Denai for offering this support, encouraging her to work with the Chair and the Managers. Since the need for more managers was recognized, Barbara volunteered to put on a show manager seminar.

Ride Re-Ride Decision – It was agreed by Board members present, that each first ride for each rider and each horse/level will be counted towards the year end awards. So if one rider rides more than once or more than one horse, each first ride will be counted towards awards.

Schooling Show Entry Form - A proposed was approved to have one standard schooling show form. It can be published in the Newsletter and posted on the web site. Please refer to attachment.

Year End Awards Proposal - A proposal was approved to have NMDA offer two sets of Year End Awards, one for the Schooling Shows and one for Combined rated shows and schooling shows. A decision was not made at the meeting. The proposal will be sent out by email for a vote.
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Open Door Policy: Board Meetings and General Membership Meetings are open to members and others interested in Dressage. At Board Meetings only Board members may vote. At General Membership Meetings, only current members may vote.



Welcome to our New Column

Observations

This, the second installment of our new column, comes from three of our members who prefer to remain anonymous. The fact that all three contributors had the same/similar suggestions leads this writer to speculate there are more, out there, who share their sentiments. It should be noted that in all three cases, the suggestions were the result of comments made to these members by either folks from other areas or clinicians. In one case, a judge was overheard discussing the following topic.

The theme of this **Observations** is that we need to hold ourselves to a much higher standard. New Mexico is known for its' "laid back", relaxed attitude. It may be a definite plus when compared to the hectic, rushing environments of other areas. But, according to some observers, that attitude has crept into our Dressage community. In other areas of the country, it is difficult to tell a clinic or schooling show from a rated show. Everyone is properly turned out. Perhaps we take "casual" too far?

Among the comments that came in was that the "Professionals" should be setting the example. If they attend a show, it should be in correct attire and on a clean, properly turned out horse! Correct attire does not need to be "show attire" for schooling shows. However, cleanliness, acceptable attire and proper tack are expected. A "Professional", riding at a recognized show on an improperly groomed horse and with dirty tack, unkempt clothing or martingale stops on the reins, does not set the proper example. There are those who feel that it does not matter whether it is a rated show or not. The turn out should be correct, regardless. Those who learn by watching will receive the right or wrong message, depending, etc., etc.

The conduct of the Professionals is under scrutiny, as well. How do they handle themselves after a disappointing performance? Are they on time for their classes? How do they behave in the warm-up arena? What is their attitude toward students?

In an attempt to ease the burden of the Professionals, it has been suggested that the rest of us observe, very carefully, in order to set our own standards. Once determined,

these standards should be adhered to at all times, until they become second nature. Turning out for a lesson should be a matter of pride. It also shows respect for your Instructor. Take that one step further – whenever you are on your horse, on the trail or in the arena, take pride in your appearance. You never know who may be looking to you as an example.

In keeping with the *higher standard* theme, suggestions were made that NMDA raise the qualifying scores for awards at Training shows. This would raise the performance level, overall, and make the "automatic Championship" worthy of the honor. (Automatic Championship is when there is only one horse competing at a given level).

Another comment was that many riders are not able to work with an Instructor, on a regular basis. The following has been suggested. Judges at schooling shows could make comments and a short corrective suggestion. Instead of simply using an "O" to indicate a circle, (which means ???) Perhaps stating, "Not round, needs more inside leg", etc., might be helpful. The scribes would have to be attentive and quick but it would help those riders immensely. There was a time, when a judge, at a schooling show, would step out and visit with some, not all, of the riders, after the final salute. It took just a few minutes and a lot could be said that couldn't be written in that amount of time. Even if the time schedule had to be tweaked a bit, it would be worth the little, extra time. Often, all it takes is that one, kind, helpful word. It has also been suggested that judges, at schooling shows, turn out more professionally. After all, these are *Schooling* shows.

Perhaps, we could all add "set a higher, personal standard" to our list of New Year's resolutions. It isn't difficult, it just takes awareness and commitment. The results could be so satisfying. It's much easier than trying to lose weight. Among the suggestions, for this particular column, was that perhaps we should write a one-time article dealing specifically with suggestions for setting that higher standard and offering a "do and don't list. Would that be helpful?

Let us hear from you. We welcome any and all news. But, primarily we want your *Observations*. This column was prompted by three members' *Observations*. If you prefer anonymity, that's fine. So.... what do you have to say? Contact: Dianne Fay via email bolero24@msn.com or via phone 505/897-1428

New Mexico Dressage Association Membership Application December 1, 2009 – November 30, 2010

PRIMARY MEMBER INFORMATION: (one vote) Renewal _____ New Member _____

Name (print clearly) _____ Date of Birth (___ / ___ / ___)

Date of birth is for Vintage and Junior and is required by the United States Dressage Federation (USDF).

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (_____) _____ cell phone _____

Email _____

USDF Number (If you already have one): _____ Please look up your number and put it here.

“On file” is not sufficient and requires others to look up information in order to process your membership.

Please note preferences below:

(_____) I DO NOT wish to have my name, address and phone number published in an NMDA Member Directory.

I PREFER to receive the NMDA newsletter *Flying Changes*, by: (_____) US mail (_____) internet

Membership Category (check the applicable category):

(_____) Business Membership (one vote plus advertising*) \$ 100

* Advertising benefits outlined in Standing Rules

(_____) Primary (Adult) Membership (one vote) \$ 45

(_____) Youth (21 yr and under) (one vote) \$ 25

(_____) Additional Family memberships, \$15 per additional person (spouse/partner and/or children living at the same address). Each paid member receives all NMDA and USDF benefits. List primary member’s name above and the other names, birthdays, and USDF numbers (as applicable) below.

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____ USDF # _____ Fee _____

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____ USDF # _____ Fee _____

Make checks payable to NMDA

Total enclosed \$ _____

Mail to: Virginia Gredell , 40 Salazar Rd. Tijeras, NM 87059

New Mexico Dressage Benefits

- Subscription to the newsletter
- Receive NMDA Handbook w/tests
- Eligible for Year End Awards
- Eligible to participate in NMDA educational programs

USDF Group Member Benefits

- All Paying NMDA members are USDF Group Members
- Subscription to USDF Connection magazine
- Eligible to compete at USEF/USDF recognized shows
- Eligible to participate in USDF Rider Award program



New Mexico Dressage Association

P.O. Box 51296
Albuquerque, NM 87181-1296

TAOS EQUESTRIAN CENTER
WELCOMES
BILL WOODS
APRIL 23 AND 24 2010
FOR A DRESSAGE CLINIC
ALL LEVELS OF RIDERS WELCOME
and
NMDA SCHOOLING SHOW
APRIL 25 2010
Judge: Bill Woods

Bill Woods is a reknown international dressage trainer and USEF "R" judge. For more info on Bill go to <http://www.woodsdressage.com>. And buy his new book *Dressage Unscrambled* to get a sense of his teaching style and philosophy. For more information call Katherine at 575-758-7542 and check the NMDA website. Information, registration and entry forms will also be posted on the website <http://www.sangredecristowarmbloods.com>.
