



Flying Changes

MAY 2011

President's Letter

We had a little miss step in April, predicted high winds forced our hand to cancel the schooling show at Sandia Vista. Thanks to the crew George, Maria, Barbara for setting up in howling wind and great job by Denai with the follow through to members in regard to the cancellation. Also Barbara and a single volunteer collected arena the next day. "C" track left, had a miss step, half halt, soften, regain rhythm, "HXK" show you are flexible and we are back on track. Congratulations to Kathleen Martin for inviting Carol Lavell noted international competitor, owner rider of 5 time Horse of the Year "Gifted" and 1992 Olympian. The clinic was outstanding and everyone both riders and auditors went away with knowledge to get to

the next step and beyond.

May will be a big month to compete. Please look at the web site calendar note NMDA schooling show at Luna Rosa May 22, and Rated Show Horses Unlimited Challenge May 28-29.

Also an important vote for Participation Member Delegate Region 5, USDF is now open. We have two nominees from our club, Rusty Cook and Susan Dezavelle, both are deserving and capable for the job. So show your support you can log on at www.usdf.org or can request a paper ballot nominations@usdf.org or call 859-971-2277. Show your support and congratulations to Rusty and Susan for their nominations and their contin-

ued support to our sport.

Now the competing season is in full swing send stories, pictures to Linda, nddaeditor@gmail.com to incorporate in to our news letter. It is always great to follow the successes of our members! Hope everyone's training is going well be SAFE and have FUN!

John C.

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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.

USDF & Region 5 News



I've started my season of show management and I'm now spending a couple of hours each day processing entries. I am very excited to see everyone at the shows and various educational events and I'm proud of the many successes our

Region 5 folks have had and will have this coming year! My goal this year is to get my new baby horse out to some sport horse shows and teach her about the world outside the pasture. I hope you're all working towards your goals

for the year and may you be successful in meeting those goals.

The USDF Executive Board Spring Meeting is next week and it will be a great experience learning even more

about what goes into the management of this great organization. I've been reading my binder for the meeting and we have a lot of great topics up for discussion and decision. There will be a presentation on the National Champion-

Calendar

Pecos Bill Rides a Tornado

Now everyone in the West knows that

Pecos Bill could ride anything. No bronco could throw him, no sir! Fact is, I only heard of Bill getting' throwed once in his whole career as a cowboy.

Yep, it was that time he was up Kansas way and decided to ride him a tornado.

Now Bill wasn't gonna ride jest any tomado, no ma'am. He waited for the biggest gol-durned tornado you ever saw. It was turning the sky black and green, and roaring so loud it woke up the farmers away over in China. Well,

Bill jest grabbed that there tomado, pushed it to the ground and jumped on its back. The tomado whipped and whirled and sidewinded and generally cussed its bad luck all the way down to Texas. Tied the rivers into knots, flattened all the forests so bad they had to rename one place the Staked Plains. But Bill jest rode along all calm-like, give it an occasional jab with his spurs.

Finally, that tornado decided it wasn't getting this cowboy off its back no-how. So it headed west to California and jest rained itself out. Made so much water it washed out the Grand Canyon. That tomado was down to practically nothing when Bill finally fell off. He hit the ground so hard it sank below sea level. Folks call the spot Death Valley.

Anyway, that's how rodeo got started. Though most cowboys stick to broncos these days.

May 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Santa Fe In Synch Drill Team	2	3	4	5	6	7 WMPC Trials
8	9	10 BOD Mtg-66 Diner 6:30PM	11	12 Zia Classic AHANM—Expo	13 Zia Classic AHANM—Expo	14 Zia Classic AHANM—Expo
15 Zia Classic AHANM—Expo Dressage	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 NMDA school- ing show at Luna Rosa	23	24	25	26	27	28 USEF/USDF Horses Unlimited Dressage Chal- lenge 1 & 2-Expo
29 USEF/USDF Horses Unlimited Dressage Chal- lenge 1 & 2-Expo	30	31				

June 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3	4
5 NMDA Schooling show at Cherry Tree Farm	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 BOD Mtg-66 Diner 6:30PM	15	16	17	18 AHANM schooling show at Expo
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

The Vet's Office

Spring Horse Care Tips—

With spring now upon us, Kristina Hiney, PhD, Omega Fields equine nutrition advisor, has prepared a series of seasonal tips to help the horse owner in transitioning his or her horses and property from winter to spring:

- Schedule your horses' spring check-ups with your veterinarian to have your horses vaccinated before mosquito season. Many diseases in horses are transmitted by mosquitoes, including Eastern, Western, and Venezuelan encephalomyelitis, as well as West Nile virus.

- Have your horse's Coggins test performed. Coggins tests should be done annually to test for carriers of equine infectious anemia.

- Check all of your fences for winter damage. See *Around the Barn*, below.

- If you use electric fences, check your chargers to ensure they're still functioning properly.

- Now is the time to clean and check your tack for wear, potential weak spots, rotting, and breaks before riding season gets into full swing.

- Before heading down the

road, be sure to test your trailer's lights, brakes, and floors as damage or corrosion from snow and salt might have occurred.

- Avoid sudden turnout to lush, green pastures. Use a slow adaptation to grazing, introducing your horse to pastures a few hours at a time.

- Begin your exercise program slowly. If you have not ridden much over the winter, your riding partner will not be in shape and will need a slow return to work to avoid soreness.

Www.thehorse.com, May 01 2011, Article # 18175



Around the Barn

Spring Pasture Chores

All fencing should be inspected regularly, but electric horse fence needs a bit more attention. It's a great fencing choice, but it can short out and lose voltage. A continuous snapping noise often alerts you to a problem with

your electric fence, but voltage drain can be silent and go undetected. An inexpensive, hand-held voltage testers can be used for manual checks.

Tighten any loose insulators and re-tension the wires. Trim back any weeds that

may cause a short.

Wood fencing is sturdy and beautiful, but subject to weather related problems. Wood dries out and splits, and you'll end up with popped nails and loose boards. And of course, wood rails are perfect for chewing,

My treasures do not click together or glitter, they gleam in the sun and neigh in the night. ~ Unknown

Continued on page 4

Around the Web

Windsong Dressage has a new look and has added a link to their new horses for sale site! www.windsongdressage.com then click on Horse Sales.



We have an article this month on the addition of Western Dressage exhibitions to NMDA schooling shows and associated guidelines for those who wish to participate (see page 4). For added interest,

go to the Western Dressage Association website for more information on this emerging aspect of the sport-

www.westerndressageassociation.org



Show News

AS noted by John, the Sandia Vista show was canceled due to very uncooperative weather.

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Around the Barn—*cont. from page 2*

rubbing and scratching (if you're a horse) which leads to more damage. Broken wood is the cause of most fence-related puncture wound injuries.

Periodically walk your fence line to assess damage; carry a hammer and a few nails to avoid a trip back to the barn. This common pasture safety step should be done every few months.

Pasture Problems

There's always something sharp or jagged lurking in your pasture or barn...and your horse will always find it. Keep your eyes open for jagged tree limbs, sharp edg-

es on machinery, protruding nails...you get the idea. Horses don't always follow your pasture safety rules; you may need to protect them from themselves.

Look for objects that have worked their way up through the ground. As the pasture gets walked and rained on, the soil gets worn down and rocks and other dangers magically appear. Rocks can sprain a horse's leg and sharp objects can get embedded in her hoof. Like the small sharp things in a very big barn, your horse will find small, sharp things in a very large pasture.

Look for [toxic pasture](#)

[plants](#). Contact your local [agricultural extension](#) for a list of poisonous pasture plants that are common to your area.

Early spring is a good time to look for areas with poor drainage. Take a camera along on your pasture walks and snap a quick image of any problem areas.

If you need to frost seed, now is the time. Early spring is the best time to apply soil amendments are [pasture fertilizers](#), too.

The Inside Story—Western Dressage

NMDA Western Dressage Classes

By Barbara Burkhardt

The New Mexico Dressage Assn. has been allowing exhibitors at our schooling shows to ride their horses in a Western saddle and traditional western clothing for about two years now. Horses must be shown

in a snaffle bit and riders must wear a regulation (ASTM/SEI) protective headgear (just like the "regular" dressage riders). Unlike the newly formed "Western Dressage Assoc. of America" (see rules in the USEF Morgan Horse Division) NMDA's "Western Dressage" classes will be judged by traditional USEF Dressage Div. rules. That is: A Snaffle

bit, preferably with a cavesson noseband, must be used in Intro thru 2nd level. At 3rd and 4th levels a snaffle or a regulation Double bridle may be used. The gaits required are medium and free walk, working trot and working canter (plus Medium, lengthened, extended, etc. at the upper levels).

Continued on page 6

Clinic Corner

Clinic with **Stephan Kiesewetter**

June 17 - 24, 2010

Windsong Dressage, Edgewood, New Mexico

Contact Ulla 505-615-5050

Stephan Kiesewetter will be back in New Mexico in between June 17th and 24th-tentative dates for clinic are June 23-24 (weekdays).

He offers private, semi-private and small group (3 riders) lessons.

Private lessons are 45 Minutes - \$180 per lesson*

Semi-private lessons are 60 min - \$120 per lesson* (req. two riders)

Group lessons are 60 min - \$90 per lesson* (req. three riders)

Audit fee is \$25 per day (Non-Members \$30)

*Prices are for NMDA members – all others pay an additional \$10.

If you are interested, please contact: Ulla Hudson at 505-615-5050
Stephan Kiesewetter

Mr. Kiesewetter conducts clinics around the globe including several locations in the United States. He currently holds clinics in Memphis, Santa Rosa, Orange County, New Mexico, Phoenix, Denver, and Steamboat Springs areas. He has held clinics at many of these locations since he first started teaching in the US over nine years ago. His students are dedicated and loyal clients which is the best testimony to his talent as a teacher and trainer. He also has a true gift for pairing horse/rider combinations.

Mr. Kiesewetter is the Director of Training for Pferdesport Wintermuehle, GmbH, in Neu-Anspach, Germany. He oversees the training and sales operations of the entire operation ranging from starting young horses to training and sales of International Grand Prix champions. He works with clients from all corners of the world. Stephan completed his Bereiter studies at the German Riding School in Warendorf in 1995. In 1997, he passed his Masters FN test with the third highest score ever (he still holds third position). For this achievement he was decorated with the Stendbeck medal. Stephan was previously the Chief Training Conductor and Deputy Director of the German Riding School in Warendorf and German national coach for the German Para Equestrian team at the Sydney Olympics. He currently trains several successful horse/rider combinations at the FEI levels in Germany.

Mr. Kiesewetter is an accomplished trainer, instructor and breeder and has competed self-bred and trained horses through FEI in Germany. He is passionate about the correct training of the horse to insure the physical and mental well-being of the animal.

USDF & Region 5 News—*continued from page 1*

ships, several upcoming USDF educational projects, approval of the 2012 Regional Championship sites, 2011 USDF Convention schedule discussions, and many other things covered. The June regional message will hopefully provide you with some great updates on many of these topics.

Many new rule changes have gone into effect this year, including some as recently as March, so please be sure to read up on your USEF rulebook and be knowledgeable. The new helmet rule is a very important read. If you're not showing, reading the rule book, especially the definitions of the gaits and movements, is a great educational

tool. The definitions for the movements have changed this year also.

We have 18 declared Junior/Young Riders for the 2011 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships. If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Kathleen Donnelly, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at kathleendonnelly20@hotmail.com or 970-310-8729.

I have not heard from anyone regarding nominations for our 2011 Region Lifetime Achievement Award. This award was started in 2009 by our then Regional Director Theresa Hunt and recognizes

folks who have made significant contributions to dressage in our region. If you have someone you feel has made a contribution to our dressage community, please send me their name and a brief nomination letter. We will award one or more recipients this year and we would love input from folks throughout the region. Please email me nominations at slush@drwgw.net. Our previous winners are Barbara Stine and Dr. Rudolf Vlaten. I would really love some help from our Region 5 members in determining who they feel is deserving. Till next month!
Heather Petersen
Region 5 Director

The Inside Story—Western Dressage—*cont from pg 4*

A “working” trot is an active, ground covering trot, with a clear period of suspension (all four feet off the ground). A good gage is the horse is stepping in or near the tracks left by the front feet. It is comparable to the “business” trot of a working cow horse or a good trail horse. It is NOT the slow, two-beat “jog” taught to arena Western Pleasure horses. The Dressage horse is encouraged to work “through” his back by riding the horse “from behind” and “to” the light contact of the bit. This encourages the horse to swing or flex his back upward (which can be compared to flexing a bow). This allows the rider to sit the trot in comparative comfort. Until the rider learns how to produce this swinging

hit in the horse's back - using



back - he/she is encouraged to “rise” (post) to the trot.

The “working” canter is an uphill (poll slightly higher than withers) three-beat gait with the hindquarters “under” and lifting rather than trailing behind. Again, the horse's back should be rounded to make for a soft, bounding, landing. Horses with the poll level or lower than the withers are more prone to stumble, and they will land heavily on their forehead.

Dressage horses are ridden “on” the bit (meaning a consistent, but light contact) so you can influence this back action. The horse that is tucking his chin “behind” the bit is avoiding control and/or “holding” his back stiff which produces “bounce” - except at www.AQRN.com for how to

qualify). The Arabians, Morgans, Andalusians, and Friesians have “Dressage” rules in the USEF Rule Book for their “Breed shows”.

For those horses that are already trained to do jog and lope - hopefully the Breed shows and Western shows will start offering “Western Dressage tests” - which is the goal of the “Western Dressage Assoc. of America”. Until then - try our Western Dressage - you might like it!

Classifieds

The Ride of Your Life: Coaching for Equestrians

Coaching provides an opportunity to address the "inner issues" of mental or emotional challenges, such as fear or anger when working with your horse, recovery from an accident, balancing home and horses, show jitters, student/trainer relationships, and more. See you your training will progress when these issue are not taking a hold of the bit and running you! Completely confidential coaching sessions, are available by phone or in person, with or without horse. Unsure? Experience a free 30 minute introduction. 505-231-5353 or lynn@lynnclifford.com



BRAND NEW - The Santa Fe In Synch Drill Team

Safety, fun and learning for everyone! Learn great training patterns and safely expose your horse to riding in a group in a progressive way. Focus on quality walk work initially, tempo, individual control, group cohesion, spacing (farther apart in beginning until riders and horses acquainted), communication, then the movements become more complex and trot and canter are introduced as appropriate. At the Santa Fe Equestrian Center (formerly The Horse Park) on Sunday afternoons every other week. Also by arrangement at your barn with a 4 rider minimum. \$30 - \$20 based on what you can pay w/ SFEC \$20 facility fee. Call or email for more information. 505-231-5353 or lynn@lynnclifford.com.



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Lynn Clifford, MA, EAGALA II, LPCC pending

www.lynnclifford.com or call (505) 231.5353 for more information:

- ~ The Ride of Your Life: Coaching for Equestrians NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS
- ~ Holistic Horsemanship/Classical Dressage for All
- ~ Expressive Arts & Horse Assisted Personal Growth
- ~ Dynamite Nutritional Products

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"Out beyond ideas of right doing and wrong doing there is a field. I'll meet you there." Rumi



got suppleness???

Suppleness is what separates the average Dressage horse from the fabulous one. Ravel is the perfect example of this! This simple method assists your horse in reaching his MSP ~ Maximum Suppleness Potential.

In order to be supple, muscles must be free of all tension. All horses accumulate tension in their muscles to one extent or another, mostly to a very large extent. Learn this simple technique to release tension from your horse's muscles. Cost is extremely reasonable. Call Sivia Gold-470-8404; siviagold@yahoo.com



Stubben Tristan Dressage Saddle ~ older saddle in excellent condition. New billets, 17" seat, 30.5 cm (medium-wide tree). Will include stirrups, 48" girth, and synthetic fleece pad. Tristan's are Stubben's "first and most beloved" model of dressage saddle. New they are \$2500. Start in a quality saddle that will last a lifetime rather than the cheap starter saddles. Spring steel tree. In Albuquerque South Valley near Cherry Tree and Tonaya farms. Call 505-991-3489 for additional photos or more information.



NEW MEXICO
DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

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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.

The Back Page

I want to emphasize that this is YOUR newsletter. I really need input from the membership and, if nothing else, pictures from the shows and events that we have.

Alternatively, if you have an idea for an article please let me know.



Happy Trails!

