



# Collections

## Suncoast Dressage and Combined Training Association

### May 2017 Newsletter

#### Official contacts

Joan Potter President and

Schooling shows

Cell 813-679-6013

Home 813-855-3780

Markpotter50@gmail.com

Harvey Rose Vice President

Cell 727-365-9877

Home 727-546-7673

Hprose1@verizon.net

Sally Cahill Treasurer and Recognized Shows

813-286-1698

Cahill.sally@gmail.com

Jane Whitehurst Secretary and Newsletter

727-254-3554

leadchanges@verizon.net

Tracey Thompson webmaster

TraceyCPSI@tampabay.rr.com

Barbara Sutton Schooling shows and volunteer hours and awards

727-771-77510

barbaratom1@verizon.net

SDCTA May 9 meeting will be held at Royal Blue Stables Please plan to attend @ 7:00. Please contact Elizabeth if you need directions. 813-613-5775

Our distinguished guest speaker is Mireille Doffegnies Henkemans with MD Equine Therapeuti Services. We will be learning acupressure points on the horses and how essential oils can be beneficial as well.

There will also be discussion on the upcoming SDCTA recognized show at Tampa Fairgrounds. It is helpful when members are at the meeting and can find out first hand what positions need to be filled and sign up at that point. What are you interested in doing?

Runner, Ring Steward, Scribe, Scorer, Ring Set up, Ring Take Down, Lunch runners, Airport runners, Stall card placement



Great article Rebecca. I loved this. So many of our members have other riding disciplines going on besides straight dressage. Share your story. We love to get to know all our members a little better!!  
[Look for the rest of the article on the back page!](#)

Congratulations to Rebecca and Pete on winning the Western Pleasure Division!!!



## Fun at the Pro-Am Saddlebred Show

Two weeks ago, I had the privilege to compete my friend's horse Pete, an American Saddlebred, at the Pro-Am horse show in Perry, Georgia. Pete and I have come a long way together, considering he started out as a "side project" and I never expected to be showing him and winning big prizes at major breed shows around the southeast. My goals with Pete have always been to bring dressage principles into his training and this has helped him tremendously to be a better citizen. He now lopes and jogs along in the show arena with the sharpness of an FEI horse, and I couldn't be prouder. Here is a breakdown of what makes saddle seat shows similar and different from our shows.

Unlike in dressage where we have set times to perform, saddle seat shows do not have specific times for the individual classes to start/end. They do however begin the sessions at certain times and go from there. Morning sessions usually begin around 9 or 10 AM, while evening sessions begin around 6 or 7 PM. With that said, I have to admit I miss having a certain, specific time that I can work around knowing I must be ready by that time like at our dressage shows. It can be nerve wracking because sometimes there are breaks in between classes and you have to wait longer before entering the arena for your shining moment. I like dressage shows because we almost always run right on schedule except when something major happens, plus our rules are much stricter on when the rider MUST be ready to enter the arena for his/her test. Saddle seat shows are really lax on this, and I've seen it where the ring master will hold the gate for several minutes because a horse or rider needs a few extra minutes even though everyone else is trotting around ready to go.

Another difference is that in saddle seat shows a horse can be entered in as many classes over the course of the show as desired. When I show Pete, I enter him in all the amateur western pleasure classes for American Saddlebreds as well as the open western pleasure classes because he rides better if he's kept busy. Usually Pete's a jerk for the first class of the show and gets better from there. There is always a qualifying class for each division followed by a championship or stakes class on another day, and not everybody chooses to enter the championship. Therefore, your championship classes may not have everybody from your qualifier and it can make it easier to get noticed. This can be a good or a bad thing! Less horses means more pressure to look and perform well because you are being watched closely, although dressage has prepared me well for solo performances. Many of the young ladies I mentor who ride saddle seat and are used to riding in huge classes cannot fathom how I can ride all by myself in front of the "mean old dressage judges!"

While your average dressage show runs over the weekend, the typical "big tour" saddle seat shows last about a week, starting on Tuesday night and running through Saturday night with both morning and evening sessions. Unlike in dressage, an amateur rider may compete in an open class. The only restriction is that amateur horses competing in western or english pleasure must have regular shoes or be barefooted. Open classes allow for horses with padded shoes to be entered, because usually they are coming from another division where pads are allowed and are trying out western for the first time. Open classes also allow any breed to compete, including morgans, arabs, and occasionally a quarter horse. There is also a specialty class called the William Shatner pleasure class that is specifically for the best mannered western saddle-



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!

May Birthdays

Adair Von Spronsen

You get the whole month to yourself unless I am missing some birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

April 11 2017 SDCTA meeting held at the Red Barn

In attendance: Jane Whitehurst, Debra Cangialosi, Adair Von Spronsen, Angela Lytle, Joan Potter, Elizabeth Campbell, Christina Sanders, Carol Smith, Jamie Sawyer, Susan Marston, Alberta McEuen, Sally Cahill, Jen West:

1. Our guest speaker Tori Potter came down with the flu and could not give her talk on leather. She was very disappointed and so was the club. We will have her back in the summer months.
2. Our next meeting will be with Mireille at Elizabeth Campbells home.
3. The club decided to squeeze in one more schooling show at Keystone Sport horse on May 7 Sally Cahill will judge. (please note this show was later cancelled and an email was sent out).
4. Brynn Cahill will have a member page on the new SDCTA website she is working on. Please send pics to her, and they can be retro or new. [Brynna.cahill@gmail.com](mailto:Brynna.cahill@gmail.com)
5. We are still waiting on information for when the new dressage ring will be sent.
6. The rated show will need scores and scribes. You may get volunteer hours or money!
7. Elizabeth is looking to have Charlotte Lassetter back probably in June along with Sue Kolstad.
8. Sally thought that Endel Ots might be a good clinician to have while we still have access to the covered arena at Keystone. Members should check him out on line and get back with their thoughts.

Minutes

Secretary

Jane Whitehurst

## Some Spooky advice

1. Don't spook at an object before your horse does. Often times it is the rider who conveys the message to the horse that a certain object, or corner of the ring is scary.
2. When your horse does shy try not to ride straight to the object. Instead, start circling near the object each time getting a little closer as you leg-yield him out in the circle. Pretty soon they will ignore the scary spot and start focusing on you.
3. Try not to pull back on your horse when you feel them getting tense pushing your hands forward and using your legs will tell your horse it is okay to go forward.
4. When going on a trail with lots of trees and bushes try taking your whip and hitting the bushes. When the horse is tense and it is really quiet the first noise will cause them to spook. Making noise will calm the horse down so when a noise does occur the horse won't over react so much.
5. If you can, take a good dog with you on the trails, it is beneficial. The horse gets used to the dog darting in and out along the trail so when the deer goes bounding across the path it might not be so frightening.
6. Ground work is always a good place to start when working with spooky horses. They get used to you as a leader on the ground and that transfers over to you being a leader on their back.
7. Hang some stuff from a tree, put a tarp on the ground, use the pool noodles to walk your horse through. Try it on the ground first then ride your horse. Have a treat ready when they are a success with a new item. This will build confidence for both rider and horse

Submitted by Jane Whitehurst



President  
Joan Potter

## SDCTA Calendar

SDCTA May 9 Meeting

SDCTA rated June 10-11

SDCTA rated August 19-20

Looking for some nearby schooling shows Check out the following

LAJUF

Stride

Sumter Equestrian

Many of these are having schooling shows once a month until summer

## SDCTA CLASSIFIEDS

### Instruction

Joan Potter, USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist, instructing beginner to advanced, Pinellas County and Odessa/Lutz area. 813-855-3780.

Leslie O'Sullivan, USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist and USDF "L" judging graduate is offering lessons, beginner to advanced at Admiralty Farm in Odessa, FL, or will travel to you. 813-920-9041 or 727-510-2338.

Elizabeth Campbell, USDF Bronze Silver and Gold Medalist offers lessons for beginners to advanced riders. Lunge lessons to improve their independent seat. School horse at Royal Blue Stables, Odessa. (813)-613-5775

Jane Whitehurst, USDF Bronze, Silver and Gold Medalist at Nosara Farms, Odessa. I can come to you or you may trailer in for lessons/training and use full length mirrors. Experienced with all types of training issues. Love to help people achieve a better seat either for dressage or everyday riding. Call 727-254-3554 Website Nosarafarms.com

### FOR SALE

30" Contoured Dover dressage girth with used shearling removable cover and new shearling cover \$30 Assorted bits \$3 New lunge line with donut handle \$10 Back Brace \$3 Full set of Barbara Shulte audio tapes \$10 Rain Poncho \$3 Assorted books \$1 Linda Tellington Jones videos and book \$3 New stall gate-yoke style (52) x 39) \$45 lunge whip \$10 Crops \$5 Black polos wraps (4) \$8 Call Barbara Sutton

### BOARDING/TRAINING

Full board and dressage training at Royal Blue Stables with 12 stalls on 6 acres. 3 stalls open up to their own pastures. Separate small pasture available with 12x24 stall for horse with limited turnout. Owner/trainer on premises. Individual turnout and special care provided. Lighted 60x20m sand/clay boarded arena, with full length mirrors on the short side. \$700/month. (813)-613-5775

Nosara Farms full-boarding or full boarding and training. Perfect place to keep your horse in the summer. We are very dry even after a hard rain and our barn always has a cool breeze. Horses go out individually or in a group in fields of grass. Feed 3X a day, owner lives on premises, and horse's schedule is the same 7 days a week. Check us out at Nosarafarms.com Our dressage arena has full length mirrors on the short side, lights for night riding, and music for your listening pleasure. Footing is 250 sand which drains quickly and gives great support and cushion for the horses. \$675 month Jane Whitehurst 727-254-3554

Admiralty Farm, Odessa, FL. Regulation sand ring, eight acres of lush fertilized grass turnout. Must see. 813-920-9041 or 727-510-2338.

Refer to the USDF  
Region 3 Calendar  
For all of the rated  
Shows. Please  
send me dates on  
upcoming clinics  
and schooling  
shows and we can  
put this in our cal-  
endar.



beauty. Pete and I have only recently been able to do this class justice!

One similarity both types of riding share is the desire for a brilliant horse! If there's one thing I've noticed during all of my time doing these shows is the shared love of a brilliant, athletic, and mentally sharp animal. The blue ribbon and tri color winners in saddle seat all share a keen eye, a smart expression, and the look of excellent health and fitness--just like the top dressage horses that we know and love. The judges notice every single detail whether you know it or not, and they know when a horse loves his job and loves his rider. In saddle seat (and to an extent in dressage too) this factor is most definitely taken into account in the show ring. As a spectator at both types of shows, I know I can tell when somebody really enjoys a ride and loves their animal. It radiates off of them! So in summation, both types of riding encourage gameness and expression in their top competitors. While we dressage riders may not be bringing out the firecrackers anytime soon, we definitely have our own ways to bring out the fire in a super athletic and exciting horse.

At Pro-Am to my wonderful surprise, Pete and I were the reserve grand champions of the entire show for the western pleasure division. I owe our success not only to his handsome looks, but most importantly to my background in dressage. It has given me so many advantages needed to be successful in the show ring, such as timing, endurance, and finesse. It has given Pete, who once a snotty school horse, discipline and respect for his riders. When the ring master called us in for the line up and final inspection by the judge, I knew we had a great ride. And of course, I was super proud to be the only cowgirl out there who can ride the grand prix ;)