Hannah Salazar rides in the New Test Clinic with Janet Foy.

*Photo by Christina Dale.*
May

2-3 Shannon Dueck Clinic at GoodNess
Ridge Farm, Mt. Airy, Md. Contact Shari Glickman at 301-351-5530 or see www.goodnessridge.com
2-3 CDCTA Licensed Show at Morven Park, Leesburg, Va. See www.cdcta.com
4 PVDA Monthly Board Meeting at Stonebrook Farm, Clarksville, Md. Everyone welcome! Contact your favorite Board member for information.
6-7 Uwe Steiner Clinic at Chesapeake Dressage Institute, Annapolis, MD. Visit our website at www.ChesapeakeDressage.com or call 410-267-7174.
9 Catoctin Chapter In-Hand and Dressage Schooling Show, Middletown, Md. The only schooling show in the area with dressage sport horse in-hand classes and dressage under-saddle classes. The show is casual, fun and educational. See http://catoctinchapterpvda.weebly.com/show.html or contact Leslie Raulin at RAULINL@yahoo.com or 301-834-7651
9 Linda Zang Ride a Test Clinic at Chesapeake Dressage Institute, Annapolis, Md. Visit our website at www.ChesapeakeDressage.com or call 410-267-7174
9 FADS Schooling Show at Pleasant Valley Stables. See www.frederickdressage.org
10-12 Grant Schneidman Clinic at Ships Quarters, Westminster, Md. Contact Donna Ruth at 410-751-9953 or shipsquartersfarm@msn.com
16-17 PVDA Annual Spring Show at Morven Park, Leesburg, Va. See www.pvda.org
23-24 Jan Brons Clinic at Chesapeake Dressage Institute, Annapolis, Md. Visit our website at www.ChesapeakeDressage.com or call 410-267-7174
23-24 Dressage at Heavenly Waters, Bel Air, Md. Licensed Competition. See www.marylanddressage.org
30 FADS Schooling Show at By Chance Farm. See www.frederickdressage.org
31 Shore Clinic Clinic with USDF Certified Instructor Deri Jeffers at Sunset Bay Farm, Details 757-302-0224 or deripiaffe@aol.com
31 Schooling Show at Worthymore Equestrian Centre, Chestertown, Md. Dressage tests, Eventing Dressage, Western Dressage, Leadline, classes for children with disabilities. Lunch offered for sale, prizes and ribbons, indoor warmup, outdoor enclosed sand ring. Contact Anne Thibodeau, at 239-272-4147 or baysidechapfer@yahoo.com
31 Calvert County Schooling Show at Kings Landing Park in Huntingtown, MD. All USDF, USEF, USEA and western dressage tests are offered! Judge is Aviva Nebesky. Contact Christina Dale at 301-247-6043 or see http://calvertpvda.smugmug.com/Shows/Schooling-Show-Kings-Landing.

June

1 PVDA Monthly Board Meeting at Stonebrook Farm, Clarksville, Md. Everyone welcome! Contact your favorite Board member for information.
5 FADS at Celebration Farm. See www.frederickdressage.org
5 VADA/Novo Summer I Licensed Competition. See www.vadanova.org
6-7 VADA/Novo Summer II Licensed Competition. See www.vadanova.org
6-7 Tri-County Dressage presents, "From Contact to Connection to Collection" with Jane Savoie. This is a must see event. For details visit Tri-County Dressage on Facebook, or contact Hallie Ahrensbrak at harnsbrak@federaledlighting.com / 240-882-2531 or Julie Gross at juliegross@comcast.net / 301-503-7709
7 Shore Chapter Schooling Show at Sunset Bay Farm. Details 757-302-0224 or deripiaffe@aol.com
13-14 Jan Brons Clinic at Chesapeake Dressage Institute, Annapolis, Md. Visit our website at www.ChesapeakeDressage.com or call 410-267-7174
14 Open Schooling Show at Begin Again Farm, Leonardtown, Md. Contact Michele Alexander at beginagainfarm1@aol.com or call 240-298-0283
20 FADS Schooling Show at Lookingglass Farm, Hamilton, Va. See www.frederickdressage.org
20 Tri-County Dressage is hosting a headphone Commentary with “S” Judge Elizabeth Madlener. Will be in the indoor coliseum at PVDA's Ride for Life. Headsets are limited, so reserve early. Contact Hallie Ahrensbrak at harnsbrak@federaledlighting.com or 240-882-2531
20-21 PVDA Ride For Life Show at Prince George's Equestrian Center, Upper Marlboro, Md. See www.pvda.org
27 Shore Chapter mounted clinic with Richard Williams at Sunset Bay Farm. Details 757-302-0224 or deripiaffe@aol.com
28 FADS Schooling Show at Blue Horse Farm, Jefferson, Md. See www.frederickdressage.org

July

2 FADS at Lookingglass Farm, Hamilton, Va. See www.frederickdressage.org
13 PVDA Monthly Board Meeting at Stonebrook Farm, Clarksville, Md. Everyone welcome! Contact your favorite Board member for information.
18-19 Jan Brons Clinic at Chesapeake Dressage Institute, Annapolis, Md. Visit our website at www.ChesapeakeDressage.com or call 410-267-7174
19 Open Schooling Show at Begin Again Farm, Leonardtown, Md. Contact Michele Alexander at beginagainfarm1@aol.com or call 240-298-0283
25 Shore Chapter mounted clinic with Susie Cain at Sunset Bay Farm. Details 757-302-0224 or deripiaffe@aol.com
25-26 USDF Region 1 Youth Team Competition. See www.usdfregion1.org
26 FADS at Sugarloaf Farm, Boyds, Md. See www.frederickdressage.org
31 FADS at Celebration Farm, Union Bridge, Md. See www.frederickdressage.org

August

1 One Day Licensed Show (NEW!) at Michele Wellman’s By Chance Farm. See www.bychancefarm.com
3 PVDA Monthly Board Meeting at Stonebrook Farm, Clarksville, Md. Everyone welcome! Contact your favorite Board member for information.
15 Tri-County Dressage 2nd Annual Silent Auction and Summer Social at Dodon Winery. For additional information, go to Tri-County Dressage Facebook page or contact Hallie Ahrensbrak at harnsbrak@federaledlighting.com / 240-882-2531 or Julie Gross at juliegross@comcast.net / 301-503-7709
15 Freestyle Competition to benefit Ovarian Cancer at Morven Park, Leesburg, Va. See www.morvenpark.org
23 Open Schooling Show at Begin Again Farm, Leonardtown, Md. Contact Michele Alexander at beginagainfarm1@aol.com or call 240-298-0283
29 PVDA Loch Moy I Licensed Competition, Adamstown, Md. See www.pvda.org
30 PVDA Loch Moy II Licensed Competition, Adamstown, Md. See www.pvda.org
Dear Members,

Welcome Spring....or at least we are trying to welcome it as Mother Nature is truly trying to test us! I would like to introduce myself...My name is Meghan Truppner and I am the Director of the Junior/Young Rider Program for PVDA. I am extremely excited for the numerous JR/YR’s that have chosen PVDA to showcase their talents, and as an organization it is our job to showcase those talents well! We have some great things coming up and I hope you take part in all we have to offer.

The first JR/YR show was a huge success! It was a beautiful day with equally successful rides. Along with ribbons, candy, and carrots, each rider was privileged to an educational experience provided from our judge, Trisha DeRosa. She went above and beyond, walking out to each rider after their final salute to give pointers and sometimes an encouraging word or two which helped each rider earn more points in the next test! This is EXACTLY why the JR/YR’s need to attend these special shows. This program wants to see you succeed and grow as riders!

Did you know that ALL the money raised at JR/YR Shows goes directly back into the JR/YR Program? This is why it is important that all participants attend our JR/YR ONLY shows!

We have three more coming up: June 6, 2015, August 16, 2015, and October 3, 2015.

PVDA has joined with VADA for the 25th anniversary USDF Region 1 Youth Team Championships, held at Morven Park, VA, July 25-26, 2015! I cannot WAIT to showcase our talented riders! Look for the ad in this month’s issue to apply; we look forward to strong teams representing us this year!

I want to hear from you! This is your program and I want you to get the most out of it! What would you like to see more of? Clinics? Field trips to breeders, Dressage at Devon, top professionals in their own barns? I have been asked to host a Summer Camp where the riders bring their horses for a week of learning, to which I am working on for 2016.

I am looking forward to hearing from each and every one of you and can’t wait to see you all competing!

Cheers to 2015 PVDA JR/YR’s! This is your year!

Meghan
Mountain Harmony Drill

Report and photo submitted by Cathy Whipp

Mountain Harmony is proud to announce that our group is growing and because of that growth we have split into two groups. We now have a MHQT – youth rider group that meets at Celebration Farm on Sundays at 1pm and a MHQT – adult group that meets on Fridays at 6 pm.

MHQT Youth is working hard at preparing for their first show in June and will be holding practices on Sunday May 10, 17, and 31.

MHQT Adult are hard at work at having fun, learning the moves and preparing a Freestyle. Their meeting dates are on Friday May 8, 15, and 29.

The Mountain Harmony Chapter of PVDA is a Quadrille Drill Team based out of Celebration Farm in Union Bridge, Maryland. Mountain Harmony Quadrille Team combines dressage with music to create an artistic, technical and entertaining performance. Our goal is to have fun and work together as a competitive team.

MHQT – Mountain Harmony Quadrille Team welcomes both youth and adult riders, as well as horses and ponies of all breeds. Every horse and rider can have fun with Mountain Harmony Drill Team.

For more information please contact Cathy Whipp at cawhipp@comcast.net or 301–807–8758. You can also join the Mountain Harmony Quadrille Facebook page to stay up to date on our activities.

Mountain Harmony Drill Team members Sophie, Celia, Brenda, Abby, Tiffany, Morgan, Dwight, and Silhouette.
Clarksville

Report and photos submitted by Carolyn Steppe

On April 4, the PVDA Clarksville Chapter hosted a spring "Tune Up" clinic with USDF Silver Medalist/FEI competitor and "L" Judge Suzy Floyd. Riders had the opportunity to work on specific training issues focusing on the new upcoming USDF Tests. A huge thank you to Stonebrook Farm for supporting another chapter activity!

Shore

Report submitted by Deri Jeffers
Photo by Betsy Manning

Shore Dressage held their first educational event of the season at Sunset Bay Farm in Onancock, Va. The guest speaker was Richard Williams, publisher/editor of Xenophon Press and his topic was "Work on the Lunge." Richard began by showing different types of lunging equipment such as lunge lines, cavessons, side reins, bits, surcingles, etc. He then defined lunge work as the systematic development of training with the goal to improve the movement of the horse and to stretch the topline. He was emphatic about saying it is not uncontrolled running around in circles. The goal of every training session on the lunge should be to bring the horse into a relaxed and stretched topline through brisk and rhythmic forward movement; this way the muscles reach maximum elasticity. He emphasized the use of a calm voice to help develop trust as well as reward. If using a round pen he emphasized never letting the horse run around in an uncontrolled manner. The horse should not be lunged for more than 30 minutes.

Back to the topic of equipment, Richard said the basic rule should be to use as little leather as possible, thus removing the brow band and noseband when using a cavesson. He said the best bit to use is a normal D-ring or Fulmer full-cheek snaffle with loose rings, as these bits cannot be pulled through the mouth. Regarding the surcingle it should be padded leather with many rings. He said the most appropriate lunging aid in capable hands is the modified version of the Pessoa Training System as it allows the horse in the deep position to coordinate his impulsion-transmitting hind quarters with the gymnastic extension position.

This is the system Richard demonstrated with the 7 year old Dutch Warmblood, Cinclaira, owned by Deri Jeffers. He began with slow to active walk transitions in both directions and then progressed to trot tran-

Continued on next page
sitions, all with an emphasis on the horse stretching over the back. As the mare improved he introduced the canter work where one could really see the activity of the hind quarters stepping under as she truly worked over her back! Richard emphasized many changes of direction all in a calm manner. You could tell that with the relaxation and obedience to the requests, Cinclaira was truly a happy horse. This was a horse that had not seen so much activity and people in “her” arena! Needless to say Richard had magical powers and the positive group in attendance learned a tremendous amount! Richard will be giving a mounted clinic in June which everyone is eagerly awaiting.

Sugarloaf Mountain
Report and photo submitted by Julie Kingsbury
The Sugarloaf Mountain Chapter of PVDA hosted a clinic with Moea Goron-Liccione on Friday, March 27, 2015. It was held at Patricia Milligan’s Fox Lea Farm in Barnesville, Md. Patricia built her lovely 6 stall barn with a regulation small-size arena attached; complete with mirrors and perfect footing. Moea’s career has spanned the globe from Australia to France and Florida. She moved to Dayton (next to Clarksville, Md.) with her family and 5 horses four years ago.

Most of the rider’s horses had not been out much this year due to weather and such, but the 7 riders all forged ahead and the event turned out to be just the jump start we needed to “get going.” There were several common themes of the day. The goals of the riders were similar—relaxation, suppleness, flexion, and submission. Some riders lengthened their stirrups, which gave them a new balance and feel. One could see their horses relax more with this change. Moea corrected many rider positions which helped the horses move more correctly. Moea was very happy that all the ladies were able to execute her comments and enjoyed meeting our chapter members. A huge thank you to Moea for the day and to Patricia for the use of her lovely facility. We all hope to schedule more clinics with Moea!

Julie Kingsbury on Irish Décor with instructor Moea Goron-Liccione.

St. Mary’s Chapter PVDA presents a
Clinic with FEI Rider & Trainer Kelly McGinn
Mount Olive Farm
45433 Drayden Road
Valley Lee, MD 20692
Saturday June 13, 2015

FEI Rider and Trainer Kelly McGinn is “dedicated to providing correct and positive training, so you and your horse progress.”

Cost: $85 – 45 minute lesson
Opening Date May 1, 2015
Closing Date: May 31, 2015
For details & to register visit us at: https://www.facebook.com/stmaryspvda or guffeycg@msn.com
PVDA’s Tri-County Dressage Chapter presents

A headphone commentary at the PVDA Ride For Life with Elizabeth Madlener (S)

June 20th, 2015

Elizabeth Madlener is a USEF “S” judge and USDF Learner Judges program faculty member. Commentary will take place in the indoor coliseum on June 20th at the Ride for Life. The commentary will last approximately two hours. This is an excellent learning opportunity to get into the judge’s frame of mind during tests. Get play by play analysis. Cost will be $20. Headsets are limited so reserve early.

For additional information, check our Facebook page: Tri-County Dressage or contact Hallie Ahrensbrak at 240-882-2531 hahrensbrak@federatedlighting.com or Julie Gross 301-503-7709 juliegross@comcast.net

PVDA Ride for Life

Fundraiser for Johns Hopkins Breast Cancer Center
Recognized USEF/USDF Dressage Show
Show Closes for Entries June 1, 2015

June 20th - 21st, 2015
Prince George’s Equestrian Center
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Highlights:
- Selection of raffle items
- Variety of vendors for both equestrian and non-equestrian items
- Prizes for high pledges and phantom horse classes
- FEI freestyle class with prize money for top regional competitors!
- Intro level classes available (non-recognized)

Visit us online for information on sponsorship, volunteering, and competing.
www.pvdarideforlife.org
How I (and Some Dashing Donkeys) Met the Duchess

By Jo Ellen Hayden

The idea that I might meet HRH Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall was the furthest thing from my mind in the last week of February 2015. After I retired three years ago, I spent some time travelling and overseeing remodeling in our new house in Lexington, Kentucky, but knew that eventually I would want to find some volunteer work, likely connected with horses in some way. While at the USDF Dressage Finals last November, I visited a booth run by a British equine welfare organization I had heard of many years ago. Known in England simply as “the Brooke,” their focus is the wellbeing of working horses, donkeys and mules (and the people who depend on them) in the world’s poorest countries. Fast-forward a few months, and I finally got around to calling their new US office, which is at the Kentucky Horse Park. I enquired if they might be able to use my skills in Excel, Word, and PowerPoint a couple of days a week – or if perhaps they just needed someone to answer the phone.

Brooke USA is in fact at this point only one person, Cindy Rullman (though that is soon to change). That day Cindy sounded strangely eager as she said yes, they were in fact preparing for a major event and would be glad to have my help. Could I come and meet with the other two people she had helping her with it? Imagine my astonishment when “the event” turned out to be nothing less than a reception and the official launch of Brooke USA, that the President of the Brooke was the Duchess of Cornwall, and that she was to be present!!

With adrenalin surging, I began work that day and never looked back until the event was over. It was only three weeks, the team having been at work a couple of weeks before I got there. Apparently this short timeline is not unusual with events involving the royals, both because of security reasons and due to the pressures of their ever-changing international priorities. Further adding to the challenge was the fact that this was really the first major event that Brooke USA had ever had – nothing like going from zero to a hundred miles an hour in one go!! And of course we wanted it to be perfect! Various skills from Excel to graphic design to computer setup to simply being another pair of hands or being available to go to the office supply store, all were called upon over those few short but intense weeks. Any idea of 2 days a week was forgotten – 50-60 hours per week was what was needed and I gladly got into harness, blessing my Navy management experience and all those hours spent in front of a computer in my former office. We used to joke then about being “PowerPoint warriors” but now those skills could help suffering people and horses.

The atmosphere was by turns electric, frantic, hopeful, and occasionally a bit fraught. Invitations, guest literature, press releases, gifts, hotel arrangements, menu, flowers, décor – everything was in play at the same time. Yet the team worked together flawlessly. The mission of the Brooke is incredibly inspiring. Photos of horses with body condition scores of 3 or less, with crooked legs and scarred bodies, are often the norm in the communities where the Brooke works but are very hard to look at. But they were the inspiration that kept us going. The Brooke provides veterinary care, trains local vet techs and farriers, teaches owners about caring for and handling their animals, and works for better laws regarding animal welfare. The organization is very outcomes-oriented, using a scoring system to determine whether their inter-

Continued on next page
ventions are working. Each year their 1000 employees reach about 1.5 million equines, and those animals support about 9 million people. Though virtually unknown in the United States, the Brooke is one of the oldest, largest, and most highly respected animal welfare charities in the world. Charlotte Dujardin and Monty Roberts are two of its Global Ambassadors.

Astonishingly, there are about 100 million working equines in the world today, many if not most living in conditions that would bring charges of neglect in the developed world. Many suffer from exhaustion, dehydration, malnutrition and abuse as a result of excessive workloads and limited animal health services. Many of them are overworked, whipped and forced to work long hours. Their lives are much shorter than what we expect in the US. But the 6 million people they support (9% of the world’s population) are living in conditions that are just as difficult as those of their animals. It is arresting to realize that these owners have never seen a horse that was NOT undernourished, and thus think this is their normal appearance.

Education and practical hands-on treatment help to reduce issues like longstanding sores caused by harnesses, lack of hoof care, eye infections caused by flies, and malnourishment.

Our event was held at Churchill Downs, where the Kentucky Derby is run every May. On March 20, waiting for the Duchess in the saddling paddock were the Brooke USA ambassadors – two miniature donkeys wearing custom made sheets embroidered with the Brooke logo. Did we just happen to find those size 43 sheets sitting on a blanket rack? No! After several phone calls, the folks at Dover Saddlery stepped forward, and called every blanket supplier on their vast list. The biggest challenge was finding a supplier with the necessary orange fabric – the Brooke’s colors are orange and gray! Amazingly, Saratoga Horseworks was able to come up with the fabric. We measured the donkeys – 10.5 hands – and sent the logo to Dover get digitized. Five days later we had the sheets in hand. GO DOVER! GO SARATOGA HORSEWORKS! YOU ROCK! (and PVDA friends, don’t forget this the next time you need to order something)

By the day of the event I for one was both giddy with fatigue and high on how wonderful the venue looked, how irresistible the donkeys were, and the excitement of the entire experience. I met not only the Duchess (for a very brief conversation) but also had a chance to spend time with several Brooke staff and board members from the UK and the US. The Duchess was introduced to perhaps 25 people and then made her way around the room and spoke to quite a number more before departing for her next event (being a royal takes stamina). One of the donkeys does not eat peppermints (I know because I offered one the day before and it was sniffed and rejected), but special donkey treats were supplied and each ate one from Camilla’s hand. That press photo has been picked up around the world.

The Brooke’s oldest and largest support base is in England, where it was founded 80 years ago. The goal of Brooke USA over the next 10 years is to exceed the contributions made by UK supporters, and thus to allow the Brooke to reach twice the number of animals they reach today. If the enthusiasm I experienced that day is any indicator, it won’t take 10 years. To learn more go to www.brookeusa.org.

Jo Ellen Hayden is a USDF Bronze Medalist, longtime PVDA member, volunteer, former board member, and now a proud volunteer for Brooke USA.

**Dressage Sport Horse In-Hand & Dressage Schooling Show**

**Saturday, May 9, 2015**

Plantation Valley Stables, 1801 Mountain Church Road, Middletown, MD 21769

**Opening Date:** April 15, 2015  **Closing Date:** May 2, 2015

**Judge:** Dilly Jackson (L)

**Show Arena:** 20m x 80m indoor with sand and fiber footing  **Warm-Up Arena:** Outdoor bluestone

**Sport Horse In-Hand Classes:** Yearling, 2 & 3 Year Olds, 4 Year Olds & Older, Mares, Geldings, and Novice Handler

**Dressage Classes:** Current USDF Introductory Level, USEF Training Level, USEF First Level, USEF Second/Third/Fourth Levels, FEI TOC (PSG, Int I, Int A, Int B, Int II, GP), USEF or FEI Eventing Dressage, and USEF Western

The show will follow USEF rules and USDF guidance.

Further information and the prize list are at: [http://CatoctinChapterPVDA.weebly.com/show.html](http://CatoctinChapterPVDA.weebly.com/show.html)
Horses for Sale

✦ Blk. imp. Han. 17H mare by Carismo, beautiful conformation, fancy, attractive, athletic, elegant, and expressive movements in all gaits. Well trained, obedient, and safe u/s. Ideal horse for an intermed. rider who wants to earn their bronze medal. Mainly trained and shown by her amateur owners thru 2nd level. Currently, schooling 3rd level and in full training with USDJ gold medalist, Barbara Strawson. She has the talent for tempi changes and pirouettes and has the ability and personality to reach higher levels with a confident rider. Will continue to be trained and shown until sold. Simone Baer, email: sxbaer@yahoo.com

✦ Two fantastic, elegant FEI prospects arriving May 1st. 7&9 years old, 16-16.1H geldings, both schooling solid PSG. Fully vetted and x-rayed. Janna Dyer, Dark Horse Dressage, 301-271-1961

✦ Qtr. Drafl ches. geld., 5 yrs, 16H, super-nice horse, uncomplicated, dressage and jumps. Trail rides quietly alone or in a group. Very easy at shows, tack up, get on and go in the ring, no fuss. Not spookly, smooth gaits, great work ethic and very personable. Louise Foster, (301) 802-3435 or email: rcarrier498@yahoo.com

✦ '98 FEI dressage schoolmaster, very elegant with three lovely gaits. Exc. pirouettes and changes to his 2s. Competitive for YR/AA moving up the levels. Sound and healthy. $45,000, Jeannette Bair, 443-691-0390

Horses for Lease

✦ Dark Horse Dressage has sev. patient USEF and FEI level schoolmasters avail. for long or lessons, partial lease/poss. to show. Trailer-ins/ all levels welcome. Gold and Silver medalist Janna Dyer can help you achieve your goals. 301-271-1961 or email: janna@dahertshoestables.com

✦ Riley Meadows Stable in Frederick MD is offering full or partial lease on horses and ponies. Training Level up and, Various mounts available from our kind, quiet gentleman to our exciting and talented WBs ready to take you up the levels. Gorgeous facility w/many amenities. Rebecca Wilson, 240-753-8519

Equipment

✦ Selling two pairs of black Euro Sz. 42 (Fit like a 30L) German-made, Goodfellow breeches. These high quality breeches have a REAL leather seat and are comparable quality to Pikeur, Schumacher, and Eurostar. High-waisted, with two front slash zippered pockets, both pairs are black—one with a brown leather full seat, lightly used and the other pair with a black leather full seat, only tried on and washed. These breeches are amazing but too lg. for me. Purch. for $190/pr., selling for $85-$95, Shari Glickman, 301-351-5530 or email: shari.glickman@comcast.net

✦ Gorgeous and unique stock ties, 30 colors/designs, and there are 7 PINK ones for the Ride for Life! Come visit our Etsy Shop, DocsDesigns1 for a large selection in the most beautiful ties! Like our Facebook page, Doc's Designs, then come visit our Etsy Shop! Diana Walcutt: www.etsy.com/shop/DocsDesigns1

✦ 18” blk. Rembrandt dressage saddle, med/wide fit, very good cond., please email for more details. Barb Hairfield, 410-627-4564

✦ Yearly dressage mini-camps designed for YOU! 2 - 4 days; 2 lessons a day with USDF Associate Instructor & USEF Judge. Also yoga, kayaking, swimming & more!! Test riding and how to WIN! 2 BR apt on farm with ind. arena, Deri Jeffers, 757-302-0224 or email: deripiaffe@aol.com

The Classifieds is available to PVDA members only, at no charge, as a membership benefit. Classified advertisements (unboxed ads) are accepted by post or e-mail. Items submitted by e-mail are confirmed via e-mail. Type or print your submission and include your 2014 PVDA membership number. (The newsletter will not print any classifieds that are submitted without a membership number.) Classifieds MUST be received by the 10th* of the month to be distributed the following month. Email classifieds@pvda.org or shari.glickman@comcast.net or send to Shari Glickman, GoodNess Ridge Farm, 13979 Unionville Rd., Mt. Airy, MD 21771.

*JUNE 2015 ISSUE CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE IS MAY 10, 2015*

Classified ads are placed on PVDA’s website, www.pvda.org. If you do not want your e-mail address included on the website, please omit it from your printed ad submission for The PVDA Newsletter.
## 2015 PVDA Show Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Show Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>5/2/2015</td>
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<td>5/16-17/2015</td>
<td>PVDA Spring Show (Recognized)</td>
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<td>PVDA Ride For Life (Recognized)</td>
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New Test Clinic With Judge Janet Foy

By Betty Thorpe

Photos by Christina Dale

Janet Foy came to Maryland March 21-22, 2015 for the New Test Clinic, a tradition every four years following the periodic revisions of the dressage competition tests. Janet wears many hats besides serving on the Test Writing Committee, those of 4 star FEI judge, trainer, coach, rider and book author and she brought all those insights into the two days at Wyndham Oaks, Boyd, MD. In addition to the new test information, Janet signed the 60 copies of her book, Dressage for the Not-So-Perfect Horse, that PVDA had received and sold to eager clinic goers.

Janet has a good sense of humor, which she used to advantage to get her points across to the judges, riders, and spectators. “Riders give away a lot of what I call Stupid Points,” Janet pointed out. You rarely see a transition back from a lengthening in First Level for example, riders don’t ride the corners, and they get the geometry wrong on their circles at C and B. I hated geometry in school, now it’s payback that I have to judge geometry all day!” she laughed.

The first demonstration rider, Ulla Parker on Shere Khan (by Scimitar), gave Janet the chance to remark about today’s “modern” dressage horse. “See how long his forearm is? This gives him the ability for piaffe, passage, half pass and extensions. Plus he is already in an uphill frame. This is part of the reason judge’s scores have gone up in recent times. It’s not just that judges are nicer, it’s that the horses are better designed for our sport.”

In Training and First Level the rider has the option of sitting or posting. From Janet: “It’s not whether you can sit the trot, but what is best for the horse?” The lengthening at First Level is the beginning of developing the paces within the gait. “Think of a pendulum, if it is hanging straight down that is the horse at rest, his God-given position. Now swing the pendulum from extended trot to piaffe, then all the trots in between are degrees of the pendulum. Develop collection to create the muscle we require. This pendulum is very gradual so First Level is not extreme. This isn’t Grand Prix so don’t go blasting out of the corner. And judges, stop saying “Not prompt!” We want to see preparation with suppleness going through the corner, make the horse straight, ride a half halt, then go. Then pay attention to the down transition. The New Test design makes shorter lines for the lengthening to make it easier.”

By First Level Test 3 the judges are more strict because they are assessing whether a rider is ready to move up. It’s not just the ability to do the movements of the test that define what level you are, it’s HOW you do the movements. “If you get a 65% at Training Level Test 3 and you are in this range 90% of the time, the judge is saying you are good to go to First Level. If a rider creates problems, they are not ready to ride that level. As a judge you have to tell the rider and the riders have to hear it. I sometimes wonder why a trainer would let a student ride in a level above her ability. But riders don’t always listen to trainers.”

Second Level for Janet is “The Black Hole” of dressage. Collection is required, but it typically comes and goes. One of the new movements is simple change of lead that calls for 3-5 steps of walk. If the change is canter-walk-canter the score can be 7. If there is trot on one side of the walk, the score goes down to 6. If there is trot both in and out of the walk, the score can’t be more than 5. The modifiers that affect the score are the quality of the canter, the suppleness, and straightness. The Rein Back is a new movement, be sure to settle the halt and ride for straightness in the rein back. The half turn on the haunches is also introduced. Remember to keep the walk active, bend in the direction of the turn, and size is not too important. Walk straight ahead to show the finish of the turn, and walk a diagonal line back to the rail.

Continued on next page
By Second and certainly Third Level, riders need to use more half halts and become more effective. “U.S. riders bore their horses to death,” declared Janet. “They go the same direction, in the same gait. When it comes to the medium gaits across the diagonal, they know they are supposed to go more forward so they are like a witch on a broom!” The point is that for shoulder-in and travers in Second Level, and renvers which has been moved to Third Level, you have to ask yourself all the time if you can increase the bend to one side or the other.

Remember that in the lateral movements, in travers the front legs should not cross, shoulder-in is the bend of a 10 meter circle, and if you are going from shoulder-in into this circle, keep the bend for the start of the circle. If you are going in shoulder-in toward a corner, straighten before the corner. If you are going from a 10 meter circle into a travers, put the front legs on the track at the end of the circle, but don’t let the haunches get to the track. Think of this already on the last quarter of the circle.

At Third Level, the tests ask for medium and extended gaits. Judges are looking to see a difference, that you have another gear. The medium gaits are more off the ground, the extended gaits need to cover the most ground possible. Since it’s the first time for flying changes, the judges may be more forgiving here. But there should be collection throughout the test.

Fourth Level Test 3 is a long test and notice that the first trot is extended! There is a shoulder in on the center line, and for Janet, “angle varies’ is probably my most usual comment.” This test is designed to prepare for Prix St. Georges.

Janet’s observation about the Prix St. Georges test was that it had lots of long lines that don’t challenge the horse to collect. “It may be too easy,” she said. But the horses still have to be in uphill balance with hind legs that carry the weight. Judges are nicer at the lower levels, but at the FEI levels the standard is higher and the judges get meaner. “Don’t go into the show ring if you and your horse are struggling.”

There are three trot movements in the Prix St. Georges test: shoulder-in, 8 meter volte, and half pass. “Which one has the most bend?” she asked. Answer: half pass. (Yes, confirmed in the rule book.) So be careful on the volte not to over bend because the haunches will fall out. “Most riders don’t finish the 8 meter volte because of hysteria about the coming half pass. Don’t be in a hurry. Finish the volte, take a straight step to create the bend for the half pass. And don’t go to I, but to G. Arrive with the horse’s nose at G so you can change bend and organize for the turn. So think about how you finish an exercise. Engagement is like money, you don’t want to lose any of it.”

At Prix St. Georges and above, you will enter for your test in canter. “Choose the canter lead where you have the best control. Remember it’s 10 points! And to borrow from Charles DeKunffy, ‘land into halt like a snowflake.’”

In the discussion about the FEI tests, Janet explained the difference between the Small Tour, which is the Prix St. Georges, Intermediate Test 1, and Intermediate Freestyle. The Large Tour is Intermediate Test 2 and Grand Prix. For most horses the jump from the

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Continued on next page

Janet Foy addresses auditors during the clinic.

Katherine Mashbir.
Small Tour to Large Tour takes a year. So the FEI devised a Medium Tour of the Intermediate Test A, Intermediate Test B and Intermediate Test 2. These tests include fewer tempi changes than Grand Prix, less steps and allows more ground cover in the piaffe. There is a walk-piaffe transition to encourage riding forward into piaffe. But, as Janet told it, none other than Hilda Gurney herself complained that the transition is located right in front of the judge at C, “so you can’t even cluck.” In these tests Janet said that you need to be able to center your tempi changes over X, the same number of flying changes before X as after, and center the zig zags the same way.

The Freestyle was the last subject of the day and Janet had quite a few pieces of advice. The purpose of the Freestyle is to highlight your horse’s ability. Be careful to be technically competent at the level you ride because you have to be able to hit your marks with the music every time. Be sure to look at the 2015 score sheets because there have been quite a few changes to the required movements, and there are more illegal movements at each level. Try to avoid patterns from the official tests. One place to look for different movements is to go to the FEI website and look at the tests for the FEI Pony, FEI Junior, and FEI Young Rider tests for inspiration. Watch a lot of freestyles and steal movements you like and can master. For Janet, halts, rein back, and turns on the haunches are not ideal movements for the tests because they interrupt the flow. Also, there is a 5 minute limit to freestyles, but you don’t need to take the whole 5 minutes! If you are particularly skillful at a certain movement, show it twice. Be clever about your choice of music so that it highlights your horse’s movement.

Remember as a judge, you don’t need to LIKE the music you just have to decide if it enhances the performance. One person asked if you qualify with one freestyle are you obligated to use it for the Finals? NO! said Janet, freestyles are tweaked all the time, to make them smoother or maybe more difficult and at any rate, better. Have Fun!

Thanks so much to our brave demo riders who all came on shining braided horses that were maybe a little rusty from the long winter: Ulla Parker, Mimi Mack, Brendan Curtis, Hannah Salazar, Domenique Carson, Ali Calkins, Katherine Mashbir, Christine Betz, Elizabeth O’Connor, Barbara Strawson, Julio Mendoza, Erin Freedman, Marne Martin Tucker, and Ben Albright. Thanks also to Lori Larson who donated the use of her beautiful Wyhdham Oaks, and her staff that assisted with the preparation of the facility and arena. The PVDA organizing committee consisted of Mary Sue McCarthy, Camilla Cornwell, Meghan Truppner, Claire Lacey, Debra Nissen, Christina Dale, Rebekah Lusk, and chairman of the Educational Committee, Jaclyn Sicoli. And thanks to Janet Foy who was funny and upbeat throughout the levels.
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Dressage Winter Intensive Training Program - Part 5

By Hannah Irons

Photo by Polly Irons

Hello everyone!!

Well I am sad to say that the Winter Intensive Training Program (WIT) is now over; Wow, what an amazing three months spent training in Wellington! There were so many learning experiences and great memories both in and out of the stable. I have grown not only as a rider, but as a person as well. It exceeded all of my highest expectations and was one of the most remarkable three months of my life. I made so many great friends and it was very sad to see it slowly come to an end.

The last month of the WIT Program was busy. I was given the amazing opportunity to personally interview dressage Olympian, Debbie McDonald. I came up with fun questions to ask her and found her answers fascinating. The interview is attached below. The WIT group had an opportunity to get “dressed up” one Sunday and watch a polo match at Gulfstream polo. Polo is a very fast and exciting sport and it looks like a lot of fun! Thank you to the Dutta’s for inviting us and explaining the game. At the completion of the program, Lendon took all the WIT attendees to dinner. She gave a nice speech and presented each of us with a certificate of completion for WIT 2015. Also, in the last month of the program, I had the opportunity to groom for Annie Morris and fellow WITee Katrina at a few shows. I also had the privilege of helping JJ Tate at her barn a few days.

The last few weeks of lessons with Lendon and Stephanie were truly awesome! In our lessons Charmer improved so much. He became much more round, through and consistent in the contact. This has made riding movements much easier. After having a newly fitted saddle and her hocks / SI injected, Little Pea was awesome! She no longer was uncomfortable and was much happier in her work. Little Pea came back to Hampton Green on April 1st. I am so happy to have Little Pea back to her normal self and looking forward to this show season.

After the completion of the WIT program, my horses and I stayed an extra two weeks in Wellington. It was nice to be able to have some free time and do a few fun activities that we did not have time to do during WIT. You might find it hard to believe, but I did not go to the beach once the entire time in Florida! The only tan I worked on was my riding tan.

We had a good trip back from Florida. We split the trip in two days and boarded the horses at Florence Horse Center…what a nice facility! Pea was so tired and immediately laid down to sleep. We arrived home with a warm welcoming committee of running and squealing ponies. All of the animals were happy to see me, especially my little dog Tuffi and the Silkies. Little Pea and Charmer seem very excited to be home and enjoy being mud ponies. They make extra effort to find the muddiest spot in their pasture to roll in. I have given up trying to keep them clean all the time. They must be tired of looking like Wellington show ponies. The weather in Maryland has been pleasant and all of the spring flowers are in bloom. It is nice to be home again with my family and animals. I will always hold fond memories of Wellington and my time spent at Hampton Green; I miss my WIT family!

Thank you to everyone that helped make WIT 2015 such a success! Thank you PVDA for your generous scholarship to defray some of my costs this winter. I am grateful to Lendon Gray for selecting me to participate in this amazing program and for all that she does for youth dressage. Thank you to Stephanie, Maria, Mica, and everyone else that offered lessons. I enjoyed taking lessons from different trainers and learning new ideas and training exercises. I am thankful to Gary and Robin for all their help they offered with Little Pea. I knew that she was in good hands at Robin’s farm resting and recovering. To the many helpful equine professionals that came to teach the excellent lectures and clinics, and those top dressage top dressage riders that invited us to your farms to watch you ride and train…thank you. This was one of my favorite WIT activities. Thanks to our awesome barn manager Karen for keeping all of us girls in line.

Continued on next page
and our horses safe and happy. A big thank you to Kim and Fred Boyer for allowing us to train out of their beautiful Hampton Green Farm. I am especially grateful for having the opportunity to spend so much time with such compassionate and helpful fellow WITees. I had a blast with all of them! And, I must not forget my housemates, Kylie and Katrina, for being such fun and supportive friends and putting up and living with me for four months! We will be friends forever. With my roommates I tried my first junk foods (which I think taste terrible), watched my first movie, dressed up, painted my nails. They taught me so many important life lessons! We had so many laughs from cooking, cleaning (an attempt to!) and grocery shopping. I still hear Katrina and her famous quote, “You can never have too much ice cream!” Last and not to be forgotten is my family for taking care of the farm and all my animals while I was away, especially to my brothers Daniel and Jonathan for working extra hard to cover my chores. I am very blessed to have such an amazing team behind me.

I hope you enjoyed following my PVDA submissions while I studied and rode in the WIT Program this winter! I will continue writing on my blog if you wish to follow my stories around the farm with my animals and horses.

Interview with Debbie McDonald:

1. How and where did you start riding and what age were you?

My first experience with horses was when I was 10 on my uncle’s ranch in Kansas. When I was 14, I became the owner of my first pony, a welsh stallion named Falling Star. I later sold him to buy my first horse to compete in jumping. I trained and competed in the hunter jumpers for many years under my future husband Bob McDonald. I switched to dressage after a terrible jumping fall that scared me for life.

2. Did you know that you wanted to be an international rider and professional when you were younger?

No. I just knew that I wanted to spend the rest of my life with horses.

3. Who was your role model when you were my age (15)?

Dyan Graud. Amazing jumper that was competing at the Grand Prix level. She was very short so this stood out and inspired me.

4. Who is the favorite horse that you have ever ridden?

Definitely Brentina; my Olympic and World Equestrian Games partner. She is a very special mare.

5. What are your goals and plans for the future?

Continue to coach young combinations to be international stars.

6. What is the hardest lesson you have had to learn during your journey with horses?

Sometimes things don’t go as planned and disappointing things can happen at bad times.

7. What do you think is the most important skill to acquire as a dressage rider?

Learn and understand your horse. You should even know what your horses nicker sounds like in the barn. Strong basics will take you all the way!

8. What would you likely be doing if you were not a professional rider and trainer?

Definitely something with animals like training seeing eye dogs.

9. Has the training and care of upper level dressage horses changed since you last competed?

The technology and management has greatly improved. We know more about injuries and the stress they go through. Our horses now often have a much longer career.

10. What do you think is the most important thing to improve in U.S. riders and trainers?

Trainees need to keep being educated. Riders need to really focus on basic communication with the horse. Remember, it is not our horse’s job to think like us, we need to learn to think more like our horses so they can understand.

11. Any advice you could share to youth riders wanting to be a professional and international rider?

Never give up the dream, even if it takes you a long time. I was 50 years old in my first Olympics. Work hard so people will believe in you and will want to sponsor you.

Debbie is such an inspiration!
Publication Deadlines

The PVDA Newsletter is published monthly by the Potomac Valley Dressage Association. The deadline for submissions is (usually) the 10th of the month for distribution the following month. NEXT ISSUE: JUNE 2015; DEADLINE: MAY 10; DISTRIBUTION: early JUNE 2015

Send materials to the appropriate editor below. Late materials may be published in a subsequent newsletter as deemed appropriate. Editors reserve the right to edit all material. All submissions are subject to editorial approval.

Send your submissions to the appropriate editor:

✦ Display Ads, Chapter News & Photos: newsletter@pvda.org
✦ News/Articles/Flying Changes: newsletter@pvda.org
✦ The Classifieds: classifieds@pvda.org or shari.glickman@comcast.net (Shari Glickman, GoodNess Ridge Farm, 13979 Unionville Rd., Mt. Airy, MD 21771; 301-351-5530)
✦ Calendar of Events: calendar@pvda.org (Jocelyn Pearson, Calendar Editor)
✦ Change of Address/Membership Renewal & Information: membership@pvda.org (Michele Wellman, Membership Coordinator, 9205 Bessie Clemson Rd., Union Bridge, MD 21791; 301-873-3496)
✦ General Information: info@pvda.org
✦ PVDA Web Site: www.pvda.org

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Potomac Valley Dressage Association Membership Application 2015

PVDA is a USDF Group Member Organization and PVDA members are automatically USDF Group Members.

THE PVDA MEMBERSHIP YEAR RUNS FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

I wish to apply for the following:

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April PVDA Board Meeting

Date: April 6, 2015; Meeting #549
Location: Linda Speer’s Farm in Clarksville, Md.

Attendance
Board Members Present: Betty Thorpe, Carolyn Del Grosso, Rebekah Lusk, Valerie Mallder, Mary Sue McCarthy, Mimi Mack, Claire Lacey, Jaclyn Sicoli, Meghan Truppner, Camilla Cornwell

Members Absent: Deanna Williford, Linda Speer, Debra Nissen, Annmari Ingersoll

Assoc. Members Present: Wendy Emblin, Ingrid Gentry

Old Business:
Mary Sue reported on the Region 1 meeting: BLM will be October 13-16, 2016 managed by VADA at the Virginia Horse Center; group member IEO from southern PA wants to cooperate with PVDA on some sort of special project in the future. Mary Sue will follow up with them.

Committee Reports
Chapters: Claire wants to visit each chapter to listen to concerns. She pointed out that not all members show their horses. She has heard from four Chapters that invited her to attend their meetings and has attended one chapter already.

Education: The Janet Foy New Test Clinic had a $1,500 profit and was well attended with 140 auditors on Saturday and 40 on Sunday when the FEI rides were highlighted. Many contributed to the success: Camilla was in charge of food and managed to feed 150 when the expectation was 50, Meghan handled the rider selection and hospitality and reported that the whole group was cooperative with their fresh horses and performed very well taking Janet’s direction. She was also impressed with the great gift baskets given to the riders. Claire was in charge of registration and worked long hours making sure everyone who wanted to come was contacted about late developing details, and Jackie managed the production beginning with many contacts with Janet to arrange alternative flights to get to Maryland because of a late snow storm and canceled flights. Debra put in a long evening Friday with arena set up. In addition, all 60 copies of Janet’s book were sold. The clinic was video taped for DTO by Carol Havelka. DTO will be making short clips that will be available to PVDA.

The Lesson Lottery offered 22 instructors this year versus 14 last year, and 30 members applied for lessons versus 36 last year. The drawing was held at this meeting and the winners will be announced on the web site and by email.

Finances:
CDs: $15,107.09; Chapter funds: $3,102.18; Corporate Checking: $15,590.42; PVDA Paypal: $810.02; Schooling Show Fund: $764.21; Total $45,373.92.

Membership:

Youth Riders:
Meghan has contacted nearly all the 68 junior/young rider members who have joined PVDA this year. The wish list for this group is to have a week long summer camp, field trips to farms and Dressage at Devon, lessons ahead of the July Team Competition to get to know each other on the Teams, and to maybe prepare also for the Chapter Challenge. Ben Albright has agreed to be chef for the Team Competition and teach beforehand. The first JR/YR show at Schooley Mill was light on entries, but was otherwise a success with plenty of spirit and volunteers.

By The Board ... The Minutes

Board Meetings are usually held the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. and are open to all PVDA members.

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For complete contact information see www.pvda.org

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  - Carolyn Del Grosso (chair), Moea Goron Liccione, Rebekah Lusk

• Fundraising/Marketing
  - Rebekah Lusk and Mimi Mack (Co-Chairs), Christina Dale, Jaclyn Sicoli, Mary Sue McCarthy, Claire Lacey

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• Membership
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    - Betty Thorpe (Chair), Marla Stoner, Jan Sherfy

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• Website
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• Volunteers
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• Website
  - Valerie Mallder (chair), Christina Dale
Attention Junior/Young Riders

PVDA wants you for the 25th anniversary Region 1 North Youth Competition held on July 25 - 26, 2015 at Morven Park in Leesburg, VA. PVDA will send a team in every division, starting with USDF Intro Level.

This anniversary marks 25 unforgettable years and will include top professionals that have graduated from this program riding demos, vendors with amazing items, a special demo Friday night and a fun filled weekend showing off your riding and your team!

Requirements
1. Must be a PVDA member.
2. Send three tests judged by two different judges from any licensed show or any PVDA schooling show at the level you would like to show.
3. Volunteer for one day at any PVDA event.

Deadline for application is June 19, 2015

For more information about this amazing weekend please contact:
Meghan Truppner
443-838-6448
meghanpvda@gmail.com

Candidate Application
If you would like to be considered for the Youth Competition, fill out this application and send it with your three tests to:
Meghan Truppner, 16272 Compromise Court, Mount Airy, MD 21771.
This is NOT an entry!

Name:______________________________Age_______
Address:____________________________________

____________________________________________

Phone:______________________________________
Level you intend to compete at this season___________