

# SCDCTA

SEPTEMBER 2023



FINDING AN EQUINE PRO PART-2

BOOK REVIEW: RAJA

TAX TIPS: DEPRECIATION UPDATE

# Tracking Up

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA **DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING** ASSOCIATION



VOLUME 4

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

You may have noticed recently that we've done a lot of talking in our newsletters and via social media concerning volunteering. That is because 100% of your GMO's (aka SCDCTA) and about 90% of USDF management and shows are run by - yes, you guessed it - VOLUNTEERS!



Without these hard working individuals (and often their begrudging spouses or parents) organizations like ours just would not exist. It is generally a thankless job, and each individual has their own reason for helping out. Here is mine...

I was fortunate that as a junior/young rider with aspirations of being a top level event rider, I had a wonderful mentor who instilled in me the importance of giving back to the sport I loved. That meant doing a variety of jobs at our shows including learning how to scribe, ring steward, score, and run tests. In addition I became the Jr/YR liaison for our club, the

Connecticut Dressage & Combined Training Association. The education and connections I gained through my volunteer work was priceless. But when I moved to South Carolina at age 21, I was alone in the horse world, my only connection being the Thoroughbred farm owner I was working for. This was back in the dark ages you know, back before Facebook, Instagram, and Smart Phones. The internet was fairly established as were websites,



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but not every farm (especially rural areas) had internet yet. I was alone and cut off from the equestrian family and community I had grown up in, and being on the shy side I wasn't one to just strike up a conversation in

the local tack or feed store. But I knew what I could do to meet fellow dressage riders and eventers - one night while visiting my boss in Columbia, I hopped on her computer and searched for Dressage & Combined Training Associations, and low and behold SCDCTA popped up. It was just a few easy clicks, plus some comparisons on MapQuest, to find a schooling show

series that was only a little ways from where I was living. I contacted Mary Kadar of Marston Plantation, and offered to volunteer! As all shows are often shorthanded, Mary was all to eager to accept my help, and following the show she and her husband Tim gave me a tour of the magnificent plantation house (I happen to be a history buff as well). I made a number of great new connections at that show, and not only came back as a volunteer, I helped Mary out

with the USDF shows she ran in Camden, eventually competing at both the schooling and USDF shows and then bringing students as I became established as a trainer in the area.

Mary & Tim have become great friends - despite my moving out of the state for a few years Mary and I stayed in touch through FB - she eventually acquired an Arabian I had owned and trained, and when she was ready for her next horse my connections helped her find the next suitable partner. We both ride with Jill Allard and stable together at shows, helping each other (and our barn mates) out with prepping for classes, test reading, and confidence. The Kadars have been gracious to share their Air BnBs with me at away shows, let me bunk down with them at Camden shows (including my Corgi Dagoo), and pony-sat my boys Bucky & Rebel when I was out of town for a breed show. So while yes, volunteering gives me a sense of giving back and duties like scribing or ring stewarding help advance my education, the real value to me in volunteering is the fabulous friendships I have made throughout the years.

Namaste,

*Trisha Dingle*

Trisha Dingle

SCDCTA Newsletter Editor



# LETTER FROM THE DESIGNER

K MAGINNIS

September 2023

In addition to a letter from your editor, I am borrowing this space to explain the theme for this month's 'Newsletter'. For September, I took inspiration from the late 19th and early 20th century art movements influencing the outcome of 'modern' art and design.

In this important era of art we have the beginnings of L'art Nouveau. Like everything I show, you've seen this in many advertisements and poster reprints. And, most people are familiar with the artwork in Paris.

This one comes from Vienna, Austria, founded in 1897, known as the **Vienna Secession**. Some of the members of the group's artwork and many of their styles are still used today, so you might recognize them. At some point I will restyle the newsletter 'in the manner of' the western european version of art (l'art) nouveau you are more familiar with.

**Gustav Klimt, Alfred Roller and Koloman Moser** are the main artists' styles I assimilated for this issue come from.

These artists were part of a 'breakaway' group, hence; secession, rejecting all current art 'norms' that they all were originally taught. If I may quote one of my instructors from Switzerland; "...**you can't break the rules, if you don't know the rules...**"

The **Secessionists** abandoned everything they'd learned. They were all formally trained and well schooled in the traditional painting and drawing methods of the day.

Unlike Mondrian from last month, and how he abstracted subject matter into rectilinear shapes with lines, the secessionist followed no hard rules. They were some of the original believers in the "no rules, just right" motto, of Outback Steakhouse.

On the one hand, abstracting natural objects and human figure into big, bold sweeping shapes



# LETTER FROM THE DESIGNER

was quite in vogue. Save for the splinter group: **Wiener Werkstätte** that was using more abstraction into simple geometric shapes to convey all things natural, many were involved 'movement'. Like photography that stops a moving object in a single moment, they translated the still movement into flowing, swaying line and shape.

The word, "Wiener" translates to *Vienna* in English. So, the poster on the lower left is: 'Vienna Workshop for Modern Arts and Crafts, Permanent Exhibition'. Neustift Alley 32

I chose the 3 artists for their similar approaches, but different methodologies that visualized the same basic elements.

While **Gustav Klimt** was by far, the most romantic of the group, he too, if you look closely on the edges of his frames, you will see the simplified reeds, wind, clouds, grasses and fabric, all softly flowing in an imaginary breeze.

Like the northern European (French & Belgian) Art Nouveau, the style of the Vienna Secession often utilized whiplash curves and floral motifs. It also took influence from the Arts and Crafts movement and utilized similar organic ornamental designs as Jugendstil. Secessionists embraced geometry and abstract elements, including within architectural design.

The fonts (typefaces) used in this layout are remakes from their poster work, which were only handmade and are typical of the period. The ones I used are examples of how varied the design approaches were.

One other item; there was also Absinth.

I hope you enjoy,

k

side note:

**Wiener** (Vienna) was also, as one of several stories go; used to describe a sausage-like food that was, according to the people of Vienna, originally created the 19th century 'hotdog' in... you guessed it: Vienna, Austria. The Wiener, in its varied versions, is very different from the Frankfurter, which was reportedly created in 1478 in Frankfurt, Germany.

It is said that Austro-Hungarians Emil Reichel and Sam Ladany lived in Vienna when they invented the hot dog. The pair then went on to sell their creation at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago.

Even if Reichel and Ladany were not the first to invent the hot dog, they probably were the first to invent the Chicago-style hot dog.

They were traditionally made of pork and beef in a casing of sheep's intestine. While some North American Vienna sausages were made only of pork, in many cases, depending on the variation; a mix of pork and beef was prevalent, whereas the frankfurter was only beef.



# WHO YOU GONNA CALL

## A Guide to SCDCTA Committee Heads

SCDCTA's day-to-day operations are conducted by a series of committees responsible for different activities. If you've ever wondered who you should call with questions about getting a schooling show recognized, how your business can become a show sponsor, or who to call about a clinic idea, here is a handy list to make sure you reach the best person as quickly as possible.

To reach the entire board, please email: [info@scdcta.com](mailto:info@scdcta.com)

- » **Membership:** Missouri Powers ([Membership@scdcta.com](mailto:Membership@scdcta.com))
- » **Recognized USDF dressage shows:**
- » **Marcy Hippey** ([President@scdcta.com](mailto:President@scdcta.com))—volunteers, judges/officials, administrative
- » **Carol Freligh** ([Treasurer@scdcta.com](mailto:Treasurer@scdcta.com))—entries, program
- » **Schooling Show Recognition:** Linda Kelly ([showrecog@scdcta.com](mailto:showrecog@scdcta.com))
- » **Schooling Show Championships:** Carol Freligh ([Treasurer@scdcta.com](mailto:Treasurer@scdcta.com))
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- » **Juniors/Young Riders:** Kathryn Butt ([klb317@gmail.com](mailto:klb317@gmail.com))—including annual junior clinics
- » **Education/Clinics:** Justine Wilson ([VicePresident@scdcta.com](mailto:VicePresident@scdcta.com))
- » **Communications:** Lisa Hinkle ([Secretary@scdcta.com](mailto:Secretary@scdcta.com))—including social media
- » **Year-end Points and Awards:** Sharon Anderson ([Sharon@scdcta.com](mailto:Sharon@scdcta.com))
- » **Annual Awards Banquet:**
- » Sharon Anderson ([sharon@scdcta.com](mailto:sharon@scdcta.com)) — *venue, administrative*
- » Tierney Boyd ([Tierney@scdcta.com](mailto:Tierney@scdcta.com)) — *silent auction*
- » **Volunteer Coordinator:** Marcy Hippey ([President@scdcta.com](mailto:President@scdcta.com))
- » **Volunteer Hours:** Sharon Anderson ([Sharon@scdcta.com](mailto:Sharon@scdcta.com))
- » **Elections:** Lisa Hinkle ([Secretary@scdcta.com](mailto:Secretary@scdcta.com))



Tracking Up,  
the newsletter of the  
South Carolina Dressage  
& Combined Training  
Association

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## SEPTEMBER 2023

Tracking Up is published quarterly throughout the year. Tracking Up is delivered electronically to SCDCTA members; subscription is by membership only.

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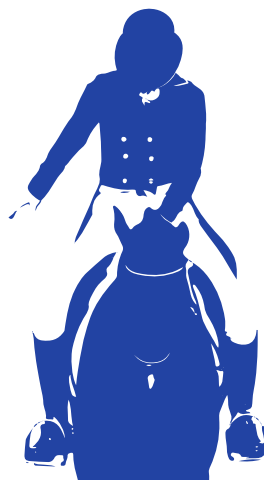
Contact the editor directly ([editor@scdcta.com](mailto:editor@scdcta.com)) for issue-specific deadlines for submissions.

### SCDCTA WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Want to see more news and photos from your fellow members? So does Tracking Up! We love to share your accomplishments, everyday activities, and cute photos.

We'd also love articles on your training or competition experiences, reviews of books, videos or products, or even just sharing a bit about your favorite horses. Send questions, ideas, completed articles (in MS Word), photos (jpeg) to:

[editor@scdcta.com](mailto:editor@scdcta.com). If sharing a professional photo, please make sure you have provided photographer credit.



You can also share news and photos via the SCDCTA Facebook group!

To make sure the editor is aware of your posts, please tag "Trisha Louise Dingle" in anything you'd like to see in the newsletter.

# BUSINESS NEWS



## **Sharon Anderson; Points/Volunteers/Awards**

Don't forget that if you want to be eligible for Year End Awards or the Schooling Show Championships your horse must have a lifetime registration with SCDCTA, you must be a current SCDCTA member, and you must complete at least 8 hours of volunteer time for the club. It's still not too late to register/become a member! There are lots of opportunities to get your volunteer hours in, including working at shows/clinics, submitting articles to the newsletter, and donating items to the 2023 Awards Banquet silent auction (to be held January 2024). The Schooling Show Championships only require membership/registration to compete in the champion classes, no volunteer hours are required.

## **Missouri (Missy) Powers, Membership**

As of 8/15/23, we currently have 25 Business Members (1 new business member since May), 37 Junior/Young Rider Members (8 new), and 156 Senior Members (11 new) for a total membership of 198 members. This is an increase of 20 new members since May 15th, which is pretty good for mid-year new memberships. We have had 63 new horses lifetime registered for 2023.

## **Linda Kelly, Show Recognition**

As of 5/25/23, we have 46 SCDCTA recognized schooling dressage shows and combined tests, with three new shows being added since February.

## **Kathryn Butt, Junior program**

The 2023 SCDCTA Annual Youth Clinic welcomed 2011 NAYC Region 3 veteran Bryn Cahill of Tampa, FL to SC! One of the goals of our Annual Youth Clinic is to select a clinician that has come up through the High Performance pipeline and can dialog with the kids about what that is like, how to balance school and riding, and the level of commitment it takes to rise to that level of riding at such a young age. As a prior NAYC competitor, USDF Gold Medalist and graduate of Florida State University, Bryn fit the bill!!!

This year's clinic was largely made possible thanks to the efforts of Trish Russo and Bluff City Acres hosting a schooling show that entirely benefited the Annual Youth Clinic. SCDCTA's Youth Coordinator and USDF L Graduate, Kathryn Butt donated her time as judge to help make the day happen. Other invaluable sponsors include the Main family, the Frenzel family, Mad Kat Dressage, Oak Manor Saddlery, The Vista Schooling Center, Hitch & Tow LLC, Carter Vet, Amie Osmet, and numerous others! The SCDCTA Annual Youth Clinic is paid for through sponsorship otherwise secured by our youth members and participants. Their efforts make this clinic the 2 day educational affair that it has become over the years! It is a yearly experience that the young people of SCDCTA look forward to very much as a



# BUSINESS NEWS



place to learn and hang out with their friends with similar interests and goals without being in a pressurized show environment. We are grateful to SCDCTA member Ken Maginnis, who kindly donated his time to photograph the rides of this year's clinic. Keep an eye out on social media and our newsletter for pictures to come!

## **Patricia Dingle, Newsletter editor & Website liaison**

Webmaster Ken Maginnis has been working hard on updating our website. Currently we have permanent pages for the Low Country Dressage Shows, Springtime Dressage Shows, and the Oktoberfest Schooling Show & Schooling Show Championships, which include links to the prize list, stabling, results, & high scores (links will be updated annually). The Awards pages have also been updated and simplified, and the menu links cleaned up.



We will be submitting two articles from the March newsletter to USDF for consideration for the GMO Newsletter Awards, and are looking for article submissions from our members as well as high resolution photos. Business members need to fill out their Business Member profile to be included in future issues (or send a short write up on your business), and we will be contacting businesses individually for submission of advertising (included in membership fee). Member submissions earn a minimum of two (2) volunteer hours/article. All submissions should be send to [editor@scdcta.com](mailto:editor@scdcta.com)

## **USDF/USEF Bulletins**

Colonel David and Sue Bender (SCDCTA member) of Beech Island, South Carolina, have established a Military Grant Fund at The Dressage Foundation (TDF) to aid US military members and their dependents in their dressage training. During Col. Bender's 28-year Army career, he and his

family were posted to bases worldwide, including Germany, where Sue (a longtime amateur dressage rider) wrote about her equestrian experiences for USDF Connection. Sue Bender is a former USDF Region 3 director and a longtime Region 3 FEI North American Youth Championships chef d'equipe who in 2017 was honored with the Albers Award for her contributions.

The Military Grant Fund is open to all branches of the military to include active duty, reserves, and veterans. Amateur and youth riders, including para-dressage riders, are welcome to apply. Learn more at [www.dressage-foundation.org](http://www.dressage-foundation.org)

Mark your calendar for June 1-2, 2024, when USDF will again have the Kimball Adult Amateur Championships in Gainesville, FL. We are now embarking on a quest to move it in 2025 to another state. Sue Bender will be heading up the Region 3 AA Championships Committee to review venues, rule changes, and planning.

# PROFESSIONAL

# FINDING AN EQUINE

**Trisha Dingle**  
Egyptian Rose  
Sport Horses

Last issue's subject focused on finding an equine health care professional. This issue we will discuss finding someone to help further either your, or your horse's training and education, and our final installment regarding finding a suitable boarding facility will be in the December issue. As with our last issue the term "Equine Professional", or "EP", will be used as an all-encompassing term to include trainers, instructors, etc.

Just like with having to search for a new health care professional, it can be a daunting task when you are in the

market for someone to help you further your education and reach your equestrian goals. The first step is to recognize that there is a difference in the various EPs out there, and not every one may be qualified for your specific needs. To further complicate the search, some EP's are good multi-taskers and can fill a few different

needs, but identifying their strong points is a good first step.

### Trainer

To make this person easier to identify, use the full term "horse trainer". By their very name, a "horse trainer's" primary focus is on training the

HORSE in the horse/rider relationship. This could mean starting an unbroke horse, teaching the horse a new discipline, fixing an existing training issue with the horse, or being the

“...Trust your gut!

Even if you are new to horses, if you don't get a warm, fuzzy feeling about an EP and feel uncomfortable around them, ...time to move on...”

primary competitor on the horse. Your TRAINER will be the one doing the majority of the riding/work with the horse, and in some situations may be the only one riding/competing the horse. Now this doesn't mean that you won't take a part in some of the riding, and with the exception of putting a horse in full training so that the EP can



PART 2

EDUCATION

# FIND A PRO

show or market the horse, a qualified trainer should be able to work with the horse and then be able to transfer that education so that you as the owner/ rider can work as equally well with the horse, and depending on your goals take over full riding of the horse as the trainer backs off and transfers the responsibility to you. Training relationships can be short term - i.e. to fix a problem, teach the horse a more advanced move you are having trouble with, or for just one show season - or can be a long term relationship as you and your horse progress in your education. Trainers typically have more say in the overall management of the horse as well, including feed, conditioning schedule, & vet/

be focused on one side of the horse/ rider relationship - YOU. While of course the horse is a major partner in this relationship, the INSTRUCTOR typically will not ride the horse often, if at all. The goal of an Instructor is to teach the rider proper position, use of the aids, overall safety, balance, and horsemanship. They may accomplish these goals by working with you on your own horse, or by teaching students on safe lesson horses or accomplished schoolmasters. The purposed of an Instructor is not to fix training problems in the horse or advance its training, unless of course the problem is being caused by something the rider is doing in the saddle, causing confusion or pain to the horse. Their goal is more to advance the education and training of the rider, and/or to help you learn how to ride a more advanced horse or bring along your own horse in its training.

The term "trainer" is often used to encompass both a Horse Trainer and Riding Instructor position, and often they can be one in the same. But as a young rider I learned how different the two can be: I rode at a very large lesson barn, where the majority of us rode lesson horses (as I progressed I eventually leased my own eventing schoolmaster). My EP was very gifted at what she did - teaching beginner through low level dressage/event/ hunter riders, but struggled with her goal of competing at the mid-levels of dressage and eventing with her own green OTTB. I used to introduce her to new people as my "trainer", but she was always quick to correct me, that she was my "riding instructor" not a "horse trainer". This was an important distinction, as she enjoyed teaching



farrier/therapeutic appointments. Many trainers are gifted riders and can have an almost supernatural connection with the horses they ride, but sometimes these EP's can have a difficult time explaining what they are doing so that the owner can accomplish the same thing with the horse.

### **Riding Instructor**

Just like the Horse Trainer, the RIDING INSTRUCTOR will primarily

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beginner children through adults, but did not “train” horses and rarely rode anything other than her own horse.

## Coach

A coach is typically someone you are going to seek help from at a competition. Many trainers and instructors take on this role for their clients at shows, but there are a number of individuals who specialize in just this sort of work. A coach’s job is to get the best performance from you and your horse, support and encourage, and help you navigate the ins and outs of competitions. A coach typically will have extensive show experience, and may or may not still be competing. He/she will be well versed in the current rules for your breed/discipline and be familiar with the tests/patterns/movements. A good coach will know when you need support and encouragement, or when they need to push you through a block to make it to the other side; they can pinpoint what your strong areas are and can work on those to maximize your scores/placings, and will know the “tricks” of the trade that will best show off you and your horse. While some people may train/lesson with their coach regularly, oftentimes you may just work with the coach at competitions. The ideal relationship with a coach involves them, you, and your regular trainer or instructor.

## Mediator

This type of EP I have struggled to find a name for, and many people will not identify this as a separate type of EP (and yes, this person’s skill set may very much overlap with that of the Trainer/Instructor/Coach). Some people call these

individuals “natural horsemen”, yet I abhor that title as nothing we really do with horses is natural, and what these individuals are doing mainly covers common sense horsemanship and reading an individual horse’s responses. There’s a new term going around called R+ training as well - but the “mediator” goes beyond someone training groundwork or using positive reinforcement; this person incorporates a bit of animal communication, energy work, and straight-up human psychology. I’ve chosen this term because of what a clinician once said to me: I bred, raised, and trained my 11 year old Arabian gelding “Tango” myself. I’d been working with this particular clinician a number of times, and Tango and I had a history of nit-picking at each other and getting into fights. At our last clinic the trainer said to me that we were like an old married couple - we knew each other so well, we sometimes expected too much of each other and would get crabby with each other when things didn’t go as planned. It was a perfect description of my relationship with Tango, and from that moment on we joked that my regular instructor was actually our “marriage counselor”! While a number



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of good instructors and trainers can act as a mediator, there are times in our career with horses when traditional training and instruction just isn't working. Sometimes you need to think outside the box, and work with someone who incorporates not just good horsemanship but can show you how to communicate with your horse more successfully both on the ground and in the saddle. This is why I consider this skill set a completely separate type of EP.

**Know What You Need** (make a list!) Now that we have identified the different types of EPs out there, which one is right for you? It's time to start brainstorming and make some lists! Here are some questions to ask yourself, and to include on your "What My Horse & I Need" list:

1. What is the main goal for EP to work on (you, your horse, advancing training, communication?)
2. What are your/ your horse's strong points?
3. What are your/your horse's weak points?
4. Are you looking for discipline specific help (i.e advance your dressage knowledge, learn how to jump) or just general education?
5. What is your riding level and horse's training level - be honest with yourself!
6. What social aspects are important to you? (This may not seem important, but I have seen riders leave good training relationships because they like the social aspect of a busier show barn; likewise I've seen riders move to

smaller private establishments as they want a quieter learning environment. Knowing what situation is best for you will help narrow down deciding on an EP.)

7. Who primarily needs the help - you, your horse, or both of you?
8. Who will be riding/showing the horse primarily?
9. How far are you willing to travel to get to the EP or their barn? Or do you require the EP to come to your barn?
10. What is your style of learning - do you need lots of positive reinforcement and support or more of a drill sergeant? Are you more visual, mental, or do you learn best by feel?
11. Are you currently in a relationship with an EP and looking to add another person to the team (or fix a problem) or are you looking for someone totally new?
12. What time frame are you thinking about? Remember there are no 30-day fixes or quick solutions to training problems. Think about if you are looking for a long term relationship with an EP, you have a particular issue you need to addressed, or if you are looking for help for just the current show season.

### **Next Step is to do your homework!**

Many of the same techniques we discussed last issue on finding a health care provider can be used for finding an educational EP. A refresher of what these are can be found in the box at the end of this article. But in addition to those, here are a few more suggestions for researching a suitable EP:

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- **Go to shows**

In addition to what we've already discussed, observing an EP in the competition environment can be a great way to get a feel for the right fit (this can be helpful even if you aren't looking for help in the show arena). Go to competitions and watch potential EP's - how do they interact with their students? How do they treat the horses in their

care? Are they relaxed and professional under pressure, or tense and frenzied? What condition are their horses in? Do their students look happy or stressed? Don't just look in the competition arena - while successful rides and placings are signs that an EP's program is working, a lot can be discovered by watching their behavior in the warm up ring, away from the scrutiny of the

judges and audience. Walk through the barns or trailer parking - how do they keep their area? Is it neat and organized, do the horses look happy in their stalls or tied to trailers? This can be a great time to speak to the EP and their clients, but remember this is their job and during the actual competition they have limited time - wait until after classes are over and people are relaxing around the barn or quietly doing barn chores, and always be sensitive to their time constraints as by the end of the day many EPs are wiped and deserve some down time.

- **Talk to their clients**

Talking to the EPs clients (and their friends and family) can be a great way to know more about the EP. This can be done either at shows or around the

barn, even on social media (privately of course).

- **Consult websites** and look for verification of certifications, scores, show record, etc

Even in this age of social media, most EPs will still have an official website, or at least a business FB page. Look for any certifications they have, what their levels of expertise are, and show records. Then it is just an easy step to verify those claims by searching the organization they are certified through and looking up show records.

- **Look up scores/show records**

Whether you are looking for competition help or not, if your prospective EP competes looking up their record can give you a glimpse of their experience and success (or lack thereof). It can also help verify if they are being truthful - for example if an EP claims on their website that they have "shown FEI levels of dressage" but their USDF record only shows scores through second level, that can be a red flag (yes the horse or rider may not have been USDF registered/a member at the time, but \*most\* people showing at that level or actively competing will have their memberships in order). Both USDF and USEA have records of their member's scores and placings, and many breed organizations do as well (the Arabian Horse Association is one that keeps track of members placings in breed shows and some all breed scores/placings as well).

**Initial Contact**

Once you have narrowed down your list of EPs, its time to make initial



# FIND A PRO

contact. Call or email the EP, briefly explain what you are looking for, and ask if they are taking on new clients and if so can you schedule an appointment to speak with them. NEVER call outside of "normal business hours" - despite being a lifelong horse person I consider "normal" to be 9am-5pm, unless stated otherwise on the EPs website. Do not text a new EP, unless on their webpage or social media account they specifically state that this is how they wish to be contacted (and again only do so during normal business hours). While I prefer a phone call or text, many EPs (especially the younger generations) are more active on social media and may be more likely to check their FB messenger more often than email, so that can be another option - again its best to see if the EP has their preferred form of contact listed anywhere on the website or social media account, and if you chose the latter option its always best to go directly through their business page rather than personal page.

## Questions to ask:

Whether you have an EP who is able to recommend a replacement or additional team member, or you have a list of possibilities that you have to weed through, your next step after initially contacting the potential EP is to make sure that he/she will be a potential match. Whether it is on the phone, via computer, or an in person meeting, here are some questions to ask (and be sure to have your

"Needs" list with you so that you can be clear to the EP what you are looking for):

- » Is the EP currently taking on new clients in your area?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- » Is he/she familiar with your breed/discipline?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- » What type of training/certifications does he/she have?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- » Does he/she participate regularly in continuing education?  
If so, what kind?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- » Ask for references from current clients.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- » What type of payment does he/she accept?  
Does he/she offer delayed paying/billing options?  
\_\_\_\_\_

» What kind of liability insurance does he/she carry?  
\_\_\_\_\_

» If the EP will be coming to you, be sure to speak with your boarding barn owner/manager for any rules or requirements that they may have (does the EP need to have their own liability insurance, are there certain times of day when you can use the arena, are people other than you allowed to ride your horse at their farm?)  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Arrange a meeting

After the initial contact, if the EP sounds like someone who might be a good fit, it's time to meet in person. Arrange an appointment for you to visit their farm (or if the EP does not have a facility and will be traveling to you, see if you can arrange to meet them at another client's to observe their teaching/training). Ask what the

# FIND A PRO

EP prefers to do - some might require you to schedule a paid "unmounted" lesson, others may just invite you to show up during a given time frame. If you are arranging to meet at a specific time, ask if its ok to show up a little early or stay a little later to observe any lessons/training sessions and to visit with other clients. Regardless of the arrangement, \*always\* plan to be to your appointment a few minutes early and never late, and \*always\* respect the EP and other client's time.

## Red Flags

Whether observing an EP at a competition, or while meeting with them at their barn, there are warning signs that might show this is not a qualified EP to work with:

- ▶ Multiple horses underweight/poor condition
- ▶ Disorganized/messy barn
- ▶ Unprofessional/disorganized (to an extreme)
- ▶ Discipline of the horse/rider not in proportion to behavior (abusive, excessive)

- ▶ Excessive drilling of the horse/rider
- ▶ Negativity in lessons or coaching
- ▶ Inability to explain the concept in different ways so that the rider/horse understands
- ▶ Anger/frustration
- ▶ Trust your gut!

Even if you are new to horses, if you just don't get a warm, fuzzy feeling about an EP or feel uncomfortable around them, then pass and move on to someone else.

Looking for a new team member to help you and your horse advance your education can actually be a fun task, as long as you are prepared. And you don't have to do it alone - when going to shows for observation, or making your initial appointment, bring a knowledgeable horse friend along and make a day of it! By doing just a bit of research and entering into the process prepared, you have a great chance at success in finding just the right match for you and your horse.

Happy hunting!

## RESOURCES FOR FINDING A NEW/ADDITIONAL EQUINE PROFESSIONAL

- Ask your current EP for a recommendation
- Ask your health care provider for a recommendation
- Ask friends/respected horsemen in the area
- Tack & Feed Store Referrals
- Association & Horse Council Referrals
- EP Association Referrals
- Online Referrals



# OKTOBERFEST SCHOOLING SHOW

AND

# • CHAMPIONSHIPS •

CAMDEN • SOUTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER TWENTYSECOND

SOUTH CAROLINA EQUINE PARK

# CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATIONS AT A GLANCE

How to Qualify:

- » Horse must be SCDCTA lifetime registered
- » Rider must be a current SCDCTA member
- » Earn three scores at the level of your choice from at least two different SCDCTA recognized schooling dressage shows or Combined Tests. For dressage riders, one score must be from the highest test of the level.

## Volunteer Opportunities

A variety of volunteers will be needed for this show, including scribes, test runners, ring stewards and people to help set up and take down rings. You can work the whole weekend, one day, or even just a few hours; it's all appreciated and everyone always has a great time. If you're interested in volunteering at this show, contact Marcy Hippey (president@scdcta.com)

## Oktoberfest Sponsorship Opportunities

Our sponsorship chairman Tierney Boyd be away the entire month of September on maternity leave so we are hoping to have all of our wonderful sponsors sorted and ready to be advertised well before. An email has already been sent to past sponsors, but there is always room for more! The complete class sheet can be found [HERE](#). If you'd be interested in sponsoring any of the 34 classes offered please contact Tierney (tierney@scdcta.com)

We are also looking for High Point Sponsors and awards (JR/AA/OPEN)! The breakdown is below:

**Class Sponsors:** \$100 (34 classes available)

- Company name/logo included in digital event program.
- Company name/logo acknowledged on SCDCTA social media profiles. "Shout-outs" by announcer throughout show day.

**High Point AA:** \$150 plus a prize provided by the Sponsor (One available)

- Company name/logo included in digital event program.
- Company name/logo acknowledged on SCDCTA social media profiles. "Shout-outs" by announcer throughout show day.
- Pictures of Sponsor's winner will be posted to Social media and shared with sponsor for increased visibility.
- Sponsor can provide marketing materials for competitor bags.

**High Point JR:** \$150 plus a prize provided by the Sponsor (One Available)

- Company name/logo included in digital event program.
- Company name/logo acknowledged on SCDCTA social media profiles. "Shout-outs" by announcer throughout show day.

- Pictures of Sponsor's winner will be posted to Social media and shared with sponsor for increased visibility.

- Sponsor can provide marketing materials for competitor bags.

**High Point Open:** \$150 plus a prize provided by the Sponsor (One Available)

- Company name/logo included in digital event program.
- Company name/logo acknowledged on SCDCTA social media profiles. "Shout-outs" by announcer throughout show day.

- Pictures of Sponsor's winner will be posted to Social media and shared with sponsor for increased visibility.


- Sponsor can provide marketing materials for competitor bags.

.....

Please take a moment to look over our prize list and let us know what you might be interested in sponsoring! We will start our social media shout-outs shortly.

Prize list PDF

# SCDCTA BOARD MEETING



- ▶ June 28, 2023
- ▶ via Zoom
- ▶ Call to Order: 7:02pm

## **President's Report:**

Marcy Hippey discussed the shift in board culture to empower board members to more fully take charge of their projects. The board discussed the various methods of communication available.

Marcy also introduced the idea of a new committee head to be responsible for identifying and applying for grants available to SCDCTA. Marcy and Lisa Hinkle have been working on this area, but also have many other responsibilities; a dedicated person could increase our fundraising capacity significantly. This committee could also help ensure we stay on top of all the GMO awards that we might be eligible to compete for and ensure that we submit for all of them, as well. The board agreed this would be useful.

## **Secretary's Report:**

Lisa reiterated that the board has two official ways of communicating to the membership: the newsletter and direct emails. Social media announcements are supplemental to these.

## **Membership:**

Missy Powers submitted a report in advance of the meeting (appended). She noted that the 211 total is a good mid-year figure; we often get more memberships as it gets closer to time for the schooling championships and year-end awards. Additionally, the 76 new members this year is noteworthy.

## **Junior/Young Riders:**

Kathryn Butt noted that this was a challenging year for the clinic for many reasons, including the fact that it was held over Father's Day weekend and clashed with some significant events in the area. All agreed the clinician, Bryn Cahill, did a great job.

The board discussed ways to better support/add to fundraising, including more publicity of bake sales in advance to pull in better goods and reaching out to schooling shows to ask about dedicating income from one class to the juniors, among other ideas. Marcy also noted that pursuit of grants could also be used to support junior activities; USEF grants, for instance, are not rider category-specific.

## **2023 Schooling Championships:**

Carol Freligh noted that the schooling championships were poorly attended and lost money last year. The open-to-all schooling show the day before did better in terms of entries. Show management opted to switch to a one-day show that includes the championship classes paired with the AA clinic we have been promising for several years (see Clinics and Education). This year's championships will be held Oct. 22 at the SCEP.

Marcy has secured Kate Hutchings to judge Oktoberfest.

## **Clinics and Education:**

Marcy noted that USDF is pushing all GMOs to do more for AAs, which make up the bulk of membership. Much



interest has also been expressed by our members for a clinic for AAs; we have promised to try one since 2020, but were unavoidably delayed in putting one on before now. A clinic for AAs will be held the day before this year's Oktoberfest/schooling championships show in Camden. The clinician will be Stephen Hayes; details are still being worked out and will be published via the usual channels when finalized.

Marcy noted that Tierney Boyd has been working on sponsorships for our shows. Grant support may be a possibility; SCDCTA will apply for a grant available for clinics from USEF, for instance.

**Newsletter:** Trisha Dingle reported good feedback on the newsletter under her direction. She outlined the schedule for the rest of the year, with two more big quarterly issues to go out by mid-September and -December. That means getting all copy and photos to production by the first of each month, which means all submissions must come in by the 15th of the month before (e.g., Aug. 15 for inclusion in the September issue). Mini-newsletters will go out in the e-blast format each month in between.

Trisha also discussed her interest in including more member-provided photos; challenges include making sure resolution is high enough and that photographers are credited. Linda suggested an informal "best photo" award for each newsletter to help attract more photos and boost interaction with members.

**Website:**

Trisha outlined progress to date on updating and improving the website. This includes permanent pages for our main events like Lowcountry Dressage, Springtime Dressage and one in the works for the schooling championships/Oktoberfest. Challenges include redundant information and lack of organization.

**Recognized shows:**

A question was raised outside of meetings regarding participation in the BLMs. Carol reported that a fee is now charged for participation and due to low interest among our membership for a championship to be held in NJ, we will not participate. The board agreed that it might be worth checking with the membership again if the BLMs were held at NC showgrounds close enough to interest SC riders.

For the Lowcountry show next February, Marcy has retained the same judges that were used this year. She has not yet lined up judges for Springtime Dressage next year.

**Year-end awards:**

Sharon Anderson noted that she is ready to send out half-year standings, including who needs what and what median scores are. This would also cover the schooling championships. She also reported that a few volunteer hour sheets have come in, but most seem to come in toward the end of the year.

**Elections:**



Lisa noted that it's time for the mid-year reminder about elections for the board in November. She outlined the schedule, including an October deadline for bios submitted and presentation to the board, with a ballot to go out by Nov. 15.

She outlined the requirement, initiated two years ago, that candidates be drawn from active volunteers, not just pulled in randomly; she noted the current board has been great about reporting volunteers they think would make good board members. It was noted that most jobs/committee head positions can be filled by non-board members and that this is a good test before they formally join the board. Lisa suggested for future consideration possibly tweaking the election SOPs to formalize how board members refer volunteers for board elections.

She also identified the board members whose term is up this year.

**Miscellaneous:**

» **501(c)(3) Status:** Carol re-submitted our application about three weeks ago, and hasn't heard anything back yet. Since denials in the past have been quick, this may be a sign of imminent approval.

» **Banquet:** The 2024 banquet will be in the Charleston area. Marcy will work with Tierney on

» identifying potential venues; suggestions are welcome.

» **Marketing:** The board agreed that our marketing materials and branding needs an update, as well as noting some errors in the current informational handout. Marcy, Lisa, and Trisha volunteered to work on that effort.

» **Schooling Shows:** Linda Kelly submitted a report in advance of the meeting (appended). Linda plans in September to send a letter to all 2023 schooling show hosts to see if she can get them to complete recognition and get on the calendar earlier. This will allow us to start advertising their shows for next year earlier, as well.

» **Social Media:** Lisa outlined upcoming social media campaigns, including a new round of thanks for sponsors, other major supporters, and schooling show hosts, as well as a call for volunteers with a tie to future board elections.

# A WORLD WITHOUT HORSE SHOWS

11

Robin Fuchs

## VOLUNTEER TO PREVENT DOOMSDAY

“When you arrive at the office, you notice there are shockingly few people to assist; and those who are there seem harried, trying to help an ever-growing group of competitors.”

Imagine, if you will, that you have planned for this upcoming show from the beginning of the season. Whether you are attempting to get your final scores for regionals, pursuing scores for your next medal, debuting your fantastic new horse, retiring a beloved show partner, or showing for the only time this year, this show is one of the most critical of the season. You HAVE to show at this event. You have now spent a great deal of time, not to mention money, on training, grooming, putting together a killer new show outfit, and signing up/paying the fees (so many fees!) for the show. You are ready, or as ready as you possibly can be, for the big event.

Once you arrive at the show grounds and park your trailer, you head up to the show office to check in. When you arrive at the office, you notice there are shockingly few people to assist; and those who are there seem harried, trying to help an ever-growing group of competitors. After waiting for what feels like an eternity, you finally receive your competitor's

pack.; but upon inspection, you find it to be empty except for your number. You, again, wait in line, and are eventually able to obtain the other necessary materials. As you head back to your trailer where your horse has been waiting patiently to be removed from this inexplicably long confinement, you see a couple people running around appearing to be still setting up the arenas and the other event spaces. Things should run smoother tomorrow... right?!

The following day, as the sun starts to rise and you are putting the final touches on the most perfect button braids you have ever seen in your horse's mane, you feel confident that this show you have prepared so diligently for will go off without issue. Once you finish tacking up your horse and donning your fabulous show outfit, you make your way down to the show ring to check in and warm-up.

Unfortunately, where you expect to find the show underway, you find chaos. It appears as if the show has not started and all the riders, grooms, and coaches look confused. You ask a nearby rider what is going on and they explain that apparently, the show is short scribes so

# A WORLD WITHOUT HORSE SHOWS

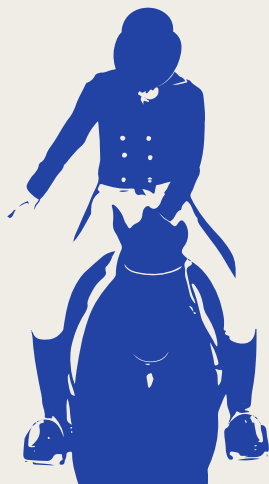
RZ

## VOLUNTEER: DOOMSDAY PREVENTION

the rings have not started. On top of that there are no ring stewards to inform riders when it is their ring time. All told, it is pandemonium. After you walk your horse around the warm-up arena for ages, you hear that from some depths of the show grounds, that scribes were found and the show is starting, albeit much later than what was planned. However, there are still no ring stewards perpetuating the discord as riders go into the show rings out of turn. By the time you are able to enter the ring to show, your, and your saint of a horse's, nerves are fried. You put out the best test you possibly can under the circumstances, but you know it was not up to your usual standards and you are more than a little dismayed. You and your horse make your way back up to the stalls. On your way, you see someone whom you thought was a scribe, running an armload of tests to the show office. No test runners either? Are you serious?! After reversing your routine from earlier, albeit in a much fowler mood, you make your way over to the boards where your scores should be

up by now. You storm into the show office to find that you are behind in yet another que of less than pleasant competitors all asking after their scores. Even more frustrated, you stomp back to your stall. You wait until the evening spending your time listening to the other people complain about how, "if the show had only gotten more volunteers, none of this would be happening." You cannot help but agree. You make your way back to the score boards for the umpteenth time, but this time your score is up. You have done worse than you thought. You retrieve your test and see the judges remarks of "capable pair but tense and appearing anxious today." Well, no kidding! You spent so much time and money to get to this show and now you have not even had the outcome that you had worked for so hard. Maybe you should just stop showing dressage altogether? Maybe underwater basket weaving could be fun...

Calm down, this is just a story, not real life; but could it be our future? Is this what the end of dressage showing as we know it might look like? Well, it



PAGE TWO

# A WORLD WITHOUT HORSE SHOWS

B

## VOLUNTEER!



doesn't have to be, but it is up to us as an equine community to band together. Whether competing in equestrian sports is your "thing," or you prefer to enjoy your horsey counter parts in a more relaxed environment, as equestrians we should be supporting each other's hopes and dreams, even if they are not our own, for the better of our people as a whole. Especially for those of us who do compete and rely on volunteers to make the shows happen for us, we should make sure we are giving back by volunteering ourselves to make shows happen for others. However, for those of us who are still asking, "Well, what's in for me specifically," let us look at the benefits for the individual. To begin, volunteering can help a person better learn the rules in relation to competing in dressage. If you are someone who competes you will be better able to make sure you are not violating any rules and being disqualified for something simple. You can even learn finer points of the sport when you scribe for a judge. I have even had judges

review what they are looking for through entire tests which I have been able to utilize in my own competitions. Easy extra point? Yes please! And no matter what volunteer role you take at a dressage show, you often can use those hours to go towards various year end awards in addition to grants to further your dressage goals.

More ribbons and prizes! Again, yes please! If nothing else, volunteering at shows is a fantastic way to not spend an arm and a leg to be a part of the dressage community with like-minded people who love our equine partners. Do not get me wrong, it can be difficult to find the time to volunteer between all of our regularly scheduled activities (I mean we are all horse people after all), but if we want our dressage communities to continue to grow and thrive, then we ALL must do our part to help out. After all, only YOU can prevent horse show doomsday.

# BONUS DEPRECIATION



Patricia P. Belcourt, CPA

## UPDATE

**if** you own a business or a farm, you may already be aware of bonus (additional first year) depreciation tax deductions. If not, I wanted to provide you with some key points. Generally, bonus depreciation is a legislative incentive for businesses to invest capital. For a variety of qualifying property, it allows a taxpayer to accelerate depreciation tax deductions into the placed in-service year. Bonus depreciation is available at 80% of cost for most eligible property placed in service in 2023 but has been as high as 100%.

**The allowance is being phased out.** In late 2017, bonus depreciation was increased from 50% to 100%. However, the 100% rate had a scheduled phase out in 20% steps. That phase out started at the end of 2022 and continues through 2027. With two exceptions, the rate drops from 80% for property placed in service in 2023 to 60% for 2024, to 40% for 2025, to 20% for 2026, and finally to a 0% rate for 2027 and later years. The two exceptions are for certain aircraft (generally, company planes), and for certain property with longer production periods. The phase out for those categories is delayed by a year and will reach 0% in 2028 instead of 2027.

**The allowance is available for new and most used property.** In addition to new property, used property also can qualify for bonus depreciation unless (1) the taxpayer previously used the property or (2) the property was acquired in certain forbidden transactions (generally acquisitions that are tax free or from a related person or entity).

**Taxpayers are allowed to decline bonus depreciation.** Taxpayers can elect to reject bonus depreciation for one or more classes of property (an "election-out"). Depreciation deductions are then claimed under the normal rules (i.e., over the normal MACRS recovery period). An election out can be

helpful if higher tax rates are anticipated for tax years after the year eligible property is placed in service.

**Passenger automobiles.** Certain passenger vehicles used for business can be eligible for bonus depreciation, but they remain subject to the general per-vehicle deduction limitations (dollar caps). While the cap for the placed in-service year for a vehicle is increased when bonus depreciation is allowed, in most cases the cap still prevents full utilization of the bonus depreciation acceleration benefit.

**"Section 179 expensing" has limitations but no scheduled elimination.** If you are a smaller business, you are probably aware of "section 179 expensing". It is an elective benefit that allows an immediate deduction of the cost of equipment, machinery, "off-the-shelf" computer software, and some building improvements. Section 179 expensing has annual dollar limitations and can be reduced to zero for larger businesses. However, the statutory benefit is not subject to a scheduled elimination like bonus depreciation. Thus, as bonus depreciation phases down from 100%, consideration of section 179 expensing will regain importance.

This discussion only touches on some major aspects of bonus depreciation. Bonus depreciation is a complicated area with tax implications for transactions other than simple asset acquisitions. If you have questions, or would like to discuss this topic further, please feel free to call me at (704) 843-2901 or email [patti@pbelcourtcpa.com](mailto:patti@pbelcourtcpa.com).

# BOOK REVIEW

## RAJA: STORY OF A RACE HORSE

I don't often find time to read much anymore, despite it being one of my favorite hobbies. There are a number of fabulous equine themed books out there that I've been slowly working my way through (both fiction and non-fiction), and periodically I'll be sharing my finds with our members.

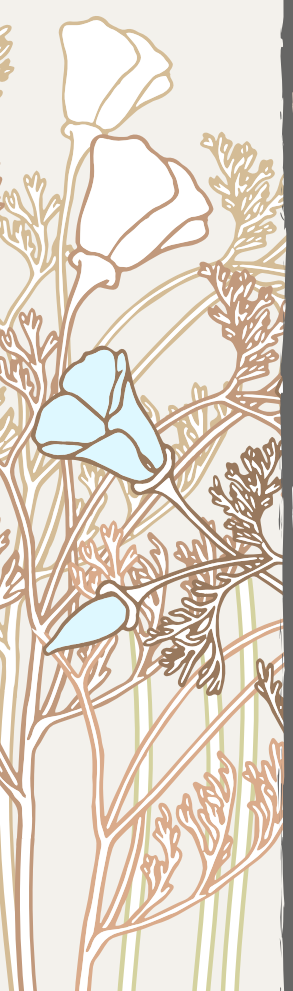
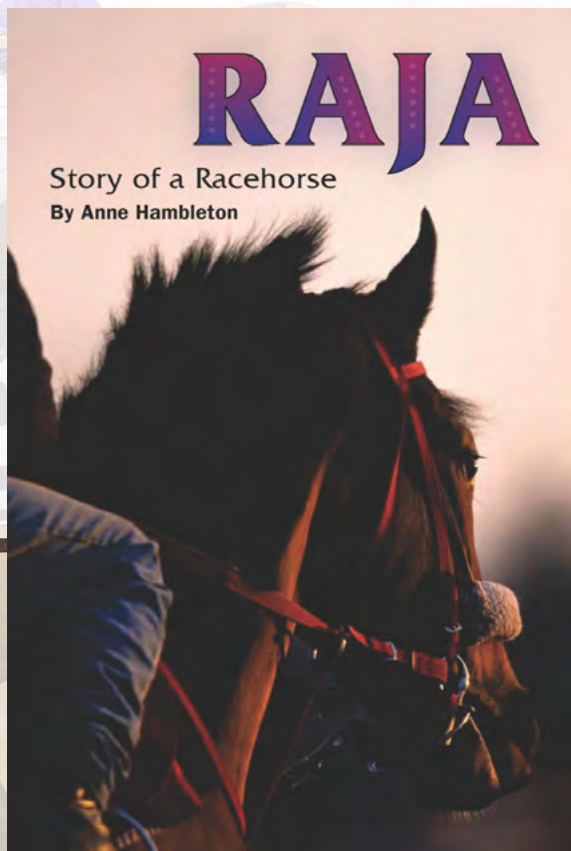
To start off, this month I want to review an incredibly good book that I feel should be mandatory reading for anyone involved in the equine world. When I first started at the TB rescue Race2Ring, I found a copy of "Raja, Story of a Racehorse" by Anne Hambleton among some items we had for sale for fundraising. Working with horses full time, I tend to prefer reading non-equine related fiction in my off time as a way of escaping, so "Raja" sat on my bookshelf for a couple of years. Recently I felt like a change

and decided to pick it up, and boy am I glad I did! From the title I assumed it was a biography of a real OTTB, but I was pleasantly surprised to discover it is actually a fictional novel, whose author is extremely well versed in both the racing and retirement side of the Thoroughbred industry. Told from the horse's point of view, Raja's story starts off idyllic; he has good breeders and trainers in his life who

take great care of their charges. Raja was on the road to becoming a Triple Crown winner, but an unfortunate accident as a foal left him with a deathly fear of thunder and lightning, resulting in an accident cutting his bid for the roses short.

Unsuitable for racing, Raja is given to an Olympic show jumper who feels he will be her next Grand Prix mount. So far Raja has lived a charmed life, not

knowing pain or abuse, a horse who's always been loved. Then a tragic life changing accident unrelated to horses forces the show





# BOOK REVIEW

## RAJA: STORY OF A RACE HORSE

jumper to sell all of her horses, and thus begins a roller coaster ride for Raja that left me in tears through some chapters and relieved in others.

Most people feel that all TB's are abused on the track and retire broken. This is not often the case – having been involved in the TB industry both on the track, at the breeding farm, and in post-racing careers, I know there are just as many good trainers as there are in the show and pleasure worlds. Oftentimes it is one or two homes AFTER a horse comes off the track where he runs into trouble, and Anne is a master at explaining this to the reader from the horse's point of view. Raja survives the dreaded New Holland auction not just once but twice; he has abusive show horse owners as well as kind but ignorant pleasure owners. He does a stint as a NY city police horse, and spends some time with the son of an old Olympic level master. I won't give away the ending, but I will say after numerous homes Raja's story ends well....

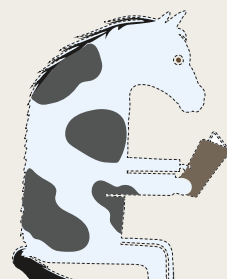
Or does it? The book ends with Raja in a happy home, but he is only ten years old. As the author has shown us throughout the book, life tends to through us curveballs, and as still a young horse there is no guarantee that Raja has found his "forever home".

As someone who has always rehabilitated horses, even before I started working for Race2Ring, this was an extremely hard book for me to read. While it is fictional, and (spoiler alert!) does have a happy ending, this book could have been the story of any of the horses at our rescue, or my own OTTB's Fate & Bates, or even the horse standing in your barn right now. So often horses are born into good homes, and sold to good owners, but throughout their 20-30 year lifespan things change. Young owners grow up and go to college, get married, get divorced. People lose jobs, suffer illness and accidents, lose interest in horses. People die. Our horses are at the mercy of our choices – we make a commitment

to them when we breed or purchase them, and so many are just thrown away when their owners are done with them. And for the owners who do care, but suffer an extreme life event, there are so few options for rehoming their loved ones. It is a problem that faces the horse industry daily, and unfortunately isn't getting much better as boarding barns and veterinarians disappear while the cost of caring for horses increases. Hopefully responsible horse owners will find a solution to this growing problem, but until them, I HIGHLY recommend picking up a copy of "Raja, Story of a Racehorse" – I promise it will give you a whole new outlook on horse ownership. <http://rajaracehorse.com>



Lucyrachel Donohue



# LET'S CELEBRATE!

## SCDCTA MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



### **Sydney Johnson**

with *Mae's Racer*  
received their qualifying  
Second 1 Dressage  
scores this weekend to  
complete the Second  
Level. Moving on to 3rd  
level for that Bronze  
medal.

Owner & Trainer:  
Jocelyn Thomas



### **Madison Evans**

with *Die Fuersten*  
aka "Scarlett":

MITS I Westfalen  
Grand Champion

MITS I Top  
AA/Jr Handler

MITS II Westfalen  
Reserve  
Grand Champion

MITS II Top  
AA/Jr Handler



# LET'S CELEBRATE!

## SCDDTA MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



### **Delia Frenzel**

SCDDTA wishes to congratulate our own junior rider Delia Frenzel on her accomplishment at the Festival of Champions in Lamplight!

Delia placed 14th overall in the 13 & Under Dressage Seat Equitation Championship. What's even more impressive is she did this on a borrowed horse who she only met just a few hours before the class!

When Delia's lease horse wasn't 100% for the championship class, a wonderful local farm offered to lend her a 5 year old hunter to use. This special gelding had only ever been to one hunter show and never shown dressage, but he stepped up to the plate and Delia expertly piloted him through the competitive class to their 14th place finish.

Way to go Delia!





# BRYN CAHILL

## CLINIC

2023 SCDCTA Juniors

**Lillian L. Frenzel**

This year, my sister and I had the opportunity to attend the annual SCDCTA Juniors Clinic for the third year. This was my first year taking my mare, La Reina. My sister, Delia, rode our mother's three-year-old Westfalen gelding, Cairo. The clinic was hosted at the South Carolina Horse Park in Camden, SC. This facility is perfect for the clinic! It has large stalls, a dedicated lunging pad, covered arenas, and a fabulous pavilion. It's also very central, so nobody needs to travel exceptionally far. We had a ton of fun and learned so much from Bryn!

On Friday, everyone arrived for the clinic and got their horses settled in. Katie, the SCDCTA youth coordinator, gave a welcome speech. Shauna Durham won the prize for best application! We drew our ride times for Sunday. Then, Ferris Yanney gave a riding demonstration with Hugo. We always learn so much from these! They are one of the best parts of the clinic. We also got to school our horses.

On Saturday, we had our first ride with Bryn. She helped me bring my half-halts through. We halted or performed a downwards transition in each corner to help stop us from rushing and to rebalance Reina. This was a super helpful exercise! Once Bryn had me performing better half halts and Reina more responsive to them, we were able to work on some of our lateral movements.



JUNIOR MEMBER



# BRYN CAHILL CLINIC

JUNIOR MEMBER

Lillian L. Frenzel

We were also able to practice downwards transitions within gaits. My friend, Mary-Beckett Hills and I had coordinated outfits for the group photo. We also audited almost everyone else's rides.

On Sunday, Reina was more balanced from the start due to our lesson on Saturday. We did many transitions in the warmup to maintain this. We were then able to work on our simple changes and counter canter. Bryn helped us maintain balance in the counter canter through corners and on a serpentine. I felt like our counter canter on a serpentine really improved! After my lesson, we audited the other lessons and helped pack everything up. Katie handed



out the best turnout awards, and we loaded up our horses and headed home after an awesome weekend!

Thank you so much to everyone who helps put on the SCDCTA juniors clinic each year! It's such a fabulous learning experience for all the riders who attend.

Thank you to Katie Butt and Sandra Bussey-Turner for organizing it! Thank you

to Bryn Cahill for teaching us! Thank you to Ken Maginnis for doing the photography! Thank you to everyone else who sponsors it or helps to make it happen! We truly appreciate it!

*Lillian*





# BRYN CAHILL

## CLINIC

2023 SCDCTA Juniors

### Mary-Beckett Hills



It was Thursday evening and we had finished packing the trailer. It was time to check everything over one last time, so we could leave early in the morning. I checked my trunk three more times because I couldn't pick which saddle pads and outfits I wanted to use.

Now it was early Friday morning. I got to the barn at 6 and I was ready to go. First, we had to do the regular morning chores. After all the horses were inside and fed it was almost time to go. I was sitting at the edge of my seat ready to go to one of my favorite events of the year. My horse, Tucker, saw the trailer and we were equally excited at this point. I put on all of Tucker's travel gear, and we were finally ready to go. After all the horses were loaded up, we were on our way. When I took the first step out of the air conditioning of the truck into the heat, I knew the amazing weekend ahead had started. I went to my first SCDCTA Junior clinic in 2015. It has always been an event I look forward to. I always meet new people and make friends. This year I volunteered at two bake sales and helped set up the arena

in Camden. I previously had never heard of the clinician, Bryn Cahill. My trainer, Ferris Yanney, had known her from their Region 3 2011 Young Riders Team at NAYC. Ferris told me she was an amazing rider, but she too had not seen her teach. I was excited to meet Bryn and learn everything I could from her.

Bryn asked me to start my regular warm-up. I then picked up the trot and started to ask for a stretch. Bryn immediately noticed we needed more impulsion and engagement. We then started to work on lateral movements and stepping Tucker's inside hind leg underneath him. She wanted me to work on "riding him back to front" and engaging his hind end. Bryn had me shorten my reins and get my hands forward and allowing the frame to lengthen. She told me "You are his engine". This really got it



JUNIOR MEMBER



# BRYN CAMILL CLINIC

## Mary-Beckett Hills



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across the diagonal. Bryn noticed how much this exercise improved my riding. She encouraged me to continue to ride every stride and ride to my full potential.

The next day was a continuation of what I learned on Saturday. We worked more on keeping engagement, impulsion, and control throughout transitions. Throughout my rides, I learned more than you can imagine in one weekend. Bryn is an amazing teacher and was always very patient and encouraging. She always recognized when you were trying even if it wasn't right. She would correct you with kindness and motivation. Everything I worked on with Bryn has tremendously helped me improve what I am working on at home.

I really liked learning about bodywork with Amelia Main. She showed us several things to do for our horses and things



to pay attention to. We talked about the main tension points on horses and some of the needs for bodywork. I also enjoyed watching others ride and learning from their lessons. I love the South Carolina Equine Park because of the amazing covered arena. It protects everyone from the heat and provides the horses and riders with more comfortable conditions.

Throughout the whole weekend, my biggest takeaway was to "ride every stride". This is going to be very important and beneficial to my riding experience. I will remember many other quotes and exercises from Bryn to help me in the future. I know I greatly appreciate everything I learned from Bryn. I can't wait to attend the clinic next year and expand my knowledge even more.

**MBH**



# LET'S TALK ABOUT YEAR END AWARDS



## VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

One of the most fun parts of GMO membership can be earning scores towards a year-end award! For members who like to show - whether at schooling or recognized shows; year-end prizes and other GMO award programs can be a great way to support goal-setting in their riding.

**SCDCTA offers a variety of year-end and special awards each year, including medal programs** for both dressage and event riders and horse performance awards, as well as Adult Amateur, Junior, and Professional (Open) awards, first through sixth, at all dressage and eventing levels.

**So, what is required to participate in the year-end awards program?** Let's start with the administrative stuff. First of all, the rider needs to be an SCDCTA member, so make sure you've enrolled for 2023! Second, the horse must be lifetime-registered with SCDCTA; this is important because the bulk of awards are based on the

horse-rider pair. This is a one-time fee, so once a horse is registered, that registration will follow him for his entire competitive life.

**And finally, the rider must complete at least eight hours of volunteer time for the SCDCTA during the current year, which runs Dec. 1, 2022 through Nov. 30, 2023 for this show season.** There are myriad volunteer opportunities throughout the year, including helping out at schooling or recognized shows, providing content for the quarterly newsletter, or supporting the hard-working board members on various projects, such as clinics or community outreach.

**You're super-busy? No problem!** SCDCTA allows any member to donate their volunteer time to another member for award purposes. So you can recruit friends, family members, students, or even just strangers off the street to perform your volunteer hours for you. It is important that you have an SCDCTA

Volunteer Form filled out and signed by the event supervisor for all volunteer hours, and that you email the form to our Awards Chairman, **Sharon Anderson** (sharon@scdcta.com) by November 30th of the awards year.

And if you really just can't donate time, you can provide a donation to the silent auction at our 2024 Awards Gala. To earn volunteer credit, donations must be valued at \$150 or more. If you go the auction donation route, you can make your donation by Nov. 30 for this year's gala. All you need to do is contact **Tierney Boyd** (tierney@scdcta.com) or your favorite board member, fill out a simple form, and provide your donation to that person.

Not only does volunteering qualify you for year-end awards, **it is a fabulous way to support dressage and eventing in the Carolinas,** make new friends, and can be an enjoyable way to give back to the equestrian community!

Watch the newsletter and SCDCTA's social media accounts for ongoing requests for support from different committee and project leads. Needs change regularly throughout the year, and it's likely something that interests you and works with your schedule will pop up at some point!



# SCDCTA YOUTH CLINIC WITH

## BRYN CAHILL

reprint from scdcta business news

The 2023 SCDCTA Annual Youth Clinic welcomed 2011 NAYC Region 3 veteran Bryn Cahill of Tampa, FL to SC! One of the goals of our Annual Youth Clinic is to select a clinician that has come up through the High Performance pipeline and can dialog with the kids about what that is like, how to balance school and riding, and the level of commitment it takes to rise to that

level of riding at such a young age. As a prior NAYC competitor, USDF Gold Medalist and graduate of Florida State University, Bryn fit the bill!!!

This year's clinic was largely made possible thanks to the efforts of Trish Russo and Bluff City Acres hosting a schooling show that entirely benefited the Annual Youth Clinic. SCDCTA's Youth Coordinator and USDF L Graduate, Kathryn Butt donated her time as judge to help make the day happen. Other invaluable sponsors include the Main family, the Frenzel family, Mad Kat Dressage, Oak Manor Saddlery, The Vista Schooling Center, Hitch & Tow LLC, Carter Vet, Amie Osmet, and numerous others! The SCDCTA Annual Youth Clinic is paid for through sponsorship otherwise secured by

our youth members and participants. Their efforts make this clinic the 2 day educational affair that it has become over the years! It is a yearly experience that the young people of SCDCTA look forward to very much as a place to learn and hang out with their friends with similar interests and goals without being in a pressurized show environment. We are grateful to SCDCTA member Ken Maginnis, who kindly donated his time to photograph the rides of this year's clinic. Keep an eye out on social media and our newsletter for pictures to come!



all photos: ©ken maginnis

# YOUTH CLINIC

WITH **BYRN CAHILL**



# YOUTH CLINIC

WITH **BYRN CAHILL**





## SCDCTA Junior Volunteer Form

Each SCDCTA Junior member must volunteer for 8 hours at a SCDCTA, USEA, or USDF recognized show or event to be eligible to participate in the Annual SCDCTA Jr. Clinic. The hours do not have to be consecutive or at a single SCDCTA recognized show. The show manager or judge (if scribing) **MUST** sign this form. This form must be sent to the SCDCTA Junior Coordinator when all required volunteer hours for the given competition year have been completed.

**SCDCTA Jr. Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**SCDCTA Number:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Competition Name:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Volunteer Activity:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Total Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Official Name:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Official Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Competition Name:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Volunteer Activity:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Total Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Official Name:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Official Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_.

\*Send form to Kathryn Butt: [KLB317@gmail.com](mailto:KLB317@gmail.com)  
196 Mt. Calvary Rd. Trenton SC 29847



## MANDATORY VOLUNTEER HOURS REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR-END AWARDS

All active members are required to volunteer a minimum of 8 hours per year at SCDCTA sanctioned events if they wish to be eligible for year-end awards. An active member shall volunteer in no less than 2 hour increments per event. Active members have the option to designate a volunteer by proxy, and delegate their volunteer hours to be performed by another person on their behalf. Volunteer hours are recorded for the current show year (December 1st through November 30th).

### Recording hours:

Active members must complete an SCDCTA Volunteer Hours Recording Form at each event. The completed form must be signed by the official event manager/organizer. Completed and signed forms must be sent via email to: [info@scdcta.com](mailto:info@scdcta.com). All hours must be recorded by November 30th each year, in order to count for that show year. Forms can be downloaded via the "Forms" page of our website, [www.scdcta.com](http://www.scdcta.com). Hours cannot be redeemed and recorded for non-active SCDCTA members.

### Definition of SCDCTA Sanctioned Events:

An SCDCTA Sanctioned Event, is an SCDCTA recognized or managed schooling show, SCDCTA clinic, SCDCTA educational event, or an SCDCTA managed USDF/USEF recognized show, or any SCDCTA event that the board of directors deems appropriate.



SCDCTA VOLUNTEER HOURS RECORDING FORM

**Section A**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCDCTA MEMBER NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you a volunteer by proxy? (are your volunteer hours going to count for a different member other than the name that appears above) Yes  No

*If "yes" please complete section B, if "no" please continue to section C*

**Section B**

Apply volunteer hours to MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCDCTA MEMBER NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

*Continue to section C*

**Section C**

EVENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EVENT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENT LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF EVENT: SHOW  CLINIC  OTHER

VOLUNTEER HOURS COMPLETED: \_\_\_\_\_

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*TO BE COMPLETED BY EVENT ORGANIZER:*

SCDCTA RECOGNITION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ and/or USDF NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

USEF NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

***I hereby verify the hours completed as stated above.***

ORGANIZER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZER SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

The volunteer must submit this completed and signed form electronically to [info@scdcta.com](mailto:info@scdcta.com)

Acceptable formats include: images or pdf files (either signed by hand or electronically)



## SCDCTA Adult Amateur Clinic with Stephen Hayes

Dates: October 20 & 21, 2023; Closing Date: October 8, 2023

Location: South Carolina Equine Park, 443 Cleveland School Road, Camden, SC 29020.

Questions: Marcy Hippey. [marcy@scdcta.com](mailto:marcy@scdcta.com).

Clinic Eligibility: SCDCTA Adult Amateur 2023 Members

Clinic requests and payment will be accepted through October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Horses on the SCEP grounds must have a Negative Coggins Report (EIA) dated within one year of 10/20/23 and a Flu/Rhino Vaccination (EHV4-1) Receipt from a veterinarian or proof of the vaccination given within 6 months of 10/20/23. Proof consists of the Vaccination Serial No., Expiration date, Date given and by whom.

Clinic Cost each day: \$100.00

Stabling Thursday through Saturday: \$90 (includes 2 bags of shavings)

Stabling Friday through Saturday: \$50 (includes 2 bags of shavings)

Tack Stall Thursday through Saturday: \$70 (no shavings)

Extra Shavings: \$7/bag

Haul-in Each Day: \$30

Mail Clinic Request to: Marcy Hippey, 120 Rancho Hippey Way, St. George, SC 29477

Email Clinic Request to: [marcy@scdcta.com](mailto:marcy@scdcta.com).

Payment: Checks are made payable to SCDCTA. Paypal SCDCTA the total using [president@scdcta.com](mailto:president@scdcta.com). Credit cards can be accepted by calling Carol Freligh at 843-857-6229. Paypal and credit cards require a \$10 fee to process.

Auditors are welcome and will be given a wrist band that is good for Friday and Saturday. The cost to audit is \$10 for SCDCTA members and \$20 for all others. The clinic starts at 8am each day.

RV spots are available for \$45/night. Can accommodate 30 or 50 amp hookups. Water is available at the RV spot. A dump station is available at the SC Equine Park.

The Café will be open Friday and Saturday for breakfast and lunch.

2023

**2024**  
EVENT

# CALENDAR

## 2024 Show Dates

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### **Low Country Classic Dressage I & II**

**February 24 & 25**

Mullet Hall Equestrian Center  
Johns Island, SC

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### **SCDCTA Springtime Dressage I & II**

**April 27 & 28**

South Carolina Equine Park  
Camden, SC

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### **Oktoberfest Schooling Show & Schooling Show Championships**

**October 19 & 20**

South Carolina Equine Park  
Camden, SC

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For complete Calendar of Events and links to specific shows,  
please visit our website [scdcta.com/calendar.html](https://scdcta.com/calendar.html)

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