

December 2025

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*Georgia Dressage &  
Combined Training Association*

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# *Dear Members:*

Small joys have a way of shining brightest in a big, bustling season. As the holidays approach, my house is full of half-hung garlands, shopping bags, and the usual trail of ornament boxes. I imagine many of you are in the same cheerful chaos.

As we wrap up 2025, we're already looking ahead to an exciting new year together. The 2026 GDCTA calendar is now live at [GDCTA.org/events](https://GDCTA.org/events), and it's filled with opportunities to ride, learn, volunteer, and connect across our community. I hope you'll take a moment to explore what's ahead.

One of the most anticipated events of the year is just around the corner—the Awards Gala! The “And the winner is...” emails will be arriving in mid-December, and tickets will be available when that goes out. We'll gather on February 7, 2026, at the Marriott in Alpharetta to celebrate the accomplishments of our riders, volunteers, and supporters. Full details are available on the event page. If you're able, please consider contributing to the silent auction or Barn Basket raffle—your generosity helps make the evening truly special.

As we move into the new competition year, please take a moment to review the updated rules and requirements from USEF, USDF, and USEA. One important change took effect on December 1, 2025: under GR 1101.10, all horses competing in USEF-licensed or -endorsed competitions must now be microchipped with a 15-digit ISO-compliant 11784/11785 chip. Staying informed keeps our horses safe and our sport strong.

December is also the perfect time to renew your GDCTA membership. Your involvement fuels our mission and strengthens the community we're all proud to be part of.

This season is rich with traditions—quiet moments in the barn, gatherings with friends, and celebrations with loved ones. However you mark the holidays, I hope they bring you peace, joy, and warmth.

Wishing you and yours a merry and meaningful holiday season.



*Caren*

Caren Caverly  
President, GDCTA  
[ccaverly@comcast.net](mailto:ccaverly@comcast.net)  
770-713-4025

# LIZ FASO MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

**Join Us As A Volunteer**  
Volunteering is fun & educational!

[GDCTA.org/Volunteer](http://GDCTA.org/Volunteer)

*Sponsored by Bouckaert Farm*

GDCTA



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**Pagan Gilman**  
[pagan@lisasegerinsurance.com](mailto:pagan@lisasegerinsurance.com)  
**770-283-7344**

[LisaSeegerInsurance.com](http://LisaSeegerInsurance.com)



# Stay Ahead of the Horse: Two Mindsets Every Dressage Rider Needs

*By GDCTA Contributor*

In dressage, the terms **proactive** and **preemptive** are often used to describe a rider's mindset and approach to managing the horse's movement, behavior, and transitions.



While they're sometimes used interchangeably, they reflect subtly different strategies:

## Proactive Riding

- **Definition:** Anticipating what might happen and preparing the horse before an issue arises.
- **Application in Dressage:**
  - The rider maintains awareness of the horse's rhythm, balance, and energy, and adjusts aids early to keep everything harmonious.
  - For example, if the horse tends to rush in the trot after a canter, a proactive rider might use a half halt before the transition to maintain control.

- **Goal:** Prevent problems by staying ahead of them through thoughtful preparation and timing.

## Preemptive Riding

- **Definition:** Acting in advance to counter a specific, expected issue or behavior.
- **Application in Dressage:**
  - The rider applies aids or corrections before a known problem occurs, often based on past patterns.
  - For instance, if a horse consistently drifts left in shoulder-in, the rider might preemptively reinforce the outside leg and rein before the movement begins.
- **Goal:** Neutralize a predictable issue before it manifests.

## Key Difference

- **Proactive** is broader and more strategic—like setting the horse up for success.
- **Preemptive** is more tactical—like heading off a known challenge.

Both approaches are vital for refined, responsive riding. Trainers likely use both when mentoring riders—helping them develop proactive awareness while also teaching preemptive techniques to handle recurring challenges.

FEBURARY 7, 2026



SAVE THE

*date*

GDCTA AWARDS GALA

# Awards Gala

## February 7, 2026

The Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association hopes that you will take a few moments to read about our upcoming event and decide to participate by donating to our silent auction.

On February 7, 2026, we will be hosting our Annual Awards Gala at the Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta. We anticipate approximately 550 guests at this function and the funds raised will go toward the UGA Veterinary School as well as other GDCTA functions and community events to benefit our members. To make this event as exciting and extravagant as we would like, we will need your help!

Please consider supporting our event by sponsoring ribbons for a division (\$350), donating gift certificates, merchandise or services. Member farms are encouraged to donate a Barn Basket to show off their Equestrian Spirit for the Raffle! In exchange, you will receive some excellent community exposure and advertising. Your company name, address, phone number and donation will be listed in the Collected Remarks newsletter that we will send to our nearly 800 members with event photos after the event and you will be listed on the website and on Facebook prior to the event.

We are close to announcing the full list of GDCTA year-end winners and sending the special “you are a winner” emails to those winners. Yes, it’s coming! Tickets will go on sale when we send the email. New this year – tables are only available as 12 tops.

It’s very exciting, isn’t it? Are you ready?

Awards by the numbers:

Recognized Dressage – 117  
Recognized Eventing – 51  
Schooling Show Dressage – 72  
Schooling Show Combined Training – 118  
Schooling Show Rider Awards – 3  
Special Awards – 18

If you would like to sponsor a class or champion award, please see the web page:

**<https://gdcta.org/event-6008334>**

# Are you a GDCTA award winner for the 2025 show season?

The Gala is a celebration of those members who participated in the year-end awards program. With an expected attendance of around 550, the Gala is a fun party as well as a benefit for the UGA Veterinary School and GDCTA activities throughout the year. Invitations to the winners are NOT mailed but instead are emailed – that email is your invitation.

Letterman Jacket / Patch winners will not receive an invitation, (you know you earned one because you have made your purchase by now, right?!). We encourage you to attend the Gala to pick up your jacket. Reach out to Joanne or Lindse, if you have any questions.

Please send a **PHOTO** with your name and your horse's name to Lindsey Burns at [gdctaawards@gmail.com](mailto:gdctaawards@gmail.com). High resolution (or larger size) is better for clarity on the slideshow screens. We'd like your photos even if you are not planning to attend.

If your name is on this list, you are an award winner! *(The number of times you are listed may not be a reflection of how many awards you may have won – the list is for you to know which horses you should send photos of. 😊)*

First Name	Last Name	Horse Name	First Name	Last Name	Horse Name
Molly	Adams	Cougar Crest	Elizabeth	Bohnsack	CSE Weymore
Chelsea	Allen	Thunderstrike	Kintzing	Bounds	Infinite Wisdom
Lacey	Allison	Miss Cormina	Shannon	Breaton	Color Print
Juliana	Anderson	JVK Fionn	Beth	Briner	Quentin
Eliot	Axt	MacCumhall	Gabrielle	Britton	Chesterfield Dauntless
Eliot	Axt	Dempsey FBC	Kloe	Brooks	Megan's Lad
Janice	Ballard	Underneath the Purple Reins	Jameson	Brooks	Coolsprings
Eliza	Barbour	Secret Gold Bewes	Caroline	Brown	Santiago
Meredith	Barden	Branstock's Riddle	Kristina	Brown	928 Favory Atessa
Karen	Bates	Right Ben	Kristina	Brown	Dreamheart
Andri	Bekker	Tia Carlina	Kristina	Brown	Virtuoso R
Pam	Berkosky	Box Out	Charlotte	Brown	Faith, Trust & Pixie Dust
Julie	Bethea	The Safari Party	Sarah	Buckley	Dust
Samantha	Bielawski	Element Of Fun	Salem	Buice	Griffindor
Samantha	Bielawski	Casekitchen SF	Lindsey	Burns	The Safari Party
Samantha	Bielawski	Coconut Truffles	Lindsey	Burns	Dracarys MHF
Karen	Bisgrove	Ripple Effect	Rachel	Butts	Nicanor AE
Kelsey	Bishop	Black Velvet	Jenna	Cain	Rendition
		Decius Carpe Xen			Donnerdream

First Name	Last Name	Horse Name	First Name	Last Name	Horse Name
Charlotte	Campbell	Stzefan (Zee Biscuit)	Brylee	Dunsmore	Cisco, The Phantom of the Opera
Emily	Cardin	Badabing Badaboom	Kendal	Duryea	Im Chillin
Ellie	Carey	Fortunate Folly	Lauren	Eckardt	Arion
Sylvie	Carlson	Fernhill All Styled	Lauren	Eckardt	Just Call Me Zoey
Sydney	Chandler	Mungo Magic	Lauren	Eckardt	Talento DE
Mary Catherine	Chewning	Athena	Lauren	Eckardt	Volare
Ellee	Chilvers	Hocus Pocus	Olivia	Edgington-Desmet	Snap Me Up
Everleigh	Clark	Liberty	Erin	Edwards	Rhythm & Blueberries
Kaitlyn	Cobey	Redfield Need for Speed	Evelyn	Ellis-Grosse	Fast Fashion
Alison	Cochran	Night Moves (Ben)	Logan	Erwin	Blue Rock Emerald
Bryanna	Cohen	All The Stars	Kimberly	Faist	
Scottlynn	Collar	RiZen Above	Alicia	Fasig	Armadillo
Carly	Compton	Scout it Out	Mia	Faught	I Solemnly Swear
Caitlyn	Cook	Lute & Sweet	Reagan	Finnie	Jessie Rey Kingston
Debra	Cosby	Quintessence B	Kristi	Foresman	Reuvekamp's
Emily	Crumlish	Peter Pan	Mark	Fornwalt	
Karen	Czarick	Alfalfa Romeo	Claire	Foster	On my Honor
Evelyn	Dampier	Checkmate	Fiona	Foster	Popstar
Jamie	Daniel	Can't Pass It Up	Lynnlee	Foster	Wreaking Havoc
Maya	Daniel	De La Muse	Eliza	Fountain	Fury H
Maya	Daniel	Honest Abe	Rory	Frasure	Ticket to Ride
Lyn	Davis	Dahlia Ace	Rachel	Frazier	I D Claire
Lyn	Davis	Savannah KBF	Lindsay	Fronzak	I'm Makin' Waffles
Anthem	Day	Halo Jump	Kaley	Fuller	Melody
Indi	DeMeritt	Bon Voyage	Kat	Fuqua	Bon Ami 36
Marloe	Deppa	Autumn	Kat	Fuqua	DreamGirl
Pace	Deppa	Toby the Coal Man	Kat	Fuqua	Toto Django
Isabel	Desta	Mr. Apples	Denise	Garlinghouse	Lizzard #Superman
Griffin	Deyo	Olaina	Kate	Garrow	Beaubafette
Ella	Diehl	Etitano	Hattie	Gegax	Botticelli CDF
Ashley	Dodds	De La Muse	Marjolein	Geven	Furst Henry
Ashley	Dodds	WHF Lumiere	Marjolein	Geven	Jacquino AS
Sadie	Doiron	Peyton	Marjolein	Geven	Junior STH
Laura	Duhamel	Fate's Astaire	Tessa	Geven	Ameristan

First Name	Last Name	Horse Name	First Name	Last Name	Horse Name
Lee Ann	Gilson	Signed in Ink	Ainsley	Jucknies	Picassi
Amber	Gipp	San Sebastián	Anora	Jucknies	Remarquabelle
Shelly	Gleason	Not Another Dime	Anora	Jucknies	Ringwood Ticket
Ricky	Greenway	#1 No Pickle	Elizabeth	Junius	Sandra Dee
Brinson	Griffeth	Duchess	Lisa	Kapp	Bono-O
Deb	Grosenbaugh	Starry Night	Charlotte	Karafa	In Your Pocket
Jacie	Haggard	Black Jack PTA	Betsy	Kaywood	Starfires Draco
Jacie	Haggard	Brown Eyed Boy	Jennifer	Kelly	De Last Dance
Bethany	Hancock	Decisive Force	Dawn	Kemp	Storm Sent
Sophia	Hand	Fernhill the Wild Card	Cindy	Kennedy	Rembrandt II
Teagan	Harp	Anything Goes	Cindy	Kennedy	Third Times the Charm
Addison	Harris	Fantasma	Ashley	Key	Air Apparent
Addison	Harris	Muneca	Finley	Key	Griffindor
Ava	Harris	BellaBrooke	Finley	Key	Marshal Goose
Maribeth	Hebert	Next In Line EDI	Laura	King	
Susan	Hebert	Ouzhou	Sydney	Kisner	Oakley
Ginny	Henry	Glitter Girl	Jamie	Kolodziej	Suzies Pistol Pete
Austin	Hermann	Corcovado MLF	Aya	Koonz	Peter Pan
Austin	Hermann	The Safari Party	Abigail	Kroupa	Blue Hors Enrique
Amy	Hofffield	Magnum Del Rose'	Summer	Kroupa	Sephora
Madilyn	Holcombe	Pardi Rock	Kaleigh	Kuczka	Consider it Dun
Emma	Horne	Lemon Drop	Kaleigh	Kuczka	Peaches
Raegan	Hornfeck	Legendary	Anabelle	Kurtz	Crossed Arrow's Yeti
Emma	Horton	Galvinator	Anna	Langford	Cricket Song
Tammy	Howlette	Serendipity	Brooke	Lantz	Big Bear's Omega
Tammy	Howlette	That's My Buddy	Madison	Lareau	Don Derico
Ava	Iannamico	Fernhill Mr Cool	Lois	Lassiter	Beaudacious
Jenna	Jack		Lois	Lassiter	Spur of The Moment
Anja	Jacobs	La Zaina	Lois	Lassiter	Wilson
Samantha	Janiga	Dauntless Dame	Lynn	Leonard	Just Call Me Zoey
Samantha	Janiga	Kiss Me I'm Irish	Megan	Lichty	TBS Declan Pondi
Daelyn	Johnson	My Guardian Angel	Michelle	Lightcap	Grand Emerald
Aureauna	Jones	Prince Charge	Jaylynn	Lingerfelt	Smooth Criminal
Della	Jordan	Oliver Twist	Amelia	Lohr	Made Ya Look

First Name	Last Name	Horse Name	First Name	Last Name	Horse Name
Khloe	Lovingood	Justine Time	Sydney	Nagel	You Are My Sunshine (Sunni)
Savannah	Lynn	Not Another Dime	Morgan	Nelson	Roll The Dice
Leah	Marks	Cassiel	Wisti	Nelson	Bentley
Olivia	Martinez	TSMs Double Shot	Lauren	New	Catharga PS
Reese	Massey	Parrsboro	Lauren	New	Flying Again
Anya	Mathieu	Leap of Faith	Lauren	New	Talk to Me Goose
Anya	Mathieu	Pow Wow	Kimberly	Ohlsson	Running for Riz
Kathryn	Mattick	Such a Duchess	Adriana	Oliveira	Empty Pockets
Carolyn	May	Ladino	Adriana	Oliveira	Taking Flight
Carolyn	May	Sky Moon	Taylor	Pahl	Just Call Me Zoey
Camille	Mays	Pony Boy	Megan	Pickens	Snap Schott
Piper	McCaa	The Perfect Escape	Kristine	Pinto	Showboy 2
McKenna	McCluskey	Flashy Gold Mercedes	Allie	Pizza	After Dark
Lucy May	McDaniel	Teddy O'Brien	Allie	Pizza	Hand me Down Rose PTA
Stella	McGuire	Lucky Clover	Alex	Poe	Princeton
Bethany	McKnight	My Valentine	Lauren	Polk	Donauwelle P
Molly	McLaughlin	Top L'Amour WV	Brittany	Poole	Taxbreak
Kara	McMahon	I'm Makin' Waffles	Jennifer	Poole	Mind Over Matter
Dasha	Medina	Julieta	Isabelle	Powers	Scip the Sky
Dasha	Meeks	Prince the Mustang Der Kleine Choco-Boy	Kimberly	Presley	
Jennifer	Melcher	We	Carly	Prosser	Janto LD
Nate	Melcher	Ziggy Stardust	Savannah	Purcell	Amira
Valentina	Melecio	Carlin LeBeau	Robin	Puryear	JEB Stuart
Eden	Miller	Rhythm and Blues	Denise	Putman	Triunfante H
Rebekah	Milligan	Little Bit of Luck	Emily	Rawlston	Her Signing Bonus
Heather	Moffett	Slam Dunk	Laia	Reig Codina	Malone
Elena	Moffitt	Diano	Makenzie	Renier	Nugget
Cheryl	Morris	Swing Hard	Harper	Rhein	Royally Blessed
Joanne	Morse	Finja	Paisley	Rhoades	
Noel	Muehlbauer	Escolar X Don Schufro	Carolyn	Rice	Fernhill Oreo
Brie	Murray	Ranga Tanga Roo	Julie	Richards	Fernhill Next Star
Brenda	Myers	Robin Sage	Julie	Richards	Network Latency
Sydney	Nagel	Long Story Short (Romeo)	Tamara	Richter Jones	Figment
			Hannah	Rickles	Faustus Z

First Name	Last Name	Horse Name	First Name	Last Name	Horse Name
Hannah	Rickles	Light Fury	Alyssa	Stewart	JKS Hancock Blue Key
Sophia	Rios	Dolcezza	Aubrie	Stewart	Sugar & Spice
Emma	Robinson	Hocus Pocus	Ashley	Sticher	Power Emblem
Lou	Roth	Oscar de la Gesse	Elena	Stubbs	Dante
Catelyn	Ruehman	Ziggy Stardust	Piper	Surber	Big Bear's Coriana
Ava	Russell	Lucien The Mustang	Mckenna	Sykora	Westbrook
Aubrey	Sabatino	Ravishing	Ashley	Templeton	Big Bang PTA
Diana	Salzmann	Rock Steady	Jake	Tessler	Fernhill Focus Maxi
Dasha	Samsonova	Chincoteague's Brembo	Victoria	Thornley	Kratos DS
Jennifer	Scherrens	Firmijn	Nancy	Thrasher	Detective CDF
Caralyn	Schlampp	Taking Flight	Tayla	Thune	DeNira
Kora	Schroeder	City Never Sleeps	Devon	Tresan	Silver Linings
Mia	Schroeder	Maddie May	Devon	Tresan	Zavallo
Chloe	Schwerzmann	Careful	Victoria	Treverton	Alexander Z
Chloe	Schwerzmann	Designer Fernhill	Emily	Trimble	Dakotas Running Bear
Elin	Sebert	Merrylegs	Karen	Trout	Idilio
Emma	Sherwood	Juczt My Style S	Alexis	Troutman Truelove	Mondo 'L'
Molly	Shewmaker	Sarapero Mor	Jessica	Terry	Johnny B. Goode
Charlotte	Simons	Mulhalls Sunrise	Rebecca	Vendyres	Big Bear's History Maker
Bella	Smith	Hallelujah III	Kathy	Viele	Decano
Katelyn	Smith	Tsuris	Madeleine	Vitale	Dark Side of the Moon PTA
Katelyn	Smith	Tsuris	Kimberly	Wallace	One Cool Act
Melanie	Smith	Ballynoecastle TD	Lucy	Watkins	Joshua S.
Katelyn	Smith	Dolmen DeeJay	Clara	Wells	Shamu
Katelyn	Smith	HSH Henry	Jenna	Williams	Zenith Titan
Melanie	Smith	Shakedown Street	Jill	Williams	Remington
Kim	Sosebee	Raaf C	Cora	Williamson	Breyers of Buchannan
Edward	Splichal	FGF Killer Instinct	Cora	Williamson	Luna Eclipse
Kaarthik	Sribalusu	Engines Ready	Kristen	Wilson	FGF Wonderwall
Mackenzie	Stahl	Global Chrome (Goose)	Macyn	Wolpert	Hellelujah
Leela	Stanford	You Are My Sunshine (Sunni)	Virginia	Woodcock	Mollegardens Sans-Souci
Victoria	Staples	Always Curious	Virginia	Woodcock	
Alyssa	Stewart	JKS Carrimeo	Arabella	Wunn	Elegant Enterprise

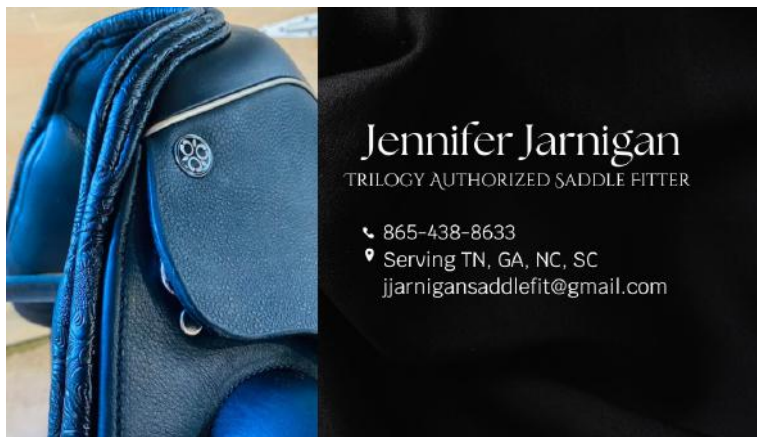
First Name	Last Name	Horse Name
Anne	Zaharias	Abaci TF
Collins	Zgutowicz	L'Avventura
Madison	Zgutowicz	Keep Kitty
Samantha	Zierk	Mystic Fair

## Bouckaert Farm, Fairburn, GA-Private Boarding Facility Just South of Atlanta!

**\*Reduced Board Price for 2026- \$1250\***



Bouckaert Farm, in Fairburn, GA, has a few openings for full board. Located 17mi south of downtown Atlanta, Bouckaert Farm boasts 2200 acres of ride out, nearly 100 acres of fenced paddocks, 12 x 12 matted stalls, fly spray system, a 100' x 175' covered ring with microfibre footing, lights, and mirrors, hot and cold wash racks, on site laundry, and climate controlled tack rooms. Horses are fed Cavalor feed and high quality Canadian orchard hay. Bouckaert Farm hosts roughly 30 equestrian competitions annually, so boarders can compete without leaving the property. Board is \$1250/mo, and includes hay, feed, blankets, boots and/or fly kit, and private or small group turnout. Easy hack to competition facility that has 5 large arenas with microfibre footing, full cross- country course BN- A. Barn manager lives a on site. Please contact the team at Bouckaert for any questions/ comments/ concerns.



# GDCTA Training Grants

The GDCTA Training Grants are available for active GDCTA members who have not won a grant within the last two years, are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, engaged in a consistent riding program with instruction, and demonstrate commitment to improving their riding skills through training with a qualified trainer.

## Overview of the GDCTA Training Grants

- GDCTA awards **four grants annually**, each worth **\$800**, to help member-riders improve their riding through focused training with a trainer of their choice.
- These grants are designed to provide opportunities that may not be available in the recipient's daily routine and promote educational growth in dressage and combined training.

## Eligibility Requirements

- **GDCTA Membership:** Must be a member in good standing of the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association.
- **Citizenship:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents with a Green Card.
- **Active Riding Program:** The applicant should have been involved in a regular riding program with active instruction for at least the last three years.
- **Training Plan:** The grant is intended for concentrated work, so applicants must have a training plan and choose a recognized or certified trainer for their educational focus.

## Grant Categories

There are four grant categories, with one grant awarded in each category:

- Adult Amateur – Dressage
- Professional

- Combined Training
- Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR)

## Application Process

- **Intent to Apply:** Register online via the GDCTA event calendar by the stated deadline (usually early June).
- **Application Submission:** Complete the official application form, including a trainin plan, and submit it along with at least one reference letter and a letter from the traini you plan to work with. Applications are emailed to Janie Pride (janiepride@yahoo.com).
- **Deadlines:** Check the GDCTA website for exact application deadlines each year.

## Grant Use and Recipient Obligations

- The grant funds must be used within one year toward educational programs such as seminars, clinics, workshops, or training sessions with certified instructors.
- Upon award, recipients receive \$600 upfront after confirming training details, and the remaining \$200 is paid after submitting a written article about their training experience to the GDCTA newsletter, *Collected Remarks*.
- Recipients are required to:
  - Write an article describing their training experience for GDCTA publications.

- Give a verbal report at a GDCTA board meeting after completing the training.
- Volunteer at least 8 hours at a GDCTA event or function within one year of receiving the grant.

#### Additional Benefits

- Each recipient also receives a special journal donated by The Equestrian Journal, plus a coaching session on journaling to help maximize their training progress.

Apply from  
February 1-June 1st

#### Summary

If you are an active GDCTA member committed to improving your riding skills and involved in ongoing instruction, and you're a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, you are likely eligible to apply for a GDCTA Training Grant. This grant supports concentrated, quality instruction with a trainer of your choice and encourages sharing your growth with the GDCTA community.

For more information, updates on deadlines, and specific application details, visit the official GDCTA website [GDCTA.org](http://GDCTA.org) or navigate directly to the Training Grants page on their calendar.

Applying for the GDCTA Training Grant is a great step to take your dressage or combined training to the next level while actively contributing to your local equestrian community.



### GDCTA Horse Shows

- **April 11–12:** Spring Fling Schooling Show
- **May 9–10:** Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern I & II
- **August 15–16:** Summer Finals Schooling Show
- **August 29–30:** Labor Day Classic I & II
- **October 2–4:** Region 3 Championships & Atlanta Fall National Dressage

[GDCTA.ORG/EVENTS](http://GDCTA.ORG/EVENTS)

# USDF "L" Program Session B

December 20-21

Georgia Horse Park  
Conyers, GA

The USDF "L" Program Session B is the second part of the USDF education program "A Judge's Perspective," focusing specifically on judging criteria for gaits, movements, and figures in dressage, crucial for aspiring judges and educational for adult amateurs to understand proper training and evaluation. This session teaches riders and potential judges how to recognize correct training and biomechanics in tests, often involving video analysis of actual rides.

## What it Covers:

- **Judging Criteria:** Focuses on how judges evaluate a horse's gaits, paces, movements, and figures.
- **Biomechanics:** Deepens understanding of the horse's movement and how riders influence it.
- **Training Levels:** Often covers Training through Second Level, with footage of real tests.

## Who Can Attend:

- **Candidates:** Those aiming to become L Graduates and potentially licensed judges.
- **Others:** Can audit sessions for valuable education on riding and judging.

## How it Works (in General):

1. **Part 1:** Consists of Sessions A, B, and C, providing a foundational understanding.
2. **Silent Auditing:** Open to all for a fee to learn at a reduced cost.
3. **Video Analysis:** Participants review and score test rides.

Silent Auditors for Session B and Session C can register on the website (check event page for GDCTA - USDF L Program (A: Nov 8-9, B: Dec 20-21, C: Jan 24-25)).

# Ride and Audit with Endel Ots – A Unique Dressage Opportunity Brought to You by GDCTA

Mark your calendars for **March 14–15, 2026**, when internationally acclaimed dressage trainer and competitor **Endel Ots** brings his expertise to **Noble Steeds in Canton, GA** for a GDCTA Kudzu Clinic.

Endel Ots is known for developing horses and riders to the highest levels of dressage, with a proven record of success on the international stage. His clinics are celebrated for blending technical precision with accessible, rider-focused coaching. Whether you're in the saddle or observing from the sidelines, you'll gain invaluable insights into the art and science of dressage.



## Why Ride

- Personalized instruction from a trainer with international competition experience
- Exercises designed to help riders transition confidently through the levels
- A chance to refine communication, balance, and harmony with your horse



## Why Audit

- Learn by watching a variety of horses and riders work through challenges
- Hear Endel's explanations and corrections in real time
- Take home practical strategies to apply in your own training

## Registration Details

- **Opens January 1, 2026**
- **Riders must be GDCTA members** at the date of the clinic
- **Rider will be selected by lottery** to ensure fairness and opportunity

Don't miss this chance to learn from one of America's leading dressage professionals in a supportive, educational environment.

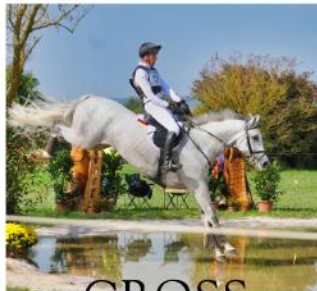
Register: [GDCTA.org](https://www.gdcta.org)

# GALLOP & GLORY AWARD

(EVENTING & CT)



DRESSAGE



CROSS  
COUNTRY



STADIUM

A bold new GDCTA honor celebrating eventing excellence and the thrill of top performance.

This award recognizes riders who finish with scores in the 20s at USEA-recognized horse trials or GDCTA-recognized schooling shows — a true mark of mastery across all three phases.

Eventing is a test of courage, precision, and partnership, and the Gallop & Glory Award salutes those who tackle it all with grit, grace, and undeniable glory. 🌟

#### RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY:

Riders must:

- Be a current GDCTA member in good standing
- Opt into the GDCTA Awards Program before earning scores (via membership form or email to Membership Chairperson)
- Complete a USEA-recognized horse trial or GDCTA-recognized schooling show
- Finish with a score in the 20s
- Events must occur between October 1 and September 30 of the awards year

#### INDUCTEES EACH RECEIVE:

- A custom certificate recognizing your achievement
- Recognition in the GDCTA newsletter "Collected Remarks"
- Acknowledgement at the Awards Gala

FULL DETAILS ON [GDCTA.ORG](https://gdcta.org)



## Peaches & Perfect Circles Club

(Dressage)



🍑 A fresh new GDCTA honor celebrating the artistry and precision of dressage excellence.

Riders who score 70% or higher in any dressage test earn a coveted spot in this exclusive club—a true mark of mastery in the arena.

This recognition isn't just about ribbons; it's about celebrating the grace, grit, and dedication it takes to ride those sweet, round circles to perfection.

Join the ranks of Georgia's finest—because earning 70% or higher is no small feat, and we think that deserves a peach of a celebration!



### Rules for Eligibility

- Be a current GDCTA member in good standing
- Opt into the GDCTA Awards Program before earning scores
- Earn a score of 70.000% or higher in any USEF/USDF-recognized dressage show or at any GDCTA-recognized schooling show
- Scores must be earned between October 1 and September 30 of the awards year

### Each inductee receives:

- A custom certificate recognizing your achievement
- Recognition in the GDCTA newsletter
- Acknowledgement at Awards Gala

Full details on  
[GDCTA.org](https://GDCTA.org)



# GDCTA Board 2025

## OFFICERS

**President:** Caren Caverly  
**VP Dressage:** Abi Kroupa  
**VP Eventing:** Joanne Morse  
**Treasurer:** Peter West  
**Corresponding Secretary:**  
 Carol Tresan  
**Recording Secretary:** Ashley Boyd

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

AnnMarie Stockinger  
 Lindsey Burns  
 Liz Molloy  
 Janie Pride  
 Danielle Perry  
 Noel Muehlbauer

## YOUTH MEMBERS

TBA

*The 2025 Board was seated at the  
January meeting*



## Committees 2025

- 1) **Nominating** – 2 Non-outgoing board members
- 2) **Grievance** – 2 VPs, only if there's a complaint
- 3) **Finance** –
  - a. Chair – Peter West
  - b. Sponsorship - Caren Caverly, Aly Elliott
- 4) **Awards** –
  - a. Grants – Janie Pride
- 5) **Award Gala** –
  - a. Chair – Caren Caverly
  - b. Silent Auction – Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
  - c. Barn Raffle – Danielle Perry
- 6) **Education** –
  - a. Chair – Julie Shannon
  - b. Clinics – Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
  - c. Kudzu – Danielle Perry
  - d. L Program – Marian Bickers
- 7) **Youth** –
  - a. Chair – Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
  - b. Schooling or Grassroots – Open
  - c. Recognized – Liz Molloy, Janie Pride
  - d. Collegiate – Amanda Garner
- 8) **Communication** –
  - a. Chair – Joanne Morse
  - b. Newsletter – Penny Morse, June Brewer
  - c. Website – June Brewer
  - d. Social Media – June Brewer
- 9) **Show** –
  - a. Chair – Julie Shannon
  - b. Recognized – Caren Caverly
  - c. Schooling – Caren Caverly
    1. Horse Show Recognition – Annmarie Stockinger
  - d. Regionals 2026
    1. Chair – Caren Caverly
  - e. Volunteer Coordinator – Aly Elliott

## ORGANIZE A GDCTA-RECOGNIZED SCHOOLING SHOW

If you are organizing a schooling show and wish to have it GDCTA Recognized (so riders can use the scores

towards our year-end awards), submit the Recognition form. Shows won't be added to our calendars until the Recognition form is received.

Please review the other information and specifications/guidelines we have provided. For specific questions regarding recognition procedures, email Carol Tresan at [Happy\\_horses@hotmail.com](mailto:Happy_horses@hotmail.com)

Recognition details:  
<https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/GDCTA-Recognition>

## DISCLOSURE

Complete GDCTA Board of Directors meeting minutes are available upon request to the Recording Secretary

Financial records are available upon written request to the Treasurer

For information regarding Awards, Show Recognition, Membership, Education or the Website, contact the appropriate chairperson on the website Contact Us page.

<https://gdcta.org/Contact>

"All horses loosen up quickly if they are flexed. It is a fact that all horses by nature go more or less flexed to one side, either to the left or to the right but never perfectly straight."

- Musler, German School

24 Carrot Quote



## Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Collected Remarks is the official publication of the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

(GDCTA), a non-profit, exempt corporation organized under Section 501(c)(3). It is the monthly newsletter designed to inform, educate and entertain the membership. The Editors encourage members to submit original advertising, articles, photographs, and artwork for possible publication. The editors of 'Collected Remarks' reserve the right to reject any advertising or article deemed to be unsuitable for this newsletter.

- Editorial contributions of 600 words or less (accompanied by photos with permission to publish, if applicable) are welcomed although publication cannot be guaranteed.
- GDCTA is not responsible for the opinions and statements expressed in signed articles or paid advertisements.

GDCTA Collected Remarks welcomes submissions of quality color dressage and sport-horse photographs. All mounted riders must be wearing appropriate headgear (a safety helmet, a derby, or a top hat). Photos must be accompanied by complete captions, including the full names of all subjects.

Only high resolution (300dpi) Jpeg, PNG, or PDF files will be accepted.

Please submit electronically to [designonpenny@yahoo.com](mailto:designonpenny@yahoo.com) and [webmaster@gdcta.org](mailto:webmaster@gdcta.org).

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

For information, please email: [webmaster@gdcta.org](mailto:webmaster@gdcta.org)

Ad space is limited. Scheduled ads are due by the 5th of the month prior to publication. Information about advertising is also available online at: [GDCTA.org/advertise](http://GDCTA.org/advertise)

The deadline for articles is also the 5th of the month prior to publication. Advertisements and Articles should be emailed to: [webmaster@gdcta.org](mailto:webmaster@gdcta.org)

*The advertisements contained herein are paid advertisements. The information is provided by the service provider. The GDCTA makes no specific recommendations for any particular company, individual, or service.*

## Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association

Regular Meeting  
October 20, 2025

President Caren Caverly called the membership meeting of the GDCTA to order on October 20, 2025, at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

Noel Muehlbauer performed a roll call. A quorum of the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Lindsey Burns, Peter West, Joanne Morse, Abigail Kroupa, Danielle Perry, Noel Muehlbauer, and guest Dee Rawlston were present. The minutes from September 15, 2025, were emailed to the board. Lindsey motioned to accept minutes; Abi seconded. The board voted to accept the minutes.

**Treasurer's Report** – (Peter): Nothing to report.

**VP Dressage Report** – (Abi): Despooking Clinic November 15<sup>th</sup> at Noble Steeds. March 13-15 Endel Ots dressage – working on budget and marketing.

**VP Combined Training** – (Joanne): Working on a Ride-A-Test clinic for the new eventing tests. Poke with Stableview regarding the 2025 Eventing Summer camp the second weekend of June with more onsite housing.

**Membership Report** – (Mary Lou): 760 members – down 31 total.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

• **Communication** (Joanne): June sent out: AWS Internet Outage affected the website, but it is now up and running. Newsletter published on Oct 16th with 124 views.

USDF GMO Awards, included: Best General Interest Article, Honorable Mention for First Person Experience Article, Best Amateur Photograph, Best Website, Best GMO Supportive Program (Letterman Jackets). GMO Awards included a scorecard to help improve low areas. Caren is picking up awards at the USDF Convention in Lexington, KY.



• **Show Committee** (Julie): 2 schooling shows in 2026 (April, Aug at Wills Park); 3 recognized dressage shows in 2026 (May, Labor Day, Regionals at GIHP)

• **Finance** (Peter): All shows brought in a profit this year!

• **Youth Program** (Joanne): Letterman jacket applications are coming in. Going through the scores this week. Extending the app date a few weeks for schooling jackets.

• **Awards** (Janie): Nothing to report

• **Education** (Julie and Lindsey): Clinics discussed – De-spooking, Endel Ots, Ride a Test

• **Gala** (Caren): Feb 7th, 2026 at the Marriott in Alpharetta

#### Price Changes:

- ✓ Boxes to mail ribbons have gone up from \$8 to \$12/box. Motion made by Caren to increase price of shipping awards from \$25 to \$30. Seconded by Carol. Approved
- ✓ Marriot pricing increases by \$5/person for gala. Motion made by Caren to increase ticket pricing from \$85/person to \$90/person and increase tables \$5/person. Seconded by Carol. Approved.
- Small profit made on ticket sales.
- Caren is head of accounting and stats, Abi, Joanne, Noel, Annemarie on silent auction, Liz, Danielle, Katie on raffle baskets,
- Mary Lou, Carol on set up.
- Lindsay on slide show.
- Caren on recognized and schooling dressage awards.
- Joanne on recognized and schooling eventing awards.

- Janie and Lindsay on recognized letterman jackets.
- Joanne on schooling letterman jackets.
- Liz on 12 and under awards.
- Dee is interested in awards set up.
- Need someone to mail out awards.
- Start getting items for silent auction and raffle baskets with 12 raffle baskets max.
- **Nominating** (Danielle & Noel): Election ballots went out on the 16th with 9 family votes and 21 lifetime votes, which is greater than last year's votes.
- **Regionals** (Caren)
  - Some problems occurred prior to regionals with 1 competitor having a problem with stabling location but called to correct. The competitor didn't like the suggestion, took her complaints all the way up through USDF and USEF safe sport. The complaints were denied, and she threatened to sue GDCTA after the show. Her children were riding motorized scooters that were not approved and gave the competitor a yellow card warning.
  - No-show volunteers.
  - Vendors did well.
  - Party went well Saturday night with the dog parade and stick horse competition.
  - Overtime with DSE since the judges decided to have everyone ride the additional pattern instead of just the top 8.
  - Footing problems since a water truck exploded and only had 2 water trucks instead of 3.
  - 398 entries, 930 rides, 540+ stalls, 2300 bags of shavings.
  - 2 separate awards tables for national show and championship show.
  - New USDF rep next year.
  - Judges had a good time.
  - Scribes didn't know to grab radios, water bottles, etc.
  - Scribes won't be a part of the volunteer pool next year.

## OLD BUSINESS

L program Part 1 - Nov 8/9th, Dec 20/21st, Jan 25/26th at Conyers. 10 participants but can take up to 20.

**Email Blasts** – (Caren): Despooking clinic, L Program, election ballots, save the date for the gala, silent auction donations, letterman jacket requirements/deadline.

## NEW BUSINESS

- New members for October – Danielle
  - One of Anthem Day's special needs members forgot to renew her membership until halfway through the year and only received 6 of her 7 required scores to qualify for year-end awards. She is the only rider in her division so won't bump any other riders if we count her scores for year end. Caren made a motion to count her scores as qualifying for her division, Lindsay seconded. Approved.
  - Letterman Jacket prices are the same as the previous year.

Danielle motioned to adjourn, Lindsey seconded and board voted to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned.

# Thank you for your generous gifts!

*Before we list the GDCTA GOATs, we must clarify who those GOATs are.  
The GOATS are the benefactors, donors, and sponsors of this organization.*

Kelsey Abbott  
Molly Adams  
Leslie Allen  
Sandra Almond  
AMPOM  
Becky Aukamp  
Eliot Axt  
Joel Baily  
Julie Bakken  
Celeste Barnes  
Sarah Berhalter  
Caryl Berzack  
Kathryn Billingham  
Beth Bishop  
Bits & Bytes Farm  
Lindsey Burns  
Meghan Cameron  
Caren Caverly  
Jamie Comstock  
Sally Cook  
D'Arcy Cowie  
Ains Cushion  
Terre Davies  
Susan Day  
Sadie Doiron  
Abbey Dondanville  
DressageTestPro.com  
Debbie Eubanks  
Robin Felton  
Kaley Fuller  
Georgia Legacy  
Management  
Kathy Gilker  
Jessica Gilker Ho  
Gillespie's Peanuts  
Pagan Gilman  
Carol Glover  
Tamara Gomez  
Stephanie E. Grisham  
High Point Dressage

Amy Hoffield  
Anna Howell  
Jessica Hughes  
JAG Arabian Sport Horses  
Michele Jester  
Dawn Johnson  
Betsy Kaywood  
Kim Keffer  
Holly Kohaut  
Andie Krakovsky  
Kroupa Team Real Estate  
Anabelle Kurtz  
Lois Lassiter  
Susanne Lauda  
Mia Lecca  
Sydney Lee  
Linda Light  
Betty Lynch  
Katie Mattick  
Jennifer Melcher  
Christi Meyers  
Crockett Miller  
Irene Minney  
The Moody Mare Bridle  
& Boutique  
Carol Morgan  
Brie Murray  
Chantelle Noble  
Cara Oswalt  
Katie Patton  
Tammy Pearson  
Danielle Perry  
Kris Pinto  
Patricia Powell  
Janie Pride  
Brittany Purcell & Associates  
Robin Puryear  
Carolyn Rice  
Lydia Richardson  
Lou Roth  
Elin Sebert

Sara Serban  
Shannondale Farm  
Simply Dressage  
Virginia Slawinski  
Eliza Smith  
Isabella Smith  
Mackenzie Stahl  
Deirdre Sublett  
Marline Syribey  
Jake Tessler  
Nancy Thrasher  
Claudia Tomaselli  
UGA  
Unlimited Dressage LLC  
Lawton Valdez  
Karolyn Wangstad  
Peter West  
Dorothy Whelchel  
Chanda Wicker  
Sandra Wight  
Monica Williamson  
Virginia Woodcock  
Mary Youngblood



GOAT—Greatest Of All Time

# 2025

# 2026

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## Federal Holidays 2025

Calendarpedia  
Your source for calendars

Jan 1	New Year's Day	Sep 1	Labor Day
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Day	Oct 13	Columbus Day
Feb 17	Presidents' Day	Nov 11	Veterans Day
May 26	Memorial Day	Nov 27	Thanksgiving Day
Jun 19	Juneteenth	Dec 25	Christmas Day
Jul 4	Independence Day		

© Calendarpedia® www.calendarpedia.com

## Federal Holidays 2026

Calendarpedia  
Your source for calendars

Jan 1	New Year's Day	Jul 4	Independence Day
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Day	Sep 7	Labor Day
Feb 16	Presidents' Day	Oct 12	Columbus Day
May 25	Memorial Day	Nov 11	Veterans Day
Jun 19	Juneteenth	Nov 26	Thanksgiving Day
Jul 3	Independence Day (obs.)	Dec 25	Christmas Day

Data provided 'as is' without warranty

# Are You Thinking About Taking Your Dressage Or Eventing Game Off The Farm & Heading to a Show?

There's no doubt about it—watching horse competitions can and will leave you in awe. At its highest competitive level, eventing is recognized as one of the three Olympic equestrian disciplines alongside both dressage and jumping. In dressage the precision and harmony of between the rider and horse is almost always flawless, and much like a horse dancing, fluidly going through the movements. However, as an equestrian knows, dressage is not an easy feat, and it takes years of careful training. Eventing offers the additional thrills and chills of jumping in both cross country and stadium.

Are you thinking about taking your dressage or eventing game off the farm and heading to a show? Showing is the next logical step if you've been riding for a while. Showing offers a method to measure your progress and celebrate how far you and your horse have come. Although competition might seem intimidating, it doesn't have to be! All it takes is a little preparation.

Schooling shows offer several advantages for riders and horses. Here are some key benefits:

- **Skill Development and Practice:** Schooling shows provide a **lower-pressure environment** for riders and horses to gain experience and practice their skills. Unlike official competitions, there's less strict adherence to rules, allowing participants to focus on improving their performance.
- **Test Ride Different Facilities:** These shows allow riders to "test ride" different facilities. It's an opportunity to explore various venues and decide which ones suit you and your horse best before committing to recognized shows or more significant events.
- **Cost-Effective:** Schooling shows are usually more frequent and smaller in scale, catering to local communities. They offer an **affordable alternative** to recognized shows, making them accessible for riders at various levels.
- **Trust and Partnership:** Participating in schooling shows fosters trust and partnership between horse and rider. The consistent exposure to the show environment helps build confidence and strengthens the bond between the two.
- **Artistry and Beauty:** Dressage is an art form, and schooling shows allow riders to showcase the **beauty and artistry** of the discipline. It's a chance to demonstrate the harmonious communication between horse and rider.

In summary, schooling shows serve as valuable steppingstones for riders, providing a supportive platform to refine their skills and enjoy the journey of dressage.

*GDCTA Recognized Schooling Shows have their own calendar on the website.*

*<https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/schooling-shows>*



# Saddle Up for More Than Just Ribbons 🐾

What if your next big win wasn't just in the ring, but also in the friendships and connections you made along the way? 🏆 ✨

At GDCTA, we're more than an organization—we're a community. From schooling shows to year-end awards and clinics, we offer endless opportunities to elevate your equestrian journey. And the best part? You'll be surrounded by people who share your love for horses and the lifestyle that comes with it. 🐾 ❤️

Whether you're here for the ribbons or the ride, we'd love to welcome you into the GDCTA family.

*Join today!*

<https://gdcta.org/join-us>



*Scan me!*