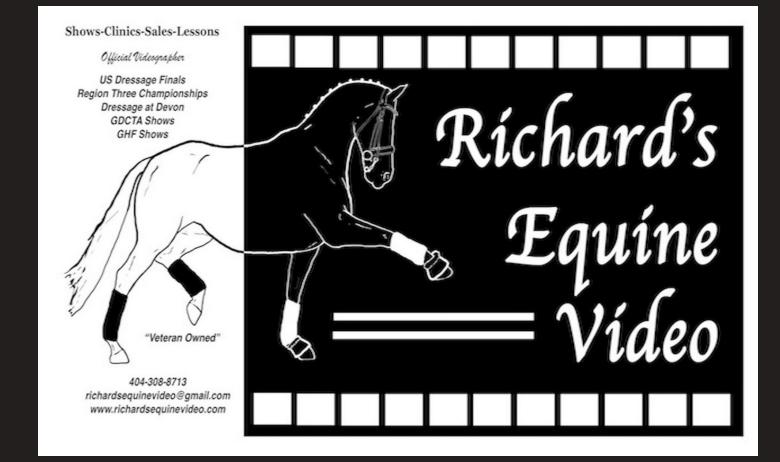


Collected Remarks



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QUES

Racesafe Equestrian

Joanne Morse hgf.equestrian@yahoo.com 770-313-6283

### In This Issue



### On the Cover

Jenny Caras on Trendy Fernhill winner of the CCI3\* at Chatt Hills

PHOTO: Liz Crawley Photography





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# Outside the Sandbox

delivering general articles and activities

Dear Members,

**Happy Saint Patrick's Day!** Spring is on the way and nobody could be happier than me! You don't have to be Irish to celebrate on St. Patrick's Day - just join the 'wearing of the green' and have some fun.

There has been a lot going on in my world that has kept me very, very busy, but I want to share the things GDCTA has coming up.

Let's see what we have going on . . .

Programs:

- Jan 1 Dec 31 Liz Faso Memorial volunteer of the Year *sponsored by Wilsun Custom Horse Products*: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115868
- Mar 31 GDCTA Business Directory deadline: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5097054
- May 15 GDCTA Yearbook Ad Deadline: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-4897484

Grants:

- Apr 1 Camp Grant submission deadline 3 grants available: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5125722
- Apr 1 Kroupa Team Real Estate Education & Show Grant submission deadline 1 grant available: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115873
- Jun 1 GDCTA Training Grant submission deadline 4 grants available: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115864

Clinics/Camps:

- Mar 25-26 Jeremy Steinberg (Adults): https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5153309
- Jun 12-15 Eventing Summer Camp: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5125722 Camp is full but there are spots open for the grant recipients. See the Eventing section for details.

We are currently ironing out the details for a clinic with Janet Foy in June. We will post it when things are confirmed.

#### ~GDCTA is now using HorseShowOffice.com for entries to all of our shows~

Schooling Shows\*:

- Apr 15-16: GDCTA Spring Fling SS: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115880
- Aug 12-13: GDCTA Summer Finals SS: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115892
- Oct 7-8: GDCTA Fall Harvest SS: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115942

USDF Shows\*:

- May 13-14: GADS: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115910
- Sep 2-3: Labor Day Dressage Classic I&II: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115927

\*Again in 2023, scores earned at GDCTA-hosted shows count twice toward GDCTA year-end awards!

I see you. I appreciate you.

Caren

Caren Caverly President, GDCTA ccaverly@comcast.net 770-713-4025

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TM

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 **GDCTA PONY AWARD WINNERS**

MARY CHAPMAN MARTIN - JR/YR CHAMPION DARCY SUN SALLY COOK JEN SCHERRENS - OPEN CHAMPION KIM ABERNATHY - OPEN RESERVE CHAMPION

- AA CHAMPION

- AA RESERVE CHAMPION

MARY CHAPMAN MARTIN - MUSICAL FREESTYLE CHAMPION

#### JANIE PRIDE IN HONOR OF ILJA AND MEMORY OF ICO





### **GDCTA** Yearbook Project



ADVERTISEMENTS DUE MAY 1, 2023 PAYMENT DUE: MAY 15 YEARBOOK@GDCTA.ORG

### PRINT (Yearbook)

**Advertising Rates** 

The printed issue will cover the year-end awards, medals, standings, and National Finals results. Size: 8.5"x11", 4-Color, Cover: soft

#### Print advertising commitments and payment by May 1/15th

\$500	
\$500	
\$500	
\$850	
\$350	
\$250	
\$150	
<mark>\$40</mark>	
	\$500 \$500 \$850 \$350 \$250 \$150

GDCTA members - \$50 off any ad rate listed above (except Business Card). Join: ww.gdcta.org/become-a-member Print-ready ads should be emailed to <u>yearbook@gdcta.org</u> in high resolution PDF, JPG or PNG files.

2022 Adult Amateur Training Grant Experience

By Marissa Collins

My name is Marissa Collins and I am a 29-year-old Adult Amateur living in Aiken, South Carolina. I compete Carino, my 19-year-old Iberian Warmblood (Andalusian/Arabian) at third level dressage. We have evented up to the preliminary level, competed in the 1.15m show jumpers, and received our USDF Bronze Medal in May of 2022. This year, we are hoping to continue to compete at third level dressage and, hopefully, make a move up to fourth level.

I am very grateful to have received the 2022 GDCTA Adult Amateur Dressage Grant as finances have always made it difficult to stay consistent in my training. Often, I can go weeks without a lesson and very rarely do I get to have training rides done on my horse. Receiving this grant allowed me to be more consistent in my training with my trainer Katie Erpel, as well as attend a clinic with Julio Mendoza.

In my training with Katie, we went back to the basics to identify the cause of my late changes. This led us to the realization that my two problems were 1. He pulled the slightest bit through all my transitions, even the basic ones and 2. He would not let me place his shoulders where I needed them in the canter. We started with basic walk to trot to walk transitions and trot to canter to trot. These have become a staple in our everyday warm-up and still to this day are the focus of most of our rides. My horse wants to pull slightly through the transition, just enough where I would lose the push from the hind end. This was the same thing he did in the flying changes. He gets a little bit against the hand, hollows the back slightly and then hind legs trail resulting in a late behind change. We also discovered that Carino would not let me move his shoulders in the canter. It is VERY difficult for him to do a basic shoulder in or shoulder fore in the canter. He will leap, he will sit, he will pull and do everything possible to not allow me to place his shoulders.

On August 7, 2022, I was able to ride in a clinic with Julio Mendoza. Julio started the clinic with making us slow down our trot to improve cadence. We worked on my position for better trot shoulder in and half passes, and we made a huge breakthrough that unlocked a whole new gear in those movements. Into the canter work and flying change work, he also wanted us to slow down as Carino tends to try to use quickness as a form of power. Julio then found the hole in our training, the inability to position the shoulders. Carino did his usual leaping and pulling to avoid the exercise. Having a second trainer pick up on this made me realize where my homework really is and what I need to work on.

We then went on to qualify for regionals at third level the following week by competing in the back-to-back Stable View shows. With Carino at the age of 19, I of course wondered if part of his resistance was physical. In September, we took two weeks off to get body work, chiro, and some maintenance to make sure everything was feeling the best it could as I pushed for the harder work. In October we competed at the Regional championship show in Conyers, Georgia. While I thought Carino and I put in a great test, our score was not as I hoped in the third level championship class. We placed 4th in the Adult Amateur Regional Equitation final and had a BLAST!

Fast forward to today, we are working toward starting our show season in April at third level. We are still doing MANY transitions. We have found the perfect combination of body work and chiro to keep him happy. We are starting to incorporate multiple flying changes towards our fourth level debut – hopefully, later this year. With all that said, while we have made incredible progress, fixing these issues in the flying changes has been a multiple month-long endeavor and something we still work on daily. This experience has really taught me to trust the process and that results do not happen overnight but rather through consistency.



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### KROUPA TEAM REAL ESTATE \$1,000 DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING ADULT AMATEUR RIDER EDUCATION & SHOW GRANT

### **DETAILS & REQUIREMENTS**

- For Dressage or Combined Training Adult Amateurs
- Must be an active GDCTA member
- Status Amateur Rider
- Grant money to go toward 2023 horse shows, education, clinics, instruction, or training
- TO APPLY Send a 1-page essay about the rider, their horse, and their goals must be sent to Todd & Abigail Kroupa <u>Abigailkroupa@gmail.com (561)</u> 284– 3228.
- Application essays will be accepted from February 1 to April 1, 2023. Winners to be announced on April 15th

### WWW.KROUPATEAM.COM



"The best thing you can do for a horse that has a problem in his canter is use exercises within the canter, such as a medium canter to smaller circles, which forces the horse to engage. This is how you help the horse achieve the goal you have for him as opposed to getting frustrated and then trying to force him with your strength.

It's his strength that he lacks, not his will."

24 Carrot Quote



- Robert Dover





~Volunteer encentive program for GDCTA Volunteers~

(check the events calendar https://bit.ly/GDCTA\_Events to find the events that will work for you! Board members, paid positions and Chairs are not eligible.)

 \$1000.00 to the member with the most hours volunteered at GDCTA events and participating shows 2) \$750.00 to member with the 2nd highest number of hours
 \$500.00 to member with the 3rd highest number of hours
 \$250.00 raffle consisting of every volunteer with 24 hrs volunteering

This program is running from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, and will be awarded at the Awards Gala in January 2024.

*Volunteer!* Become a volunteer by registering through each event or by going to *https://www.gdcta.org/volunteer.* 

GDCTA is a member-focused and member-run organization that depends on volunteers! We encourage you to become involved in any of the many activities we offer. Share the excitement from the inside!

## Horse Shopping 101

#### By Olivia Reese

I love horse shopping. It's an exciting time for a rider to look for their new best friend, their partner in crime, and teammate. This month I helped two clients on their search for their new long-term partners and it was a good reminder of some things we all should keep in mind when looking for a new horse.

#### 1. Know what you're looking for.

The first thing that I have clients do is really think about what they want from a new partner.

Buying is very similar to choosing a significant other: we're all going to want something a little different. Do you want a partner that wants to hit the gym with you? Go on long hikes through the woods? Stay in and watch movies? A little bit of everything? Being able to tell sellers "I am looking for a horse that can do lower-level dressage, pop over some 18" jumps, and trail ride without a buddy" will really help narrow your search. Be realistic about the level you're currently at and where you would like to be. While you may want to ride in the Olympics, if you're currently struggling to ride the canter, it may not be appropriate to purchase a horse that is more suitable for a professional.

Good sellers should be able to immediately tell you if the horse that they're advertising is what you're looking for.

Know what situation you will be bringing your horse home to. Will you be doing most of your rides alone? Will the horse be going into full training with your trainer? Will you have ample turnout or is your turnout situation smaller? Will your new horse be going out with a group or individual turnout? All of these are things you need to be able to communicate to the seller and take into consideration as you're shopping.

#### 2. Don't go at it alone.

Even if you're an experienced horse person, a second set of eyes is always a good idea. Prior to going to see horses in person, show the videos to your trainer and your experienced friends. An experienced horse person can tell a lot from a video that can help either rule out a horse or give you an idea of things to look for when you try them.

Take a friend or trainer with you when you try the horse. I like to go with my clients and sit on the horse first. I can quickly tell my client if a horse is going to be a good match. If nothing else, have your friend video your ride on the horse so you can review it when you leave.

Include your vet! Most vets are willing to look at videos for you if you think the horse may have something going on, and they'll definitely review any x-rays that the seller has available prior to a PPE. This is a great baseline for you to start your PPE with and they can tell you if there is any further imaging they think would be beneficial to your decision.

#### 3. Listen to the seller.

The seller knows the horse better than you do. If the seller tells you that the horse needs to be ridden consistently to ride their best, take that into consideration. They say the horse needs regular turnout? It may not work well at your barn that only has a hot walker. Horse will need to have their hocks injected? You'll need to account for that in your expected costs.

While there are dishonest sellers out there, I've found that most sellers are really just looking



### **GDCTA** Training Grants

The GDCTA Grant has been established to provide funding support for GDCTA member-riders who are working to sharpen their riding skills. Four grants of \$800 each will be offered to GDCTA members for concentrated work with a trainer of their choice within one year of receiving the grant award.

### Getting started:

- Register online https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115864 to let us know you will be applying by June 1st.
- Complete the application form (on the website) and email it with appropriate accompanying references and details to Janie Pride at janiepride@yahoo.com
- Be specific about your intentions for using the grant money.

One grant will be awarded in each of the following categories:

- Adult Amateur Dressage
- Professional
- Combined Training
- Jr/YR

Eligibility:

- GDCTA members in good standing.
- US Citizen or permanent US resident holding Green card.
- Involvement in a regular riding program with active instruction over the last three years.

#### Deadline for applications: June 1





# Go for the Grant!

Every time the Powerball jackpot goes up, the odds of buying that winning ticket go down. What if I told you there's a way to win money that had much better odds and costs you nothing but your time?

Go for the grant! Yes, "free" money! What's holding you back? Are you like me, who thought - "I wouldn't get it -I'm not qualified" or "I don't have Big Lofty Goals". I thought this way for years until last year. While working on my personal finances and the impact of my expensive passion, I had a light bulb moment. Grants are "free" money. However, you do have to apply and show your qualifications. Grant recipients are expected (and rightly so) to share their experience and how they benefited from it. Not only does this create accountability for the recipient, but it also shows the grant donors how their donations were allocated and what the outcomes were. And inspires both future donors and grant applicants. The best reports are personal accounts with several photos to showcase your experience.

If you're stumped, as I can be, on goals and a training plan, try vision mapping. What is vision mapping? Vision mapping is **writing a clear and specific vision with a detailed road map to achieving the vision**, very similar to goal setting. Vision Mapping can help people accomplish their achievements and actually develop a plan on how to accomplish those achievements in a step by step journey.

Once you have that vision, start looking. You can find grant opportunities in many places - your local GMO (GDCTA), USDF, USEF, USEA, The Dressage Foundation, to name a few. Whenever you hear or read about a grant opportunity, look into it. There are grants for judges, other licensed officials, professional trainers, Adult Amateurs, Juniors and Young Riders. The application process for grants can vary. Some are as simple as writing an essay. Others have you document your riding experience, volunteer experience, your goals and training plan and supply reference letters.

Here are the steps I recommend when applying for a grant.

- 1. Start early and give yourself plenty of time. Research available grants. When you find one of interest, put the due date for the application on your calendar and work back from there. For example, The Gifted Memorial Fund application was due mid-September. I started early August.
- Print out the application. Read it and thoroughly understand it. What is needed to apply. What the grant can be used for. What it cannot be used for. When must it be used. What are your obligations. Then read it again. If you have questions, contact the grant committee, don't guess or assume.
- 3. Gather the information you need for the application:
  - a. Volunteer hours- ask your GMO for help on your volunteer hours over a certain time frame (typically 3 to 5 years). Talk to friends who can help jog your memory of your volunteer activities.
  - b. Riding resume your trainer and past trainers can help you with your riding resume (horses, levels, competitions, instructor, clinicians)
  - c. Educational events again, your GMO and friends can help you. And any USDF events that offered University credit to you, you can get that transcript from the USDF website.
  - d. Goals and training plan your current trainer can help you here. What do you need focused help with? What do you want to achieve in the short term and long term? Include in your training plan

other activities besides lessons that can help you as well as your horse. For example, for you, Pilates and yoga, lessons on the lunge line, auditing other lessons, videoing, journaling, theory sessions. For your horse, cross-training such as cavalletti, riding outdoors, hill work, or galloping on an exercise track.

- e. Budget if needed. Not all grants require you to supply a budget. Think of all your expenses. Plan to have other sources of income to cover items the grant will not cover. Know what those items are.
- f. Reference letter(s) along with an acceptance letter from your chosen trainer that you will use the grant funds.
- 4. **Review your application** carefully and make sure it is complete. Have a friend proof read it for you.
- 5. **Submit your application** a few days before it is due. Don't wait to the last possible day.

Applicants who show clear a clear vision, focus, and a desire to learn will make the first cut. Work on your plan with a trusted riding friend whose success you admire, and your trainer to make your application stand out.

If you don't check all the boxes for a certain grant, keep looking! You may luck out and find another one that fits you this year. And if you apply for a grant and don't receive one (I did apply for some and was not selected), keep your grant application information, keep building on it, and keep applying each year. There's money out there for (almost) nothing!

I'm using my grant money March 18 to April 2 this year. I'm hauling my 8 year old Hanoverian mare Rhapsody SCS (barn name "Fae") to West Chester, PA to spend 2 weeks working with Ange Bean, who is a USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medalist, USEF 'r' judge, clinician, speaker, and writer. Stay tuned for my article "Katie and Fae's Excellent Adventure" in an upcoming issue of *Collected Remarks*!



Katie Patton is a 2022 recipient of the GDCTA Education Grant and a 2022 recipient of the Carol Lavell Gifted Memorial Fund grant from The Dressage Foundation. She now serves on the GDCTA Board and will be on the 2023 Education Grant Selection Committee, chaired by Janie Pride. She is available to discuss the grant application

process and vision mapping in more detail. Her email is kpatton01@qmail.com.



RESSAGE SHOW TIP:

Dressage is in the details.

Make a check list for all your entry paperwork to keep yourself organized.

GDCTA.org

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## GDCTA SPRING FLING SCHOOLING SHOW







APRIL 15-16, 2023

NILLS PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER 1915 WILLS RD ALPHARETTA, GA 30009

https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5115880

The winner will receive a Trophy & \$50Gift Certificate to Atlanta Saddlery

### ATLANTA SADDLERY BUSIEST TRAINER AWARD

This award will be presented to the trainer who brings **the most** students to this show.

To be entered, have your students list you (the trainer) as their coach on their entries.





#### AUGUST 12-13

**Open Show** 

**Team Challenge** 

### Atlanta Saddlery Busiest Trainer Award

Wills Park 11915 Wills Rd Alpharetta, GA

GDCTA.org

















# TEAM CHALLENGE

Teams can be made of any number (minimum of 2) of riders doing any level. Percentage scores will be added together and averaged to determine a total team score used for placing. CT dressage scores will be converted to dressage percentages. Trophy to the winning team!

This is for all you families, instructors, and riders out there who would love to be on a team with friends and family or who want to get a Barn Team together.

To enter the Team Challenge, email Caren Caverly ccaverly@comcast.net with the name of your team and the names of teammates. If you want to put a "scramble team" together on the show grounds, drop off the team names with the list of members at the office. The show office will take care of the rest!



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

Recognition details: https://www.gdcta.org/organize-a-schooling-show for the right fit for their horse. Listen to them about what the horse is used to. Ask questions. Tell them exactly what you are looking for and really listen to if they think the horse would be a good fit for that situation.

#### 4. Don't be afraid to \*politely\* speak your mind.

A client and I went down to Wellington last week to look for a dressage horse for her. We had clear specifications that we communicated with all the sellers:

<u>First priority:</u> We needed a horse that was very safe both on the ground and in the saddle (client has a young daughter that is learning to ride and while we weren't expecting the horse to be the daughter's horse for quite some time, daughter will be around the horse frequently).

<u>Second priority (more flexible)</u>: The horse needs to be solid first/second level, with the potential to go higher. This client is looking primarily for a horse that she can enjoy riding and taking lessons on, but as this is going to be her longterm partner, and she's a talented AA, we want something that can continue to grow with her.

<u>Budget:</u> We had a generous budget to work with but were very clear with what the max of our budget was.

We found some specific horses that we scheduled to go see while we were down in Wellington, but we also scheduled to go to a trainer that had multiple horses for sale. While we were clear that our rider was currently riding first/second level, I was amazed at the number of horses we were shown that were brought out in a double bridle AND out of our price range.

After the second horse was brought out in a double, I pulled the trainer aside and iterated what our horse shopping needs were. It wasn't fair to her, or us, to continue spending time showing us horses that were either too hot or out of the price range for my client. We ended up agreeing that she didn't have anything on her current sales list that would meet our needs and we left to hit a tack store before our next appointment. We were able to do some shopping, and she was able to rearrange her day instead of showing us horses we knew we wouldn't be buying.

\*\*If you don't feel safe getting on the horse that you're being shown, it's pretty good odds that it is not the horse for you. Don't risk getting on and getting hurt. You can politely tell the seller that you don't think the horse is a good match, thank them for their time, and leave. You're not doing anyone any favors by getting on a horse that scares you.

#### 5. Try horses that might not be the "perfect fit".

On the same trip to Wellington, we last minute fit in a horse that we may not have considered otherwise. We were ideally looking for something in the 8 – 14-year-old range, but this trainer had a 4-year-old he thought could be a good match.

After a thorough discussion about the differences between buying a young horse vs a more experienced horse, we decided to go ahead and try her. Turns out, her sweet, safe and willing attitude put her in as a top contender in our search.

#### 6. Don't skimp on the PPE.

A Pre-Purchase Exam is a fact-finding mission. I tell all my clients that most horses are going to require some sort of maintenance in their life. What's important in the pre-purchase is to know exactly where the horse is physically at this time, what could potentially come up, and how much maintenance you are willing to and able to provide a horse.

When scheduling a pre-purchase, let the vet know exactly what level of work the horse will be doing. A high-performance horse is going to have different needs than a horse that is going to be lightly ridden once a week.

Be prepared when the PPE is being performed to pull x-rays. Does the horse flex slightly off? Better to pull an x-ray now to know exactly what you are dealing with versus finding an issue later when you bring the horse home. Some issues can be fixed with strengthening, some require injections or surgery. It's important to know exactly what you're getting into and how much maintenance you are willing to provide prior to making the commitment.

Before committing to the horse, show the PPE and the x-rays to your regular vet. Get a second opinion on whether they think the findings are something manageable.

For me, findings on a PPE don't always rule out a horse. I've seen several horses that had a less than perfect PPE go on to be incredible horses but arm yourself with the knowledge to help your horse be successful and create a game plan with your regular vet on how you'll manage the findings.

Good luck in your horse shopping ventures!





GDCTA announces a new award for their 2023 recognized shows.

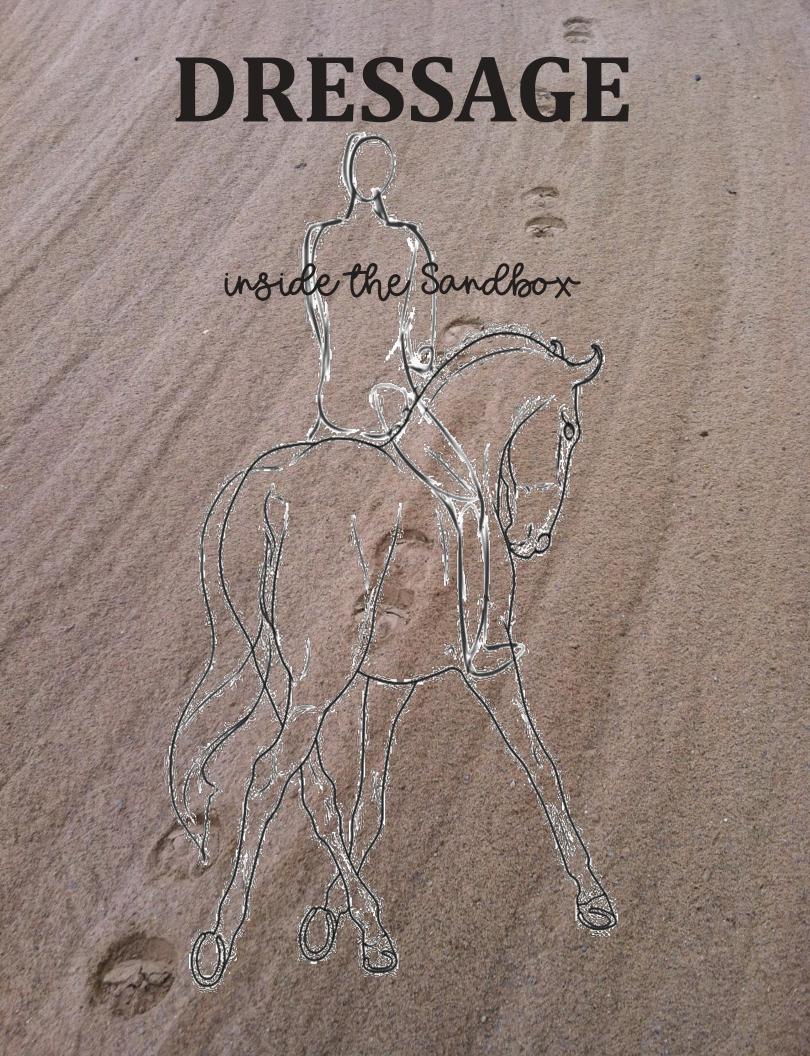
Vintage Adult High Point Award (50+)

Sponsored by Fernwood Investment Management LLC, Quincy MA



High Point ribbon and award each show to: Adult Amateur rider 50 or over as of the show date. Open rider 50 or over as of the show date. Materiale, Opportunity, MFS, and DSE classes not eligible.

The awards will be presented at: Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern I May 13, 2023 Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern II May 14, 2023 Labor Day Classic I September 2, 2023 Labor Day Classic II September 3, 2023



### JEREMY STEINBERG ADULT DRESSAGE CLINIC MARCH 25-26, 2023



SHANNONDALE FARM 2395 BIRMINGHAM RD MILTON, GA 30004

GDCTA.ORG

### Jeremy Steinberg returns to Shannondale Farm in Milton, Georgia, for GDCTA March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

This is an "Adults" clinic - the "Juniors" clinic with Jeremy will be this summer!

Jeremy Steinberg enjoys teaching, emphasizing an environment conducive to learning classical dressage and good horsemanship. His goal is for students to understand the basic philosophies of dressage, enabling them to work successfully with their own horses. Jeremy has become a much sought-after clinician in the United States and Canada.

Register now to audit: \$50 per day / \$80 for the weekend

Register here https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5153309

# Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern I & II

# May 13-14, 2023

Georgia International Horse Park 1996 Centennial Olympic Parkway Conyers, GA

### GDCTA.org

GDCTA.ORG

Labor Day Dressage Classic I & II

Grond September 2-3, 2023

# HorseShowOffice.com<sup>™</sup>



### 2023 USEF Show Pass Form Updates - Effective 12/1/2022

### Trainers/Coaches MUST be Active USEF Members

Riders and Owners are eligible for one show pass per competition year. Trainers and Coaches are not eligible, and must be Active USEF Members.



#### Parents who sign as Trainers MUST be Active USEF Members

Anyone that signs an entry blank or acts as a trainer or coach must be an Active USEF member and is not eligible for a Show Pass.

### 3 Show Passes can ONLY be purchased online through USEF

Show Passes must be completed online at <u>https://www.usef.org/show-pass</u> within 7 days of the show. Show Passes cannot be purchased anywhere other than online through USEF.

### A Show Pass is only valid for ONE competition per year

Eligible individuals (riders, owners, lessees) are limited to obtaining one (1) Show Pass per competition year.

### Walk-Trot and Opportunity Classes will continue to be exempt from USEF Membership Requirements

Any classes or sections that are currently exempt from membership will continue to be exempt.

# EVENTING

3 times the fun

### New Minimum Eligibility Requirements for National Levels

by US Equestrian Communications Department | Feb 1, 2023, 9:00 AM EST

Dear U.S. Eventing Athletes,

As the 2023 season gears up, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the new Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER) for national levels. All MER specifications can be found in <u>Appendix 3 of the USEF Rulebook</u>.

All Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER), except Classic Three-day Events, must be obtained within a 4year period. One MER must be obtained within 12 weeks of the event for which it is needed when moving from one level to the next. E.g., when moving from Intermediate to Advanced, one MER at Intermediate is required within 12 weeks of the event.

2.2.1 When achieved at a national horse trials, an MER is achieved by completing the entire horse trial and scoring:

- Not more than 45 penalty points in the dressage test; and
- No jumping penalties at obstacles on the cross country test unless specified otherwise, and not more than 75 seconds (30 penalty points) exceeding the optimum time; and
- Not more than 16 penalties at obstacles in the jumping test.
- 25 penalty points received for dangerous riding will not achieve a national qualifying result.

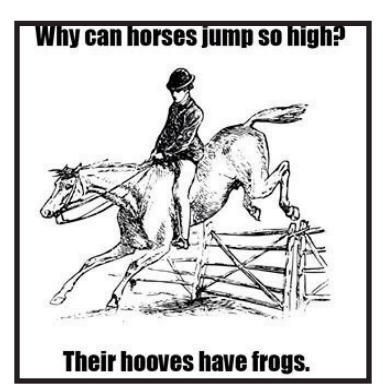
**3.5 PRELIMINARY (P)** - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 14th birthday, on horses five years of age or older. The competitor must have obtained an MER at six horse trials at the training level or higher. The horse must have obtained an MER at four horse trials at the Training Level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Athletes with more than 10 MERs at the Preliminary Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination.

**3.9 INTERMEDIATE (I)** - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 16th birthday, on horses six years of age or older. The athlete must have

obtained an MER at six horse trials at the Preliminary Level or higher. The horse must have obtained an MER at four horse trials at the Preliminary Level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Competitors with more than 10 MERs at the Intermediate Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination.

**3.10 ADVANCED (A)** - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 18th birthday, on horses six years of age or older. The athlete must have obtained an MER at six horse trials at the Intermediate Level or higher. The horse must have obtained an MER at four horse trials at the Intermediate Level or higher. The horse must have obtained an MER at four horse trials at the Intermediate Level or higher. Athletes with more than 10 MERs at the Advanced Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination.

Questions regarding qualifications can be sent to Alison Lloyd at <u>alloyd@usef.org</u>. Click here: https://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/eventing/co ntent/qualifications regarding checking your qualifications.



# GDCTA Eventing Camp "Old Fart" Grant

This grant has been established to support and encourage a rider that might feel they are "too old" to benefit from such an opportunity under normal circumstances. When we say this camp is for all ages, we mean it!

Open to all GDCTA members 50 years of age and older.

Submissions due by April 1, 2023

Email to: joannemorsel@yahoo.com

Grant for the GDCTA Eventing Summer Camp only! June 12-15, 2023 Fairburn, GA

# GDCTA Eventing Camp

Auditing Available (Must register by 6/11/23.) One day auditing \$50 Three days \$125 Lunch included

Come watch Waylon Roberts, Hannah Sue Burnett, Michael Pollard, and Sarah Kozumplik teach at Chatt Hills from June 13-15. Levels ranging from Starter thru Intermediate. Separate unmounted educational talks each day.

Wednesday evening Q&A with the trainers after lessons finish starting at 5:00. Bring your favorite drink and pick the brains of our instructors. Food and drinks included.



Tuesday Dressage (AM) and Show Jumping (PM) Wednesday Dressage (AM) and Show Jumping (PM) Thursday Cross Country



Once again this year there is an anonymous sponsor offering grants for the GDCTA Summer Eventing Camp!

The GDCTA Summer Camp Grant has been established to provide funding for two Junior/Young Riders to attend the annual summer camp hosted by GDCTA and to take place June 12-15, 2023, at Bouckaert Farm (Chatt Hills Eventing), Fairburn, Georgia.

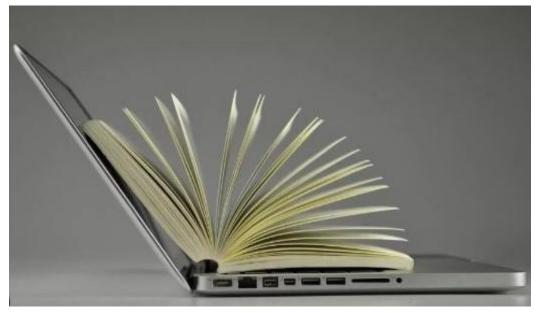
The grant is open to GDCTA members under the age of 21 at all levels that would not otherwise have the funding or opportunity to attend camp and/or experience similar training opportunities in the course of his/her daily pattern. Grant money is only eligible to cover the base cost of camp (\$775). Any expenses incurred outside of the base cost of camp are the responsibility of the Grant recipient or guardian of recipient.

This year things are a bit more formal with an application (on the website: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5125722) process. Submit the application to JoanneMorse1@yahoo.com by April 1, 2023.

# **GDCTA BUSINESS**

a glimpse behind the curtain

### **GDCTA Members Business Directory -**



**ONLINE ONLY** 

Members receive 2 free business listings.

Each Additional Listing: \$10

Let GDCTA members know what services or products you have to offer!

Place your ad in one of the most highly accessed parts of the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association website! The 800+ members of GDCTA use this directory regularly.

Deadline for receipt of artwork and payment is March 31st. (Ad price: \$30)

View ads here: https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5097054



# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

#### **ONLINE ONLY**

More Information https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-5097054

# **GDCTA Board 2023**

### **OFFICERS**

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

### **MEMBERS AT LARGE**

**Lindsey Burns** Lacey Halstead Liz Molloy **Katie Patton Danielle Perry Katie Patton** Julie Shannon

### **YOUTH MEMBERS**

Parker Mallernee **Caroline McQueen** 

The 2023 Board was seated at the January 16th meeting



Combined Training Association

### Committees 2023

- 1) Nominating 2 Non out going board members
- 2) Grievance 2 VP's and only if there is a complaint
- 3) Finance
  - a. Chair Peter West
  - b. Sponsorship Alexa Ryan-Oat
- 4) Awards
  - a. Grants Janie Pride
- 5) Award Banquet
  - a. Chair Caren Caverly
  - b. Silent Auction Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
  - c. Barn Raffle Jen Scherrens
- 6) Education
  - a. Chair Julie Shannon
  - b. Clinics Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse
  - c. Kudzu Danielle Perry, Jenn Scherrens
  - d. USDF Education Program Janie Pride
- 7) Youth
  - a. Chair Joanne Morse, Abigail Kroupa
  - b. Schooling or Grassroots Open
  - c. Recognized Liz Molloy, Janie Pride
  - d. Collegiate Amanda Garner
- 8) Communication
  - a. Chair Joanne Morse
  - b. Yearbook Penny Morse, June Brewer
  - c. Newsletter Penny Morse, June Brewer
  - d. Website June Brewer
  - e. Social Media June Brewer, Abigail Kroupa
  - f. Membership Mary Lou Freil
- 9) Show
  - a. Chair Julie Shannon
  - b. Recognized Caren Caverly
  - c. Schooling Caren Caverly
    - 1 Horse Show Recognition Carol Tresan
  - d. Regionals
    - 1. Chair Caren Caverly
    - 2. Vendors Open
    - 3. Hospitality Abigail Kroupa, Danielle Perry
    - 4. Awards Chair Peri Lambros
    - 5. Grounds Open
  - e. Volunteer Coordinator Open

### 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© (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.

For print, only high resolution (300dpi) Jpeg or PDF files will be accepted.

Please submit electronically to designonpenny@yahoo.com and webmaster@gdcta.org.

#### 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 Web Site, contact the appropriate chairperson on the website Contact Us page.

#### Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association

### **Regular meeting** January 16, 2023

resident Caren Caverly called the membership meeting f the GDCTA to order on January 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm n Zoom.

ecretary, Ashley Boyd, performed a roll call. A quorum f the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Abigail Kroupa, panne Morse, Ashley Boyd, Carol Tresan, Peter West, iz Malloy, Katie Patton, Lindsey Burns, Julie Shannon, acey Halstead, and Danielle Perry were present. arker Mallernee was in attendance as youth member. iuests: Janie Pride and Alexa Ryan-Oat. The minutes of he regular meeting December, 19, 2022, were emailed p board members prior to the meeting. Julie motioned p approve minutes, and Carol seconded, and the notion was passed by the board. Joanne asked for an mendment. The board voted to approve the amended ninutes.

**reasurer's Report** – (Peter): December was a good nonth because of new members coming in.

'P Dressage Report – (Abigail): Last push effort to get Il auction items. Will have budgets for approval at the ext meeting.

'P Combined Training – (Joanne): Facility that was nentioned last month for potential clinics did a test run ide-a-test clinic and it went very well. It will be a nice dditional venue for us. Camp stuff is getting together nd will have it posted soon. Would like to start dvertising it soon.

*Rembership Report* – (Mary Lou): Already ahead of last ear with new members.

#### **OMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Communication** (Joanne): Jan and Feb newsletter is nerged together, as usual, and comes out after Gala. **Show Committee** (Julie): The outstanding sponsor alance from Regionals was collected.

**Youth Program** (Joanne): Caroline would like to nclude a youth clinic for each the JJ Tate and Jeremy teinberg Clinics.

Awards (Janie): Grants spots open Feb 1

• Gala (Caren): Gala jobs are mostly filled. Everybody needs to be there at 4:15 pm to be ready for the Gala. Listing of the jobs. We are still in need of hearing from about 50 winners to find out if they are coming and if they are coming, if they are sitting at a table. Sold out and added two more tables. Need to know if they are picking up awards at Gala or sending someone to come get them.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

• Email Blasts – (Caren): Bella Med Spa has agreed to do a fundraiser for GDCTA.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- New members welcoming assignments for 2023: Liz Malloy will do Jan and Katie will do Feb, March is Joanne, April is Carol, May is Lindsey, June is Caren, July is Abigail, August is Julie, Sept is Peter, Oct is Janie, November is Daniel, and December is Lacey.
- **2023 Committees** (Caren): Past chairs will stay on the committees from 2022.

Joanne motioned to adjourn and Julie seconded. Board voted to adjourn.



### **NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING**

For information about advertising in the *Collected Remarks* newsletter, please email:

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

The deadline for articles is also the 5th of the month prior to publication. Advertisements and Articles should be emailed to: 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.

> Next meeting: March 20th at 7:00 PM Sharp

Contact Caren Caverly at ccaverly@comcast. net to be included in the Zoom invitation.

# Then your body is tired, ride tith your heart.

## VOLUNTEERING

A STEP-BY-STEP LOOK AT HOW YOU ARE NEEDED

### WATCH & LEARN

In addition to watching great and not-so-great riders, volunteering can teach you the nuances of the rules, the details on scoring systems, and maybe net you some pointers from judges and technical delegates.

### BE IN THE ACTION

Most volunteer posts involve spectating, putting you in prime position do a show report, give live-action updates to friends at home, and be the first to post video on Facebook

### MAKE FRIENDS

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people in your area who share your passion.

<u>\*\*\*\*\*\*</u>

### SUPPORT THE SPORT

We all know that it takes a lot of time, energy, and money to put on an event, and volunteering is a way to help out the gracious hosts and organizers, as well as help make sure entry fees are kept down.

#### GOOD KARMA

For Information & To Sign Up

Volunteering is a good deed and helping others brings deep personal satisfaction

LIZ FASO MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR PONSORED BY WILSUN CUSTOM HORSE PRODUCTS

Thank you for yo

Before we list the GDCTA GOATs, we must clarify who those GOATs are. T

Abby Cameron Taylor Abbey Dondanville Abigail Puthoff Amanda Moretz Bodywork Amber Cavalier Splier Amy Hoffield Andrea Krakovsky Annie's Equestrian Apparel Ashley Marascalco Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta Atlanta Saddlery Atlanta Youth Dressage Challenge Barbara Johnson Becky Aukamp Bella Medspa - Alethea Tinkle **Betty Smith Brad Thatcher Caitlyn Brennan** Cara McNamee, DVM Cardinal Crest Farm -**Chandilyn Wicker** Caren Caverly Caryl Berzack **Celeste Barnes** Chanda Smith **Charlotte Detienne Photography** Cherokee Feed and Seed **Cheryl Williams** Chip Caverly Christi Meyers Christine Murray, DVM **Cindy Thaxton CornerStone Equestrian Courtney Cook** Cora Williamson Crockett Miller CU at X Tack David Erdek Photography Dawn Johnson **Debbie Eubanks Deniro Boots Devon Fowler Diana Hollis** Diana Salzmann **Dolly Woodruff Kennedy** EasyCare, Inc. Eliot Axt Elizabeth Samoluk Fine Art LLC

Elizabeth Vaughn **Elleene Morgan Equus Optimus Training Center** Erudite Equestrian - Abi Kroupa **Evelyn Dampier** FarmVet Fernwood Investment Management **Finish Line Horse Products Foxberry Farm** Free Form Farm **Frog Catcher Farm Georgia Sport Horses** Gillespie's Peanuts - Nancy Roger **Glenn Mitchell** Go With It Farm **Golden Shield Business Brokers** Great American Insurance Group GumBits Harmony Grove Farm Harmony Saddle Fitting - Nancy Bardy **HGF Equestrian High Point Farm High Time Photography** Holland Portraits Horse&Country TV Janie Pride Jennifer Melcher, DVM Julie Ballard Haralson Julie Norman June Brewer K & L Ribbons Karen Lipp Katharine McQueen Katherine Wallace Kathy Gilker **Kayce Redmond** Kelli Agnew Kelly Herd Jewelry Kelly Karson Kim Keffer **Kimberly Schisler Sosebee** Kris Pinto **Kroupa Team Real Estate** La Quinta - Conyers Lacey Halstead Laura Casey Leah Marks Leigh Kent-Scherzer

Leila Saxe Liberty Acres Dressage LLC Linda Light Linden Gaspar Lisa & John Seger Lisa Seger Insurance Liz Molloy Lori Berger Lou Roth Lucy Calhoun Luther Ranch Malin Eriksson MangoBay Design Mare Modern Goods **Market Street Promotions** Martine Duff Mary Lou Freil Meg McGuire Photography Megan Godley Melody Moore Jackson Michelle Klymko & Whiskey Mirrors for Training USA Molly Shewmaker Mrs. Pastures Cookies Nancy Ginn Nancy Thrasher Nutrena Olivia Garner **Optimus Equine Feed** Pagan Gilman - LSI Pat Borders Patricia Powell Poplar Place Farm **Reagan Tibbitts Renee Miller Richard Cohn Richard's Equine Videos Riding Warehouse River Mist Equestrian LLC Robin Puryear** Sandra Carnet Sandy Osborn Sarah Light Sarah Patrusheva Schroth Schneiders Tack Seminole Feed Shannon Klepper Shannondale Farm

rgenerous gifts!

*he GOATS are the benefactors, donors, and sponsors of this organization.* 

Silent Hawk PEMF SmartPak Soul Passion Farm **Stephanie Petron** Sue Bender Susan Easton Burns Susan Day Susan Tammy Pearson Sydney Lee **Terre Davies** The Collected Pony The Dressage Club of New Mexico The Dressage Foundation The Drew Boot The Kroupa Team Real Estate The Mane Monogram The Metallic Horse The Riding School - Laura Casey ThinLine Thompson & Associates Equine Med Tin Roof Equestrian LLC - Carol Glover Top Hat Dressage - Christi Meyers **Topline LLC - Sarah Southern Triple Crown Feed** UGA College of Vet Medicine USDF Virginia Harrison Virginia Woodcock Whole Horse Saddle Fit - Lacey Halstead Wildhorse Tack and Feed Wilsun Custom Horse Products



GOAT-Greatest Of All Time

### GDCTA EVENT CALENDAR (GDCTA Events are in RED)

#### To find events online, go to https://bit.ly/GDCTA\_Events

#### **GDCTA Clinics & Symposiums**

<ul> <li>Mar 25-26 Jeremy Steinberg</li> <li>Jun 12-15</li> </ul>	Alpharetta, GA	Caren Caverly	ccaverly@comcast.net
Eventing Summer C		Joanne Morse	Joannemorse1@yahoo.com
<ul> <li>May 13-14 Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern</li> <li>Sep 2-3</li> </ul>	Conyers, GA I&II	Caren Caverly	ccaverly@comcast.net
Labor Day Dressage Classic I&II	Conyers, GA	Caren Caverly	ccaverly@comcast.net

#### **GDCTA-Recognized Schooling Shows**

(green=pending, black=approved, red=GDCTA hosted)

Caren Caverly, GDCTA AWARDS CHAIR Recognized & Schooling Shows ccaverly@comcast.net 770-713-4025

2023 Show / Award Season		//0-/13-4025	
GDCTA	Poplar Place Farm	AYDC	Five Points
April 15-16: Spring Fling	US Hwy 27	GIHP	43 Saddle Club Dr
Wills Park, Alpharetta, GA	Hamilton, GA	1996 Centennial Olympic Pkwy	Cartersville, GA
		Conyers, GA	
August 12-13: Summer	Feb 18		March 4
Finals	Mar 11	Feb 18	April 8
Wills Park, Alpharetta, GA	May 13	Mar 18	July 1
	Jun 24	April 29	-
October 7-8: Fall Harvest	Jul 29	May 20	The Lisa Seger Insurance
GIHP, Conyers, GA	Sep 16	June 3	AA Medal class is offered
		June 17	on all dates. (Training
The Lisa Seger Insurance AA	The Lisa Seger Insurance	July 22	Level, Test 3)
Medal class is offered on all	AA Medal class is offered	August 19	
dates. (Training Level, Test	on all dates. (Training	September 9	Aly Rattazzi
3)	Level, Test 3)	September 30	fivepointsshows@gmail.com
			706-502-7324
Caren Caverly	poplarplacefarm.com	The Lisa Seger Insurance AA	
ccaverly@comcast.net		Medal class is offered on all	
770-713-4025		dates. (Training Level, Test 3)	
GDCTA.org		Elizabeth Molloy	
000111015		missliz@taramiaridingschool.com	
		770-634-4089	

taramiaridingschool.com

### **GDCTA EVENT CALENDAR** (GDCTA Events are in RED)

Chattahoochee Hills	Big Cheese HT, CT &	Oxer Farm	Foxberry Farm	
Eventing	Dressage Show Series	6010 Kapimar Dd	2240 School Dd	
at Bouckaert Farm	Ashland Farma	6940 Kenimer Rd	2340 School Rd	
0445 Duaring Lake Daard	Ashland Farm	Clermont, GA	Dallas, GA	
9445 Browns Lake Road	1541 Highway 138		Maria	
Fairburn, GA	Walnut Grove GA	April 29	May 6	
	4 100	May 13	June 3	
April 8	April 22	June 10	September 9	
June 10	May 27	July 8		
August 5	June 24	August 5	The Lisa Seger Insurance	
September 9	July 15		AA Medal class is offered	
	August 26		on all dates. (Training	
info@chatthillseventing.co	September 16	Sandra Carnet	Level, Test 3)	
m		scarnet@carnetstudio.com		
770-892-2117	Caroline Templeton	770-654-3934	Denise Etheridge	
chatthillseventing.com	bigcheeseeventing@gmail.com 706-207-6055	OxerFarm.com	denisefoxberry@gmail.com	
			foxberry-farm.com	
	bigcheeseeventing.com			
River Mist Equestrian	Full Circle Horse Park			
Summer Kick Off	Pell City, Alabama			
15570 Birmingham Hwy	March 18	tim	time is	
Milton, GA				
	No Lisa Seger Insurance AA		cious,	
May 27	Medal class is offered	was	ste it	
		wis	ely.	
Jennifer Scherrens	Janice Ballard	VV 10		
jen@rivermistequine.com	janice@fullcirclehorsepark.			
	com			
770-605-3822	205-516-9052			
	fullcirclehorsepark.com			
		20		

### GDCTA is Recruiting a Volunteer Coordinator

The driving force behind horse shows is the many amazing volunteers! GDCTA's Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year Program *sponsored by Wilsun Custom Horse Products* exists to increase the ease of participation, provide incentives, and recognize the tireless efforts of volunteers.

We are looking for an enthusiastic Volunteer Coordinator to help develop and maintain relationships with our volunteers. You will be an integral part of GDCTA events, particularly horse shows, by recruiting, managing, and retaining the necessary volunteer base, tracking, and achieving higher volunteer engagement.

- You will ensure GDCTA has the required volunteer base to run all their events. To meet that goal, the Volunteer Coordinator must perform a variety of duties involving recruitment, limited training, and retention.
- You will attend the events to manage the volunteers you have recruited (or have an assistant who can be there instead).
- You will record all volunteer hours for the Liz Faso Memorial Volunteer of the Year Program sponsored by Wilsun Custom Horse Products.
- You will assist in developing and implement new volunteer roles and programs.

The Volunteer Coordinator works closely with volunteers to come up with a schedule that

works for everyone. The Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for ensuring the right number of volunteers is available for each event. You will also be responsible for corresponding with and scheduling volunteer groups from local businesses and organizations, should there be any.

This position involves a great deal of contact with our members; therefore, our Volunteer Coordinator must have excellent interpersonal communication skills. The Volunteer Coordinator may use social media, post volunteer opportunities online and/or call members who have expressed interest in volunteering. GDCTA has a list of potential volunteers so you will have a good place to start.

If you thrive on interacting with people, have excellent communication skills, are organized, and have a passion for creating meaningful relationships, we want to meet you. This is a paid position, and at some events GDCTA will provide accommodations.

Contact Caren Caverly at ccaverly@comcast.net / 770-713-4025 or submit your interest via the website at https://www.gdcta.org/volunteer

Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For more information about GDCTA's programs, services, and activities, visit www.gdcta.org.

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