

Collected Remarks

January - February 2022



Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

GDCTA is a Group Member Organization of USDF.

Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern

May 14-15, 2022

Georgia International Horse Park
Conyers, GA

GDCTA.org



HGF EQUESTRIAN



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Custom Pinny Holders



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

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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.

On the Cover

Collins Zgutowicz on
Bucks Well Spent



Outside the Sandbox

delivering general articles and activities

Dearest members:

January is a time of quiet contemplation and new beginnings. Uh, what am I saying? January is probably the busiest month for GDCTA with planning and executing the Awards Gala – a party for 500 people and the biggest fundraiser of our year!

Basking in the afterglow of the Gala, we are marching forward with a brand-new volunteer incentive program sponsored by Wilsun Custom blanket, three grants (two of which are new thanks to the McQueens and Kroupa Team Real Estate) now accepting applications, our first schooling show of the season at Wills Park, the start of Part 1 of the USDF L Program and getting the yearbook underway with the beautiful photos from Lisa Dolny Photography. Want to place an ad in the yearbook? You will find ad rates on the website.

It is already shaping up to be an exciting year! If you're looking for a way to make 2022 transformational for your riding/training, how about participating in our clinics, horse shows, and programs?

Jan 1-Dec 1: Wilsun Custom Blanket Volunteer Incentive Program
Feb 1: Training Grant Applications Open (due June 1)
Feb 1: Kroupa Team Real Estate Grant (due Apr 1)
Feb 1: McQueen Educational Grant (due Apr 1)
Apr 16-17 (Easter weekend): Spring Fling Schooling Show, Wills Park, Alpharetta
Apr 23-24: L Program, Session A, Shannondale Farm, Milton
May 14-15: Greater Atlanta Dressage Southern, GIHP, Conyers
June 1: Yearbook Advertisements & Submissions due
June 4-5: Jeremy Steinberg Clinic, Shannondale Farm, Milton
Jul 9-10: L Program, Session B, Shannondale Farm, Milton
July 23-24: Janet Foy Clinic, Shannondale Farm, Milton
Aug 13-14: Summer Finals Schooling Show, Wills Park, Alpharetta
Aug 20-21: L Program, Session C, Shannondale Farm, Milton
Sep 3-4: Labor Day Dressage Classic, GIHP, Conyers
Sep 9-11: Dressage4Kids & Atlanta Youth Festival, GIHP, Conyers
Oct 7-9: GAIG/USDF Region 3 Dressage Championships & ANFD, GIHP, Conyers

Dates TBA: Sabine Schut-Kery Clinic and JJ Tate dressage clinics, Kudzu Clinics, eventing clinics

If you'd like to volunteer for any of our events, please use the website form to let us know your interests.
<https://www.gdcta.org/volunteer>

Remember, too, that all scores earned at our shows count twice toward year-end awards. This makes it very easy to qualify~

Looking forward to seeing you out and about soon!

Caren

P.S. If you have any questions or hesitations, or just want some clarification about any aspect of the events, please ask, we would love to help.

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

2022 WILSUN CUSTOM HORSE PRODUCTS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



~New volunteer 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.)

- 1) \$1000.00 to the person with the most hours volunteered at GDCTA events and participating shows*
- 2) \$750.00 to person with the 2nd highest number of hours*
- 3) \$500.00 to person with the 3rd highest number of hours*
- 4) \$250.00 raffle consisting of every volunteer with 24 hrs volunteering*

This program will run from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, and will be awarded at the Awards Gala in January 2023.

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!

First Time at the USEA Convention

By Jen Scherrens

In early December we packed our bags and caught the plane to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the 2021 USEA convention. It was my first time going and it did not disappoint!

First off was deciding which lectures and discussions to attend. This year it seemed to be laid out quite well and we were able to attend just about every meeting we wanted to. Most meetings were fairly productive, and it was very interesting seeing some of the legends in our sport speaking out about their concerns on the various topics. Perhaps the most controversial meeting was the High Performance meeting where Bill Moroney spoke on the contract not being renewed for Erik Duvander. He really did not allow for many questions, and those he did answer were vague at best.

We also attended the meeting regarding the ERQI ratings, and I am left wondering why we have not incorporated that into our entry systems like the Europeans have. It is a very useful tool for organizers and could really be an extra step in helping riders and horses stay safe. In speaking with the people leading the meeting I am left feeling as though we could be doing more on the rider side of this tool and not just on the horses. Unfortunately, the developers were not able to attend the meeting due to COVID travel restrictions.

The overall theme of the convention seemed to be how to make our sport safer. I think it's safe to say everyone has very strong feelings on the topic. Of course, everyone wants things safer. It simply seems there are conflicting thoughts and ideas on how to move forward. It must be done one step at a time with the first step being education, in my opinion. To be clear, we can't just educate the new riders to our sport, we must also educate their parents and peers. Parents, trainers, and students must all work together. For the new adult riders to our sport, we again need to focus on education. It's not only kids making the mistakes and getting hurt!

It was a weekend packed full of interesting topics to discuss and most of the discussions didn't stop at the end of the meetings. They spilled into the halls, over into dinner, and after dinner! It was fabulous to meet many new people and get different perspectives on issues from organizers and officials alike. I am grateful for the opportunity to go and represent GDCTA and Area 3 USEA.

Meetings I attended:

Friday:

Preceptor training
Incident Management
ERQI Reports
USEF High Performance
Membership Dev & Affiliate
New Dressage Test Starter - Modified
Need for Speed
Course Designers/Builders

Saturday:

Safety Committee
Equine Liability and Minimizing Risk of Exposure
Rule Change
USEA Annual Meeting
Young Riders
Tokyo Olympic Review

Become a member of USEA

Today, the USEA boasts nearly 13,000 members and about 250 USEA recognized events take place across the nation each year.

*We also offer many educational programs, clinics, and seminars for our members. Various categories and price ranges of memberships are available that offer something for everyone depending on your level of interest. To learn more about the USEA, visit the **About Us** page.*

Ready to join or renew? Log in to USEA Online Services or download the USEA Membership Application.

<https://useventing.com/membership>



Strides Ahead Campaign

What a great day today is as we have broken ground on Phase 1, the new arena, at Wills Park. As many of you know the Wills Park Equestrian Foundation was created to help fund the refurbishment and revitalization of the Wills Park Equestrian Center in conjunction with the City of Alpharetta. Wills Park is a legacy and a gem that is nestled in the center of a growing vibrant city and is in need of transformation in order to continue to serve the community that has been so loyal to it and to expand into higher caliber regional and national shows. Whether your family rides there currently or if you have wonderful memories of what it did for a member of your family in the past, it is in need of a new life to give to future generations.

The first phase, which is the new ring, is fully funded by the partnership of the City of Alpharetta and the Foundation to a combined total of \$1.3 million. Not only have we gained the support of the City of Alpharetta City Council but on November 2nd the citizens passed a parks bond issue that included the Equestrian Center. It is now our turn, as the equestrian community that uses this park or appreciates what this park did for them, to step up and raise our part to completely transform this facility.

Because you share our vision of a state-of-the-art equestrian center at Wills Park, we are reaching out to you as a faithful supporter to help jump start the "Strides Ahead Campaign." We are publicly launching the campaign and are inviting you to join us as a **Pacesetter**. Your early gift will help demonstrate the equestrian community's commitment to this major initiative. It is our goal to have all rings rebuilt in 2022 so we must get busy raising funds.

You can make your **Pacesetter's** gift by logging onto our website at www.willsparkfoundation.com and click on the donate button. WPEF is a nonprofit organization under Section 501c3 and would be grateful for your consideration of a charitable contribution for 2022. Contributions are tax deductible. If you are making your contribution online please make sure to fill out all information so that we will be able to acknowledge your gift. If you have any questions or would like to help as we work toward our goal please email us at willsparkequestriancenter@gmail.com.

Feel free to stop by the park and see the construction as it is underway. Now we really need your support!



Campaign for Wills Park



We need 1 million dollars to complete the ring renovations and move on to the barns. The money raised to date was 96% from the hunter jumper world. I know we the Dressage and Eventing World can show them how strong and committed to Wills Park we are! Please make your tax-deductible donation ASAP and let's start showing more often right here at home in Alpharetta!!

Thank you, as always, for your encouragement and especially your financial support. These are exciting times to take part in.

The Wills Park Equestrian Foundation Board:
Scott & Marie Tittle, Kevin & Lindsay Nolan, Cheryl Sims, Tricia Conahan, Jeff Felton, Libba Fisher, and Mike Gelb



SUPPORT US

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

Wills Park Equestrian Center is a cornerstone of the Alpharetta experience – for riders, spectators and visitors. Revitalizing this facility has an impact in so many ways:

- For riders and trainers – Create an enhanced equestrian facility that continues to provide access to equestrians at all level of the sport.
- For spectators - Create a comfortable, safer and more accessible experience where they can enjoy the park, the horses and equestrian sport.
- For local charities – Provide an enhanced venue for holding events benefitting local charities such as Susan G. Komen and Breakfast in a Backpack, among many others.
- For the City of Alpharetta – Supply a bigger draw for horse shows and events at the equestrian center, continuing to build the appeal of the city for residents and visitors alike.
- For the Alpharetta business community – Expand the business impact of Wills Park events on local businesses - including hotels, restaurants and retail.





Premier Equestrian Showroom Wilsun Custom Blankets & Fine Horse Products



Visit our Alpharetta Ga.
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- Supa Equestrian Products
- Stable Fresh

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on Twitter
or Call Today 770-558-1679



While you wait services:

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**Our Full Line of Blankets
include the Famous Equirobe,
ThermoCool & Sweatless
DryHorse Sheet & Blanket**



2020 Grassland Parkway
Alpharetta. Ga. 30005
tel 770-558-1679

info@WilsunCustomHorseBlankets.com

Ivy McQueen Charity

Junior Rider **\$1000** Education Grant

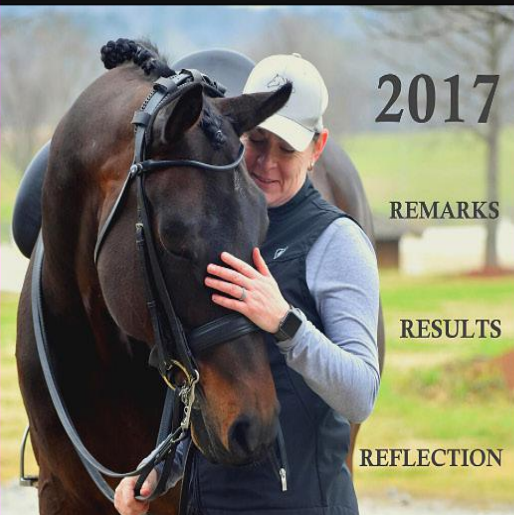
- For Dressage or Combined Training Juniors Riders(14-18yo)
- Active **GDCTA members**
- Grant money to go toward 2022 to education, clinics, instruction, or training
- TO APPLY - Send a 1-page essay about the rider, their horse, and their goals to Katharine McQueen at katharine.mcqueen@gmail.com - (404) 989-4458 before April 1, 2022

Ivy McQueen Charity, Inc is a 501 (c)3. Founded in 2013, the Charity focuses on providing educational tools for individuals in need to further advance opportunities for learning and growth in a particular educational environment. To date, the Charity has focused efforts primarily in Jamaica, where they are partnered with the Child and Protection Services Agency and have supported over 750 children in government and foster care with backpacks, school supplies, laptops, food, and health screenings. Looking to expand efforts in the US, the McQueen Charity would like to help support a rider with educational opportunities to expand their knowledge in Dressage.

Collected Remarks

Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

A Year in Review



Collected Remarks

A Year in Review



Collected Remarks

A Year in Review



GDCTA Yearbook Project



ADVERTISEMENTS DUE
JUNE 1, 2022
PAYMENT DUE: JUNE 20
YEARBOOK@GDCTA.ORG

WILDHORSE Tack and Feed



4070 Macedonia Rd,

Powder Springs, GA 30127

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C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

to all the

2021

GDCTA Winners



*A special THANK YOU to our Gala Sponsors -
This event would not be the same without YOU!*

Abby Cameron Taylor	Harmony Saddle Fitting (Nancy Bardy)	Pat Borders
Allison Creek Farm & Services	HGF Equestrian	Rachael Zaudke Wilkins
Amanda Moretz Bodywork	High Point Farm	Rebecca Bowman
Amber Cavalier Splier	HKM Sports Equipment	Richard's Equine Videos
Amy Hoffield	Holland Portraits	River Birch Farm
Annie's Equestrian Apparel	Horseplay Photography	River Mist Equestrian LLC
Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta	Iron Horse	Sandra Carnet
Atlanta Saddlery	Janie Pride	Sarah Patrusheva Schroth
Bella Medspa / Alethea Tinkle	Jennifer Melcher, DVM	Seminole Feed
Betty Smith	Joseph, Amber & Olivia Martinez	Shannon Klepper
Bradford Renaissance Portraits	June Brewer	Susan Easton Burns
Browbands with Bling	K & L Ribbons	The Dressage Foundation
Caren Caverly	Karen Lipp	The Farm at Five Points / Aly Rattazzi
Carrie Penley Art	Katharine McQueen	The Kroupa Team Real Estate
Cavali Club by Corro (Carly Prosser)	Kayce Redmond	The Mane Monogram
Charlotte Detienne Photography	Kelly Herd Jewelry	The Metallic Horse
Chatt Hills Eventing	Kris Pinto	The Riding School - Laura Casey
Cherokee Feed and Seed	La Quinta - Conyers	Thompson & Associates Equine Med
Chip Caverly	Lacey Halstead	Top Hat Dressage / Christi Meyers
Christine Murray, DVM	Laura Casey	Topline LLC / Sarah Southern
Chronicle of the Horse	Linda Light	Triple Crown Feed
CornerStone Equestrian	Lisa Seger Insurance	Virginia Woodcock
Dancing Horse Barn Signs - K Czarick	Liz Molloy	Whole Horse Saddle Fit - Lacey Halstead
David Erdek Photography	Lori Berger	Wildhorse Tack and Feed
Diana Salzmann	Luther Ranch	Wilsun Custom Blankets
Elizabeth Samoluk Fine Art LLC	Mane Monogram	Zan Economopoulos
Elizabeth Vaughn	Mare Modern Goods	
Erudite Equestrian / Abi Kroupa	Mark Hook	
Finish Line Horse Products	Market Street Promotions	
Fowler's Jockey Supply	Meg McGuire Photography	
Foxberry Farm	Moore Equine Massage & Bodywork	
Frog Catcher Farm	Mrs. Pastures Cookies	
GDCTA	Nancy Ginn	
Go With It Farm	Nutrena	
Happy Horse - Jim Biggs	Oakleigh Equine Body Work	
Harmony Grove Farm	Pagan Gilman - LSI	



— THE —
KROUPA TEAM
REAL ESTATE

KROUPA TEAM REAL ESTATE

\$1,000 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 2022 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 Abigailkroupa@gmail.com (561) 284-3228**.
- Application essays will be accepted February 1 to April 1, 2022. Winners to be announced on April 15th

WWW.KROUPATEAM.COM



Spring Fling Schooling Show

April 16-17, 2022

Wills Park Equestrian Center
Alpharetta, GA

GDCTA.org



GDCTA to host Part 1 of the USDF L Education Program in 2022



GDCTA is proud to host



USDF L PROGRAM
PART 1 -
SESSION A
SESSION B
SESSION C



Shannondale Farm
2395 Birmingham Rd
Milton, GA

GDCTA.org





Session A
Apr 23-24



Session B
July 9-10



Session C
Aug 20-21

Developed by the USDF Judges' Committee, this educational training program teaches judges to evaluate the correct training of dressage horses.

This program has been designed with several goals in mind:

- 1) To give competitors, trainers, instructors, and other interested people greater insight into the evaluative techniques of judging dressage.
- 2) To meet a requirement to enter the USDF/USEF "r" Dressage Judge Training Program.
- 3) To qualify individuals to judge schooling shows.

This well-designed training program takes a systemic and orderly approach to introduce judging, explain the scoring system, review the rules, and present the biomechanics of the horse's gaits and the rider's position. This educational training program features selected faculty of experienced, United States Equestrian Federation recognized "S" judges.

The Program is divided into two parts; each part is made up of three sessions:

Part 1- "A Judge's Perspective" is open to all USDF Members; this is the educational foundation of the program.

Session A is an introduction to judging and biomechanics.

Session B is about judging criteria for gaits & paces, movements & figures.

Session C is about collective marks, equitation, rider biomechanics and basics.

If you are interested in attending as a participant (you must apply to be a participant using the form on the website), auditor, or demo rider, please register on the events pages on the website: https://bit.ly/GDCTA_Events.

DRESSAGE

inside the Sandbox



The Cone of Uncertainty



The national weather service has issued an advisory complete with a mapped-out cone of uncertainty for the “potential development of a tropical disturbance” which would be named Fred. Be clear: at the moment it does not exist, but there are indications that it might in the future.

This is a good model of how you should think about riding your horse. As you are preparing to perform a movement, don’t wait until the storm clouds are gathering on the horizon to think of packing a hurricane survival kit.

Let’s take turn on the haunches as an example. It’s easy to get over-focused on the aids for the turn itself and be surprised at a stiffening or resistance in the middle of it. Remember your main focus should be the basic principles of attention, connection, and throughness which must be present whether you’re riding a 20-meter circle or a canter pirouette. When you have just lost it, that’s a bad time to think of it!

Riding through the potentials of a problem before they ever crop up – testing the validity of the relationship with your horse constantly — is the way to prevent such awkward problems from surfacing unexpectedly.



EVENTING

3 times the fun



Eventing a Young Horse

By Mary Ellen Widincamp



In 2021 I was awarded the GDCTA CT Training Grant. I chose to use my Grant to train with Aubrey Graham because she is undoubtedly one of the best trainers to help young horses get started in the sport of eventing. During our time together I have seen a drastic change in not only my confidence but, my horse's confidence on xc and in all other phases. So far, I have gone and trained with her three times since receiving the grant. During our clinics together we work on cross country and going around safe and sound. In our last clinic, we worked on coffins as well as collecting my horse Lexi up and making her wait for everything instead of rushing. During this clinic, we worked on my bad habit of dropping my hands down low. What Aubrey told me to do was very helpful she told me to sit deeper in the saddle, straighten my shoulders, and make my elbows more elastic as well as higher up on my side. In my lessons at my home barn, I have noticed such a big difference in how I ride and how much better Lexi goes around everywhere since Aubrey taught me this. In our previous session before the last one, I just talked about we worked on down banks which my horse sometimes

thinks there is a scary monster that's going to eat her on the down part. Aubrey taught me to look up, lean back, and not overthink it. After, a few minutes of making sure the bank wasn't going to eat my horse I did what Aubrey said and my horse went down the bank. Lexi has not had a problem with banks since. In that clinic we also worked on not taking the long-distance and that it's safer to hold for a shorter spot especially when your horse likes to run and not rock back on their hind end. In the first clinic I did with her we focused on exposing my horse to xc since it was only her 3rd time ever schooling. We went around and jumped all of the smaller jumps just to get her familiar with the water, ditches, and banks again. We had one problem with a table which I was not confident going to so neither was my horse. Aubrey told me to look up at the tree line kick and believe in myself and it worked. Since then, my horse has not had a single stop on cross country. I cannot say enough how beneficial this Grant has been to my confidence and Lexi's confidence.

Thank you, GDCTA!

GDCTA BUSINESS

a glimpse behind the curtain

Thank you to the following donors for their generous gifts

Abby Cameron Taylor
Amanda Moretz Bodywork
Amy Hoffield
Ann Caverly
Atlanta Saddlery
Brad Thatcher
Caitlyn Brennan
Cara McNamee, DVM
Caren Caverly
Chanda Smith
Chip Caverly
Christi Meyers
Christine Murray, DVM
Cindy Thaxton
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Malin Eriksson
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Michelle Klymko & Whiskey
Pagan Gilman
Pat Borders
Renee Miller
Richard Cohn
Robin Puryear
Sandy Osborn
Stephanie Petron
Sue Bender
Susan Easton Burns
Terre Davies
Thompson & Assoc. Equine Med
Todd Kroupa Team Real Estate
Wilsun Custom Horse Blanket
Zan Economopoulos Fine Art

GOAT—Greatest Of All Time



GDCTA Board 2021

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

Nicole Andrews
Liz Molloy
Danielle Perry
Janie Pride
Jen Scherrens
Julie Shannon

*The 2022 Board was seated at the
January 17th meeting*



Committees 2022

- 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 – Caren Caverly
- 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
- 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 December 13, 2021

President Caren Caverly called the membership meeting of the GDCTA to order on December 13, 2021, at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

Secretary, Ashley Boyd, performed a roll call. A quorum of the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa, Ashley Boyd, Carol Tresan, Peter West, Julie Shannon, Janie Pride, Jen Scherrens, and Danielle Perry were present. Guest June Brewer was also present. The minutes from the regular meeting November 15, 2021, were emailed to board members prior to the meeting. Joanne motioned to approve the minutes. Carol seconded. Motion passed by the board.

BOARD REPORTS

Treasurer, (Peter): no report

VP Dressage, (Abigail Kroupa): no report

VP Combined Training, (Joanne Morse): no report

Membership, (Mary Lou Freil): no report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Awards Gala** (Caren): Still need help with jobs for the Gala. We need somebody to do the mailing out of awards after the gala for people who are unable to attend. 280 invitations got sent out to people. When the invitations showed up from the company there were no envelopes. Caren was able to get envelopes from Office Depot and the company refunded for the envelopes not showing up. We still need a raffle cashier from 7-8:30 and a closing cashier. We need an awards volunteer, photographer volunteer, power point volunteer, 2 more people to help with auction, click bid support, and barn raffle baskets help. We have more ribbons than we have had in the past, with a total of 347 ribbons to be given out. The budget is going to be a little over on ribbons because of how many. Tickets go on sale on Wednesday for \$70 a person. So, each person will cost \$70.57 so we will be losing 57 cents per person. What we really need is for the silent auction and baskets to pay for the ribbons. We still need bigger items that will get bigger bids for the silent auction.

Silent auction and baskets need to arrive by noon. We need pictures prior to the day so they can go online. Discussion about set up and how to be efficient. Board members will get a form for a comp ticket.

Communication (Joanne): Newsletter is scheduled for later this week. It is a light letter. We have a lot of schooling shows already scheduled. 2022 will be a busy year show wise. We won the GMO website award. We do need to think about migrating from the WIX site to the Wild Apricot site which is more functional.

- **Education** (Julie Shannon): Multiple confirmed clinics for next year.

- **Finance** (Peter West): Nothing to report from Peter. Caren brought up people who want to do sponsorship for regionals. Peter, Abi, Jen, and Caren volunteered to be on that committee.

- **Grants** (Janie Pride): Tessa Geven sent a correspondence and thank you to Caren.

- **Horse Show** (Caren & Carol): There will be two schooling shows, two recognized USDF, and USDF regional championships shows.

- **Youth** (Joanne): We have 26 letterman applications for the Gala. Discussion regarding the 12 and Under Excellence Award and what date to use. Decided to stay with Jan 1 as the date.

Old Business

Convention Update – USDF Caren: It was virtual again. There was not a whole lot to be done. A new president was elected. They did meet the candidates for president. They had a breakdown of each meeting. Nominating committee announced if you wanted to be a candidate the deadline was April 15th. Awards Council had one motion going to the board. They had a new award introduced called With Distinction. It will go along with Bronze, Silver, and Gold medals. If you have two scores of 67% then you can apply for the designation of With Distinction. There was some discussion regarding it, but it did pass. It will be a pin that goes along with the medal and is retroactive. At the Region 3 meeting, they had candidates come in and talk. Only one person commented that the footing was bad at regionals, however, they were able to let them know that the footing was great. The 2022 meeting will be in Lexington and 2023 will be in Ohio. US Dressage Finals will be Nov 10-13 in Lexington, KY. George Williams was elected for the next 3 years. They have out GMO awards. GDCTA won best website, photography, personal experience newsletter, and honorable mention in general newsletter. New rules in effect Dec 1st, the dressage apparel has changed, and people should read





up on the rules. The group discussed the new attire rules.

– **USEA Joanne, Jen, and Carol:** The structure of the convention this year was better. The meetings allowed you to get to multiple good quality meetings. The Affiliates meeting did not have general members so they could ask more questions, particularly what we get as an affiliate. They said that we can get on the website. They talked more about what Affiliates get so that it is more beneficial for people to be Affiliates. Good educational meetings. Attended the safety meeting where there was discussion about frangible technology. Joanne inquired about riders being required to wear certified vests. Jenn and Carol reported that collective marks on a dressage test have been consolidated to a harmony score versus multiple collective marks. So obedient horses that are not as talented movers can outscore a fancy horse who is tense and misbehaving. New rules are coming out, but the majority of that is rewording of rules so that they are more efficient and clearer. The meeting next year is in Savannah.

Janie Pride won the Christmas contest!

New Business

We need people to send Gala pictures for the slide show. They also need to let us know if they are not attending how they want to get their ribbons.

Joanne wanted to bring up people wanting to add Pre-Ameoba to the awards. Pre Ameoba is not a long-term level. No need for a motion because it is not a long-term division. The next conversation is regarding adding Starter into year-end awards. The USEA is not giving Starter awards, so we are not making a motion to add them into our awards at this time.

Abi is working on hosting an L Program testing. This would be helpful because we need L graduates to judge schooling shows. There is also discussion of doing the Big R testing. We are open to doing both as long as there are budgets put forth and people who will step up and run them. A need for scribes is necessary, however, it has been brought up that a lot of people bring friends to scribe. Some people rent scribes, but we will also need to help find some scribes. A scribe clinic at the beginning of 2022 training would be helpful.

Next meeting on Jan 17th is a budget meeting. Send budgets by Jan 14th which is the same day all pictures are required for silent auction.

Motion to adjourn from Jen Scherrens, and Danielle Perry seconded. Meeting adjourned



YOUTH CORNER

Youth Board

The Youth Board has been dissolved. Instead, there will be a Youth member on the Board of Directors who will come to the regular Board meetings (via Zoom). The Board will choose the Youth member based on their email of application.

To be considered, email Joanne Morse joannemorse1@yahoo.com with a note about why you want to be on the GDCTA Board.

The next Board meeting is
February 21, 2022, at 7:00 PM
sharp on Zoom.

Contact Caren Caverly at
ccaverly@comcast.net
to be added to the Zoom call.

GDCTA MEMBER 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.

Mission

The mission of the GDCTA Grant Program is to provide educational opportunities to **members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to and/or excellence in the sport as well as service and ambassadorship within the Association.**

The grant is meant for a GDCTA member to have the opportunity to be in a training situation that is not readily available during the course of his/her daily pattern. Grant monies must be used to participate in educational programs that include, but are not limited to: **seminars, workshops, clinics and training programs offered by recognized or certified instructors.**

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

Requirements

These grants represent an investment by GDCTA. The recipient understands that the membership will benefit as a result of the recipient's experience, therefore it is a requirement that the recipient will:

- write an article for the GDCTA newsletter, Collected Remarks, for use on the GDCTA website and for GDCTA's use in other publications
- give a verbal report at a GDCTA board meeting as soon as possible after their training is complete
- volunteer at least 8 hours (or the equivalent of one day) at a GDCTA function within a year of receiving the grant.

Opening Date: February 1, 2022

Closing Date: June 1, 2022

Winner Announcement: July 1, 2022

Apply online:

www.gdcta.org/training-grants

Questions?

Janie Pride
Grant Program Committee Chair
706-326-4354

**I understand that I will receive an initial \$600 of the grant after details of my training are confirmed, and one month before my training; the balance in the amount of \$200 will be sent to me when the GDCTA newsletter editors receive my training experience article.*

The Equestrian Journal - for winners



THE EQUESTRIAN JOURNAL
One Component of a Well-Rounded Training Program

Monthly, Weekly, and Daily guided methods designed to help you:
Record Your Training Experiences Improve Memory and Retention
Practice Visualizations Unlock Knowledge from Observations
Develop Awareness Gain Perspective on Progress
Track Habits Customize Your Next Step in Training
Plan Your Goals in Sport or Pleasure Fulfill Your Potential

In 2020, each GDCTA grant recipient will also receive a special journal donated by The Equestrian Journal. Journaling is a great tool to help you organize your thoughts and record your progress.

Learn more:
<https://www.theequestrianjournal.com>

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

To find events online, go to https://bit.ly/GDCTA_Events

GDCTA Clinics & Symposiums

- **Apr 23-24**
USDF L Program
Session A
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Jun 4-5**
Jeremy Steinberg
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Jul 9-10**
USDF L Program
Session B
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **July 23-24**
Janet Foy
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Aug 20-21**
USDF L Program
Session C
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Sep 9-11**
D4K & ATL Youth
Festival
Conyers, GA
Liz Molloy
missliz@taramiaridingschool.com

HORSE SHOWS

- **Apr 16-17**
Spring Fling **Schooling Show**
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **May 14-15**
GADS
Conyers, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Aug 13-14**
Summer Finals
Schooling Show
Alpharetta, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Sep 3-4**
Labor Day Dressage
Classic I & II
Conyers, GA
Caren Caverly
ccaverly@comcast.net
- **Oct 7-9**
GAIG/USDF Region 3
Championships
& ANFD
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

2022 Show Season

2022 Show Season				
Feb 19	AYDC Dressage & CT Schooling Show	Conyers, GA	Liz Molloy	missliz@taramiaridingschool.com
Mar 5	The Farm at Five Points Show Series	Cartersville, GA	Aly Rattazzi	fivepointsshowsgmail.com
Mar 12	North Atlanta Equestrian Series	Cartersville, GA	Anthem Day	Anthem.day1@gmail.com
Mar 12	Poplar Place Farm	Hamilton, GA	Launa Des Portes	Launa@poplarplacefarm.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

GDCFA Members' Businesses

Lifestyle Source for Insurance



ANNALEISE SEGER NIPR 7040707 CADI OF36040

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www.LisaSegerInsurance.com



Pagan Gilman
Field Agent

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(770) 283-7344



GDCTA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Links to websites are free to all GDCTA members in good standing. These links to member sites are provided for the convenience of our visitors and members. No link to or the mention of a particular site or vendor constitutes an endorsement of said products, services or vendor by The Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association.

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HI, I'M LISA!

Horses have been a part of my life since I was a little girl. Just like you, I fully understand what it's like to be "that horse person". Once you're in the horse world, it's hard to leave. They aren't just animals, they are family.

As equestrians, we have dedicated so much time to this lifestyle. From the riders who enjoy trail riding to the ones competing every weekend, the love we have for our four legged partner connects us all. Memories only last so long in your head. Allow me to pause that moment for you and create artwork that will allow you to physically hold that memory in your hand. It is why I love photography.

Contact me today, so I can tell your story!



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