

# *Collected Remarks*

November 2022



**Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.**

**GDCTA is a Group Member Organization of USDF.**





# GDCTA AWARDS GALA

**JANUARY 28, 2023**

ATLANTA MARRIOTT ALPHARETTA  
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**Joanne Morse**  
[hgf.equestrian@yahoo.com](mailto:hgf.equestrian@yahoo.com)  
770-313-6283

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*Georgia Dressage &  
Combined Training Association*

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## On the Cover

Katharina Huenermann and Teddy at the American Eventing Championships





# Outside the Sandbox

*delivering general articles and activities*

Dear Members,

It's November - the month to focus more on gratitude and thankful thoughts. I am grateful for so many things going well right now – too many to list! What are you grateful for?

Congratulations to the newly elected board members. They will join meetings beginning in January. Be sure to let us/them know what you want to see happen in the coming year.

I am continually motivated and inspired by GDCTA's rich history, and the foundation built by our members. Please think about it and nominate a deserving member for The Donald & Elizabeth Faso Perpetual Trophy. This new trophy sponsored by Lisa Seger Insurance will be awarded at the Gala for distinguished service to Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association and service to equestrian sport. Nominations along with a brief reason why the GDCTA member nominee is deserving of the award should be emailed to [admin@gdcta.org](mailto:admin@gdcta.org) by November 30th.

As we prepare for the holidays, there are still GDCTA events on the calendar and in the works. Will you join us?

- Dec 17-18: JJ Tate Dressage Clinic, Shannondale Farm, Milton, GA (auditors welcome!)
- Jan 28, 2023: Awards Gala, Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta, GA (*check the rider standings by Nov 15th to make sure we have the scores recorded that need to be recorded! All standings are online at <https://www.gdcta.org/rider-standings>. No changes after Nov 30<sup>th</sup>.*)

GDCTA is working on donations for the Awards Gala silent auction and Barn Basket raffle. Do you have a product or service you would like to donate? Contact Abi Kroupa [abigailkroupa@gmail.com](mailto:abigailkroupa@gmail.com) or me. Event details and a link to the items that have been donated so far can be found on the website: <https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-4839488>.

Are you studying the new tests yet? The USDF dressage tests will be changing to the 2022 tests at shows beginning December 1, 2022.

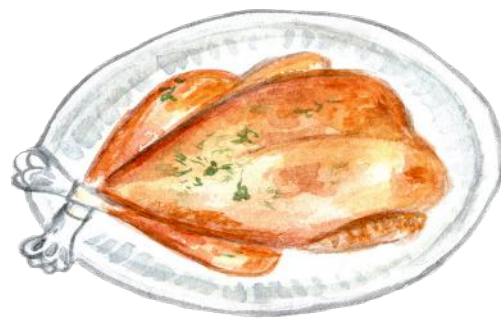
GDCTA membership runs from December 1 through November 30<sup>th</sup>. It's time to renew!

*GDCTA is looking for an enthusiastic Volunteer Coordinator for 2023 (and beyond?) to help develop and maintain relationships with our volunteers. The VC 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. We are offering compensation. Contact me!*

Wishing you a Thanksgiving that brings you abundance and joy.

*Caren*

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







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# Donald & Elizabeth Faso Perpetual Trophy

*sponsored by Lisa Seger Insurance*



This new award will be awarded for distinguished service to Georgia Dressage & Combined Training Association (GDCTA) and service to equestrian sport. Nominations along with a brief reason why the GDCTA member nominee is deserving of the award should be emailed to [admin@gdcta.org](mailto:admin@gdcta.org) by November 30th.

After the cutoff date for nominations closes, the nominees will be reviewed by John and Lisa Seger and a GDCTA board member to determine who will be presented with the award at the Awards Gala.

## **DONALD & ELIZABETH FASO PERPETUAL TROPHY SPONSORED BY LISA SEGER INSURANCE**

Nominations along with a brief reason why the GDCTA member nominee has given distinguished service to GDCTA and service to equestrian sport should be emailed to [admin@gdcta.org](mailto:admin@gdcta.org) by November 30th.





# 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](mailto: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](http://www.gdcta.org).



## *Election results from the 2022 Board of Directions election are official.*

Balancing between members and other stakeholders can often be demanding, but once you've put together the right team, everything is so much easier! A good team works together towards achieving the same goal. The Board and the members all share the common goal of making a dressage and eventing come to life.

## *Welcome to the 2023 GDCTA Board of Directors*

### **Officers**

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

### **New At Large Directors**

Danielle Perry  
Julie Shannon  
Lacey Halstead  
Katie Patton  
Lindsey Burns

### **Returning At Large Directors**

Liz Molloy

Get more involved! GDCTA is growing and looking for more committee chairs and members to help keep things moving along smoothly.

Joining a GDCTA committee is a great way to interact with leaders of the organization, and to have a voice in its future! Committee membership carries with it an obligation to participate actively in committee work through contribution of time, prompt replies to board inquiries and attendance at some meetings. Committee members are chosen as individuals, not as representatives of farms or groups. Personal experience and ability are the most important criteria. To apply to a committee, fill out and submit the volunteer form online. <https://www.gdcta.org/volunteer>



# Characterizing the Exercise Workloads and Energy Needs of Horses

Accurately characterizing a horse's workload is important for balancing their diet and maintaining horse health.

 ARTICLES | UPDATED: JANUARY 17, 2022



Photo credit: Brittani Kirkland, Penn State

The ability to accurately characterize a horse's workload is an important part of management. This allows caretakers to provide enough calories and nutrients to ensure proper body weight and condition in their horses.

Just like humans, horses require energy to power their muscles for movement. Energy is present in all feed; for horses, this includes grain,

hay, and fresh pasture. Feeds with high amounts of fat, starch, and sugar provide the most energy. However, unlike humans, the horse's digestive system also allows it to use a large amount of fiber for energy. Through metabolism, the energy in the feed consumed is converted to energy that can be used for movement. For this to occur, horses will need to be supplied with a certain amount of energy in their diet each day.

So how much energy is needed for horses that exercise? What about horses that are in intense or very heavy exercise compared to horses in light exercise? The National



Research Council (NRC) has answered these questions based on previous equine research. The NRC published *The Nutrient Requirements of The Horse* (2007), which compiles research data and splits exercise workload into four categories (Table 1) which are then used to determine a horse's energy needs.

<b>Exercise Category</b>	<b>Average Heart Rate</b>	<b>Exercise Description</b>	<b>Types of Events</b>
Light	80 beats per minute	1-3 hours per week; 40% walk, 50% trot, 10% canter	Recreational riding Beginning of training programs Show horses (occasional)
Moderate	90 beats per minute	3-5 hours per week; 30% walk, 55% trot, 10% canter, 5% low jumping, cutting or other skill work	School horses Recreational riding Beginning of training/breaking Show horses (frequent) Polo Ranch work
Heavy	110 beats per minute	4-5 hours per week; 20% walk, 50% trot, 15% canter, 15 % gallop, jumping, other skill work	Ranch work Polo Show horses (frequent, strenuous events) Low-medium level eventing Race training (middle stages)
Very	110-115	Varies; ranges from 1 hour per week	Racing (Quarter horse,

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Heavy	beats per minute	speed work to 6-12 hours per week slow work	Thoroughbred, Standardbred, endurance)  Elite 3-day event
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**Table 1** National Research Council- Nutritional Requirements of the Horse (2007)

## Duration, Frequency, and Intensity of Exercise

When characterizing a horse's workload, caretakers need to think about the **duration** (time spent exercising per week), **frequency** (how often a horse is exercised per week), and **intensity** of exercise. The intensity of exercise refers to how hard the horse is working. This can be identified by the time spent at each gait. A horse that gallops for a certain amount of time will expend more energy compared to a horse that walks for the same duration of time; therefore, the exercise would be a higher intensity. Intensity can also be estimated by the horse's average heart rate.

It has been found that there is a relationship between the horse's heart rate and its oxygen uptake. The horse's oxygen uptake refers to the amount of oxygen inhaled by the horse that will then be used to fuel metabolism within their skeletal muscles during exercise. Estimating the oxygen uptake helps researchers estimate how much energy is being expended by the horse during exercise. However, the average person cannot measure how much oxygen is being used by their horse. Observing the horse's heart rate is a more user-friendly way to estimate how much oxygen is being utilized, and thus how much energy is being expended during exercise. As the heart rate increases, more oxygen will be used by the horse to fuel their movement during exercise. The heart rate can be accurately measured using an equine heart rate monitor (Figure 1, 2).

*Liz Faso Memorial VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR  
sponsored by Wilsun Custom Horse Products*



*~Volunteer incentive program for GDCTA Volunteers~*

*(check the events calendar [https://bit.ly/GDCTA\\_Events](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 member with the most hours volunteered at GDCTA events and participating shows*
- 2) \$750.00 to member with the 2nd highest number of hours*
- 3) \$500.00 to member with the 3rd highest number of hours*
- 4) \$250.00 raffle consisting of every volunteer with 24 hrs volunteering*

*This program is running 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!*



# GDCTA is happy to host JJ Tate December 17 and 18 at the beautiful Shannondale Farm in Milton, Georgia

*"With my sights set on representing the United States in world-class competitions, I strive to compete among the best with integrity, harmony, and devotion to the horse's well-being through classical dressage."*

- JJ Tate



PHOTO by RBM Photography  
JJ Tate with mentor Charles de Kunffy

Auditor: Saturday - Full Day – \$50.00

Auditor: Sunday - Full Day – \$50.00

Auditor: Weekend – \$80.00

Auditing includes lunch

## Every Horse & Rider Can Be Their Best

Reaching for ideals is not just for elite riders! Join GDCTA as we bring Jessica Jo "JJ" Tate to Georgia. JJ makes exceptional riding accessible to every horse and every rider under the sun.

## Jessica Jo "JJ" Tate

*I am dedicated to training and teaching under the principles of classical dressage that have been handed down to me by my great teachers. I feel responsible to keep the art of classical equitation alive in today's expanding culture. As I compete successfully, I continue to demonstrate how these principles benefit both horse and rider. I strive every day to be better than the day before, not only as a rider but as a person, continually learning and always striving to be my absolute best.*

## Philosophy

I believe in lightness and harmony. I believe in using true horsemanship to teach a horse to perform because he wants to, not because we make him. I believe in the horse's spirit and in my life, I aim to emulate that quality. In my training, I do my best to never dampen their incredible spirit, but to nurture it. I believe in gymnastically strengthening the horse into becoming greater than what nature intended.

I love horses and will always serve this amazing animal by being a custodian of their wellbeing through using the highest level of horsemanship methods and by promoting classical dressage as I teach and train them.

## TICKETS:

<https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/event-4907719>





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**Figure 2.** Horse wearing an equine heart rate monitor under tack. Photo credit: Erin Orr, Penn State.

Measuring the horse's pulse by hand is not an accurate way to determine the horse's heart rate during exercise. By the time a horse comes to a stop and the rider dismounts to check the pulse, the horse's heart rate has already drastically decreased. Using an equine heart rate monitor can track the horse's heart rate over the entire exercise session and provide an opportunity to calculate the average heart rate. The NRC table provides some general heart rate averages that may be found for each exercise level. The use of an equine heart rate monitor in addition to identifying the frequency and duration of exercise may help to properly estimate a horse's workload.

Once you have determined the duration, frequency, and intensity within a horse's exercise routine, you can use the table created by the NRC to determine if your

horse fits into the **light, moderate, heavy or very heavy exercise category**. This table can direct you in determining your horse's energy needs and how you may need to make nutritional adjustments to meet these requirements.

## Exercise Requires Energy

For each exercise level, the 2007 NRC also provides daily energy requirements. To provide some reference, an adult 1,000-pound horse at an average **maintenance level** (meaning the horse is not in work, pregnant, lactating, or breeding) requires about 17 megacalories (Mcal)/day. Horses within the different exercise categories would then need a certain percent increase in energy being supplied per day through their diet.

- **Light Exercise:** 20% increase above the daily digestible energy maintenance requirement
- **Moderate Exercise:** 40% increase above the daily digestible energy maintenance requirement
- **Heavy Exercise:** 60% increase above the daily digestible energy maintenance requirement
- **Very Heavy Exercise:** 90% increase above the daily digestible energy maintenance requirement

However, it is important to note that there is a lot of individual variation in horses, and a horse may need less or more DE per day. For example, a horse may tend to put on weight more easily due to breed and genetic predisposition, and therefore will need less energy than the NRC requirement to maintain a good body condition. Ponies are an excellent example of equids that tend to be "easy-keepers" and gain weight from very little feed. On the opposite end of the spectrum, some horses may be harder to keep weight on due to breed or temperament and may need more energy than their NRC energy requirements to maintain a good body condition, such as Thoroughbreds. In addition, feed tags usually don't provide energy content, so it can be hard to know exactly how much energy you are feeding. This is why it is important to monitor each horse's individual **body weight and condition** and adjust the diet as needed.

## Conclusion



Overall, providing the accurate amount of energy to a horse per day requires knowledge of the average daily requirement and how this energy requirement changes based on the exercise workload. Furthermore, providing the accurate amount of energy per day will also require caretakers to observe their horses and keep track of their weight or their body condition score. If a horse is in exercise but is beginning to lose weight/condition, then more energy may need to be supplied in the diet. For example, you could top dress the horse's feed with oil or choose a feed that has a high fat percentage. More information on energy sources for horses can be found [in this article](#). If a horse is in exercise but is still gaining weight/condition, then either the diet, exercise schedule, or both need to be adjusted. Working with an equine nutritionist can help caretakers formulate a diet with the appropriate amount of energy for their horse while balancing other essential nutrients.

## Resource:

National Academic Press: [Nutrient Requirements of Horses](#)



*GDCTA proudly congratulates Abbey Dondanville for  
earning the USDF Diamond Achievement Award!  
This is truly elite recognition.  
Way to go, Abbey and Glory!*

### USDF Rider Award - DIAMOND ACHIEVEMENT

- Awarded to all individuals that have:
- Been awarded the USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold medals and
- Been awarded the USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold freestyle bars
- Diamond Achievement recipients:
- Will be identified by USDF as of September 30 each year
- Will be recognized on the USDF website
- Will have their name engraved on a plaque housed at USDF
- Will be mailed a certificate and lapel pin at the end of the competition year



# DRESSAGE

*inside the Sandbox*





# "The Horse on the Bit"

an excerpt from *Dressage Principles Illuminated* by Charles de Kunffy

The following is an excerpt from *Dressage Principles Illuminated*. In this beautifully written and richly illustrated book, Charles de Kunffy advocates for uncompromising devotion to the well-being of horses. This portion is from pages 72-74. Buy the book on his site [www.charlesdekunffy.com/shop](http://www.charlesdekunffy.com/shop) or it is available from Amazon.

## The Horse on the Bit – an Explanation

The "horse on the bit" is an unfortunate expression because it is potentially misleading. Long accepted as part of the classical idiom, however, its use will continue. . .

A definition of the concept includes a horse that is longitudinally flexed by stretching his topline and expanding the spinal column, thereby allowing the energy of his hindquarters to travel unencumbered through his entirety without blocking it by tension in his muscles. A longitudinally stretched horse is, as a by-product, flexed. However, flexion is not sufficient to produce the correct equine movement unless it is part and parcel of stretching the spine by way of stretching the nuchal cord, which is a ligament that spans the horse's length from poll to dock.

Contributory to, as well as resultant of spinal stretching is the horse's ability to flex those muscles that are indispensable to correct locomotion and carriage under the rider's added weight. These muscles interrelate in a complex system of "sympathetic responses," which means that when one of these muscles is flexed, a group of others will join it and also flex. The horse's top neck muscle is one of several muscles participating in a sympathetic response system. Should the rider succeed in flexing that muscle, rather than just flexing the horse at the poll, which is merely a joint with no ability to expand or contract as muscles do, the rest of its sympathetic muscle group will also flex. These include the abdominal muscles that carry the rider's weight and allow continued freedom of articulation of the back muscles (swinging as energy transmits unhindered) and

the muscles in the croup and buttocks that push the stifle joint forward and upward.

The rider can activate the flexion and elasticity of this important sympathetic muscle group by either starting with the relaxation of the horse's neck, sending his neck and head forward and downward, or by sustaining his posture but increasing the activity in the muscles of the haunches, which propel the stifles and ultimately convey the energy of the hocks.

The rider can create the flexing of the horse's top muscles that induce longitudinal flexion and relaxation through stretching, by starting either at the horse front (most suitable for tense and fast horses) or at his haunches (most suitable for lazy, sluggish, weak and, therefore, slow horses). In any case, the rider needs to stretch the horse, not merely flex him, for flexing is possible by a short, tense inhibited horse too. Stretching eradicates tension and forestalls inhibitions of movement and posture.

## 2022 Recipients of USDF Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pins Named

For Immediate Release  
Monday, August 29, 2022

Lexington, KY (August 29, 2022) – The United States Dressage Federation™ (USDF) is pleased to announce the 2022 recipients of USDF Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pins. This program recognizes the accomplishments of youth dressage riders in not only dressage, but also in academics, volunteerism, and equestrian education. Earning their recognition pin was no small task, with each recipient being required to achieve and submit two dressage scores of 60 percent or higher at any level, maintain a 2.5 GPA, record 16 hours of equine-related education, and complete 20 volunteer hours, for each year of enrollment in the program.

This year's recipients are:

**First Year Recipients:** Nielly Quinones (NC), Calista Goddin (NC), Harper Kane (NC), Hayden Kane (NC), Lauren Anderson (PA), Logan Halliwell (CA), Liberty Halliwell (CA), Layla Halliwell (CA), Lexie Halliwell (CA), and Margaret Raffo (NY).

**Second Year Recipients:** Ella Singleton (NC) and Sarah Petersen (CO).

**Fourth Year Recipients:** Riley Schreiber (PA).

**Fifth Year Recipients:** Gabriella Escobar (VA).

**Sixth Year Recipients:** Elizabeth Petersen (CO).

**Seventh Year Recipients:** Tessa Holloran (MA).

For anyone interested in the USDF Youth Dressage Rider Pin Recognition Program, the program year runs July 1-June 30, and pins can be earned in each year of enrollment. Students who are currently enrolled in grades six to twelve of a middle/high school or home school program, and are current USDF Group or Participating Members, are eligible to enroll. For more information about this or other youth programs and offerings, visit the USDF website at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org), e-mail [youth@usdf.org](mailto:youth@usdf.org), or contact us by phone at (859) 971-2277.



GDCTA presents

# JJ Tate Dressage Clinic

December 17-18, 2022

Shannondale Farm  
2395 Birmingham Rd  
Milton, GA

GDCTA.org



## ORGANIZE A GDCTA-RECOGNIZED SCHOOLING SHOW

If you are organizing a schooling show and wish to have it GDCTA Recognized (so riders can use the scores towards our year-end awards), submit the Recognition form. Shows won't be added to our calendars until the Recognition form is received.

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

Recognition details and form:

<https://www.gdcta.org/organize-a-schooling-show>



GDCTA hosted the USDF "L" Program Session C at Shannondale Farm  
October 22-23, 2022









# EVENTING

*3 times the fun*





# US Equestrian Announces the Appointment of Robert Costello as Eventing Technical Advisor and Chef d'Equipe

by US Equestrian Communications Department

**Lexington, Ky.** – US Equestrian (USEF) announces the appointment of Robert (Bobby) Costello as Eventing Technical Advisor/Chef d'Equipe effective today, November 1, 2022.



Costello first became involved in the discipline of Eventing in the 1970s and has enjoyed a successful career as a competitor and coach for over 30 years. Costello and Chevalier competed in the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, earning an individual eighth place. On the sport governance front, Costello has held numerous positions, including chairing the USEF Active Athletes Committee (2001-2008) and the USEF Eventing High Performance Committee (2009-2012). He chaired the USEF Eventing Selection Committee for the Olympic, World, and Pan-American Games from 2013 through the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Most recently, Costello has been serving as the interim USEF Eventing Chef d'Equipe and Team Manager, helping to lead the USEF Land Rover Eventing Team to a Team Silver at the FEI Eventing World Championships in Pratoni, Italy.

"It is an immense honor to be named Technical Advisor/Chef d'Equipe for USEF Eventing," stated Costello. "I've been involved in the sport beginning with my first competition at the age of twelve and have been privileged to wear many different hats within the sport ever since. Being Interim Chef for the last seven months has left me with a clear idea of what is necessary in supporting our athletes in producing more exciting medal-winning performances for the U.S. As we look toward the Paris Olympic Games 20 months from now, I look forward to getting right to work collaborating with our top athletes, owners, grooms, and USEF Staff. I am deeply appreciative of this opportunity."

"It has been an exciting few weeks for me as I transition into the United States Equestrian Federation. The role is a new one for me as it encompasses so many successful disciplines and their international Teams that have medaled repeatedly on the world stage," said Graeme Thom, USEF Director of FEI/HP Sport. "In that light, I am delighted that Bobby will be extending his duties as USEF Eventing Chef d'Equipe and Team Manager with our WEG 2022 Silver Medal Team in Eventing. I have known Bobby for a number of years and was impressed with how he adapted to the interim role and supported our Eventers in Italy. I have no doubt that Bobby will be a constructive and encouraging influence as he begins the next leg of the journey to Paris 2024. I very much look forward to working with him."

"Bobby has demonstrated his ability to lead the US Eventing Elite Team by engaging athletes, coaches, owners, and support personnel, fostering a positive team environment, and ensuring integrity and excellence throughout the program," stated USEF CEO Bill Moroney. "We are pleased to have Bobby on board in this role and look forward to the continued success of our Eventing program."

# The Road to the AECs

By Katharina Huenermann

Arabians and Half-Arabians have been part of my riding career since I've stepped my feet in the stirrups as a teenager. Not only does their beauty, athleticism and versatility have made me fall in love with them, but also their heart, will to perform and please, character, trainability and stamina.

When I've stumbled over Teddy close to 4 years ago, I knew this little Welsh/Arabian cross could take the world by storm, but I never expected for him to turn into the pony of my lifetime. Being my first ever pony, I grew up riding big horses, he quickly turned into my barn favorite. With his doll-like face, his inquisitive nature and his wonderful athleticism and gaits, it was only a matter of the right training and approach to put him on a successful path.

Four years down the road and many blue ribbons later ranging from Young Horse National Champion in Dressage to winning 3 horse trials back-to-back, winning Hunter divisions to even National Titles on the Arabian circuit, I felt our goal of competing at the AECs in Montana was another once in a lifetime highlight to add to our resume.

Everyone knows it takes a village, so with my pit crew in tow - that is my amazing husband and my wonderful mother - we drove nearly 2,300 miles from Atlanta, Georgia to Kalispell, Montana for the 2022 USEA American Eventing Championships (AEC) presented by Nutrena Feeds. And not to miss the main character and reason for this trip, the world's best pony, my beloved 6-year-old Welsh Arabian gelding Targaryen TWF (Winterlake Tristan x CNF Marteenna).

To be able to compete at Rebecca Farm is many horse-people's bucket list item. A world class venue with the jaw dropping mountains as the backdrop. Just an unreal experience to have! Teddy travelled the 46 hours through 9 states amazingly well.

The first day of competition - Dressage - had arrived and I was the most nervous despite it being our strongest phase. But we all know, a great test is the foundation for a place high up in the ranking, otherwise it will not be an easy feat to work your way back up into the top standings.



Teddy kept his all cool and didn't blink twice. While it didn't feel like our best test for me, we had done it. With a 29.7 we ended in 2<sup>nd</sup> place out of 25 rider/horse pairs. What a start to the show weekend! The most exciting and fun part of the competition was here. It was Cross Country Day!

The course was very fair but still had some challenges including two water questions, a corner and a coffin combination. Warm up went amazingly well and Teddy was all game, ready to leave the start box. 3, 2, 1, have a great ride!

Everything else moved far away and that feeling of just him and me out there was an experience I will never forget. While still being somewhat green due to his age and less mileage than our fellow competitors, he felt amazing, strong and confident. Cantering through the finish line, I knew we had nailed also this part of the competition. Teddy had earned lots of hugs, kisses and carrots. We've remained in 2<sup>nd</sup> position till the final phase of Show Jumping the next day.





Sunday morning rolled around, and my nerves were once again tight. Although with nothing to lose, you always hope for the best. The warmup went well once again. Then it was time to show up for the final phase. With lots of colored jumps and optional questions, it was for sure a Championship course. Approaching the first jump Teddy was a bit hesitant, but with a good reassurance on my end he knew to keep it together for the next 90 seconds. The rest of the course went stellar. He even sailed through the 2-stride combination with one “big horse” canter stride to match the perfect distance. We had done it! We were Reserve National Champions out of 25 horse/rider pairs. What a surreal moment!

With a second-place finish in the USEA Beginner Novice Rider division, I have left the arena aboard my “Teddy” with a memory of a lifetime. It was the perfect conclusion to a special partnership as I handed off the reins to Teddy’s new owner, my dear friend and Bozeman, Montana resident Jodie Knox, not without shedding a few tears and wrapping her in a warm embrace. It for sure was a bittersweet moment, but Teddy’s time had come to bring as much joy and success to someone else, as I have two more young horses coming up that deserve my time as well. What a better way to see him go to a dear and trusting friend. She’s super excited to take over the reins and him her new unicorn.



While adding another decorative finish to Teddy’s resume, I also celebrated yet another successful equine adventure with my dear mom, who flew in from Germany to show her continued support for my involvement in this sport.

This sentiment was evident in the arena as we took our victory lap, claiming four first-place finishes and this epic second-place finish all within a two-year timeframe. Horses may come and go, especially when they are ready to give another rider the joy of a good ride, but one thing that will remain the same is the evergreen and everlasting relationship with my mother.

# GDCTA BUSINESS

*a glimpse behind the curtain*



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

To find events online, go to [https://bit.ly/GDCTA\\_Events](https://bit.ly/GDCTA_Events)

## GDCTA Clinics & Symposiums

- **Dec 17-18**  
JJ Tate      Alpharetta, GA      Caren Caverly      [ccaverly@comcast.net](mailto:ccaverly@comcast.net)
- **Jan 28, 2023**  
Awards Gala      Alpharetta, GA      Caren Caverly      ccaverly@comcast.net

## GDCTA HORSE SHOWS

The 2022 show season is a wrap! 2023 will begin with the Spring Fling Schooling show in April. See you then!

## 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

Nov 5	The Farm at Five Points Show Series	Cartersville, GA	Aly Rattazzi	fivepointsshows@gmail.com
Nov 19	Honeysuckle Hills Farm/LEAF	Gainesville, GA	Dana Ferguson	allfergs2@yahoo.com
Nov 19	Poplar Place Farm	Hamilton, GA	Launa Des Portes	Launa@poplarplacefarm.com
Dec 3-4	Southeast Schooling Show Championships	Fairburn, GA	Penny Morse	info@chatthillseventing.com

## ORGANIZE A GDCTA SCHOOLING SHOW

If you are organizing a schooling show and wish to have it GDCTA Recognized (so riders can use the scores towards our year-end awards), **submit the Recognition form**. Shows won't be added to our calendars until the Recognition form is received.

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

Recognition details: <https://www.gdcta.org/organize-a-schooling-show>

# GDCTA Board 2022

## 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 – 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](mailto:designonpenny@yahoo.com) and [webmaster@gdcta.org](mailto: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  
September 19, 2022

President Caren Caverly called the membership meeting of the GDCTA to order on September 19, 2022, at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

Secretary, Ashley Boyd, performed a roll call. A quorum of the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse, Ashley Boyd, Peter West, Liz Molloy, Nicole Andrews Kees, Julie Shannon, Jen Scherrens, and Danielle Perry were present. The minutes of the regular meeting August 15, 2022, were emailed to board members prior to the meeting. Julie motioned to approve the minutes, and Joanne seconded, and the motion was passed by the board.

## BOARD REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report**, (Peter): The August schooling show was a slight loss (about \$1,800) but not bad since August is a slower month for membership, etc.

**VP Dressage Report**, (Abigail): No report

**VP Combined Training**, (Joanne): No report

**Membership Report**, (Mary Lou): Looking good at 817 members, up from this time last year.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Communication**, (Joanne): June sent email with link for September newsletter. It had a lot of stuff about championships and the new Ground Poles Up series that has been started. Next month will have a write up about AECs trek. Everybody who is running for the board should send new bios and picture by the 10th of October to June.

- **Show Committee**, (Julie): Labor Day Dressage Classic I & II show was up 30% from last year. Gearing up for Regionals now. We exceeded the goal of 400 entries for regionals. Emily reports that 75% of spots are filled for volunteers for Regionals. Mostly we need people for the week before to help with bag stuffing and setting up arenas.

- **Education**, (Julie): One more "L" program in October and JJ Tate clinic in December.

- **Nominating Committee**, (Janie, Nicole): 3 people for board positions. A few people are still on the fence.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **Email Blast**, (Caren): Regionals, Schooling and Recognized year end rider standings need to be confirmed by people

## NEW BUSINESS

- **New members for October** – Julie Shannon

- **Trailers**, (Caren): Need new trailer, current one is too top heavy. Discussion regarding trailer needs. Julie motioned to buy two 8 X 20 ft trailers and the shoe trailer 7 X 14 ft. Jen seconded. Discussion regarding time frame to acquire them and if used is ok. Board passed motion. Caren abstained.

- Convention in Lexington KY for Dressage and Savannah for Eventing.

7:36 PM Liz made the motion to adjourn and Jen seconded. Board Approved.

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

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

[webmaster@gdcta.org](mailto:webmaster@gdcta.org)

Ad space is limited. Scheduled ads are due by the 5th of the month prior to publication. Information about advertising is also available online at:

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

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

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



# Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association

Regular meeting  
October 17, 2022

President Caren Caverly called the membership meeting of the GDCTA to order on October 17, 2022, at 7:00 pm in Zoom.

Secretary, Ashley Boyd, performed a roll call. A quorum of the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Abi Kroupa, Joanne Morse, Ashley Boyd, Carol Tresan, Peter West, Liz Molloy, Nicole Andrews Kees, Jen Scherrens, Julie Hannon and Janie Pride were present. Guests Lindsey Burns and Emily Day were also present. The minutes of the regular meeting September 19, 2022, were emailed to board members prior to the meeting. Joanne motioned to approve the minutes, and Carol seconded, and the motion was passed by the board.

## BOARD REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report**, (Peter): September was a good month with the Labor Day Dressage show making a profit of about \$8,000 so just under \$7,000 for the month. Looking at about \$40,000 profit from Regionals.

**P Dressage Report**, (Abigail): "L" Program Session C is coming up this weekend. Hoping to get a few more auditors.

**P Combined Training**, (Joanne): No report

**Membership Report**, (Mary Lou): Has slowed down a little bit but still up in members.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Communication**, (Joanne): Newsletter just went out and ballots went out today. Encourage everyone to vote. An eblast is going out tomorrow.

**Show Committee**, (Julie): Regionals was large with 12 entries using 530 stalls. We had a ton of vendors, and the parties went well. Volunteers went well thanks to Emily Day, the show volunteer coordinator. Next year there will be only two schooling show and two recognized show weekends. Still need to look at the weekend at the GA Horse Park and what we need to do to keep the date. We can't have championship classes sponsored but could have arenas or levels.

- **Education**, (Julie): L program this weekend. JJ Tate and we have 33 riders who have put their names in for Dec 17-18. We have put in for next year with Jeremy.
- **Finance**, (Peter) - nothing to report
- **Youth Program**, (Joanne) - Updated letterman program application form. The Eventing new youth championship and we have one member who made the 1-star and 2-star team. Joanne motioned for her to get one travel grant for Young Rider Eventing Championships for the qualified rider. Jen seconded the motion and the board approved.
- **Awards**, (Janie) - Grant will be starting again soon.
- **Nominating Committee**, (Janie, Nicole): 3 people for board positions. A few people are still on the fence.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **Email Blast**, (Caren): Tomorrow will have to start checking schooling awards. Joanne will do USEA and Caren will do USDF.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **New members for October** – Danielle Perry
- **Trailers**, (Caren): We did purchase a new trailer and used it for Regionals. There was extra room after packing it up. The other trailer is at Julie's and needs to be advertised to sell.
- **Gala**, (Caren): We are behind on planning right now. We need two co-chairs for silent auction. Jen will chair the Baskets. Julie and Abi are Co-Chairing silent auction. Each board member needs to get at least two silent auction items. January 28 and it is mandatory for everyone on Board to attend. Lindsey will do the slide show.

Jen made the motion to adjourn and Julie seconded.  
Board Approved.

Next meeting:  
December at 7:00 PM Sharp

Holiday Fun! There will be an Ugly Sweater Contest while we sip our favorite beverage and munch seasonal snacks!

Contact Caren Caverly at [ccaverly@comcast.net](mailto:ccaverly@comcast.net) to be included in the Zoom invitation.

# Thank you for you

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

Abby Cameron Taylor  
Abigail Puthoff  
Allison Creek Farm & Services  
Amanda Moretz Bodywork  
Amber Cavalier Splier  
Amy Hoffield  
Ann Caverly  
Anne Margaret Meyers  
Annie's Equestrian Apparel  
Ashley Marascalco  
Atlanta Dressage  
Atlanta Marriott Alpharetta  
Atlanta Saddlery  
Atlanta Youth Dressage Challenge  
Barbara Johnson  
Becky Aukamp  
Bella Medspa - Alethea Tinkle  
Betty Smith  
Boisset Collection  
Brad Thatcher  
Bradford Renaissance Portraits  
Browbands with Bling  
Caitlyn Brennan  
Cara McNamee, DVM  
Cardinal Crest Farm –  
Chandilyn Wicker  
Caren Caverly  
Carrie Penley Art  
Caryl Berzack  
Cavali Club  
Cavali Club by Corro - Carly Prosser  
Chanda Smith  
Charlotte Detienne Photography  
Chattahoochee Hills Eventing  
Cherokee Feed and Seed  
Cheryl Williams  
Chip Caverly  
Christi Meyers  
Christine Murray, DVM  
Chronicle of the Horse Magazine  
Cindy Thaxton  
Close Enough Farm  
CornerStone Equestrian  
Courtney Cook  
CU at X Tack  
Dancing Horse Barn Signs - K Czarick  
David Erdek Photography  
Dawn Johnson

Deniro Boots  
Devon Fowler  
Diana Salzmänn  
Dolly Woodruff Kennedy  
EasyCare, Inc.  
Elizabeth Samoluk Fine Art LLC  
Elizabeth Vaughn  
Elleene Morgan  
Equus Optimus Training Center  
Erudite Equestrian - Abi Kroupa  
European Horse Tack  
FarmVet  
Finish Line Horse Products  
Fowler's Jockey Supply  
Foxberry Farm  
Free Form Farm  
French Light Dressage  
Frog Catcher Farm  
Georgia Sport Horses  
Gillespie's Peanuts - Nancy Roger  
Glenn Mitchell  
Go With It Farm  
Golden Shield Business Brokers  
Grace Stables  
Great American Insurance Group  
GumBits  
Happy Horse - Jim Biggs  
Harmony Grove Farm  
Harmony Saddle Fitting - Nancy Bardy  
HGF Equestrian  
High Point Farm  
High Time Photography  
HKM Sports Equipment  
Holland Portraits  
Horse&Country TV  
Horseplay Photography  
HorseTech  
Iron Horse  
Janie Pride  
Jennifer Melcher, DVM  
Joseph, Amber & Olivia Martinez  
Julie Ballard Haralson  
Julie Norman  
June Brewer  
K & L Ribbons  
Karen Lipp  
Katharine McQueen  
Katherine Wallace

Kayce Redmond  
Kelli Agnew  
Kelly Herd Jewelry  
Kelly Karson  
Kim Keffer  
Kimberly Schisler Sosebee  
Kris Pinto  
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  
Lumiere Dressage  
Luther Ranch  
Malin Eriksson  
MangoBay Design  
Mare Modern Goods  
Mark Hook  
Market Street Promotions  
Mary Lou Freil  
Meg McGuire Photography  
Melody Moore Jackson  
Michelle Klymko & Whiskey  
Mirrors for Training USA  
Moore Equine Massage & Bodywork  
Mrs. Pastures Cookies  
Nancy Ginn  
Nancy Thrasher  
Nutrena  
Oakleigh Equine Body Work  
Optimus Equine Feed  
Pagan Gilman - LSI  
Pat Borders  
Patricia Powell  
Platinum Performance  
Poplar Place Farm  
Rebecca Bowman  
Renee Miller



# our generous gifts!

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Seminole Feed  
Seth Deitchman, Morgan Stanley  
Shannon Klepper  
Shannondale Farm  
Silent Hawk PEMF  
SmartPak  
Smoky Mountain Dressage Assn –  
Donna Richardson  
Soul Passion Farm  
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Susan Easton Burns  
Susan Tammy Pearson  
Sydney Lee  
Tempi Design Studio  
Terre Davies  
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The Dressage Foundation  
The Drew Boot  
The Farm at Five Points - Aly Rattazzi  
The Fluff Method  
The Kroupa Team Real Estate  
The Mane Monogram  
The Metallic Horse  
The Riding School - Laura Casey  
ThinLine  
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Tin Roof Equestrian LLC - Carol Glover  
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Topline LLC - Sarah Southern  
Triple Crown Feed  
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Unlimited Dressage  
USDF  
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Whole Horse Saddle Fit - Lacey Halstead  
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GOAT—Greatest Of All Time

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

*GDCFA Members' Businesses*



# 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.

## APP

Competitor Tent  
[apps.apple.com/us/app/competitor-tent/id1466954851](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/competitor-tent/id1466954851)

## ART & PHOTO

Susan Burns  
404-731-7071  
[ebdesign@mindspring.com](mailto:ebdesign@mindspring.com)  
[horsepaintingsbysue.com](http://horsepaintingsbysue.com)

Kathy Duke  
404-433-0919  
[ktdukeartist@yahoo.com](mailto:ktdukeartist@yahoo.com)  
[KTDukeArtist.com](http://KTDukeArtist.com)

Meg McGuire  
973-96-5256  
[megm.photos@gmail.com](mailto:megm.photos@gmail.com)  
[meg-mcguire.com](http://meg-mcguire.com)

Ulla Strickland  
404-388-4097  
[ulla\\_str@hotmail.com](mailto:ulla_str@hotmail.com)  
[ullastricklandstudios.com](http://ullastricklandstudios.com)

## ATTORNEYS

Janice Ballard  
205-516-9052  
[janice@fullcirclehorsepark.com](mailto:janice@fullcirclehorsepark.com)  
[fullcirclehorsepark.com](http://fullcirclehorsepark.com)

Richard Jones  
770-396-7189

## BOARDING

Kim Abernathy  
770-778-4067  
[kimfoxberry@gmail.com](mailto:kimfoxberry@gmail.com)  
[Foxberry-farm.com](http://Foxberry-farm.com)

Janice Ballard  
205-516-9052  
[janice@fullcirclehorsepark.com](mailto:janice@fullcirclehorsepark.com)

Sharon Cannon  
423-829-6829  
[skycannon@comcast.net](mailto:skycannon@comcast.net)

Sandra Carnet  
770-654-3934  
[scarnet@carnetstudio.com](mailto:scarnet@carnetstudio.com)  
[oxerfarm.com](http://oxerfarm.com)

Evie Dinkins  
678-488-4122  
[eviedinkins@gmail.com](mailto:eviedinkins@gmail.com)  
[silverliningstables.com](http://silverliningstables.com)

Amanda Garner  
404-245-6688  
[amanda@epiphany-farm.com](mailto:amanda@epiphany-farm.com)  
[epiphany-farm.com](http://epiphany-farm.com)

Lee Ann Gilson  
678-873-8785  
[hrsecrz@gmail.com](mailto:hrsecrz@gmail.com)  
[inunisonfarm.com](http://inunisonfarm.com)

Penny Morse  
Harmony Grove Farm  
770-328-3801  
[harmonygrovefarm@yahoo.com](mailto:harmonygrovefarm@yahoo.com)

Anneliese Vogt-Harber  
404-218-2550  
[avharber@comcast.net](mailto:avharber@comcast.net)  
[vogtridingacademy.com](http://vogtridingacademy.com)

## BREEDING

Cristina Franco  
404-259-004  
[francocourts@aol.com](mailto:francocourts@aol.com)

Julie Ballard Haralson  
770-301-3444  
[juliebh@mindspring.com](mailto:juliebh@mindspring.com)  
[haralsonfarm.com](http://haralsonfarm.com)

Maggie Sjoberg  
706-789-2616  
[mmenagerie@yahoo.com](mailto:mmenagerie@yahoo.com)  
[maggiesmenagerie.net](http://maggiesmenagerie.net)

## EDUCATION & CLINICS

Ann Genovese  
404-289-9328  
[goodhorseman@att.net](mailto:goodhorseman@att.net)  
[goodhorseman.org](http://goodhorseman.org)

Jean Corbett Fowler  
869-895-8869  
[jean@fowlerprop.com](mailto:jean@fowlerprop.com)  
[goneawayfarm.com](http://goneawayfarm.com)

Karen McGoldrick  
770-856-1426  
[piaffe@bellsouth.net](mailto:piaffe@bellsouth.net)

## EMBROIDERY

Stephanie Meek  
678-203-5290  
[stephanie@luckybluedesigns.com](mailto:stephanie@luckybluedesigns.com)  
[luckybluedesigns.com](http://luckybluedesigns.com)

# GDCTA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## EQUINE INSURANCE

Pagan Gilman 770-283-7344 pagan@lisasegerinsurance.com lisasegerinsurance.com	Lisa Seger 770-356-8674 lisa@lisasegerinsurance.com lisasegerinsurance.com
--	---

## GRAPHIC DESIGNS

Ainsley Jacobs  
267-738-2134  
ainsley.e.jacobs@gmail.com  
rideheelsdown.com

## HORSE SALES

Jean Corbett Fowler 869-895-8869 jean@fowlerprop.com goneawayfarm.com	Julie Ballard Haralson 770-301-3444 juliebh@mindspring.com haralsonfarm.com
--	--

## MARKETING

June Brewer  
678-677-4404  
horseprint@aol.com

## REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Cristina Franco 404-259-004 francocourts@aol.com	Todd Kroupa 770-910-4860 KroupaTeam.com Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Georgia Properties
--	---

## SHOW FACILITIES

Kim Abernathy 770-778-4067 kimfoxberry@gmail.com Foxberry-farm.com	Janice Ballard 205-516-9052 janice@fullcirclehorsepark.com Fullcirclehorsepark.com	Marian Bickers 678-640-5409 mcbjumper@gmail.com Cornerstone Equestrian
Anna Bosworth 423-653-1236 abosworth88@gmail.com Le Bonheur	Lucy Calhoun 770-842-4176 lucy@ashlandfarm.com Ashlandfarm.com	Sandra Carnet 770-654-3934 scarnet@carnetstudio.com Oxerfarm.com
Launa DesPortes 706-681-8748 show@poplarplacefarm.com Poplarplacefarm.com	Dana Ferguson 770-519-0158 allfergs2@yahoo.com lanierequestrian.org	Hugh Lochore 770-892-2117 info@chatthillseventing.com ChattHillsEventing.com
Spring Milbourn northatlantaequestrian@gmail.com NorthAtlantaEquestrian.com	Liz Molloy 770-634-4089 misslizz@taramiaridingschool.com AYDC	Miriam Offermanns 828-506-6876 miriam.lemnouni@gmail.com BellaRose
Caroline Templeton 706-207-6055 bigcheeseeventing@gmail.com Big Cheese Shows		

## SHOW SERVICES

Beverly Bowman 770-314-3413 bev.bowman@comcast.net "L"	Louise Caccese 805-451-0054 louiseccacese@yahoo.com	Caren Caverly 770-713-4025 ccaverly@comcast.net show management
---	---	--



# GDCTA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## SHOW SERVICES

Sally Crews  
770-773-7190  
crews428@bellsouth.net  
"L"

Mary Lou Freil  
770-330-2489  
maryloufreil@gmail.com  
dressagesolutions.com

Ann Genovese  
404-289-9328  
goodhorseman@att.net  
goodhorseman.org

Robert Higgins  
407-497-4594  
roberthiggins1@me.com

Elizabeth Kane  
404-402-6994  
ehkane@gmail.com

Susanne Lauda  
770-265-4356  
susanne\_lauda@hotmail.com  
"r"

Jodi Lees  
864-921-1059  
jodi@riversedgefarms.com  
riversedgefarms.com

Leslie O'Neal-Olsen  
770-826-9777  
olsenleslie@yahoo.com  
"R"

Valerie Swygert  
803-215-1201  
valerie@jasminefarm.com  
jasminefarm.com

## SPECIAL EVENTS FACILITIES

Launa DesPortes  
706-681-8748  
show@poplarplacefarm.com  
Poplarplacefarm.com

Hugh Lochore  
770-892-2117  
lanierequestrian.org  
ChattHillsEventing.com

## TACK & EQUIPMENT

Atlanta Saddlery  
770-475-1967  
atlantasaddlery.com

Dover Saddlery  
770-777-1952  
alpharetta@dovesaddlery.com  
doversaddlery.com

Holly Spencer  
803-648-8910  
hollymacspencer@aol.com

Wilsun Custom Blanket  
770-558-1679  
info@wilsuncustomhorseblankets.com  
wilsuncustomhorseblankets.com

## THERAPY

**ACUPUNCTURE**  
Jennifer Melcher  
770-652-4926  
equinemedicalassociates@hotmail.com

**CHIROPRACTIC**  
Holly Breaux  
770-713-6747  
hbreauxdvm@gmail.com  
hbreauxdvm.com

**MASSAGE**  
Amanda Moretz  
404-645-4469  
Amandamoretzbodywork@gmail.com  
amandamoretzbodywork.com

**PEMF**  
Peri Lambros  
678-372-4105  
silenthawkpemf@gmail.com

## TRAINING & INSTRUCTION

Kim Abernathy  
770-778-4067  
kimfoxberry@gmail.com  
Foxyberry-farm.com

Samantha Bielawski  
770-375-5365  
sam.silbyfram@gmail.com

Julie Burns-Richards  
404-401-5600  
jlbrichards@hotmail.com

Mary Bess Davis  
706-338-7583  
mb@triplecreekeventing.com  
triplecreekeventing.com

Amanda Garner  
404-245-6688  
amanda@epiphany-farm.com  
epiphany-farm.com

Marjolein Geven  
706-570-2323  
wgeven@hotmail.com

# GDCTA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## TRAINING & INSTRUCTION

Werner Geven  
706-570-2323  
wgeven@hotmail.com

Michelle Gibson  
678-575-7801

Barbara Handley  
770-886-7575  
blueghost43@icloud.com

Carla Jimmerson  
404-421-0509  
carlajimmerson@hotmail.com

Mikensesy Johansen  
706-587-1353  
ltmikmed77@yahoo.com

Brittany Kart  
229-938-1854  
bkeventing@hotmail.com  
bkeventing.com

Abigail Kroupa  
561-284-3228  
abigailkroupa@gmail.com  
www.EruditeEquestrian.com

Jodi Lees  
864-921-1059  
jodi@riversedgefarms.com  
riversedgefarms.com

Leah Marks  
678-641-3162  
piaffe.paint@gmail.com

Halliea Milner  
404-538-5113  
halliea@gowithitfarm.com  
gowithitfarm.com

Joanne Morse  
770-313-6283  
joannemorse1@yahoo.com

Miriam Offermanns  
828-506-6876  
miriam.lemnoui@gmail.com

Leslie O'Neal-Olsen  
770-826-9777  
olsenleslie@yahoo.com

Wolfgang Scherzer  
wolfszr101@gmail.com

Julie Shannon  
770-317-3336  
julie@shannondale.com  
shannondale.com

Diane Smith  
678-591-3932  
tripleseventing@att.net

Mary McGuire Smith  
772-473-0528  
mary@iride.at  
iride.at

Kim Schisler Sosebee  
678-575-5872  
schislerkimberly@gmail.com

Valerie Swygert  
803-215-1201  
valerie@jasminefarm.com  
jasminefarm.com

Anneliese Vogt-Harber  
404-218-2550  
avharber@comcast.net  
vogtridingacademy.com

## VET SERVICES

Holly Breaux  
770-713-6747  
hbreauxdvm@gmail.com  
hbreauxdvm.com

Diane Dunn  
678-939-1269  
ddunndpmv@gmail.com

Jennifer Melcher  
770-652-4926  
equinemedicalassociates@hotmail.com

Thompson & Associated Equine Medicine  
770-862-9166  
taembilling@gmail.com

## VIDEOGRAPHERS

Richard Taylor  
404-308-8713  
richardsequinevideo@gmail.com  
richardsequinevideo.com

## WEBSITE DESIGN

Ainsley Jacobs  
267-738-2134  
ainsley.e.jacobs@gmail.com  
rideheelsdown.com

Mary Lou Freil  
770-330-2489  
maryloufreil@gmail.com  
dressagesolutions.com