

# COLLECTIVE REMARKS



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**THE HDS  
DIGITAL NEWSLETTER**

## 2024 Schooling Show Championship Results

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR CHAMPION AND RESERVE CHAMPION RIDERS

### SPONSORED BY BAIRD

#### Introductory Level Junior Championship

Champion - Avery Aswad on Four Leaf Clover

Reserve Champion - Audrey Salizar on Smokes Jose Una

#### Introductory Level Amateur Championship

Champion - Claudia Acemyan on Adhemar

Reserve Champion - Megan Diba on Yer a Wizard Harry

#### Introductory Level Open Championship

Champion – Brooke Joya on Silver Prince

Reserve Champion – Crystal Kwast on Jamison

#### Training Level Junior Championship

Champion – Sophie Thom on Colonel's Silver Gun

Reserve Champion – Aubrey Welch on Worth Every Penny

#### Training Level Amateur Championship

Champion – Grace Atkins on No Stranger To The Rain

Reserve Champion – Ashlea Reneau on Nirvana

#### Training Level Open Championship

Champion - Jayne Lloyd on Carrera

Reserve Champion – Gia Long on Roseridge Harlequin's Joy

#### First Level Junior Championship

Champion – Madelyn Yi on Cartwheel Toccata

Reserve Champion – Anya Andre on Alejandra

#### First Level Amateur Championship

Champion – Dawn Morris on Kesem Adir

Reserve Champion – Amanda Myres on Zeus TCF

#### First Level Pony Championship

Champion – Jackie Ericken on Devon Ridge Indira

#### First Level Open Championship

Champion – Jayne Lloyd on Carrera

Reserve Champion – Sandy Venneman on Favory Vi Adelena

#### Second Level Open Championship

Champion - Sandy Venneman on Favory Vi Adelena

Reserve Champion - Jayne Lloyd on Finalia

#### Second Level Pony Championship

Champion - Madelyn Yi on Cartwheel Toccata

#### Third Level Amateur Championship

Champion – Julie McAllister on Urielo Du Houx

Reserve Champion – Sarah Falk on Amorosa

#### Third Level Open Championship

Champion – Jayne Lloyd on Finalia

#### Dressage Equitation Junior Championship

Champion – Lauren Cordell on Lucky in Love

#### Prix Caprilli Amateur Championship

Champion - Maureen Meyer on Rum N Shine

#### WDAA Intro Junior Championship

Champion – Avery Aswad on Four Leaf Clover

#### WDAA Intro Amateur Championship

Champion – Nichole Franklin on RGM Wild Splash of Luxury

Reserve Champion – Valerie Poulter on Sunny San Boon

#### WDAA Basic Junior Championship

Champion - Aubrey Welch on Worth Every Penny

Reserve Champion – Harper Utay on The Chocolate Factory

#### WDAA Basic Amateur Championship

Champion – Deedee Hutcherson on Too Cute For Cowboys

#### WDAA Level 1 Amateur Championship

Champion – Macie Long on Jasmine Tucker

Reserve Champion – Doris McDonald on Sonnet Precious

#### WDAA Level 1 Open Championship

Champion – Michelle Frank on Hello to Glory

#### WDAA Level 2-5 Amateur Championship

Champion – Courtney MacDonald on Sans Golden Son

Reserve Champion - Macie Long on Jasmine Tucker

#### WDAA Level 2-5 Open Championship

Champion – Becky Nesbitt on Magnums Finest Chic

Reserve Champion – Becky Nesbitt on Magnums Finest Chic

#### USEA Green as Grass Junior Championship

Champion – Abigail Connelly on RH Isabella

#### USEA Green as Grass Amateur Championship

Champion – Anna Evans on War Glory

#### USEA Starter Junior Championship

Champion – Milana Nefedova on LiL Wayne

#### USEA Starter Amateur Championship

Champion – Grace Atkins on You N Me Too

Reserve Champion – Megan Diba on Yer A Wizard Harry

#### USEA Beginner Novice Junior Championship

Champion – Shelby Owen on GTB Felix Felicis

Reserve Champion – Sophie Thom on Colonel's Silver Gun

#### USEA Beginner Novice Amateur Championship

Champion - Grace Atkins on No Stranger To The Rain

Reserve Champion – Jennifer Owens on Bad as Bandini

#### USEA Novice-Prelim Junior Championship

Champion - Shelby Owen on GTB Felix Felicis

#### USEA Novice-Prelim Amateur Championship

Champion - Jennifer Owens on Bad as Bandini

# Houston Dressage Society Board Meeting

## Meeting Agenda

### December 9, 2024

-2-

7:04 PM Call to order and intro of guests

In attendance: Simone, Jody, Sarah, Jane, Fran, Noell, Dawn, Angel, Cate, Diane

7:02 PM Review and Approval of minutes from last meeting

7:05 PM President's Message and 2025 Priorities

- Need to figure out who is HDS? Who is our membership? Our value add to each of the populations is very different – AA, Open, Jr/YR

Need to address HDS bylaws, We need to update them, Jody will circulate bylaws, Need to look at chair positions, need recognized show vice chair  
Would like comments back by January 15, February board meeting, we can take a board vote for bylaws, Open comment on bylaws, one month comment period – until mid-March, Special/Open board meeting to allow membership to attend and comment on revamped bylaws.

- Educational Initiatives:
- L Program, coming up what can education assist with?

Maybe a scribe seminar/program – maybe we can get the L Program to judge and do a scribe class

- Pay for volunteers?
- Raise some fees, add some fees Maybe send a 'statement' of Volunteer HDS bucks amount for volunteering
- \$13000 in volunteer expenses YTD, Paid positions not eligible for YEA

Putting the information/suggestions out there because THIS NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED

7:25 PM Board Reports

7:25 PM Treasurer's Report – Terry

- Calendar year to date, in the negative
- Do not have all expenses yet for schooling show championships Schooling Show Champs may be in the black once all bills come through
- January show/Insurance expense in February
- Raised class fees by \$5 due to expenses increase
- Getting ready to 1099s

7:40 PM Recognized Shows – Angel

- January Show Outstanding Items
- Kathy run freestyle music
- We will have L Program

Jane/Angel set up room for banquet – how do we want to present the awards/posters/easels, etc...schooling show champs/recognized show champs  
Maybe plaques for awards – champion prizes & reserve prizes, schooling show champion/reserve

- Ordering ribbons for next year

7:50 PM Special Events – Ashley

- January Show Awards Banquet
- Holiday menu/price for food for awards banquet Taco bar people? Need their information forwarded to Ashley! 100 people for food
- Comp the volunteers, winners, but families have to pay to attend
- Classes of opportunity – don't prohibit classes of opportunity when cross entry into HDS classes – count towards HDS Schooling Show

8:00 PM Schooling Shows – Dawn Morris

- Schooling Show Championships, 3 rings, Had to cap entries
- Went well, heard lots of good things!. Pretty well attended – approximately 113 participants – 196 rides
- The UDJC will not be qualifying for HDS schooling shows/schooling show champs HDS sponsored SS– several of the shows cancelled this year
- Do horses have to be registered to go into Championship classes?
- 

8:10 PM Publications and Media – Fran and Flo

- Needs pictures for newsletter of SS Champs

8:20 PM Juniors – Cate Schmidt

- Jr talks on Saturday – Cate attended for convention. Looking into other GMOs and ask what they can come up with to get Jrs involved

8:30 PM Education – Sarah

- Twinwood is fully hosting – May 17 th ??? Who is paying Ally Brock? Title sponsor found for event. Yes, insurance needed
- Convention – will work on a write up and email

8:40 PM Historian – Noell

- Spoke with CPA about document retention – 7 YRS recommended for IRS, 10 YRS for 501 C3 is recommended

8:45 PM Advertising/Sponsorships – Jane

- Sarah Cuddy – very happy with the show on Saturday, wants to participate in other shows in 2025
- Trying to get Antonio & group to annual sponsorship, Dover gave prizes for Championships, Laura Saddlery, D & D feed store in Tomball Spring Creek we get trade items for Championships

8:50 PM Membership – Diane

- We are already ahead of where we were last year. 179 members, 110 AA, 42 O, 27 Y, 15 NEW

9:10 PM New Business

- Convention Update (Sarah and Jody). **9:20 PM Adjourn. Angel -motion to close, Jane 2nd – adjourned 9:15**

# Success at the HDS (sponsored by Baird) Schooling Show Championships

Reported by: Dawn Morris, HDS Schooling Show Chair

HDS hosted another successful End-Of-Year Championship Schooling Show on December 7<sup>th</sup>. While the weather was slightly nippy, it helped with the festive atmosphere. The GSWEAC was decorated with jolly holiday decorations and many of the riders participated by dressing up their horses and themselves in creative and fun holiday costumes. A total of 113 riders performed 196 rides in 3 separate arenas as part of 74 different classes in front of 4 different judges. Ribbons abounded as 32 champions, 19 reserve champions, and an abundance of other ribbons were awarded. All those pinned in the championship classes got to "Strut Their Stuff" as part of two separate award ceremonies. The scores from the open portion of the show will count towards the new schooling show season. Remember to check the website regularly to keep abreast of our exciting new schooling show season. And as always, a huge thank you to our show management and all the volunteers without whose help we could not make this possible. A good time was had by all.



On another note, HDS 2024 Schooling Award winners have been notified by email. Awards will be presented at the banquet held on January 18th as part of the January recognized show at GSWEAC.

### USEA Starter Junior Championship

Champion – Milana Nefedova on LiL Wayne



### First Level Amateur Championship

Reserve Champion – Amanda Myres on Zeus TCF



### First Level Amateur Championship

Champion – Dawn Morris on Kesem Adir

# Baird Schooling Show Winners!

Jayne Lloyd & Carrera/Tr  
& 1st Lev Champ



Jane Lloyd & Finalia/ 2nd Lev  
Res Ch Open & 3rd Lev Ch Open  
with owner Janice Nath



Michelle Frank & Hello to Glory  
Western Dressage 1st Lev Open &  
Western High Point

Sophie Thom & Col Silver Gun  
Tr Jr Ch & USEA Beg Nov Jr Ch



Brooke Joya & Silver Prince  
Intro Open Champion

Madelyn Yi & Cartwheel  
Toccata/1st Lev Jr Ch/2nd Lev  
Pony Ch

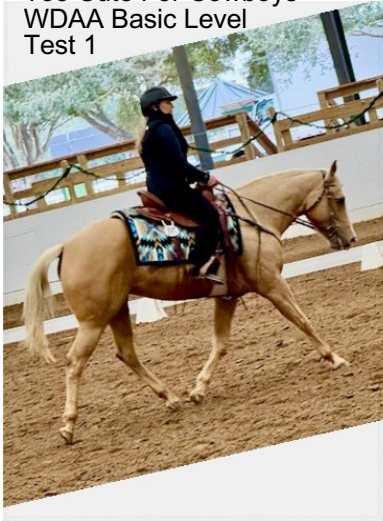


Aubrey Welch & Worth Every Penny  
Training Lev Jr Res Ch & WDAA  
Basic Jr Ch



# More Baird Schooling Show Winners

Dee Dee Hutcherson on Too Cute For Cowboys WDAA Basic Level Test 1



Megan Diba w/Yer A Wizard Harry/ Intro Ama & USEA Starter Div Res Champs



Harper Utay on The Chocolate Factory Wester Basic Jr Res



Sandy Venneman on 907 Favory VI 2nd Lev Open Champ



Grace Atkins on No Stranger to the Rain/ USEA Beg Nov Ama Champ test A



Dec.18,2024

Shelby Owen, Grand Ch USEA Beg Nov, USEA Nov to Prelim Hi Pt Young Rider

Jennifer Owen, Res Ch USEA Beg Nov + Grand Ch USEA Nov to Prelim

Anna Evans Champ USEA Green as Grass Amateur

Claudia Ziegler Acemyan Champ Intro Lev Ama

# Even More Baird Schooling Show Winners

Claudian Ziegler Acemyan on Adhemar, Intro Level Ama Ch



Becky Nesbitt on Magnum's Finest Chic Ch & Res Ch WDAA Lev 2-5 Open Ch



Grace Atkins / No Stranger to the Rain, USEF Tr Ama Ch test 3



Grace Atkins on You n Me Too, USEA Starter Ama Champ



Jackie Ericksen on Devon Ridge Indira/ 1st Level Pony Champ



Macie Long on Jasmine Tucker/ Ch WDAA Lev 1, Ama

Dec 2024

# Houston Hosts USDF Annual Convention and Awards Banquet!

## 2024 USDF Convention Report

By Junior Riders, Ruby and Zoe Lewis

Zoe, my sister, and I attended our first USDF Annual Convention this past December 2024. It was a wonderful experience! I enjoyed everything, from for me included show. I know the She also gave can on that day Coach Sandoval lecture on the be a good coach



the lectures to meeting dressage people from around the country. Highlights Lilo Fore's youth lecture. She provided the judge's perspective at a horse judges are there to help me improve but hearing her emphasize that- helped!! great advice for riding the best test you and went through a dressage test with her commentary. Another highlight was and Stephany. They were relatable speakers and provided an interesting positives and negatives of virtual coaching and the importance of learning to and words matter!

I think my favorite Koffler-Stanfield,

lecture and one that truly stays with me was given by George Williams, Reese and Eliza Sydnor Romm about The Future

of the Sport. As a junior rider with ambitious goals to be a dressage trainer and currently working with my mom in this business, it was fascinating to hear about how to move forward in a more healthy and balanced way as a trainer, facility owner, and rider. It was nice to know that everyone has similar challenges. This lecture covered the ups and downs of running a facility, examples using different ways of thinking to create a livable profit through horses, and considerations of working student opportunities. I agree the future is hopeful when issues can be identified and addressed. I am excited to continue to be a part of the future of the horse industry.

*Zoe has some more USDF Annual Convention takeaways from her perspective, which follow:*

Ruby and I both agree on the highlights from the convention. I also appreciated the lecture about where to find the rules and the process of how new rules are put in place.

Additionally, in the youth meeting, I appreciated Sarah Delahanty and Sarah Hollander presenting the information youth need to know to compete in the specific youth division classes through the USDF, USEF, and FEI. I also enjoyed connecting with fellow youth from around the country and would love the opportunity to meet even more youth at future conventions and have some time to casually talk together next time.

Finally, I was so thankful to have the opportunity with Roz Kinstler and my sister, Ruby, to present to the various local dressage organizations. I learned a great deal presenting and I appreciated that the local USDF organizations are looking for how to get youth involved. In our presentation, we suggested improving communications (in line with safe sport, of course) partnering with breed organizations or US Pony Club to expand reach to involve more youth and let them know about dressage.



Region 9 Director, Bess Bruton & Zoe Lewis

I love the sport of dressage because of the details and consideration of the horse in training and also every horse and rider can improve with dressage training.

*Overall, the convention was a wonderful experience, and I would undoubtedly attend again!*



Junior Riders at the USDF Banquet



Classroom lecture

Sarah Denham's mom and sister, Glenda Denham and Emily Ramsey, created the lovely basket for the Houston Dressage Society.

Recipient, Kim Baierl, had this to say, "Thank you HDS for hosting coffee in the morning at USDF convention. I'm the grateful recipient of your GMO basket".

Blessings,  
Kim Baierl  
Region 1  
Three Rivers Equestrian Association  
Western Pennsylvania Dressage Association



# Region 9 Award Winners at the USDF Awards Banquet!!



*Left to right:*

- Victoria Reeder
- Virginia Swanson
- Cynthia Werner
- Sandy Venneman
- Lynn Masin
- Simone van der Schalk
- Nicole Rothell
- Nat Masin
- John Mason
- Deidre Sabo-Frary
- Jacob Frary

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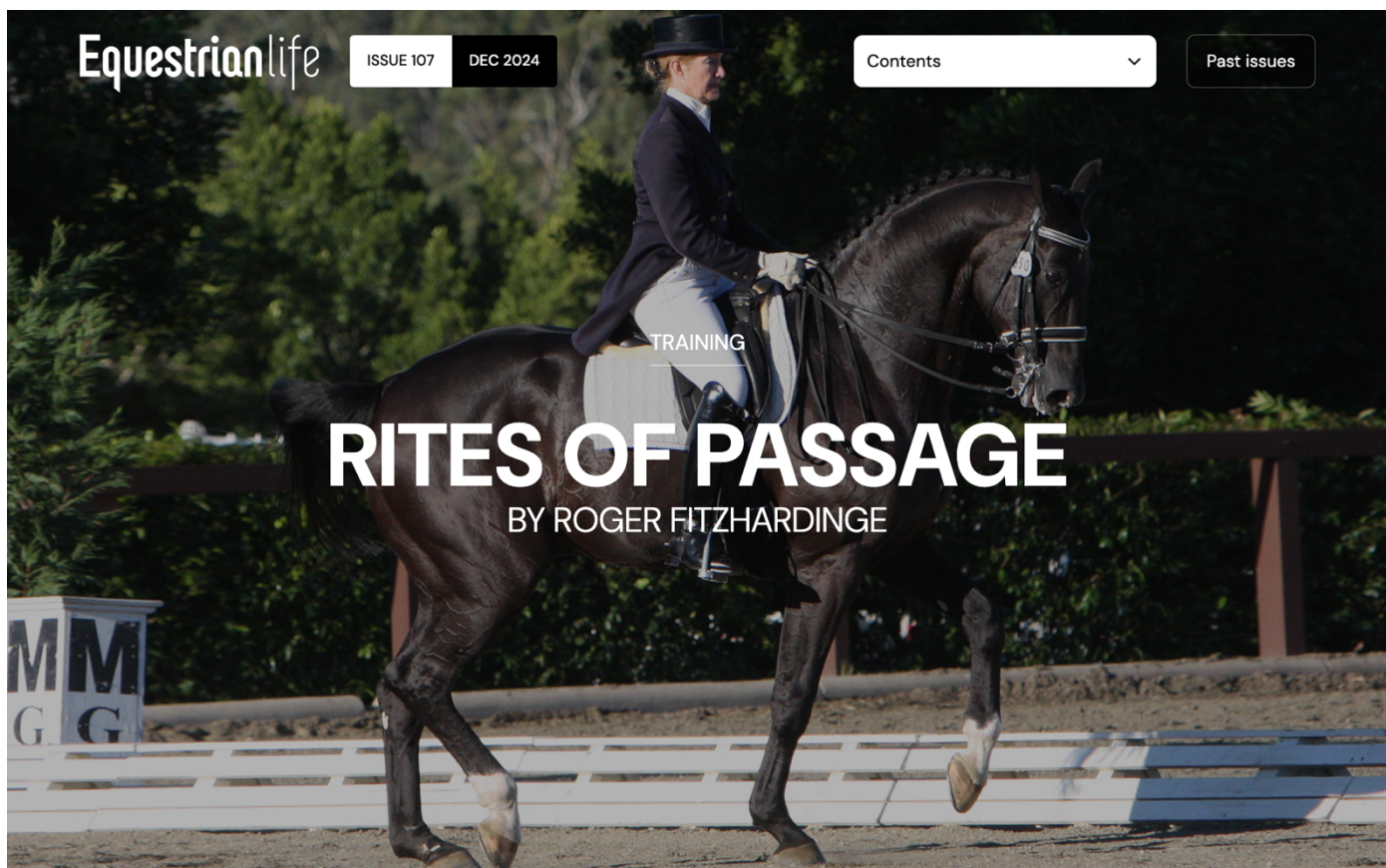
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Reprinted with approval from Equestrian Life (Digital), Australia’s premier equestrian magazine.



Of all the Grand Prix movements, passage may be one of the trickiest to learn for both horse and rider. Three top trainers discuss their methods, and all agree on one simple principle: it takes time.



### VANESSA WAY

Vanessa Way is an international rider who has represented New Zealand internationally and is also an outstanding coach who often comes to Australia. She is an advocate of the training scale and has worked closely with British dressage great Carl Hester for many years. Vanessa has a keen interest in the development of the sport and is devoted to her students’ progress. She’s a fabulous person with a well-rounded outlook and has many approaches for preparing and making the first steps of passage.

Image by Roger Fitzhardinge

*A good, collected trot is a prerequisite to passage*

“Of course, before you can even consider riding passage, you must have a horse that is understanding of the half halt,” says Vanessa. “Understanding of collection. Understanding of the meaning of compression, engagement, and impulsion. And above all, they must have an understanding of being in front of the leg. Of course, all these words and

topics could be an article in their own entity. If you have these ingredients in your horse, then the steps toward passage should be fairly simple.

"I teach passage from rising trot. I do carry a whip, provided my horse understands that the whip is not a form of punishment, but simply an added aid. In rising trot your horse already understands collection and extension, so when you think about coming back to passage, what you are trying to do is improve the cadence or the elevation and airtime within the period of suspension in the trot.



Image by Libby Law Photography.

Vanessa Way has represented New Zealand and trained many horses to Grand Prix. "In the passage, begin with just one or two steps and then forward out of it in rising trot. You can continue to produce a few more steps at a time, but never hold it for too long because once the steps become slow, the passage will lose quality. I must emphasize I teach piaffe and passage as separate entities. Walk to piaffe, trot to passage. Then when it comes time to knit the two together, for passage-trot I would go rising trot to passage to walk to piaffe to trot; for piaffe-passage, I'd go from sitting trot-type piaffe steps, and then rise as I take the horse forward out of that with impulsion and forward, uphill desire and the rise helps establish those first few steps of passage. This is how I knit the piaffe and passage transitions together. "I love training passage and as every person knows, horses have certain abilities and

highlights in their gaits. With a horse with plenty of cadence in the trot, the passage will become easy but be careful not to let it get too slow. "With the horses that don't have a natural ability to contain the trot and have an uplifting feeling for the cadence steps, there are other ways you can start to develop it, especially with riders who don't have the feeling of passage. Elevated trot rails a little closer together will help give the feeling of the passage. I also do this in rising trot, and I touch the horse on the top of the croup, as this doesn't make one leg snappy as it does if you use it behind your leg on one side.

"As you approach a puddle or section of water on an arena, this is always a great opportunity to encourage the cadence steps and to get the feel for a nervous rider perhaps who hasn't felt passage. Of course, lateral work – shoulder-in, travers, renvers and suppling and engaging exercises to get the horse confident and strong and obedient – is the ingredient before you mix it together to make passage. If you don't have any of these ingredients you can't make passage. Just as you need ingredients to make a cake, you need ingredients to make passage: straightness, collection, engagement, enthusiasm... Good luck and good riding, and repeat and repeat and repeat and never forget reactions to be brisk to the rider and always in an upward forward feeling to the hand."

### CLEMENS DIERKS

The name 'Dierks' is synonymous with dressage in Australia and Clemens has coached many riders and horses to Grand Prix. He rode in Germany as a young man and became a Beireiter (a prestigious Germany qualification) at the age of 17, before emigrating to Australia and marrying Judy Turner in 1970. Judy Dierks has of course represented Australia at the World Young Horse Championships and World Equestrian Games.

## "I would always teach horses to do piaffe before passage..."

Together they established one of the best and largest high-level training facilities in Australia. Clemens has competed as a show jumper and later in the dressage arena, but demand for his coaching took over. A former national coach for Australia and New Zealand, his expertise is recognized worldwide. Clemens is an expert in training all the Grand Prix movements but is renowned for teaching piaffe and especially passage. He has probably trained more horses to piaffe and passage than any trainer in Australia, from Arabs to Thoroughbreds to Warmbloods and every breed in between. I ask Clemens how he initially starts the passage. He rolls his eyes and isn't sure where to start. "I would always teach horses to do piaffe before passage," he begins. "Half steps and short steps are very important. You don't just teach passage. It is a development of the collected trot. I start to train passage as soon as the horse understands the basic aids of being on the bit, going forward and back in balance, and understanding a half halt.

*"There is no given time that you actually teach passage. The horse will let you know to a certain degree when it is ready and capable. I'm not saying that every horse has natural ability to passage,*



Image by Roger Fitzhardinge

but every horse has an ability to be trained. The correctness of the training and the understanding between horse and rider will eventually enable passage steps.” It is very hard to put how you train the initial steps of passage into words, as I find it only a complete development of the collected trot. When they are strong enough in balance, it happens through the development of the aids and feeling. On the bit, impulsion, balance over the hind leg, confidence in the horse, a desire to work forward to the rider’s contact, understanding and feel. Passage is simply a combination of all these things with a little more power.



“The difference between the aids for collected trot and the aids for passage is simply a positive feeling. Passage involves all the aids for collected trot with a little more power from the rider’s thoughts to have the horse more forward, and with collection and half halts to divert that forward power into an upward power and cadence”.

“Passage is always in front of the leg and always adjustable. I’m not saying that every horse has this ability to passage, and of course with horses that have problems in producing this there are many different ways of encouraging a horse to gain confidence and cadence to produce passage. The list of these ways is endless, but usually it’s because one of the important basics or ingredients isn’t in place”.

Judy Dierks and Diamond Star.....Image by Roger Fitzhardinge.

Every horse and rider have different ways and feelings of getting into this movement. Some horses never really have a good passage. It’s just part of riding; it is just part of horses. “A classical passage has a feeling of power and forwardness in a self-carrying lightness. It’s not a weak feeling and it is a movement that, as I have said, develops with strength and correct training. The horse will let you know when the degree of collection is ready to be put forward and upwards into passage. It’s not something that happens in one session; it is an outcome of dedicated training.”

## SUE HEARN



Image by Eric Knoll

Sue Hearn represented Australia at the Rio Olympic Games and many of her horses have competed to Grand Prix. Their forte was always the piaffe and the passage. Sue has a talent for all the Grand Prix movements, but an outstanding talent in the passage, so who better to ask for her thoughts about training it?

“This is a very difficult question and doesn’t have a simple answer,” begins Sue. “Every single horse is different and needs to be taken on his own merits. Every rider has certain abilities and certain experience and certain feels. So putting a horse and rider together to produce passage isn’t always easy.

“Primarily every horse needs correct training in the basics. The most essential of these basics is for a horse to stay in front of the rider. In other words, the horse must be prepared, at any moment, with any movement, to take the rider in a forward and upwards direction. No matter what, the horse must be accepting of stepping out of that position and taking forward momentum.

“For developing passage, it is important to have a very good collected trot. Some horses, on developing a good collected trot, will start to offer cadenced steps. These are the ones that remain easy to teach passage, but be careful that they don’t get behind the rider. For horses that don’t have a natural ability for passage, I was taught by Miguel Tavora, along very classical ways of introducing lateral work, to create more power and engagement and lighten the forehand. With this in mind and this attitude from your horse in the basic exercises, it will enable him to come up into passage.

“My favorite exercise of all for producing passage is travers into renvers into

travers, and so on. I start travers on a circle, and I make certain that I can always ride that travers forward. If I can’t ride it forward maintaining the position, straighten and a little leg to make the horse jump up in front of you. Then proceed back to travers and try and get that feeling”.

“When I ride renvers, I ride it on the long side to start with and make sure I have the same feeling that I can get forward within the movement, and if not then I’d simply forfeit everything and go forward. My horses must always take me forward, so I then have the chance of making good half halts to convert that impulsive, forward energy into a lateral exercise, piaffe, passage, or changes”.

“Once I’ve established the travers and renvers in the individual capacities, I knit them together on a circle. Travers right on a right-hand circle to renvers left on that right-hand circle, straighten onto your circle and ride forward on that circle with continuing strength and uphill balance; when a horse instinctively wants to go forward out of the exercise, by maintaining your half halts and encouraging that desire to create a more upward feeling, the passage steps start to develop”.

“Passage isn’t an exercise you could create in one day...”

“I can’t say strongly enough that this takes time. Passage isn’t an exercise you could create in one day and it sometimes takes years of confidence, strength, suppleness, and engagement before this eventuates. Remember some horses are better than others at it. I believe every horse can show a degree of passage and this exercise that I learned from

Miguel Tavora for me is the magic tool for those horses that find it difficult. “I don’t train the passage from the ground, although I do initially try the piaffe in hand. With several of my horses, I’ve

Image by Roger Fitzhardinge  
Sue and Remington in passage.



developed the passage from the piaffe. I always make piaffe first before passage. Then from piaffe steps, never feeling that it’s on the spot but always having a forward desire, I can take the piaffe steps into bigger, forward steps and develop the passage this way. “As I said initially, there are many ways to develop passage. If you’re riding passage for the first time or attempting it you need to have good eyes on the ground and you need to have a good understanding of the suppling and lateral exercises that will take you into the passage feeling. My horses always stay light to my leg for passage because I don’t let them get behind me. I do love to coach and train passage!” EQ

**ATTENTION HDS MEMBERS !!!** Upcoming grant application deadlines:

- **Evie Tumlin Adult Amateur Grant for Region 9.** Applications are due **March 1**. This is an annual grant for \$500 to \$1000 to assist Region 9 Adult Amateur riders with education and training expenses. The application is at <http://www.dressagefoundation.org>.
- **Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award.** Nomination deadline is **June 1**. The Teaching Excellence Award of \$5000 is given each year to an outstanding dressage instructor in Region 9. The instructor must be nominated by one of their students. The nomination form is at <http://www.dressagefoundation.org>.

Effective for the 2025 competition year:

The **Junior Team Test** and the **Young Rider Team Test** will no longer be offered as USDF Regional Championship classes. However, the tests can be used as Regional Championship qualifiers with the Junior Team Test a qualifier for the Third Level championship and the Young Rider Team Test a qualifier for the Prix St. Georges championship.

## Congratulations Ashley Shaw!!

Ashley Shaw (TX) is a USDF L Program graduate and has been an instructor at Galloping Spring Ranch for eight years. She has a variety of clients from beginners to Prix St. Georges. She regularly takes lessons from Stephen Hayes, Claire Darnell, and Lauren Sprieser. Ashley says that she is a lifelong learner and wants to encourage her students to be the same. She plans to use her grant funding to spend two weeks training with Eva Oldenbroek in Florida on a schoolmaster.



*Ashley said, "I am overjoyed to receive The Dressage Foundation's Major Lindgren Instructor Fund grant. I am excited to have an opportunity to advance my knowledge and skills, as I am passionate about sharing this knowledge with my students."*

Since 1996, The Dressage Foundation has offered annual instructor grants in Major Anders Lindgren's name. Major Lindgren was an accomplished dressage rider, having won the 1971 Swedish Dressage Championship and ridden on the Swedish Olympic Team in 1972. He also won the Scandinavian Eventing Championship in 1959. Lindgren's contribution to American dressage was large, as he was solidly committed to the education of U.S. dressage instructors. TDF's Major Lindgren Grants are funded through its Carol Lavell Gifted Memorial Fund.

Applications for the Lindgren Grants are due September 30th of each year. For more information, please contact Sara Weiss, TDF's Director of Grants and Programs, at (402) 434-8585 or visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org).

### **The Dressage Foundation**

The Dressage Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, tax-exempt, donor-driven organization that is dedicated to educating, supporting, and advancing the sport of dressage. The organization solicits contributions, appropriately allocates the donations, and awards grants to dressage riders, judges, instructors, breeders, high-performance teams, nonprofit equestrian organizations, and more. For more information, please visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org).

## Featured Barn: Mustang Bayou Stables

Mustang Bayou Stables, located at 1845 Kincaide Rd, Rosharon, Texas, opened its doors in August. We're proud to offer a state-of-the-art facility on 25 acres, featuring 42 stalls with daily cleaning and turnout to lush grass pastures. Our commitment to horse and rider safety is evident in our 24-hour camera security and on-site barn manager.

What sets us apart:

- **Expert Leadership:** Our head trainer, Ashley Mendez, recently competed at the US Dressage Nationals, bringing top-tier expertise to our programs.
- **Diverse Training:** We offer comprehensive dressage, hunter/jumper, and western lessons, catering to riders from beginners to our competition teams.
- **Full-Service Facility:** As a full boarding and training stable, we provide a complete equestrian experience for our clients.



At Mustang Bayou Stables, our mission is to provide an unparalleled sanctuary for horses and their owners, where excellence in horsemanship is not just a goal, but a way of life. We are dedicated to offering exceptional horse care in our full-service facility, designed to house 42 horses with the utmost attention to their well-being. Our commitment to round-the-clock staffing ensures that your equine companions receive constant care and attention, fostering a safe and nurturing environment. We pride ourselves on our unique amenities, including individual paddocks and tailored exercise programs, which cater to the specific needs of each horse. Beyond superior boarding services, we are passionate about advancing rider education, empowering equestrians with the knowledge and skills to forge stronger bonds with their horses. At Mustang Bayou Stable, we don't just stable horses; we cultivate a community where the art of horsemanship thrives, and the connection between horse and human flourishes.

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Our head trainer, Ashley Bullis Mendez, offers personalized lessons in beginner hunter and dressage for all ages. Whether you're dreaming of local competitions or aiming for national dressage events, we've got you covered!



**WANT TO BE A "FEATURED" BARN NEXT ISSUE?? EMAIL THE EDITOR [franwkf@gmail.com](mailto:franwkf@gmail.com) looking to feature barns owned by HDS members large or small....we're interested in you!!! RECAP THE 12 FEATURED BARNES OF 2024 ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.....**

## Click these links for 2024 past issues of Collective Remarks:

[December 2023](#)  
[February 2024](#)  
[March 2024](#)  
[April 2024](#)

[May 2024](#)  
[June 2024](#)  
[July 2024](#)  
[August 2024](#)

[September 2024](#)  
[October 2024](#)  
[November 2024](#)  
[December 2024](#)

### JOIN HDS ONLINE!!

*Become a Member Today The HDS annual membership year is December 1 to November 30. \* This is the same membership year as the US Dressage Federation (USDF). HDS is a USDF Group Member Organization (GMO). All HDS members are automatically USDF Group Members, as well. Not only do members receive HDS benefits, but also receive significant USDF benefits, too.*

### HDS Member Benefits:

- Eligible for HDS Year End Awards and Rider Achievement Certificates
- Grant and scholarship opportunities including the HDS Bushager Grant
- Eligible to compete in the annual HDS Schooling Show Championships
- Virtual and live education events
- Regular HDS news updates
- The comradery of your local dressage community
  - Receive HDS Newsletter, "Collective Remarks"
  - USDF Group Members Benefits
  - HDS Members Receive: USDF Connection magazine
- Full access to USDF digital assets including online learning resources and USDFscores.com for score tracking
- Eligible to participate in the USDF Rider Award Program
- USDF Member Guide which includes all the dressage tests
- Discounts on USDF merchandise and sponsor products

**Join/Renew Online** (click!!)

**NEW! Up to 3 horses can be added while registering as an HDS member**

**Horse Registration** (click)

**(If you need to register a horse AFTER signing up to be an HDS member)**

.....  
\*\*\*\*\*

**2025 Printable membership application**

**Membership Form** (click)

**Check your 2025 membership status and horse registrations**

**2025 Membership**

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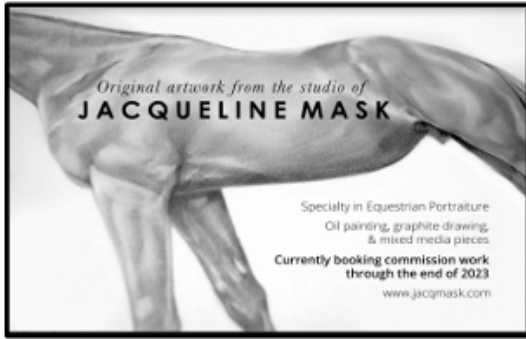
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[franwkf@gmail.com](mailto:franwkf@gmail.com)**

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- Body clipping available. Prices start at \$175 and vary by location and desired clip. References available. Please call or text Siri Bezdicek at 832-736-7877

**Boarding-Training-Lessons:**

- Magnolia contact Sandra Lindenberg 14 X 14 stalls + turnout [Sandra\\_dressage@yahoo.com](mailto:Sandra_dressage@yahoo.com)
- Magnolia contact Fran Kehr, Windy Knoll Farm [www.windyknolldressage.com](http://www.windyknolldressage.com) or [franwkf@gmail.com](mailto:franwkf@gmail.com)

**Tack for Sale:**

- Dressage Saddles for Sale....Marschall Special II medium tree 17.5" seat \$650; Crosby medium tree 17.5" seat \$650 Schleese wide tree 18" seat \$1200. Contact Sandy Venneman [vennemansandy@gmail.com](mailto:vennemansandy@gmail.com)
- Pixem Robotic Camera, complete system, like new \$800 contact Catherine Hall [cmh@satx.rr.com](mailto:cmh@satx.rr.com)

**Horses for Sale or Lease:**

- For Lease or ½ Lease: 7 TB gelding Impartial training at WKF/ Owner requires him to stay at WKF. Inquiries to Kristin Stringer text 713-504-1982 or email [Kristinspringer@gmail.com](mailto:Kristinspringer@gmail.com)

# HDS 2025 Annual Recognized Shows

## HDS Winter Show I & II (Level 3)

January 18-19, 2025

[Show Info and Online Entry Form](#)

## FEI CDI 2\* and HDS Spring Classic I & II (Level 5)

April 25-27, 2025

[Show Info and Online Entry Form](#)

## HDS Summer Show I & II (Level 3)

June 7-8, 2025

[Show Info and Online Entry Form](#)

## HDS Laborious Show I & II (Level 2)

August 23-24, 2025

[Show Info and Online Entry Form](#)

## GAIG/USDF Region 9 Championships, SWDC and HDS Autumn Classic (Level 4)

October 2-5, 2025

[Show Info and Online Entry Form](#)

### ADDITIONAL RECOGNIZED SHOWS IN THE HOUSTON AREA:

**February 15-16** Haras Dressage. Show Contact: Rob Moyar 281-818-2321 [showmanager@harassc.us](mailto:showmanager@harassc.us)

**March 1-2** Emerald Classic I & II. Show Contact: Marilyn Kulifay. Email: [marily2004@yahoo.com](mailto:marily2004@yahoo.com)

**July 19-20** Haras Dressage Show Contact: Rob Moyar 281-818-2321 [showmanager@harassc.us](mailto:showmanager@harassc.us)

**August 29-31** Haras Dressage. Show Contact: Rob Moyar 281-818-2321 [showmanager@harassc.us](mailto:showmanager@harassc.us)

# Upcoming HDS Recognized Schooling Shows

[WKF Winter Schooling Dressage Show](#) Sat, Feb 22 go to: [www.windyknolldressage.com](http://www.windyknolldressage.com)

[Haras Summer WDAA and HDS Schooling Show](#) Sat, Mar 29 go to: [Haras Hacienda](#)

**GO TO THE HDS WEBSITE TO SEE WHEN MORE SCHOOLING SHOWS ADDED!!**

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