

# Bits and Pieces

San Luis Obispo CDS Newsletter



March 2 2019

## From the Editor



Photo courtesy of Kathi Coleman Photography

## 2019 Calendar

Dorreene and Kent Gilmore Memorial Dressage Show-5/5/19

SLO-CDS Wine Country Dressage – 6/8 & 6/9 at Moon Valley Farm. 2 days, 1 ring with 2 different judges for qualifying scores. – Melissa Creswick will judge Saturday and Gail Hoff will judge on Sunday.

Hello SLO CDS members!

Welcome to 2019! Get ready for a great year with the club and some fun horse shows! If you have any interest in volunteering don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members and we will happily help! Don't forget if you have anything you would like included in the newsletters, please send me the information/pictures/show results, etc. in an electronic format so I can just cut and paste it in. The deadline to get me information is the 15th of every even numbered month. The newsletters will be e-mailed out to all SLO-CDS members and will also be available on our web site at [www.slocds.org](http://www.slocds.org)

Thanks and Happy Riding,  
Katey Augsburg Katz  
[kateyaugsburger@gmail.com](mailto:kateyaugsburger@gmail.com)



High Point Open Rider 2018 Jackie Eckhaus and Jett MVS  
Photo Courtesy of Ashton Kingsley

# Get to Know Your Members!

President: John Rees

Favorite food:

Favorite thing to do in your spare time other than ride:

Spare time? What spare time??

What do you do for a living:

Manage Outback Internet, a rural Internet service provider

Favorite horse/rider combo: Edward Gal on Totilas

Horses name: Arabella

Details: Getting her ready to show third level this year, but I'm sure she'd rather be bobbing for apples in a water trough or galloping on the beach!



Vice President: Katey Augsburger Katz

Favorite food: Mexican food

Favorite thing to do in your spare time: Spend time with my husband and dog

What do you do for a living: Train dressage horses

Favorite horse/rider combo: Carl Hester and Escapado

Horses name: Drew, Daiya and Roma

Breed: 2 Hanoverians and Holsteiner

Favorite moment at a horse show:

First time I got a 9!



# Congrats to Ellen Corob for taking over as President of CDS !!!

A resident of San Luis Obispo, Ellen has been serving our local SLO-CDS (San Luis Obispo California Dressage Society) for more than 20 years. She is a Past-President of SLO-CDS, currently manages several local shows and she organizes and puts on our region's CDS Central Amateur Clinic.

This local service launched her into bigger roles serving the state-wide California Dressage Society. Ellen tells us about her journey, "I was first appointed to the CDS Scholarship committee, then I ran for the board. I am beginning my 8th year on the CDS board. I have been committee chair of the Regional Adult Amateur Competition committee for the last 6 years. I will be training and turning this committee over to a new board member. I run the CDS Central Amateur Clinic and have been for about 15 years, and plan to continue to do so."

## Vision for Her New Role as President of the California Dressage Society

Ellen slipped into the saddle and took the reins of CDS in January 2019. In her new role as President Ellen will oversee all committees and provide input when needed, lead meetings, and represent CDS everywhere she goes.

Her main goals as she continues the course are: "My main goals are to help keep the current committees running smoothly and working well. CDS has some great new rider and horse awards that I want to see continue to grow."

## Key People Ellen Corob will be Working With as CDS President

The key people she will be interacting with to accomplish these goals are looking forward to working with her. There will be several people with whom she will interact with frequently. "I will mostly be working with our secretary in our central office, Paula Langan, along with the outgoing president, Kevin Reinig, and the other board members," explains Ellen when discussing who will help her stay on course.

## A Full Schedule of Service Both Locally and Statewide

Wearing the President's hat will not be the only hat Ellen will wear. We'll still see her at our local CDS shows. "I am managing our local shows so will still be at those," mentions Ellen.

[Dressage](#) riders will also see more of her at the state level. Ellen describes her busy schedule, "I have been working/volunteering at the CDS Championship show since being elected to the board, and will continue to do so. I may also need to attend the other Regional Adult Amateur Competitions, the north and south shows, I run the central show. I may also need to attend the Junior Championship shows." Whew, just thinking about this full schedule makes one dizzy.

## What Life Experiences Does Ellen Bring to the CDS Presidency?

What life experiences have prepared Ellen to effortlessly slip into the CDS Saddle? She explains, "I think having my own Dressage training and showing business has helped me to grow the most. I have thoroughly enjoyed training and showing several horses successfully."

Yes, that, and all her organization and management experience many local and statewide riders have appreciated. She is also a very familiar competitor. Ellen is one of the rare riders to raise and train a horse from birth to Grand Prix Dressage with her horse Deynika. "Deynika is a 17 yr old Warmblood mare that I bred, trained, and showed up to Grand Prix Dressage," Ellen explains when asked about her horse. "We are both currently rehabbing to get back to showing Grand Prix."

## Who Inspires and Supports Ellen?

Her husband supports her horse habit and service. She describes it this way, "My husband believing in me and allowing me to do what is necessary to be successful in my business and with CDS."

The camaraderie and support from other CDS board members also lay the foundation for Ellen to keep the California Dressage Society on course. She describes their support in this manner, "Other board members that I have been working with the last several years have great confidence in me and encouraged me in this position."







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# *USDF Convention*

I recently participated as one of our Region PM delegates to the 2018 USDF Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah 11/29-12/1/2018. I enjoyed some of the informative educational sessions offered at the convention, such as "Preparing Your Young Horse for Competition", but spent most of my time in the General Sessions as a voting representative for our region.

The general session on Friday kicked off with discussion about candidates for many prestigious awards. It was decided to put forward Verdades as the award candidate for Horse of the Year, and Debbie McDonald as the candidate for the Pegasus award.

It was announced that the new for 2019 dressage tests are now available in a booklet for purchase through the USDF online store.

Next on the agenda was the USEF Report. It was announced in this report that Debbie McDonald will supersede Robert Dover as the USEF United States Dressage Technical Adviser.

A discussion of candidates for USDF President, USDF Treasurer, and USDF Region 6 Representative followed. A lively and humorous presentation by USDF Presidential Candidate Lisa Gorretta left me with a very positive impression that Ms. Gorretta uniquely understands the challenges of our Adult Amateur membership in particular, and that she can effectively represent and advocate for the entire membership body at large.

The issue that dominated the discussion of the General Session was about DR129(9) under GR152(3)(a), the extraordinary rule change increasing the required freestyle qualifying score from 60% to 63%. The main points brought up during the discussion were that the mechanism by which this rule change was implemented (extraordinary rule change) did not seem appropriate, and that the rule primarily disadvantaged adult amateur and less affluent members. Ultimately after a lengthy and thoughtful discussion, the issue was voted upon. It was moved and passed to request the USDF Executive Board ask the USEF Board to rescind this extraordinary rule change.

Other motions were subsequently voted upon. It was moved and passed that USDF dues increase by \$4. It was also moved and passed to establish a National Disaster Task Force to study the effects of natural disasters (such as wildfires) on competitions and to determine and suggest solutions to the challenges presented by natural disasters.

Voting for the higher offices within USDF occurred at the conclusion of the General Session of Saturday. Lorraine Musselman was elected as USDF Treasurer, and Lisa Gorretta was elected to follow George Williams as USDF President. A moving tribute to the service of George Williams concluded the General Session.

In summary, it was my pleasure to represent our region as a voting delegate at the USDF convention. I would like to thank the nominating committee and our regional membership at large for the opportunity to participate afforded me by the Ann Boyce grant. I look forward to next year's USDF convention scheduled for December 4-7 in Savannah, Georgia.

Brenda Forsythe, PhD, DVM

As an award recipient for the Ann Boyce Memorial Grant, I had the privilege to attend the 2018 USDF Convention recently in Salt Lake City, Utah, as a USDF Region 7 Delegate representing CDS. The Convention this year was very well attended with over 250 delegates from around the country celebrating the sport that is United States Dressage. As I was a returning Delegate for Region 7, I had a little better knowledge of the convention itself, and spent a considerable amount of time in advance researching some of the potentially hard-hitting areas of legislation that would come before the Board. This year, in addition to the normal changes in by-laws and awards that were presented, we also focused on the 2019 USDF/USEF test changes and how this and changes in some of the minimum scores would affect the Dressage community, specifically the Adult Amateur and Junior riders.

Among the many issues held before the Board of Delegates were two somewhat controversial issues that created a significant amount of discussion. One was a motion to increase the annual USDF dues an additional \$4.00 per member, which will go into effect in December, 2019 so no effect on membership renewals today. Although there was some discussion as to the rationale behind the fee increase, it was clear that this was needed to "balance the USDF budget," as the annual Treasurer's report showed earlier. I did not see a need for the increase, although it was pointed out that the fees had not been increased in the last 10 years, and outbound expenses have increased in that period. It looked to me that other revenue streams in the budget had increased or had been added in recent years that appeared to offset the need for a fee increase, and it was apparent that the USDF investment portfolio was well-managed and generating additional income. Without moving to cast the voting electronically, the motion to increase the cost was approved by headcount, even though each Delegate carried votes from their constituencies that may have had cause to defeat the motion. Without a new motion to open this issue back up, the BOG approved the increase.

An even more controversial issue came up during the meetings regarding the recent Extraordinary Rule Change to increase the minimum score for Freestyle at all levels to a minimum score of 63% up from the previous score of 60%. This caused quite a stir across all Regions in that especially for Adult Amateurs and Junior Riders who don't always have the benefit of professional trainers working their horses on a regular basis, achieving a score of 63% for Freestyle test seemed a little daunting. The discussion was not just about the increase in the score, however, but in the manner in which the new benchmark was established. The Extraordinary Rule Change came as a result of a recommendation by the USDF Judges Committee to the Executive Board to make the change and notify the USEF of the changes, without the benefit of the Board of Governors (Regional Delegates) having a chance to review, rebut and discuss these changes. The new score are now in effect, but the Board of Governors voted by a majority of 2:1 to submit another Extraordinary Rule Change to the USDF to rescind the previous rule and revert the score back to its original level of 60%. The Executive Board will do so in conjunction with the Judges Committee and report back to the Regional Delegates as to the outcome.

Finally, I was fortunate enough to attend a special seminar on Preparing Your Young Horse for Competition. This was a panel discussion including USDF Hall of Fame Member Lilo Fore (who will be the clinician at the upcoming Amateur Riding Clinic in 2019, Christine Traurig the current United States Dressage Team Young Horse Team Coach and Lisa Wilcox, celebrated USDF Young Horse Trainer. The panel discussed the various ages of young horses and what the expectations that judges looked for at the various ages from age 4 to age 7. In many cases, these younger horses are evaluated not only on what they have already been trained, but also by what their potential would be in the eyes of a judge. Several videos were presented showing the best of the age groups and how these younger horses cope with the stress of rider aids, expectations, gaits, thoroughness, roundness, elasticity and overall harmony with the rider. What the seminar was missing, which I assume would be another topic altogether, was the initial beginnings of training a young horse from age 6 months to 3 years. What judges and trainers would look for in these younger horses that have not matured enough for the rigors of Dressage or any equine sport for that matter.

Overall, it was a tremendous experience once again and an experience I would love to continue doing as time allows. I learn so much from this sport and its evolution, and I feel privileged to be part of the governing body that shapes the sport for the future. I want to thank the Ann Boyce Grant nominating committee for awarding me the grant. It was a great experience to attend the USDF National conference and I am proud to be associated with the sport of Dressage.

# Board Members

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## Classifieds

*Templeton Farms is pleased to announce that as of January USDF Gold Medalist Allison Mathy will be joining Templeton Farms of Lyric Dressage. Allison offers training of horse and rider through Grand Prix. Her program is goal-oriented, with students regularly working toward competitions and achieving their USDF Medals. In addition to correct training, Allison emphasizes the holistic wellbeing of all horses in her program. She enjoys working with all breeds of horses and has extensive experience working with and training the Iberian and Baroque breeds. Her own two Lusitano stallions are currently competing in the FEI ring.*

*In addition to her training program, Allison also offers a selection of quality Lusitano horses for sale.*  
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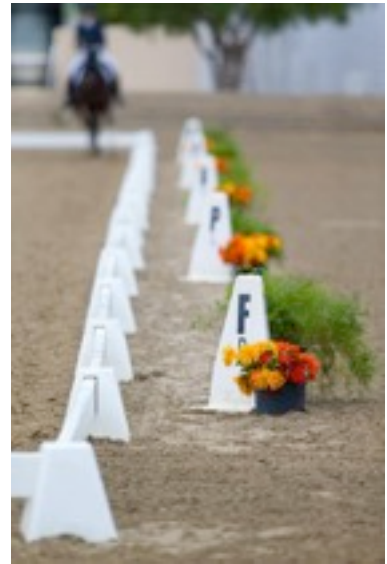
Contact Christine

[kiki.keek@gmail.com](mailto:kiki.keek@gmail.com)



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