

Eastern Dressage and Combined Training Schooling Association



BRINGING QUALITY DRESSAGE AND COMBINED TRAINING EXPERIENCES TO EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

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November-December 2010 Volume 9 Issue 5

Up Coming Events

- 11/6 EDCTSA Fall Dressage/ CT / SHV New Bern 252-229-2089 www.edctsa.org
11/11 - 11/14 GAIG/USDF Region 1 Champs Williamston 352-371-0549 www.EquestrianSecretarialServices.com
11/13 TTC Fall Horse Trials Mocksville 336-998-5280 www.ttcmocksville.com
11/19 NCDCTA Eric Smiley Eventing Clinic Southern Pines 802-234-9561 kbe@vermontel.net
11/21 CHP Starter Horse Trials Raeford 910-875-2074 www.CarolinaHorsePark.com
11/22 X-C Schooling at CHP Raeford 910-875-2074 www.CarolinaHorsePark.com
11/23 Angelea Walkup Dressage Clinic Hubert 503-213-3600 www.silverdalefarm.us
12/4 Canterberry Meadows Holiday Fun Williamston 252-217-8454 www.edctsa.org
12/5 Frostbite #2 D/CT/HT/SJ/XC Monroe 704-221-1311 www.wnaaa.com
12/11 Karyn Becerra Clinic Williamston 252-217-8454 CanterberryMeadows@yahoo.com
12/11 X-C Schooling at CHP Raeford 910-875-2074 www.CarolinaHorsePark.com
12/18 Angelea Walkup Dressage Clinic Hubert 503-213-3600 www.silverdalefarm.us

2010 Show Schedule

November 20 - Dressage @ Wind Drift Farm

Organizer: Catherine Marks

NEW BERN, NC

December 4 - Canterberry Meadows D & CT

Organizer: Susan Bothem

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page, \$25 for a 1/2 page and \$40 for a full page.

Hope Does Devon

The Dixon Oval at the Devon show grounds was waterlogged, windy, and we had the further misfortune of following a fabulous 3 year old Hanoverian from one of the conglomerates who currently dominate the warmblood breeding scene here in America. This was the GAIG/USDF Championship Filly Class, the best-of-the-best of all year groups of all the fillies from all 6 qualifying breed shows (of which the Raleigh 'Labor of Love' Breed Show was one) on the East Coast leading up to Devon.

Did I say the horse we followed was fabulous? Let me amend that... she was a defending Devon Champion with impeccable bloodlines, ideal conformation, a trot to die for, and a handler imported from someplace in Holland with a name like Johan, or maybe it was Hans or Dieter. He and his assistant handler (the whip person) were young, blonde and fast. Hans/Johan/Dieter barely spoke English, but he had sprinter's speed and knew horses inside and out, specially hired to bring out the best in the horses he handled.

They were like the New York Yankees, and I was like the Kinston Indians. I didn't even HAVE a whip person; I had to borrow one. What little sprinter's speed I had left me way back in high school. The only thing I had in common with Dieter/Hans/Johan was that we both liked Anky. Well, I do for sure - I can't speak for him. This, in short, was a tough act to follow.

I set Hope up in an open stance (translation: "however she decides to stand at that particular moment") and mentally crossed my fingers that the German judge would cut us some slack.

He, along with the other 3 judges from the USA, circled Hope while they judged her confirmation, but it was the German judge who concerned me. Why? Because he spoke with a German accent, had come all the way across the Atlantic for this show, and sorta reminded me of Mrs. Guderian, my first grade teacher, who didn't know much about horses, but sure knew a lot about rapping knuckles with a ruler.

He uttered the phrase which sent cold shivers down my spine: "Ich ein weinerschnitzel". (note: I don't hear so well, but that is what it sounded like to me) (translation: "Eww! Turn your horse around so I don't have to look at that eye, willya?")

Nothing says, "yeah man, you are KICKING BUTT in this class!" like the judge asking you to turn your horse around so he doesn't have to look at some offensive part of the horse he is judging. My confidence fairly SOARED, as you can well imagine.

Let me quickly explain about Hope's left eye. She was born with a defect known as microphthalmos, or literally a "small eye". If someday she were to bear young, it would not pass down to them. Furthermore, since she had known nothing else, this condition seems perfectly normal to her, and she gets around just fine. Most folks swear she must be able to see a little bit, since it doesn't seem to affect her one iota - but nope, she is 100% blind on her left side. She has learned to cope somehow. I have no idea if her hearing is hypersensitive, or if she can feel my body heat, or if she just smells me over to her left (no wisecracks, please), but somehow she can sense my presence. I treat her like I would a seeing horse, and she responds in kind. No fuss, no muss, no special considerations asked for, or granted. Her blind eye is considered a blemish, and is not to be counted against her in the in-hand breed classes.

That's the theory anyway.

We walked the small triangle upon the command to do so by one of the judges. Hope stepped out smartly, her rear feet landing a good 12 inches or so beyond the tracks left by her front feet; a big 'overstride' as the saying goes. Her walk is one of her strengths. I almost have to jog to keep up to it when she wants to get someplace in a hurry, which she did on that day. Did she expect carrots around every corner or what? I wasn't complaining.

Then it was trot time. Hope's trot is rather expressive and elevated, and I have to do my best Carl Lewis imitation to keep up with her. Did I mention it had been raining out all night? Devon has the textile GGT footing, no problem there... except the drainage was poor and lots of water was pooling everywhere. We splish-splashed our way around the large triangle. My biggest fear had been tripping and falling as she is trotting, something that actually happened at home while rehearsing one afternoon in mid-September. One of my neighbor's kids witnessed it, and thought it the funniest thing he had seen in eons. I tripped, Hope drug me a short distance as I tried to regain my footing, and then she was off at a gallop, lead-line skipping merrily behind. Were that to happen in the Dixon Oval on that day, I likely would have drowned.

No, we didn't win a ribbon in that class. In fact, we were placed 12th out of 14. The top 10 get ribbons. Napoleon once famously said that it was amazing what a man would do for a little piece of ribbon. Nappy was probably talking about military ribbons you wear on your chest. He also had a nice horse called Marengo who (rumor has it) finished out of the ribbons at Devon too, so later on I didn't feel quite so badly. But at that moment I would have done most anything for a top-10 placing and a ribbon. I briefly considered stealing Hans/Johan/Dieter's nice, pretty blue

ribbon, but the threat of getting my knuckles rapped with a ruler by one of the judges held me back.

An hour later I was walking by myself to get a bite to eat. Devon has some killer food vendors; I especially liked the Philly cheese steak and was off to get another one. A group of ladies was talking and as I passed by one of them backed into me. "Excuse me!" I exclaimed. "Oh, no! It was I who backed into you!" said a nice lady named Hilda. Just a guess, but I was thinking maybe Hilda was German too, although her English grammar and syntax were impeccable. I secretly glanced quickly to see if she had a ruler in hand. She didn't, so we walked together for a bit. "So who are you?" she asked me. "Well, my name is Tom, and I am showing a Oldenburg filly named Hope. We are both rookies here at Devon." I furtively added that Hope was born with a partially formed left eye. "Well, there is nothing wrong with that. I once had a FEI-level horse that was blind in one eye. It didn't slow him down one bit", said my new best buddy Hilda.

It was just about then that I glanced down at Hilda's nametag and noticed her last name was Gurney. "Hey! You are Hilda Gurney, the famous Olympian/trainer/rider/breeder/judge/coach/author from California! You must have TONS of blue ribbons! Can you give me one?" (note: that is what I thought about saying) What I actually said was, "Nice meeting you, Ms. Hilda. You up for a Philly cheese steak?" She declined, indicating she had an important meeting to attend.

It must have been some kind of important to miss out on one of those Philly cheese steaks. My tummy is growling just thinking about those gastric delights.

Hope was stabled in barn 27, the very last barn. She was in the very last stall in barn 27. In short, we were as far from the entrance as you could possibly get and still remain within the city limits. The barns have been recently redone at Devon, and somebody messed up on the lighting at the end of barn 27. If not for the small outside window with bars over it and a view of the grandstand, she would have been in total darkness. It made it a wee bit tough on the young ladies who braided Hope's mane.

Early on I met some young gals in barn 24 who quickly adopted Hope. Martha (she is a breeder of fine Appaloosas, and had several of her horses there for the breed show), Alecia, Kim and Katie thought Hope was The Bomb. They just fell in love with Hope, bad eye and all. They became her biggest fans in short order. After our GAIG class Hope got the longest, loudest ovation out of the entire three days of the Breed Show. Other spectators reacted, the judges even turned around to see what all the commotion was all about. (note: it obviously didn't

affect their scoring.) I called them 'My Posse' and 'Hope's Groupies' – the four ladies, not the four judges.

Devon is cool partly because they have all sorts of commercial vendors who want to give you stuff. You walk around and they try to get you interested in their product. I got small plastic bags of horse feed, pamphlets on fencing, barns, saddles, samples of chocolate, you name it. Too bad they weren't giving away those Philly cheese steaks, but I digress... Devon also has a competitor's lounge for those showing. You enter and they give you drinks, candy, snacks, and then you sit down in a nice, comfy leather chair to watch video of last year's competition. I fairly expected somebody to start feeding me grapes by hand and cool me off with the breeze from a large feathered fan-thingie like they do in the movies sometimes.

So I was in the competitor's lounge one rainy day (note: they were ALL rainy days), chatting with a guy from Pennsylvania named Peter and his wife, Audrey. And on the TV flat screen all of a sudden is the KYB Dressage gang doing their 2009 exhibition with 6 horses, and there is my daughter, Rachel, riding in the exhibition. It was very cool. Peter and Audrey thought it was The Bomb when I pointed out my daughter.

Peter and Audrey have a breeding operation with 16 horses. I asked Jack if they ever had any one-eyed horses born there, and he said no they had not.

The big lesson I took away from my three days at Devon was that everybody there was basically 'good people' as we used to say in the USMC. (note: The Marines are not known for good grammar, as opposed to Hilda.) Everybody I met was nice, down to earth, and easy to talk to. Regardless of the size of their wallet, deep down inside they are all horse people, and love to talk about horses. Granted, at first I thought the deck was stacked – and in some respects I suppose it is. I won't name names, but some of the larger breeders have super mare lines, might crank out 50 or 60 nice foals every year, and they can cherry pick the very nicest to bring to shows like Devon. They have contacts overseas, and the knowledge to mate the very best mares to the very best stallions. They can hire the best handlers, and fly them over a few weeks ahead of time to train the foals, yearlings and older stock in-hand.

But I ask you this: how many other events or competitions exist in the world where the Average Joe can go head-to-head with the giants? The Kinston Indians never get to play against the New York Yankees.

Once in a rare moment lightning can strike, the chromosomes may align just right, any one of us might produce the next Totilas, and we can beat the big guys

at their own game. The Reserve Champion Stallion this year was a gorgeous Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Mustang who was born wild in Nevada. Hope did later earn a 7th place ribbon in the Oldenburg (GOV) class. Here is a link to that test, sans a whip person. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkH4pcdVcSI>

Her groupies thought it was The Bomb.

MY RUGGED DESTINY
 Rugged Lark X Kings Casandra (Mr. King Destiny)



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Towards the Most Active Member Award The award is given every 6 months to the member with the most volunteer points. Other ways to earn points are;

Attend Meeting - 5 Points ea.

Volunteer a Half Day at a Show - 5 Points

Volunteer a Full Day at a Show - 10 Points

December 4, 2010
Closing Date: Nov. 22, 2010

Judge Tristan Hardy-Butler, L (Va)
EDCTSA / NCDCTA Recognition #37

**CANTERBERRY MEADOWS' HOLIDAY FUN
DRESSAGE SCHOOLING SHOW**

Senator Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center - East Field

2011 USEF & TWH TESTS WILL BE USED

YOU MAY RIDE A MUSICAL FREESTYLE (does not have to be a complete, finished product) **WITHOUT QUALIFYING**

PROVIDED ENOUGH ENTRIES INDOOR ARENA @ EAST FIELD WILL BE USED

STALLS (DAY & OVERNIGHT) AVAILABLE

Classes Offered: Walk only, Intro A & B, Training - Second & Above TOC, Walking Horse Tests, Western Dressage for Novice Riders (walk or intro tests only), Dressage Seat Equitation, Pas de Deux*, MFS*, Costume Class

*Costumes allowed w/o paying additional costume class fee

Fees: \$30/test for Intro and above; \$20/test for walk only; Dressage Equitation - \$15, Pas de Deux - \$30/test/team, MFS - \$20, Costume - \$15, Stalls - \$30 (includes required 2 bags shavings), \$5.00 late fee, \$10 guest horse fee (coggins required). \$2.00/test discount for EDCTSA members (must provide membership # with entry). Make check payable to Susan Bothern, 1056 Toba Bowen Rd., Williamston, NC 27892.

Ribbons: 1st-6th place, Grand Champion & Reserve Champion for Jr. & Sr. high scores
Times available Thursday PM (12/2) at EDCTSA.org.

General Info:

▲ Entries must be received by closing date. Post marks will be checked. Management not responsible for late mail. Late entries may be accepted with \$5 late fee. Email entries (canterberrymeadows@yahoo.com) will be accepted but payment must be received by closing date to avoid late fee.

▲ Full refund before closing date. No refund after closing date.

▲ Current negative coggins required. Please submit with entry.

▲ All riders must wear ASTM/SEI certified protective helmets with straps when mounted -- NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

▲ All dogs must be on a leash.

▲ 2011 USEF rules will apply. Some rules have been exempted. Dress clothes waived, leg wraps permitted

▲ Concessions on premises.

▲ Management reserves the right to split, combine or cancel classes and add or substitute judges. All EDCTSA members will be placed for awards standings in the same class/division. It is your responsibility to provide your EDCTSA membership #. Management reserves the right to postpone or reschedule due to inclement weather

Rider: _____ JR/SR EDCTSA # _____

E-mail Address: _____ NCDCTA# _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Horse: _____ Horse NCDCTA # _____

Test(s) _____

Total Due (fees listed above) : _____

All entries are made at rider's, owner's and trainer's own risk. I recognize that horse sports involve inherent, unavoidable risks and I take full responsibility for myself in consideration for participation. I agree not to hold Canterbury Meadows, Sen. Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center, EDCTSA, and/or NCDCTA, owners, employees or organizers liable for injury, loss of life, theft or damage to horses, equipment, spectators or participants.

WARNING! Under NC Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting exclusively from the inherent risks of equine activities. *Chapter 99E of the North Carolina Statutes*

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Wind Drift Dressage

Nov 20th, 2010

Judge: Kris Hamilton "L"

Closing Date: Nov 13

- **Dressage Tests:** Intro A & B: Jr/Sr/Open, Training Level: Jr & Sr, Training Level 3 & 4, First/Second Level and TOC
- **CT:** Tadpole – cross rails/Intro A
Maiden – 2 ft/Intro B
Beginner Novice – 2'6/BN Test A
Novice – Novice Test A
Training – Training Test A
- **Fees:** All Dressage \$30/test CT Tests \$40
- \$2.00 number fee, \$5.00 late fee per test if \$ received after closing date and not post- marked by closing date. EDCTSA member discount is \$2.00 per test.
- \$10 Schooling rides/guest horse fee.
- **Ribbons:** 1st -6th place, Grand Champion & Reserve Champion for Jr & Sr high scores
- **Negative Coggins** within 1 year required for entry. Please enclose copy with your entry.
- **USEF rules** will apply, except braiding and coats are not required.
- Whips and leg wraps may be used during tests.

ALL RIDERS MUST WEAR PROTECTIVE HELMETS WHEN MOUNTED.
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Times available Thurs. PM: Check website edctsa.org or call Patricia 252-746-1103 or Catherine at 252-617-1785

Rider _____ Jr. or Sr. EDCTSA # _____ NCDCTA # _____
Phone Number _____ Email: _____
Horse/Pony Name _____ Tests: _____
Total Due (Fees listed above) _____

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Rider/Owner

Signature _____

(Parent/Guardian)

**Mail entry Form and Coggins to: Catherine Marks, 695 Barwick Rd, Dover NC 28526
252.714.4204 * Email info@canamerstable.com or winddriftfarm@gmail.com**



Eastern Dressage and Combined Training Schooling Association

EDCTSA

2010 Membership

Benefits of Membership

Individual Memberships:

Seniors \$25.00

- FREE online classified ads on the EDCTSA.org web site
Year End Awards privileges
Vote at Annual Meeting
Discount on EDCTSA sponsored shows

Juniors (18 years of age or younger as of January 1st of the membership year) \$20.00
Same benefits as seniors

Family Membership \$40.00
All privileges listed with Individual membership for family

Farm/Business: \$50.00
All privileges listed with Individual membership plus:

- FREE business card ad and FREE classified ads on the EDCTSA.org web site
Link to your farm/business from EDCTSA website (http://www.edctsa.org)

Lifetime Individual Membership \$120.00

Lifetime Farm/Business Membership: \$250.00
All privileges listed with the Individual for a lifetime

*Please deduct \$5.00 from membership fee if you are a current member of the NCDCTA.

NCDCTA # _____ Would you be willing to volunteer at EDCTSA Shows? Yes []

Type of Membership (check one): [] Senior [] Junior [] Family [] Lifetime
[] Farm/Business [] Farm/Business Lifetime

[] New Member [] Renew Membership: Current EDCTSA # []

First Name [] Middle Initial [] Last []

Mailing Address: []

City [] State [] Zip []

Phone: [] Fax: [] E-mail: []

Date of Birth (if 21 or under as of Jan 1, 2008):

Primary Interest: [] Dressage [] Combined Training [] Both

Additional Family Members: (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)

Three empty text boxes for listing additional family members.

Please mail the above entry form with check payable to EDCTSA to:
EDCTSA Secretary, Mary Ann Cabbage
190 Stoney Cup Road
Maysville, NC 28555