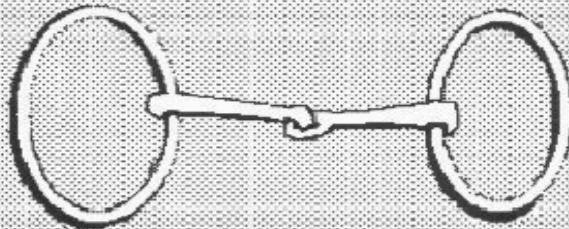


TVDCTA Bits



Newsletter of the Tennessee Valley Dressage and Combined Training Association

TVDCTA Bits

www.tvda.org

January 2009

This Month...

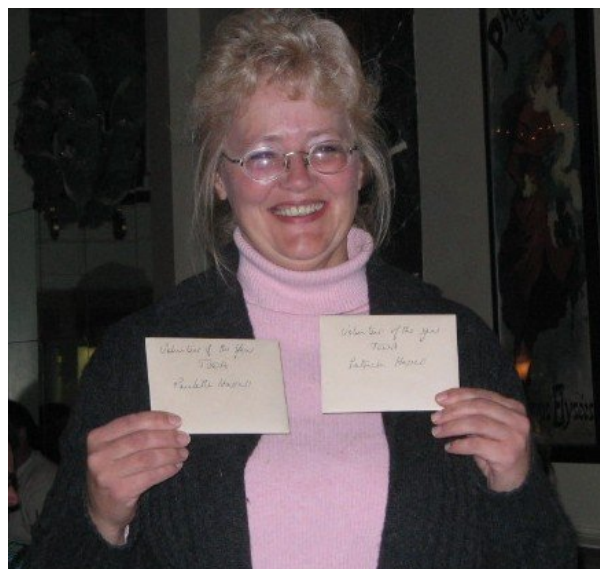
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Riders Honored at Annual TVDCTA Awards Banquet

The annual TVDCTA Awards Banquet was held on January 17th at The Jazz Factory in downtown Huntsville. The banquet honored our outstanding riders for the 2008 competitive season with ribbons and other awards. A good crowd was in attendance, including many family and friends. All enjoyed a good meal and lively conversation.

Awards were distributed for first, second, and third places according to the Year End Award rules. First place winners included JR/YR riders **Patton Short**, **Michelle Miles**, and **Aubrey Torrez**. Adult Amateur winners were **Kathleen Tetzloff**, **Sonja Rich**, **Lindsay Waite**, **Ashley Hayes**, and **Cindy Latham**. Open winners were **Cathy Zappe** and **Debbie Hill** (twice). **Paulette** and **Patrick Harrell** were Volunteers of the Year.

See pages 4 and 9 for the full list of winners and pictures. There are also pictures on the website.



TVDCTA treasurer Paulette Harrell and her son Patrick were honored as Volunteers of the Year at the Year End Awards Banquet. (Bob Duncan photo)



- This organization is a USDF Group Member Organization.
- This organization's members are automatically USDF Group Members.

TVDCTA Officers

President:

Sonja Hinds
129 Roxberry Drive
Harvest, AL 35749
256-217-0740
256-682-6913 (cell)
sonjahinds57@msn.com

Secretary:

Lindsay Waite
12649 Nani Dr.
Madison, AL 35756
lindsaylwaite@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Virginia Moon
2379 Bob Wade Lane
Harvest, AL 35749
256-859-0659
ginnymoon@aol.com

Treasurer & Membership:

Paulette Harrell
3113 Hale Drive
Huntsville, AL 35805
256-652-4007
paulette.tvdcta@hotmail.com

Shows and Clinics News

Although TVDCTA has not had a formal meeting since November, the elected board members have had informal meetings and made the following decisions:

For shows, the club will provide and pay for the port-a-potty, volunteer water and carrots and we will reimburse whoever provides the judge's snacks and lunches.

We will pay \$250 for the show venue, if the venue does the setup and \$150 if the club provides volunteers to set things up.

We have scheduled our first show of the year for April 11 at Cotton Meadows Farm in Elkmont. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

TVDCTA Committees

Awards and Judges

Debbie Hill, (256) 656-9762, LHill454545@aol.com

Shows and Clinics:

Donna Barnes, (256) 657-6450, donnalynnbarnes@hotmail.com
Cindy Latham, (256) 259-2342, clatham@hiwaay.net
Lindsay Waite, lindsaylwaite@yahoo.com

Meetings and Programs

Virginia Moon, (256) 859-0659, ginnymoon@aol.com

Newsletter

Karen & Bob Duncan, (256) 895-9816, bduncan@hiwaay.net

Volunteer Coordinator

Sonja Rich, (256) 350-3482, danceebottoms@yahoo.com

February Meeting Notice

The February TVDCTA meeting will be at 7pm at Mikawa Japanese Restaurant in Huntsville, near the University Drive and Old Monrovia Road intersection. See mikawarestaurant.com for menu, maps, and more information.

Directions: From Huntsville, proceed west on University Drive towards Madison Square Mall. Turn right on Heathland Drive immediately before the Casa Blanca restaurant, just east of the intersection with Old Monrovia Road. If you are approaching from the west, it is best to proceed east on University Drive (US 72), then turn left on Old Monrovia Road, right past Madison Square Mall. You can then take a right turn to cut through the front of Casa Blanca in order to access Heathland Drive and then turn left.

Contact: Virginia Moon at 256-859-0659 or GinnyMoon@aol.com.

TVDCTA to Purchase Portable Dressage Arena

TVDCTA has found it necessary to purchase a portable dressage arena. We have located one that is safe and easy to transport and assemble. Unfortunately, we are a small club with a tight budget. Therefore, we are asking our membership to send in donations to help with the expense of the new arena.

Your checks for \$5, \$10, \$15 or \$20 would be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to TVDCTA and send them to our treasurer, Paulette Harrell at the address below:

Paulette Harrell
3113 Hale Drive
Huntsville, AL 35805

2009 Membership Renewals — Last Chance!

Many members still need to renew their TVDCTA membership for 2009! If there is a red asterisk by your name on the mailing label, then this will be your LAST newsletter until we receive a renewal.

Please use the form in this newsletter or print it off from the web for your renewal and forward it to Paulette Harrell. Please be sure to include your current email address, if applicable.



Megan Zappe at the September 2007 TVDCTA Dressage Show. Megan and the Shire Cross Frequent Flier Miles recently earned the USDF Silver Medal award. (Joanne Lowery photo)

My Silver Medal

Megan Zappe

On the first week of January I earned the last score at Prix St. Georges level that I needed to obtain my USDF Silver Medal. In February 2008 I began riding my mom's horse, Frequent Flier Miles, and working towards showing at Fourth Level. I originally intended to attempt qualifying for the Young Riders Program, but unfortunately I am not yet a US citizen, so I decided that the Silver Medal would be an appropriate goal.

In April I competed in the Sherry Levin Memorial Show in Mississippi, and scored in the 60s at Fourth Level. At the Tennessean Dressage Show in May I earned another score for Fourth Level and one of my Prix St. Georges score. At that point I was consumed by preparations for starting college, and my showing plans were put on hold even though I kept riding.

Over the Christmas break my mom and I spent ten days in Wellborn, Florida working with **Bryan McMahon** in preparation for the show at Canterbury Show Grounds. This was an incredible experience. I received daily instruction from Bryan and my riding improved astronomically.

The past year has been wonderful. I have had the opportunity to ride a horse that is schooling Grand Prix, to work with top Dressage instructors, and to compete at a level I had not dreamed of reaching for many years. It has been an incredibly valuable experience and I would like to thank my mom for lending me her horse, Bryan McMahon for his coaching, and **Debbie Hill** for lending me her shad-belly coat and top hat. Earning my silver medal is simply proof of the quality of instruction and help I received this year, and something I will always be proud of.

Megan Zappe's USDF Silver Medal Qualifying Scores

Date	Show	Location	Class	Place	Dressage %
April 5, 2008	Sherry Levin Memorial	Hernando, MS	Fourth Level, Test 1	1	62.326
April 5, 2008	Sherry Levin Memorial	Hernando, MS	Fourth Level, Test 2	1	63.864
May 30, 2008	Tennessean Express	Murfreesboro, TN	FEI Prix St Georges	1	60.000
May 31, 2008	Tennessean Dressage	Murfreesboro, TN	Fourth Level, Test 2	1	60.000
January 3, 2009	Twice As Nice Dressage I	Newberry, FL	FEI Prix St Georges	1	61.842

TVDC TA Year End Award Winners for 2008

Intro Level – JR/YR

1. Patton Short, Classie Act, 69.250
2. Samantha Webb, Lou, 61.833

Training Level – JR/YR

1. Michelle Miles, Gizmo, 70.571
2. Anna Tetzloff, Zing, 63.908

First Level – JR/YR

1. Aubrey Torrez, Pippin, 58.788

Intro Level – Adult Amateur

1. Kathleen Tetzloff, Halloran, 69.750

Training Level – Adult Amateur

1. Sonja Rich, Pekco, 62.478
2. Kathleen Tetzloff, Halloran, 58.989
3. Lindsay Waite, Ruggedly Handsome, 58.997

First Level – Adult Amateur

1. Lindsay Waite, Ruggedly Handsome, 58.997
2. Sonja Hinds, Arlo, 58.798

Second Level – Adult Amateur

1. Ashley Hayes, City Slicker, 64.697
2. Sarah Milligan, Spartacus, 60.226

Third Level and Up – Adult Amateur

1. Cindy Latham, Jubi, 65.043
2. Sarah Milligan, Spartacus, 55.900

Intro Level – Open

1. Cathy Zappe, Calvin, 63.250
2. Cathy Zappe, Rohan, 62.250

Training Level – Open

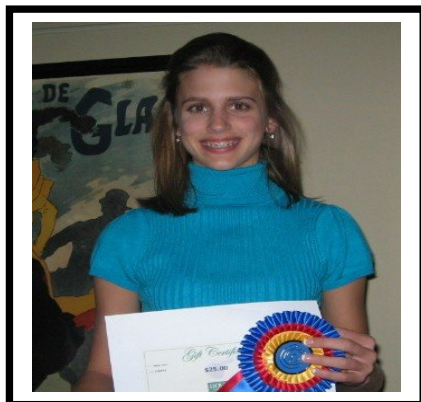
1. Debbie Hill, Gabriella, 72.490
2. Cathy Zappe, Rohan, 68.895
3. Cathy Zappe, Calvin, 66.535

First Level - Open

1. Debbie Hill, Gabriella, 67.694

Volunteers of the Year Award

Paulette and Patrick Harrell



Patton Short



Lindsay Waite



Samantha Webb



Michelle Miles



Sonja Rich



Cathy Zappe



Nationally ranked TVDCTA rider Emily Bragg on her Quarter Horse Dashing Away Dan.

Emily Bragg Makes National Rankings

TVDCTA rider **Emily Bragg** has been racking up some very good scores this past year in Training Level, scoring consistently in the 60% and higher range, with a median score of 63.913%.

The American Quarter Horse Association has ranked Emily and her horse Dashing Away Dan second in Training Level for JR/YR riders and fourth overall for Open riders.

She has also ranked 68 in the USDF JR/YR Award and 352 for the Dressage Horse of the Year award.

Emily manages to find time to train at Steel Prize Stables in between working and attending college.

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Pat Wilker: Hunter/Jumper Fix-A-Class, Flat or Fences
Elly Schobel: Dressage Fix-A-Test, FEI or USDF
Aaron Smith: Western Horsemanship Solutions

Opening Date: Jan 15, 2009

Closing Date: Feb 28, 2009

www.clearviewhorsefarm.com • for complete info www.hellohorse.com or anita@hellohorse.com

Show Results

Please contact the newsletter editors at bduncan@hiwaay.net with any show information which you might have. We attempt to obtain results from the USDF and USEA web sites, but postings of results are often slow. If we happen to miss the results of a member, please let us know and we'll get it into the next newsletter. Also note that results obtained from the USDF do not necessarily show placings, so they are usually omitted unless obtained elsewhere.

Key: OD = Open Dressage AA - Adult Amateur BROD = Breed Restricted Open Dressage QD = Qualifying Dressage
DM = Dover Medal RDO - Restricted Dressage, Other

For HT scores, to-date position is given in parentheses after each event. Jumping/time penalties for the XC and Stadium events are shown, when available.

Twice As Nice Dressage I

Canterbury Equestrian Showplace

January 3-4, 2009

Newberry, FL

from www.canterburyshowplace.com

Class Name	Division	Place	Rider	Horse	Breed	Dressage %	Judge
USEF Training Level, Test 3	Open	1	Cathy Zappe	Rohan	Oldenburg	60.000	Rector
USEF Training Level, Test 3	Open	1	Cathy Zappe	Rohan	Oldenburg	68.400	Rector
USEF Training Level, Test 4	Open, QD	1	Cathy Zappe	Rohan	Oldenburg	66.400	Rector
USEF Training Level, Test 4	Open, QD	1	Cathy Zappe	Rohan	Oldenburg	70.000	Rector
USEF First Level, Test 1	Open	1	Cathy Zappe	D'Artagnon	Oldenburg	64.333	Rector
USEF First Level, Test 1	Open	1	Cathy Zappe	D'Artagnon	Oldenburg	65.000	Rector
USEF First Level, Test 2	Open	1	Cathy Zappe	D'Artagnon	Oldenburg	68.889	Rector
USEF First Level, Test 2	Open	1	Cathy Zappe	D'Artagnon	Oldenburg	67.500	Rector
FEI YR Prix St Georges	JR/YR, QD	1	Megan Zappe	Frequent Flyer Miles	Shire Cross	61.842*	Rector
FEI YR Prix St Georges	JR/YR, QD	1	Megan Zappe	Frequent Flyer Miles	Shire Cross	53.947	Rector

- Qualified for USDF Silver Medal (see story on page 3)

Poplar Place Farm January HT

January 17-18, 2009

Hamilton, GA

from www.poplarplacefarm.com

Class Name	Place	Rider	Horse	Dressage	Stadium	XC	Total
Open Training	5	Nancy Smith	Beggin' Attention	33.5 (5)	4/0 (9)	0/0	37.5

Rider's Prayer

from Linda Wilson

Dearest God In heaven,
Give me the strength to guide my horse. Make my hands soft and my head clear.
Let my horse understand me and I him.
My heart you have blessed with a special love of these animals,
Let me never lose sight of it.
My soul you have gifted with a deep need for them, let that need never lessen.
Always let my breath catch as the sun gleams on elegant head.
Always may my throat tighten at the sound of gentle nicker.
Let the scent of fresh hay and a new bag of grain always be sweet to me.

Let the warm touch of a warm nose on my hand always bring a smile.
The grace and splendor of a running horse, the thunder of its hooves makes my eyes burn and my heart soar, let it always be so.
Dearest God grant me patience, for horses are harnessed wind and wind can be flighty.
Let me not frighten or harm them, instead show me ways to understand them.
Above all, dear God, fill my life with them.
When I pass from this world, send my soul to no heaven without them.
For this love you have given me, graces my existence and I shall cherish it and praise you for it for all time.

Amen

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Calendar of Events

See the web at www.tvda.org/calendar.htm for a more extensive list of events and recent updates. Links are also available to many of the area equestrian clubs.

Abbreviations and websites for clubs:

BDCTA - Birmingham Dressage and Combined Training Association www.bdcta.org

CDCTA - Chattanooga Dressage and Combined Training Association www.chattdcta.freesevers.com

CTDA - Central Tennessee Dressage Association www.tndressage.com

DDA - Delta Dressage Association www.deltadressage.com

MADAE - Montgomery Area Dressage and Eventing www.madae.org

MGSHA - Middle Georgia Sport Horse Association www.mgsha.org

MsEDA - Mississippi Eventing and Dressage Association www.ms-eda.org/

TVAHA - Tennessee Valley Arabian Horse Association

January

31-Feb 1	Pine Top Farm Winter I HT, Thomson, GA. See pinetopfarm.com for more information. Contact: glenn@pinetopfarm.com
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February

7-8	Poplar Place Farm HT (I, IP, P, PT, T, N, BN), Hamilton, GA. See www.poplarplacefarm.com for more information. Contact: Donna Stegman at donna@poplarplacefarm.com or 706-888-8421.
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14-15	BDCTA Eventing Clinic with Ann Taylor Olympic Competitor and Selector, Rolling Hills Equestrian Center, Birmingham, AL. \$95 per ride or \$175 for both days for members/ \$115 per day or \$225 for both days for nonmembers. Contact: Shelia Ellison at 256-546-1952 or Fran Summerlin Histed at 256-538-3732 or e-mail at summerworthdown@att.net .
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14-15	Pine Top Farm Winter II HT, Thomson, GA. See pinetopfarm.com for more information. Contact: glenn@pinetopfarm.com
-------	---

19	TVDCTA Monthly Meeting, 7pm at Mikawa Japanese Restaurant in Huntsville near University Drive and Old Monrovia Road intersection. See mikawarestaurant.com for menu and more information. Contact: Virginia Moon at 256-859-0659 or GinnyMoon@aol.com .
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20-21	Ron Smeets Dressage Clinic sponsored by Centaur Farms. Clinic will be at Westbrook Farms
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27-Mar 1	Pine Top Farm Spring Advanced HT, Thomson, GA. See pinetopfarm.com for more information. Contact: glenn@pinetopfarm.com
----------	---

28-Mar 1	Ft. Rucker HT, Ft. Rucker, AL. See www.useventing.com for more information. Contact: Lou Heath at stanheath@msn.com .
----------	--

March

7-8	GHF/Collecting Gaits Farm Three Horsemen Dressage Show, GIHP, Conyers, GA. See www.goodhorseman.org for more information. Contact: Ann Genovese.
-----	--

14-15	Poplar Place Farm USDF/USEF Recognized Dressage Show, Hamilton, GA. See www.poplarplacefarm.com for more information. Contact: Donna Stegman at donna@poplarplacefarm.com or 706-888-8421.
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27-29	Poplar Place Farm HT (A, CIC**, I, CIC*, P, T, N), Hamilton, GA. See www.poplarplacefarm.com for more information. Contact: Donna Stegman at donna@poplarplacefarm.com or 706-888-8421.
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28	CTDA Schooling Show, Roberson Equestrian Center, Murfreesboro, TN. Judge: Nina Warren. See www.tndressage.com for more information. Contact: Sherry Pride at sp4horses@united.net .
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28	MTPC Combined Training Schooling Show (Dressage and Stadium Jump Test)
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Classified Ads

Member's (free) classified ads will also appear on the TVDCTA web site, www.tvda.org. Note that the pictures will be in color and larger if you look on the web! You may also submit pictures for inclusion in your ad. Please contact the editors to renew after three months.



Portraits in pastel by Virginia Moon. Starting at \$250.00 depending on travel. I will take photos of your horse. Call 859-0659 or email ginnymoon@aol.com.

Portraits by Cathy. Horses, dogs cats and children. Your favorite photo or I can take them for you. \$150 for a head only, \$200 and up for the whole animal, depending on the amount of background, rider etc. Call 721-3946 or email me at czappe@mchsi.com.



For sale Reg. AQHA palomino gelding, 8 yr, 16.2 hands. Very quiet, nice mover \$7500.00. Contact Kathy Miller at 205-221-7118 or cell 205-522-7478.

For sale Reg. APHA chestnut gelding, 11 yr, 14.3 hands. Good to shoe, clip, and load. Shown intro level and jumping \$3000.00 OBO. Must sell before winter. Contact Kathy Miller at 205-221-7118 or cell 205-522-7478.

More Pictures from Awards Banquet (continued from page 4)



Cindy Latham



Patsy Gray (owner of Gabriella)

Tel (256) 656-9762
www.debbiehilldressage.com



Debbie Hill

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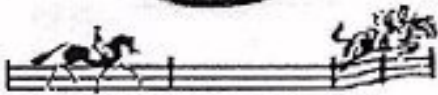
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Mission Statement

TVDCTA is a non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging a high standard of horsemanship through the use of classical dressage techniques. The TVDCTA will disseminate educational material, sponsor and promote activities (such as clinics, seminars and competitions), and cooperate with other local and national organizations in developing and promoting better horsemanship. Our monthly meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7pm, unless otherwise noted. (as of 2008, we are temporarily moving to Tuesday nights). Please see the newsletter or www.tvda.org on the Internet for exact dates and locations.

Tennessee Valley Dressage and Combined Training Association Membership Application

Primary Member Name: _____ Birth Date (for Juniors): _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Membership Type: Please select either Individual Adult, Individual Junior, or Family Membership and enter appropriate fee.

____ Individual Adult Membership (\$37) (USDF Dues \$17, Club Dues \$20)

____ Individual Junior (under 21) Membership (\$27) (USDF Dues \$17, Club Dues \$10)

____ Family Membership (\$45; covers two riders) (USDF Dues \$25, Club Dues \$20)

Secondary Family Member Name: _____

Birth Date (for Juniors): _____

Additional Family Membership Riders (\$10 each) (USDF Dues \$8, Club Dues \$2)

____ Additional Family Rider 1 Name: _____

Birth Date (for Juniors): _____

____ Additional Family Rider 2 Name: _____

Birth Date (for Juniors): _____

____ Additional Family Rider 3 Name: _____

Birth Date (for Juniors): _____

____ Additional Family Rider 4 Name: _____

Birth Date (for Juniors): _____

____ **Total Membership Fee** - A portion of your dues will be sent to USDF

If a new member, how did you find out about TVDCTA? (Which TVDCTA member should get the credit?)

Are you interested in helping out with:

Awards - Budgets - Clinics - Shows - Combined Training - Librarian

Meetings/Programs - Membership - Newsletter - Nominating - Publicity - Volunteers ?

Please make checks payable to TVDCTA. - Please submit renewals prior to **November 30th**.

Mail to: **Paulette Harrell**, 3113 Hale Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805

For more information, contact Paulette at (256) 652-4007

This organization is a USDF Group Member Organization and members are automatically USDF Group Members.

Karen & Bob Duncan
169 Spano Road
Madison, AL 35757

**Next TVDCTA Meeting on Thursday, February 19th at 7pm at
Mikawa Japanese Restaurant in Huntsville (see inside)**



Tennessee Valley Dressage &
Combined Training Association

Submission of Articles

Deadline for materials is the 10th of the month of publication. Contributions for the newsletter are encouraged! Items are subject to change at the editor's discretion.

Contributions may be mailed or submitted via e-mail to bduncan@hiwaay.net. If you would like your mailed material returned, please include a SASE. Mail contributions to **Karen Duncan**, 169 Spano Road, Madison, AL 35757.

TVDCTA Bits Advertising Rates

Business Card....	\$5/mo.	1/4 Page.....	\$10/mo.
1/2 Page.....	\$17/mo.	Full Page.....	\$30/mo.
Sponsor Strip...	\$7/mo.	Classified*.....	\$2/ line/mo

----Advertise for 5 months, get the 6th month free!----

Classified ads will also be placed on our web site and may include a photo (counts as an extra line).

Please send advertising copy with payment (payable to TVDA) to: **Karen Duncan**, 169 Spano Rd., Madison, AL 35757

*Members may place one free classified ad (up to 3 full width lines) per newsletter.



Judith Fiorentino

USDF Bronze, Silver and Gold Medalist

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