



# NEWSLETTER

## February/March 2014

### ODS Board:

Sherry Guess, President  
guessdrsg@aol.com

Clydette Womack, Vice President  
cwomack44@yahoo.com

Roberta Clark, Secretary  
55rclark@gmail.com

Marta Koeing, Treasurer  
martakoe@yahoo.com

### Members at Large:

Rainee Boyd  
raineeboyd@gmail.com

Pamela Byers  
pamela@galleryfarm.us

Beth Circle  
bcircle@rentechboilers.com

Anne Kuhns  
akuhns1122@gmail.com

Kalea Maxwell  
kaleamaxwell@gmail.com

Cheryl West  
westequestrian@gmail.com

### Committees:

#### Awards

Stacia Wert-Gray  
gtgray@aol.com

#### Chapter Coordinator / Schooling Show Coordinator

Rainee Boyd  
raineeboyd@gmail.com

#### Directory

Fran Ferrari

#### Education

Pamela Byers  
pamela@galleryfarm.us

#### Liaison to USDF

Sherry Guess  
guessdrsg@aol.com

#### Membership/Welcome

Beth Circle  
bcircle@rentechboilers.com

#### Newsletter Editor

Carol Miller  
carol\_lee\_miller@yahoo.com

#### Show Committee

Lyn Francic

#### Website

Jeanie Eaton  
webmaster@dressageoklahoma.org

## Improve Your Collective Dressage Scores with William "Bill" Solyntjes

It's almost here . . . it's almost time for the 2014 ODS Educational Symposium, "Improve Your Collective Dressage Scores" with William "Bill" Solyntjes! The symposium will be held March 22-23, 2014.

On Saturday, March 22, the symposium will open with a lecture presentation at Freddie's Restaurant in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. The lecture will feature information on how judges judge including determining base score; adding criteria focusing on the essence and factoring modifiers; the biomechanics of horse, rider and gaits; and the collective marks. In the afternoon, the symposium will move to nearby Lily Pond Estate in Kellyville for demonstrations by riders from Intro Level through First Level with constructive critique and instruction by the clinician, as well as a question/answer session with the clinician.

Sunday's session will be held at Lily Pond Estate and will begin with a review of the previous day's topics and highlights, including a question and answer session. The remainder of Sunday's session will be devoted to demonstrations by riders from Second Level through FEI levels.

The clinician, Bill Solyntjes, is a United States Dressage Federation (USDF) bronze, silver and gold medalist, a USDF "S" judge, "R" Sport Horse judge and is a member of the USDF "L" Program faculty. He has trained and shown several horses to Grand Prix. Based in Hamel, Minn., Bill operates Brandywine Farm, a dressage training and breeding facility that has produced many year-end award winners both in hand and under saddle.

*The demo rider application form is on the ODS web site at [www.dressageoklahoma.org](http://www.dressageoklahoma.org) or you can download the application by clicking [here](#). Demo rider applications are due on or before March 13. The auditor registration form is also on the ODS web site or can be downloaded by clicking [here](#). Auditor registration forms due on or before March 16.*

## Newsletter Changes

The monthly publishing date for the ODS Newsletter is moving to the first of each month. Please submit information for publication to the editor, Carol Miller, no later than the 23rd of each month at [carol\\_lee\\_miller@yahoo.com](mailto:carol_lee_miller@yahoo.com).

We hope you will feel free to share stories related to your equine experiences. It will enrich the understanding of those who read them and they will benefit from your successes. We also hope you will share your knowledge by providing a summary report of any equine educational events you may attend.

## Message from the President

If you missed the ODS Annual General Meeting at Freddie's Steak House in Sapulpa, you missed a great social event, complete with good food and awards. The day began with a business meeting, including reports from the various committees, and ended with the election of our new ODS Board members: **Beth Circle, Roberta Clark, and Cheryl West.**

2013 was a good year for ODS. We have grown to 227 members—all the way up from 189 members in 2010. The minutes (pending approval at the summer meeting) will be on the ODS website so you can read all about the meeting.

Our first perpetual trophy for Volunteer of the Year was awarded to **Jeanie Eaton.** Jeanie has been our webmaster since 2005 and has continued working long hours each week constantly updating and redesigning our ODS web site. Jeanie's daughter, Elizabeth, spoke to us regarding the amount of time Jeanie spends updating and maintaining the ODS website and the chapter websites, as well as managing the ODS e-blasts. She has archived eight years of ODS information—and has donated her services to ODS for all of this.

Thanks to the 2013 Show Committee, **Judith Brown, Roberta Clark, Amanda Edwards, Lyn Francik and Diane Smith.** They made an amazing \$10,000.00 for our annual recognized show. Diane Smith had the vision to turn our "plain jane" show into a true event and made a ton of money doing it. Thank you to all of the volunteers who put in so many hours helping to make that show a possibility. It is many long days of work for a huge number of people!

Our spring 2013 education event with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez was a success in spite of the cold and sleet and our summer meeting had a full house for the talk by farrier John Muldoon. His lecture was so interesting that we had almost no time left for the meeting.

In response to the damaging tornado in Moore, ODS raised more than \$2000 which was donated to the Equi-Center Vet Hospital that was caring for 27 injured horses. Two of our regional GMOs contributed to our fund: **Alamo Dressage Society** sent \$225 and **Central Texas Dressage Society** sent \$500. Also, **Patty Couch's** show brought in more than \$1000.

We held a drawing for a free membership. The winner of which was made eligible by sending in her application for membership before November 30, 2013. And the winner was **Mary Ellen Stockett.** Mary Ellen will be refunded her entire 2014 membership fee!

The silent auction was a big hit, as always, with items from boots, sweatshirts and a shawl to posters and jewelry. It raised approximately \$450 for the Education Fund.

Remember to put the last Saturday of January on your calendar for the AGM next year!

Sherry Guess

---

## USDF Announces New Podcast Channel

The United States Dressage Federation is pleased to announce the launch of USDF's Official Podcast channel. These podcasts are designed to provide education and insight into our sport, as well as information about USDF programs and events. Content for these podcasts will include excerpts from many of the educational activities held at Adequan/USDF National Conventions and Symposiums, interviews with dressage legends, information about USDF programs and events, and other dressage news from across the country. The Official USDF Podcast channel is free, and available through the USDF website and on iTunes.

To listen to USDF podcasts or get more information about the podcasts, visit the USDF website at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org), or contact [podcasts@usdf.org](mailto:podcasts@usdf.org).

## Announcing the US Para-Equestrian Dressage Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor Kai Handt

As the 2014 Para-Dressage season kicks into gear, the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) has announced Kai Handt as the U.S. Para-Equestrian Dressage Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor. Handt's new appointment will run through 2016 making him the United States Para-Dressage Team Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy, France and the 2016 Paralympics. This new role is very familiar to Handt who has been a rider, trainer, and coach for nearly 40 years.

Since relocating to the United States in 1985, Handt has built a large training program at his own North Texas Equestrian Center in Wylie, Texas. Handt not only trains multiple young riders in dressage but he also has earned his USDF bronze, silver, and gold medals as well as his silver and gold freestyle bars.

Over the past six years, Handt has worked within the Para-Dressage world where he trained and sponsored the late Paralympian Jonathan Wentz. Handt helped Wentz ride to his full potential and reach his goals which included representing the U.S. Para-Dressage Team at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, winning the USEF Para-Equestrian Dressage National Championship in 2011, and becoming the highest individual ranking U.S. rider that competed in London at the Paralympics.

Handt will work closely with all current and potential para-dressage athletes preparing each rider and their horses for international competition.

Kai Handt is an advocate for the para-dressage discipline and enjoys encouraging other sponsors, riders, and trainers to get involved with the sport. The ultimate goal of each high-performance discipline is to win medals.

Kai Handt is excited for his future with the para-dressage program and looks forward to a medal winning 2014. He commented, "I am excited and honored by the decision of my peers to appoint me the Para-Equestrian Dressage Technical Advisor and Chef d'Equipe. I look forward to this exciting leadership position and will strive to make sure that our outstanding horses and riders will be a successful team on the national and international show circuit. With the help of our exceptional staff at the helm and a growing number of excellent supporters for our sport, I look forward to a fantastic future for all of our athletes."



Kai Handt with his horse NTEC Richter Scale (ridden by Jonathan Wentz) preparing for the trot up at the 2012 London Paralympics.

*Photo by Lindsay Yosay McCall*

---

## USDF Announces New FEI Certification Program

The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) is pleased to announce the implementation of Instructor/Trainer Certification at the FEI level. The addition of the FEI Certification Program will take the standard of education for instructors and trainers in the United States through the highest levels of our sport. This new program will offer workshops designed to help candidates prepare for FEI certification at two levels. The approved workshop instructors and examiners are some of this country's most respected men and women in dressage. Those interested in becoming certified at the FEI level do not necessarily need to have completed prior certification.

For more information regarding the criteria and application process, please visit the USDF website at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org) or contact [instructorcertification@usdf.org](mailto:instructorcertification@usdf.org).

## ODS 2013 Recognized Show Year-End Awards

Award	Level	Division	Horse	Rider	Owner	Percent
Champion	Training	Open	Genna	Richal Flannery	Susan Field	63.333
Champion	Training	Amateur	Lust in the Wind	Holly Luke	Holly Luke	67.292
Reserve Champion	Training	Amateur	Valley Boy	Sarah Scott	Sarah Scott	61.071
Champion	Training	JR/YR	PH Gai Shamaline	Clarisse Delacourt	Clarisse Delacourt	59.696
Reserve Champion	Training	JR/YR	DF Blue Moon	Clarisse Delacourt	Clarisse Delacourt	56.250
Champion	First	Open	Clair NAF	Tamera Mayo	Tamera Mayo	64.758
Champion	First	JR/YR	PH Gai Shamaline	Clarisse Delacourt	Clarisse Delacourt	53.710
Champion	Third	Open	Divino	Roberta Clark	Roberta Clark	66.026
Champion	Third	Amateur	Tango	Chris Cashel	Chris Cashel	58.947
Champion	Third	Vintage	Divino	Roberta Clark	Roberta Clark	66.026
Champion	Fourth	Open	Divino	Roberta Clark	Roberta Clark	63.125
Champion	Fourth	Amateur	Debutante	Laura Custer	Laura Custer	60.215
Champion	Fourth	Vintage	Divino	Roberta Clark	Roberta Clark	63.125
Champion	PSG	Amateur	Nessesity	Traci Jackson	Traci Jackson	62.500
Champion	I-1	Open	Waterfront	Robin Hessel	Robin Hessel	64.869
Champion	I-1	Amateur	Gladstone	Lyn Francik	Lyn Francik	57.895
Champion	I-1	Vintage	Waterfront	Robin Hessel	Robin Hessel	64.869
Horse of the Year			Lust in the Wind	Holly Luke	Holly Luke	67.292

### Instructor Funding Available

The Dressage Foundation has several grant opportunities for instructors who are seeking Instructor Certification. For more information, please visit [www.dressagefoundation.org/Help\\_For\\_Dressage\\_Instructors.htm](http://www.dressagefoundation.org/Help_For_Dressage_Instructors.htm).

### Regional Championship Prize Money Announced!

The prize money for the 2014 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Championships has been determined. GAIG/USDF Champions, at all levels and divisions, will receive \$278, payable to the horse owner. The 2014 Reserve Champions, at all levels and divisions, will receive \$185 in prize money, payable to the horse owner.

### FEI Passport / Registrations

All riders intending to compete at the 2014 NAJYRC should begin the process of obtaining an FEI passport for their horse now. This can be a long process so it is best to start early!

All horses and riders who compete in a CDI must have FEI registration numbers. Horses that are applying for a new FEI registration (never registered before) must be micro chipped prior to obtaining the registration.

Applications and instructions for obtaining FEI passports and FEI registrations are available at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org).

## My Summer Trip to Sweden by Kalea Maxwell

In July 2013, Audra Glenn (one of my working students) and I competed in the International Young Breeders Championships in Bollerup, Sweden. It is a multi-phase competition, governed by the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses, designed for young/future professionals in the sport horse breeding industry. There were over 200 competitors representing 24 different studbooks from 13 different countries. We represented the AWR/NASPR (American Warmblood Registry and North American Sport Pony Registry), the only studbook from the United States in the competition.

The competition is comprised of four phases: a written test, a conformation judging phase, a loose jumping/gait evaluation phase and an in-hand phase. The written test covered everything from FEI sports regulations to breeding practices to general horse management. After the written test was the free jumping phase. In this phase, horses are viewed at liberty at the trot and canter, then sent through a jump chute. Competitors are judged on how well they can evaluate the horse's technique, scope, and style of movement. The third phase is the conformation phase. The horses are presented on the triangle by handlers, and the competitors are judged on their ability to evaluate conformation and movement on the triangle. The last and most difficult phase of competition is the in-hand phase. In this phase, competitors are judged on their ability to show a horse in-hand on the triangle. All horses are randomly assigned and each competitor is given about 10 minutes to warm up the horse before showing it in front of a large crowd. These horses were all Swedish warmbloods, mostly between the ages of three and four years old, and bred from notable dressage and jumping bloodlines.



Kalea showing in hand.

Besides the four main phases of competition, there was also a grooming competition, the purpose of which is to recognize the studbook who could best prepare a young horse. My team placed first out of 24 studbooks, primarily because we used traditional hunter braids, which the European judges absolutely LOVED. We were given 30 minutes to clean, braid, and prep our horses to be shown in hand with very minimal grooming supplies.



Kalea and her team after winning the grooming competition.

After the competition we had the opportunity to go to the Falsterbo Horse Show, which was hosting several CSIO\*\*\*\*\* jumping classes as well as the World Dressage Masters competition. It was an incredibly cold afternoon (35°F and rainy), but it was amazing to get to watch so many FEI level classes in both disciplines.

One of my favorite parts of the trip was getting to tour Jan Brink's farm in Tullstorp, Sweden. Besides being a world renowned dressage rider, he is also an EXCELLENT host and gave us a personal tour of his stables. They currently stand about 20-25 stallions at stud, half of them are jumpers and the other half dressage horses. He showed us several young horses under saddle and in hand. My favorite

was Ampere, who was not only beautifully behaved but stunning in person. His facility is by far the nicest farm I have ever step foot on. All of his rings had all weather footing, were immaculately kept and professionally designed. He spoke a lot about horse welfare and how that influenced many of his decisions in building the farm. We visited several other top breeders' farms, but none were quite on the same level as his. His motto, "quality over quantity," is extremely evident in everything he does.



## Events and Opportunities

### March 14-16

Sarah Martin Clinic  
Claremore, Oklahoma  
Contact: GuessDrsg@aol.com

### March 15

GCC March Madness Schooling Show  
Claremore, Oklahoma  
Contact: mstbdo@yahoo.com

### March 22-23

ODS Educational Seminar with Bill Solyntjes  
*Improving Your Collective Scores*  
Contact: skob@tulsaconnect.com

### March 28-30

Thomas Poulin Clinic  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Contact: hesselra@gmail.com

### April 5

GCC Schooling Show  
Inola, Oklahoma  
Contact: xhalsalute10@gmail.com

### April 6

WDAOK Western Dressage Clinic  
Inola, Oklahoma  
Contact: jpwalkerosa@tds.net

### April 12

Great Plains Chapter Schooling Show  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Contact: gtgray@aol.com

### April 26

Great Plains Chapter Recognized Show  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Contact: gtgray@aol.com

### April 27-28

Melissa Creswick Clinic  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Contact: hesselra@gmail.com

## Horse Registrations Through January 28, 2014

Number	Horse	Owner
2175	Zie Rainmaker	Katie Edsall
2176	Giulliana	Marsha Funk
2177	Chama	Kathleen Hoyt
2178	Manchet Montana	Laurie Ryan
2179	Lechuza	Judith Zivko
2180	Alexander NAF	Judith Zivko

## NAJYRC Application Deadline

Riders must submit their Application (formerly the Declaration of Intent) either by April 1, 2014, with a \$50 fee or by April 30, with a fee of \$300. No applications will be accepted after April 30, 2014. The NAJYRC will be held in Lexington, KY, on July 15-20, 2014.

The 2014 official selection procedures are now available at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org). Each rider intending to qualify for the NAJYRC, as well as parents and trainers, should be familiar with the qualifying criteria.

For those who will be riding the NAJYRC qualifying classes in the Houston Dressage Society CDI in April, please be sure to note this show is conducted in accordance with FEI rules instead of USEF rules. Refer to the qualifying criteria for specific rules for the NAJYRC on score reporting, dress and saddlery and schooling at a CDI.

## Want More Information About the NAJYRC?

If you would like more information about Region 9's NAJYRC program, please contact Ed Lavallee, egion 9's FEI Jr/YR Coordinator, at [ejlava@sprynet.com](mailto:ejlava@sprynet.com). To be added to the email list and receive updates about the program, contact Inez at [kcampb9tx@yahoo.com](mailto:kcampb9tx@yahoo.com).

## SWDC Championship Vintage Rider Award

Again in 2014, there will be an award for vintage horse/rider combination. The award will be based on combination of age of rider, age of horse and highest score in a SWDC Championship ride.

## ODS ADVERTISING RATES

### Newsletter Advertising

Basic Ad Rates:

Full Page - \$40

Half Page - \$20

Quarter Page - \$10

Business Card - \$7.50

Schooling Show or

Clinic Announcements:

First Insertion - \$20

Additional Months - \$15

*Advertising Deadline:*

*Copy and payment submitted*

*by 7th of month*

*(Newsletter publishes mid-month)*

### Website Advertising

Banner Ads:

3 Months - \$30

6 Months - \$60

1 Year - \$120.00

*Placement at the discretion of  
webmaster; includes site link*

Schooling Show or Clinic

Announcements:

\$20 - First Insertion

Additional Months - \$15

Calendar Listing:

Free (as space allows)

Non-Commercial Classified Ads:

Members - Free

Non-Members - \$5

*May be modified if space is limited*

PEPPY SUE ZAN (Goldie) is available to raise your next sport/dressage horse. She is a 15-year-old registered QH/Palomino and is a wonderful broodmare and 'mom'. She has raised four big foals sired by Belgian and Percheron stallions. \$1,800

JUNO is a beautiful buckskin QH/Percheron mare. She stands 16 hands and will turn four-years-old in May. She was imprinted as a foal and has some basic ground work. \$3,200

Photographs of both horses are on my Facebook page at Lonesome Dog Photography. For more information, contact Debbie Fimple at 918-244-6627 or

Whispering Willow Stables in Mounds, Oklahoma, currently has **openings for boarding**. Whispering Willow Stables is a private, gated equestrian facility located on 80 lush acres. Amenities include 12 x 12 stalls with mats, indoor wash racks with hot water, tacking stalls, security code tack rooms, fly spray system, day turnout paddocks and free flow exerciser. We offer three arenas: a 100 x 200 covered lighted arena; a 120 x 240 all-weather outdoor arena; and a 280 x 150 outdoor arena. Full board or pasture board (limited availability). Please call Marlee Walker at (918) 364-5009 for further details.

EYORE - 14.2hh bay gelding, approximately 16 years old. This first level horse has an extensive show career in three-day eventing. Owner no longer has time to show. \$2,500 to approved home. Call Lora Shipley at 918.760.6750 for more

---

## Don't Forget to Renew Your ODS Membership

Your ODS membership provides the following benefits:

- A group membership (GMO) in the USDF that includes the USDF monthly magazine *USDF Connection*
- Region 9 Annual Omnibus that provides detailed information on recognized shows throughout Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana
- The on-line ODS newsletter that includes upcoming events statewide, dressage-related articles, show results, news, information, and advertisements, as well as news from the ODS board activities and meetings
- A web site that provides late breaking news, forms, etc., at [www.dressageoklahoma.org](http://www.dressageoklahoma.org)
- Optional membership in the local dressage chapter of your choice
- Statewide annual membership directory
- ODS supported USEF/USDF recognized shows, ODS recognized schooling shows, clinics, and other educational events and programs
- The Junior/Young Rider Program that includes special activities for riders aged 21 or younger. (Age as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.)
- You have the opportunity to participate in shows, share your insights, and make new friends!

The Oklahoma Dressage Society's Board of Directors is comprised of volunteer leaders who truly care about the future of dressage in Oklahoma and Region 9. We are planning activities for this year, hoping that we meet the majority of our members' educational and competitive needs, including yours! To renew—or join—please see the membership application elsewhere in this newsletter.

## OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**ODS is a Group Member Organization (GMO) of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) and belongs to Region 9**  
See also [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org) and [www.usdfregion9.org](http://www.usdfregion9.org) and [www.dressageoklahoma.org](http://www.dressageoklahoma.org)

New Membership     Renewing Membership     Information Change Only

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ USDF ID No \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name (for Invitation Use) \_\_\_\_\_

USDF membership year is December 1 through November 30. Apply this membership to year 20 \_\_\_\_

ODS Membership – Select One Category. *For family memberships consisting of more than two family members, please check both Family and Add third family member.*

\$45 Senior / Adult / Vintage     Open     Amateur     Vintage

\$20 Charter / Life (for ODS founding members and members with lifetime memberships)

\$35 Junior - Under 18 as of December 1 of current membership year \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date  
*For example, for 2013 membership, must be under 18 on December 1, 2013, even though membership year begins in 2012*

\$55 Family (for two family members) - Name of second family member \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 Add third family member - Name of third family member \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please include birthdates for junior family members*

Chapter Membership – Check the chapter you would like to join. *Chapter membership is not required for ODS membership, but is required to participate in the chapter awards programs. Chapter membership cost is the same for an individual or family.*

\$10 Green Country Chapter (GCC)

\$10 North Central Chapter (NCC)

\$10 Great Plains Chapter (GPC)

\_\_\_\_\_ OPTIONAL donation to ODS. ODS is a tax exempt 501(c) organization

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

ODS membership is an opportunity to promote dressage in your community. The club is ONLY as good as it's most ACTIVE members. We need your help! What are your skill sets?

Scribing     Scoring     Organization/Management     Accounting     Spreadsheets     Website

Photography     Fund Raising     Other \_\_\_\_\_

*I hereby release the Oklahoma Dressage Society, its officers, members, employees and agents from any liability and all claims of every kind, including costs, expenses, or attorney fees that might result from damages, injuries, or losses resulting directly or indirectly from the negligent act or omissions of the officers, members, employees or agents of the Oklahoma Dressage Society Club. I agree and sign below:*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*(If Junior Rider, this form must be signed by parent or guardian)*

Mail this form with appropriate check payable to "Oklahoma Dressage Society" to  
Beth Circle, 19705 So 43rd W Place,, Mounds, OK 74047 - [bcircle@rentechboilers.com](mailto:bcircle@rentechboilers.com)

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing by USDF