IDCTA
SCRIBE
September 2026 | Vol. 33 No. 9

Ready. Set. GO!

See pages 4-6 for results and photos from the July 12th Winsom Farm Triple Schooling Show.

Cover photo by Brooklynn Burdick

IDCTA
SCRIBE
SEPTEMBER 2026 | VOL. 33 NO. 9

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Mary Jo Downen
typagraphics@gmail.com
Members are encouraged to submit comments, articles, news, photos.
Deadline: 10th of preceding month.

ADVERTISING & PRODUCTION MANAGER
Mary Jo Downen, TypaGraphics
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Please send checks made out to IDCTA to *Mary Jo Downen*
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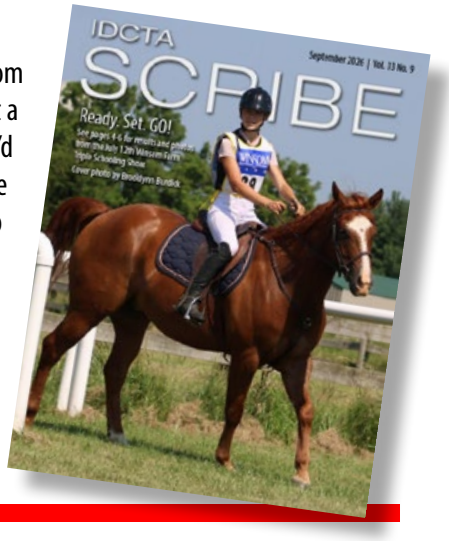
A monthly newsletter published by the Illinois Dressage & Combined Training Association, an Illinois Not for Profit Corporation. Opinions expressed within are those of the authors, unless otherwise indicated.

The IDCTA is a USDF Group Member and USEA Affiliate Member Organization. This organization's members are automatically USDF Group Members

USEA
GROUP MEMBER ORGANIZATION

A Note from the Editor: Submit Content for the *Scribe*!

By Mary Jo Downen



Just a quick reminder that the IDCTA *Scribe* welcomes input from its members. Whether it's a clinic report, show report, or just a fun story about your riding/training/show experiences, we'd love to get your submissions! Not only is being published in the *Scribe* a great start for a budding journalist, but you can also get volunteer hours for your submission for year-end awards. Not sure if you're a good writer? No worries! My job as editor is to make you look good, so just submit your thoughts and I'll take it from there. I'll look forward to hearing from you! Send submissions to Mary Jo Downen at typagraphics@gmail.com.

Advertising Rates

All Ads must be prepaid and received by the 10th of the preceding month. Those requiring extra graphics work may be subject to additional graphics charges. Please see **www.idcta.org** *for complete ad submission information.*

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INFORMATION HOTLINE

Molly Fine
716-573-5390

President's PERSPECTIVE

By Molly Fine

Next year's IDCTA Summer Dressage Show will be on June 25, 26 and 27. We are working on the judges for the show, and will announce their names once they are finalized. Watch for more information to come.

The IDCTA Virtual Show Series dates are:

- November 6- 15
- January 22- 31
- February 19- 28
- March 19- 28
- April 9- 25 Regular Show and Championship

We are looking for some new judges for the 2027 season. If you have any suggestions, please let Amy Barrett or me know.

By the next issue of the *Scribe*, we will have the judges' names for both the recognized show and for the virtual shows.

Board Elections are coming up in October. We are looking for new board members. If you have any interest in joining the IDCTA board of directors, please contact Molly Fine at 716-573-5390.

Planning for new educational Zooms for this winter is underway. In January, we will host review sessions of the new dressage tests with Margaret Freeman, USDF SNR WDAA. Dates for these sessions will be announced shortly. We are seeking suggestions for additional Zoom topics: Please call Eric Dierks, Angelika Coghlan or Molly Fine.

If you have any articles for the *Scribe*, submit them to Mary Jo Downen. She will be happy to help you get them ready for publication. Articles can count for volunteer hours as well. This issue features an inspiring article about one member's successes with her beautiful Fjord, Flinka, as well as an in-depth article on aids by our own VP of Eventing, Eric Dierks.

The Annual IDCTA Year-end Awards Banquet will be January 23, 2027. Please put the banquet date on your calendar; more information to come.

If there is something that you would like to see the club do this winter, let us know! We love to plan new activities for our members.

If You are Lucky Enough to Ride a Horse, Then You are Lucky Enough!

Happy Riding!

BOARD MEMBERS

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Ashley Lazic *ashleelazic@gmail.com*	**847-809-3843**
Carrie Dorn *carrie.dorn@compass.com*	**630-408-3678**

Interested in service on the IDCTA Board?
Please contact Molly Fine
716-573-5390 | mollymfine@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

For questions and/or changes:
Carrie Dorn | 630-408-3678, carrie.dorn@compass.com

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Angelika Coghlan - Dressage Committee *Angelika.Coghlan@insperity.com*	**815-353-9425**
Amy Barrett - Virtual Show Series *abarrett@bwconnect.co*	**312-909-6101**

Winsom Farm IDCTA Dressage/ CT/Mini-Event Schooling Show

July 12, 2026 | Judge: Ken Borden, Jr. | Photos by Brooklynn Burdick

Class/Division, Rider, Horse, Score, Place

Green As Grass 1
Kimberly Gobeli, Ronnie Goldstein, 53.056, 1

Intro A
Kimberly Gobeli, Ronnie Goldstein, 63.438, 1
Amelia Manrique, Emmy, 61.25, 2
Kris Hyman, Sudden Fire, 60, 3
Kate Benson, Oliver, 58.438, 4

Intro B - Juniors
Amelia Gladu, Trinket Box Harry, 66.875, 1
Devin Vag-Urminske, Ellie, 57.188, 2*
Evie Burke, Up to No Good, 57.188, 3
Genevieve Bush, Brego, 56.25, 4
Ella Engle, Lucky, 53.75, 5

Intro B - Adults
Kris Hyman, Sudden Fire, 66.563, 1
Kimberly Gobeli, Ronnie Goldstein, 62.188, 2
Emily Laffey, Boom Chex Alucka Lucka, 59.063, 3

Intro C
Evie Burke, Up to No Good, 65.25, 1
Ella Engle, Apollo, 59.75, 2
Genevieve Bush, Brego, 58.75, 3
Alexandra Bruinius, The Magic 8 Ball, 58, 4
Nathan Runke, Glassato, 57, 5
Devin Vag-Urminske, Ellie, 44, 6

Training Level Test 1 - Juniors
Kenzie Boutcher, Bella, 63.077, 1
Gabrielle Barbosa, Apollo, 62.308, 2
Caroline Kotarski, Enzo, 56.538, 3
Ava Russman, Ozzie, 55.385, 4

continued on next page

Winsom Farm Schooling Show continued from page 4

Ava Harrison, Life in The Hamptons, 54.615, 5
Amara Annan, Tuxedo, 52.885, 6

Training Level Test 1 - Adults
Sara Parks, Top Notch, 67.885, 1
Riley Reed, Lucky, 56.731, 2
Emily Laffey, Boom Chex Alucka Lucka, 52.5, 3

Training Level Test 2
Sara Parks, Top Notch, 70, 1
Riley Reed, Lucky, 56.897, 2

Training Level Test 3
Sofia Broberg, Vestal, 63, 1
Olivia Gladu, Wilson, 59.8, 2
Amara Annan, Tuxedo, 53.4, 3
Ava Harrison, Life in The Hamptons, 51, 4

First Level Test 1
Samantha Sellers, Valkyrie, 64.074, 1
Michelle Knowski, Wall-E, 61.111, 2

Starter Mini Event - Group A
Lily Wenstrup, One Sock Short, 42.7, 1
Nathan Runke, Glassato, 45.765, 2
Sarah Dickerson, Cairo, 55.2, 3
Leana Burke, Yoda, 107.5, 4

Starter Mini Event - Group B
Cora Burke, Fiona, 34.1, 1
Sadie Parks, Top Notch, 38.1, 2
Tia Lombardi, Shane, 45.1, 3
Addie Porto, Cut Me a Texas Chex, 47.6, 4
Katelyn Scherdin, Contessa, 64.1, 5
Cece Berg, Stewart, 79, 6

Beginner Novice Mini Event
Sofia Broberg, Vestal, 37.82, 1
Nancy Anderson, CJ, 61.18, 2
Greta LaForge, Indy, 81.35, 3

Novice Mini Event
Michelle Knowski, Wall-E, 36.78, 1
Samantha Sellers, Valkyrie, 43.17, 2

Pre-Starter CT
Gabrielle Barbosa, Apollo, 39.687, 1
Ava Russman, Ozzie, 43.687, 2
Alexandra Bruinius, The Magic 8 Ball, 44.062, 3
Amelia Gladu, Trinket Box Harry, 49.312, 4

continued on next page

Winsom Farm Schooling Show continued from page 5

Starter Novice CT
Kenzie Boutcher, Bella, 33.52, 1
Ava Harrison, Life in the Hamptons, 40, 2
Evie Burke, Up to No Good, 41.4, 3
Caroline Kotarski, Enzo, 47.94, 4
Savannah Wilson, Cadet Proud with Pride, 53.29, 5

Dressage High Point
Sara Parks, Top Notch, 70
Overall Mini Low Point
Cora Burke, Fiona, 34.1
Overall CT Low Point
Kenzie Boutcher, Bella, 33.52

Eric's TRAINING CORNER

IDCTA VP of EVENTING

What's Behind Your Aid?Being Intentional in the Midst of Adversity

What are your intentions?

It's a simple question, yet one that deserves continued reflection.

Our intentions are rarely fixed. They drift and change with time. What begins as service can slowly become self-preservation. What begins as curiosity can become the pursuit of recognition. Even the desire to help can quietly become the desire to control.

Adversity has a way of exposing true intentions. Pressure doesn't create character as much as it reveals it. When circumstances become uncomfortable, our intentions are tested. We begin asking less, "What is best?" and more, "How do I make this feeling stop?"

And that shift changes everything.

Photo by Kate Fitzgerald

What is an Aid?

In horsemanship, an aid is simply a means of communication. Our hands, legs, seat, voice, posture, eyes, even our breathing, are constantly telling the horse something.

Artificial aids such as spurs or a whip are not meant to replace natural communication. They simply extend it when greater clarity is required.

But here's the interesting part: Two riders can apply the exact same pressure and receive completely different responses.

Why? Because the horse is responding to far more than the physical aid. It is responding to the intention behind it.

Pressure Is Not the Problem

Pressure often gets a bad reputation, yet life itself is pressure. Gravity is pressure. Muscles grow through pressure. Faith matures through pressure. Relationships deepen through pressure.

The question isn't whether pressure exists, the question is what purpose does the pressure serve? Does it create fear or does it create understanding?

What Do We Really Want?

When we ask for a transition, a lateral movement, or a jump, what is it we're truly seeking? Obedience and submission, or partnership?

If my goal is simply to make the horse comply, my aids become something to escape. But if my goal is partnership, my aids become information, and consequently, pressure is no longer punishment; it becomes guidance.

Supporting Versus Carrying

One of the greatest mistakes riders make is believing success is measured by how much they do. In reality, successful riding is often measured by how little we need to do.

A horse that constantly requires holding, pushing, steering, and correcting is dependent on the rider. A horse that understands the exercise begins carrying itself independently.

The rider shifts from carrying the horse to supporting the horse. There is a profound difference.

The Highest Form of Horsemanship

The goal isn't to ride a horse that is constantly on the aids; the goal is to develop a horse that carries itself between the aids.

The aids simply define boundaries. Within those boundaries the horse discovers balance, confidence, and responsibility.

Just as good parents eventually give less instruction, good teachers give fewer answers, and good leaders control less, likewise, the greatest riders ultimately use fewer aids, not because they've become passive, but because they're being understood.

What's Behind Your Aid?

Perhaps this question should extend beyond riding to include every conversation, every correction, every leadership decision, every relationship.

What is behind my aid? Am I asking for a response because I need to feel in control or because I genuinely want to progress?

Horses have an extraordinary ability to reveal what we often hide from ourselves. They don't simply respond to pressure; they respond to the intention it is applied with. Perhaps that's why horsemanship has so much to teach us.

The quality of our partnership is rarely determined by the aid itself, but by the intention behind it.

- Eric G. Dierks

Eric Dierks started riding following his father's footsteps in Dressage, then discovered Eventing, graduating as an "A" from the Fox River Valley Pony Club in Barrington, Illinois. After competing in the North American Young Riders Championships, he went on to graduate from Illinois State University with a B.S. in Environmental Health Studies, eventually pursuing horses full-time as both a competitor and instructor. A big advocate for education, Eric has coached the Area IV Young Rider 3-Day Event Team at the North American Young Riders Championships, sat on the Board of Governors for the United States Pony Club, published countless articles on training, and continues to teach at his family's Stonehedge Farm in Union Grove, Wisconsin. Today Eric continues to educate and compete in the Eventing, Dressage, and Hunter/Jumper arenas. Photo from www.ericdierks.com.

Corgi Hill Flinka – FEI Dressage Champion and Breyer Horse

By Alexandria "Lexie" Andrasko | Photos provided by the author

We've all heard the story before, and mine began no differently: a little girl begging for riding lessons and parents who finally gave in.

I have always loved horses, and I like to think it's woven into my DNA. My grandpa grew up on a Belgian horse farm in Germany and came to the States in his late teen years. I have fond memories of looking at horse books with him and excitedly showing him all the new Breyer horse models I had collected.

I started riding lessons in elementary school, and my parents purchased my first horses a couple of years later.

Fjords entered my life when my grandparents passed away and I saw one for sale on my grandma's birthday. It was kismet.

Flinka basically crashed into my life. She was unruly and sometimes dangerous. She would strike with her feet and rear when she was not happy, and she was not happy a lot. A reproductive vet suggested breeding her to calm her down and that is how Sterling came into our lives.

Flinka and I started our dressage journey at HITS Chicago. We debuted at First and Second levels, and she came home with nine blue ribbons, winning every class she entered. A year later, we finished our USDF bronze medal, again, winning every class.

In the summer of 2023, we came out at Fourth Level, and she once more surpassed my expectations, winning every class she entered.

We achieved our USDF Silver medal in 2024 and started to rack up many high point ribbons and year-end placings. We really found our niche in The Dressage National Pony Cup, where she won the 2024 Fourth Level and Prix St. Georges National Championships and a year later, the 2025 Intermediate 1 and FEI Freestyle Championship.

Fjords also clean house in the All-Breeds awards, winning every level they have entered.

It was in the winter of 2025 that I received a Facebook message from someone at Breyer asking if we could share our story. Breyer is always looking for horses that have great stories, high achievements and unique breeds, and I believed we had all three.

A few weeks after I shared our story we had a zoom call, and I was told Flinka was selected to be a Breyer model in 2026. The joy and realization that I would have Breyer a model of her was unreal. I don't think it will ever truly sink in. We then began to work with Breyer, sending pictures of her markings and coat color and eagerly awaiting the final product. A few months later a model was sent to

continued on next page

Corgi Hill Flinka – FEI Dressage Champion and Breyer Horse continued from page 8

compare to the real horse, and they did such an amazing job! Then the hard part was keeping it a secret until July 2026.

We spent the 2026 winter season competing in Wellington, Florida with Katrina Hiller Dressage. Flinka again won every FEI pony test we entered. It was such a dream to pilot this horse around the Adequan Global Dressage Festival, and it really cemented how far we have come on our journey. Everyone from Olympians to bystanders had smiles on their faces as Flinka passed by. I think she is a great reminder to everyone that dressage is for every horse and everybody.

It was finally time to head to the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky for BreyerFest 2026. I had never been to BreyerFest so I did not know what to expect. It blew us away. I had lines of people for three days straight waiting to meet Flinka. We received artwork, pottery, friendship bracelets and handwritten notes saying how much this horse meant to everyone. We performed dressage demos each day and it was the most surreal experience. I think I signed about twenty thousand Flinka Breyers and I will never grow tired of seeing her being carried around by thousands of happy customers. Breyer brought fifty-two thousand copies of Flinka to the Horse Park and when the last day rolled around, they were completely sold out.

Flinka has now helped me achieve my USDF Bronze and Silver medals and I am halfway to my Gold, as well as my Bronze, Silver and halfway to my Gold Freestyle Bars. Our next chapter is the Grand Prix which I hope to debut next year.

My hope is that our story inspires everyone with a non- traditional horse or pony to start showing and putting themselves out there. Adult Amateurs are the backbone of dressage in this country, and I would love for everyone to have the experience of showing their heart horse as as I have.

Eventing Committee Meetings are on the **second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. All meetings are held on Zoom.**

Questions? Please reach out to **Eventing VP Eric Dierks** at the phone or email above, or contact **Emma Kane** at **847-890-5549** or **emma.kane04@gmail.com**

Love Dressage?

Help shape its future.

IDCTA is looking for passionate riders, trainers and supporters to join the Dressage Committee.

Your voice matters – come make an impact!

Contact me if interested.

Angelika Coghlan
VP of Dressage IDCTA
815 353 9425
acoghlan@catwalkconsulting.com

To join or find more information on IDCTA visit www.IDCTA.org

Dressage Committee Meets are on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. All meetings are held on Zoom.

ILLINOIS DRESSAGE AND COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION

Questions?
Reach out to VP of Dressage Angelika Coghlan at 815 353 9425 or acoghlan@catwalkcosulting.com

IDCTA Continuing Education Program

Education Recognition Program

Program Charter: The mission of the IDCTA Education Series is to foster a community of equestrians who are as eager to learn and develop their skills, as they are to compete. This program intends to reward riders and unmounted horsemen alike, for their dedication to continuing education, by awarding points to the various educational sessions (mounted and unmounted) offered throughout the calendar year. The submissions can be from any horse related educational activities. Examples could be educational activities at Pony Club Rallies, certification programs and horse behavioral sessions.

** All sessions attended must be documented and recorded in the appropriate form and may be submitted for end-of-year award consideration. The tables below outline the point system and prize tiers. All end-of-year eligibility requirements apply, including 5 hours of volunteer time and IDCTA membership at the time of participation. Management reserves the right to review submissions. If you would like to pre-certify the event that you are submitting, please call Ashlee or Molly. (See Below)

Point System:

Type of Education	Points for Each Type of Education
Zoom Clinics/Educational Series	1 Hour for Each Hour Attended
Unmounted Clinic (audit)	1 Hour for Each Hour Attended up to 6 Hours
Mounted Clinic (participant)	1 Hour for Each Hour Attended up to 8 Hours
Educational Website Sessions (must be at least 1 hour long)	1 Hour for Each Hour Attended
In-person Educational Programs	1 Hour for Each Hour Attended

Prize Tiers:

Gold Level Learner	40 points
Silver Level Learner	30 points
Bronze Level Learner	20 points
Perpetual Learner	>1 point

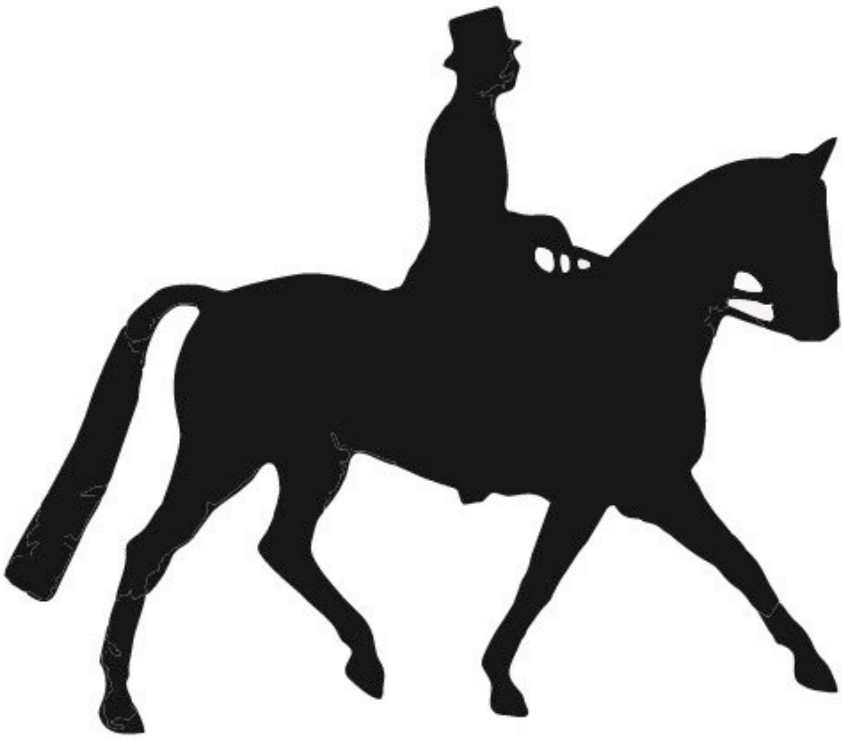
Process:

1. Members attend an educational session or series of sessions.
2. Any time after the education event is attended, the member reports the attendance through the link to the website (the pertinent information will be gathered by prompts on the website form). The last day for reporting is 10-31 of the current calendar year. Each program attended should be reported separately.
3. After the last reporting date (i.e., 10-31) the team will download the reports from the form and calculate the scores based on criteria above.
4. Each person reporting scores will be eligible for an award if they meet the criteria.
5. The collection of data will occur from 11-1 to 10- 31. Any educational program attended during this period can be counted and can be submitted at any time.

Team:

Contact Molly Fine 716-573-5390, mollymfine@gmail.com or Ashlee Lazic, 847-809-3843 ashleelazic@gmail.com - if you have questions or need help.

CLICK HERE to make a submission to the IDCTA Continuing Education Recognition Program



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IDCTA Celebrated our Golden Anniversary in 2023!

IDCTA is continuing plans for fun and educational events and activities aimed at building community within our sports of eventing and dressage in 2025. Won't you join us? All ideas for activities and/or events are welcome!

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING IDCTA ANNUAL YEAR-END AWARDS:

You MUST be an active IDCTA member BEFORE competing in the show which you wish to submit scores for. Only scores earned AFTER a membership has been processed or renewed will be counted.

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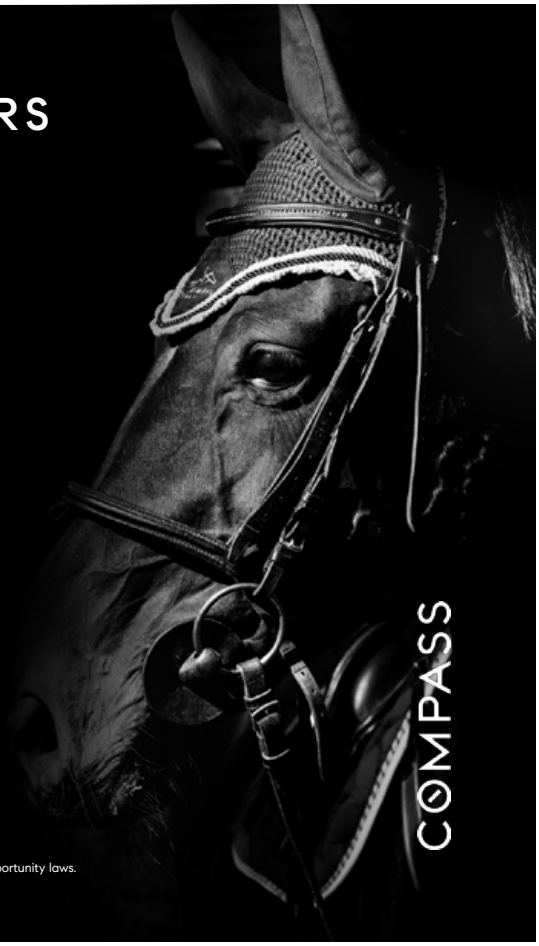

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KAREN ANDERSON
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karen.anderson@compass.com

epp@compass.com

Carrie Dorn is a real estate agent affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by federal, state and local Equal Housing Opportunity laws.

Paid Advertisement

Therapeutic Riding Volunteers Needed!

As a rider or horse enthusiast, you know the important role riding and being with horses has in your life. Clients at Main Stay Therapeutic Farm feel the same passion for connecting with horses. Main Stay offers therapeutic riding lessons and animal assisted learning programs to a wide variety of people who want to continue to achieve their goals and may need some additional support to be able to do so.

Main Stay offers adaptive/therapeutic riding lessons during the day, evening and weekends, and there is a need for people with horse experience to lead therapy horses during classes. Horse handlers are primarily responsible for the horse during lessons and help ensure the rider's safety by providing the needed level of support during the class. Lessons are either 30 or 45 minutes in length and volunteers must be able to walk for at least an hour on an uneven surface in our indoor and/or outdoor arenas. Weekly volunteer slots are available, or filling in on a substitute basis is also an option with several slots currently available throughout the week. Volunteers are essential to the success of our riders.

Check out our new website, www.mainstayfarm.org, or reach out to our volunteer coordinator, vc@mainstayfarm.org or 815-382-9374 to learn more about the program and the important volunteer roles available at the farm. The best way to learn about the program is to come and observe a session. We would love to meet you and share more information about Main Stay. It's a special place to so many people and animals! The farm is located in Richmond on 40 beautiful acres across from Glacial Park Conservation District. Background checks and training are required for new volunteers.

If you are an IDCTA member, you can get your volunteer hours from an approved Therapeutic Riding Program such as Main Stay. To obtain approval for a therapeutic program, please email Cindy Lambert at cindylambert706@gmail.com or Molly Fine at mollymfine@gmail.com.

WE NEED YOU!

Main Stay is a volunteer-based organization. We operate with a small core staff, and without our dedicated volunteers who choose to make a difference, our program would not exist. For most areas of the program you will not need a special skill or horse experience. You just need the desire to give your time... we can almost guarantee you will receive more than you give!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Horse Handler*
- Sidewalker
- Groomer*
- Group/Animal Assistant
- Gardening Assistant
- Special Events Help
- Fundraising
- Projects Around the Farm
- Board & Committee Members

*requires horse experience

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteers are essential to our clients' success in our therapeutic riding, animal assisted learning program and adaptive garden program. Daytime and evening volunteer opportunities are available throughout the year in our state of the art equestrian facility!

To learn more about our program and how you can make a difference, call us today at 815-382-9374 or scan the QR code with your phone! www.mainstayfarm.org/volunteer

6919 Keystone Rd., Richmond, IL 60071 | www.mainstayfarm.org | 815-653-9374 | info@mainstayfarm.org

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Check our our ZOOM library at www.idcta.org

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Photo © Josa Comstock Photography

Attention: Show Managers & Organizers!

Part of the thrill of competing is seeing your results in the IDCTA *Scribe*!

We have a variety of area competitions each year and only a few send us results and/or photos. Please take a moment to give your competitors the added thrill of seeing their results in print.

Send all show results, stories and photographs to

Scribe Editor Mary Jo Downen at *typagraphics@gmail.com*.

IDCTA Clinic Affiliation Program

In order to provide education opportunities for our members, we are establishing a program to affiliate with those barns who are giving clinics. We would like to be able work with a few barns like yours on 2 clinics per year.

IDCTA requests that the hosting barn will:

- Reserve 2 ride spots specifically for IDCTA members (if not filled 3 weeks before the clinic start date, these 2 slots can be filled with any rider)
- Provide an auditor discount of $5-10/day to IDCTA members
- Display the IDCTA banner during the clinic

IDCTA will:

- Subsidize the barn with $100 to offset a small portion of the clinic cost
- Provide a rider subsidy of $400 per clinic for riders who are IDCTA members - If there are 4 IDCTA member riders, each rider would receive $100, if more than 4, each rider would receive a portion of the $400 (i.e., if a clinic had 6 riders who were IDCTA members, each would receive $66). Each rider would be limited to 2 subsidy's per year
- Provide an IDCTA member to man the auditor check-in table during the clinic
- Advertise the clinic on IDCTA's face book page and on USDF Region 2's face book page (using the communication form)
- In order for your barn to participate in this clinic affiliation program, your barn must be a business member. This program is limited to 2 clinics per year.

As an IDCTA business member, your barn would receive the following benefits:

- ONE IDCTA Regular, Junior Rider or Young Rider membership including a Group Membership to USDF (go to http://www.usdf.org/join/GMBenefits.pdf for a complete list of GMO benefits)
- $60 of advertising in the IDCTA *Scribe* (good for one membership year, not cumulative)
- An expanded listing in the IDCTA website Service Directory (www.idcta.org/membership/idcta-service-directory)
- A condensed version of your web-site Service Directory listing in the IDCTA *Scribe* (see current issue for details)
- Links to your website and/or email from both Service Directories, as well as any advertising you run in the *Scribe*
- Event listings on the IDCTA Calen-dar, both website and *Scribe*
- Email Blasts utilizing the IDCTA email list, a great way to advertise your business.

If you would like to participate in this clinic affiliation program, your barn will be assigned a barn ambassador to ensure that there will be continuity and regular communication between the barn and the IDCTA board. We are excit-ed about the program and are sure that there are benefits for each organization.

Updated 3/15/21

Dressage4Kids

Educational and competitive opportunities for youth riders and the adults who support them

Educational Opportunities:

- Scholarships – open to all D4K participants
- Training4Teaching – open to all instructors
- Weekend Equestrian Program – open to all
- Winter Intensive Training Program – open to riders ages 25 & under
- TEAM (Training, Education & Mentoring) Program – open to riders ages 25 & under

D4K TEAM member benefits:

- Educational material
- Community
- Eligibility to ride in D4K TEAM clinics with top trainers like Lendon Gray, Allison Brock, and Olivia LaGoy-Weltz
- Notices about D4K lease horses
- Special opportunities such as meet and greets with Olympians Charlotte Dujardin and Dorothee Schneider

Competitive Opportunities:

- Atlanta Youth Festival (Georgia)
- Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival (New York)
- Youth Dressage Festival Midwest (Michigan)

Learn more at www.dressage4kids.org

Illinois Dressage and Combined Training Association
2026 Membership Form

Name: _____

Street Address:_____

City / State / Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email (Required): _____

The membership year is December 1 though November 30. If you choose a type of membership that has an italic section, please complete the information for that specialized membership type:

Regular Membership .....$70.00 $ _____

Young Rider Membership .....$55.00 $ _____

Rider Birth Date – REQUIRED! _____

Junior Rider Membership $45.00 $ _____

Rider Birth Date – REQUIRED! _____

Business Membership* .....$175.00 $ _____

If you are joining as a Business Member, please provide us with additional information:

Business Name: _____

Street Address: _____

*City / State / Zip:*_____

Please check applicable box: ❑ New Membership ❑ Membership Renewal

Please accept my gift to IDCTA's Educational Grant Fund _____ $

Total.....$ _____

What type of riding do you do? (select all that apply):
❑ Dressage ❑ Eventing ❑ Schooling Shows ❑ Western Dressage ❑ Virtual Shows ❑ Other

Are you a trainer: ❑ Yes ❑ No **Who do you train with?**_____

Please make check payable to IDCTA. Credit cards NOT accepted with this form.
Mail Membership Form & Check to:
Carrie Dorn, 1311 Gamon Rd, Wheaton, IL 60189
Email: carrie.dorn@compass.com | Phone: 630-408-3678

IDCTA is an ALL Volunteer, Not-For-Profit Organization. Please become active in the club and VOLUNTEER!
Rules Governing IDCTA Year-end Awards: In order to qualify for any awards, the owner and the rider of each horse must be a Regular, Young Rider, Junior Rider and/or Life member of IDCTA at the time the scores are earned.

Explanation of Membership Fees:

Regular Membership: $70.00 Includes an annual electronic subscription to the Scribe available at IDCTA.org, one vote in annual elections, discounted participation in select IDCTA sponsored activities and a USDF Group membership*.

Young Rider Membership: $55.00 For those members who will not have reached their 22nd birthday before January 1, 2026. Same benefits as regular members with the exception of voting privileges.

Junior Rider Membership: $45.00 For those members who will not have reached their 17th birthday before January 1, 2026. Same benefits as regular members with the exception of voting privileges.

Business Membership: $175.00 Entitles a business to ONE IDCTA Regular, Junior Rider or Young Rider membership. $60 of advertising in the Scribe, a link to your website from IDCTA's website and an entry into the Business Directory with your logo and a summary of your business offerings. You can also advertise your events on the IDCTA website calendar, and request E-Blasts be sent out to the IDCTA email list. Once you have signed up as a business, your application will be sent to the web administrator and you will be sent a questionnaire to build your directory page. This is a great way to advertise your business.

** USDF Group membership includes 10 issues of the* USDF Connection *and many additional benefits. It is not a participating membership and does not include eligibility for USDF year end awards and to compete in Regional competitions. For further information go to www.usdf.org/clubs/gmo.*

Benefits of IDCTA Membership

IDCTA membership comes with the following benefits:

Community

- Support - becoming a member of IDCTA brings you together with other equine lovers to support one another and improve the understanding of dressage and eventing disciplines
- *SCRIBE* - receive IDCTA's monthly, electronic newsletter
- *SCRIBE* - you can submit articles to be published in the *SCRIBE*
- Facebook - join your equine community on IDCTA's Facebook page

Education

- Riding clinics - with some of the top trainers/coaches available
- Education clinics (in development) – learn about different topics (i.e., tack fitting, equine insurance, essential oils, etc)
- Schooling Shows
- Recognized Shows

Financial

- Discounts - receive a discount to ride in or audit IDCTA-sponsored clinics
- USDF Group membership - included with your IDCTA membership - group members get most of the benefits of USDF membership (exceptions - a group membership cannot qualify for or participate in (1) regional championships; (2) Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards or (3) USDF Breeder's Championship Qualifiers and Finals classes) (link: https://www.usdf.org/faqs/gmo.asp#1)
- Grants - apply for a grant to participate in a clinic (link: https://idcta.org/idcta-grant-program)
- Advertising - regular members get free advertising in the classified section of the *SCRIBE,* and business members (1) get $60 of advertising in the *SCRIBE*, (2) can advertise through emails blasts to almost 2,000 in the equine community, (3) can post on IDCTA's facebook page, and (4) can advertise events on the IDCTA website calendar (link: https://idcta.org/contact-us/advertising-rates)

Recognition

- IDCTA year-end awards - be recognized for your achievements in both recognized and schooling shows

Photo Credit: Shannon Brinkman

TDF
Your Source for Support

Since 1989, donors to The Dressage Foundation have generously provided funds to create a better dressage community... for you.

Each year grants and scholarships are awarded to riders of all ages and levels- instructors, judges, breeders, dressage non-profits, and more.

Visit dressagefoundation.org to learn about the options currently available:

Photo Credit: Carolynn Bunch

ADULT AMATEURS
- Gifted Memorial Fund
- Heldenberg Training Center Fund
- Evie Tumlin Fund for Region 9

YOUTH
- Captain Jack Fritz Grants for YR Graduate Program
- Carolyn Van Cise Fund for Michigan Youth
- Cynthia Aspden Fund for Youth Development
- Heldenberg Training Center Fund
- Young Rider International Dream Program

INSTRUCTORS
- Continuing Education for Instructors Fund
- Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals
- Major Lindgren Instructor Education Fund
- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members
- USDF Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award

BREEDERS
- Elysium Farm Fund for U.S. Breeders

JUDGES
- Shannon Foundation Fund for Judges' Licensing
- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members

SHOW MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL DELEGATES
- Lloyd Landkamer Show Management Development Fund
- Veronica Holt Dressage Technical Delegate Fund

HIGH PERFORMANCE
- Anne B. Ramsay Grant
- Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize
- Patsy Albers Award

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS
- Continuing Education for Instructors Fund
- Dancing Horse Fund
- Edgar Hotz Judges Education Fund
- Michael Poulin Dressage Fund
- Sally Swift Fund for Centered Riding Clinics
- Violet Hopkins Fund for GMO Events

CENTURY CLUB
- Honoring senior riders and horses

THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION
1314 'O' Street, Suite 305
Lincoln, NE 68508

402-434-8585
info@dressagefoundation.org
www.dressagefoundation.org

IDCTA Scribe Advertising Information

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Mary Jo Downen, TypaGraphics
Please pay online at IDCTA.org or send checks (made payable to IDCTA) to: Mary Jo Downen, 33062 Pearl St., Kirkland, IL 60146
Phone: 815-522-2285 E-mail: typagraphics@gmail.com

The Scribe is available ONLINE in FULL COLOR. Your ad linked to your website and/or email at NO CHARGE.

Advertising Rates

All Ads must be prepaid and received by the 10th of the preceding month. Ads must be "camera-ready" and sized to fit; those requiring extra work may be subject to additional graphics charges.

Display Ad Rates	1X	6X*	12X*
Full page	$40.00	$38.00/mo ($228)	$35.00/mo. ($420)
Half Page	$25.00	$23.00/mo ($138)	$20.00/mo. ($240)
Third Page	$20.00	$18.00/mo ($108)	$15.00/mo. ($180)
Quarter Page	$15.00	$13.00/mo ($78)	$10.00/mo. ($120)
Business Card	$10.00	$8.00/mo ($48)	$5.00/mo. ($60)
SPONSOR Business Card	FREE**		

***Businesses offering IDCTA members a 10% discount may run a business card size ad in the* IDCTA Scribe *FREE OF CHARGE. Ad MUST include the words "10% discount for IDCTA members." No limit on times ad is run provided conditions are met.*

**The entire amount of the ad run must be paid at the time the ad is placed in order to obtain the multiple insertion discount.*

Classifieds (Sorry, there is no discount for multiple classified insertions)
Members 50 words FREE (Additional words are 10¢ each.)
Non-members 10¢ per word. Payment MUST accompany order.

Ad Payment: Ads must be paid in full by deadline. Please make all checks payable to IDCTA, and mail to Mary Jo Downen, 33062 Pearl St., Kirkland, IL 60146.

Ad Sizes:
Full Page: 8-1/2" Wide X 11" High
Half Page: 7-7/8" Wide X 5" High
One-Third Page: 7-7/8" Wide X 3-3/8" High
Quarter Page: 4" Wide X 5" High
Business Card: 3-1/2" Wide X 2" High

Copy Submission Guidelines:
Preferred file formats are: Press-ready PDF, TIF, JPEG, EPS, AI (all fonts converted to outlines).

The following formats are not preferred but will be accepted: PageMaker (all fonts and links included), InDesign (fonts to outlines and links included), CorelDraw (all fonts and links included), Microsoft Publisher (all fonts included), Microsoft Word (all fonts included).

The Scribe can also scan your hard copy; however, we can not be responsible for the quality of reproduced pre-printed copy.

The Scribe is not responsible for any ad that is not submitted properly sized and in the proper format. If your ad is close to our stated sizes, we will adjust to fit. However, if there is a significant sizing issue, you will be contacted and asked to re-size your ad or pay an additional charge for us to do so. *The Scribe* can put together an ad for you at an additional cost; please call Mary Jo at 815-522-2285 for a quote.

EVENTING

Erika Dierks
Stonehedge Farm | Union Grove, WI
(262) 859-2853 | stonehedgellc@gmail.com
www.stonehedgefarm.net
Premiere Boarding and Training Facility located on 170 acres. 30 stalls, Quality Care. Training in Eventing, Dressage and Jumping.

Eric Dierks
Stonehedge Farm | Union Grove, WI
(703)297-2329 | Eric@EricDierks.com
www.EricDierks.com
Offers Lessons and Training in Dressage, Hunter/Jumpers and Eventing from Horsemanship to Competition.

DRESSAGE

Jill McCrea
McCrae Farm Classical French Dressage
Grayslake, IL
jem60030@aol.com | 847-546-5164
www.mccreafarm.com
Dedicated to the preservation of French Classical Dressage – a training and teaching facility with school masters available for lessons.

Heidi Wright – Long Meadow | Malta, IL
heidirite@gmail.com
(815) 761-2341

HORSE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Susan Taylor | Taylor Select Horse Bedding
Sales@taylorselect.com | 815-601-3002
www.taylorselect.com
We are a certified woman owned business providing Mini, Mixed and Large flake shavings and pellets to the horse industry. All of our products are safe, clean & economical – without sacrificing quality. "Select the Best" and choose TaylorSelect Horse Bedding.

Team Hall LLC | Polly Hall
Horse Boarding | Richmond, IL
teamhall24@gmail.com | 815-690-1429
www.teamhallstables.com
Team Hall offers rehabilitation board and full service retirement board for horses that deserve the best.

Haywire Farms LLC - Anita Johnson
Boarding and Lesson Barn | Galena, Illinois
Haywirefarmsllc@aol.com
(630) 533-4697 - Owner | (815) 281-0496 - Manager
Haywirefarmsllc.com

Livin A Dream Farm LLC
Jessica Skudlarek – Dressage, Show Jumping and Western Dressage | Chebanse, Illinois
Livinadream2020@gmail.com
(815) 263-9405 | Livinadreamfarmllc.com

The Gate at 45W
Kristin Schimmel – Stabling and Training | Maple Park, IL
Kristen@thegateat45w.com
(312) 371-5481 | thegaitat45w.com

Sky Rose Equestrian Center – Nicole Avila
Boarding and Training Facility in Multiple Disciplines | Antioch, Illinois
nicolechiapet01@gmail.com | (224) 938-2543

INSURANCE

Hallmark Equine Insurance Agency
800-734-0598 | info@hallmarkhorse.com
www.hallmarkhorse.com
Hallmark is dedicated to protecting all your equestrian investments by providing quality, cost-effective coverages. Our staff of knowledgeable horse people can discuss your specific insurance needs, whether you would like to insure your horse, equine business, equestrian association, or farm.

PRIVATE JET CHARTER

Valley Air Service, Inc.
888.235.9827 • charter@flyvas.com
www.FLYVAS.com
Since 1994, Valley Air Service, Inc. has been the private air charter service of choice for those who expect the utmost in safety and service. Based at Chicago's DuPage Airport, our commitment to a perfect flight coupled with our stellar safety record provides the peace of mind you need, whether flying for business or pleasure. Service to Wellington, Ocala, Aiken, Tryon, Lexington and more.

VETERINARY CARE

Dr. Michelle Jobert | Well Adjusted Pet
www.welladjustedpet.com
Woodstock, IL | 954-309-0333
drjobert@welladjustedpet.com
Holistic veterinary medicine including chiropractic, acupuncture, laser therapy, and Chinese herbal medicine in an ambulatory setting.

OTHER SERVICES

Piwonka, CPA, Inc. | Krista Piawonka
Full Service CPA Firm | McHenry
#815-679-6282 | https://piwonkacpa.com/
Krista@piwonkacpa.com
Providing accurate accounting & tax services! Piwonka, CPA, Inc. specializes in micro-entities and their business owners' accounting and tax needs from set-up through completion of the annual income tax returns, including everything in between as well as individual income tax preparation services. Each client is unique, like horses, and we tailor our services according to what you "need", from books, financials, payroll, taxes & tax minimization & management strategies, compliance, etc. Most micro-business owners dislike/detest "this" part of their business. Why not hand it off to a profession, giving yourself more time to do what you do best and enjoy? Additionally, as a competitive rider, I speak your language and already know the tax laws unique to your equestrian business.

Equestrian Property Partners/Compass Real Estate
Carrie Dorn and Karen Anderson
carriedornrealestate.com | 630-408-3678
Meeting the real estate needs of equestrians in and around Chicagoland.

Amy Barrett | Barrett Wealth Connection
www.bwconnect.co | Spring Grove, IL
815-529-7527 | abarrett@bwconnect.co
Barrett Wealth Connection provides financial planning and wealth management, as fiduciaries, for individuals, families, corporations, and not-for-profit organizations. Our clients appreciate holistic, professional assistance guiding their financial lives to bring peace of mind. –

Krista Kehoe | Life Coaching
krista@kristakehoe.com | 847-712-4949
www.kristakehoe.com
Krista Kehoe offers 1:1 Life Coaching for equestrian women who want to stress less and ride more . Using proven mindset tools, she helps competitive riders navigate pressure, perfectionism, and performance anxiety—so they can show up fully for their horse and themselves. If you want to generate more freedom and happiness both in and out of the saddle, life coaching is a great option.

The IDCTA Service Directory listings are available to all paid IDCTA Business Members.

Take advantage of this fantastic resource for those seeking equine-related services as well as for those offering them.

Classified Ads up to 50 words are FREE for IDCTA members! 10¢ a word for non-members.
Send your ad to Mary Jo Downen at typagraphics@gmail.com

Classified Ads

TRAINING

Driving dressage training, riding dressage and saddleseat training/ lessons, complete horse show assistance package: transport grooming & coaching, stallions welcome. Retirement board with access on property trails. Landmark Farm, Dittman Road, Campton Hills , IL Jonelle Chovanec 414-899-9988

Dressage lessons and coaching with Fatima Pawlenko Kranz. Classic and Western Dressage lessons & clinics, ride-a-test clinics, coaching at shows. 45+ years experience, USDF Silver Medalist, USDF "R" Dressage Judge, USEF "R" Western Dressage Judge. Fpk2009@yahoo.com or 847-774-5856

BOARDING

Stalls available at Woodland Equestrian. Board Your Horse in a Quiet private, heated barn in Harvard, IL. Stalls are 12x14. Heated Indoor arena and outdoor Dressage arena. Wash stall with hot and cold water. Training programs available with clinics on premise. Call or text Jamie Waters 815-651-1839

Board Your Horse – Large Stalls: Quiet private barn in Barrington Hills; 12 x 20 foot stalls; lighted indoor arena with sand/rubber/fiber footing; barn is heated; warm/cold water wash rack; 6 fenced pastures; across from riding trails; 3 miles from the B.H.'s Riding Center. $950 to $1200 per month. **Contact Shirley at (847) 370-3856**

LEASE AND SHARE BOARDING

Stonehedge Farm has several horses available for lease or share boarding. Trainer on premises available for lessons: 1) TB/Percheron Cross gelding. Likes to jump; started in dressage. 2) TB Gelding- School Master to fourth Level Dressage. Contact Erika Dierks for more information (262) 859-2853 or e-mail stonehedgellc@gmail.com.

TACK FOR SALE

Prestige saddle medium tree, 17.5 seat, $2400. If interested contact Molly Fine- 716-573-5390 or mollymfine@gmail.com

2021 Bates Isabell 18"dressage saddle with CAIR panels and easy changegullet system. Wide. $1,500. Barrington location. 847-989-6378.

Potter steel metal jump cups with chain attached pins. Never lose another pin. $12/pr. 18 pair available. 847-989-6378.

Saddle:2017 Equipe Viktoria Black Mono, 18L, M+1. +1 Rear Panel. Excellent condition $3500.00 OBO **Bits:**Neue Schule bit, Starter Weymouth 5" - $150.00, Neue Schule Bit Starter Bridoon 5" - $90.00, Neue Schule Bit Starter snaffle 5.14 - $90.00 **Contact: Robin Mattson, 847-363-9409**

Stubben Juventus Jump Saddle 17 inch, wide tree. Secure deep seat with knee/thigh blocks, ideal for junior or petite adult jumper or eventer. Excellent used condition with years of use ahead. A few cosmetic blemishes lead to a very affordable price. $750. email for photos or info: irebay@uchicago.edu

Dresch Verdades saddle - medium/ wide 8cm gullet with covered rolled monoflap in Remy and Buffalo leather with black patent half-moon. 6 months old with very little use. Asking $5400. Call or text Jamie Waters @ 815-651-1839

Full Size, Rolled Double Bridle with top buckles, Great Condition $125. Tammy Venturi, 208-283-3718

Stubben Leather Dressage Girth , 28 inches. Beautiful and Well-Conditioned. $150. Contact Olivia Venturi email : dventuri32@msn.com. 208-781-0045

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Stunning hunt scene room divider - hand painted on leather. 84" high with 4 25" panels accordion-style panels. Extraordinary craftsmanship. $1200. Contact me for photos or more info. citywindfarm@hotmail.com

Classified ads must be paid in full and received by the 10th of the preceding month (e.g., May 10 for June issue). First 50 words are FREE for an IDCTA member (please supply member number) and 10¢ a word for non-members. Additional words are $.50 each. Mail to: Mary Jo Downen, 33062 Pearl St., Kirkland, IL 60146. For information, call 815-522-2285. Email: typagraphics@gmail.com

NOTE: IDCTA MEMBER FREE ADS will continued to run until cancelled. Please contact the Advertising Manager above if you wish your ad to be discontinued.

Paid Advertisement

• Training
• Boarding
• Lessons
• Sales

STONEHEDGE FARM

Dressage
262.859.2853

Eventing
Stonehedgellc@gmail.com
www.stonehedgefarm.net

Jumping
935 172nd Ave
Union Grove, WI 53182

Paid Advertisement

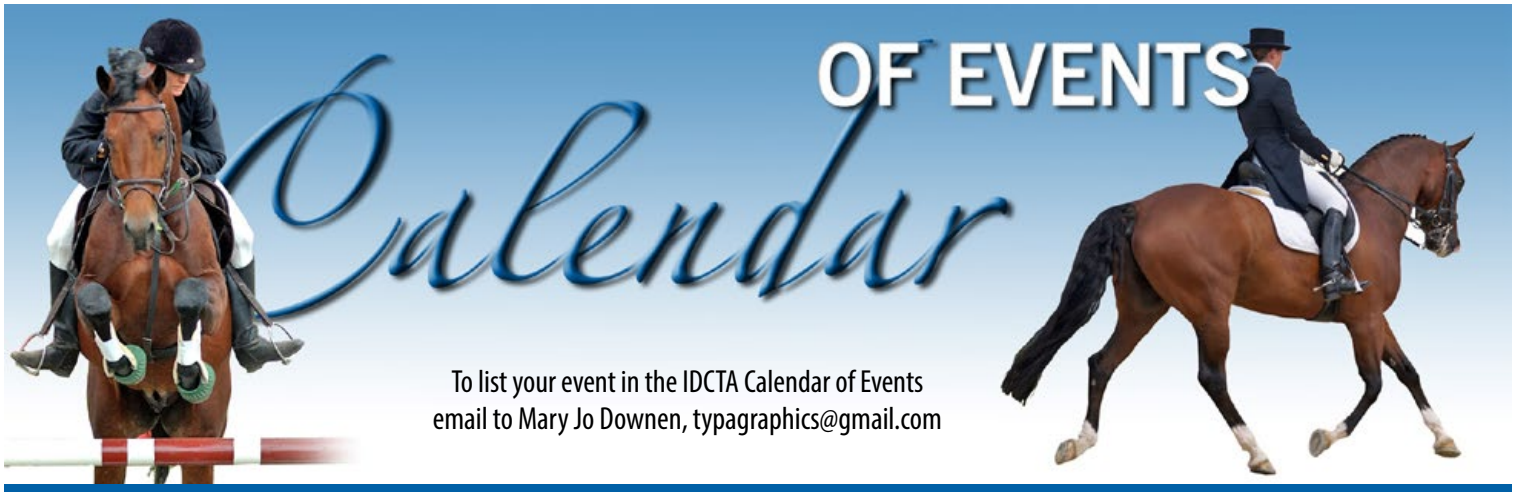
Calling all Beginner Novice competitors and coaches! There have been some language clarifications to movements 4 and 9 on the USEA Beginner Novice Test A to ensure one canter circle is performed. **View the full updated test here: https://bit.ly/49gKDfU**

2026 IDCTA SCHOOLING SHOWS

- MAY 17TH - FRVPC MINI EVENT AND CT
- MAY 31ST - FVSA DRESSAGE
- JUNE 7TH - FVSA MINI EVENT AND CT
- JUNE 14TH - HANNABERRY FARMS DRESSAGE AND CT
- JUNE 27TH - HAYWIRE FARM MINI EVENT, CT, AND DRESSAGE
- JUNE 28TH - EXCELSIOR EQUESTRIAN CENTER DRESSAGE **SOUTH SIDE CLASSIC **
- JULY 12TH - WINSOM FARM - MINI EVENT, CT, AND DRESSAGE **SOUTH SIDE CLASSIC **
- JULY 26TH - OAKLAWN FARM DRESSAGE AND CT
- JULY 19TH - JOHNSON EQUESTRIAN CENTER - DRESSAGE AND CT
- JULY 25TH - HANNABERRY FARM DRESSAGE AND CT **SOUTH SIDE CLASSIC**
- AUGUST 1ST - HAYWIRE FARM MINI EVENT, CT, AND DRESSAGE
- AUGUST 2ND - JOHNSON EQUESTRIAN CENTER DRESSAGE AND CT
- AUGUST 8TH - EXCELSIOR EQUESTRIAN CENTER DRESSAGE
- AUGUST 23RD - FVSA MINI EVENT AND CT
- AUGUST 29TH - OAKLAWN FARM DRESSAGE AND CT
- SEPTEMBER 5TH - FVSA DRESSAGE AND CT CHAMPIONSHIPS
- OCTOBER 4TH - SILVERWOOD MINI EVENT CHAMPIONSHIPS

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT:

IDCTA.ORG



To list your event in the IDCTA Calendar of Events
email to Mary Jo Downen, typagraphics@gmail.com

NOTE: All IDCTA shows and events, as well as Region 2 USDF Shows and USEA Area IV events are eligible for volunteer hours with signed volunteer form.

JULY

July 31 - August 2
Silverwood NIHJA Show
www.silverwoodfarm.net

AUGUST

August 24-30
U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions
HITS Lamplight Equestrian Center, Wayne, IL
www.hitsshows.com/event/u-s-dressage-festival-of-champions/

August 29-30
Long Meadow Farm Presents
Martin Arnold 2026 Clinic Series
Long Meadow Farm
5130 IL Route 38 , 5130 IL Route 38 Malta, IL
CONTACT: Heidi Wright
Heidirite@gmail.com, 815-761-2341
CLICK HERE for more information

SEPTEMBER

September 12-13
Silverwood Dressage
www.silverwoodfarm.net

September 26-27
Silverwood Dressage
www.silverwoodfarm.net

OCTOBER

October 3
Cross-country Schooling Day
and Horse Show Warmup
www.silverwoodfarm.net

October 4
IDCTA Mini Event Championships
and One-Day Horse Trials
www.silverwoodfarm.net

October 10-11
Silverwood Dressage
www.silverwoodfarm.net

October 31
Year-end awards scores due!

IDCTA MISSION STATEMENT

The Illinois Dressage and Combined Training Association is a non-profit organization that embraces education, self-accomplishment and community in Dressage, Eventing and Combined Training. Through educational events, scheduled competitions and social activities, our organization strives to support both equestrian and non-equestrian members with their personal goals, including understanding theories that enhance horsemanship, gaining skills to improve performance, and pursuing the maximum enjoyment that equestrian sport has to offer.

www.idcta.org

Paid Advertisement