

# Crossroads Dressage & Combined Training Society

## THE CROSSING

October 2010 Volume 6, Issue 9



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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There were a number of CDCTS members at the World Equestrian Games. It was an absolutely wonderful to see so many fancy horses and so much good riding. The weather was iffy....quite chilly for Monday and Tuesday of the dressage, then nicer for the rest of the week. At the board meeting this month, it was voted to purchase all of the WEG dvd's for both dressage and eventing to keep in our library. Look for their arrival soon.

The big shows for October include Region 3 Championships in Conyers, GA and the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tennessee State Championship Dressage Show in Shelbyville, TN at the end of the month. Good luck to everyone showing!

On November 13, Joni Abney will be hosting her clinic on "Riding the New Tests" from 10:00am til 2:00 pm. At last year's clinic, we learned lots of tips on what a judge is looking for. Don't miss it!

*Rita*

## CDCTS Meeting September 14, 2010 – Puleo’s Grille, Knoxville, TN

Meeting called to order 7:10pm

Attendees: Susan Price (presiding), Sallie Hirter, Kathy Ridenour, Kate Wooten, Janet Besanceney, LeAnna Totten, Linda Klingerman, Sue Cain, Susan Hill, Julie Noe, and Melissa Roberts

The Secretary’s report was unavailable.

The Treasurer’s report was read and approved.

### Old Business

Fall Schooling Show - Janet and Kate reported on the progress of the Cedar Valley show. All entries were filled with over 80 rides scheduled and a waiting list.

Club Shirts – Linda reordered shirts due to the incorrect color shipped. Shirts are priced at \$19.71 each and can be purchased from Linda.

Cindy Sydnor Clinic – Susan Price reported on the success of the 2-day clinic with Cindy. She was very well received and the members voted and approved to have her return for 2 clinics in 2011. There may be an option for a 3-day clinic and Susan will be communicating with Cindy to coordinate clinic dates and associated details. Total income from the clinic was \$2300 with the club funding approximately \$450 to host it. The Sydnor clinic prompted a follow-on discussion about how to fund and/or subsidize future dressage and combined training clinics.

Annual Financial Planning – Members proposed a review of the club’s overall financial standing of annual expenses and to establish future financial goals and objectives. The club’s treasurer, Linda Klingerman will evaluate the club’s account from the past 3 - 4 years to determine the average per year increase in the club’s financial growth.

### New Business

USDF Region 3 Fundraiser – Susan Price reported the club was approached to donate \$100 for an ice cream social to benefit the Region 3 organization. The members discussed the impact of the benefit to CDCTS and the members disapproved contributing to this event.

Horse Haven of TN Fundraiser – Susan Hill reported that one of our club members, Heather Craig will be participating in a fundraising event for Horse Haven of TN called “Dancing for the Horses” at Cotton Eyed Joe’s on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The club voted and approved to sponsor Heather for \$100 and Susan Hill will coordinate the donation.

River Glen Horse Trials – Kate Wooten proposed the club consider holding a tack swap at the horse trials on October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations – to all the Combined Training members who participated in the September Horse Trials held at River Glen. Kate will send the results for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Engagement – Melissa Roberts announced she is engaged to be married to Travis McKenzie with a date to be determined. Congratulations to Melissa and Travis!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

## CDCTS Meeting October 11, 2010 – Puleo's Grille, Knoxville, TN

Meeting called to order 7:00pm

Attendees: Rita Dunn, Carol & Charlie Grau, Kathy Ridenour, Kate Wooten, Linda Klingerman, Sue Cain, Julie Noe, Dave McAdoo, Kathleen Festa

The Secretary's report was read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

### Old Business

Financial Review – Linda reported on the club's finances. She did an analysis of the last 3-4 years on the club's annual income and expenses. Sources of income primarily came from membership dues, schooling shows, and clinics while expenses were incurred by show awards/ribbons, monetary awards for classes at shows, subsidizing of clinics, gifts of charity, and club software and related office supplies.

Clinics – The members present voted for and approved to set a maximum ceiling amount of \$650 for subsidizing any clinic that is sponsored by the club next year.

### New Business

World Equestrian Games DVDs - The club voted and approved to purchase 2 WEG DVD sets: 1 set for the Dressage events and 1 for the Combined Training events. These DVDs will be available to borrow from the club's library soon. Contact Kathy Huffstetler for more information.

2011 Banquet and Silent Auction – Linda is researching a date and location for the 2010 Awards Banquet. It was suggested to form a committee to organize the Silent Auction and for someone to chair the committee. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting.

Club Meeting Locations – A question was raised at a previous meeting about holding monthly meetings in a location other than Knoxville. The members agreed to keep it to as central location as possible to allow members from all outlying areas to attend.

Volunteers – Kate Wooten posed a question about volunteer compensation. In previous years the club utilized an incentive program called "Dressage Bucks" which compensated volunteers with coupons to cash in for reduced rates at shows or other savings on club functions and merchandise. Kate also proposed developing a schooling show manual for guidance in producing future schooling shows. The members discussed establishing an official volunteer coordinator position which might serve on the Board of Directors. This position could potentially be filled by the Parliamentarian or Member at Large positions.

"Ride the New Tests" Clinic –Joni Abney will host this clinic, free to CDCTS members on November 13<sup>th</sup> at her farm in Mascot. Contact Susan Price for further information.

Nominating Committee – Dave McAdoo agreed to chair the nominating committee for the 2011 Board of Directors positions. He also agreed to perform the financial audit in January for the 2010 calendar year.

2011 Spring and Fall Schooling Shows – Kate and Janet volunteered to manage the two schooling shows again next year. Thanks go to both of you!!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

## **Artistic Brilliance vs. Technical Accuracy: Should the Audience Decide?**

### *Fuego XII vs. Moorlands Totilas*

Fuego XII (Fuego) is a PRE stallion from Spain. He is boldly prototypical of his baroque, Iberian lineage - compact and thick-bodied, with pronounced articulation of the joints that provides the brilliance of movement for which this breed is renowned.

Moorlands Totilas (Totilas) is a Dutch warmblood stallion from the Netherlands. He exhibits all the best qualities of the modern type dressage equine – moderately large and linear, with great flexibility of limb and perfect articulation of joints (neither overstated nor understated).

Fuego's freestyle was stunning to watch. His entrance music was, arguably, too sedate to introduce a world-class freestyle, yet there are at least two good rationales for selecting quiet entry music, even at this level of competition. First, quieter music can capture the audience's (and judges') attention, like the start of a ballet. Second, horses known to be "hot" or unsettled by the crowd noise may focus and perform better when they start with a softer beginning. Whatever the reason, once the halt/salute was completed, the music took on a decidedly Spanish flair which suited Fuego's style, temperament, and movement very well. It also provided subtle clarity throughout, *e.g.*, transitions were often underscored with very soft castanets. The choreography was cohesive and engaging to watch. It also provided opportunities to exhibit Fuego at his very best. The entire freestyle – movements, choreography, and music – built steadily from beginning to end, drawing the crowd along for the ride to a climax of such emotional intensity that the crowd leapt to its collective feet at the final halt salute and showered Fuego with a lengthy, heartfelt standing ovation.

Totilas' freestyle began with rich, orchestral intro music and this texture continued throughout the ride. The music was poetic and elegant and it seemed transparently reflective of Totilas' soul. The choreography and music were fluid and consistent from start to finish. Totilas' performance was elegant and inspiring and he, too, received rousing applause, albeit a more restrained ovation than Fuego. Which brings me to the point:

Based upon crowd response alone, one could easily justify awarding Fuego the freestyle gold. Yet Totilas took gold with a score of 91.8% and Fuego settled for fifth was a score of 81.4%. Why? How could these two rides – which the crowd obviously thought would be close in score – end up ten points apart? Don't we want to build the "fan" base for dressage? And isn't freestyle the obvious avenue of choice for achieving that goal? So what did the judges see that the audience overlooked?

Freestyle judging includes the directive that artistic merit should *not* overcome technical deficiencies. Totilas had two notable technical faults – he missed his first transition and he broke gait once. Both were obvious mistakes and, at this level of the game, one would expect such mistakes to be extremely costly. Fuego had a couple of sticky transitions, but, overall, he was consistent. Yet therein lies the beauty – and fairness - of dressage scoring. While the individual movement scores for freestyle were not posted, one presumes Totilas’ two errors were noticed, and marked down, by the judges. Overall, however, the vast majority of movements included in Totilas’ freestyle were consistently *excellent*.

Earlier in the week, during the Team Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Special, individual movement scores were posted, and they were fair. For example, like many upper-level horses, Totilas’ walk can be tight, and scores of 6 reflected this, yet this “Hollywood handsome” black stallion received perfect 10s from all five judges for his piaffe and passage at various points during the week. It is this natural perfection of dressage’s most difficult elements that has made Totilas an international equine star.

Fuego was consistent all week long, and he was always consistently *good*. His energy of limb and joint articulation are the extreme typical of baroque breeds, and, while commendable, the overarticulation seems to restrict his length of stride at the walk and create more upward than forward motion at the extended trot and extended canter. His piaffe and passage are also very good - clearly two-beat and neither sloppy nor “steppy.” Yet there are subtleties that become evident upon closer inspection; Fuego’s piaffe and passage lacks the sophisticated degree of *throughness* one readily finds in Totilas’ execution of these movements. Like most baroque horses, Fuego naturally elevates his poll and collects, but the collection appears to be *croup to nose*, instead of *hocks to nose*, so full engagement of the hindquarters, barrel and back is lacking and the collection contains an overabundance of compression and limited elevation of the forehand.

Technicalities aside, there were artistic differences between the two horses, as well. Both these horses are stallions, so one would expect a certain level of brilliance of spirit reflected in their freestyles. With respect to Fuego, one could argue he was more fiery and entertaining than Totilas; one could also make a case that this glowing, silver Spanish horse was slightly unsettled and reflected some sense of “in your face” negative emotion (*e.g.*, tension?, anger?) from his rider. Totilas, conversely, appeared relaxed and moved with an effortlessness one could easily misconstrue as inattentiveness or nonchalance. Yet, particularly after the second technical gaff (both of which appeared early in the freestyle), Totilas settled and performed with sophisticated elegance and technical perfection that could not be denied.

Fuego, and excellent baroque horses like him, have a core place at the heart of dressage. They are the foundation and living history of our sport. They are innately beautiful, well-proportioned, and compelling to watch. And it would have seemed somehow unpatriotic if Spain had competed at the WEGs on European warmbloods, so great respect is due Spain and Fuego and their fine freestyle. Fuego will serve as a great ambassador for the sport of dressage, as he thrills crowds with his spirit and charm.

At the close of the WEGs, hopes were high that Moorlands Totilas would also serve as an ambassador for our sport; he has been consistently compared to the great Thoroughbred, Secretariat, for his natural talent, innate showmanship, and worldwide appeal. Very recently, however, Moorlands Totilas was sold to a German breeding farm. It is reasonable to expect, then, that he will be retired to stud. Much talk has been made over the years of the elusive nature of “textbook perfect” movements, yet this young stallion has been so consistent, and so consistently *perfect*, in his upper level movements, one hopes videos of his rides will be utilized around the globe for instruction and inspiration for many years to come.

***Kelly Dickens wanted to pass this website along to us- a good resource for “horse traveling”***

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### Horses for Sale or Lease

**Rebel** - 1993 registered Quarter Horse gelding. 15.1 hands flee bitten grey, sound and sane. Shown successfully at into and training level (scores in high 60's and 70's), schooling first level and going well. Hacks out nicely, best for intermediate rider. **\$4000**. Contact Melissa at (865)376-6540 or email [rfrainer@yahoo.com](mailto:rfrainer@yahoo.com)

**Mars** – 2003 registered American Sport Pony gelding. He is a 13.3 hands chestnut with hind white socks. Super easy to ride with 3 comfy gaits and a huge canter stride. Easy to frame up, hacks out nicely, fast learner, and started jumping. He is nice and quiet. He will make a great hunter or eventer, or will continue to excel in dressage (winner of both his classes first time out). He has a super brain, easy all around, and a pleasure to ride. **\$5500** Contact Melissa at (865)376-6540 or email [rfrainer@yahoo.com](mailto:rfrainer@yahoo.com)

**3 YR Old** very fancy moving Oldenburg bay filly. Sired by Hanoverian stallion Pablito out of an Oldenburg mare by Widmark. Widmark was third in his stallion testing and three year old Bronze Medalist in the Bundeschampionships in Germany. Dam was highest scoring foal at her inspection in Kentucky. Filly is currently doing ground work under saddle. Currently priced at \$12,000. email Diane Carlson at [chasediane@tds.net](mailto:chasediane@tds.net)

**4 YR Old** chestnut gelding 7/8's Warm blood, branded and registered Oldenburg. Sired by Widmark (see above) out of a Wradar daughter. He received premium status at his inspection in Virginia. Being started under saddle, very nice mover, willing and quiet. Currently priced at \$14,000. Email Diane Carlson at [chasediane@tds.net](mailto:chasediane@tds.net).

### Tack for Sale

**Neidersuss Allegro II** – Dressage saddle, 16 ¾ inch seat, medium tree, 3 years old in excellent condition. **\$1700** Contact Roxanne at (865)692-9005 or email [roxnemcik@comcast.net](mailto:roxnemcik@comcast.net)

**Collegiate Jessica Dressage Saddle**— 17.5 seat, medium tree, used very little, in great condition, \$300 Rebecca Miller, 865-643-1336, [Rebecca.Miller@morgankeegan.com](mailto:Rebecca.Miller@morgankeegan.com)

**Prestige Dressage 2000 Saddle**— 18 inch seat, 33cm wide (medium wide), comes with Stubben Irons, and Prestige Leathers. Call for price and test ride. Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511 or 865-803-7772 cell.

**Prestige Girth**— 35", \$80 Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511

**Troxel Orion helmet**—Smoke color, size small, removable liner \$40, Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511

**Ultra Thinline Pad**— Black 23"x20", \$70. Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511

**Stubben Bridle w/ flash and reins**—\$120 Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511

**Aurigan Bit**— Loose ring, 6.5 inch, \$40, Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511

**Leg Wraps**— White, 13 in., \$5.00, Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511

**More tack items are available, I am selling all my dressage items, please call Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511**

### Clothing for Sale

**Ariat Tall Field Boots**— womens 7 1/2, regular calf, 5 years old in good condition, \$100 OBO Rebecca Miller, 865-643-1336

**Ariat Half Chaps**— Leather Crown Pro #970, 14in zipper, small, \$50

**Equifit Shoulders Back**, in white size adult \$25

**Kerrits Tights**—Medium, foam green, knee patch style, and matching Kerrits Short Sleeve, med. Both \$25

**Kerrits Tights**—Rose & black check, short sleeve rose shirt, and gloves \$30

**Kerrits Tights**—Medium, blue, short sleeve shirt, lite blue, \$25

**Toklat Tights**—Black brushed fleece winter weight fabric, \$15

**Cotton Naturals Breeches**—Khaki, 32Long, \$15

**Devon Aire Breeches**— Khaki, 34R \$15

All above clothing offered by Nancy Carmon 865-689-5511 or 865-803-7772 cell

### Trailers for Sale or Lease

**Trailer for rent:** 1997 Traillet 2 Horse bumper hitch w/ tack room. Low mileage and well maintained, excellent floor with rubber mats, rear ramp. This is a safe trailer, fully enclosed w/ good ventilation. **\$60 per day**, Insurance confirmation required. Contact Melissa Feinbaum 865-604-8525 or [mfeinbaum@mfrecruiting.com](mailto:mfeinbaum@mfrecruiting.com).

**Tobruk Trailers** - Merhow and Cherokee aluminum trailers. Custom living quarters for large horses. Hitches and repairs. Call 865-397-8304 or email [tbrukfarm@charter.net](mailto:tbrukfarm@charter.net).

**Rider Wanted** – To help school 3 Hanoverians at training and first level dressage. Horses have outstanding dressage bloodlines and lots of potential. Large arena and private setting located at my farm in Corryton, TN near Knoxville Center Mall. Contact Kay (865)363-6731 or email [franzreb@utk.edu](mailto:franzreb@utk.edu)

### Advertising Rates

	Members	Non-Members
Full Page (7.5 x 10)	\$10	\$20
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Quarter Page (7.5 x 2.5 or 3.75 x 5)	\$ 2.50	\$ 5
Business Card (3.5 x 2)	FREE	\$ 2.50
Classified Ad	FREE	\$ 1 per line

All ads must be paid in full prior to being published in the newsletter. Ads must be sized to specifications, and must be in a useable format (.jpg, .gif, .bmp). Please contact editor for additional information: [kathyhuffstetler@aol.com](mailto:kathyhuffstetler@aol.com)

**Clinics:** CDCTS hosts mounted and unmounted clinics, symposiums, and educational workshops with well-known equine professionals. Members can participate in CDCTS sponsored clinics for a reduced rate, and are given preference over non-members when space in a clinic is limited.

**Schooling Shows:** CDCTS hosts 2 schooling shows per year, offering both dressage and combined tests. Members pay a reduced rate for their entry fees.

**Newsletter:** Each member receives a copy of our monthly newsletter, "The Crossing" by email. Members also may advertise in the newsletter at reduced rates.

**Volunteers:** To encourage volunteer support, CDCTS offers "Dressage Bucks", a program to reimburse volunteers for their time and efforts.

**Year-End Awards:** CDCTS offers numerous awards for high scores at schooling and rated shows, plus JR/YR, Adult Amateur, and Open categories. We also have Perpetual High Point Awards for both Dressage and Combined Training. Riders must be CDCTS members, and must have completed a minimum of 4 hours volunteer service for the year in order to be eligible for year end awards.

**USDF Benefits:** By joining CDCTS, you automatically become a USDF Group Member and receive a USDF Group Membership Card. Group membership allows you to receive the monthly USDF Connection Magazine, earn USDF University Credit, and compete in any USDF recognized show. In addition, USDF Group membership allows you to participate in the USDF Rider's Awards from Training level to Grand Prix, including the Master's Challenge, Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medals. You will also receive member discounts for USDF events.



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