



# TRANSITIONS

*The Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Chapter of the California Dressage Society*

*"The rider's hands are there not to control the horse but to feel the horse's thoughts."*

*– Jean Luc Cornille*

## In this issue:

- p. 3. August Show Moves
- p. 4. Central Coast Circuit
- p. 5. SBC-CDS Trailer News
- p. 6. New Schooling Show
- p. 7. Earl Warren Show
- p. 11. Going for the Gold
- p. 13. CSD AA Clinic
- p. 14. Sandi Chohany Clinic
- p. 15. Trailering Lessons
- p. 16. New Member Profile
- p. 17. In the Irons Show
- p. 18. Tack & Tog Sale
- p. 19. Trainers' Toolbox
- p. 20. Committee Reports
- p. 21. Member News
- p. 23. Classifieds
- p. 24. Sponsors
- p. 26. Calendar
- p. 27. Board of Directors

## *Chair's Corner*

### **Celebrating Our Mid-year Accomplishments!**

We are hitting mid-year and I am astounded at how much we have accomplished at this point. 2018 is proving to be a HUGE year!

So many people have stepped up to contribute in a variety of ways. We have so many ideas that have inspired action within our chapter.

Michele Bandinu and his crew have rigged our show trailer with built-in shelves, supports, and tie downs. This will help us keep our trailer organized and its contents safe while transporting things to and from our shows. We are so grateful for this fabulous upgrade.

A huge thank you to Christi and Kate Salzbach for hosting our first SBC-CDS endorsed schooling show at their fabulous facility In the Irons. This was a great event to kick off show season and for riders to get their "show legs" on.

Your SBC-CDS secretary, Susan Ashbrook took on the ominous task of revamping our website. It required days, weeks, months of Susan's time to spearhead this project. Thank you so much for all your time, Susan.



*Mary Couch*  
*2018 SBC-CDS Chair*

*(continued on next page)*

### *Chair's Corner (continued)*

Last but not least, our Spring Dressage show produced over 35 volunteers. Some were members and many were friends of the chapter. It is truly humbling how many people show up to set up, work the show, and break it all down — all for the love of horses. I could not imagine being around a more vibrant, positive, and fun group of people.

We must have one of the best chapters in our region. Thanks to one and all for your contributions! If you haven't had a chance yet to volunteer or you'd like to become more involved, please let any one of know. We welcome your ideas and hope to see you at our Summer Dressage show (now re-scheduled for Earl Warren Showgrounds), or sooner!

## **SBC-CDS Website Has a Whole New Look!**

---

If you haven't had a chance to look at our new website [www.sbccds.org](http://www.sbccds.org) please take a peek! Our secretary Susan Ashbrook spent countless hours working with the Ventura chapter's website designer, Cheryl Pelly, to create a whole new look. With Cheryl's patient help and suggestions, the website came together, and we hope you like the site. It may have taken a village to put it together, but the process was a joy! One example was meeting our historian, Barbara Cleveland, at her home to look at the hundreds of photos she has taken over the years. We laughed and shared stories of the chapter's beginnings and fun events.

We would love your feedback and photos of you and your horse that we can post on the site. Our new email address is [SBDressage@sbccds.org](mailto:SBDressage@sbccds.org)

We look forward to hearing from you!

## Summer Dressage in the Valley Moves to Earl Warren Showgrounds in Santa Barbara

*by Karen Christensen and Gina von der Burg*

As some of you may already know, the lovely High Star Farms in Los Alamos has just been sold and is no longer a venue option for our August 18-19 dressage show. We have searched for a facility in the Santa Ynez Valley that would have enough stabling and be cost effective, to no avail.

Our other excellent option, Earl Warren in Santa Barbara, falls within the USEF 100 mile radius that limits us from running a USEF sanctioned show on these dates because there is already an active show in the Los Angeles area on the same days. We are frantically working to get a USEF Presidential Modification of this regulation for this year's show, but we have a low chance of success. We are exploring our options for a permanent solution.

If we are turned down by USEF, we will hold a CDS-only rated event at Earl Warren Showgrounds. We want to give our members the opportunity to continue to secure scores locally and enjoy our tremendous chapter support and social events. Holding this as a CDS show will also ensure that we can hold our dates for the future.

We are fortunate to have Brent Hicks as our judge who is not only a licensed "S" judge but also qualified to judge Western Dressage. If the show is CDS rated only, we plan to offer Western Dressage classes. This will be a great opportunity to include our western neighbors and make this a show to remember!

Regardless, this show will allow competitors to earn qualifying scores for the CDS Gem Awards and for the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual CDS Championship at the Burbank Equestrian Center on September 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. It is exciting to have the CDS Championships so close to Santa Barbara. Entries must be received for the Championship Show by September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

CENTRAL COAST CIRCUIT winners will be honored at our Saturday night social, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Earl Warren. To qualify, nominations must be submitted by August 6<sup>th</sup> to Gina von der Burg at [amour4paws@gmail.com](mailto:amour4paws@gmail.com).

Thank you all for your support and commitment to help SBCCDS maintain this show date for the future. We look forward seeing all of you and plan to pull out all the stops to make this a fun, festive, not to be missed dressage show! Watch for updates on this fast evolving show.



**Introducing MORE Fun, MORE Awards and  
MORE Competition!**

**The NEW 2018 Dressage Central Coast Circuit**

**Sponsored by Santa Barbara County and the San Luis Obispo County CDS Chapters**

**All riders who are CDS Members are eligible to win**

With Prizes awarded to Open, Amateur, and Jr/YR Riders

**CIRCUIT CHAMPIONS**

For Horse/Rider combination in 3 Divisions:

- Training – 1<sup>st</sup> Level
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Level
- FEI

**2 Shows minimum participation and Average of all scores**

**Other Horse/Rider Combination Awards:**

- Perfect Attendance (all four shows)
- Dressage “Endurance” – Most rides
- Most Improved (Amateur, Jr/YR)
- Most Valuable Rider/Sportsmanship

**Plus FUN Awards**

**You must nominate your Horse/Rider combination to win!**

Contact Gina von der Burg at [amour4paws@gmail.com](mailto:amour4paws@gmail.com)

**CIRCUIT SHOWS**

**SPRING DRESSAGE IN SANTA BARBARA**

May 19-20, 2018 EARL WARREN SHOW GROUNDS [www.sbccds.org](http://www.sbccds.org)

**SLO-CDS WINE COUNTRY DRESSAGE SHOW**

JUNE 2-3, 2018 PASO ROBLES MOON VALLEY FARM [www.slocds.org](http://www.slocds.org)

**SLO-CDS FALL FLING AND**

**CDS REGIONAL ADULT AMATEUR COMPETITION**

AUGUST 11-12, 2018 TWIN RIVERS RANCH [www.slocds.org](http://www.slocds.org)

**SUMMER DRESSAGE IN THE VALLEY**

AUGUST 18-19, 2018 EARL WARREN SHOWGROUNDS, SANTA BARBARA [www.sbccds.org](http://www.sbccds.org)

**Nominations due by Sunday, August 12th**







**Winners awarded at Summer Dressage in the Valley, August 18th,  
Earl Warren Showgrounds**

## SBC-CDS Trailer All Outfitted and Ready to Go!

See those smiles on the faces of Karen Christensen, SBC-CDS Co-Show Secretary, and Mary Couch, President? They have good reason to be happy! Chapter member Michele Bandinu recently stepped up to coordinate important modifications to the trailer the chapter purchased last year to store and transport our arena and show materials.



What was once a jumble of crates and arena parts is now organized with a system ensuring that any element of our show “kit” is secure and accessible. A HUGE thank you to Michele and master welder Greg Theno for making our Show Committee’s dreams come true! Next step is signage for the outside. Does anyone have talent in that area?

RICHTIG   RIGHT	FALSCH   WRONG
	
	
	

“On the bit” means the horse is always with you.

— *Barbier*

Release of the aids means that the aids should cease as soon as they have achieved a response. They bring about, restore, and transform; they should never maintain.

— *Racinet*

## New Schooling Show Scheduled for August 5

SBC-CDS member Carole Bennett has stepped up to bring schooling shows back to Modoc Riding Ring. Maria Norris and Kip Goldreyer recently retired from Modoc schooling show management after a long and wonderful run. Carole has some fun plans in the works, and the show qualifies for the chapter's year-end schooling awards, so be sure to come out on August 5 to support what she hopes will be the first of a series of "On the Bit Dressage" schooling shows at Modoc. Her goal is to offer classes for "anyone who wants to ride dressage . . . a mixed grill of sorts." In addition to traditional and western dressage, she plans a gaited class for future shows and is open to suggestions for other types of classes, too.

# On The Bit Dressage Schooling Shows

*Presents*

## 2018 Dressage Schooling Show

"Not Just a Show Day but a Fun Day!"

**Modoc Riding Ring**  
4317 Modoc Road  
Santa Barbara, CA

★ Scores count towards  
Santa Barbara CDS Year End Awards! ★

★ Ribbons and Prizes to Third Place! ★

**Sunday August 5, 2018**

**Closing Date: Saturday July 28, 2018**

**Judge: Tegan Kossowicz, "L"**

★ **High Point Ribbons for Open, Amateur, Junior** ★  
**Drawing for a Catered Meal from Just One Soup**  
**And More!!**

**Delicious lunch from Gelson's available for \$6/person.**

**A portion of proceeds will be donated to the Santa Barbara Humane Society**

**Show Proprietor:** Carole Bennett (805-452-7400, [carolebennett@cox.net](mailto:carolebennett@cox.net))  
**Show Manager:** Aubrey Buenger (719-963-3478, [agbuenger@yahoo.com](mailto:agbuenger@yahoo.com))

*Show Committee Report*

## An Extraordinary Show at Earl Warren

We had yet another extraordinary show at Earl Warren Showgrounds May 20-21 with a total of over 100 tests, 46 riders, and 53 horses. Many were chapter members, but competitors also came from as far away as the Bay Area to the north and Coto de Caza to the south. Thomas Walker and Ryan Torkkeli brought seven horses up to support their old home turf!

A number of riders rode in their first recognized show. We opened the show on Saturday with one of these first-time participants, 8-year-old Abigail Gerber and her pony Emily, who took Jr. High Point on Saturday. Later in the day, SBC-CDS chapter member Catherine Gallegos earned her USDF Gold Medal on her amazing mare, Zanaika. Congratulations, Catherine! (See her article on p. 11.)



*Thomas Walker (above) traveled all the way from Coto de Caza to ride the beautiful Moresco at Grand Prix in our Earl Warren show. (Photo by Gina von der Burg)*



*Cindy Riley and Da Vince rode their third level freestyle at Earl Warren. (Photo by Cheryl Pelly)*



*Abigail Gerber and her pony Emily took Jr. High Point Saturday, and it was their first recognized show!*

### *Earl Warren Show (continued)*

Many of the riders continue to comment on how welcoming our shows are. Thomas Walker said, "It was so cool to be in the warm-up arena with all my friends. This is definitely our 'family' show."

We are honored that each of you came to inspire, support, and encourage one another and us. We couldn't maintain our two shows without you! Thank you to each rider, volunteer, member, and guest who shared our weekend with us. Together we make it happen, and what a tribute to our SBC-CDS dressage community! Tajie Majors, our USEF Technical Delegate, was very complimentary about the show. We are always thankful for her presence, wisdom, and advice. She keeps our show on track and in compliance with all the rules of our member organizations. Her expertise, compassion, and support of Karen, and Gina, the show managers are deeply appreciated.



*Michelle Bischoff celebrates a blue-ribbon training level ride on Atlas (above left). Laura Langford (above) riding her mare Doma Fabrizia at first level, and Laura Kranzler (left), riding her mare Lilliana at training level, made their Earl Warren debuts on their new mares at the Spring Dressage in Santa Barbara show. (Photos by Barbara Cleveland)*



*Earl Warren Show (continued)*

Our volunteer team is the rock that holds it all together. It's an understatement to say "it takes a village to put on a successful dressage show," because it really takes a large community of tirelessly passionate folks to keep the show enthusiastically moving forward. Thanks so much to all who gave so generously of their time to staff the many positions required to put on a show.



*Show office staff Cindy Young and Karen Christensen did everything from sound checks to scoring. (Photo by Mary Couch)*



*Superstar "friend of the chapter" Susan Atkins wins the prize for always being at the ready whenever anything needed to be done. (Photo by Mary Couch)*



*There's no end of things that volunteers help with before, during, and after a show. Here is our "let's get this done" arena setup crew. L to R: Mary Couch, Shane Brown, Raven Boshco, and Gina von der Burg.*

A huge thanks also to the sponsors Dressage Extensions, Riding Warehouse, Wild Fed Horse Feed, Mrs. Pasture's Cookies, Platinum Performance, and Straight Arrow for contributing to our competitor bag gifts and high point prizes. Thanks also to Blind Faith Equine Productions for the wine glasses and tumblers that many of our first place winners received. And of course, without all of our chapter's cash sponsors, who underwrite our chapter year after year, we couldn't put on our shows at all. We are deeply grateful to all of these generous contributors.



*Earl Warren Show (continued)*

Our well attended show social activities brought competitors and chapter members together in a fun and festive atmosphere. The welcome party Friday night was a great opportunity to reconnect with everyone, and Saturday night's dinner was a relaxing time to celebrate the events of the day.

We are getting ready for our August 19-20<sup>th</sup> show at Earl Warren with Judge Brent Hicks, the final show for the Central Coast Circuit Championships. If you haven't registered yourself and your horse for the Circuit Awards, please contact Gina directly at amour4paws@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars, and let's do this again!

Thank you all for your tireless support,

- Gina von der Burg, Karen Christensen, and Nancy Sheld Show Management



*Competitors and volunteers enjoying the Friday night reception. (Photo by Barbara Cleveland.)*

*Some guys just know how to have fun, even at a dressage show! Jerry Beatty's Cisco in his harlequin outfit (left), and show husbands Gary Langford and Dan Kranzler (right) rocked it at our Earl Warren show. (Cisco photo by Barbara Cleveland; show husbands photo by Laura Langford)*



**Spring Dressage in Santa Barbara High Point Awards**

**Saturday, May 20**

Adult Amateur: Michele Bandinu/ Skagen 5

Jr/YR: Abigail Gerber/Emily

Open: Suzanne Galsterer/San Diego

**Sunday, May 21**

Adult Amateur: Deborah Kagel/ San Diego

Jr/YR: Lindsey Brewin/ Vaillant

Open: Ryan Torkkeli/Senador AA

**USDF Benefit Class Winner:**

Sarah Borrey/ Louisdor R

**See our website for the full show results:**

**Saturday:**

**[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/49c5ed\\_dabd3065cf804531a719f573762d2d56.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/49c5ed_dabd3065cf804531a719f573762d2d56.pdf)**

**Sunday:**

**[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/49c5ed\\_bd6a722ef4224bfcb7299d533edf1cb9.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/49c5ed_bd6a722ef4224bfcb7299d533edf1cb9.pdf)**

## Going for the Gold

by Catherine Gallegos

It was such a thrill to compete in my first-ever Grand Prix this May in Los Angeles. Equally exciting was to finally earn my USDF Gold Medal the following weekend at Earl Warren Showgrounds in Santa Barbara, cheered on by our wonderful CDS “Home Team” – my local chapter friends and fellow competitors. Friend Nicole Chastain Price even met us at the out-gate with red roses, to commemorate the occasion. I’ll never forget that day, or her wonderful gesture. I cried.

The journey to that gold medal began long ago – 34 years ago – when I apprenticed for four years as a working student for Belinda Nairn in Pennsylvania between the 1984 and 1988 Olympics. Actually, the journey began



*Catherine Gallegos and Zanaika competing at Grand Prix in Santa Barbara. (Photo by Cheryl Pelly)*

years before that, catch-riding ponies, quarter horses, and mules as a small child, and then in my early teens training and competing my own backyard gift horses and various neighbors’ horses. Like every other Young Rider out there, Olympic gold was my hard-driven motivation.

In Pennsylvania, Belinda taught me the Grand Prix movements on two former Olympians, her Alegria and Edith Master’s Dahlwitz, and also on two future Olympians, Christopher and Reipo. I also regularly rode Perisan Grey, her husband Larry’s Grand Prix stallion. Meanwhile, I competed in the FEI Young Rider championships circuit at the Prix St. Georges-level equivalent, helping bring home a team gold medal for the U.S.



*Catherine Gallegos, Zanaika, and their two Gold Medal blue ribbons. (Photo by Victor Gallegos)*

*(Continued on next page)*

### *Going for the Gold (continued)*

That needed to change. I decided to learn how to make my own fortune so that I could return with a bang to continue pursuing the dream. At the end of 1987, after completing my last year as a Young Rider – and although I rode Grand Prix horses regularly – I left Pennsylvania to complete my university degree still without having competed at Grand Prix. And then, before I knew it, life and work got in the way for nearly twenty years, without a horse in sight.

Then along came Zanaika, an almost-nine-year-old green-broke broodmare I bought in Holland five years ago as my final sales prospect. The day her flight landed in California, I made the decision to not to sell her until we'd reached Grand Prix. We both were getting a late start – but it seemed like now or never.

Today, it's hard to explain just how good it feels to have finally accomplished that major mission – and moreover to have trained Zanaika by myself from scratch. All I can say is: What a huge relief! Not the Olympics, to be sure, but at this point in my life it is as glorious as if we'd just summited Mount Everest.

I'm accepting this substitute (USDF) gold medal with gratitude, thankful that we made it this far, after all the crazy roadblocks that popped up along the busy, rocky path of Life. How does it feel to be a USDF Gold Medalist? It feels like a miracle.

I've also learned firsthand that what the wise ones say is true: The journey to one's goal, whatever that goal might be, is ultimately what really glitters most. That the seemingly endless learning experiences and unexpected adventures, and the many wonderful friends — in this case both human and equine — who share life's ups and downs, are the real prize. Thank you, dear friends, for your moral support and encouragement all these many years!



*Nicole Chastain Price presented friend Catherine Gallegos and Zanaika with red roses to commemorate making it to Grand Prix.  
(Photo by Ric Lambart)*

## Riding in the Adult Amateur Clinic

by Susan Ashbrook

As the lucky winner at the Santa Barbara Chapter's year-end Awards Dinner, I was excited to ride in the Adult Amateur Clinic. Ellen Corob did an amazing job of organizing the schedule and the opening night dinner. The dinner gave

everyone a chance to meet Melissa and hear her own story and journey with dressage and horses. Any anticipation or fear I had about "not being good enough" was put aside as Melissa assured us that no matter what our level of skill, she would answer our questions and help us reach our riding goals.



It was a joy to ride at beautiful Templeton Farms. Everyone was so welcoming and

accommodating. There were a variety of horses and riders, and with each lesson Melissa shared her experience and offered tools to help improve everyone's horses. Don Tesoro can be "hot" and definitely worries at new venues and horse shows. I particularly liked how Melissa coached me to slow down his warm up, using lateral movements to keep his legs and mind busy. Transitions are a useful exercise for any dressage horse, but they are particularly important for a horse like "Danny," who needs to listen to his rider. She also encouraged me to think of myself as the "alpha." My horse needs me to be confident so he can trust me.

We were so fortunate to have members of our chapter there to support and cheer us on! Don Tesoro and I were proud and honored to represent the SBC-CDS chapter. Thanks to CDS for supporting this great program.



*CDS AA Clinic attendees Karen Christensen, Susan Ashbrook, Mary Couch, and Lindsey Reed with Clinician Melissa Creswick (second from left). (Photo by Ellen Corob)*



*Susan Ashbrook and her Hanoverian gelding Don Tesoro did our chapter proud at the CDS Adult Amateur clinic, held at the pastoral Templeton Farms in March. A group of SBC-CDS board members made the trek north to cheer Susan on and take advantage of the opportunity to audit the rides of members from Central California chapters including Carmel, Kern River, Gavilan, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo. (Photos by Lindsey Reed unless otherwise noted)*



## Sandi Chohany Clinic Draws Enthusiastic Crowd

by Ellen Thorne, Education Chair

The first educational event of the year was the Sandi Chohany “Ride-a-Test” clinic, scheduled for March 12 at In the Irons Farm. Sandi is a ‘S’ judge and clinician based in Chicago who has taken numerous horses and riders to the Grand Prix level, and we were so excited to have a clinic with her. We had eleven riders signed up for the clinic; however, due to the spring rain, we had to cancel the ridden portion of the clinic.

Instead, we held a lunch and lecture with Sandi hosted at the home of Karen Christensen. I was thrilled to see so many members and friends of the chapter gather for Sandi’s lecture! Sandi had

everyone introduce themselves and state their goals for themselves and their horse. Sandi was encouraging to everyone, no matter what the level or the goal for the year. Lecture participants had so many excellent questions for Sandi that she answered from the perspective of a clinician as well as a judge. Sandi was adamant that any horse can reach the upper levels of dressage with hard work and consistency. She drove this point home by showing a series of videos of her client taking an Arabian cross from training level through Grand Prix. Sandi gave commentary on the dressage test videos, noting how the horse had developed through each level. Sandi had so many amazing take-aways for our participants throughout her entire lecture. She insisted that leg yields will follow riders through Grand Prix and that all exercises are leading a rider to piaffe and passage. Sandi also had excellent advice for riders from the perspective of a judge. First and foremost, she always wants competitors to have a good ride. She encouraged riders to practice precise halts and transitions, and to have good first turns during the test. As a judge, she loves to see clear transitions in the lengthenings, and encouraged riders to know where the double coefficients are.

Sandi was such a joy to work with, and everyone who participated in the lecture had fantastic questions. Everyone made the best of the rainy weather and it ended up being such a fun lecture! A huge thank you goes out to Sandi Chohany for being flexible and incredibly informative, Karen Christensen for hosting last minute, and all clinic and lecture participants for their patience and enthusiasm!



*“S” Judge Sandi Chohany’s ride-a-test clinic had to be brought indoors due to rain, but that didn’t seem to matter. Her lecture was full of great tips and encouragement for riders at all levels.*

## Trailing Can be Scary! Learn Who Can Help When Things Go Wrong

*by Sarah McClintock*

I recently had an experience with my mare that I believe can help others if they ever find themselves in a similar situation. My mare had always balked at trailing, and the day of the event I was loading her up to take her to work on that and some under saddle issues. Turns out she had other plans.

The trailer was brand new to us, and in hindsight I should have seen the potential hazards. When I loaded her up, she walked right through and out the escape door, where she then got stuck — worst nightmare come true. In previous trailers there was always a chest bar or barrier between the horse and the escape door, but not in this one. I never for a second thought she would attempt to walk right out.

I am very blessed that Dr. Kuesis just happened to be on the property and rushed over to sedate her. I am also fortunate that, the wonderful girl she is, she stayed still with no flailing. Dr. Kuesis then called Dr. Goss and a team of amazing people I didn't even know existed. Everyone who has horses and trailers horses should know about this group of people from the Santa Barbara Humane Society who are specially trained in the art of what they call "technical animal rescue." They made short work of getting her freed. I was astonished at their sheer manpower: they quite literally lifted and pulled her out once she was under anesthesia. Without them and the quick work of the vets, I might have lost my girl that day.

So, take down the contact information below, and keep the Humane Society team in the back of your mind. Accidents happen, whether it's just a bad judgement call or an accident on the road. I will forever be grateful to the people who came together for me and my mare that day.

Timothy Collins, Santa Barbara Humane Society  
(805) 964-4777  
timcollins@sbhumanesociety.org



*A successful trailer rescue in progress, thanks to the Santa Barbara Humane Society's technical animal rescue team. Put their number in your contacts list now!*

*New Member Profile***Pam Nash**

New member Pam Nash rode hunters and jumpers as a child in Potomac, Maryland, and later in Palos Verdes and Rolling Hills, California. But after college, she didn't take up riding again until her 40s. A year after moving back to Santa Barbara, she began volunteering at Hearts Therapeutic Equestrian Center. She had lost her husband unexpectedly about a year earlier and, she explains, "I needed to get on with my life. I'd never lost my love for horses, caring for them and riding, and while at Hearts, I took up riding again in the Back in the Saddle (BITS) program. It all seemed to come back to me and after a while."

So she began to lease a lovely but rather large warmblood at In the Irons in May of 2017. Just after that, on Mother's Day, she ran into a friend at a jumping show at Earl Warren where her daughter's horse was being shown. A handsome large pony walked by, and it was love at first sight. He reminded Pam of her first pony, half Welsh and half Thoroughbred. And he was for sale! Although she was not even considering purchasing a horse, she got on him, and three days later Mini Cooper was hers, a half Welsh/ half Arab, about to turn 5. "Getting Cooper was one of the best impromptu decisions I've ever made," she says.

At the time, she was 70, and not inclined to jump again, so she took up dressage and is enjoying the challenge of learning together, building their partnership and enjoying the journey. She is boarding Cooper at In the Irons, and trains with Kate Sulzbach, who will also be entering him in a few shows. He's a good jumper, and will be competing in the Shepherd Ranch Horse Trials in August.

Welcome to SBC-CDS, Pam! We all look forward to meeting you and your adorable pony!



*Love at first sight: Pam Nash and her half Welsh/half Arab gelding Mimi Cooper.*



## In the Irons Schooling Show

by Christi Sulzbach

In The Irons Farm was delighted to host its first schooling show on May 5th. It was a fantastic opportunity for our community's youngest equestrians to ride a test for the very first time, as well as a chance for a few to step back into the ring after a decade or more hiatus. With the support of SBC-CDS, "L" judge candidate Terri Rocovich, show secretary Margaret Flemming, and most importantly everyone who volunteered, the day saw nothing but successes. In the Irons looks forward to growing this partnership and continuing to support dressage in Santa Barbara.



*Eight-year-old Juliet Bradley riding and braiding Sunday Best. Both made their dressage debut at the show. Many thanks to Georgette Topakas and In The Irons Farm for bringing this duo together. (Photos by Deb Kalas of Kalas Studios)*



*In The Irons Farm student Ava Johnson (left), at her first dressage outing with In The Irons horse Curran. (Photo by Deb Kalas of Kalas Studios)*



*Our SBC-CDS chapter will once again have a sellers' table at the Los Padres Trail Riders Tack & Tog Sale, scheduled for July 19, 6 - 9 pm. Proceeds from sales will benefit the Santa Barbara dressage community, so come out and support your local SBC-CDS chapter and LPTR.*

# LPTR Tack & Tog Sale

**JULY 19, 2018, 6PM to 9PM**

---



**Los Padres Trail Riders**  
**2018 TACK & TOG SALE**  
[www.lptr.org](http://www.lptr.org)

**Thursday, July 19, 2018**  
 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
 Santa Barbara Humane Society  
 5399 Overpass Road, Santa Barbara, CA

Come and shop for horse tack, riding togs  
and enjoy the bake sale too.

**Admission is free**  
Sellers' Table \$20.00

Proceeds from the sale are used to fund grants to local equine and trail-related non-profit organizations.

For more information contact  
**Barbara Wolf at (805) 455-4113**



**SELLERS RESERVATION FORM**

Set up time is 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sale begins at 6:00 p.m. Please make checks payable to LPTR and mail to, LPTR, P.O. Box 61846, Santa Barbara, CA 93160. For more information contact Barbara Wolf at (805) 455-4113.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print clearly)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Right now sellers' tables @ \$20.00 per table

Number of tables: \_\_\_\_\_ \* \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of chairs (no charge): \_\_\_\_\_

**Total fees due** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**LPTR USE ONLY**

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Over: \_\_\_\_\_

Assignment Receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

---





Don't miss the annual  
**LPTR Tack & Tog Sale**  
 on July 19, 2018!

## Trainers' Toolbox

*This is a new column, which we hope will become a regular feature in which SBC-CDS dressage trainers offer their favorite training tips to help our members reach their riding goals.*

*Thanks to Louise, Nicole, and Marianne for sharing their tips in this issue.*

### *Louise Cacesse*

To work on movements, think about how they are defined:

Lengthenings: Willing, clear transition, moderate lengthening of frame and stride, regularity and quality of the gaits.

Mediums: Moderate lengthening of frame and stride with engagement, uphill balance, and consistent tempo.

Extensions: Utmost ground cover with lengthening of frame and stride, engagement, elasticity, suspension, and straightness.

Keeping these definitions in mind, try this exercise, which loads the inside hind for great thrust and uphill balance:

Canter or trot a collected 10 meter circle, containing your horse's energy so it comes through the back into the reins maintaining an elastic connection.

Spiral out to a 15 meter circle while pushing it out to lengthen.

Spiral back in to a 10 meter circle, collect.

Repeat.



### *Nicole Chastain Price*

When working on lateral suppleness on circles and lateral work, imagine there is a level on your horse's withers. This will help you to keep the horse balanced and not dropping or tilting in the shoulders and make you think about loading each hind leg equally.



### *Marianne Kruidenier*

When preparing for a half-halt, think of it as a full halt where you change your mind about halting at the last minute and instead go forward. Instead of moving with the horse's motion, your seat holds your horse for a moment, as if to say "we are halting" — then at that moment of rebalancing for the halt, you change your mind and gently go forward, releasing your seat and following the motion again.



## Your Board in Action: Committee Reports

### *Education*

*by Ellen Thorne, Education Chair*

The first educational event of the year was the Sandi Chohany “Ride-a-Test” clinic, scheduled for March 12 at In the Irons Farm (see article on page 14). I have a few more educational events in the works for the rest of the year. I hope to have a “Introduction to Animal Communication” class this summer with Heather Greene, a local animal communicator. In addition, I am hoping to have a clinic with a sports psychologist in the next few months. Keep an eye out for more information on these events. As always, please feel free to reach out if you have a suggestion for an educational event!

### *Sponsorship*

*by Sarah McClintock, Sponsorship Chair*

As you all know, our chapter runs mostly thanks to the donations that our wonderful members and friends of the chapter give. Some of the things your tax deductible donations could fund this year are our year-end banquet and signage for our show trailer. We would also love to host some fun social and educational events this year for our members. New ideas on how our chapter can serve our members are always welcome. So check out the current sponsor list on p. 24 of this newsletter, decide where you'd like to see your name, and send a check made out to SBC-CDS Sarah McClintock, sponsorship chair, 668 Burtis Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93111. Thank you in advance!

### *Membership*

*by Karen Christensen, Interim Membership Chair*

We have three new chapter members: Sarah Graham, Pam Nash, and Sarah Starks. Jaclyn Meinen is a trainer who will soon be joining our chapter, having just moved to the Santa Ynez Valley from the Bay Area. Jaclyn trained and stayed with Charlotte Bredahl while showing four horses in Florida this past winter. She loved our area she has relocated her business here. Welcome to you all!

### *Web/Social Media*

Have you seen our new website? It has been completely redesigned, thanks to the hard work of Susan Ashbrook. It's full of photos and useful information, beautifully designed and easy to use! Check it out at [sbccds.org](http://sbccds.org)

*If you haven't already . . . please renew for 2018!*

We hope you will continue your support of our chapter and all that we do for the sport of dressage. If you haven't yet renewed, log onto [california-dressage.org](http://california-dressage.org) to rejoin and receive all the benefits of membership for 2018!

*Member News***Connections**

We've all been following the adventures of Para Equestrian Grade IV SBC-CDS member **Michele Bandinu**. He has had great success bringing his two potential WEG horses back to Tryon and Wellington over the past nine months or so, and he has been invited to return to the East Coast for the WEG selection trials. Unfortunately, the cost of all this travel has made it very clear that Michele should focus on an even more exciting goal — the 2020 Paralympic team. USEF support for riders on the West Coast is meager, to say the least. And it turns out it's easier to compete here to qualify for the Olympics than it is for the WEG. So stay tuned, there's much more to come

from **Michele and Soulman**, our talented team who are now focused on riding in Tokyo in 2020.

**Carole Bennett** was just about to switch her membership to Ventura so she could earn points to all their fun schooling shows. But then she decided on another solution: She went to work planning a schooling show for our own chapter at Modoc Riding Ring. She has all kinds of fun plans in the works for this show. In addition to an array of English and Western dressage classes, a reasonably priced catered lunch from Gelson's will be available, and there will be a small gift for competitors at check-in, beautiful ribbons to third place, and a drawing for saddle pads and gift cards from Rider's Warehouse. She is also offering a "guess how many horse cookies are in the jar" competition and a drawing for her famous homemade Chicken Matzo ball soup from her catering business Just One Soup. See the flyer on p. 6 for this SBC-CDS approved schooling show, scheduled for August 5.



**Laura Kranzler** reports: Wow, it's hard to believe it's only been nine months since getting Lilli, and here we are already showing. Our first show at El Sueno went really well thanks to Louise and Michael Cacesse, Maraka MacDonald, Laura and Gary Langford, and all our friends and family who came out to support and cheer us on! The Earl Warren show was another good experience for Lilli and me. She did great and really gave me everything she could despite being anxious and having a difficult time settling in. A lot of hand walking around the venue helped to ease her, while also letting her hang out with us, outside of her stall, when we were done for the day. By Sunday she was exhausted and we were both ready to go home. I'm planning on doing a few schooling shows between now and the August Earl Warren show to help her get back into the groove of riding in new places.



**Cindy Riley** and **Da Vince** (see photo p. 7) rode a beautiful third level freestyle at our May Earl Warren Show. She was so proud of Da Vince; it was only his third show ever! They are now working diligently toward PSG. She told us a little about how she got this lovely horse: “When I was looking for a new horse a couple of years ago, I had my heart set on a Grand Prix horse who had done it all. I wasn’t getting any younger, and I thought it could be my swan song. So what happens? I fall in love with a video of a 7-year-old Lusitano stallion who had never shown. He was at my barn within a week. So much for plans, eh?”

**Kristi Ullmann** and **Leuk** competed at the USDF Freestyle Challenge at Spirit Equestrian in June.



**Gina von der Burg** continues her generous mentoring of young girls who are crazy about horses. Pictured here are 10-year-old Leilani and 8-year-old Yecolia riding Paddy Cakes and Faith, as Gina helps out and her 12-year-old Kelpie Cubbi makes sure everyone is in line.

### *News from our extended dressage family:*

**Ryan Torkkeli** and **Thomas Walker** relocated their sales and training business from the Central Coast to Coto de Caza at the beginning of April this year, and they feared that the distance to Santa Barbara might make it difficult to convince new clients to make the trek up the coast for a horse show. But with very little effort and the draw of beautiful Santa Barbara, plans were made to enter seven horses in the show. A house on the beach was rented for the entire crew, and everyone was very excited for the mini-vacation/horse show. They sent this remembrance of their experience at the show:

“We love the whole Santa Barbara chapter and always enjoy their shows. Everyone is so friendly and helpful and it feels like a real family. The show management was exceptional from the entire organization to big hugs to lending us tools to fix the lights on the truck when we were stranded on Sunday evening. A big thank you to everyone who made this show happen and make us all feel so welcoming. We are looking forward to next year!”

## CLASSIFIEDS . . .

---

**For Sale:** Dressage dress coats, sizes 6, 10, 12; dressage dress boots, Petrie, Konig, U.S. sizes 7, 8. Contact Gina von der Burg, 805-448-2510.

**For Sale:** Dressage court. Makes fully enclosed short court (20m x 40m) but comes with extra rails so it can be expanded to 20m x 60m. Contact Lindsey Reed for more information, [Lreed@silcom.com](mailto:Lreed@silcom.com) or 805-896-4617.

**For Sale:** Outback oilskin duster. Stylish long coat for riding in the rain. Unisex size XS, fits ladies size 6-8. Contact Lindsey Reed, [Lreed@silcom.com](mailto:Lreed@silcom.com) or 805-896-4617.

**Barn News:** Nicole Chastain-Price is excited to be accepting new clients at the newly built Pence Ranch Equestrian Center featuring a huge covered arena, gorgeous barns, irrigated turnouts, Eurociser, trails, and personalized, educated 24/7 onsite care. The facility is set on over 200 acres in a beautiful vineyard. They offer training, lessons, rehab, and retirement. They also host regular clinics with International and national level trainers and judges for dressage, western dressage, and working equitation. They specialize in producing well rounded horses who are confident, independent, educated and truly love their work.

*Do you have horses to sell or lease, facilities for rent, training services to offer, or anything else you'd like to advertise in this column? Classified ads are free to SBC-CDS members.*

*Send your text-only ad to [Lreed@silcom.com](mailto:Lreed@silcom.com)*

## Riding Warehouse Offers 15% Discount to CDS Members

Riding Warehouse very generously offers our members a special discount whenever they shop at their store or online. Email Sarah McClintock ([semclintock22@yahoo.com](mailto:semclintock22@yahoo.com)) to get own special discount code, and go shopping at this amazing store. You will love their customer service and their convenient Golden State overnight shipping option!





## **SBC-CDS Thanks Our Generous Sponsors!**

### **Platinum Level (\$1000 +)**

Michele Bandinu

Greg Theno (Theno Welding)

### **Gold Level (\$500-\$999)**

Tom Baldwin

Charlotte & Ramon Becerra

Dressage Extensions

Horse Coin Jewelry

Riding Warehouse

Santa Barbara Inn



*SBC-CDS Thanks our Generous Sponsors (continued)*

**Silver Level (\$201-\$499)**

Karen Christensen  
Foxdale Farms — Caitlin Kieswetter  
Marianne Kruidenier — MK Equestrian  
Mrs. Pastures Cookies  
Valley Vet Supply  
Gina von der Burg

**Bronze Level (\$100-\$200)**

Susan Ashbrook  
The Carriage Museum  
Mary Couch  
Laura Kranzler  
The Nook  
Smart Pak Equine  
Twenty-Four Carrots Organic Horse Treats  
Wild Fed Horse Feed

## 2018-19 Calendar

*CDS and SBC-CDS sponsored or endorsed events  
(see our website for premiums/details):*



August 5, 2018. On the Bit Dressage Schooling Show, Modoc Riding Ring. Tegan Kossowicz, "L", Judge.

August 18-19, 2018. Summer Dressage. Earl Warren Showgrounds. Brent Hicks, "S," Judge.

January 20, 2019. Save the date for our 2018 year-end awards banquet! We decided to try something new and not compete with other holiday events this year, so we are holding our banquet in January at a location to be determined.

*Events not sponsored by SBC-CDS, but of probable interest to our members:*

July 19, 6 - 9 pm. LPTR Tack & Tog Sale. SBC-CDS will have a sellers' table, and you won't want to miss all the great deals to be had there. Come on out and stop by our table to visit with your dressage friends, browse, and buy on July 19. See you there!

July 28-29 and November 10-11. Gerhard Politz clinics, Santa Ynez. For more information contact Sarah Graham, [sgraham@agpsla.com](mailto:sgraham@agpsla.com) or Wendy Wergeles, [wergeles@earthlink.net](mailto:wergeles@earthlink.net)

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CHAPTER CALIFORNIA DRESSAGE SOCIETY



## 2018 Board of Directors

Chair: Mary Couch ([marycouch1@me.com](mailto:marycouch1@me.com))

Secretary: Susan Ashbrook ([sjashbrook@gmail.com](mailto:sjashbrook@gmail.com))

Treasurer: Karen Christensen ([kic@cox.net](mailto:kic@cox.net))

Show Co-Chairs: Gina von der Burg ([amour4paws@gmail.com](mailto:amour4paws@gmail.com))

Karen Christensen ([kic@cox.net](mailto:kic@cox.net))

Education: Ellen Thorne ([ekthorne1@gmail.com](mailto:ekthorne1@gmail.com))

Sponsorship: Sarah McClintock ([semclintock22@yahoo.com](mailto:semclintock22@yahoo.com))

Social: Michelle Bischoff ([Michellecb805@gmail.com](mailto:Michellecb805@gmail.com))

Newsletter: Lindsey Reed ([Lreed@silcom.com](mailto:Lreed@silcom.com))

Social Media: Vacant

Membership: Karen Christensen, interim ([kic@cox.net](mailto:kic@cox.net))

Volunteers: Vacant

**Like Us on Facebook!**

**Check out our Newly Designed Website!**

Like us on Facebook to be the first to know about chapter and other local shows and clinics, share your own photos and lesson takeaways with our community, and access posts about our sport and keeping our partners fit and happy.

[facebook.com/sbdressage](https://facebook.com/sbdressage)

And have you visited our newly redesigned website yet? It's full of fun photos and has easy to use tabs. It's another great source for information about our chapter's activities. Check it out at [sbccds.org](http://sbccds.org)

We also have a new email address: [SBDressage@sbccds.org](mailto:SBDressage@sbccds.org)