



February 2008

It Was A Gala Night In Lexington!

Horse of the Year honorees enjoyed the well deserved spotlight

by Sue Smithson

The Childress Winery in Lexington provided a stunning backdrop to a festive evening of camaraderie, delicious food, homegrown wine, and of course the main event: honoring our top equestrians at the NCDCTA Gala and annual awards banquet January 12.

The nominating committee chairman Karen Dennis Brame presented the slate of officers for 2008, and called for nominations from the floor. Jennifer Mitchell (president) Donna Kelly (V.P.) Dave Stuckey (treasurer) and Suzanne Mullen (recording secretary) were installed as our elected officers for 2008, and the agenda switched to the Special Awards and Horse of the Year honors, presented by event chairperson Donna Kelly and president Jennifer Mitchell.

Owen Daly, the CDI-Raleigh volunteer treasurer for 15 years, was honored with the E.J. Schmelzer memorial sportsmanship trophy for his tireless efforts and boundless enthusiasm. The Rock of Ages Low Score Award was award-

ed to junior eventer Allegra Dahlquist and her horse Mad Hatter. Sue Smithson was honored with the Carl Garrison memorial "no problem!" award.

Adhering to the wine and roses color theme, beautiful burgundy embroidered polar fleece day sheets were presented to the Horse of the Year division winners. Reserve champions received brass plated leather halters, third place winners received engraved photo frames, and certificates were presented for all riders and owners with large rosettes to sixth place.

In a move toward increasing accuracy and transparency, a new HOY database was created in 2007 which was updated bi-monthly and posted online. This, and horse registrations by fee or volunteer card submissions resulted in an increased participation in the annual awards program.

Congratulations to all the 2007 NCDCTA Horse of the Year winners, honorable mentions, special award winners, and participants. See you back in the show ring in 2008!

Turn to pages 12-13 for the HOY winners

1st Annual Sporthorse Stallion Expo a Success!

by Maryanna Hayman

Hanoverian, German Riding Pony, Oldenburg, Trakehner, Thoroughbred, Friesian, Knabstrupper, Gypsy Vanner, and Spanish Colonial were among the representative breeds showcased at the First Annual Sporthorse Stallion Expo at the Hunt Horse Complex in Raleigh on January 5.

Event hosts Marydell and Pepperwood Farms welcomed 25 stallions from as far away as Florida and Pennsylvania, and 250 spectators from as far away as Wisconsin, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, Kentucky, and Florida. Representatives from American Hanoverian Society, Oldenburg Horse Breeders Society, Dressage at Devon Breed Show, N.C. Warmblood Breeders, and Virginia Tech Equine Breeding Program were also in attendance.

Don Kapper, Nutritionist with Progressive Feeds, presented a seminar

"Feeding the Sporthorse, from Conception to Three Years".

The first stallion presentation set the tone for a wonderful day of music, stallions, offspring, and education. Stacy Hastings riding Stone Crop's Rolling Stone and Jim Koford riding Marydell's Don Principe rode a humorous pas de deux to music *Anything you can do, I can do better!*

The jumping portion of the program began with several stallions shown over fences. Thoroughbred eventing stallions Artrageous and Sea Accounts both jumped over 4'. One highlight was Brendan Curtis jumping Prince Champ at nearly 5 feet! Curtis, 23, is one of the riders in Robert Dover's recently aired reality TV show

(continued on next page)



Brendan Curtis riding Prince Champ
photo by Stacy Lynne

Stallion Expo cont'd from page 1

America's Next Equestrian Star.

Several of the younger horses showed their scope and technique through the jumping chute. A wonderful surprise to most was the obvious talent of both Knabstruppers and the cute Spanish Mustang both in the chute and later under saddle.

A seminar by Jos Motterhead and Kathy St. Martin of Equine-Reproduction.com attracted over 80 people to learn about the "Problematic Broodmare". Afterwards, spectators were invited to the barns to visit the stallions and see them up close. After lunch, 3-H Veterinary Clinic's Dr. Fernando Cardenas spoke to the crowd about foaling, what to look for in labor, and what supplies to have on hand.

The afternoon session began with a demonstration of tandem driving. This art was demonstrated by Stacy Griffin riding a Friesian gelding and long lining the 5 yr old Friesian stallion Leendert Leopold, owned by One Pond Ranch in Montana. After entertaining the audience, Bruce Griffin unhitched the young stallion and rode him under saddle. There were many fun and interesting rides set to very appropriate music selections. The crowd had many favorites including the Gypsy Vanner who many wanted to take home in their pockets!

Cayuse Gold, the Spanish Colonial Horse stole the hearts of many with his music from the major motion picture *Spirit, Stallion of the Cimarron* as he bore a striking resemblance both in type and color. His offspring represented their father with calm dignity. The deceased stallion Walldorf was ably represented by two of his get who are competing successfully in dressage. The young stallion Richmond, a recent graduate of the 100 day stallion performance test, made his first public debut. Another well received performance was that of the offspring of Rolling Stone entering before their sire to the music *Papa was a Rolling Stone*. Donatelli 2 had the crowd roaring with laughter with his music *I'm Too Sexy*, and then awed them with his powerful extensions. Stibby Me exhibited the strength and power in a small package that is a German Riding Pony. Tantris, coming from Pennsylvania

with his rider, FEI judge Jeanne McDonald, performed a group dance with two of his offspring. Don Principe returned for his ride to the music of Rod Stewart's *Do You Think I'm Sexy?* and Tina Turner's *Simply the Best*. The weanling colt by Don Principe, Don Cooper, is the 2007 American Hanoverian Champion Colt and the USDF Reserve Champion Horse of the year and was presented by a member of the Virginia Tech College Breeding Team. All of the stallions were terrific in presentation, manners and athletic power.

The finale was an example of the stallions' calm, willing attitude and a testament to the character of each. A dozen fully grown and active breeding stallions entered the arena and began a quadrille to the tune of *Macho Men* followed by a hilarious freestyle to *It's Raining Men*. The appreciative audience applauded throughout. At the end of the music, every stallion lined up side by side to salute the spectators.

The final presentation was the Round Table discussion led by former U.S. Equestrian Team event rider and prominent trainer / breeder Denny Emerson. Members of the panel included FEI Judge Jeanne McDonald, grand prix rider James Koford and young horse trainer Christian Trainor. Present in the room were several show managers, breeders and riders. A lively discussion was held on the tracking ability of our national governing body to link pedigree to performance. All participants were in agreement that a Universal Life Equine Number (ULEN) would be the first and the most important step to make the connection between breeders and riders. A recommendation was made to contact the USEF Board of Directors to ask for better representation of breeders and for the tracking system that the ULEN would help facilitate.

Our heartfelt thanks to sponsors Markel Insurance and NCDCTA as well as the seminar speakers! Due to the overwhelming positive feedback, Marydell Farm and Pepperwood Farm will be hosting the 2nd Annual Sporthorse Stallion Expo on January 3 and 4, 2009 once again in Raleigh, North Carolina.

For more information on this year's Expo and for updates for 2009, please visit www.sporthorsestallionexpo.com

Sport Horse Versatility is met with enthusiasm

by Linda Hoover

'Never have an ordinary ride again™' was the motto for sixteen riders who took the refinement of their dressage and put it to work in the Sport Horse Versatility classes at the Pinehurst Dressage Schooling Show Series on January 6. This show marked the competitive debut of SHV, a new competition for sport horses. 'SHV is about creating and competing horses who are willing partners, refined in their responsiveness and prepared for life, in and out of the ring. It is about expanding the options riders have with their horses' said SHV creator Linda Hoover.

SHV is a currently a two-phase event that includes a refined riding phase (dressage test) and an obstacle phase. At the show, the obstacle phase drew enthusiastic spectators, as riders competed over a course of nine obstacles that included walking over a bridge, crossing poles, turning 360 in a small box and carrying a bucket between two barrels. Riders found numerous places to use their dressage skills in negotiating the many obstacles.

In the obstacle phase, riders were scored on their ability to negotiate the obstacles as well as showmanship. The course design gave riders the chance to 'show off' the refinement in their horses as they determined their strategies for

the route to each obstacle.

'SHV is a great idea,' said competitor Diana Ricketts. 'We had such a great time today and it was mostly because of the SHV class, which was so much fun for the riders and the horses. Everyone was so interested in it and seemed to want to get involved. It was truly a triumph and really well organized with a neat course and format.'

Prior to the competitive debut, over sixty riders got their 'feet wet' in SHV during three clinics held in December at Andrew and Dawn Weniger's Firstview Farm, in Apex, Ed and Karen Brisson's Good Deeds Farm, in Southern Pines, and at Marc Donovan's Griffinfield Farm in Aberdeen. The obstacles provided riders with situations to refine the communication with their horses as well as understand how to address challenging moments.

Clinic participant Nancy Piscopo found the clinic to be "a great training opportunity. Negotiating the obstacles provided immediate feedback on my horse's responsiveness to my aids and on what I need to focus on in my overall training."

Ongoing SHV clinics are offered to present the concept and develop refinement and skills in horses and riders. The exposure to a multitude of obstacles and situations is an excellent tool for life...in and out of the ring. For more information about SHV, go to www.SportHorseVersatility.com.

Old Man Winter Makes An Appearance At The NCDCTA Schooling Show

by Anita Quinn

After an absolutely beautiful week, with record breaking temperatures in the 70's just weeks before Christmas, Old Man Winter reared his ugly head just in time for the 1st annual NCDCTA Winter Schooling Jumper Show. The morning started with an overcast day threatening showers and a chilly 40 degree temperature, with a slight wind that made it feel more like 10 below. Luckily, the folks at Cavallo Ridge Farms took pity on us and kept us as comfortable as possible with bottomless cups of complimentary Hot Chocolate

throughout the day and a warm lunch that offered traditional hamburgers or authentic fajitas on the grill.

The show started off with bundled up, but smiling kids doing the trot poles and proceeded on up to 2'9" division in the sand arena before moving over to the rolling grassy paddock to do the 3'0" through the 3'6" Gambler's Choice. Over \$200 in prizes were given away throughout the day, along with ribbons and heartfelt thanks. The day showed a good representation of riders, with Eventer's showing their green horses, Hunters looking to get their horses some varied exposure and preparation

for equitation courses, and Jumpers looking for exposure as well. Despite the cold, there was a nice turnout and friendly faces everywhere. The plan for this show series was to provide a fun, safe, schooling environment for everyone to bring young horses and riders' alike to. With that, I'd call the show a success! All proceeds are earmarked for use in Eventing Education Fund for NCDCTA members. I'd like to give a hearty thanks to the following sponsors of the show:

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Centering Your Horse

By Buck Brannaman

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What I am looking for when I am riding a horse of any level, a green colt or an experienced bridle horse, is for him to stay centered underneath me. When I'm riding, I draw an imaginary rectangle around my horse; there is a line in front of his nose, one on each side of him, and one behind his tail.

On a green horse the sides of this rectangle might be five feet out from his sides and on both ends. On a bridle horse the lines might be right at the tip of his nose, inches off my stirrups and right behind his hindquarters. One of the things I am trying to accomplish during my ride is to have my horse in the exact center of the rectangle.

Being able to operate all four quarters of my horse, picking up a soft feel, leg yielding; all these things give me the ability to make adjustments when my horse leans on any side of the rectangle so that I can bring him back to center again.

Centering the Young Horse

On a colt, especially, he will be centered for only moments at a time. I might be really busy fixing things up and getting things lined out on a colt, but I make sure that when he does find that spot, I become as peaceful as I possibly can. My horse can feel that, and at first it might not have much meaning, but since my being peaceful feels very good to him he will start to add up what he needs to do for me to be quiet and he will start hunting for the center of the rectangle.

Your horse really wants to be at peace with you on his back, but if you don't ever show him where he needs to be, you will just be bouncing all over the place. He won't ever find how to be between your legs and reins.

I got to track a few head of cattle on one of my colts last week, and even when I am galloping around tracking a cow, I am aware of where my horse is within my rectangle. If he's pushing through my hand, he's advancing toward that line in front of him, so I might slow him down and get him to rate. If I'm working my feet on a loose rein and he doesn't respond to my leg, that means he's getting close to that line behind him and I need to do more to get him to move up. If he falls left or right with both ends, I will use a leg yield to bring him back to being straight. If he moves diagonally toward a corner of his body or if his front or hindquarter drift, I can use my reins and legs with my ability to move all four quarters to bring him back to the center.

When my horse gets to the center, I will ease off for as long as he is there. It might not be long before I'm fixing again, but I try to do it in a way that I'm not picking at him. I'm just aware of where he is and I try to direct him to where he needs to be. Your rectangle always goes with you, so it doesn't matter if you are going in a circle, there is still a center.

Bringing in Your Lines

As my horse starts to become more advanced, I start bringing my imaginary lines closer and closer to his body. I will expect him to drift away from the center less and less, but the key to getting him more dependable is good timing. If you have sorry

timing, and your horse drifts over your imaginary lines and you don't even notice until you are on the other side of the arena, then it's too late. You've lost the opportunity.

You need to keep the idea of where the center is on your horse the whole time you are riding. Be aware of his whole body. This is what I'm thinking about while I'm riding, and I am never not thinking about it.

You also need to be careful in how you approach bringing him back to center. If you correct too much, or don't release soon enough, you'll blow right past the center and go right over the line on the other side. There is a certain amount of drift associated with that timing, so you will stop your correction before he gets to the center so that he'll end up in the right spot. If you overdo all your corrections, you will just have him ricocheting off these lines and then you will have a really confused horse.

Oppressive Riders

On my horses I am continually fixing and releasing. You can't hold them in the center. I have been teaching clinics for 20 years, so my observations are based on fact; the least centered horses that I come into contact with are dressage horses. (Now don't think for a minute that I am bad-mouthing dressage, because when it is done correctly by a good hand, it's beautiful, it doesn't get any better.) I am talking about the rider who does not let their horse find center and choose to be there; I am talking about the one who overconfines the horse and tries to hold him in the right spot. Their horses blow right through the front line, and if it's an oppressive enough rider, they go right through the line in back and get their horse dull to the leg. It can happen with any horse in any type of gear with an oppressive rider.

Where riders get into trouble is that they don't give their horse enough room to find the center. They are going to make him do it, by being oppressive in the way that they ride. They think they can force the horse to the center and then hold him there. But the horse has to hunt it, you can't make him be there. It doesn't matter how you dress a horse up, it's all the same. Getting a horse organized and on the spot is the same no matter what you are doing.

Always Hope

Sometimes people will ask me about their horse and ask me what I would do if he were mine. I tell them that I would ride their horse like he was my horse until he looked like my horse. I don't do anything different. If you have an older horse that has some kindergarten stuff missing, go back and get it right. Age is irrelevant. It might take him longer to learn because he has some other things in his past to overcome, but he will change a lot quicker than most people can.

Once you have seen quality horsemanship and are exposed to the things you can do to help a horse be gentle and dependable, then why wouldn't you do those things? No matter what your horse's age, you are going to try to offer him the best that you can. If you adjust what you are doing, he will adjust too; horses have an amazing capacity to make changes. There is always hope.

Eventing

Corner



Silver Linings

By Anita Quinn

Between the rain and holidays as of late, it seems like I've been spending more time sitting on my sofa as opposed to sitting on my horses. That and the holiday goodies my new dear neighbors have bestowed on me this year certainly isn't boding well for fitting back into my breeches after the holidays, but then again, who can complain about anything while nibbling on yet another Christmas cookie and sipping homemade egg nog? Therefore I won't. Pass the platter of cookies please. That makes me wonder though...is it just general neighborly kindness that draws my neighbors to leave food on my doorstep for me to find, or a complete pity for my family when they see me getting on yet another horse....right around dinner time...again? Well, I'll pretend it's the former and continue sending out gracious (and very sincere) Thank You's. Now where was I? Oh yes, this time of year. Once again it's the time of year to make those dreaded New Year's Resolutions. You know, the kind that you diligently follow....for the first week or so and then never think about again until NEXT New Year's Day? Well this year I decided that I was going to think long and hard about my New Year's Resolution and make a change that will really do some good in my life....and actually stick with it. My best friend is very frank with me. And for that I'm very grateful. I mean, when I tried on a new pair of breeches I really DID want to hear her say "Baby got back!" right? Uh huh. Well, anyway, she's constantly telling me that I'm a pessimist at heart. I beg to differ and refer to myself as a realistic...semantics. Either way I've decided that my New Year's resolution is to change my outlook on life. No longer will I be a realist/pessimist, but rather an optimist. I'm going to look at every challenge that comes

my way in 2008 and find that silver lining. Well, we're only one week into 2008, when most people start to falter, and I'm still going strong:

After finding a perfect new owner for my ex-school horse, during the pre-purchase exam, the vet suggests the start of navicular. The Silver Lining: Instead of losing a good school horse, I have now just permanently gained a lawn mower. I will simply move her from spot to spot to keep my yard perfectly manicured. I'm sure the price of grain will stay lower than the price of gas, right?

My teenage son came home and announced that he just quit his after school job that he had gotten to help pay for his gas money, going out money, and lunch money when he wanted to eat off campus. His reason? "Mom, there has got to be a better way to make more money, I just need to find out how." "Oh." I said, dumbfounded. The Silver Lining: Now I will have more quality time to spend in the evenings with my teenage son. Possibly through the closed bedroom door and over his music, but it's the thought that counts, right?

My youngest son, all excited about getting his new Heelys in the mail (a Christmas present from his Aunt Deb...who happens to be a Doctor), decided to go try them out. He ran out onto the pavement with them before I could utter a word, and just as quick, had his feet fly out from under him and he whacked his head on the pavement, prompting a quick trip to the ER and a disgruntled called to his Aunt, thanking her for the "fabulous" gift. Did I mention she was a Doctor? The Silver Lining: My son only needed 3 stitches, which was MUCH better than the child next to us, who needed 10 after falling off his new Christmas bike.

Maybe this will be one New Year's Resolution that will be worth keeping...for my own sanity! Here's wishing yours are just as successful, whatever they may be!

Eventing

Beginner Novice, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by DJH Enterprises / Diana Hoberecht

1. Mad Hatter, Allegra Dahlquist
2. **Derrymor, Brittany Bridges**
- 3 tie. Hurricane Breeze, Ashley McNeely
- 3 tie. **Perfect Timing, Kelsey Hoiness**
5. Vega's Showgirl, Stephanie Gibson

Beginner Novice

sponsored by George & Mary Cunningham

1. **Stark Naked, Sandra Huberth**
2. **Stonehaus Magnolia, Diana Hoberecht, owner Sonja Koehler**
3. **Origami, Diana Hoberecht**
4. **Covergirl, Anita Quinn**
5. **Mariah, Brita Rizzi**
- 6 tie. Casey Rogowski, Denise O'Keefe
- 6 tie. **River Breeze, Maria DiGiovanni**

Novice, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by Fellowship Farm

1. **Derrymor, Brittany Bridges**
2. Zhivago, Erin Mullen
3. Right Said Fred, Nicole Thomas
4. Hurricane Breeze, Ashley McNeely
5. Vega's Showgirl, Stephanie Gibson
6. Glamour Girl, Courtney Carroll

Novice

sponsored by Rocking "B" Saddle Shop

1. **Classico, Doreen Schlicht**
2. **Covergirl, Anita Quinn**
3. **Lose That, Ashley Nee**
- 4 tie. El's Tales, Cynthia Holbrook
- 4 tie. Harlow's Boy, Brenna Dickerson
6. **Rebel Rouser, Marianne Price**

Training, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by Laura & Gary Pendleton

1. Beamish, Anna Petrea
2. Top of the World, Nicole Thomas
3. **Derrymor, Brittany Bridges**
4. Zhivago, Erin Mullen
5. Hurricane Breeze, Ashley McNeely
6. Right Said Fred, Nicole Thomas

Training

sponsored by Harry & Sandy Huberth

Pyranha Insect

Control Systems Installed by
Huberth Farm Services

1. **Rebel Rouser, Marianne Price**
2. tie El's Tales, Cynthia Holbrook
- 2 tie. Pocket Change, Teri Manno
- 4 tie. Oak Magic, Tish Mastrianni
- 4 tie. **Anita Quinn, Covergirl**
- 6 tie. Flying W Farms Romke, Patricia Roberts
- 6 tie. Jo Jo's Secret, Heather King

Preliminary and above

sponsored by McNeely Pest Control / Cindy McNeely

1. **Bolivia, Jennifer Holder**
2. Quantam Leap, Kylie Ann Barrows
3. Airborne Express, Chris Hitchcock,
owner: Joy Beaston

names in bold are pictured

2007 NCDCTA H.O.Y. Horse of the Year Dressage

Training, Adult Amateur

sponsored by Bonnie Gibson / Wolfstone Farm / ebenConcepts

1. **William E, Laurie Bauchman**
2. **Painted Shamrock, Carla Moss**
- 3 tie. Dame Un Besito, Barbara Nicks
- 3 tie. Meisterwerk RF, Pamela Jefcoat
5. War Dancer, Tammy Proctor
6. Fargo of Letalone, Beth Parsons

Training, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by RMG Satellite Productions, Inc. / Bob & Kathy Gubar

1. **Royal Destinie, Amanda Paris**
2. Wild Card Joker, A. J. Strickland
3. **Dragon's Lair Le Gracie, Molly Paris**
4. **Gianna, Jeanie Battle**
5. **Winnifred, Hope Johnson,**
owner: Annette Saunders
6. Paladine, Alyse Schuver

Training

sponsored by Crescent Farm

1. Radetzky, Robin Brueckmann
2. **Razzmatazz, Tina Cook**
- 3 tie. **Wodan, Becky Blikslager,**
owner: Tammy Michau
- 3 tie. Nigel, Annette Saunders
5. **Full Scoop, Mary Messinger**
6. **Last Call, Jean DeVenny,**
owner: Deonna Donohue

First Level, Adult Amateur

sponsored by Polly Yeago "In Memory of Dare To Dream"

1. **Golden Moment, Karen Young**
2. **Cane, Amanda King**
3. Meisterwerk RF, Pamela Jefcoat
4. Lord Chadwick of Carolina,
Jennifer Richie, owner: Bryan Leonard
5. **Rubina, Lisa Gorsuch**
6. Dame Un Besito, Barbara Nicks

First Level, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by Mary Jane Rivers / Meander Farm

1. **Dragon's Lair Le Gracie, Molly Paris**
2. **Troy, Erin Bullard**
3. Carousel Prince, Bernadine Dembosky
4. Paladine, Alyse Schuver
5. Jonson, Catherine Wiener
6. Aly's Abram, Alyson Resh

First Level

sponsored by Joli Cheval Equestrian Center

1. Vico, Laura Pendleton
2. **Davignstern, Sarah Langham**
3. Vested Interest, Rebecca Nelles,
owner: Sarah Atkinson
4. Vegas, Rebecca Vick,
owner: Linda Tomlinson
5. **Sweet Rock Solid, Bailey Cook,**
owner: Louise Rascoe
6. Chivas, Susan Wiedman,
owner: Mary Tompkins

Second Level, Adult Amateur

sponsored by Mike & Kathy Rowse Dressage / Silverleaf Farm

1. Murano, Kathy Gubar
2. Bordelleaux, Bonnie Gibson
3. Azarro, Deonna Donahue
4. Westwind, Beth Parsons
5. Katamaran II, Julie Roberts
6. Olivia, Janet Stipp

Second Level, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by Mary Jane Rivers / Meander Farm

1. Dream On, Vanessa Prueter
2. Zhivago, Erin Mullen
3. Don Giovanni, Katie Sanders
4. Stormy Weather, Alison Coyle

Second Level

sponsored by Joli Cheval Equestrian Center

1. Basie, Kathy Rowse
2. Legato, Jodi Lees
3. Chivas, Susan Wiedman, owner, Mary Tompkins
- 4 tie. Rain or Shine, Jean DeVenny,
owner, Mary Jean Rivers
- 4 tie. Naroby, Susan Wiedman, owner, Robert Sills
6. Dream On, Maridee Bennett, owner: Karen Prueter

Third Level, Adult Amateur

sponsored by Windcroft Farms LLC

1. La Luna, Karen Bates
2. Goldrush II, Janice Aquino
3. Galleon, Marianne M. Turnbull
4. Landmark, Nancy Love
5. Amadeus, Carolyn Luther
6. Mydan Mydandy, Carol Wertz

Third Level, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by Aaron & Lenora Efrid

1. Don Giovanni, Katie Sanders
2. Stormy Weather, Alison Coyle
3. Zhivago, Erin Mullen
4. S'More Art, Natalie Blikslager

Third Level

sponsored by Donna & Michael Kelly / BayMare
Meadows Farm

1. Rain or Shine, Jean DeVenny,
owner Mary Jane Rivers
2. Ladylike, Elizabeth Moore
3. Basie, Kathy Rowse
4. Welle, Jeanne Karver
5. Graffini Grace, Eliza Sydnor
6. Indecent Proposal, Dawn Weniger

Fourth Level, Adult Amateur

sponsored by Patsy Wooten

1. Agathon, Theresa Horne
2. My Maxwell, Lisa Gorsuch
3. Duelligan, Mary Cunningham
4. Manus Lundgaard, Sara Placentra

Fourth Level

sponsored by Lisa Gorsuch

1. Cardelano, Monika Schnacke
2. Galleon, Becky Blikslager,
owner: Marianne Turnbull
3. Graffini Grace, Eliza Sydnor
- 4 tie. Indecent Proposal, Dawn Weniger
- 4 tie Ladylike, Elizabeth Moore
- 4 tie Windsor, Brookes Wolfe,
owner: Cindy Sydnor
- HM. Rytmik, Rebecca Nelles, owner: Diane Tauber

FEI Dressage, Adult Amateur

sponsored by Aaron & Lenora Efrid

1. Burturi, Lisa Butterfield
2. Diam Khan, Karen Bates
3. Marcola, Diane Isenhour
4. Jasper Johns, Tricia Gregory
5. Aireyano, Valerie Heckrodt
6. Juneau, Nan Pieroni

FEI Dressage, Junior / Young Rider

sponsored by Equestrian Impressions Photography

1. Ivan, Sarah Cunningham
2. Rubin, Ryan Eskridge
3. Magie Noir, Bonnie Efrid

FEI Prix St. Georges

sponsored by Mc Nair's Country Acres, Inc.

1. Godfather, Karyn Becerra
2. D'Artagnan, Lynn Leath
3. Cardelano, Monika Schnacke
4. Rembrandt, Katie Poag-Roche,
owner: Diane LeFevre
5. Foreigner, Bailey Cook
6. Rytmik, Rebecca Nelles, owner: Diane Tauber

FEI Intemediare

sponsored by Pamela K Silverman

1. Honey Bright Dream, Patrick Marley
2. Richmond, Robin Brueckmann
3. Indecent Proposal, Dawn Weniger
- 4 tie. Fregat, Mary Haskins Gurganus
- 4 tie. Rembrandt, Katie Poag-Roche,
owner, Diane LeFevre

FEI Grand Prix Dressage

sponsored by Ronnie & Theresa Horne

1. Richmond, Robin Brueckmann
- HM Prince Pommery, Monika Schnacke
- HM Unforgettable, Angela Halloran, owner: Tami Batts

Musical Freestyle

sponsored by Scott & Lisa Butterfield

1. Manus Lundgaard, Sara Placentra
2. Agathon, Theresa Horne
3. Rain or Shine, Jean DeVenny,
owner Mary Jane Rivers
4. Kryptonite, Robyn Davis Hahn
5. Basie, Kathy Rowse
6. Rubin, Ryan Eskridge

I would like to thank everyone who shared their time, talent and resources making this year's gala possible especially Laurel Sanders, Julie Davis and Polly Yeago.

Many thanks go to our sponsors who generously funded the wonderful ribbons and awards for the Horse of the Year winners.

Last but not least, the NCDCTA thanks all the businesses who donated various items for our door prizes:



**Cabin Branch Tack Shop,
Country Ride Saddlery,
Horse & Rider,
Huberth Farm Services,
M & M Tack, Purgason's,
Rocking "B" Saddlery,**



The Spotted Horse and Triangle Horse Sports.

~ Donna Kelly, NCDCTA Vice President ~

Minutes of the NCDCTA Executive Board Meeting January 12, 2008

The 2007 NCDCTA Board met January 12 at Childress Winery in Lexington. Jennifer Mitchell, Dave Stuckey, Donna Kelly, Sue Smithson, and Anita Quinn were present, joined by 11 members at the open annual meeting. Excused: Lynn Leath, Robin Brueckmann, and Julia Dearborn.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jennifer called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. with a brief recap of the year's events and educational activities. The Sporthorse Stallion Expo, held last weekend in Raleigh, was well received and Jennifer urged sponsorship of the educational forums again next year.

DRESSAGE: Jennifer reported for Julia, highlighting the ongoing USDF Learner Judges and Instructor Certification programs and the youth camp, adult camp, and musical freestyle clinic held in 2007. Expressing appreciation for Julia's energy and enthusiasm throughout the year, Jennifer announced that Becky Blikslager has agreed to accept the 2008 dressage chairmanship.

VICE PRESIDENT: Donna's report on the impending awards banquet revealed 128 reservations and a generous response from sponsors. She credited Julie Davis, Laurel Sanders, Polly Yeago, and others on the Gala committee with helping to organize this event.

EVENTING: Anita's eventing report highlighted the summer clinic series, the fall horse trials at The Fork, and the winter schooling jumper show series. In lieu of organizing a 2008 horse trials, the eventing committee will be submitting a proposal for title sponsorship of an existing fall event.

COMMUNICATIONS: Sue presented a proposal from webmistress Martie Healy for a trainer's directory, citing the N.C. Hunter Jumper Association page as a model. The NCHJA charges \$50 per year for

this service, but Sue suggested it be free for an introductory year. The decision was tabled until the 2008 board convenes next month.

COMPETITIONS: Sue reported for Lynn. With ribbons on sale now, the question arose if we could drop the 6th place ribbon and instead increase the trophy budget for the NCDCTA-sponsored dressage shows. Dave cautioned that NCDCTA should be distancing itself from micro-managing these shows, as we have hired managers who are independent contractors. Sue will contact the five new show managers and see if they would collaborate on a ribbon order to save set-up fees. A decision on the two rings and two sets of letters stored at Latta was also tabled until the next meeting.

TREASURY: Dave submitted favorable income and expense reports, and explained that with a cash based accounting system, expenses and income is accounted for when paid out or deposited. Items attributed to 2007 activity can show up in 2008, and vice versa. Insurance, horse trials, and newsletter expenses were among the items which ran over budget, but these losses were easily offset by the online membership directory, office expense reductions, banquet sponsors, and others. A 2008 budget will be adopted at the February board meeting, but Dave reminded everyone that less than half the gross is actually discretionary. Questions and comments were invited from the membership, and Sandie Dennis praised the current leadership, saying "Thanks to the Board for taking us into the next century... challenges have always been met in the best interest of the sport and competitor."

After voting on the E.J. Schmelzer and Carl Garrison annual trophy recipients, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next meeting is set for February 5, 2008.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Smithson

Try The Mirra-Coat Treat

by Sue Smithson

What gets your horse's attention? The snap of a carrot? The rustling of a peppermint wrapper? Mine starts drooling when he hears water running in the sink.

We can lead a horse to water, and make it drink! Dissolve a scoop of Mirra-Coat powdered supplement in a 2-gallon bucket of warm water, offer it to your horse, and see what happens. My horse sucks it down without breathing or blinking, then licks the bottom of the bucket.

This treat was discovered purely by accident. Southern Pines stable owner Nina Hatcher soaks feed buckets in the wash rack. Her horse Riley was intensely interested in sucking up the rinse water in one particular feed tub, time and time again.

Riley is a borderline anhydrotic, so Hatcher is always eager to promote drinking. This particular feed tub belonged to a horse on Mirra-Coat. One thing led to another, and the entire barn now enjoys a Mirra-Coat "milkshake" once a day.

After riding, offer your horse a bucket of warm water with a scoop of Mirra-Coat mixed in as a treat. Boosting hydration in the dead of winter is always a good thing. The Mirra-Coat mixture tastes similar to malted milk. For whatever the reason, horses LOVE IT! Try it - we haven't found a horse yet who can turn it down.

