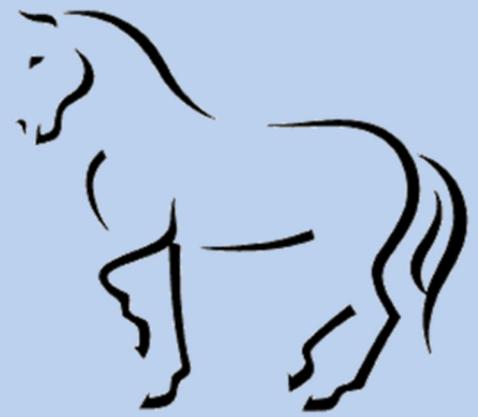


Pandora's Post

The Parkland Area Alberta Dressage Association Newsletter - Edition #2



June 2021

Dressage Show “Whoas” - Part 2

Tip #2: View from the Judge's Box

Dressage is the art of riding and training a horse in a manner that develops obedience, flexibility, and balance. A dressage test is an opportunity to show off the hours of training we put into our horses. Dressage judges are trained to evaluate the quality of the horse's training based on the training scale.

Judges are honestly on your side! Most of us are still active riders/trainers/coaches so we know all too well what can happen when we head down centerline. Seeing a horse and rider executing the movements in balance and harmony with each other is beautiful to watch! Giving out those exciting scores of 8, 9 and 10 is such a rewarding part of the job.

The downside of the judging is having to give out low scores. This makes the job more difficult. Even on the bad days, we are still looking to reward the movements that are done well.

Remember, dressage judges are trained to evaluate the *quality* of your training for that individual horse's ability. Judges do not dislike your horse. However, some horses are blessed with natural balance and elasticity, so even if they make mistakes (and they do) that horse will score better than an unbalanced horse. However, correct training has a way of evening out the playing field.

*Written by Rebecca Cade,
EC Basic and AEF Certified Judge*

For general inquiries, please email:
PAADAinbox@gmail.com

For more info, please see our website:
<http://www.albertadressage.com/parkland>

PAADA Flower Fundraiser Thank you, Lynne!

Thank you to Lynne Wassick for organizing our annual PAADA Flower Fundraiser. This is one of PAADA's main fundraisers and the money is used to support education for PAADA members.

For information on the PAADA Education Subsidy, check out the [PAADA Education Subsidy Program Guidelines](#) located under Parkland Forms at albertadressage.com.



Hosting a dressage show or clinic in Central Alberta? Let us know! We can share your info.

Contact Pam Vust at pamvust@gmail.com for more info.

PAADA Virtual Ride a Test Day!

PAADA Members, frustrated you haven't been able to show this year?

Submit a video of yourself riding a dressage test of your choice to receive feedback from a judge and a chance to win door prizes!

**Deadline for video submissions:
June 30**

Check your email or contact Melissa Matiko at melissa.matiko@gmail.com for complete details.

Get to know your friendly PAADA Member: Sheri Cameron



Western Dressage Corner

Members of WDASA turned out May 1 for their main fundraiser, the 2021 Highway Clean-up event. It was a great day of camaraderie as new and old members were able to meet and connect with each other a very covid approved manner.

Some members have been taking advantage of the virtual world to set and work towards goals. Shows they have accessed are Better Dressage Scores, Dressage Show Online, WDAA International (Western Dressage Assoc. of America) with one enterprising member riding in a show sponsored by the Swedish Paint Horse Assoc.

For more information about western dressage, check out their Facebook page for Western Dressage Association of Southern Alberta and/or their website www.WDASA.ca

Written by Diane Luxen

A dressage rider and trainer, Sheri Cameron has been a PAADA member for many years.

Q: What have been the best and worst phases of your riding career so far?

A: The best phase of my career was probably my time working with Leslie Reid in B.C. and California. The experiences and education I received were so valuable. I can't say I have a worst phase...even the bad things help to define what kind of rider and trainer I want to be. I used to event up to Training level and there were many tears on the cross-country field after being eliminated. But the times I did go clear...the rush of that more than made up for it! Driving all the way to Phoenix, Arizona for a CDI only to have it be rained out was a huge disappointment at the time...now I look back fondly at what a crazy experience that was!

Q: Tell us a little about your horse and his/her personality

A: Sovereign is my Grand Prix horse. We've been together for 15 years now, so we know each other almost too well. He generally doesn't like other horses...although he lives with Rolex and they play like idiots. He can be weirdly spooky at home but seldom is at shows. He knows exactly when and how many cookies he gets after rides.

Q: If you were a horse, what type of horse would you be?

A: If I were a horse lol...maybe a Friesian??? long hair that doesn't behave, enjoys food way too much, finds exercise a bit overrated...

**Next PAADA Board
Meeting**

June 28, 7:30 PM

All PAADA members welcome!

Contact Kim Aasman at willowmistfarm@me.com for details.