

THE HORSE'S MOUTH

JULY, 2014

MISHO Updates

Members we have a new show added to our Calendar: The Kirkwood Show at the NEC on Aug 23-24 is now MISHO recognized. This is your opportunity to show at the NEC and earn points toward your MISHO end of year awards. It's a great opportunity to ride hunters, jumpers and dressage. See you there! The show points are on the web page. Please check your points and let the show secretary know if there is an error. And in case you didn't know, Medal classes count towards your equitation points if you compete at your division height. You

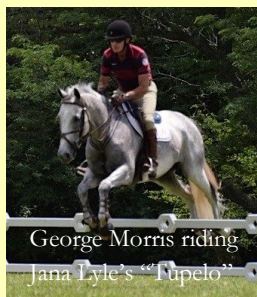
can email Lynn at midil-sporthorseorg@gmail.com. All inputs are welcome! The MISHO Annual Horse Show is Sep 27th at Offspring Farm. The new owner is working hard to bring the hunter ring up to standards with new drainage and new footing. This will be a great show opportunity for you and is the only double pointed show on the MISHO calendar. We even have an 'r' rated hunter judge coming. Don't miss it! Yoga for Equestrians is meeting monthly at CW Equestrian Center in Mascoutah IL. Come check out a great

opportunity to learn what flexibility and stretching will do for your riding. The next session is July 21st at 6:00. If we have enough interest we may even hold classes twice a month. The monthly MISHO meeting will be held July 23rd at 6:00 at CW Equestrian Center. Everyone is welcome. We have pizza and BYOB. We will be finalizing the show details and discussing the show bill classes. This is your opportunity to plug in and make this year's show awesome. Please RSVP so we have enough pizza.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ George Morris Clinic from MISHO Grant Winner
- ◆ USDF and USEA announce teams for the 2014 World Equestrian Games

Grant Winner: Jane Netzler on the George Morris Clinic



Thank you, MI-SHO, for offering the \$50.00 clinic scholarship. What an interesting clinic I chose! I had wanted to hear George Morris for quite some time, and had also wanted to visit Brody Robertson's Altamonte Stables in Pacific, Mo. When it was announced that the Robertsons were hosting Mr. Morris, I knew I had to attend. Mr. Morris was on the US Equestrian Team in 1958

and on the Olympic Team in 1960. For decades he has been highly sought after as a "no nonsense" clinician. I attended Day 2 of the clinic, held in the XC jump field. Warm up exercises began each session, including checking stirrup position, shoulder in, and rising into a two point position to help sink weight through the heels. Riders eventually progressed to jumping cavalettis and then on to higher obstacles. I jotted many notes throughout the day and tried to remember all these things when I rode at home the following day. Some of Mr. Morris' quotes included: "The first think to put in a horse is impulsion." "Impulsion has nothing to do with speed."

"You are seduced by tack shops and advertisements." Mr. Morris repeatedly scolded riders for banging on their horses' backs and getting in their mouths. He feels empathy for the horses. "Try to think like your horse thinks." He is known for his disdain of American riders, calling them "hothouse riders." In many ways the clinic reinforced what I already knew. I need much more time spent on correct basics and more study of correct form and technique. The most knowledgeable horse handlers agree that they still have much to learn. Even Mr. Morris said, "I know very little about this." Thank you again, MI-SHO, for this opportunity!



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USDF Names Short List for 2014 World Equestrian Games

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) has named eight horse-and-athlete combinations to the Short List for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games U.S. Dressage Team. Mandatory Outings will be held for short-listed combinations at CDI4* Fritzens in Fritzens, Austria, July 4-7, and CDIO5* Aachen in Aachen, Germany, July 15-20.

The following eight horse-and-athlete combinations have been named to the Short List (in ranked order):

Steffen Peters (San Diego, Calif.) and Four Winds Farm's Legolas 92, a 2002 Westphalian gelding.

Laura Graves (Geneva, Fla.) and her own Verdades, a 2002 Dutch Warmblood gelding.

Jan Ebeling (Moorpark, Calif.) and Beth Meyer, Ann Romney, and Amy Ebeling's Rafalca, a 1997 Oldenburg mare.

Adrienne Lyle (Ketchum, Idaho) and Peggy Thomas' Wizard, a 1999 Oldenburg gelding.

Tina Konyot (Palm City, Fla.) and her own Calecto V, a 1998 Danish Warmblood stallion.

Caroline Roffman (Wellington, Fla.) and her own Her Highness O, a 2003 Hanoverian mare.

Shelly Francis (Loxahatchee, Fla.) and Patricia Stempel's Doktor, a 2003 Oldenburg gelding.

Lisa Wilcox (Loxahatchee, Fla.) and Betty Wells' Denzello, a 2003 Hanoverian gelding.

The eight top-placing riders at the USEF Dressage Festival of Champions and World Equestrian Games Selection Trials, presented by The Dutta Corp., represent both the old guard and the up and comers in American dressage. These riders earn the chance to train and compete in Europe this summer as they aim for the US team heading to the WEG in Normandy, France. Steffen Peters, whose name is

engraved six times on the trophy given to the national Grand Prix champion, riding Akiko Yamazaki's Legolas — his partner for three out of those six wins — was the top finisher, not unexpectedly. Peters also dominated the championship in the Intermediare I division aboard the 7-year-old mare Rosamunde, who will also make the trip to Europe for the experience.

Peters, 49, is the championship veteran on the US team with three Olympics, two World Equestrian Games, a World Cup title, seven U.S. championships, Pan American Games and the Aachen CDIO5* champion to his name.

More surprising was the reserve champion, 26-year-old Vermont native Laura Graves, now of Florida. Riding Verdades, a Dutch horse that she chose from a video when he was a weanling and trained herself under the guidance of first Anne Gribbons and more recently Debbie McDonald, Graves impressed the judges and spectators and wrote the beginning of her very own fairy tale as she outscored an experienced group of horses and riders vying for positions on the US team.

After finishing second in the Grand Prix Special on Saturday and then nailing down another second-place finish in Sunday's freestyle, Graves secured one of the coveted top-top placings that gives her the option of sitting out one of the mandatory outings in Europe, Fritzens CDI in Austria on the July 4th weekend, and CDIO Aachen (Germany) during the World Equestrian Festival two weeks later.

"I'm completely thrilled with my horse, he exceeded all my expectations and then some," she said. "I know my horse and I know he's tired after traveling up the coast from Florida, but I have no experience in Europe, so I'm

open to suggestions," said Graves, who will look to her coaches and peers for guidance as she plans her summer.

This was her first three-day competition. She and Verdades only began competing at the Grand Prix level this year, and have had three wins and finished second in the CDI3* Grand Prix and Freestyle at the Adequan Global Dressage Festival.

"When it comes to horse management in a three-day competition, I have a lot to learn," she said. "I'm looking forward to having a team coach, vet, etc. to help us learn how to manage him during long periods of stressful competition. He felt great yesterday and was a good boy today, just exhausted."

Jan Ebeling, free of the media circus that followed him and Rafalca—a mare who is owned in part by last Ann Romney—during last year's Presidential election run-up, had a clear focus on the competition this season and finished 3rd overall. Because of the mare's age (she is 17 years old) he was disappointed not to finish in the top two placings and have the chance to give her a rest before Aachen. US team coach and chef

d'Equipe Robert Dover noted that Ebeling was on the committee that voted in favor of the team selection procedure. For those critical of the inexperienced Graves having the potential opportunity to represent the US in Normandy this summer, he pointed out that he was 27 years old when he competed at his first Olympic Games, and just lost the gold medal to then equally

inexperienced German rider Nicole Uphoff, riding Rembrandt, who ultimately went down in the history books as one of the greatest dressage horses of all time. "Everyone has to start somewhere," he said. Legolas' owner, Akiko Yamazaki, of Woodside, CA said, "I think it was so great this year to have so many up and coming riders give Steffen a run for his money — it's great to see so much promise for the future." Yamazaki attended the show with her daughters Miki, 9, and Emi, 6, who are both active in the Woodside Vaulting Club. She has to be there for their training as well, so she will go back and forth between the US and Europe this summer in the lead-up to the WEG.

In third place overall was one of the brighter rising stars of dressage, Adrienne Lyle, 29, riding Wizard, a 15-year-old Oldenburg gelding. They competed as individuals at the 2012 London Olympics and in Germany in the summer of 2010. She said that her horse is getting more seasoned to this level of competition and after spending the past couple of weeks training with her mentor Debbie McDonald alongside Laura Graves and fellow competitor Katherine Bateson-Chandler, who finished just out of the running for the top eight, she is looking forward to the camaraderie of the trip to Europe.



Steffen Peters on Legolas and Laura Graves on Verdades

USEA Names Team for 2014 World Equestrian Games

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) has named six athlete-and-horse combinations to the Squad for the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. Additionally, eight athlete-and-horse combinations have been named as alternates. Preparation Events for squad members and alternates will be held for United States-based combinations at Great Meadow in The Plains, Va. July 26-27 and for European-based combinations at Wilton in the United Kingdom, July 26-27. The following athlete-and-horse combinations have been named to the Squad for the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (in alphabetical order);

Buck Davidson (Ocala, Fla.) and Carl and Cassandra Segal's Ballynoe Castle RM, a 2000 Irish Thoroughbred gelding.

Phillip Dutton (West Grove, Pa.) and the Trading Aces LLC's Trading Aces, a 2004 Irish Sport Horse gelding.

Sinead Halpin (Oldwick, NJ) and Manoir De Carneville Syndicate's Manoir de Carneville, a

2000 Selle Francais gelding.

Boyd Martin (Cochranville, Pa.) will ride the Shamwari 4 Syndicate LLC's Shamwari 4, a 2002 Hanoverian gelding.

Kim Severson (Charlottesville, Va.) and her own Fernhill Fearless, a 2000 Irish Sport Horse gelding.

Lynn Symansky (Middleburg, Va.) and her own Donner, a 2003 Thoroughbred gelding.

The following athlete-and-horse combinations have been named as alternates to the Squad for the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (in alphabetical order);

Hannah Sue Burnett (The Plains, Va.) and Jacqueline Mars' Harbour Pilot, a 2003 Irish Sport Horse gelding.

Jan Byyny (Purcellville, VA) and her own and Dick and Jo Byyny's Inmidair, a 1999 New Zealand Thoroughbred gelding.

Buck Davidson (Ocala, Fla.) and Carl and Cassandra Segal's Park Trader, a 2002 Irish Thoroughbred gelding.

Phillip Dutton (West Grove, Pa.) and Bruce Duchossois' Mighty Nice, a 2004 Irish Sport Horse gelding.

Lauren Kieffer (Middleburg, Va.) and Team Rebecca, LLC's Veronica, a 2002 Dutch Warmblood mare.

Marilyn Little (Frederick, MD) and Raylyn Farms and Team Demeter's RF Demeter, a 2002 Oldenburg mare.

Boyd Martin (Cochranville, Pa.) and the Trading Aces LLC's Trading Aces, a 2004 Irish Sport Horse gelding.

Meghan O'Donoghue (Carbondale, IL) and her own Pirate, a 2002 Thoroughbred gelding.



Meghan O'Donoghue and Pirate

Life Force Energy

Energy is so crucial in our daily lives. In addition to helping us make sense of the entire universe, the story of our lives revolves around how to harness and understand this energy and the relationship of how its philosophy and mechanics work. This living force or energy is the same for dressage horse and if harnessed there is unimaginable grace and power in the flow of energy. And within the different exercises it is that Life Force Energy that is transformed from one form to another.

It is for this very reason that Modern Dressage, with its shortened necks and neck manipulations as a form of elasticizing the horse makes no sense and goes contrary to every principle known with the rest of Life. Instead it locks the poll and the horse is unable to turn its head left or right. It prevents the aids and impulsion to go through, creating stiffness in other parts of the body as well as numbness and tension in the mind. The neck belongs to the horse in its entirety with a soft poll to

allow for a swinging back and for the hind-legs to step under the center of gravity. The idea is the harnessing of energy in the partnership with the horse and not of submissiveness and dominance. We need to get back to riding the horse from the hind-legs where the energy is found to the front, where the energy is harnessed.

-Hector Carmona JR

11 Tips From Charlotte Dujardin, British Olympic Gold Medalist

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1. Dressage is about the development of the horse
2. The job of the rider is to keep the horse equal in both reins
3. Bad transitions at home make for bad transitions at shows
4. Work without the whip, when you can
5. The first impression is the halt, so there is no excuse not to practice it
6. Keep your leg on - it's tough, but you need to get the control
7. Passage work done in rising trot helps the stuck horse go forward
8. In piaffe, always be in control of the steps - the number and how forward your horse is going
9. Remember to have a forward-thinking hand
10. The discipline you have as a dressage rider is related to what scores you want to receive
11. Your horse has to be in front of your leg

- Susan Peacock, *Dressage Today Magazine*, May, 2014 issue

Calendar of Events

July

12-13: Cornerstone Farms Hunter Jumper Show
19: Phancy Pharm Hunter Jumper Show
19: Dublin Farms Hunter Jumper Show
21: Yoga for Equestrians @ CW Equestrian Center in Mascoutah, IL
24-26: Dressage Clinic with Florian Bacher from the Spanish Riding School @ CW Equestrian Center in Mascoutah, IL
26: Dark Horse Riding Center Hunter Schooling Show

August

2: Brier Bank Fall Dressage Schooling Show
9: Phancy Pharm Hunter Jumper Show
10: Queeny Park Hunter Pace
16: Dark Horse Riding Center Hunter Schooling Show
18: Yoga for Equestrians @ CW Equestrian Center in Mascoutah, IL
23-24: Kirkwood Hunter Jumper Show @ NEC

September

6: Devinwood Farms Schooling Show
13-14: Dunnabeck Horse Trials, Carbondale, IL
15: Yoga for Equestrians @ CW Equestrian Center in Mascoutah, IL
20-21: Ridgefiled Hunter Jumper Show
27: MISHO Annual Horse Show @ Offspring Farm in Belleville, IL
28: Phancy Pharm Hunter Jumper Show
27-28: Southern Illinois Dressage Classic @ DuQuoin State Fairgrounds