

October 2026

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In This Issue

President's Letter — A look back at the Region 3 Championships and ahead to GDCTA's future.

GDCTA Board Candidate Biographies — 2026 — Meet the officer and at-large candidates.

Education & Training:

- Lateral Work Made Simple — Shoulder-in and the importance of shoulder control.
- Growing as a Rider and Horsewoman — Junior Training Grant recipient Emily Rawlston shares her Dressage4Kids clinic experience.

Events & Competitions:

- Why Burghley Has Become Our Yearly Pilgrimage — Ashley Boyd's account of the excitement, history, and friendships of this iconic event.
- A Great Report for GDCTA & the Georgia International Horse Park — Positive feedback from the USEF compliance review of the Labor Day Dressage Classic.
- GAIG/USDF Region 3 Dressage Championships & Atlanta Fall National — Championship highlights, statistics, sponsors, and competitor feedback.
- Atlanta Fall National High Point Winners — Recognition of outstanding performances.
- 2026 GAIG/USDF Region 3 Championship Results — Champions and reserve champions from Training Level through FEI Grand Prix.

GDCTA Board & Committees

- Newsletter Submission Guidelines & Show Recognition Information — How to contribute articles, photos, and advertising, and how to have schooling shows recognized.
- GDCTA Board Meeting Minutes — Updates on finances, membership, grants, shows, education, and other association business.
- Thank You to Our GDCTA GOATS — Recognition of the sponsors, donors, and benefactors who support the association.
- Join GDCTA — A reminder of the value of membership and the community we share.

On the cover

- Melanie Vetter on Hiro fan Camelot
- Photographer: High Time Photography



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Dear Members:

What a wonderful way to welcome fall! Our recent GAIG/USDF Region 3 Dressage Championships and Atlanta Fall National Dressage Show was a tremendous success, and I'm still smiling as I think about everything that came together to make this event so special.

Over three days, we welcomed 291 riders, 371 horses, and 304 owners for 94 classes across seven arenas. Behind those numbers were countless hours of planning, an incredible team of volunteers, dedicated officials, generous sponsors, and vendors who helped create a lively and welcoming atmosphere. The feedback from competitors was terrific, and it was especially rewarding to hear how much people appreciated the hospitality and smooth running of the show. We even introduced a WhatsApp group for show updates, which reached 124 followers! We're always looking for ways to improve communication and make our events better for everyone.

Congratulations to all our champions, reserve champions, and competitors who gave their best in the ring. We're particularly excited to see our Region 3 qualifiers head to the US Dressage Finals later this month. And it was a pleasure to recognize the next generation of riders through the USDF/Dressage4Kids U-13 Regional Merit Award. Supporting young riders and encouraging lifelong learning are important parts of GDCTA's mission.

Of course, a successful show is about much more than the ribbons. It's about the people who pitch in, the friendships that grow, and the shared commitment to our horses and our sport. To every volunteer, sponsor, vendor, official, and supporter who helped make this championship possible: thank you. Please take a moment to review the results in this issue, and if you competed, we would appreciate your feedback through the championship evaluation survey. Your comments help us continue to improve.

As you turn the pages, you'll also find plenty of inspiration and useful information. We continue our education series with a closer look at shoulder-in, hear from a junior rider whose training grant opened the door to valuable educational experiences, and travel across the pond with Ashley Boyd as she shares why the legendary Burghley Horse Trials has become a yearly pilgrimage. You'll also find upcoming events, competition news, board information, and our latest list of the generous people and organizations supporting GDCTA.

One especially important item deserves your attention: **our annual board election is coming up, and your vote matters.** Senior and Family members should watch their email for the ballot and instructions. Please review the candidate biographies in this issue and make time to participate before the November meeting. The people who serve on our board help shape the educational opportunities, competitions, awards, and programs that benefit our entire membership. Your participation helps ensure that GDCTA continues to reflect the needs and interests of the people it serves. Juniors are not eligible to vote, but there are plenty of other ways to get involved, including volunteering for one of our committees.

Thank you for being part of GDCTA. Whether you compete regularly, enjoy schooling shows, attend clinics, volunteer, or simply love being part of Georgia's dressage and eventing community, you help make this organization what it is.

Enjoy the cooler weather, give your horses an extra pat, and I hope to see you at an upcoming GDCTA event!

Caren

Caren Caverly
President, GDCTA
ccaverly@comcast.net
770-713-4025

GDCTA Board Candidate Biographies – 2026

Officer Candidates

Caren Caverly – President



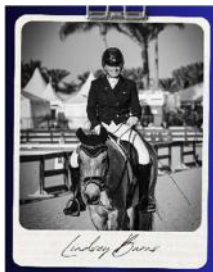
Caren Caverly's equestrian journey spans nearly six decades, shaped by a lifelong devotion to horses and a deep-rooted commitment to the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association. Her story is one of evolution, from passionate rider to transformative leader, marked by resilience, innovation, and an unwavering belief in the power of community. With 18 years immersed in dressage and a special bond with her retired partner, Solant, Caren brings both personal insight and professional excellence to her candidacy for GDCTA President.

Caren has served on the GDCTA Board for 17 years, including an extraordinary 15-year tenure as President, where she has been instrumental in shaping the organization's growth, visibility, and impact.

Under her leadership, the Annual Awards Gala continues to grow in prestige and participation, celebrating excellence while strengthening community bonds. She is known for fostering collaboration across barns, disciplines, and generations, creating a culture of inclusion and shared purpose within GDCTA. Her ability to unite volunteers, sponsors, riders, and officials has helped make GDCTA a model of grassroots strength and professional integrity.

Caren Caverly's candidacy represents more than a continuation of service. It reflects a bold vision for making GDCTA the premier GMO in the country. Her legacy is already one of excellence, and her vision promises even more.

Lindsey Burns – Vice President, Dressage



Lindsey Burns is a dressage trainer specializing in building confidence in both horses and riders. Most often, she works with young horses, guiding them from their first rides to their first competitions. She trained GDCTA's Champion Young Horse of the Year in both 2022 and 2023.

Her equestrian background is diverse and includes endurance racing, exercise riding at the track, eventing through Preliminary level, successful competition through PSG dressage, participation in 2-, 4-, and 8-person musical freestyles, Pony Club coaching, management of horses for a therapeutic riding program, and a continual pursuit of horsemanship education.

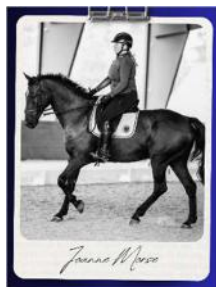
Lindsey has competed multiple times at the Retired Racehorse Project Thoroughbred Makeover and was a finalist for the 2019 Ira Schulman Award for successfully rehoming Thoroughbreds as they retire from racing. She also holds a bachelor's degree in Biology with a human emphasis.

Before moving to Georgia full-time in 2019, Lindsey served the Idaho Dressage and Eventing Association, Les Bois Chapter, as a Junior Representative, Secretary, and Vice President. She has spent the past two

years serving on the GDCTA Board and values the connections she has built within Georgia's horse community.

A firm believer that today's success is built on the efforts of those who came before us, Lindsey is passionate about giving back to the equestrian community that has provided her with so many opportunities.

Joanne Morse – Vice President, Eventing



Joanne Morse joined the GDCTA Board in 2017 as an At Large Member. In 2018, she became Recording Secretary and served in that role through 2019 before being elected Vice President of Combined Training.

Since assuming that position, Joanne has organized numerous clinics with leading professionals. In 2022, she launched the first GDCTA Eventing Camp, which has grown into a popular annual event. She also created the Schooling Show Letterman Program for the Junior/Young Rider program.

With a strong accounting background and extensive equestrian industry experience, Joanne brings a well-rounded perspective to GDCTA.

Ashley Boyd – Recording Secretary



Ashley Boyd's journey in the equestrian world spans more than four decades, marked by passion, precision, and a deep commitment to the sport of eventing. With 35 years immersed in the discipline, Ashley has become a cornerstone of Georgia's horse community, known not only for her technical expertise but also for her unwavering dedication to education, mentorship, and organizational excellence. Her experiences as a rider, trainer, breeder, and judge uniquely prepare her to serve GDCTA with clarity,

integrity, and heart.

Ashley Boyd's candidacy reflects a rare blend of experience, precision, and passion. As Recording Secretary, she brings not only institutional knowledge but also a forward-thinking mindset that helps GDCTA continue to thrive.

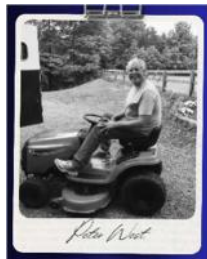
Carol Tresan – Corresponding Secretary



Carol Tresan's journey in the equestrian world is one of steadfast dedication and behind-the-scenes excellence. Known for her organizational skills and tireless support of GDCTA programs, Carol plays a vital role in ensuring the association's events run smoothly and leave lasting impressions. Her experience balancing professional precision with a deep love of horses and community uniquely prepares her to serve as GDCTA's Corresponding Secretary.

Carol's candidacy reflects the kind of leadership that often goes unseen but never goes unnoticed. Her precision, dedication, and collaborative spirit make her an ideal Corresponding Secretary, ready to help GDCTA thrive in its next chapter.

Peter West – Treasurer



Peter West brings a rare blend of financial expertise, executive leadership, and personal connection to the equestrian world to his candidacy for GDCTA Treasurer. With a career spanning decades in corporate finance, strategic planning, and business development, Peter's journey has been defined by precision, innovation, and a deep commitment to community. His experiences as both a seasoned executive and the proud father of a dedicated dressage competitor uniquely prepare him to serve GDCTA with integrity, insight, and fiscal responsibility.

Peter's connection to the equestrian community is personal and enduring. His daughter, Karen, is a passionate dressage rider and competitor, giving him a strong understanding of GDCTA's mission and member needs.

His presence at events and support of Georgia's dressage community reflect a genuine investment in the sport's future, not only as a professional but also as a parent and advocate. His collaborative leadership style and boardroom experience position him to foster transparency, accountability, and strategic partnerships within GDCTA.

Peter's candidacy offers GDCTA a Treasurer with exceptional financial expertise, proven leadership, and a heartfelt connection to the equestrian community. His vision is clear: to ensure GDCTA's long-term financial health while supporting its continued growth as a premier GMO.

At Large Candidates

Alexandra Brian-Choux



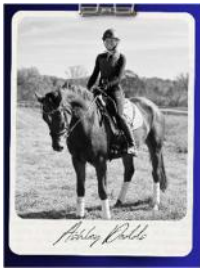
Alexandra Brian-Choux is an adult amateur dressage rider based in the Atlanta area. She currently competes with her PRE gelding, Bansho ("Ban"), and qualified for USDF Regionals at Training Level in 2026.

Alexandra is passionate about continuing her education as a rider, supporting the local dressage community, and helping make the sport welcoming and accessible to adult amateurs.

Outside the barn, Alexandra works as a Senior Data Engineer in cybersecurity, specializing in data, analytics, and technology. She brings a strong background in problem-solving, organization, and data-informed decision-making.

Alexandra is excited about the opportunity to become more involved with GDCTA, contribute her professional skills where they are most helpful, and give back to the community that supports her growth as a dressage rider.

Ashley Dodds

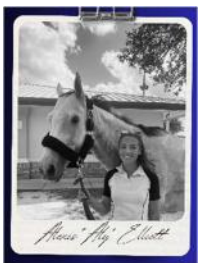


Ashley Dodds is a professional rider and trainer based in Canton, Georgia. Through ADodds Eventing & Dressage and Stone Creek Sporthorses, she is actively involved in the development, training, and production of horses and riders across multiple disciplines.

Her involvement in both eventing and dressage gives her a broad perspective on the needs of the equestrian community. She understands the importance of creating opportunities for riders of all levels, supporting educational programs, encouraging participation, and fostering a welcoming environment for both established competitors and those just beginning their journeys.

As a board member, Ashley brings practical experience and a strong understanding of the day-to-day realities faced by riders, trainers, and horse owners. She offers a forward-thinking perspective and a strong desire to contribute to the continued success of GDCTA and equestrian sport in Georgia.

Alexis Elliott



Alexis Elliott has been immersed in the equestrian community for more than 25 years. After studying Equestrian Management in college, she gained experience riding and boarding within a variety of disciplines and equestrian communities across the country. These experiences shaped her belief that becoming a well-rounded equestrian is a lifelong pursuit strengthened by education, mentorship, volunteerism, and community.

Alexis believes it truly takes a village to develop the knowledge, horsemanship, and perspective that define a thoughtful equestrian, and she has found that sense of community within GDCTA.

She is passionate about contributing to an organization that brings riders, trainers, volunteers, and professionals together while supporting the continued growth of equestrian sport in Georgia.

Sierra Gowens



Sierra Gowens is a Certified Equine Bodywork Practitioner with a background in natural horsemanship and experience working with mustangs. She has developed a diverse understanding of horses and the importance of building strong, healthy partnerships. Her focus increasingly centers on dressage and the development of healthy, functional equine athletes.

Sierra is passionate about educating owners and riders on biomechanics, rehabilitation, injury prevention, and proactive care. She believes that empowering horse owners with knowledge is one of the most effective ways to improve the long-term health, soundness, and well-being of equine athletes.

Having been part of this community for most of her life, Sierra is committed to giving back and contributing her knowledge, experience, and perspective to strengthen and support the community in which she grew up.

As a GDCTA board member, she hopes to promote horse welfare and education while creating opportunities for members to expand their knowledge, support the health and longevity of their horses, and continue building a strong, welcoming dressage community.

Jennifer Vickers Kelly



My family and I own a small farm in Covington, Georgia, where I retrain off-the-track Thoroughbreds. My students and I enjoy competing at the Retired Racehorse Project Thoroughbred Makeover, and we have been accepted as trainers and competitors for several years, including the 2026 Makeover.

As a child, I did not grow up with horse-loving parents, but I always found a way to be around horses. I began working at age 14, and by age 16, I purchased Bubba. That day set the course for the journey I continue today.

Looking back, I see my journey as a blessing that taught me what it takes to build both a horse and a riding program from the ground up. I have always identified with the horses I develop, the underdogs waiting for their opportunity to shine.

My training philosophy focuses on helping each horse and rider gain confidence in their ability to achieve their goals, whether large or small. Through that perspective, I believe I can help bring awareness to issues and opportunities affecting students, trainers, and competitors at the grassroots level of our sport.

I may not be the most recognizable name within GDCTA, but I am a dedicated member and active participant in Georgia's equestrian community. I welcome the opportunity to share my experience and perspective to help expand the opportunities GDCTA offers its members. Thank you for your consideration.

Danielle Perry



I have been riding horses since I was five years old, and about 20 years ago, I fell in love with dressage. Since then, I have remained fully immersed in the sport.

Today, I am a USEF "R" Dressage Judge, a USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist, and I am currently one score away from earning my USDF Gold Medal. Over the years, I have experienced our sport from many perspectives, including rider, trainer, competitor, judge, horse owner, volunteer, and friend to many wonderful horses, including several rescues

that teach me as much as I teach them.

Outside the barn, I am a corporate executive with more than 25 years of experience helping organizations, teams, and individuals thrive. I bring that same combination of leadership, strategic thinking, problem-solving, and commitment to service to my work with GDCTA.

I am running again for a seat on the GDCTA Board because I believe deeply in supporting our dressage and eventing community and creating opportunities for riders at every stage of their journey. Our sport is built not only on competition, but also on education, horsemanship, volunteerism, friendship, and a shared love of the horse.

I would be honored to continue serving GDCTA and contribute my experience, energy, and perspective to an organization and community that mean so much to me. My experience as an executive, combined with my perspective as a rider, professional, judge, volunteer, and horseperson, allows me to bring a well-rounded approach to board service.

*Senior and Family members will receive
a ballot via website system email soon.*

Juniors members do not vote.

Please help us shape the future by participating.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Please participate by voting when the email notice arrives before the end of October. The ballot will include instructions for completing and submitting your vote and will specify how many candidates may be selected for the At Large positions.

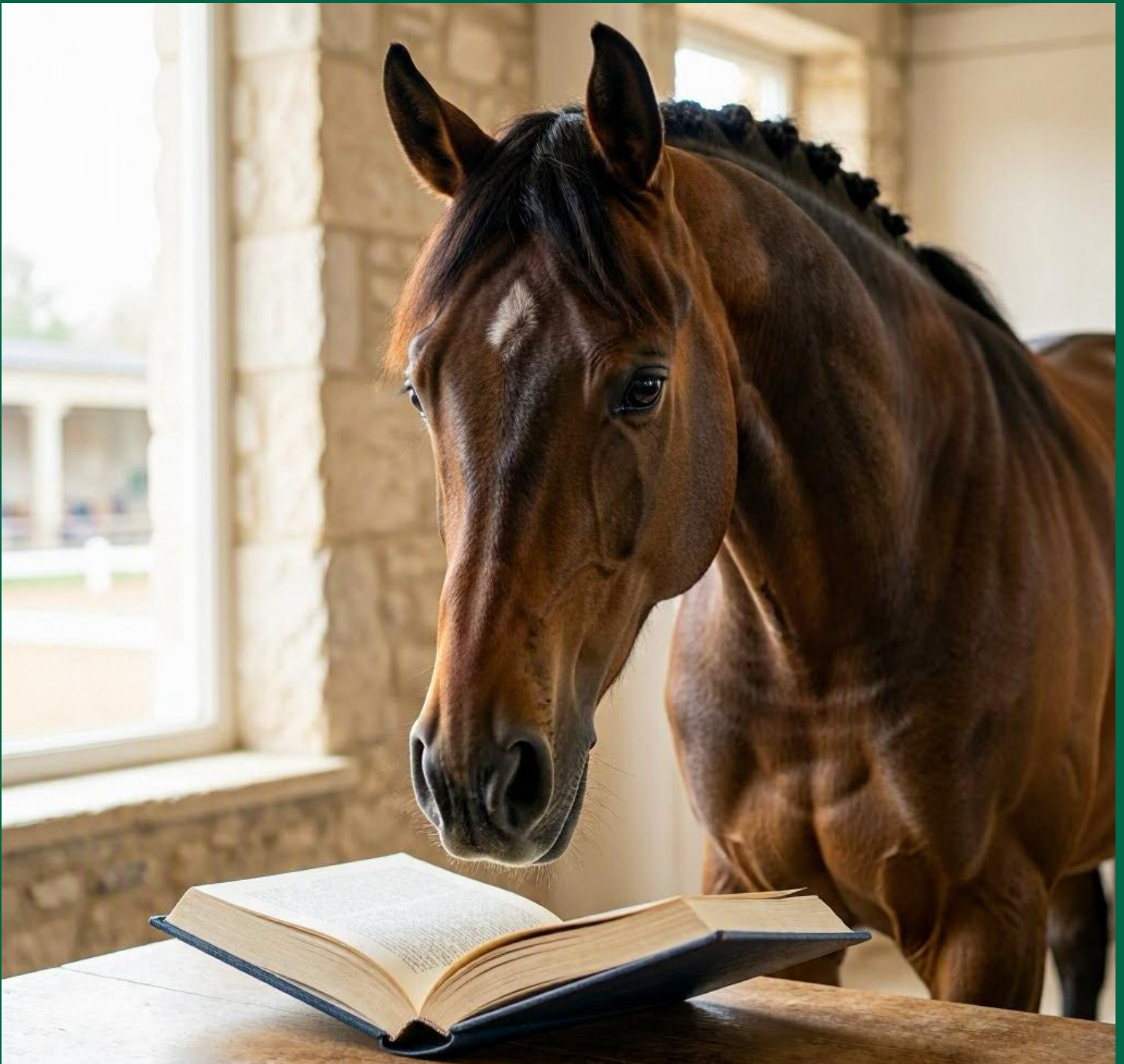
Interested in serving GDCTA but concerned about time constraints? Consider joining one of our many committees. We are always looking for volunteers. Contact President Caren Caverly for more information.



Education & Training

Ride Better • Learn More • Build Partnership

Whether you're refining the basics, preparing for your next show, or simply looking to deepen your partnership with your horse, continuous learning is at the heart of dressage. This month's Education Center explores the science behind harmony, introduces key lateral movements, and highlights an upcoming learning opportunity through the GDCTA Kudzu Klinik Program.



Lateral Work Made Simple: A Six-Part Series

Based on insights from Brett Parbery, Australian Equestrian Team dressage rider and coach

#2 Shoulder-In — Why It's All About the Shoulders

If leg-yield teaches the horse to move sideways, shoulder-in teaches something more refined: how to bend through the body while traveling straight.

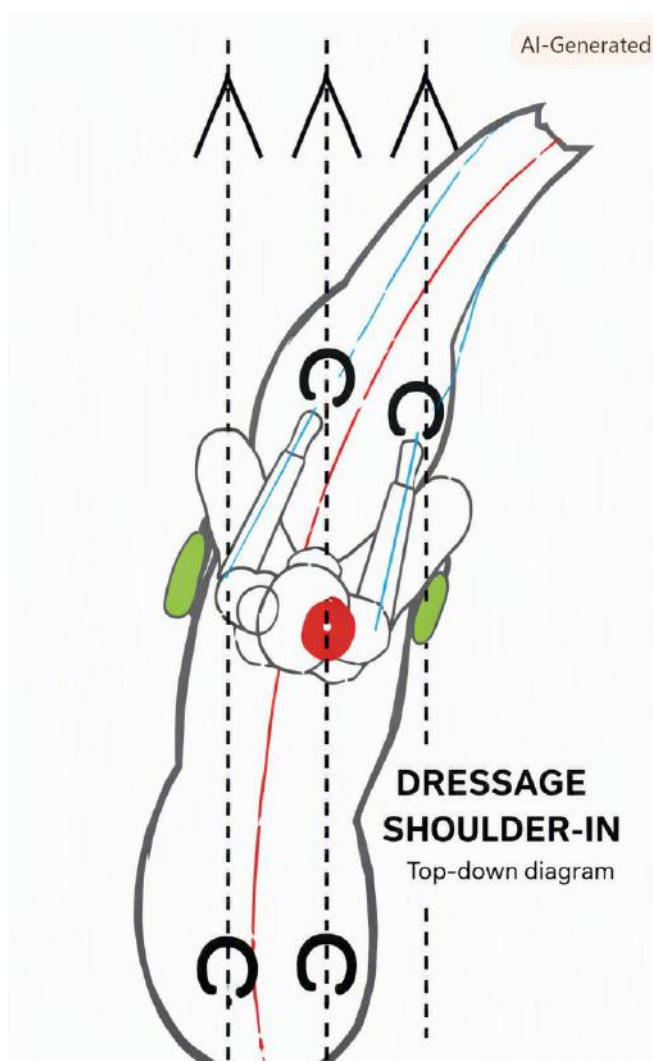
As Brett Parbery puts it, shoulder-in is created with **shoulder control aids**, not by pushing the hindquarters out.

Here's the aid breakdown:

- **Shoulders** turn in the direction you want them placed
- **Hands** move slightly to the inside
- **Inside leg** stays at the girth, guiding the horse down the track
- **Outside leg** sits passively behind the girth, simply guarding against the hind legs stepping out

Parbery flags a common misunderstanding: shoulder-in is *not* about pushing the hind legs sideways. The hind legs should keep marching straight forward in the direction of travel — only the shoulders come off the track.

The test: Ride shoulder-in on the inside track or quarter line. Can you keep a dead straight line? If yes, you're doing it correctly.



One frequent fault is over-bending the neck. Parbery's advice: keep enough feeling in the bend that you could convert it into renvers at any moment. This ensures your horse stays connected to the outside rein, rather than leaning against it.

As with leg-yield, reward small, honest attempts rather than chasing perfect angles. Shoulder-in done well becomes the aid system for travers, renvers, and half-pass — so it's worth taking the time to get right.

Key takeaway: Turn the shoulders, keep the hind legs straight, and don't let

the neck over-bend. Everything else in lateral work builds on this.

This article is based on Brett Parbery's "Lateral Work Cheat Sheet," shared as a training resource for dressage riders. All technical guidance and pro tips are credited to Brett Parbery, Australian Equestrian Team rider and coach.



Endel Ots Dressage Clinic

Olympic Dressage Rider
10+ USEF National Champion
Multiple USEF Horse of the Year
2x World Young Horse Rider



November 21-22, 2026



Clinic Location:
Noble Steeds
3452 Arbor Hill Road
Canton, GA 30115



Hosted by
Georgia Dressage and
Combined Training Association



GDCTA.org



Abi Kroupa



(561) 284-3228

Growing as a Rider and Horsewoman: A Junior Training Grant Success Story

by Emily Rawlston

Thank you so much for awarding me the GDCTA Junior Training Grant. I am very grateful for your support and for the opportunity to use this grant toward my continued education and training.

I used the grant funds to participate in the Dressage4Kids Clinic with Olympian Lendon Gray. It was an incredible experience and a wonderful opportunity to learn from some of the most knowledgeable people in the dressage community.

During the clinic, I trained with Lendon and attended educational lectures led by Rachel Chowanec Kaney, Dr. Handcock, Kerrigan Gluch, and Corie Bannin. Each session taught me something new, from riding exercises and veterinary care to leadership, grooming, and better ways to understand and care for my pony.

One of the most valuable parts of the clinic was learning how to strengthen my partnership with my pony. I gained a better understanding of her individual preferences and learned how to adjust my riding to help her understand what I am asking and perform at her best. The lessons and advice I received from Ms. Lendon are things I can continue to practice and build on throughout the year.

I am truly grateful to GDCTA for awarding me this grant and supporting young riders like me. This experience has helped me grow not only as a rider, but also as a horsewoman, and I am excited to continue putting everything I learned into practice. Thank you for investing in my education and helping me become a better rider and partner for my pony.



Events & Competitions

•Clinics •Competitions •Community

Bringing together dressage, eventing, schooling shows, recognized competitions, clinics, camps, and educational opportunities into one easy-to-follow event hub. Whether you're looking for your next competition, planning your season, or simply staying connected to what's happening around the region, this section, in addition to the website calendars is your go-to source for all things GDCTA and beyond. Check back each month and never miss an opportunity to ride, learn, compete, and grow.



2026

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Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb 14 Valentine's Day
Feb 16 Presidents' Day
Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
Apr 5 Easter Sunday
Apr 6 Easter Monday
Apr 15 Tax Day
May 5 Cinco de Mayo

May 10 Mother's Day
May 25 Memorial Day
Jun 14 Flag Day
Jun 19 Juneteenth
Jun 21 Father's Day
Jul 3 'Independence Day' day off
Jul 4 Independence Day
Sep 7 Labor Day
Oct 12 Columbus Day

Oct 31 Halloween
Nov 3 Election Day
Nov 11 Veterans Day
Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day
Nov 27 Black Friday
Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Dec 25 Christmas Day
Dec 31 New Year's Eve

GDCTA Calendar: <https://www.gdcta.org/events>

Why Burghley Has Become Our Yearly Pilgrimage

By Ashley Boyd

My husband and I are avid fans of eventing. I've loved the sport since I was five years old, and he has been hooked since he discovered it in his twenties. If a major five-star is taking place, we're watching it, either in person or on the big screen at home. We never miss one.

We've been to Kentucky more times than I can accurately count, and to Maryland twice. Now we can add Burghley to the list. We visited three years ago, loved it so much that we've returned every year since.



A Dream Decades in the Making

As a kid at Pony Club camp, I watched Burghley and Badminton on VHS tapes so many times I nearly had them memorized. Stepping onto those grounds nearly forty years later was a dream come true, and it remains the most extraordinary event I have ever attended.

Everyone says the course is big, and I'd seen it on TV many times, but nothing prepared me for the sheer size of the fences. Walking the course for the first time, you start to feel it is unjumpable.



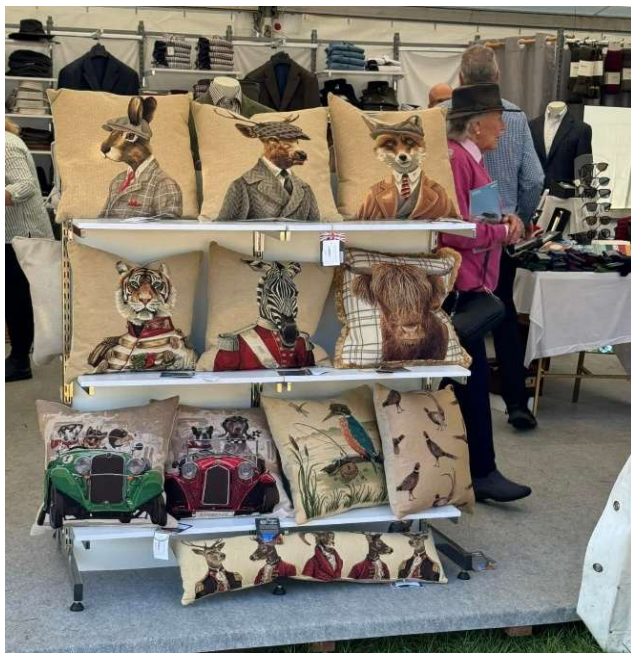
Then you wake up early to get a good parking spot and stake out the best possible position at the Leaf Pit. Harry Meade comes blazing around the corner, off the massive drop, and skips over the very fences you declared impossible the day before, making it all look like a Pony Club exercise. That's when you realize you're about to witness the most exciting day of sport there is.

History and Shopping

The grounds are steeped in history. Be sure to walk down Winners' Avenue and read the names of the legends who brought home the win, then pay your respects to

the big bad B by getting your picture taken in the Cottesmore Leap the day after cross country.

Next comes the shopping, take an extra suitcase because you are going to need it. You might think you've seen an impressive trade fair at Kentucky or elsewhere, but nothing comes close. Yes, there is tack, and plenty of it, but there is also fashion fit for the Royal family. The coats, hats, boots, sweaters, and blouses look straight off a country chic runway. Prices range from "I'll take fifty of those" to "I might need to mortgage the house."



Our Top Tips

Get the Members Pass. We've bought it every year and can't recommend it enough. The parking alone is worth it, but you also get the best side of the arena for both dressage days and the jog ups, plus a members area with lovely tables and umbrellas. It's the perfect spot to enjoy food from the fabulous vendors while

haring a jug of Pimm's with your best mates.

Stay at The Lily Pad Cottages in

Nassington. I'll be honest: as much as we love the event, it's the friendships we've made here that will keep us coming back for years. Your hosts with the most, Jane and Andrew Thorpe-Codman, have been helping Americans visit Burghley for decades, starting with a written ad in the *Chronicle of the Horse*. Staying there elevates the fun immensely, but book early because it fills up fast.

Get help planning. One of the friends we met at the cottages has started a service to help people navigate the big equestrian events around the world. If you're considering a trip, check out [Optimum Time](#) to make your journey go smoother.

See You There

If eventing is in your blood, put Burghley on your bucket list. It lives up to the hype and then some, and who knows, we may see you at the Leaf Pit next year.



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A GREAT REPORT FOR GDCTA & THE GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL HORSE PARK!

We're happy to share some wonderful feedback following the recent **USEF compliance review of the Labor Day Dressage Classic I!**

USEF reported that the competition was **well-run and successful, in overall compliance with USEF requirements and standards, and a positive experience for exhibitors and their horses.** 🙌

And they noticed the details that make a difference! Participants and USEF specifically praised:

- 🏡 Improved outdoor competition footing
- 💡 A well-maintained, tidy facility
- 📋 Good parking and directional signage
- 👏 Accessible and present staff and volunteers
- ❤️ Horse-friendly paths throughout the venue

USEF also recognized the efforts of the competition team and GDCTA's involvement with the Georgia International Horse Park.

There are a few facility maintenance items to continue addressing, because there is always room to improve—but overall, this was a **very encouraging review and a wonderful recognition of the hard work that goes into producing quality competitions for our exhibitors and their horses.**

A BIG thank-you to our incredible volunteers, staff, officials, facility team, and everyone who helps make GDCTA competitions happen. 💙

We're proud of what we're building together! 🐾 ✨





TEAM Clinic riders, clinicians and Olympian Lendon Gray at the Georgia International Horse Park.

DRESSAGE4KIDS ATLANTA FESTIVAL • SEPTEMBER 4-6, 2026 • CONYERS, GA

Young Riders Take the Arena

They rode with top clinicians, sat a written exam and competed as teams, right down to stall decorating. Over one September weekend, 23 young riders proved that good dressage starts with good horsemanship.

On the first weekend of September, the Georgia International Horse Park belonged to the kids. Riders from walk/trot beginners to FEI Levels came to Conyers for the 2026 Dressage4Kids Atlanta Festival, which Liz Molloy launched in 2012 and that is now the third-largest D4K festival in the country.

Friday and Saturday belonged to Lendon Gray's Kundrun TEAM Clinic (Training, Education and Mentoring).

For Emily Rawlston, who first came to D4K two years ago, clinic rides with the Olympian Lendon Gray meant focused work on her connection and her First Level movements. Between rides, everyone headed to lectures and demonstrations from Kerrigan Gluch, Corie Bannon, Adrienne Junius, Dr. Hancock, and more.

As the Rawlston family put it, the mix of riding, learning and time with friends made it "a fun and inspiring weekend."

Saturday night, teams turned their barn aisles into themed displays for the stall-decorating contest, with Astro Ponies taking the tack room prize, before a kick-off dinner and panel discussion.

Sunday's festival was about putting knowledge into practice. This competition combined a written test, one dressage test ridden from memory, and a group dressage seat equitation class to determine division placings. Each section was worth up to 100 points, giving riders a chance to demonstrate their knowledge alongside their riding skills. The format encouraged preparation that extended beyond just memorizing a dressage test.



Maya Daniel, Overall High Point Champion.

"I loved riding with Miss Lendon and enjoyed being on a team with my friends. I look forward to it every year."

MAYA DANIEL, OVERALL HIGH POINT

Sunday's Results

Full scores at Dressage4Kids.org

OVERALL HIGH POINT

Maya Daniel

DeLaMuse • First Level

TOP WRITTEN TEST

89

Summer Kroupa & Vivienne Haight

TOP DRESSAGE TEST

67.069%

Audrey Klacynski • Smooth Operator

TOP EQUITATION

81

Maya Daniel

DIVISION CHAMPIONS

DIVISION	CHAMPION	RESERVE
Second & Third Level	McKenna Sykora <i>Westbrook</i> • 229.971	Molly Shewmaker <i>Sarapero</i> • 223.237
First Level	Maya Daniel <i>DeLaMuse</i> • 231.030	Summer Kroupa <i>Sephora</i> • 227.364
Training Level	Eliza Barbour <i>Not Another Dime</i> • 228.414	Audrey Klacynski <i>Smooth Operator</i> • 228.069
Walk/Trot/Canter	Mia Fregel <i>Lulu</i> • 229.500	Vivienne Haight <i>Galaxy Twinkle Star</i> • 220.500
Walk/Trot	Phoebe Rawlings <i>Luke For My Sock</i> • 225.375	Kyleigh Cohen <i>Black Tie Affair</i> • 221.688

TEAM COMPETITION

1. Milton Pony Club

Maya Daniel, Summer Kroupa, Nathaniel Melcher, Emily Rawlston

2. Blossoms n Bridles

3. Collected Cowgirls

Tack Room Decorating: **Astro Ponies**

SPECIAL AWARDS

High Score Pony: **Mia Fregel**

Turnout Champion: **Audrey Klacynski**

Turnout Reserve: **Emily Rawlston**

High Score Oldenburg: **Elizabeth Junius**



Olympian Lendon Gray teaching Bryanna Cohen



Vivi Haight at awards ceremony



Saturday's stall-decorating contest

IN THEIR WORDS

"The Atlanta dressage festival is one of my favorite events of the year."

— Maya Daniel, rider

"Riding a dressage test, a dressage seat equitation class and taking a written test provided a comprehensive way to assess both riding skills and knowledge."

— Emily Haight, parent

"The program offers Emily incredible educational opportunities, wonderful mentors and a supportive community of young riders who share her passion."

— The Rawlston family

GIVING BACK

\$3,928

raised for Dressage4Kids by festival riders. Top fundraisers: Nathaniel Melcher (\$2,093), Maya Daniel (\$1,015) and Summer Kroupa (\$400).

THANK YOU

We are deeply grateful to everyone who shared their time and expertise. Many thanks to Liz Molloy, Adrienne Junius, Deb Cohen, Jennifer Melcher, Abigail Kroupa, Dr. Hancock, Kerrigan Gluch, Corie Bannon, Cory Ferris, Nuria Wing, Austin Hermann, Brooklyn Young, Kristene Young, Mark Fornwalt, Kim Feist, Marc Mesa, Eliza Fountain, Patti Shewmaker, Evie Jordan, Margaret Freeman, Keli Gambrell, and Rachel Chowanec-Kaney.

Thank you also to the Georgia International Horse Park for welcoming Dressage4Kids, and to the generous sponsors and supporters who helped make the weekend possible: Atlanta Saddlery, AYDC Atlanta Youth Dressage Challenge, Custom Saddlery, Devoucoux, GDCTA, Mags Mobile, National Dressage Pony Cup, Oldenburg Society, Piedmont Equine & Associates, Riding Warehouse, Stars & Strikes, The Dressage Foundation, Thompson & Associates, and Wilsun.

SPORTS PERFORMANCE TRAINING

"Love talking to Cheryl Williams! She has been with me throughout show season and even during my off season. Anyone looking for a sports/competition specialist, she's your pick! She understands the equestrian world and is amazing. Now that I have found her I can't imagine my career without her support! Thank you, Cheryl! Thank you!!"

-Ashley Marascalco
USDF Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medalist

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GAIG/USDF Region 3 Dressage Championships & Atlanta Fall National

October 2–4, 2026 · Hosted by GDCTA

Nearly 300 riders, 371 horses and a first-ever WhatsApp group turned three weekend days of Region 3 competition into a well-run, high-spirited championship, and the qualifiers are now headed to the US Dressage Finals.

Key numbers

- **384** entries
- **291** riders, about 20% of them GDCTA members
- **371** horses and **304** owners
- **94** classes across **7** arenas: 36 on Friday, 34 on Saturday, 24 on Sunday
- **124** people following show updates on WhatsApp at the peak, the first time the show used it
- **13** judges (from AZ, WA, FL, CA, SC, TX, ME and WI) plus **3** technical delegates

Top takeaways

1. **Participation was strong and broad.** Close to 300 riders and 300+ owners made this a big regional gathering. Riders praised the hospitality and the smooth running of the show.
2. **Region 3 is sending a strong group to the US Dressage Finals.** Riders qualified for the Finals, including Laura Duhamel and Astaire (4th Level). Others finished high in tough fields, such as a 4th-place regional finish in the I-1 Freestyle.
3. **Young talent is rising, and communication worked.** The USDF/D4K U-13 Regional Merit Award recognized four juniors across Training and First Level, and the new WhatsApp group kept people informed.

Notable moments

- **Rising juniors.** USDF awarded the U-13 Regional Merit Award at both levels:
 - o Training Level: Kaitlyn Chavis on Daen's Dragon and Carley Howe on Benchmark Sargon
 - o First Level: Katlyn Thomas on Call Me Waylon and Aureauna Jones on Jack in Black
- **A first for the show.** The WhatsApp group had 124 followers at its peak.
- **What competitors said:**
 - o "Thank you all for another great Region 3 Finals!" (Pamela Garrett)
 - o "GDCTA did a fantastic job with hospitality, and the weather was MUCH better than predicted!" (High Point Farm)
 - o "We had a blast at Region 3 championships! Lots of laughter, good riding and award ceremonies!" (Diamond Dressage)
- **Grit and heart.** One horse stayed in the top third of a huge 3rd Level class despite being distracted by an alarmed horse in the next arena. Another duo from High Point Farm placed 4th in the Region 3 I-1 Freestyle.



- **Marketplace energy.** 22 vendors, from saddle fitting and tack to equine wellness, photography and art, kept the show grounds busy.
- **Thank you.** Sponsors included Great American Insurance Group, SmartEquine, Platinum Performance, Schneider's Tack and USDF. Dozens of volunteers made it all happen.

A big thank you to our GDCTA sponsors

The GAIG/USDF Region 3 Dressage Championships and Atlanta Fall National Dressage Show (October 2–4) would not have happened without you. Your support helped bring 291 riders and 371 horses together for three days of great dressage, and it showed in every arena.

- **Gold Sponsor:** Elite Equestrian Supply
- **Silver Sponsor:** Purina Nutrition
- **Pewter Sponsors:** Caren Caverly · International Riding Helmets · Southern Crescent Equine Services
- **Arena Sponsors:** CU @ X Tack · Custom Saddlery · Kroupa Team Real Estate · Riding Warehouse · Team Tate Dressage · Wilsun Custom Products
- **Also with thanks:** StableSecretary
- **Atlanta Fall National Dressage Class & Division Sponsors:** Bright Lights Farm · Carla Jimmerson BDF Tag You're It · Carla Vaneffen · Code V Performance · Elite Equestrian Supply · Foxberry Farm · Frog Catcher Farm · Jjarnigan Saddle Fit · Katie Patton · Lovington Dressage · Southern Crescent Equine Services · Stal810 · Willow Dell Equestrian

From all of us at GDCTA: thank you for investing in our riders, our horses and our sport. We hope to see you at the next show.

What's next

2026 US Dressage Finals: October 29–November 1, 2026, at the World Equestrian Center in Wilmington, Ohio. National head-to-head championships run from Training Level through Grand Prix. Details:

usdf.org/usdressagefinals

That is just 17 days away, and Region 3 qualifiers will be taking this momentum north.

Call to action

- **Find the results:** Region 3 results are on the GDCTA results page: <https://gdcta.org/results>.
- **Tell us how we did:** Please fill out the championships evaluation form, and be candid, both the good and the bad. It helps shape future championships: [USDF Regional Championship Competitor Survey 2026](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/USDFRegionalChampionshipCompetitorSurvey2026) (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/USDFRegionalChampionshipCompetitorSurvey2026>)
- **Cheer on Region 3** at the US Dressage Finals, October 29–November 1.



Division	Category	Rider & Horse	Score
Training	JR/YR	Londond Ford, Mio Bell Pagazzo	68.750
	AA	Alice McNamara, The Wizard of Oz	69.640
	Open	Lily Barlow, Ferdinand	71.400
First	JR/YR	Aureauna Jones, Jack in Black	72.083
	AA	Holly Summers, Madison 78 S	73.056
	Open	Alejandro Salazr, Ozette	75.000
Second	JR/YR	Samantha Williams, Santiano 36	56.000
	AA	Rebecca Vendryes, Furst Yogi	62.143
	Open	Emma Sevriens, Raphael M&M	64.857
Third	JR/YR	Addison Haris, Fantasma	58.313
	AA	Israd Rodriguez, Queen De L'Esprit	68.875
	Open	Suzanne Graham, Leyente	65.875
Fourth	JR/YR	Anora Jucknie, Arion	60.789
	AA	Regan Rising, Brahm	66.944
	Open	Trish Hutchinson, Bon Voyage 39	68.026
FEI	JR/YR	Allison Turner, Lord Perry	60.368
	AA	Danielle Comley, BDF Top Gun	60.735
	Open	Brian Hafner, I crack de La Vigne	70.882
Peri Lambros Memorial		Danielle Comley, BDF Top Gun	60.735
Vintage	AA	Holly Summers, Madison 78 S	73.056



Congratulations to our AFND High Point Winners!





Great American/USDF Championship Results

Champions and Reserve Champions · Atlanta Fall National Dressage

36 championship classes across Training through FEI Grand Prix, including Freestyle divisions. Classes are grouped by level; scores are final percentages.

Training Level

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
209A	Training Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Tracey Corey	<i>Sazou</i>	75.600%
		Reserve	Megan Petry	<i>Fruhlingstanz GV</i>	72.800%
109J	Training Championship – Junior/Young Rider	Champion	Kaitlyn Chavis	<i>Daen's Dragon</i>	69.300%
		Reserve	Carley Howe	<i>Benchmark Sargo</i>	69.200%
209O	Training Championship – Open	Champion	Anartz Chanca	<i>Ferran Torres</i>	71.000%
		Reserve	Rachel Chowanec	<i>Charming Boy</i>	71.000%

First Level

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
319A	First Level Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Avery Silvers	<i>Pachinko KF</i>	73.472%
		Reserve	Sarah Forster	<i>Night Fight</i>	72.917%
319J	First Level Championship – Junior/Young Rider	Champion	Katelyn Thomas	<i>Call Me Waylon</i>	69.583%
		Reserve	Aureauna Jones	<i>Jack in Black</i>	69.306%
319O	First Level Championship – Open	Champion	Allison Cyprus	<i>Pashmina ISF</i>	71.389%
		Reserve	Andrea Pappano	<i>Remarkable Wrf</i>	69.931%
719A	First Level Freestyle Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Annie Bailes	<i>Grintosa</i>	69.458%
		Reserve	Amanda Castellon	<i>Zenon's Crusador</i>	69.181%
719O	First Level Freestyle Championship – Open/Jr/Yr	Champion	Eline Eckroth	<i>Finiro SH</i>	69.097%
		Reserve	Brie Seltser	<i>Kahlua N Kream</i>	68.083%

Second Level

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
229A	Second Level Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Birgitt Dagge	<i>Vianello</i>	68.274%
		Reserve	Israel Rodriguez	<i>Sternenfee</i>	67.738%
229J	Second Level Championship – Junior/Young Rider	Champion	Katelyn Thomas	<i>Call Me Waylon</i>	67.798%
		Reserve	Vivienne Davis	<i>Lantana WHE</i>	66.548%
229O	Second Level Championship – Open	Champion	Allison Cyprus	<i>Pashmina ISF</i>	71.310%
		Reserve	Amber Gipp	<i>Ovni Das Faias</i>	70.595%

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
629A	Second Level Freestyle Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Natalie Gourley	<i>Dei Lutte Deern</i>	72.013%
		Reserve	Birgitt Dagge	<i>Vianello</i>	71.316%
629O	Second Level Freestyle Championship – Open/Jr/Yr	Champion	Kassandra Barteau	<i>Napalm de Mile</i>	70.447%
		Reserve	Brie Seltser	<i>Holocene</i>	70.079%

Third Level

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
139A	Third Level Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Camilla Van Liew	<i>Over The Moon</i>	71.563%
		Reserve	Tracey Corey	<i>Icarus DVE</i>	67.750%
139J	Third Level Championship – Junior/Young Rider	Champion	Lauren Polk	<i>Donauwelle P</i>	69.375%
		Reserve	Vivienne Davis	<i>Lantana WHE</i>	69.000%
139O	Third Level Championship – Open	Champion	Nora Batchelder	<i>Gnomonic</i>	72.938%
		Reserve	Allison Cyprus	<i>Oceana ISF</i>	71.688%
739A	Third Level Freestyle Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Carla Jimmerson	<i>Bdf Tag You're It</i>	68.563%
		Reserve	Lela Wulf	<i>Enterprise FRF</i>	66.088%
739O	Third Level Freestyle Championship – Open/Jr/Yr	Champion	Brie Seltser	<i>Holocene</i>	70.313%
		Reserve	Kassandra Barteau	<i>Napalm de Mile</i>	70.162%

Fourth Level

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
249A	Fourth Level Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Cathy Ruoff	<i>Drostgaard's Dibr</i>	67.431%
		Reserve	Jacquelyn Lanier	<i>Felis Apollo</i>	66.875%
249J	Fourth Level Championship – Junior/Young Rider	Champion	Lauren Polk	<i>Donauwelle P</i>	70.347%
		Reserve	Carolena Johnson	<i>Draco</i>	66.111%
249O	Fourth Level Championship – Open	Champion	Nora Batchelder	<i>Gnomonic</i>	75.278%
		Reserve	Nora Batchelder	<i>Figaro XXXII</i>	70.486%
649A	Fourth Level Freestyle Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Jacquelyn Lanier	<i>Felis Apollo</i>	68.238%
		Reserve	Kelly Vineyard	<i>Dibadu</i>	66.300%
649O	Fourth Level Freestyle Championship – Open/Jr/Yr	Champion	Tyra Vernon	<i>Sandor Ash</i>	71.938%
		Reserve	Lark Heckman	<i>Franzissimo</i>	71.863%

FEI Prix St. Georges

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
159A	FEI Prix St. Georges Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Bonnie Canter	<i>Vitalissohn</i>	70.074%
		Reserve	Jacquelyn Lanier	<i>Felis Apollo</i>	67.353%
159J	FEI Prix St. Georges Championship – Junior/Young Rider	Champion	Carolena Johnson	<i>Draco</i>	63.603%
		Reserve	Allison Turner	<i>Lord Perry</i>	62.868%

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
1590	FEI Prix St. Georges Championship – Open	Champion	Kassandra Barteau	<i>Blue Skies</i>	71.471%
		Reserve	Miriam Bacon	<i>Drambuie</i>	69.191%

FEI Intermediate I

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
369A	FEI Intermediate I Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Camilla Van Liew	<i>La Formidable B</i>	69.779%
		Reserve	Bonnie Canter	<i>Vitalisohn</i>	69.118%
369O	FEI Intermediate I Championship – Open	Champion	Brian Hafner	<i>I Crack de la Vign</i>	70.662%
		Reserve	Jessica Tate	<i>Denali</i>	69.265%
769A	FEI Intermediate I Freestyle Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Phyllis Sumner	<i>Lord Hennessy</i>	67.825%
		Reserve	Heather Fultz	<i>SS Seraphina</i>	67.000%
769O	FEI Intermediate I Freestyle Championship – Open/Jr/Yr	Champion	Tyra Vernon	<i>Hadrian Interagro</i>	69.450%
		Reserve	Kassandra Barteau	<i>Blue Skies</i>	68.625%

FEI Intermediate II

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
179A	FEI Intermediate II Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Kristy Truebenbac	<i>La Vida Mas Fina</i>	67.941%
		Reserve	Phyllis Sumner	<i>Soprano 9</i>	63.235%
179O	FEI Intermediate II Championship – Open	Champion	Anartz Chanca	<i>Olympic Star</i>	65.662%
		Reserve	Chase DeMarco	<i>Debutante</i>	64.191%

FEI Grand Prix

CLASS	CLASS NAME	PLACING	RIDER	HORSE	SCORE
389A	FEI Grand Prix Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Phyllis Sumner	<i>Forrest Gump</i>	64.239%
		Reserve	Kristy Truebenbac	<i>La Vida Mas Fina</i>	63.315%
389O	FEI Grand Prix Championship – Open	Champion	Chase DeMarco	<i>Debutante</i>	65.054%
		Reserve	Anartz Chanca	<i>Olympic Star</i>	64.891%
789A	FEI Grand Prix Freestyle Championship – Adult Amateur	Champion	Kristy Truebenbac	<i>La Vida Mas Fina</i>	73.087%
		Reserve	Kristy Truebenbac	<i>Living Lucky</i>	68.525%
789O	FEI Grand Prix Freestyle Championship – Open/Jr/Yr	Champion	Shelley Van	<i>Den N Atze</i>	69.050%
		Reserve	Sarah Sharpe	<i>Dreamliner</i>	68.975%

— indicates no placing listed in the source results. Class names are standardized for print; rider and horse names appear as provided in the results export.





GDCTA Board 2026

OFFICERS

President: Caren Caverly
VP Dressage: Abi Kroupa
VP Eventing: Joanne Morse
Treasurer: Peter West
Corresponding Secretary:
 Carol Tresan
Recording Secretary: Ashley Boyd

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Lindsey Burns
 Doreen Durr
 Noel Muehlbauer
 Danielle Perry
 Liz Molloy
 Dianne Rawlston

YOUTH MEMBERS

TBA

*The 2026 Board was seated at the
January meeting*



Committees 2026

- 1) **Nominating** – 2 Non-outgoing board members
- 2) **Grievance** – 2 VPs, only if there's a complaint
- 3) **Finance** –
 - a. Chair – Peter West
 - b. Sponsorship - Caren Caverly, Aly Elliott
- 4) **Awards** –
 - a. Grants – Danielle Perry
- 5) **Award Gala** –
 - a. Chair – Caren Caverly
 - b. Silent Auction – Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
 - c. Barn Raffle – Danielle Perry
- 6) **Education** –
 - a. Chair – Caren Caverly
 - b. Clinics – Caren Caverly, Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
 - c. Kudzu – Danielle Perry
 - d. L Program – Marian Bickers
- 7) **Youth** –
 - a. Chair – Joanne Morse, Abi Kroupa
 - b. Schooling or Grassroots – Open
 - c. Recognized – Lindsey Burns
 - d. Collegiate – Amanda Garner
- 8) **Communication** –
 - a. Chair – Joanne Morse
 - b. Newsletter – Penny Morse, June Brewer
 - c. Website – June Brewer
 - d. Social Media – June Brewer
- 9) **Show** –
 - a. Chair – Julie Shannon
 - b. Recognized – Caren Caverly
 - c. Schooling – Caren Caverly
 1. Horse Show Recognition –
 - d. Regionals 2026
 1. Chair – Caren Caverly
 - e. Volunteer Coordinator – Aly Elliott

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Collected Remarks is the official publication of the Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association, Inc.

(GDCTA), a non-profit, exempt corporation organized under Section 501© (3). It is the monthly newsletter designed to inform, educate and entertain the membership. The Editors encourage members to submit original advertising, articles, photographs, and artwork for possible publication. The editors of 'Collected Remarks' reserve the right to reject any advertising or article deemed to be unsuitable for this newsletter.

- Editorial contributions of 600 words or less (accompanied by photos with permission to publish, if applicable) are welcomed although publication cannot be guaranteed.
- GDCTA is not responsible for the opinions and statements expressed in signed articles or paid advertisements.

GDCTA Collected Remarks welcomes submissions of quality color dressage and sport-horse photographs. All mounted riders must be wearing appropriate headgear (a safety helmet, a derby, or a top hat). Photos must be accompanied by complete captions, including the full names of all subjects.

Only high resolution (300dpi) Jpeg, PNG, or PDF files will be accepted.

Please submit electronically to designonpenny@yahoo.com and webmaster@gdcta.org.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

For information, please email: webmaster@gdcta.org

Ad space is limited. Scheduled ads are due by the 5th of the month prior to publication. Information about advertising is also available online at: GDCTA.org/advertise

The deadline for articles is also the 5th of the month prior to publication. Advertisements and Articles should be emailed to: webmaster@gdcta.org

The advertisements contained herein are paid advertisements. The information is provided by the service provider. The GDCTA makes no specific recommendations for any particular company, individual, or service.

ORGANIZE A GDCTA-RECOGNIZED SCHOOLING SHOW

If you are organizing a schooling show and wish to have it GDCTA Recognized (so riders can use the scores towards our year-end awards), submit the Recognition form. Shows won't be added to our calendars until the Recognition form is received.

Please review the other information and specifications/guidelines we have provided. For specific questions regarding recognition procedures, email Carol Tresan at Happy_horses@hotmail.com

Recognition details:
<https://gdcta.wildapricot.org/GDCTA-Recognition>

DISCLOSURE

Complete GDCTA Board of Directors meeting minutes are available upon request to the Recording Secretary

Financial records are available upon written request to the Treasurer

For information regarding Awards, Show Recognition, Membership, Education or the Website, contact the appropriatechariperson on the website Contact Us page.

<https://gdcta.org/Contact>

Georgia Dressage and Combined Training Association

Regular Meeting July 20, 2026

President Caren Caverly called the membership meeting of the GDCTA to order on July 20, 2026, at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

Ashley Boyd performed a roll call. A quorum of the board consisting of Caren Caverly, Abigail Kroupa, Joanne Morse, Ashley Boyd, Peter West, Lindsey Burns, Noel Muehlbauer, Danielle Perry, and Dee Rawlston were present. Deb Crosby was present as a guest. The minutes from June 15, 2026, Board Meeting were emailed to the board. Joanne motioned to accept minutes; Danielle seconded. The board voted to accept the minutes.

Grant report – (Deb Cosby)- Reported on the things she used the grant to improve on. Her goal was to move from 2nd level to 3rd level. She lessened with Cindy Thaxton. The experience helped keep her on course by allowing her to pursue her goals better. Article has been submitted.

Treasurer's Report – (Peter): Sent out copies of PNLs. One was from last year and one is from this year. In 2021 we showed a profit which came from Regionals, or we would have been in a loss. The next year we made a profit from regionals. 2023 we took a loss because we did not have Regionals. That year we also had a yearbook and those were pricey, so we decided not to do them anymore. The Gala that year was also a loss. 2024 was also huge loss and we did not have Regionals. The loss is what put us in a position going into 2025 where we really had to be careful. Last year every event was a profit. We are not in the position today that we were in 4 years ago where we had a large reserve. This year we are currently looking at a loss which is fairly normal since many of the shows have not happened yet, including Regionals. Next year we will not have Regionals. So, we will need to be very cautious. We also need to figure out what to do for October's show date. Caren said it will be a schooling show. Peter is willing to stay on for



another year to help work on this and is recommending having a finance committee to help find somebody.

VP Dressage Report – (Abi): Nothing to report

VP Combined Training – (Joanne): Joanne sent the final numbers for camp. Profit.

Membership Report – (Mary Lou):
Membership Report – (Mary Lou)- Still down on members. Try to get people to join.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Communication** (Joanne): June and July newsletter has been published and the first chapter of AI book.
- **Show Committee** (Caren): Summer finals are in two weeks. The 8th and 9th at Wills Park. We currently have only 16 entries. Share the word so that people know about it. One of the arenas we use for warm up is currently down, they have said it will be done for our show. If we do not have that arena, we might need to limit entries. Labor Day is two weekends after that. Help get sponsors, volunteers, etc. Joanne pointed out there are gaps in the calendar at Bouckaert Farm, and it would be worth looking into.
- **Finance** (Peter): Nothing to report
- **Youth Program** (Joanne): For 2028 we will be bringing all 3 disciplines back together for Young Riders.
- **Awards/Grants** (Danielle): Committee met last week and made decisions. We only had one Junior and Combined training apply. The Professional and Amateur grants were chosen as well. 8 applications

were completed, but about 14 started. Some suggestions to improve for next year.

- **Education** (Joanne and Abi): Discussion to possibly do a dressage camp alongside Eventing camp. Also working on additional clinics and brainstorming.
- **Gala** (Caren): Nothing to report
- **Regionals** (Caren): There was a big town hall meeting last week. Caren pulled up to see if anybody had changed regions and only one trainer has changed. People that have already qualified for regionals we are currently one of the largest groups. Looking for volunteers, sponsors, and vendors. Region 6 director sent email pointing out that people are not showing as much and numbers are going way down. The best way to do that is to get sponsors involved. Idea of adding fun classes like costumes etc. Discussion about getting merchandise to sell for fundraising.
- **Nominating** (Lindsey, Li and Doreen): Working on it

OLD BUSINESS

Email Blasts – (Caren): Summer finals, Labor Day, D for K, and volunteers.

Horse Registration – (Noel): Summary of survey we had about 14% of membership responded. A lot of people felt awards were important. There were a decent number of people, about 75%, who were open to a horse registration fee. Discussion of how to make it work and making it a steppingstone path to get to fully doing it. Talk about making it cheaper to register earlier in the year and then increasing the price later in year.

Trailer Clinic – (Carol, Ashley, and Lindsey): nothing to report

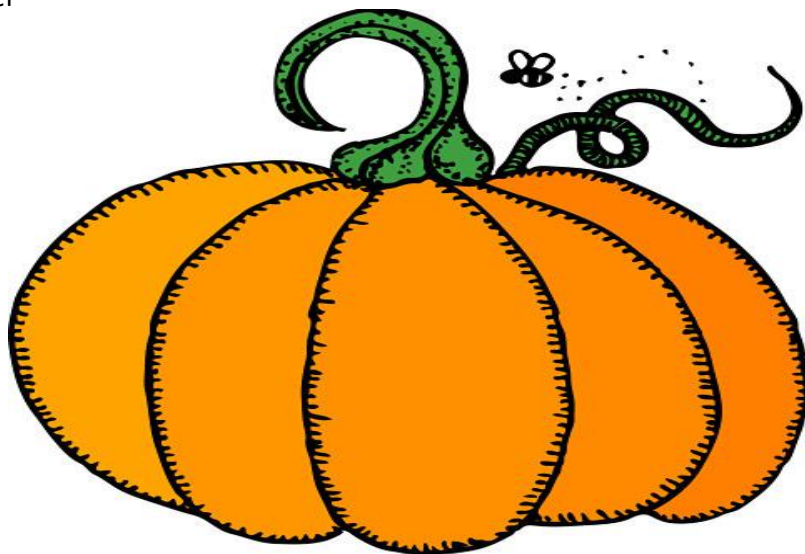
NEW BUSINESS

- **New members** for August – Ashley

Joanne motioned to adjourn, and Lindsey seconded. The board voted to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned.

Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM via Zoom. If you would like to join a meeting, email Caren at ccaverly@comcast.net



Thank you for your generous gifts!

*Before we list the GDCTA GOATs, we must clarify who those GOATs are.
The GOATS are the benefactors, donors, and sponsors of this organization.*

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Riding Warehouse

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GOAT—Greatest Of All Time

Saddle Up for More Than Just Ribbons 🐾

What if your next big win wasn't just in the ring, but also in the friendships and connections you made along the way? 🏆 ✨

At GDCTA, we're more than an organization—we're a community. From schooling shows to year-end awards and clinics, we offer endless opportunities to elevate your equestrian journey. And the best part? You'll be surrounded by people who share your love for horses and the lifestyle that comes with it. 🐾 ❤️

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