

CDS-San Juan Capistrano February 2010 Newsletter

Highlights From Annual Meeting in Carmel Valley:

I can't think of a more enjoyable location for a meeting than Carmel. In spite of some showers and clouds, there was lots to do and enjoy in the area. First off, the meeting was informative with lots of new input and ideas from neighboring chapters.

Paula, the queen of the CDS Headquarters hosted a "What we do for free" session for all the representatives present, informing of free E- blast for chapter shows among other services as well as other promotional advertising for chapters for a small fee.

Activities included a session on a horse simulator that helped target weak areas in body position and aids. While mounted on a life sized mechanical horse, you could either take a ride out in the country, a test in a dressage court or just view basic control panels that made you aware of correct verses incorrect aids for all gaits, leg yields and lead changes

We learned of a new online service called www.PerfectWorldDressage.com which will enable both timid riders who have never shown as well as seasoned ones that are considering moving up, to submit a video of their test shot at home and pick a licensed judge from the panel to confidentially score and give feedback for a small fee.

A big plus for our chapter this year will be the new level classification for our shows by USEF that also allows the option of "opportunity classes" in training and first level. Participants for these classes only can enter without having to pay member or non-member fees. Scores will not be counted for awards or points with organizations, but will enable the rider who just wants to show for the experience have that chance without having to spend lots of money in fees. These will be offered during our "Fabulous Friday" series.

Well, my last day in Carmel was spent hiking along with fellow chapter member and CDS board official Brent Hicks at Point Lobos State Park. With just a hint of drizzle in the air, we hiked amazing trails and enjoyed the beauty of the coastline as well as an adorable sea otter that was basking in the cove. A great way to end the weekend!
Kathy King, Co-Chair

SHOW CALENDAR 2010

MARCH 20, EILEEN FAGAN

MAY 22&23, HILDA GURNEY, PEGGY KLUMP

JUNE 25, JAN CURTIS

JULY 23, DAVID SCHMUTZ

AUGUST 13, JAN CURTIS

TRAINERS SPOTLIGHT: KAREN BALL

Born: Newport Beach...a Native Californian!

How old were you when you began riding: At 3 years old started pony rides in Santa Ana, at 12, started competing hunter/jumpers.

What attracted you to Dressage: I was 3 day eventing until 22 when I went to Europe and became involved with Dressage. I think the horse is the greatest inspiration. When guided in the correct way, they are willing to give you everything.

Whom do you admire most in Dressage: Steffen Peters, I love a quiet rider.

What is the most rewarding aspect of being a trainer: Having a young horse and bringing it up through the levels to Grand Prix. I love starting young horses.

What has been your most memorable accomplishment: Being the Grand Prix demo rider at World Cup 2009 in Las Vegas

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PHOTO KAREN AND LUCIANO
WORLD CUP 2009

COURTESY KATHY KING

