

# **Top Lines**

Affiliate Member of the United States Eventing Association Charter Group Member Organization of the United States Dressage Federation By joining DVCTA you automatically become an Affiliate Member of USDF

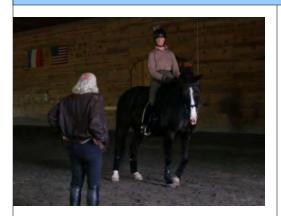
www.dvcta.org



June/July 2011

# JEAN LUC CORNILLE CLINIC

by Joanne Nightingale



"Outstanding gaits and performances, and soundness, can be achieved by enhancing the subtle orchestration of numerous and minuscule back muscles' contractions that are creating the horse's movement." This was the underpinning of the Jean Luc Cornille lecture & clinic in early May.

Jean Luc Cornille applies practical science to the training of the equine athlete. With a unique combination of riding skill, training experience and extensive knowledge of the equine physiology, he translates scientific insights into a language comprehensible to both horse and rider. His work has concentrated on applying the latest biomechanical research to redefine traditional approaches to equine training and he has become a master at equine performance analysis. Whether

to simply improve the daily relationship between horse and rider or to prepare a horse for upper level performances, Jean Luc has the ability to decipher and resolve the underlying cause of apparent physical inabilities or talent limitations.

I was grateful to receive a DVCTA scholarship which allowed me to ride with Jean Luc at the May clinic. My horse, Etoile, was "designed' for western pleasure and does not naturally have the big scopey movement or elastic gaits that many dressage horses come with. His best gait is "halt'. I've really had to work hard at this dressage thing, but love my horse and realize that no horse is perfect. The Jean Luc Cornille approach seemed like a perfect fit for us.

Jean Luc watched us ride - walk, trot and canter to start our session. I had been having problems with my changes and within minutes Jean Luc determined that in our canter, the outside hind was impacting the ground too soon. "Once the canter gets fixed, the changes will be no problem", said Jean Luc. Our issue was that we were not travelling straight.

Continued on page 5....

#### **Contents**

Jean Luc Clinic 1

**Dessert Lecture 2** 

Fair Hill Scores 3

Social 4

Membership 7

FH Photos 8

Calendar 9



# **Adult Team Fundraiser**

in conjunction with the

# **Marilyn Heath Dessert Lecture**

# **Trick or Truth:**

# The Truth of Training/The Tricks of Test Riding

An explanation of how successful test riding is dependent on correct training, how the progression of tests provides a training system, how test riding is a measure of the state of your training. The purposes of the levels will be emphasized along with the value of the USEF Rule book as a reference and the Directives on the test sheets as a guide.

**A Chinese Auction** is a combination of a raffle and an auction. In a Chinese auction, bidders buy tickets, which are chances to win items and use them on any item they want by placing one or more tickets in the "hat" beside the item they are trying to win. At the conclusion of bidding, one winning ticket is drawn from the "hat" beside each item. Tickets are \$5 each; 6 for \$20.

Donations: All prospective adult team members are asked to donate a *gently* used item to this fundraiser. Suggested minimum value is \$25. Please arrange to drop off your donation to JoAnne prior to the lecture or bring the donation with you to the lecture, arriving 30 minutes before the start (so 6:30!)

Questions? JoAnne@PlumShadeFarm.com 610.486.0708

103 Youngs Rd, Coatesville

Friday, July 8th, 7:00 pm New Bolton Center Woerner Amphitheater

## **DVCTA Dressage at Fair Hill High Score Winners**

#### For a full listing of results go to dvcta.org!

Awards	Rider	Horse	Score
Overall High Score of Show & High Score Training Level	Anna Forbes	Sans Souci	74.286%
High Score 1st Level & High Score AA	Martha Detering	Rarity	71.622%
High Score 2nd Level	Gail O'Neil	Widget	67.429%
High Score 3rd Level	Audrey Ellam	Witchita	70.488%
High Score 4th level	Rebecca Langwost- Barlow	Chesapeake	71.750%
High Score FEI	Rebecca Cord	Sombrero Do Top	67.105%
High Score Vintage Rider	Elizabeth Callahan	Avalon	65.400%
High Score Junior	Ciara Danese	Trueblue Gold- mine	71.200%
Mid Atlantic Horse Rescue High Score TB Trophy	<i>h</i> Darcy Miller-Brown	La Vie en Rose	72.500%
Dover Medal Winner	Kathy Hechler	Tarantella	64.474%

Thanks to all the sponsors for Dressage At Fair Hill! Brandywine Valley Veterinary Hospital, Dansko, Oxford Feed & Lumber, Sutherland Forge & Farrier, Sardella Eye Associates, Artesian Water, Lillydale Catering, Buck Run Small Animal Vet House, Stoltzfus Feed & SupplyStoltzfus Feed & Sup, A&A Photography, Mercer Mill Carpentry, Blue Waters Farm, Ulcer Guard, Cindy and Jim Buckland, Lee Reynolds, Tempi Designs, Mrs. Pastures, Finish Line, Dover Saddlery, Sophie Ghedin Photography, Sally Lofting Equestrian. McIlvaine Excavation, Darlene Palmos, cmt, Madsen Tree Services, Karen Bixler-Clark, Gail Emerson

#### **DVCTA DRESSAGE SCHOOLING SHOW**

**FARIDEH FARM, APRIL 14, 2011** 

**RESULTS JUDGE: SUSAN JONESSINELNIK** 

#### RIDER HORSE SCORE PLACE

#### INTRO A ANECIA DELDUCO CEDAR 68.75 1

LAUREN ANNETTE ROCHELLE 51.25 4

MARY BIRDSALL ROO 57.5 2

HALEY SWEET THOR 56.875 3

ANECIA DELDUCO IZZY 49.375 5

#### **INTRO B ANECIA DELDUCO CEDAR 63.75 1**

LAUREN ANNETTE ROCEHELLE 57.5 5

MARY BIRDSALL ROO 57.5 5

HALEY SWEET THOR 60 3

ANECIA DELDUCO IZZY 60 2

TERRY FRANK JUSTIN MAHRUS 61.25 6

**CHRISTINE FUEDA ROO 58.75 4** 

#### **INTRO C CHRISTINE FUEDA ROO 54 1**

#### TRAIN-1 BECKY WOLFE HILDAGO 68.333 1

DANNI TOSCANO RYNYNMONT LANEY 67.5 2

SASHA WALSH SIR CHANCELLOR 61.259 3

TRAIN-2 TERRY FRANK JUSTIN MAHRUS 53.572 6

BECKY WOLFE HILDAGO 65.357 3

LESLIE KING TIME LORD 69.643 2

#### **DANNI TOSCANO RYNYNMONT LANEY 72.857 1**

SUSAN LIVESAY KAPTAIN KID 59.286 5

SASHA WALSH SIR CHANCELLOR 60 4

#### TRAIN-3 LESLIE KING TIME LORD 71.2 1

SUSAN LIVESAY KAPTAIN KID 58.8 2

PAULA BERKEBILE BREEZE 57.6 HC

#### FIRST-2 GAIL O'NIEL WIDGET 70.81 1

KATIE PARE OLIVER 62.162 2

PAULA BERKEBILE BREEZE 55.946 HC

DARCY MILLER-BROWN AMAROSE 60 HC

#### FIRST-3 GAIL O'NIEL WIDGET 70 1

KATIE PARE OLIVER 62.258 2

HALEY MILLER SMART PLAYBOY 61.613 3

DARCY MILLER-BROWN AMAROSE 56.774 HC

SECOND-1 FRAN KELLER FANCYS LEGACY 52.571 3

**CAROL LIPPA JY SUIS 64.28 1** 

HALEY MILLER SMART PLAYBOY 56.572 2

SECOND-2 FRAN KELLER FANCYS LEGACY 56.842 2

CAROL LIPPA JY SUIS 57.369 1

## PARA EQ 2 & 3 REBECCA HART LORD LUDGER

**72.381/69.048 1 FOURTH-2** TRUDY PHILLIPS COLLINGFORD JD 65.135 2

ANECIA DELDUCO FLACON 68.378 1

FOURTH-3 PAM BRUMFIELD CLEVER ME 56.75 2/HC

ANECIA DELDUCO SPANKY 62 1



# DVCTA Summer Social Swim & Picnic

at 5:00pm, August 6th, hosted by Pam & Tony Wiedemann 579 Creek Road, Christiana, PA 17509

#### Contact/RSVP

pamwiedemann@hotmail.com



Continued from page 1....

Etoile was carrying his pelvis to the left and moving it from side to side rather than rotating his pelvis forward when we cantered. Jean Luc carefully examined his back, feeling each vertebrae and "flexing' his spine in different directions at different points. This inhibits the longitudinal flexion and makes collection very difficult. "Nothing is more difficult than going straight", says Jean Luc. Straightness increases longitudinal flexion, reduces the transversal rotation and lateral bend of the spine. This gives the feeling of the back lifting and allows the horse to "collect".

In addition to the stiffness in his lumbar area, we were a bit heavy on the bit. I was quite surprised by this statement as most trainers have told me I needed more contact with the bit. Jean Luc explained that any tightness, or leaning on the bit causes the back to become tense as the horse stiffens the vertebral column contracting his back muscles and therefore cannot really use his back.

So, off we went to try and go straight! Sounds simple, right? Do try this at home.... go perfectly straight, head, neck, shoulders and haunches at a *very* slow walk. And I mean slow... about 1 second per footfall. Jean Luc explained that the horse has to slow down to decrease lateral flexion (sideways movement) and increase longitudinal flexion (front to back) which is what allows the tilt of the pelvis and the back to lift.

The rider creates a dynamic corridor with her thighs to control the shoulders, and her lower leg to control the haunches with gentle contact on the bit. In addition, the rider must pay careful attention to her position. The rider's movement should only be front to back, not side to side. If the rider moves more than the horse, the horse will resist and brace against the rider. The rider's movement will disturb the movement of the horse's back. "The biokinematics of the equine vertebral column, and consequently the kinematics of the limbs, (quality of the gaits) and the horse's ability to perform at its utmost potential, while remaining sound, can be influenced by the biomechanical properties of the rider's vertebral column."

We worked at the walk, hearing "slower, slower, and slower" every few steps, but still keeping the horse moving forward and creating activity with my legs. Eventually we moved to the trot shoulder-fore – just a bit of flexion at the poll so we could see the horse's eye and then eventually in to trot correct shoulder-in. A correctly executed shoulder-in lifts the base of the horse's neck and asks the horse to reach deeper underneath himself with the inside hind leg. Not too much inside bend as then the horse falls on his outside shoulder, making it impossible for him to lift and moving the rider off center. This is due to inverted rotation."

We then progressed to work at the canter. When we had successfully achieved a few strides consistently straight at the walk, we asked for a straight, collected canter. We also asked for the canter from the trot shoulder-fore, and again only kept the canter for as long as it was correct. The canter must be ,through' -- a three beat canter with proper functioning of the vertebral column, in balance and without pushing on the bit.

Once we can consistently achieve and maintain a correct, straight canter, the changes will be easy. Jean Luc told us that we will pick up a canter and ask for our change at the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> stride, ensuring the canter is good, straight, through.

We have some work to do, but I am confident that this work will make us a better pair and most importantly help keep my beloved horse sound. I have already felt quite a change in how Etoile moves and when we achieve straightness and lift it is magical. Thank you again to DVCTA for this opportunity.

Below are a few other key takeaways from the lecture and clinic and I would encourage everyone to consider attending the next DVCTA Jean Luc Cornille clinic this fall:

"Error is not disobedience. A horse learns by trial and error. The rider needs to educate the horse and guide the horses' brain to process the most efficient solution. The rider guides the horse to find the right answer."

"Any rule is wrong by definition as every horse is different."

"The horse reacts to pain and develops a protective mechanism when in pain." Horses do not plot and scheme about how they are doing to work against us.

"Partnership versus submission ---partnership is a much better relationship with our horse."

"A gifted horse will lead a good rider to victory. A great rider will give to the horse the gift of soundness."

(quotes from Jean Luc Cornille)



# **DVCTA Schooling Show**

Sunday July 17th Entries Open: June 26 Entries Close: July 10

Location: 550 Hillendale Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317 (610) 388-7031 2011 Entry Fees for DVCTA members are \$25 and non- members are \$35 PER test.

\*\*\*A reminder: If riding HC your test will be judged AND scored to count towards DVCTA Year End Awards ONLY!!! HC rides will NOT be placed on the day nor will HC rides be eligible for prizes on that specific date\*\*\*

\*\*\*DVCTA is run by volunteers so PLEASE contact Kathy King to sign up for any future shows.

Volunteers earn "DVCTA Dollars" to offset future DVCTA events!!!!

Go to DVCTA.org for more information!

\*There are no concessions (Food) at DVCTA Schooling Shows, so plan accordingly. \*

# Report from 2011 Scholarship Recipient

I was fortunate enough to spend several weeks in training with my mare, Rapture, at Hassler Dressage in Chesapeake City, MD. Scott & Susanne Hassler have put their hearts and souls into this outstanding new facility that is a premier educational facility for both horse and rider. The thing that I love the most about HD is that it is an learning facility that offers opportunities for everyone in the dressage world. There are a variety of programs available and from the moment you arrive at this beautiful new the facility until the moment that you leave, you feel as though you and your horse are their most important priority, and that your goals are their goals as well. At Hassler Dressage. I have never been in a more friendly and supportive environment. Rapture is a Dutch Warmblood that I have had the privilege of riding for the past 6 years. Through my lessons there, I have learned that preparation and conditioning are key to riding in harmony with your horse. Scott taught me that if you "prepare" your horse correctly both mentally and physically, when you "ask" for a movement or an exercise the horse will be able to respond and it will be a positive experience for both horse and rider. Every horse is different, every rider is different and therefore the training program must be as individual as the horse & rider. I always feel as though their goal is to bring out the best in both my horse and myself in a positive and rewarding manner. I have learned that nothing forced can be beautiful and that the relationship I have with my horse is about our being partners & not about submission or control. Submitted by Rita Lowry



www.DVCTA.org

Name: Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Dr						
Address:	City:		State:	Z ip:		
Home Phone:En		Email:				
□ New Member □Renew	al 🗆 Rejoining	USDF#	Date	of Birth:		
Check here if you DO NOT want to receive the newsletter via US MAIL. If you check the box, you will receive the newsletter via email only.						
Types of Membership						
☐ Individual Membership (includes USDF Group Membership)			\$55.00			
Family Membership Primary member gets USDF Group member benefits) Additional member (gets DVCTA benefits only) Primary Name: Additional:			\$55.00 \$20.00			
*NEW* Business Membe	rship (see addition	al benefits belo	w)	\$75.00		
Reduced fees at DVCTA schooling shows, clinics and events  Earn "DVCTA Dollars" for volunteer time Group membership in USDF and all its benefits  USDF Connections monthly magazine  DVCTA Newsletter TOPLINES and email updates on events		Business Membership Includes     All current membership entitlements     Business name on www.DVCTA.org vendor resource list     Reduced advertising rates (15%) in DVCTA Toplines Newsletter and email updates     Free advertisement at DVCTA event     Each Business Membership gets an ad in the Omnibus				
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DVCTA C/O Elsie Kellerman 256 Old Kennett Road Kennett Square, PA 19348  If member is under 18 years of age, parent/guardian MUST read and sign below: DVCTA is primarily an association for adults. While the DVCTA welcomes the participation and support of its junior members, parents should be aware that there is no provision for supervision of children at DVCTA events. A parent/guardian or designated responsible adult must remain with any junior rider for the full time the junior is on the show grounds. Children should have demonstrated an ability to control their horses in an unfenced schooling area at a walk, trot and canter with other						
horses present in the ring. All j mounted.	unior riders must wea	ar an ASTM appro	oved helmet with a chin	strap fastened at all times while		
Parent/Guardian			Date			

\*You are considered paid through the following year if you join after August 1.

# Photos from Dressage at Fair Hill



# Upcoming DVCTA events

# **Schooling Shows:**

DVCTA Dressage Schooling Show July 17 – Springdale Farm, Kennett Twp, PA; 610-742-8310. <u>www.dvcta.org</u>

DVCTA Dressage Schooling Show Aug 14 – 1550 Hillendale Rd, Chadds Ford, PA; 610-388-7031. www.dvcta.org

## **Horse Trials:**

DVCTA Schooling Horse Trials August 21 – Carousel Park, Wilmington DE; 610-357-4038. www.dvcta.org

#### **Clinics and Lectures:**

DVCTA Lecture and Dessert July 8 – TRICK or TRUTH with Marilyn Heath – New Bolton Center Werner Amphitheater, PA; 610-486-0708. <a href="https://www.dvcta.org">www.dvcta.org</a>

DVCTA Clinic/Fix-A-Test with Marilyn Heath July 9 – Laurel Hill Farm, Unionville PA; 610-486-0708. <u>www.dvcta.org</u>

DVCTA Longlining Demo and Clinic with Hank Hutson July 31– Cedar Spring Farm, 538 Gum Tree Rd, Cochranville, PA 19330; 610-574-4548, <a href="https://www.dvcta.org">www.dvcta.org</a>

## Social

DVCTA Summer Social, 5 pm, August 6 – Pam Wiedemanm, 579 Creek Road, Christiana, PA, Contact pamwiedemann@hotmail.com www.dvcta.org

For more information on calendar events, go to <u>www.dvcta.org</u>.



DVCTA Membership Chair 256 Old Kennett Road Kennett Square, PA 19348



#### **DVCTA**

We are the Delaware Valley Combined Training Association, DVCTA. We are an organization of over 300 individuals who share a common interest in horses and the related activities of Combined Training (now known popularly as Eventing) and Dressage. Some of us ride, some of us compete, some breed and train and others just love being around horses. While our members come from all over the US, as well as several foreign countries, we are primarily active in SE Pennsylvania, S New Jersey, N Delaware and NE Maryland.

Affiliate Member, United States Eventing Association (USEA) \ Charter Group Member, United States Dressage Federation (USDF), GMO# 121.

### A Long Lining Demonstration and Clinic with Hank Hutson

"A Tool that can be utilized throughout the Horse's Development to Enhance the Horse and Rider Relationship"

Date: Sunday July 31 Closing date: July 15

Location: Cedar Springs Farm, 538 Gum Tree Rd, Cochranville, PA

Clinic Fee: \$100/45 min session for DVCTA members, \$110 nonmembers Auditor Fee: \$20 for the day for DVCTA members, \$30 nonmembers. Registration requested and please bring a chair.

**Registration**: Carol Swetlin <u>cbswet@aol.com</u> 610-574-4548

All checks should be made out to DVCTA, Inc. and mailed with registration and current coggins, within the past 12 months, to:
Carol Swetlin 300 Hannum Mill Rd, West Grove, PA 19390