

Contact EIDEA

August / September 2011 • Eastern Iowa Dressage & Eventing Association • www.mwnet.com/eidea • eidea@mwnet.com

EIDEA is a Charter Group Member Organization of the United States Dressage Federation. Our members are automatically USDF Group Members. For USDF Participating Membership, members must apply directly to the USDF. Visit them at USDF.org for information.

June EIDEA Meeting

By Debbie Levine with photos by Barb Hall

On the evening of June 7th, we gathered at Leamanach Farms to experience a demonstration about Lisa Marie Bishop's program of gymnastic jumping exercises. It was exciting to hear how much she stresses going back to the basics in order to build skills and strength. She has adapted concepts that hunter trainers use to shape how the horse jumps to improve overall abilities. The hunters emphasize quality and making the horse use himself to make the act of jumping more rounded with a perfect approach and landing and regulated striding. Her premise is that the better the horse uses his body to jump, the better he can perform at speed and height with confidence.

Lisa explained the grids she likes to use and the purpose of each. She is very thoughtful in identifying each horse's strengths and areas needing improvement. She proudly introduced three riders and horses. First was Scout ridden by Shawn Breen, who, tends to be "suspicious". Next was a paint named Peter Parker, ridden by Hannah McGowan, who tends to get a little quick. Lastly, came a chestnut thoroughbred ridden by Kelli Jo Parsons named Leamanach, who has shown great improvement using these exercises.

The first exercise is a classic. A trot pole 9' out to a low cross rail. Then, 18' out is added a low vertical. And then added a vertical at 21'.



She then explained the purpose and uses of the Bounce. A series of low jumps, - 9 feet apart so there are no steps in between jumps. The horse must trot in, to jump the fence, land, and immediately launch for the next fence. You start out with one jump and then add more to build confidence and cadence.

She also presented an exercise she attributed to Hap Hanson, she called the Double Cross Rail. This jump was set up with two high crosses with no ground line, and a 9 foot trot pole before and after the effort. The rider approaches the jump at a canter and the result improves scope and confidence.

She also showed an exercise using a pole (or two poles) placed perpendicular from the top rail to the ground similar to wings guiding the horse to the center of the jump. Contrary to what I expected, this is unexpected looking to the horse and so promotes great confidence once mastered.

Lisa's thoughtful explanations made it clear to me that her program is all about improving and succeeding on the mount that is working in that moment. And her delight in designing these challenges indicate how much fun this could be! Her high energy and ability to adapt in exciting and fast paced scenarios endears her to her students. She is perfectly suited to working with these young people who are highly motivated and invite challenges. She channels all of that positive energy towards a program that is set up for success for both riders and their horses.



Leamanach, a chestnut thoroughbred ridden by Kelli Jo Parsons.



Way above is Lisa Marie Bishop. Just above EIDEA members listening intently.

Adventures in New York

By Anne Cizadlo (7/17/11)

As many of you may know, my horse Luschi and I spent the winter training in Florida with Robert Dover. The last week that I was in Florida, Robert said directly to Jimmy and I that he needed to work with us again this summer when he was in New York. He gave me the name of a couple ladies to call for information about barns, and basically said, "See you in a couple months." Yikes! Here we go again on another adventure!

When we were driving through Brooklyn at 3:30 in morning on the way here and the traffic was as bad as I've ever seen it in any big city in the Midwest I said to Jimmy (thank goodness he was driving) "We are not in Kansas anymore!!" Jimmy spent many years in New York and on the East Coast, so this was not as big a shock to him as it was to me. The traffic is insane all the time, the houses are really, really close together, the food and bakeries are AMAZING and many aisles in the grocery stores have food with labels in Italian. I'm not in Iowa anymore!

Luckily, Jimmy has relatives out here on Long Island, so I'm staying with his aunt Lilian. I met at our wedding reception last year. It's nice to stay with someone who knows the area and can tell you how to get to the post office.

Luschi lives in a really nice barn in Riverhead. The stalls are large and airy and have huge windows that open up to the outside so he can hang his head out the window in the breeze all day. The arenas have fantastic footing – both indoors and outdoors.

I had my first lesson 3 days after we arrived. Robert Dover



essentially gave me exactly the same lesson that we had the last day we were in Florida, and, luckily, we were able to do everything better than we had 2 months prior. Whew! The homework was completed to his satisfaction! At the end of the lesson, Jimmy said that we would be starting half steps by the next week. I couldn't possibly believe that we were ready for that so you can imagine my surprise when half way through the next lesson Robert came after us with a whip and said that we were going to start work on the half steps! (Maybe I should just take lessons from Jimmy!)

Luschi was pretty shocked with the idea of half-steps also. He got pretty wound up, but we survived. In the days following that, Robert told me to start working him in hand myself until he became less "emotional" about the whole idea. He has since been getting slowly better and better in hand.

Just this past Monday, we started working in the full bridle. I was quite concerned about making that transition also since Luschi has often been a little reluctant to take a good, solid, even contact on the bit. Putting him in a full bridle too soon could have created a real mess, but Robert seems to have

found exactly the right time. Having been in it for a week, Luschi has been fantastic about the contact and not once tried to back away from it.

The extended trots are getting better. The pirouettes are slowly getting smaller. The best thing is that my horse is getting progressively more reliably rideable. I can put my leg on or give a half-halt without having to wonder what might happen next. We still have moments of uncertainty, of course, and we can't yet get through a Prix St. Georges test without multiple bobbles, but things are becoming more and more solid as we work. Thus far, Robert has only been able to come to the barn once a week for lessons, but starting next week, we are going to get two every week until the end of August. Once a week has been fine for us, although the homework list is quite long each time! It will be much easier to have some guidance a couple times a week.

It is also great to listen to Robert's lessons to the other riders. Some are professionals and others are amateurs, but he has the same enthusiasm for everyone. He is so positive and encouraging for everyone, it just transfers to you when you sit and listen to him. He has the highest aspirations for every horse and rider combination and will not accept anything less than 110% effort the entire time from anyone. That energy is just tough to duplicate. If anyone ever has an opportunity to listen to a clinic, take advantage of the time! He is also fairly blunt and to the point about the problems, so you have to be ready for a workout when you ride with him, but I wouldn't trade a second of any lesson for anything. It is worth every ounce of blood, sweat and tears that I give in each lesson.

See you all again very soon!



Anne on Lushi talking with Jimmy at a show at Mason City in 2010.

*Our deepest sympathies to
Diane Riccolo on the loss
of her horse Picasso.*



This is our beloved Hilary Nekvinda riding Barb Hall's 5 yr old draft cross Olivia at the Dressage Classic at Maffett Lake Equestrian Center in June. It was Olivia's first recognized show - she won two firsts and two seconds!

**Photos by
Barbara Hall**



At left:
Member Lissa Kucher uses Smuckluster, Anne Cizadlo's horse for the July EIDEA demonstration. Article next issue!

At right:
Bill Coester did the Ride a Test and dressage judging at the Catalpa Corner Spring Tune-up weekend end of May. Here he is helping Jessica Schultz on Barb Hall's horse Teddy.



The Lloyd
Veterinary
Medical
Center
Iowa State
University
Presents ...



2011-2012 Horse Owners Seminar Series

May 3
**High-Risk Pregnancy
in the Mare**
Dr. Bruce Christensen

September 6
Wound Healing in Horses
Dr. Alexandra Tracey

November 1
Equine Muscle Diseases
Dr. Beatrice Sponseller

February 7
**Common Equine
Emergencies**
Dr. Joan Howard

Cost: Free

When: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Alumni Room
College of Veterinary
Medicine
Iowa State University

Light Refreshments
will be provided

Directions available
online: www.vetmed.iastate.edu/vmc
Click on "Map & Directions"
phone: 515-294-1500

Sponsored by



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Veterinary Medicine

Test 1, 2, 3

By James Sturgeon

Test 1, 2, 3. That's how the John Lyons 3 day clinic started each morning at Heartland Stables near Steven's Point, WI, this last week.

I met John Lyons about 16 years ago near Madison at a 3 day symposium. The whole weekend I was just jaw dropped and dumbfounded at what he could get his horse Bright Zip to do. One of the tasks that stuck in my mind was how he stack folding chairs all around Zip with his legs through them and then ask Zip to come to him. Zip slowly walked out of the chairs to him. He road with and without a bridle and did a cantering pirouette sitting side saddle. Also what I noticed was just how nice and genuine he was as a horseman and a truly kind human being.

I have followed John's work since then; exploring other trainers at times but always coming back to his teaching principles. For instance John's three very powerful training rules: 1. You can't get hurt. 2. The horse can't get hurt. 3. The horse has to be calmer after the lesson. Another one is you are a teacher not a trainer. Teachers are not allowed to use pain, intimidation or fear to get the horse to learn. For this clinic John stressed getting the horse to understand your thoughts or communicate to the horse what you want. He said any horse can do a flying lead change we just need to know how to ask him to.



John on his horse Grayce performing hips in.

I should come clean the clinic didn't really start at "test 1, 2, 3" it started when he came out of his camper bus. Get this, John was on his way back to take his wife Jodi a coffee at about 07:00 am and he saw me by my truck. He swung by to ask how I was doing and if I had any questions so far. I hope the coffee didn't get too cold because he spent at least 15 minutes explaining his new method on getting the horse to melt into an indirect rein with the hip to get a single rein half-pass and how it compared with his previous method. It felt like he was giving me a private lesson, totally awesome.

The reason I chose to go to a clinic was to see John work with individual people as compare to an audience demonstration. I wanted to see how he worked with students. He asked each participant to come up with three questions or goals and turn them in to him. He also asked me to have three questions I wanted answered. Some people asked about picking up the correct lead, spins, head shaking, laying down, jiggging, etc. Besides all of the



John his wife Jodi and myself.

Jodi said you could have let my hair dry before asking for a picture.

general information John wanted to cover he addressed any and all of the questions. What an excellent format. I also noticed John frequently asks people what they had learned today and if they had any questions.

On to the clinic. John went through a series of exercises where one built on the other to gain control of five spots on the horse. He taught the rider how to communicate to the tail, nose, tip of the ear(head elevation), point of the shoulder and a spot on the saddle(concho on the western saddle). He taught them how to get control of each spot in an order and move them in any direction they wished. He stated that this was so simple you would have to come down to his level to teach it to your horse and that people make the training too complicated. I believe it is simple just not very easy but no one said teaching a horse to be an athlete was.

The first exercise seemed simple enough. Travel left, move the hips right, take the nose right and travel right. Travel right, move the hips left, take the nose left and travel left. He wanted them to engage the hip to the direction first, if the nose went first the hip would move in the opposite direction. This hurt my head at first but after the riders got it the exercise started making sense.

The second day he taught the rider 3 more exercises. They used what they had learned from the first exercise to travel in a straight line by steering the hips. It didn't look like much when they first started but as they could control the hips better the horses started to walk straighter lines.

Next they used Johns Hips Shoulder exercise. You get the horse moving forward, pivot on the forehead stopping the inside shoulder then move the other shoulder to any direction. For the direction he used a clock analogy and you would move the feet to a number on a clock starting with 1 and 11 o'clock then moving to harder numbers. By the time they got to six o'clock they were backing with a single rein.

Then they did more of the first days exercise but added a turn on the haunches to change directions. Go left, move the hips right, take the nose right, bring the shoulder around then travel right switch sides each time to keep their bodies from getting stiff on one side.

During the exercises John had some great analogies. One of my favorites is to treat your horse like a grandma treats a grandchild. The grandma treats the child with kindness, respect and en-

couragement as where the mother tends to correct too much. It took him several minutes with his story but you get the idea.

On the third day John had the riders softer, the horses understanding the reins and they were getting the hip to move towards the rein on the same side as they picked up the reins engaging the hip first.

Here is one auditors thoughts. "I have attended John Lyons clinics, seminars and demos since my first clinic in 1992.

John never fails to inspire and teach. This most trusted horseman taught more ways to train a consistent trust worthy horse. Custer, WI was the perfect setting and Heartland Stables was the perfect host. Thank you. Shirley Ellis"

There was tons of other stuff - too much to mention here. I would encourage anyone of any discipline who has an interest in communicating better through the reins to check John's methods out.

EIDEA OFFICERS

President: Anne Cizadlo
home: (218) 349-3452
kodester1@yahoo.com

Vice President: James Sturgeon
home: (319) 443-2945
bigjas80@yahoo.com

Secretary: Judy Nauseef
3962 James Avenue SW
Iowa City, IA 52240
home: (319) 338-9207
judyn@hughes.net

Treasurer: Lois Pienkos
4437 Jordans Grove Road
Central City, IA 52214
home: (319) 438-6460
PIENKYL@aol.com

Membership Roster: Jan Vlasak
home: (319) 369-0477
vlasak@mchsi.com

Newsletter Editor: Megan Ward
1228 Hertz Drive, SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
home: (319) 362-6210
eidea@mwnet.com

**To get email notices you must sign up
with the member only EIDEA-NEWS Yahoo
group at www.yahogroups.com.**

**Contact Judy Nauseef at
319-338-9207 or judyn@hughes.net for
help with signing up.**

EIDEA Members:
Subscribe TODAY to
Apples 'n Oats, and get a \$2
EIDEA membership
discount on your subscription!

(only \$12 for one year).

Deadline: August 20, 2011.

Carol Eilers, 319-365-7314 or

Aplznoats@aol.com.

Subscription forms at:

www.applesnoats.com

Calendar of Events

Local Shows & Clinics

Tamarack Stables Shows
(info at tamarackstablesiowa.com)
Saturday August 27th, 2011 - Dressage
Sunday August 28th, 2011 - Jumping

Catalpa Corner Horse Park Shows & Schooling
(info at catalpacorner.org)
September 10-11 Fall Move-Up Weekend

Clinics & Workshops

Sep 30- Oct 2, Oct 21-23
Janet Foy Clinics, Judd's Green Meadow Farm,
Belleville WI Contacts: Mary Hanneman: 608-
712-0975, mahanneman@gmail.com or Caryn
Vesperman: 608-455-2208, or [touchstonefarm@
gmail.com](mailto:touchstonefarm@gmail.com)

USDF Advanced Instructor Workshop Series
Training thru 2nd Level, host: Brandywine Farm
Sept 24 - 25, 2011 Teaching with Sarah Geikie
Contact Colleen Holden at colleenholden@com-cast.net or HoldenDressageTraining.com

October 1-2, 2011
Debbie McDonald Clinic hosted by CSDEA at the
University of Minnesota Leatherdale Equine Center,
St. Paul, Minnesota. Contact Mindy Lenz at 952-
887-8376 or melinda.lenz@toro.com

November 5-6, 2011
USDF Region 4 Adult Clinic Featuring Lilo Fore
in Palmyra, Nebraska. Info at usdf.org or contact
lisanstratten@yahoo.com.

Nov. 19-20
Steffen Peters and Janet Foy present "**Dressage
Through the Levels**." Sponsored by Wisconsin
Dressage & CTA (WDCTA), at Sunflower Farms in
WI. Info at wdcta.org or 608-835-8549.

Fairs & Conventions

November 19-20
Chicagoland Equestrian Lifestyle Expo will fea-
ture **Jane Savoie**. HorsemensCouncil.org/Expo .

November 30 through December 4
2011 Adequan/USDF National Convention & Sym-
posium will be in San Diego, CA. Information on the
annual convention is at USDF.org

2011 USEA Recognized Shows

Aug 06-07 Silverwood Farm Summer H.T.
Aug 12-14 Otter Creek H.T.
Aug 26-28 Heritage Park Classic 3-Day & H.T.
Sep 03-04 Silverwood Farm Fall H.T.
Sep 03-04 Steepleview H.T.
Sep 17-18 Dunnabeck H.T.
Sep 23-25 Otter Creek Fall Horse Trial
Oct 07-09 Roepke's Run H.T.
Oct 29-30 Briar Fox Fall H.T.

2011 USDF Recognized Shows

August 6-7
Bara Trac II & Bara Trac II Too, Mason City, IA
www.dressageshowinfo.com

August 20
Summer Fest Breed Show, Cleveland, MO
midamericasporhorse.com

August 27 & 28
Northern Lights Dressage, Lake Elmo, MN

August 27-28
Centerline Dressage Classic I and II, Springfield,
IL. Jeanne Craven at mowanda@aol.com or cen-
terlinedressage.com

September 9 - 11
Great American/USDF Region 4 Championships &
Midwest Regional Championship And Open Show,
Mason City, IA www.dressageshowinfo.com

September 17 & 18
CSDEA Dressage Festival & Championship, Lake
Elmo, MN www.csdea.org

September 24 & 25
Briar Fox Farm Labor Day Dressage, Augusta, KS
www.thehorsefarm.com

September 24
AAALSHA Open Dressage Show, NEC, Lake St
Louis, MO. Nancy Nathanson at 805-448-3027
or andalusian-lustano-alliance.com. This show is
open to all breeds.

October 8-9
SLADS Fall Festival, NEC, Lake St. Louis, MO.
Sandi Lewis at sandy.marnie@att.net.



NEXT MEETINGS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2011 7:00 PM
(Social time 6:30 - 7:00)

PREPARING FOR KUERING BY BILL COESTER
AT Winds Reach, 4427 Kotts Lane NE, Iowa City, IA 52240
Meeting Host is Jean Rude

Bill Coester invites us to come learn how to properly prepare a mare and foal for the Kueing process. Find out what to expect at a horse breed inspection. And the bonus is to see the foals at Winds Reach!

Directions: From the South: From I80 take exit 246 and go north onto Dodge Street / Highway 1. Go several miles and turn left on Newport Road, turn left on Kotts Lane. Take the first (and only) drive to the right. It is a long drive, past house and building to the main barn.

From the North (Cedar Rapids): Go south on Highway 1. A few miles pass the city of Solon, turn right on Newport Road. Go a few miles and turn left on Kotts Lane. Take the first (and only) drive to the right. It is a long drive, past house and building to the main barn.



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH 7:00 PM
(Social time 6:30 - 7:00)

THE HUNT BY SUSAN COESTER DAUFELDT
at Winds Reach, 4427 Kotts Lane NE, Iowa City, IA 52240
7:00 PM (Social Time 6:30-7:00)
Meeting Host is Deb Galbraith

The Moingona Hunt is a non-profit Iowa corporation devoted to the sport of Fox-Hunting. Member, Susan Coester Daufeldt, will give a demonstration (weather permitting) and talk about fox-hunting -- the etiquette, the rules, the history, and of course, the proper attire!

See September meeting map & directions

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 WE ARE PLANNING AN END OF THE YEAR SOCIAL. STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!

DECEMBER 6TH - PLANNING SESSION / BOARD MEETING?



Megan Ward
1228 Hertz Drive, SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403