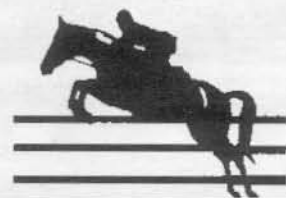




# NEWS



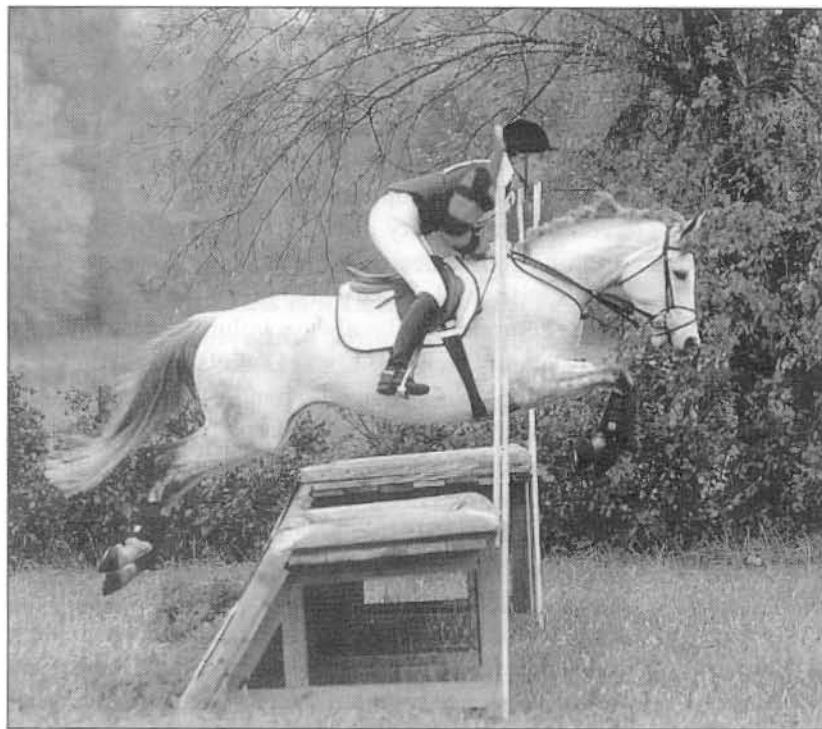
## North Carolina Dressage and Combined Training Association

JANUARY 2003

### WHEW! IT WORKED OUT WELL

By: MJ Kober

By all accounts, the NCDCTA Horse Trials held November 9 & 10 at the Thoroughbred Training Center in Mocksville was a success despite some last-minute, nail biting elements. The facility, owned by John and Beth McCashin, consists of 100 acres of rolling hills and open fields. The venue got high marks from competitors. "The TTC is such a beautiful facility and I'm delighted we were able to participate," says



*"A Touch of Grey" and Cathy Schwartz  
winners of the Senior Novice Division of the NCDCTA Horse Trials*

Anne Beech who took first place in the Beginning Novice Sr. Division. "The rolling hills and fall colors were a gorgeous combination." Other riders say the cross country course "rode well, fairly straight forward, challenging, yet rewarding," the stadium course was "very colorful with lots of flowers and banners and flowed very nicely," and the entire event was "run so well. Everyone was helpful and friendly." Cathy Schwartz, who took first place in the Novice Senior Division says, "I felt the

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### USDF INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM A SUCCESS IN NORTH CAROLINA

By Eliza Sydnor

Congratulations to the following people who achieved their USDF Instructor Certification at the Averett University Equestrian Center, November 8-10, 2003. The examiners were Maryal Barnett, Lilo Fore and Cindy Sydnor.

#### Training through Second:

Julia Dearborn - Chapel Hill, NC  
Lisa Stehr - Rockwell, NC  
Jim Dimilte - Seattle, WA  
Candace Platz - Auburn, ME  
Katherine Simard - Colorado Springs, CO  
Jennifer Wilson Horr - ME

#### Third through Fourth:

Bailey Cook - Carrboro, NC  
Nicky Vogel - King George, VA

Julia Dearborn, Lisa Stehr, and Bailey Cook are local instructors and NCDCTA members. Bailey was already certified through Second level, but achieved her Fourth level certification and has

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been asked to join the USDF Instructor Certification Faculty, which is quite an honor. Congratulations!

These three instructors join only a handful of others in our area. Stacey Schettkoe of Lincolnton, NC, Martha Kemmer of Tryon, NC, and Harriet Peterson of Lynchburg, VA, are all USDF certified through 4<sup>th</sup> level. Kris Montgomery of Hampton, VA, and Catherine Sutton of Afton, VA, are certified through 2<sup>nd</sup> level.

We are very proud of our newly certified instructors, but it was not overnight success for them. In 2003, the NCDCTA sponsored four Instructor Certification workshops. In March, Sarah Geikie came to Averett University to conduct a teaching workshop. In April, Debbie Bowman taught a workshop on lunge lessons for the rider, also held at Averett. Two workshops were held at Braeburn Farm in Snow Camp, NC, in the summer. Cindy Sydnor taught a workshop on riding in June and on lungeing horses in July. These one-day workshops were hands-on training sessions for the participants. They emphasize strengthening and increasing the participants' skills. They are not "how to pass this exam" sessions. All of these workshops were well attended both by participants and by auditors.

The NCDCTA also sponsored a pre-certification clinic, which was held at Averett University, October 1 and 2. A "pre-cert" gives participants an opportunity to go through the entire testing to find out where their weak points lie. The examiners, Maryal Barnett and Cindy Sydnor, helped the participants whenever needed to strengthen their chances at the testing.

We have the extraordinary good luck of having the Averett University facility, students, and horses available for this program. The horses and students are of high caliber and are always eager to help. The facility, which includes a large indoor arena and two ample outdoor working areas, allowed us to have 3 full arenas for the testing, an unusual luxury. But more important was Jane Faulkner, the director of the Averett equestrian program. She welcomed the idea of certification and made it all possible.

Many other local riders have contributed to this program as volunteers and demo riders. They were kind enough to bring their horses and be guinea pig students and/or to allow their horses to be ridden or lunged by the participants. They seem to recognize and appreciate the value of instructor certifica-

tion in our country.

The one person who supported this program the most was our NCDCTA president, Bo Belton. He was always willing to help in any way and was very enthusiastic about having the program in North Carolina. Thank you Bo!

In 2002 alone, through the four workshops, the pre-cert, and the testing that were held in NC, there were nearly 200 people involved in one way or another. And in 2003 we hope to do it again! We look forward to finding even more students of dressage who would like to approach the process of becoming an instructor in an environment of continuing education.

For more information on the USDF Instructor Certification program, go to [www.usdf.org/programs](http://www.usdf.org/programs). If you are interested in participating, auditing, or volunteering next year, contact Eliza Sydnor at (336) 376-6542 or [esydnor@msn.com](mailto:esydnor@msn.com).

## Now Is The Time!!!!

Get ready for the upcoming show season. Review and renew your memberships NOW! Make sure you have all the proper paperwork in hand:

- ⇒ Current Coggins
- ⇒ USA Equestrian Membership—needed for all USA Equestrian recognized classes: rider/owner/trainer/coach
- ⇒ US Eventing Association membership—where needed
- ⇒ USDF Membership or non-member ID number—for all USDF recognized shows
- ⇒ HID—Horse Identification number—for USDF shows this must be a USDF number. For eventing it may be a USA Equestrian supplied number.
- ⇒ For ABIC/USDF qualifying classes—rider must be USA Equestrian member and USDF Participating member. Horse must be registered with both organizations—HID numbers do not count!

Questions????

Go online with the individual associations:

USDF: [usdf.org](http://usdf.org)

USEA: [uscta.com](http://uscta.com)

USA Eq: [equestrian.org](http://equestrian.org)