

# COLLECTED NOTES



MAY 2025

## FROM CDCTC's PRESIDENT:

It's really starting to feel like spring. I don't know about you, but all the lush grass and the flowers and trees blooming really makes me smile and forget the cold, icy months we just endured. Now if the chill and wind would quit happening only on the weekends!

We had a fabulous Dressage Symposium with Susanne Hamilton in April. The biggest shoutout ever to Sarah Pyne for proposing the idea and working super hard to make it all pay off (with help from Jane-Marie too). What started as a two day weekend clinic in one location grew to a three day, overfilled learning opportunity at two different barns. And to top it all off, every rider (auditors too) came out with a huge smile and the question of when we could get Susanne back again. It's clear her teaching methods were clear, concise, and that her positivity was infectious. A super splendid clinician who we can't wait to have back in the area. Of course this clinic was also made possible through generous donations from WNYDA and CNYDCTA so give them lots of love. And a big thanks, of course, to all our wonderful members who contributed to the food which we shockingly had too much of. A big thanks to both Ithaca Equestrian Center and Asbury Equestrian Center for hosting all of our wonderful riders, horses, and auditors too! It takes a village and seeing an event, especially one early in spring, get such good attendance and feedback is super rewarding. *(continued)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 8: Keepin' It Casual Show. Ithaca Equestrian Center. [Questions?](#)

May 18: Monthly meeting, 2 pm, Healing Rein Farm.



*Cayuga Dressage & Combined Training Club welcomes horse enthusiasts from all walks of life, all religions, ethnicities and races, creeds, and sexual orientations. We are a club where differences are respected and appreciated, where we come together to affirm our common love of the horse and the arts of horsemanship.*

*We disavow discrimination and intolerance.*

Our next big thing is our CDCT Keepin' It Casual Show on June 8th, also at Ithaca Equestrian Center. We will have the wonderful Kim Blaszak back judging again and hope to see you all there. The prize list is below and on our website and the closing date is May 28th. Thank you again to Sarah Hepler and Anna Redmond for assuming the managerial duties and to Karen Steffy for choosing to slug through all the entries and scheduling again.

We skipped out on having a meeting via Zoom for April because time is flying and we never set a date... and I had to sit through the spring Region 8 meeting. Our May meeting will be on the 18th at 2PM at Healing Rein, please bring something yummy to share! And as show season is basically here, don't forget to update your SafeSport training for the year. Your due date depends on when you did it the previous year and you will get numerous email reminders, but good to check anyway. And of course, don't forget to renew all your memberships early so show secretaries don't get irritated by having to wait for the system to update.

an item or two for food donations. It should be a great weekend and we hope to see you there!

Ride all the ponies and jump all the things,

Shannon

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## CALENDAR

June 8:	Keepin' It Casual Show. Ithaca Equestrian Center
August 23, 2025:	Dressage in Wine Country 1
August 24, 2025:	Dressage in Wine Country II





## Susanne Hamilton Clinic a Great Success

by Carol Morris

We had a wonderful turnout for our first clinic of the year. Eighteen horse and rider pairs, both Cayuga Dressage members and guests, rode with Susanne Hamilton, an “S” judge who has earned her USDF Gold Medal, Gold Freestyle Bar, as well as being certified as Silver Para Equestrian Coach. Several auditors also enjoyed learning from Susanne.

Susanne proved to be an excellent instructor, and her students ran the gamut from a young mare’s first trip off property mare to several FEI level horses – and even a Western Dressage pair! It was lovely to see the improvement in everyone’s horses as their lessons progressed.

Everyone appreciated Susanne’s positive approach and the range of exercises that she used. During the lunch break, she discussed tips for riding a test, including what the judges are looking for, and especially what not to do! Riders appreciated her positive, fun approach to the lessons.

Several people asked about having Susanne back, and she said she would love to return. Please stay tuned to Cayuga Dressage for future plans!

An event like this cannot happen without many hands on deck. Sarah Pyne, who has ridden with Susanne for years, was able to convince her to come to our little part of the world, and did much of the organizing. Jane-Marie Law helped with early organizational details. There was so much interest in this clinic that we had to expand it to 3 days, and Deirdre Hay graciously allowed us to use the newly renovated indoor arena at Asbury Equestrian Center for the Friday session. Saturday and Sunday lessons were held at Ithaca Equestrian Center, and many thanks go out to Paula Wedemeyer for her hospitality at IEC. Thanks also to everyone who donated food and drinks, so everyone stayed full, hydrated, and happy. Finally, thanks to our neighboring clubs, CNYDCTA and WNYDA, for financial support.



## CDCT COMMITTEES FOR 2025

<p><b>RECOGNIZED SHOW:</b>  Shannon Ryan-Dinmore  Norm Johnson  Jean Foley  Dinah Guarino  Sarah Hepler  Carol Morris  Anna Redmond  Tina Sochia</p> <p><b>SPONSORSHIP:</b>  Collen Price  Kathy Thode</p> <p><b>WESTERN DRESSAGE:</b>  Jane-Marie Law  Colleen Price  Tina Sochia</p> <p><b>WORKING EQUITATION</b>  Deirdre Hay  Jane-Marie Law  Colleen Price</p>	<p><b>COMBINED TRAINING:</b>  Sarah Hepler  Anna Redmond  Shannon Ryan-Dinmore</p> <p><b>CASUAL SHOW:</b>  Sarah Hepler (Manager)  Anna Redmond (Manager)  Karen Steffy (Secretary)  Amy Bittner  Jean Foley  Dinah Guarino  Jane-Marie Law  Shannon Ryan-Dinmore</p> <p><b>AWARDS:</b>  Prin Furst  Jane-Marie Law  Colleen Price</p> <p><b>45TH ANNIVERSARY</b>  Jean Foley  Sarah Hepler  Colleen Price  Anna Redmond  Shannon Ryan-Dinmore</p>	<p><b>EDUCATION:</b>  Jean Foley  Dinah Guarino  Jane-Marie Law  Carol Morris  Colleen Price  Shannon Ryan-Dinmore  Kathy Thode</p> <p><b>PUBLICITY:</b>  Colleen Price  Shannon Ryan-Dinmore  Karen Steffy</p> <p><b>SWAG:</b>  Prin Furst  Sarah Hepler  Anna Redmond</p> <p><b>FUN:</b>  Colleen Price  Skye-Anna Nye-Smith</p> <p><b>YOUTH ENGAGEMENT</b>  Skye-Anna Nye-Smith</p>
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### *Additional Local Dressage and Combined Training Groups*

[Carriage House Arena](#)

[Central NY Dressage and CT Association](#)

[Eastern NY Dressage and Combined Training Club](#)

[Endless Mountains Dressage & Combined Training Club](#)

[Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club](#)

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[Western New York Dressage Association](#)

# CAYUGA DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING CLUB, INC.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name:

Address:

Phone (area code first

E-mail:

Birth date (requested by USDF)

Are you an instructor or trainer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you give permission for your pictures and/or name to be used for publicity? ☐ Yes ☐ No

May we include your name and email address on the Membership List that's distributed to members? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Current Members:** Please submit your Membership form and dues by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. This ensures that you will receive the USDF magazine and other GMO benefits without interruption. **New Members** are welcome to join year-round!

*Membership benefits:* Dues cover your USDF group membership, newsletters, and discounts at club-sponsored events, except as limited by USDF and United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).

Enclosed is my payment for:

Individual Membership (\$45) ☐

Family Membership (\$50) ☐

Junior Membership (\$25) ☐

Business Membership (\$25) ☐

Activities sponsored by CDCT include a recognized show, a schooling show, mounted and unmounted clinics, films, speakers, and social events. These are made possible by volunteer work from our members. Please check your interests below to indicate the ways in which you would like to contribute to the success of the club:

☐ Dressage Shows: Planning, paperwork, grounds preparation, help on show day, etc.

☐ Western Dressage

☐ Combined Training

☐ Education/Clinic Committee

☐ Awards

☐ Publicity

☐ Other:

Signature:

Date:

(Member's signature or parent/guardian signature if under 18. Typed signature is fine.)

Electronic submissions: Please complete form and email to [dressageithaca@gmail.com](mailto:dressageithaca@gmail.com)

Paypal link: [dressageithaca@gmail.com](mailto:dressageithaca@gmail.com)

For hard copy submissions:

Please make checks payable to CDCT, Inc. and send to  
125 Cayuga St., Trumansburg, NY 14886



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Recording Secretary: [Dinah Guarino](#)  
Roster manager: [Colleen Price](#)  
  
Newsletter and Website: [Karen Steffy](#)

Members at large: Kim Blaszak ('25)  
Meghan Crout ('25)  
Prin Furst ('24)  
Deirdre Hay ('24)  
Sarah Hepler ('24)  
Jane-Marie Law ('25)

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