

BACHBITS

Dentistry Lecture

Upcoming Events

Ride-a-Test

Shenanigans



DENTISTRY LCTR

Dr. Kyle Johnson, DVM

Join BACH for our summer educational event with Dr. Kyle Johnson, DVM. The Equine Dentistry Lecture will be held **Saturday, June 20th, 2026** in College Station. Sign-up details to follow! Topics discussed will include basic anatomy, floating and equipment, signs of disease, among others.

MEMBERSHIP

Renew / Become a member [HERE](#)

JUNE 20, 2026

Equine Dentistry Lecture with Dr. Kyle Johnson, DVM. Details to come!

JULY 2026

Sports psychology / yoga clinic. Details coming soon.

RIDE-A-TEST

May 16 & 23

BACH is hosting a Ride-A-Test on Saturday, May 16 and 23, at On-the-Bit-Farm with clinician and judge Donna Meyer. Riders can choose from USDF, Working Equitation, USEA, and WDAA Western dressage tests to ride and receive valuable feedback from an experienced judge and rider in a supportive learning environment. Thank you for bearing with us through the multiple weather-related schedule adjustments!

SHENANIGANS

Recap

On Saturday, April 18, riders gathered in College Station for a fun & educational Shenanigans obstacle event open to all levels and disciplines. Participants had the opportunity to work through demos & a self-paced obstacle course either in-hand or mounted, throughout the day. It was a relaxed environment with plenty of individualized attention. Paid auditors also joined in to observe, learn, and enjoy the day's activities





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BACH SPOTLIGHT

*FEATURED RIDER THIS MONTH IS *Sandy Venneman**

907 Favory VI Adelen, aka Vinny, is a Lipizzaner which is an endangered breed most well known as the horses of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna Austria. Bred for their ability to do airs above the ground and collected work, she has shown me both, airs above the ground in some unanticipated places.

*L*ifelong equestrian supporting dressage, trail riding, and future generations of riders.

A big challenge Lippizans have is showing medium and extended gaits because they have not been bred for those. We spent our first year together working on getting something that resembled a lengthening. In our second year together, we showed second level. We started the year by winning the Cavender Freestyle High Score at the San Antonio Spring Show, then finished last year on a high note placing reserve champion for region 9 in both first and second level



freestyle and Southwest Dressage Championships (SWDC), reserve for second level freestyle and third for first level freestyle. This was fulfilling after a car accident sidelined me a bit from riding seriously most of the summer and my back was still “challenged” at the time of the championships. This year we moved up to third level at the Emerald Classic where we qualified for both the SWDC and the Region 9 Championships in our first show. Even more exciting was earning a high enough score at third level test three to allow us to do a third level freestyle that we are working on now.

Author: Sandy Venneman



BACH BITS and PIECES

Jinny Johnson



This is Brazos Flash and me at a New Horizons show. Lynette Diamond owns New Horizons and her shows are everything a schooling show should be. They are laid back and affordable. However, for Flash, it was challenging. The jumpers are schooling and thundering around the jump arena. The grounds are large and visible and busy. Horses are coming and going. It is very distracting. It took a lot of going for Flash to begin to see that he was not in charge of all this activity. He got several “naughty” comments on his Training Level tests. We worked our way up through Training then First Level and, although the lengthening’s left much to be desired, we started off at Second Level this year because I believe that’s where the really useful movements begin. With the introduction of the shoulders-in and haunches-in, the lateral movements, where it

starts to get interesting. Our first outing this year at Second yielded 55%. The score correctly represented the test. The rider went off course, the horse took a wrong lead, the lateral work needed a lively imagination. The judge was very kind. At the end of her general remarks, she advised: “KEEP RIDING!!” So, we have been keeping riding and our last out yielded a 64% which is a big improvement.

Cynthia Werner



Cynthia Werner competed her horse Flor-de-lis (“Flash”) in the Houston Dressage Society’s Piaffe and Pollen Show. They received their first qualifying score at 3rd level for USDF regional championships. Cynthia Werner is also excited to share the news about her new horse - Normando (“Manna”), an 8-year-old KWPN gelding



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Results from the Spring Virtual Show



Judge: Regina Cristo USDF L Grad with Distinction
NC = Non Compete
Classic Dressage High Point

USDF Intro A - AA			
1st	67.81%	Sarah Smith	Twelve O'Clock
2nd	60.94%	Elizabeth Zwiener	Matilda
USDF Intro B - AA			
1st	67.50%	Brittney Elliott	Bunny
USDF Intro C - AA			
1st	67.00%	Shawna Fletcher	Valentina
USDF Training 1- JNR			
1st	67.88%	Olivia Johnson	Rosemel's Last Dance
USDF Training 1- AA			
1st	65.38%	Joana Rocha	Unchained Melody
2nd	63.08%	Brittney Elliott	Bunny
3rd	60.77%	Joana Rocha	Comet Zans Peppy
USDF Training 2- Open			
1st	70.34%	Tessa Guerra-Jeffs	Sharp Dressed Man
USDF First 3 - Open			
1st	60.00%	Sophie Gardner	Iceman
USDF Second Level Test 1 - AA			
1st	64.43%	Virginia Johnson	Brazos Flash
		Suzanne Morisse	USEF/WDAA "R"
WDAA Intro 1 - AA			
1st	135 61.36%	Karin C. Loftin	Vaquero

IF YOU HAVE SCORES FROM YOUR SCHOOLING SHOWS, RATED SHOWS, VIRTUAL SHOWS, RATs, etc, BE SURE TO SEND THEM TO SANDY vennemansandy@gmail.com FOR THE YEAR-END / BACH CHALLENGE AWARDS!!

Announcements

If you have any relevant news that you'd like to share with other BACH members (i.e., show results, recent accomplishments, upcoming opportunities, new horse, etc.), please send [me](mailto:vennemansandy@gmail.com) an email.

Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award - \$5,000

Applications are due August 1.

Apply at www.dressagefoundation.org

The Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award, presented by The Dressage Foundation, recognizes an outstanding Region 9 instructor for excellence in dressage teaching. The award includes a \$5,000 prize, and instructors may now apply directly - no nomination required. Applicants must be USDF Region 9 members in good standing and permanent residents of Region 9 who actively teach dressage at any level (Training through FEI). Candidates should demonstrate strong dressage principles, clear communication that supports humane and logical progress for horse and rider, and a commitment to integrity and service to the dressage community. USDF Certified Instructor status is encouraged but not required.



USDF Region 9 Meeting in San Antonio - July 16-19)

[Region 9 Meetings - USDF Region 9](http://www.usdfregion9.org)

Open to anyone who wants to attend. Main meeting on Sat from 8 am to 5 pm. Extra activities Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Good networking with other GMO members. For more Region 9 news, go here: www.usdfregion9.org.



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Want to be a BACH Member?

Full GMO Membership: \$45

Friends of BACH: \$39

Membership form [HERE](#)

For more details on membership, go here:

<https://bachdressage.org/membership/>

For more information about BACH, go here:

<https://bachdressage.org>

BACH Facebook: [Brazos Association for Classical Horsemanship - BACH | Facebook](#)

Contact us: bachdressagebcs@gmail.com

Pictures from Shenanigans!





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