

## Lazy E Arena

*Guthrie OK – site of the USDF Region 9 Championships*

### Jana Nelson

Your friendly, neighborhood newsletter editor

The show was last weekend – August 2-3. It was 105 degrees. Patty and I went to see the place and it is awesome. Thankfully, the show arena is air conditioned or we all would have died. That, of course, will not be a problem in October at the Championships.

We had the opportunity to see a lot of nice horses and freestyles. There were 3 rings going both days! Who would have thought that many crazy people would be showing in August in OK?

Well, I was the only Arkansas nut but Austin and I managed to win the National Level Freestyle Stake class competing against some 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> level horses, as well as two other 1<sup>st</sup> level horses. Wish you had been there.

### WORD ABOUT THE USDF CHAMPIONSHIPS...

Hey, I hope that some of you will be planning to go to the **USDF Region 9 Championships** this year. It will be a good chance to see some of the “big” people and “big” horses in our region.

For the last several years, they have been in Texas in San Antonio or Houston. For me, that has been too far to make the effort (plus, I haven't had the horsepower-if you know what I mean).

However, I am excited about it being at the Lazy E in Guthrie OK this year. The dates are October 17<sup>th</sup> through October 19<sup>th</sup>.

There will also be an open show as well so, if you don't qualify for the championships, you can still go and show and have a big time.

There are always a lot of vendors, too. A great opportunity to shop for stuff in person!

## Our Furry Friends

*Getting to know our members*

Hello, my name is Riley Summers. I'm a 1-year-old Chiweenie and I'm extremely cute! My Momma Kenzie says I'm the cutest puppy on Earth! I adore my Momma! I just don't know what I'll do without her when she goes off to college in the Fall! I'm going to miss her terribly!

Some of my favorite things... I enjoy sleeping on soft, cuddly blankets. I'm most comfortable lying on my belly with my hind legs straight out behind me. My family calls them my drumsticks! I really enjoy playing and I LOVE to play catch with my fuzzy duck. I toss him up in the air and run and catch him. We roll around on the ground together and when I squeeze him he quacks. I'm certain he loves me too!

I also enjoy tormenting my older brother Buddy. I don't think Cocker Spaniels like to play as much as duckys though, because he always runs away from me or tries to sit on me! I have an adorable face, long body, and amazing control over my ears. In fact, I'm told I do a great impression of the flying nun! My Aunt Patty says one of her puppies has the same talent!

My Momma is teaching me how to behave around humans which has been really hard to learn, because I used to live with really mean people. My new family is much nicer and I love my new home!



Submitted by Rachelle and Kenzie Summers

*Send me a pic and short bio of your furry friend so we can get to know you better – jana@tcworks.net*

## **NEW SCHOOL SHOW SECRETARY**

**Many thanks to Jackie Wilkerson (and friends)!**

I am ecstatic to announce that we have a volunteer for next year's show day secretary position.

Jackie lives in Maumelle and is an active member of ADS. She has been showing and volunteering at Valley View Farm shows for some time. She is also A COMPUTER PERSON and has developed an application to perform show secretary work onsite on her laptop. YAY!

She ha graciously volunteered to do the show day duty for all of next year's school shows with some help from Sarah Branscum, Patty and me – and anyone else that would like to help or apprentice for a future position.

Make sure and look for her at the secretary table next year and thank her.

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## **COMING UP SOON...**

**As NOTED ON THE ADS WEBSITE, THE SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> SHOW WILL BE AT LUCKY ACRES INSTEAD OF SALEM.**

### **ADS SCHOOL SHOW**

LUCKY ACRES  
OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

### **REGION 9 USDF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

OCTOBER 17-19  
GUTHRIE OK

For a full calendar of events, please refer to the ADS website: [www.arkansasdressage.com](http://www.arkansasdressage.com)

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## **Letters to the Editor**

I got an email the other day from a member and she mentioned that, in general, ADS members feel as if they are in a void – a “black hole” in her words, because they do not know what is going on with ADS.

Do you feel as if the board is not forthcoming with their business?

I do not mean this reply to be as harsh as it sounds but it is just a reality of this club and of most organizations I have been affiliated with that 20% of the people do 90% of the work. *Continued...*

## **2008 ADS Board of Directors**

<b>President</b>	Marion Franz	407-0295
<b>V President</b>	Diana Beaird	607-3300
<b>Treasurer</b>	Need NEW Treasurer!!!!!!	
<b>Secretary</b>	Rachelle Summers	605-8042

## **Members at Large**

Linda Porter	224-4942
Patty Hale	796-2398
Nancy Sobba	988-2458
Michelle Wadley	352-8277

\*\*\*\*NEED NEW TREASURER\*\*\*\*

**Newsletter (also Web person)** Jana Nelson 796-2028

## **Board Notes:**

Claudia Stevenson has resigned from the treasurer position and we are looking for a replacement.

If you can add and subtract and balance your own checkbook, you may be qualified. We will be happy to tell you what to do and how to do it. (Why do you think we are on the board anyway?)

We are still waiting to hear from you members about ideas for a symposium for 2009. What “big” people would you like to see? In the past, ADS has had Bill Woods, Michael Poulin, and Kay Meredith. Rachelle is the heading that committee and she is leaning toward a musical freestyle workshop! I love that idea.

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## **Rated Show Update**

If you were at the general membership meeting in June, you know that we have a rated show committee headed by Patty and yours truly. Liz Davis, Mike Sullivan, and Diana Jones were also drafted into that committee.

Do not be surprised when we call you and ask for your help. There 1001 things to do, large and small, every one important and we are not going to do it all ourselves.

How about being the show manager? It is pretty much a “straw boss” position. You just have to be there and be a PM of USDF and NOT be showing.

There are jobs that can be done before the show if you are showing or during the show if you are not.

Call me or Patty to get in on the fun of next year's rated show!!

## Hearts & Hooves Rider Participates in ADS Sanctioned Farm Show



*Left, Miss Olivia Brown and VaalTal enter the Dressage Arena, below performing their test before Judge, Ms. Evie Tumlin and Arkansas Dressage Society Board member Mrs. Rachelle Summers, Sunday, July 6, 2008*



*As you can see, Olivia and Vaal did a great job in their first (Private Farm) show together. The pair rode USDF Intro Junior Test 1 and scored 62%.*

Olivia has been riding at Hearts and Hooves since the Summer of 2005. When she came out for her assessment ride, she refused to get on the horse. Ms. Pat (Pat White, Executive Director) made a deal with her that if she would ride from A to F, and if she didn't like it, she could get off at F. Olivia agreed, and when she got to F, she said "maybe I could just ride to B". Since then, she's been doing the same thing, overcoming the obstacles a piece at a time. Now, she is in the most advanced riding group for her age category. She was chosen to represent Hearts & Hooves after placing first in her age group in Equitation at our Rider Fun Day in April. She started practicing with VaalTal every Saturday during her lesson time. While Olivia isn't one to act excited, the day before the show I asked if she was excited or nervous. Olivia gave me a wide grin, and said "both". That was the most insight into her feelings that I got before the show. The only other sign of her excitement was when, the day of the show, she asked VaalTal if he was excited, because she was.

Olivia hadn't ridden VaalTal very often before she started preparing for the show at Valley View Farm in Vilonia. Vaal was chosen to go to the show because out of the therapy horses, Vaal has the most show experience, and has carried many of our riders out into the "real world". He also has had formal dressage training. VaalTal is an 18 year old Arabian gelding. He was born at Kellogg Creek Arabians (on the property that now holds Hearts & Hooves), and had a career in showing, and was frequently shown "at liberty". Vaal remained at Kellogg Creek Arabians at stud for some time, and was gelded a little later in life. He was donated to the program in 2002 by Sandra Franecke. Once considered a very "spirited" horse who few could handle, VaalTal is now one of the most asked for therapy horses. He provides a lot of movement, which is a benefit to riders with low muscle tone or difficulty staying focused, and has a narrow base, which is necessary for riders with high tone in their legs, who aren't able to stretch around a wide horse.

*Liz Marg, Instructor, Hearts & Hooves*

Olivia is 11 years old and attends the Anthony School in Little Rock. Her favorite past time is reading and she wants to have a career as a scientist when she grows up. I know that Olivia had a great time at the horse show. Olivia told me she really liked performing at the show. I asked if she was nervous that day and she said, "No, I just woke up that morning and told myself 'I can do this'". Olivia's experience riding at Hearts and Hooves has exponentially increased her confidence to try new things and stick longer with things that aren't so easy. I no longer worry nearly as much about Olivia's future as she has changed so much regarding her interaction with the world, and her ability to socialize and empathize with others. Thanks for this opportunity and all of your hard work with Olivia and Vaal. It is most appreciated.

*Robin (Olivia's mom)*

*Continued from Letters to the Editor...*

Here is my reply:

[Board meetings/board business]... is pretty much the nuts and bolts of putting on the shows and trying to get and keep the finances straight - very businesslike.

I can't see who would be interested in that. (*In fact, you know, it is not that fascinating to me either but I have a soft spot for the club and want to see it keep going*) General members are invited to attend (but not participate at) the board meetings if they wish - no one ever does. (*They are held every second Thursday at Frostop on JFK in NLR. They have great gyros.*)

We barely had 20+ people at the June general membership meeting. Everything worth telling was told at that time. If you read this newsletter, you know the gist of what was said.

I've spent many years in the club and on the board off and on since 1987 and that's the way it has always been. Maybe it was more exciting when you were on it. We are boring but we are getting the job done.

Well, folks, that's my 2 cents worth, what's yours?

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### **QUALIFIED CORNER**

Have you qualified for the USDF or SWDC Championships? Let me know and I will post your name!

#### **Anne Turksy & Wildmark**

Training Level

#### **Diana Jones & Annabelle**

First Level

#### **Jana Nelson & Austin Chase**

Training Level

First Level

There is still a month or so to qualify!! You need 2 scores from 2 judges from 2 competitions at a Rated Show (does not have to be in Region 9 for the USDF). Check the USDF website for the scores at your level that are needed and the deadline for qualifying!

## **Kari Dale Barber-Arnold**

March 20, 1967 - July 2, 2008

Kari Barber Arnold, age 41, of Alexander, passed away Wednesday, July 2, 2008. Kari was a realtor for Coldwell Banker. She was devoted to her husband, Dan and her daughter, Skylar.

She was an experienced equestrian competitor and trainer and was a member of various equestrian organizations. In her equestrian career, she competed in international events at the Olympic level. In 1988, she was a member of the Gold Medal Team of the American Young Riders, the only Arkansan to reach this level.

She also competed in the Rolex Three Day Event CCI\*\*\*\* the highest level of competition in the sport. The four star designation is reserved for the quadrennial World Championships and Olympic Games.

While she trained and competed with a number of horses, her Morgan, THM Storm Airs "Stormy" held a special place in her heart. In November, 1989, she was featured on the cover of the journal of The Morgan Horse with Stormy. In 1991, she competed in the American Morgan Horse Association Combined Training Division placing 1st with Stormy. She was also an accomplished artist, organist, and pianist.

Kari is survived by her husband, Dan, her daughter Skylar, her parents Jim and Carroll Barber, her sister Dr. Dana Barber Gonzales and her brother-in-law Ron, and two nephews Dean and James Gonzales. She is also survived by her mother-in-law, Joyce Kish, and her companion, Carmen Pistone. Kari was blessed with a number of uncles, aunts and cousins.

Donations may be made to the Skylar Arnold Education Fund at The Capital Bank, 12224 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock, AR 72211.

*ADS donated \$100 as a token of our regard to Skylar's fund. Kari was a longtime member of ADS and had served on its board. She was a familiar sight in the warmup at many shows with Skylar always in tow.*