



Take Contact!

Inland Communities Chapter of the California Dressage Society

ICCcds.org

2010 Issue No. 4 - July/August

Chair Message

Check out this month's message from ICC Chair, Kathy Young, for all the latest and greatest news in a nutshell.

The Calendar of Events follows - save the dates!

Pages 1-2

Spring Fling Results

The Spring Fling rated show was rescheduled from May to July. Results are posted here.



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Junior Corner

This month's Junior Corner features a bio of ICC Junior Liaison, Delaney Seeburger.

Board Meetings

The August meeting was canceled. Highlights from June and July are here.

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RAAC Wrap Up

ICC Chapter was well represented at the Regional Adult Amateur Competition

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Custom Saddles

What you need to ask before you purchase a custom saddle.

Bits and Pieces



Closing comments, a little bit of this and that, and a tribute to our sponsors.

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Chair Message

First of all, our very best wishes to newlyweds Sara Beth (Diefenbach) and Ralph Mosqueda, married the last weekend in July. Sara is one of our board members and she is our Juniors Coordinator. Perhaps you've noticed the Juniors page on our chapter website (www.ICCcds.org). Each junior member of Inland Communities Chapter is invited to submit a picture and brief biography so you can be featured.



Our July 25 rated show at PepperGlen in Norco was small but it was a great success. The weather was absolutely perfect, too – overcast, a bit of breeze, and lots of happy (and talkative ;o) horses.

Our judge, Cauleen Glass, had some good comments for each rider, and she said she really enjoyed herself.

We have one more show, our October Costumes Optional All Day schooling show, and it's another event that is a lot of fun. Meg Hammond and Nancy Franklin are the show committee, and they do a marvelous job of getting things organized, and Ruth Corrao-Harris is volunteer coordinator and "times-caller extraordinaire."

This year is winding down, but ICC has a few more events on our calendar.

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Our Costumes Optional Schooling Show is slated for Sunday, October 24th, at Sundance Ranch in Redlands. The judge is TBA. This event always proves to be fun for riders and spectators alike!

The following month, on November 13, is a special Juniors event/fundraiser – dressage horse judging (both in hand and mounted) with various horse judging teams from the area schools competing for top judging honors. Sara is putting that together, too.

Hope you are all having a great summer-leading-to-fall, making progress in your riding, and looking forward to attending some of the ICC events. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or any of the board members. We love to hear from you. If you have comments or suggestions for upcoming events, let us know.

Kathy Young



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

ICC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 9/29

PLACE KATHY PAVLICH'S HOME - HIGHLAND (SHADOW RIDGE)
TIME 6:30 P.M

OCTOBER

ICC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 10/6

PLACE KATHY PAVLICH'S HOME - HIGHLAND (SHADOW RIDGE)
TIME 6:30 P.M

CDS ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP - 10/7-10/10

PLACE LAEC BURBANK
SEE WWW.CALIFORNIA-DRESSAGE.ORG FOR MORE INFO

COSTUMES OPTIONAL ALL DAY SCHOOLING SHOW –10/24

PLACE SUNDANCE RANCH - REDLANDS
JUDGE TBA

2010 Board of Directors

Chapter Chair:	Kathy Young
Treasurer:	Kathy Pavlich
Secretary and Volunteer	
Coordinator:	Ruth Corrao-Harris
Show Chair:	Meg Hammond
Show Secretary:	Nancy Franklin
Website Liaison:	Cindy Taylor
Junior Coordinator:	Sara Diefenbach
Members At Large:	Sheila McKee Lori Johnstone

Chapter Volunteers

Junior Liaison:	Delaney Seeburger
Newsletter Editor:	Kelly McNamara



ICC Special Rated Show - July 28, 2010

Scheduling conflicts forced a rescheduling of our Spring Fling show from May to July. The show, held at the lovely PepperGlen Farm in Norco, was a success.

Even the weather cooperated - with a little overcast, it almost felt like Spring!

Rider Name	Horse Name	Division	Test	Score (Placing)
Jennifer Waters	FNF Senator	Open	Intro A	52.50% (2)
Ruth Orrell	FNF Faboleaux Katie	Open	Intro A	63.50% (1)
Erin DiLeo	Inga	AA	Intro A	70.50% (1)
Tim Martin	Leopold	AA	Intro B	62.00% (2)
Erin Deleo	Inga	AA	Intro B	63.00% (1)
Jennifer Waters	At Large	Open	Intro B	63.00% (1)
Ruth Orrell	FNF U-2	Open	Intro B	48.00% (2)
Jennifer Waters	FNF Senator	Open	Training Level Test 1	56.09% (2)
Ruth Orrell	FNF Faboleaux Katie	Open	Training Level Test 1	60.00% (1)
Karla Mason	Oliver	AA	Training Level Test 1	62.18% (2)
Tim Martin	Leopold	AA	Training Level Test 1	64.79% (1)
Morgan Spencer	Bemotional	Jr	Training Level Test 1	63.90% (1)
Karla Mason	Oliver	AA	Training Level Test 2	53.93% (1)
Morgan Spencer	Bemotional	Jr	Training Level Test 2	61.43% (1)
Julie Siegel	Cleopatra	AA	Training Level Test 3	66.80% (1)
Charlotte LeVecque	Ivana Dance	AA	Training Level Test 3	64.80% (2)
Morgan Spencer	Bemotional	Jr	Training Level Test 3	64.40% (1)
Julie Siegel	Cleopatra	AA	Training Level Test 4	64.80% (2)
Charlotte LeVecque	Ivana Dance	AA	Training Level Test 4	64.80% (1)
Lena Persson	Castor	AA	First Level Test 3	58.58% (1)
Lena Persson	Castor	AA	First Level Test 4	55.79% (1)
Cathy Ghazal	Samaki	AA	Second Level Test 3	58.14% (1)
Cathy Ghazal	Samaki	AA	Second Level Test 4	61.67% (1)

Show results are also available on the ICC website at www.ICCcds.org

Junior Corner

MEET DELANEY SEEBURGER

Hey, my name's Delaney - I'm 15 and in ninth grade. I've been homeschooled since kindergarten. Algebra II/Trig and Geography are my favorite subjects. I ride my own horse, Cats Vita, or "Gracie", at Second Level and while I've been riding Gracie for nearly two years I have only owned her for about three months. We train under Peggy Klump (who is always reminding me that Dressage is a tough sport!) out in Upland three to four days a week. What I like about Dressage is that my horse's feet never leave the ground - at least in theory. Actually, that is what my parents appreciate about it. I like the challenges that never go away, like keeping my elbows in for a more "polished look" (another of Peggy's quotes). In addition to riding, I also swim competitively and play piano.



Board Meeting Highlights - June and July

(full meeting minutes for all board meetings are posted on the ICC website once approved)

Your board was busy! In June, after handling routine matters (approving minutes, treasurer's report, and the like), the final details of the June rated show were worked out. After confirming hospitality, volunteers, and start time, rider numbers were assigned, and ride times worked out. The board next set to work ironing out details for the July RAAC 'n Roll Clinic with Peggy Klump.

At the July meeting, the difficult decision was made to reschedule the RAAC 'n Roll Clinic to (a currently undertermined) future date, and to change the focus to a New Test Forum and Competitors Workshop.

Some new business was briefly discussed also, including the new Junior page which is now up on the chapter website. And looking ahead, Meg will soon be providing the 2011 show dates to CDS for the Omnibus.

Next meeting is September 29th, 6:30 p.m. at Kathy Pavlich's house (Shadow Ridge). All members are welcome...come be a part of the fun!



Susan Williams and Loyal

Susan and Loyal (fabulous Fabian to his friends) enjoying a victory lap

The California Dressage Society Regional Adult Amateur Competition, or RAAC, for the Southern Region was held August 14-15 in Del Mar.

Three horse and rider teams from the ICC chapter qualified and competed at the 2010 RAAC for the Southern Region.

Charlotte LeVeque and Ivanna Dance rode Training Level - Test 4 Novice. (Novice Division is for riders that have never competed in a CDS Championship Show Horse of the Year Class.)

At Second Level Test 4 Novice was Cathy Ghazal and Samaki. With an impressive 58.571%, Cathy and Samaki took home a well deserved third place ribbon.



Riding Second Level Test 4 Elite, Susan Williams and Loyal took home Reserve Champion, scoring 60.952%. (Elite Division is for riders who have competed in a CDS Championship Show.) If you look closely at the picture above, I think even Fabian is smiling!



The usual suspects gathered to cheer on our competitors and feed the ponies!

Custom Saddles - What You Need to Ask Before You Buy by Justin Baghai

Every dressage rider has heard all kinds of saddle fitting horror stories, and some have unfortunately had to experience a horror story first hand. Before buying your next custom saddle be sure you know the *right* questions to ask your saddle fitter or sales rep. Knowing the important questions to ask will help you get the *real* answers about the saddle you are purchasing and the service to expect after your purchase. Regardless of the brand, model, price and whoever is endorsing it, a saddle is only as good as its fit and the quality of follow-up service maintaining that fit as you and your horse change. With that said, here are the three most crucial questions (and reasons why) to ask anyone you may buy a custom saddle from:

1. What does “custom” mean and what is truly custom about my saddle?

There are many saddles on the market that are advertised as a “custom” saddle, but in a lot of cases are not so. Most brands define custom as the right seat size, tree width and flap length. But the fact of the matter is that there is far more involved in a truly custom saddle. Without going into too much detail, a custom saddle should also include the shape of the tree from front-to-back to accommodate different back shapes, length of the tree points to accommodate different skeletal/muscle conformation around the withers and shoulder, position of the flap, shape of the thigh block, billet design, just to name a few of the most important components of a truly custom saddle.



2. Who makes my saddle?

Many top-dollar brands outsource their manufacturing to places like Argentina, England and India. This forces them to give up control over the production of your saddle, which makes it nearly impossible to translate the measurements a saddle fitter took at your barn, to an outside manufacturer, then back to you as a finished product. Make sure the company you purchase a saddle from actually produces their own brand. This will reduce the chances of you and your horse’s unique measurements getting lost in the outsourcing ether.

3. What is the extent of the adjustments you can do to my saddle, and who does them?

Just like a new car, a saddle is an investment that needs to be maintained in order for it to perform to its full potential. To keep you and your horse comfortable, balanced and in the proper position, your saddle needs to be adjusted every so often. Make sure that the person you purchase a saddle from can do *any adjustment required* for the life of your saddle, meaning much more than just flocking. Other adjustments include: redesigning billets, changing thigh blocks, adjusting trees, repositioning flaps, and in rare cases even changing trees.

It is also important to know where the adjustments are being done. This is important for two reasons. First, if you have to ship your saddle overseas for the work, you will be without a saddle for months at a time. And second, any adjustment done properly requires a saddle to be opened up (taken apart), and this cannot be done in 20 minutes at a barn. The fitter will need to take it with them to do the many-hour long adjustment

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Saddle Fitting - continued from page 6

These three questions will help you cut to the core of any saddle company you are considering working with. It will let you know what to expect in your new saddle, as well as how much expertise in adjustments, repairs, etc. you can expect to receive throughout the life of your saddle. Best of luck in your next saddle search, and be sure to read the follow-up article to this on, "Diagnosing Fitting Problems and How to Handle Them" in the September/October issue of Take Contact!

About the author:

Justin Baghai is a custom saddle maker and owner of Revere Saddlery. Revere Saddlery is a California based manufacturer of full custom dressage and jumping saddles. Everything is designed and made in-house, allowing riders and their horses to get exactly what they need to perform. Check Revere out on the web at RevereSaddlery.com, via telephone at 877-977-7383, or visit their new San Diego location for ANY repairs or adjustments on ANY brand saddle.

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• • •
**Bits and Pieces
from the Editor**
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I hope you have enjoyed this issue of Take Contact.

I'm open to suggestions on what you would like to see added. How about a feature article? What would you like to read about? Would you like to see articles about different breeds? Veterinary versus alternative treatments? Burning questions for a trainer? Talk to me!

~ **Kelly McNamara**
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