



Morgan Dressage Association

Dedicated to promoting and supporting Morgan Horses in Dressage

THE NEW 2011 USEF TESTS

(WITH A FEW PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS)

By USDF Judge Bill Woods

Volume 1 Number 1

News and Reminders:

- *Have you renewed your MDA membership for 2011? The membership year is January 1st to December 31st. See application on Page 15.*
- *The new USEF Dressage Tests begin January 2011. They are available online at USEF website.*
- *An electronic version of MDA Newsletter will soon be available! Be sure your email address is up-to-date and included in your membership application/renewal.*
- *Classifieds (free to MDA members) will be updated on both the website and the newsletter—see Page 12 for more information.*

Invariably, every four years some trainers look at the new dressage tests as they come out and swear they make no sense, they'll ruin the horses, and that they'll never let their student ride some of the specific tests—ever. Then some time passes. We all get used to the new requirements, and the furor dies down.



Sally Anderson and Iron Forge Starman studying for their next test

Expect the same thing this time even though this edition seems to amount to a relatively conservative reworking of the 2007 tests. Significant changes are:

- ◆ There are only three tests at each level instead of four from Training through Second Level. I'm not privy to the reasoning, but I'm guessing it was pressure from show managements to simplify their scheduling tasks. For amateur riders who, unable to zip up through levels and are stuck in Training or First Level for some years, this reduces how many different tests they can play with by 25 percent.
- ◆ The Collectives have changed, but not in their overall value. The rider score is no longer one number with a coefficient of three, but three separate scores each worth a maximum of ten. More precise feedback from the judge at no extra cost!
- ◆ Every Training Level test now has the stretching circle—hard for the green horse but it will separate the more correct from the pretenders.

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Meet The MDA Board

The Morgan Dressage Association (MDA) is looking forward to an exciting 2011! We have three new Board Members, a NEW website, and will be putting out a quarterly newsletter. The MDA organization will be focusing on these three initial goals: increasing our membership by providing timely and useful information, and exciting programs; updating the website, and fundraising.

The 2011 Morgan Dressage Association Board Members are:

Sally Anderson—Newsletter Co-Chair, Classifieds Chair

Sally is a returning Board Member, and the owner of Moana Morgans. sally@montanasky.us

Helen Dietrich—Honorary Founding Member, Advisor to the Board and Temporary Treasurer

Helen is the owner of Heldenglens Morgans. heldens1@loudounwireless.com

Tonya Farina—Scholarship Chair

Tonya is a returning Board Member and the owner of Matton Morgans. mattonmorgans@gmail.com

Wendy Gray-Bizzaro—Volunteer Coordinator Chair

Wendy is a returning Board Member. She is the owner of Gray Barron Ranch. wendygraybizzaro@aol.com

Marthe Reynolds—Marketing and Promotion Chair

Marthe is new to the MDA Board, and has filled the new position of Marketing and Promotion Chair.

She is the owner of Statesman's Signature. marthe@aboutsigi.com

Bernadette Stang—Secretary, Newsletter Co-Chair

“Nadette” is new to the Board and along with her husband, is the owner of Gladheart Morgans.

Gladheartfarm1@msn.com

Pat Thrasher—Website Chair

Pat has joined the Board as the website (re)designer. Pat is a new Board Member and the owner of Blythewood Beau Brummel. patthrasher@mac.com

Karin Weight—Newsletter Co-Chair, Membership Chair

Karin is a returning Board Member. She is the owner of West Mountain Morgan Farm and West Mt. Winston, who competed at Grand Prix in 2010. kweight@wencor.com

Diana Wold—Awards Chair

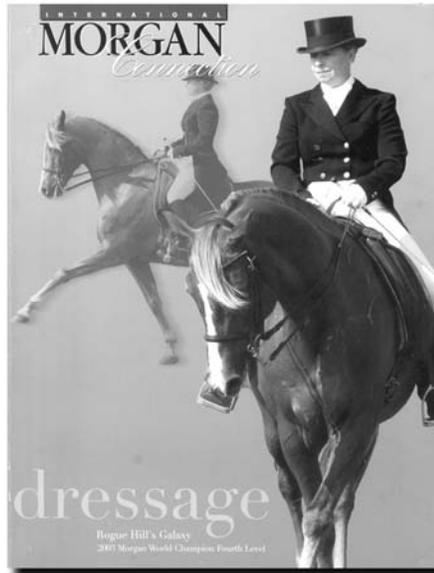
Diana is a returning Board Member, and the owner of Merriwold Morgans. dj@djwold.com



Meet the Breeders—*Jean Sauer and Rogue Hill Farm*

In the Pacific Northwest Morgan community, it is hard to find someone who doesn't know Jean Sauer. Her farm prefix "Rogue Hill's" (or Rogue Hill or Rogue's, depending on the horse and the year) has been associated with solid, versatile horses that have garnered championships in just about every type of class imaginable.

Jean started her career in Morgans almost 42 years ago in California, where she first took lessons from Susan Kraus of Mariner Morgans. Susan was also influential to Jean's future breeding program as she was the owner of Kings River Morgan (Gold Dollar X Iva Sonfield), a horse that became a strong influence in the foundation breeding of Rogue Hills Morgans. A few years later, Jean found herself working as a trainer at Red Fox Stables. The current farm was established in the early seventies when Jean's mother and father bought land near Sheri-



*Rogue Hill's Galaxy and Barbara Lewis
(photo/cover courtesy of Barbara Lewis)*

dan, Oregon and Jean followed with such horses as Triton Pazazz (Impala Nobleman X Sundown Baby), Christy Jarmen (Hillaway Jarmen X Margaret Knox) and Marksman KR (Kings River Morgan X Hacienda Sunshine) to start what is now known as Rogue Hill Farm.

Western Working and Brunk, brought in initially through Christy Jarmen, Triton Pazazz, Kings River Morgan, and later through Funquest have been the strongest influence in the Rogue Hill breeding and a consistent thread throughout. Jean calls these lines the "golden crosses" for her program, and although there have been outcrosses to other lines; she keeps coming back to this foundation as it has been the most consistent.

As far as her own personal favorites, it was difficult to limit her to a top three: Rogue's Flight Miss (she won over sixty-five Class A Championships and was a top broodmare), Rogues Bay Gambit (defined the world "versatile") doing everything from Park Harness to Hunter over fences; "[Gambit] would have made a wonderful dressage horse", and Triton Pazazz ("Smartest horse I ever worked with."). *(continued on Page 12).*

In Memory of Katrina Windred (Crie)

We are deeply saddened to report the untimely death of long-time MDA member Katrina Windred (formerly Katrina Crie).

An avid Morgan enthusiast, Katrina always kept the welfare of the horse foremost in her training. She cared deeply about each horse's comfort, and adamantly refused to use harsh methods or to rush a horse's training. She contributed to the MDA Yahoo!® discussion list, and her insights on horse health and welfare were greatly appreciated by many. Her compassion and love for both humans and animals were above reproach.

Plagued by health problems for 18 years, she resolutely won three fights against cancer. Unfortunately, she was unable to withstand the strength of the man who assailed her.

Our hearts reach out to her friends and family, especially to her twelve-year-old son. Donations for the boy's future can be sent to:

The Katrina Windred Trust for Osage Crie
Willard Pease, Pease Law Firm
PO Box 666, Rockland, ME 04841-0666



2010 USDF All-Breeds Awards



TRAINING LEVEL OPEN

1. 68.000 Coulee Bend Immortality (Season's Forever French x Coulee Ben Anticipation). Owned and ridden by Margaret Blaik; Breeder, Cindy and Lyle Dietz.
2. 67.384 TapRoot Old Glory (TapRoot Command Pilot x TapRoot's Star Flower). Ridden by Meredith Archer and Katherine Daly; Owned by Kristi Haines, Breeder, Charles Ross.
3. 66.800 Orrwood Madison Bay (Thunderbay x Jellico Fancy Affair). Ridden by Caroline Fernalld; Owned by Caroline and Victoria Fernalld; Breeder, Darlene and Peter Orr.
4. 66.700 Equinox Ebony Knight (Equinox Reflection x Equinox Love Song). Ridden by Kimberly Robbins; Owned by Gloria Crawford; Breeder, East of Equinox Farm.
5. 66.071 Gray Barron Major Star (Greentree Brigadier x Capricorn Maidmarion). Ridden by Tracy Young; Owned and bred by Wendy Bizzaro.



Regan Powers on Battersea Saratoga

TRAINING LEVEL ADULT AMATEUR

1. 68.000 Coulee Bend Immortality (Season's Forever French x Coulee Ben Anticipation). Owned and ridden by Margaret Blaik; Breeder, Cindy and Lyle Dietz.

TRAINING LEVEL JUNIOR YOUNG RIDER

1. 66.800 Orrwood Madison Bay (Thunderbay x Jellico Fancy Affair). Owned and ridden by Caroline Fernalld; Breeder, Darlene and Peter Orr.
2. 64.400 Battersea Saratoga (Statesman's Signature x Battersea Nica). Owned and ridden by Regan Powers; Breeder, Frank Calhoun and Herman Huhn.
3. 62.174 RBC Callie (Issues 'N Answers x Carlyle Decadence). Ridden by Caroline Fernalld; Owned by Kylee Lourie, Breeder, Ron Campbell.
4. 62.000 Queen's Faithfully (Mizrahi x Queen's So Rare). Ridden by Tyla Cumiskey; Owned by Ciara Cumiskey, Breeder; Queens River Farm Inc.

FIRST LEVEL OPEN

1. 68.377 PVF Power Factor (Equinox Challenge x JPR Have Mercy). Owned and ridden by Dee Loveless; Breeder, Debora Kieffer.
2. 67.333 Fenway Park (The Phantom of the Opera x Blythewood Acappella). Owned and ridden by Kristi Haines; Breeder, Holly Butterman.
3. 65.526 Equinox Ebony Knight (Equinox Reflection x Equinox Love Song). Ridden by Kimberly Robbins; Owned by Gloria Crawford; Breeder, East of Equinox Farm.
4. 65.203 GBR Midnight Serenade (Statesman's Silhouette x Greentree Ever Reddi). Ridden by Tracy Young; Owned and bred by Wendy Bizzaro.
5. 65.000 Orrwood Madison Bay (Thunderbay x Jellico Fancy Affair). Owned and ridden by Caroline Fernalld; Breeder, Darlene and Peter Orr.
5. 65.000 WLA Born to Perform (Born to Boogie x Wind Blu Treasure). Ridden by Karen Stephens; Owned and bred by, Patricia Beery-Waliga.

FIRST LEVEL ADULT AMATEUR

1. 63.684 Grayfriar's Epic NChanter (CMF Lady's Tramp x Sigma Gamma). Owned and ridden by Anne Schmid, Breeder, Kristen Frogge.
2. 61.000 A Striking Star (LWM Mannie B x April Dancer). Owned, bred and ridden by Elizabeth Milburn.
3. 60.263 Shindana's Wind Dancer (Symphonee Wired for Sound x Shindana's Wind Chime). Owned and ridden by Clare Murray; Breeder, Bonita Beam.

FIRST LEVEL JUNIOR YOUNG RIDER

1. 65.000 Orrwood Madison Bay (Thunderbay x Jellico Fancy Affair). Owned and ridden by Caroline Fernalld; Breeder, Darlene and Peter Orr.



2010 USDF All-Breeds Awards



FIRST LEVEL VINTAGE

1. 68.377 PVF Power Factor (Equinox Challenge x JPR Have Mercy). Owned and ridden by Dee Loveless; Breeder Debora Kieffer.

FIRST LEVEL MUSICAL FREESTYLE

1. 68.230 WK'S Northern Brigadier (Greentree Brigadier x WK's Twilight Rhapsody). Owned and ridden by Leigh Holman; Breeder, Cheryl Kloer.
2. 68.125 GBR Midnight Serenade (Statesmans Silhouette x Greentree Ever Reddi). Ridden by Tracy Young; Owned and bred by Wendy Bizzaro.
3. 67.604 Orrwood Madison Bay (Thunderbay x Jellico Fancy Affair). Owned and ridden by Caroline Fernalld; Breeder, Darlene and Peter Orr.

SECOND LEVEL OPEN

1. 64.117 PVF Power Factor (Equinox Challenge x JPR Have Mercy). Owned and ridden by Dee Loveless; Breeder, Debora Kieffer.
2. 62.105 Statesman's Signature (Chief Of State x Coal Creek Spicyglow). Owned and ridden by Marthe Reynolds; Breeder, Lynne Shpak.
3. 61.786 Seaway Frederic Remington (Syndicat Tiger Eye x Seaway Elegance). Ridden by Karen Warren and Bobbi Coats; Owned by Karen Warren; Breeder, Roberta and Robert Marshall.



Dee Loveless on PVF Power Factor

SECOND LEVEL ADULT AMATEUR

1. 62.105 Statesman's Signature (Chief Of State x Coal Creek Spicyglow). Owned and ridden by Marthe Reynolds; Breeder, Lynne Shpak.

SECOND LEVEL VINTAGE

1. 64.117 PVF Power Factor (Equinox Challenge x JPR Have Mercy). Owned and ridden by Dee Loveless; Breeder, Debora Kieffer.

THIRD LEVEL JUNIOR YOUNG RIDER

1. 61.274 Queen's Delilah (Mizrahi x NBN Noble Vixen). Owned and ridden by Ciara Cummiskey; Breeder, Queens River Farm Inc.
2. 60.000 Crown B Special (Motif Command x Crown Eternal). Owned and ridden by Haeley Hutchison; Breeder, Donna Keane.

THIRD LEVEL OPEN

1. 62.051 BCM Unforgettable (BCM Impressive Lee x Carey Mystic Melody). Ridden by Kylee Lourie and Andrea Doelling, Owned by Kylee Lourie; Breeder, Burnt Creek Morgans.
2. 61.274 Queen's Delilah (Mizrahi x NBN Noble Vixen). Owned and ridden by Ciara Cummiskey; Breeder, Queens River Farm Inc.
3. 60.769 Misty Green Cimmaron (Misty Green Rascal x Triple S My Oh My). Ridden by Gia Grayson. Owned by Cecile Marie Zielinski, Breeder, Misty Green Farm Inc.
4. 60.000 Crown B Special (Motif Command x Crown Eternal). Owned and ridden by Haeley Hutchison; Breeder, Donna Keane.

THIRD LEVEL MUSICAL FREESTYLE

1. 65.521 BCM Unforgettable (BCM Impressive Lee x Carey Mystic Melody). Ridden by Kylee Lourie and Andrea Doelling; Owned by Kylee Lourie; Breeder, Burnt Creek Morgans.
2. 64.000 Queen's Delilah (Mizrahi x NBN Noble Vixen). Owned and ridden by Ciara Cummiskey; Breeder, Queens River Farm Inc.



2010 USDF All-Breeds Awards



FOURTH LEVEL OPEN

1. 64.878 Forsite Zephyr (Rapidan Imperial x Clonmel Goldn Trophy). Owned, bred and ridden by Debra M'Gonigle.

FOURTH LEVEL MUSICAL FREESTYLE

1. 68.334 WTR Chocolate Bar (VAS Trigger ML x Capricorn Maidmarion). Ridden by Tracy Young; Owned by Wendy Bizzaro; Breeder, Peggy Anthony.
2. 63.542 Greentree Courtney (Greentree Brigadier x Niobrara Mayfair). Ridden by Tracy Young, Owned by Wendy Bizzaro; Breeder, Greentree Ranch.

PRIX ST GEORGE OPEN

1. 65.789 WTR Chocolate Bar (VAS Trigger ML x Capricorn Maidmarion). Ridden by Tracy Young; Owned by Wendy Bizzaro; Breeder, Peggy Anthony.
2. 62.632 Forsite Rhythm-N-Blue (Rapidan Imperial x Merrie Hill Fire Glow). Owned and ridden by Catherine Gerardi; Breeder, Debra M'Gonigle.
3. 61.053 GKB Coal Magic (Ragtime Voodoo Magic x Metis Koffee). Owned and ridden by Lucy Tidd; Breeder, Kathy and Greg Birdwell.

PRIX ST GEORGE ADULT AMATEUR

1. 61.053 GKB Coal Magic (Ragtime Voodoo Magic x Metis Koffee). Owned and ridden by Lucy Tidd; Breeder, Kathy and Greg Birdwell.

GRAND PRIX OPEN

1. 61.064 West Mt. Winston (Far Well's Brooks x West Mt. Santana). Ridden by David MacMillan; Owned and bred by Karin Weight.

GRAND PRIX MUSICAL FREESTYLE

1. 65.000 West Mt. Winston (Far Well's Brooks x West Mt. Santana). Ridden by David MacMillan; Owned and bred by Karin Weight



Lucy Tidd on GKB Coal Magic



Morgan Dressage Association 2010 Awards of Excellence



TRAINING LEVEL OPEN:

1. 69.886 Gray Barron Major Star (Greentree Brigadier x Capricorn Maidmarion). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.
2. 66.321 Forsite Apollo (Rapidan Imperial X Forsite Spellbound). Ridden by Catherine Gerardi and owned by Karen Reeb.
3. 63.000 Rosehollow Rainbow's End (Nashboro Sir Galahad x Rosehollow Chantilly). Ridden and owned by Veronica Crawley.

TRAINING LEVEL JR./YOUNG RIDER CHAMPION:

- 63.000 Rosehollow Rainbow's End (Nashboro Sir Galahad x Rosehollow Chantilly). Ridden and owned by Veronica Crawley.



Morgan Dressage Association 2010 Awards of Excellence



FIRST LEVEL OPEN:

1. 70.526 GBR Midnight Serenade (Statesman's Silhouette x Greentree Ever Reddi). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.
2. 70.384 PVF Power Factor (Equinox Challenge x JPR Have Mercy). Owned and ridden by Dee Loveless.
3. 67.237 WK'S Northern Brigadier (Greentree Brigadier x WK's Twilight Rhapsody). Owned and ridden by Leigh Holman.
4. 64.737 Sil'Sations Spirit (Statesman's Silhouette X Ken-Mar Sensation). Ridden by Jaclyn Sink and owned by Bonnie Sink.
5. 60.658 Intaglio Arizona Storm (Funquest Erik X Stormy Dawn). Owned and Ridden by Carol Hibbard.

FIRST LEVEL JR./YOUNG RIDER CHAMPION:

- 64.737 Sil'Sations Spirit (Statesman's Silhouette X Ken-Mar Sensation). Ridden by Jaclyn Sink and owned by Bonnie Sink.

FIRST LEVEL ADULT AMATEUR CHAMPION:

- 60.658 Intaglio Arizona Storm (Funquest Erik X Stormy Dawn). Owned and Ridden by Carol Hibbard.

SECOND LEVEL OPEN:

1. 65.871 PVF Power Factor (Equinox Challenge x JPR Have Mercy). Owned and ridden by Dee Loveless.
2. 64.298 Statesman's Signature (Chief of State X Coal Creek Spicyglow). Owned and ridden by Marthe Reynolds.

SECOND LEVEL ADULT AMATEUR CHAMPION:

- 64.298 Statesman's Signature (Chief of State X Coal Creek Spicyglow). Owned and ridden by Marthe Reynolds.

THIRD LEVEL OPEN:

1. 65.465 Kennebec Ladyhawke (Triple S Dark Eagle X Kennebec Sassy). Owned and ridden by Margaret Bailey.

FOURTH LEVEL OPEN

1. 65.927 Forsite Zephyr (Rapidan Imperial X Clonmel Goldn Trophy). Owned by Dog and Debra M'Gonigle and ridden by Debra M'Gonigle.
2. 62.01 Montana Jubilee (Supreme Creation X Montana Lily). Owned by Dog and Debra M'Gonigle and ridden by Debra M'Gonigle.

PRIX ST GEORGES OPEN

1. 66.973 WTR Chocolate Bar (Vastrigger X Capricorn Maidmarion). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.
2. 63.815 GBK Coal Magic (Ragtime Voodoo Magic X Metis Koffee). Owned and ridden by Lucy Tidd.
3. 63.684 Forsite Rhythm-N-Blues (Rapidan Imperial X Merriehill Fireglow). Owned and ridden by Catherine Gerardi.
4. 61.052 Greentree Courtney (Greentree Brigadier X Niarobi Mayfair). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.

PRIX ST GEORGES ADULT AMATEUR CHAMPION:

- 63.815 GBK Coal Magic (Ragtime Voodoo Magic X Metis Koffee). Owned and ridden by Lucy Tidd.

GRAND PRIX OPEN:

1. 63.271 West Mt. Winston (Far Well's Brooks X West Mt Santana). Ridden by David MacMillin and owned by Karin and Larry Weight.

MUSICAL FREESTYLE FIRST/SECOND LEVEL:

1. 69.896 WK'S Northern Brigadier (Greentree Brigadier x WK's Twilight Rhapsody). Owned and ridden by Leigh Holman.
2. 68.229 GBR Midnight Serenade (Statesman's Silhouette x Greentree Ever Reddi). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.



Morgan Dressage Association 2010 Awards of Excellence



MUSICAL FREESTYLE THIRD/FOURTH LEVEL:

1. 73.854 WTR Chocolate Bar (Vastrigger X Capricorn Maidmarion). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.
2. 65.521 Kennebec Ladyhawke (Triple S Dark Eagle X Kennebec Sassy). Owned and ridden by Margaret Bailey.
3. 64.792 Greentree Courtney (Greentree Brigadier X Niarobi Mayfair). Ridden by Tracy Young and owned by Wendy Bizzaro.
4. 64.031 Queen's Delilah (Mizrahi X NBN Noble Vixen). Ridden and owned by Ciara Cumminsky.

MUSICAL FREESTYLE FEI:

1. 68.078 West Mt. Winston (Far Well's Brooks X West Mt Santana). Ridden by David MacMillin and owned by Karin and Larry Weight.

DRESSAGE BREEDING—STALLIONS 4 AND OVER:

1. 75.600 Statesman's Signature (Chief of State X Coal Creek Spicyglow). Owned by Marthe Reynolds.

Aiming High—Setting Goals for 2011

We all know just having the privilege of riding our talented, personable Morgans is a rewarding experience, but what if you've decided you want to set a few more specific goals for yourself and your equine partner for 2011?

Setting goals is often an excellent way to provide incentive to push your riding and your horse's training to the next level. It can be as simple as working toward earning certain score, or moving up to the next level, or mastering a particular movement.

If you have decided to set a personal goal to shoot for, consider sharing it with someone (such as your coach) and maybe even writing it down. The former helps to give you the support and the tools to help you to achieve the benchmark you're aiming for; the latter helps keep your focused.

However, if the competitive bug has bit you for 2011, there are a variety of year-end awards for you

Below are a few websites to help get you started (look for "Awards" or "Competition" links).

www.usef.org

www.usdf.org

www.morganhorse.com

to choose from. USDF, USEF, AMHA, Morgan Dressage Association, as well as local organizations and breed clubs all offer awards for both the horse and rider. There can also be Regional and State Championships (both open and breed) to consider.

Although there isn't enough space here to list all the eligibility requirements for each type of award, keep in mind that most require a current membership in the organization sponsoring the award (your horse may also need to be regis-

tered), and often these memberships must be active *before* you start showing or the scores earned before membership may not count. For championships, generally the horse needs to have qualifying scores in order to be eligible. USDF requires these to be specifically designated as "qualifying classes" in regards to Regional Championships. For awards such as AMHA Open Competition and USDF All-Breeds, qualifying scores must be from a certain number of shows and under a certain number of judges.

Sound a bit overwhelming? It really isn't and there are a lot of resources available to get you started, and now is a great time to make sure all your ducks are in a row. Think of it as your Dressage New Years resolution! No matter what goal you choose—good luck and have fun! —Bernadette Stang

Morgan Grand National and World Championships

by Karin Weight

After two long days on the road, my gelding walked off the trailer at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, looked around at all the pandemonium, and calmly walked to his stall. I expected this from Winston, an old pro who has been to many Morgan Nationals, but I was very impressed by the equally calm and cool attitude of so many young Morgans whose previous experience had been limited to the much quieter USDF shows.

Those who showed dressage at the 2010 Morgan Nationals have reason to be very proud. Dressage is becoming recognized by the AMHA as a fast-growing discipline represented by very well-trained, beautifully turned out horses of the highest quality. This year there were 178 rides over 2½ days in front of "S" judges Sue Malone-Casey and Janet Hannon. Judge Malone-Casey commented that the quality of riding was much improved since she last judged the show five years previously.

The scores of the winning Morgans reflected the high standard of this competition. Not too many years ago, a couple of rides in the high-60s would guarantee a championship. This year there were FIVE training level horses whose scores averaged over 70%!

I became particularly excited when I watched junior rider Caroline Fernald of Colorado, a genuine

rising star. She rode the experienced Orrwood Madison Bay in five tests, earning four scores over 70%. Her winnings included Morgan World Championship for both Junior Exhibitor training and first level as well as the Morgan National Championship for First Level musical freestyle.

There was stiff competition with very nice rides through 4th level.



West Mt. Winston and David Macmillan

Unfortunately, only one horse competed at FEI, but Winston came through with a very nice Grand Prix ride, and the spectators cheered throughout his 68.69% Grand Prix Musical Freestyle.

Those who have been to this show in years past were ecstatic at the improvements made to the show grounds, especially in respects to dressage. The dark, stuffy arena has been replaced with a spacious arena with plenty of room around the ménage. The footing and lighting were excellent, and huge fans quietly circulated overhead. The rides took place right on schedule,

results were quickly available, and the awards presentation in the coliseum was beautiful.

Complete results and scores for the show are available at www.showsecretary.com, and a comprehensive account of dressage is included in the show coverage in the November/December issue of *The Morgan Horse*.

The 2010 World Champions

TRAINING LEVEL JR. EXHIBITOR

Orrwood Madison Bay,
owner/rider Caroline Fernald.

TRAINING LEVEL AMATEUR

Sacred Path's Ice-T,
owner/rider Kim Fullerton.

TRAINING LEVEL OPEN

Misty Green Merlin, ridden by Gia Grayson for Misty Green Farm.

FIRST LEVEL JR EXHIBITOR

Orrwood Madison Bay,
owner/rider Caroline Fernald.

FIRST LEVEL AMATEUR

Grayfriar's Epic Nchanter, owner/rider Anne Schmid.

FIRST LEVEL OPEN

Wintergreen Beaufort, ridden by Susan Garmier for Woodland Stallion Station.

SECOND LEVEL OPEN

Rogue Hill's Woodsman,
owner/rider Jaime Hardy.

THIRD LEVEL OPEN

Misty Green Cimmarron, ridden by Gia Grayson for Misty Green Farm.

FOURTH LEVEL OPEN

BCM Unfortettablee, ridden by Andrea Doelling for Kylee Lourie.

GRAND PRIX

West Mt Winston ridden by David Macmillan for Larry & Karin Weight.

THE NEW 2011 USEF TESTS (continued from Page 1)

Other than that, some patterns remain unchanged; some are different. The one I wish they'd fixed was the oft-ridden-incorrectly loop in the last Training Level test. People did it better back when the test called for a serpentine half the width of the arena. If they insist on keeping the "loop," they should have made the directive ideas more explicit or included a diagram on the back of the test sheet.

The only tear drops left in First Level-1 will be ones you yourself shed now that the long-present "half circle-back to the track" figures have been removed from that test. They're replaced by the "S" turn from E to X to B which you know from the old First 3. In all of First Level rising/sitting becomes the rider's option. Just for the record, I don't think it's a very good idea.

The 2011 USEF Dressage Tests for Training through Fourth Level are available through the USEF website (login required) at <http://www.usef.org>

Whenever it comes to test writing, there's a tug of war between those wanting to make the tests "horse friendlier" [read: *easier*] and those who want to protect "the art" from dilution and "dumbing down."

We heard all this back in the early '80s when the Strident Classicists held sway and insisted that even in Training Test 1 on a 4 year old off the racetrack, you had to enter and ride the centerline to X in *sitting*

trot. "Because you can't do dressage if you can't sit, and if we don't *make* them sit, those people will never bother to learn." That's what we were told. More recently, when rising/sitting in Training Level became the rider's option, I thought it granted the riders some desirable leeway to decide what was most appropriate for each specific horse.

In the USEA (eventing) dressage tests, their Training Level is akin to an early USEF First Level test, and rising/sitting is optional. Again, a good idea because in eventing, the essence of the competition (sorry, purists) is the cross country. A horse's ability to run and jump is what usually determines at which level he's entered, and often those skills are ahead of his dressage.

However, in real life (that would be US), someday we all have to face the music, and that means sitting to the trot. And I find myself echoing those nasty Germans. Not only must the riders be able to sit the trot to go on, but the horses must accept it to work towards the goals of engagement and uphill balance. Regardless of your choice, the judge will only score the resulting quality of movement and acceptance, so in the new First Level tests, rise if you must, but remember that cricket on your shoulder—let your conscience be your guide. And at least work towards being able to sit all the Working Trot. Other First Level requirements. You also have a canter lengthening



Susan Woods on Bald Mountain Conman

in Test 1 for the first time with a gradual transition back to working canter using the corner. First-2 offers a new leg yielding pattern going away from the judge. Its degree of difficulty is that of the old First-4—no more long, easy line introducing leg yielding like the now-retired D to R from the 2007 First Level 2. First-3—the Qualifying test—now has an even more challenging leg yielding pattern: K to X leg yield to the right, followed at X by a left 10 meter circle then a right 10 meter circle then a leg yielding to the left from X back to the track at H. This may seem hard in the beginning, but once you get the hang of it, you'll probably like it. It's certainly easier than the F-X-M counterchange in leg yielding from about 20 years ago.

There's only one test, First-3, with a change of lead at the trot. That's too bad because one test later you'll have to be ready to make actual canter-walk-canter simple changes. There are also no

(continued on Page 13)

An Addendum: Comments on the New USDF Introductory Tests and the 2011 Freestyle Requirements

by Bill Woods

Rest assured if you are a neophyte dressage rider that the changing of the tests, while it may seem to turn your world upside down, will be of lesser consequence than was the introduction of New Coke. The new tests will last longer.

If you're the sort of person who can only find the bathroom at 2 am by counting your footsteps down the hall, I understand why making a circle in a different place could be traumatic! But think of it as an opportunity for personal growth. Seriously, there are only so many things that can happen in a walk-trot test, and once you've done the new ones a handful of times, the old patterns won't linger in your memory any more than the guy who took you to junior prom. Unless, well . . . never mind!

Of note is the Entrance in Intro A—there's no halt. You just sashay down the center line with that stricken look on your face, track right, and proceed towards your fate. The eventers have been doing this for years. Horse trial organizers discovered that they could squeeze a couple more 300-dollar-a-pop entries into the day's schedule if they didn't take up those valuable few seconds finding out if riders had brakes. We presume the reasoning in Intro is otherwise—like once you get stopped, you might never get going again, and the eventual traffic jam would clog up the arena for later riders. Otherwise, Intro A and B, if you know how to paint by numbers, hold no mysteries.



Susan Woods on Bald Mountain Conman

Not so with Intro C. The bad news is you have to canter. The good news is that it's not for very long. That's likely to be bad news too. In the first part of a 20 meter circle at A, you make a depart. Before the circle is done, you're already back in trot. I anticipate judging a lot of rides with a blurry, running, undefined depart and an equally blurry, running, undefined downward transition with very few real canter strides in between. I figure, if you're going to risk your life, it should be for a more noble cause than that! Or at least a *longer* one where if the first part isn't very good, you have time to rescue it and show some improvement before you have to trot. The question might arise: if you can only canter that briefly, maybe you shouldn't be cantering in a test at all. But let's wait and see how it all plays out. Will this new requirement foster bravery by inviting beginners to set their sights high? Or allow them to set their sights not quite high enough? Or maybe it's a diabolical plot to make them skip Intro C altogether and plunge right into Training Level where they canter!

As for the freestyles, there aren't many differences in the riding requirements, but the new tests give the judges an opportunity to give more accurate feedback. First of all, we now have a block in which to score the entrance and finish halts. Also the technical side includes three blocks to score the Collectives: Gaits, Impulsion, and Submission. On the old 2007 tests the Gaits and Impulsion scores were combined into the first block on the Artistic side (Rhythm, Energy, and Elasticity), and the Submission and Rider scores were combined into the second block (Harmony between Horse and Rider). The new way is better.

On the Artistic side there are still five blocks. "Harmony between Horse and Rider" remains but the nuance will shade away from the technical aspects of Submission (like bending for instance) towards more ethereal "feel good" elements. Your bonus is a new split in the analysis of the music—one score to evaluate the "suitability, seamlessness, and cohesiveness" and a whole separate score for its interpretation: how the music expresses the gaits, use of phrasing, and dynamics.

These changes won't affect your scores very much in that judges always found a way to reward those good qualities under the old system, but it may point riders in better directions when they set out to create their own musical rides.

So that's the new deal. Gentlepersons, start your (one horsepower) engines.

Meet the Breeder—Jean Sauer *(continued from Page 3)*



A younger Jean Sauer on one of her original sport horses—Rogues Bay Gambit

However, Jean does not breed for any one discipline. “I am not setting out to breed specifically sport or show horses. I am breeding for athleticism, trainability, versatility, and I want pretty—because I have to look at them everyday. I want a horse with a long shoulder, long hip, short-back. I want a horse built up-hill, and one that will come-up underneath itself and is balanced front and back in how it moves.” And the most important trait of all? Trainability. Jean explains further; “You can overcome a lot of obstacles or shortcomings if they have the desire to please.”

Although not breeding specifically for dressage, the Rogue Hill prefix is no stranger to the sport. With horses such as Rogue Hill’s Galaxy (USDF All-Breeds Champion from First Level through Prix St. Georges and competed through Intermediare-1), Rogue Hill’s Flight Time (competing to Third Level, including All-Breeds Awards at Training through Second Level), Rogue Hill Coachman (1992 Dressage World Champion) and most recently, Rogue’s Hill Woodsman (World Champion at Training and First Level Amateur, and 2010 World Champion Second Level Open), the breeding program has proven itself a producer of competitive dressage horses at all levels.

However, Jean’s horses don’t just turn heads in the dressage court; they also have a special place in their rider’s hearts. To quote Michelle McMillen, in regards to FEI Morgan Rogue Hill’s Galaxy: “My very best dancing partner was a Morgan gelding that I bought as a long weanling and trained through the levels, hitting the top spot in the USDF All-Breed Awards from First Level through Prix St. George.” Catherine Cloud, of Sea Cloud Morgans, reminisces

about World Champion Rogue Hills Coachman: “I was so fortunate to work with this phenomenal horse and have the huge support from his owner that I did to take him to OKC twice. . . ‘Pistol’ was a fabulous horse who loved the show ring and enjoyed every class he ever took on.” Rogue’s Flight Time’s owner, Lelia Irvine has similar praise: “Our family bought our first Morgan in 1966, and of all the Morgans I’ve owned through the years, Flight is and will be the partner of a lifetime. He is the most athletic horse I’ve ever owned, and he is the smartest.”

Although a serious injury in 2001 resulted in a significant herd reduction, Rogue Hills Morgans is still going strong. At this point in time, although the program still focuses a producing good, versatile, trainable Morgan, Jean notes that it has been producing more individuals that show more sport-potential, particularly from Rogue Hills Woodsman. “We still aren’t selecting for anything different, but these horses are fitting the bill for the new interest in dressage and other sport horse events.”



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THE NEW 2011 USEF TESTS *(continued from Page 10)*

halts in any of First Level other than the ones at the beginning and end of each test.

“Remember, anything that you liked from the old tests that’s no longer on the new menu is still worth schooling and keeping in your repertoire.”

—Bill Woods

Second Level doesn’t offer too many shocks. The first test is slightly simplified. Test 2 is made harder by the addition of turns on the haunches and a greater distance between the first simple change and the 10 meter canter circle that’s supposed to set it up. Test 3 has a new counter canter pattern: after the 10 meter circle and simple change, you proceed on the long side to V, make a 20 meter half circle holding the outside lead, and proceed back across the P-H short diagonal to return to the true lead.

No surprises in the new Third-1. Third-2 throws you a curve: FOUR flying changes instead of just two. The additional ones are near the centerline on the short diagonals like the old 4-1 (from which they’ve been inexplicably removed!) *überstreichen* only visits a single test—Third Level 2—and the release is both reins. Third-3’s canter half passes are no longer from the centerline to the track but are now from the corner to X with the flying change between I and G. The progression of the lateral work in the trot through the Third and Fourth Levels is nice and makes

sense. Fourth Level 1 retains the diagonal with the Medium-Collect-Medium trot exercise. I always wish this appeared far earlier—in second level for instance. Then the horses could make a briefer, but more balanced Medium without inexperienced riders letting them cruise through the bit onto the forehead. Why let them develop “ballistic” Mediums in the first place and then suddenly in Fourth level try to cure them of it?

This test later asks for extended and collected walk on a 20 meter circle and counter canter (after the half passes) for 30 meters along the track and around the corner to the middle of the short side with the flying change at C. The very collected canter over the centerline on a 20 meter circle has been moved to the end of the test.

Fourth-2 has working canter pirouettes—still a good idea—now 3 meters in diameter instead of 5 as was in the old test. There are sequential flying changes, but the first time you don’t have to count the strides. The test calls for a diagonal with one change near the first quarter line, one near X, and another near the second quarter line. I have mixed feelings about this. Only in *one* USEF test do you have to be able to count them. That’s in Fourth-3 and you only have one line of three changes every fourth stride. No three tempis at all. I would have liked to see a preparatory exercise in 4-1 requiring a single flying change on the quarter line as you pass S,

maintaining the counter canter down that line till you pass V and then a single flying change back to the true lead.

Fourth-3 does have two other niceties: still only a working half pirouette required but a separate score for the very collected canter which precedes it to emphasize the need for the right kind of preparation. AND a *halt, rein-back, proceed directly to collected canter* which flashes back to an old PSG movement which was retired in 2000.

Change always brings a certain angst, but these new tests shouldn’t try, fry, or crucify you or your horse too much. Remember, anything that you liked from the old tests that’s no longer on the new menu is still worth schooling and keeping in your repertoire. Don’t just “train the tests” but use the new patterns and a variety of older ones as tools in your daily work. *Not on one strand are all life's jewels strung!* [William Morris, 1834-1896]

Bill Woods, an USEF "R", has been a recognized judge for 27 years. He is a former member of the USDF's Test Writing Committee, a former chairman of the USDF's Council of Instructors.



The key to a successful show is correct training, conditioning, practice and...organization! The first three are up to you, but here is a "Show Check List" (courtesy of Karin Weight) to help with the latter—Good luck!

SHOW: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CHECK LIST

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ Entries sent | _____ Hair net, bobby pins | _____ Supplements |
| _____ Stalls reserved | _____ Chairs | _____ Shavings/Bedding |
| _____ Motel reserved | _____ Alarm clock | _____ Tack cleaning supplies |
| _____ Wallet | _____ Ice chest | _____ Grooming supplies |
| _____ Cash/credit/debit cards | _____ Food | _____ Braiding supplies |
| _____ Cell phone & charger | _____ Drinks | _____ Sponges |
| _____ Spare keys | _____ Regular clothes | _____ Towels |
| _____ USDF, USEF, AMHA cards | _____ Insect repellant (human) | _____ Fly spray |
| _____ Premium list/omnibus | _____ Sunscreen | _____ Wheelbarrow |
| _____ Copy of entry forms | _____ Sunglasses | _____ Apple picker |
| _____ Test booklet | _____ Medications | _____ Shovel |
| _____ Brand inspection | _____ Saddles w/stirrups | _____ Grain buckets |
| _____ Health certificate | _____ Girths (2) | _____ Water buckets |
| _____ Registration papers (copy) | _____ Saddle pads (2) + warm-up | _____ Stall sign (laminated) |
| _____ Breeches | _____ Bridles w/reins & bit | _____ Blanket, sheet, cooler |
| _____ Show shirts | _____ Whip | _____ First Aid kits |
| _____ Jacket | _____ Longe line and whip | _____ Bute/Banamine |
| _____ Helmet | _____ Halters | _____ Alcohol |
| _____ Tie | _____ Ropes | _____ Furacin, mineral oil |
| _____ Gloves | _____ Hay | _____ Flash light |
| _____ Spurs | _____ Grain | _____ Knife (sharp!) |
| _____ Boots | _____ Salt | _____ Reading material |
| _____ Boot black | _____ Sugar cubes & treats | |

RIDES

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>Arena</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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(Membership year runs January 1 - December 31)

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c/o Karin Weight
1069 N. Geneva Rd., Provo, UT 84601

Name: _____

Farm name (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Junior Young Rider \$10

Individual \$15

Family \$20

Patron \$100

Please list family members participating in MDA programs and note birthdates of any junior young rider members.

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Is this a **Renewal** _____ or **New Membership** _____?

Please indicate your membership category (check all that apply): Rider _____ Breeder _____

Professional Trainer _____ Enthusiast _____

Please indicate if you are willing to help the organization by donating your time and skills.

(Check all that are of interest):

1. Newsletter _____

2. Membership directory/advertising/sales _____

3. Write educational articles _____

4. Awards coordination _____

5. Breed promotion _____

6. Other (Please specify) _____

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Category (check all that apply): Trainer/instructor _____ Breeder/Stock for sale _____

Other (describe) _____

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If you've already renewed and want your information/listing to be included in the next directory and on the web site now, just send the bottom portion of this form with a check for \$15 and mark: "Already renewed" at the top. Questions? e-mail: members@morgandressage.org.

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Morgan Dressage Association

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