

## TVDCTA 19 April 2016 Meeting Minutes

Members present: Helen Bergquist, Gretchen Sienicki, Natalie Weil, Chris Cochrane, Paulette Lyons, Victoria Tripiano, Monica Yother, Maïke Frye, Marsha Laitinen, Debbie Gilbert, Jane Dougert, Judith Fiorentino, Janice Nixon, Alison Hollenbaugh, Brooks Garrison.

Helen Bergquist called the meeting to order at 6:47 pm.

**Introduction of guest speakers:** Sarah S. Jacobs D.C. and Troy J. Nelson D.V.M & Certified Equine Chiropractor(since 2009)

Discussed by Dr. Nelson & Dr Jacobs were: What is chiropractic medicine? The art & science of the relationship between the spine & the nervous system. What does it treat? Treats the dysfunction caused by "vertebral subluxation complexes" of the spine & joints but not the structural pathology. They reviewed both human & equine anatomy & discussed similarities & differences. Four things that you look for are mobility, alignment, pain/inflammation & stability. They discussed how rider alignment can affect the horse.

Dr. Nelson also discussed how to determine if your horse needs to be adjusted by sharing various before & after videos of some of his "equine" clients. There are certain medical issues that chiropractic cannot fix. If you are looking at having someone work on your horse, make sure they are certified. Two certification website available are: AVCA.org (Certified Animal Chiropractors) & IVCA.DE (United Kingdom)

What are the benefits of Chiropractic? The Competitor's Edge: When both horse & rider are functioning at their highest level, performance is greatly improved. You have improved movement patterns, loosening of tight muscles, tightening of loose muscles (improved contractility & strength), a feeling of ease as both bodies are working together in harmony, increased energy & a sense of well being, decreased joint & connective tissue degeneration (arthritis).

### BUSINESS MEETING:

Paulette Lyons (Treasurer): TVDCTA 19 April 2016 Treasurer's Report

BEGINNING BANK BALANCE AS OF 15 March 2016:           \$2,017.95+

#### PLUS:

Show Profit	\$ 487.35+
Membership	192.23+

#### April SPS Schooling Show/Ride A Test

Show Deposits:	\$1,162.35+
Judge	250.00-
Venue	250.00-
Refunds	90.00-
Porta Pot	85.00-

\$ 675.00-

Show Profit                   \$ 487.35+

LESS:

USDF Dues                   \$ 280.00-

ENDING BALANCE AS OF 19 APRIL 2016   \$2,417.53

**Bylaws Committee:** Gretchen Sienicki reported that the Bylaws committee was working on aligning TVDCTA's SOP guidelines with those of USDF. A rough draft should be forth coming in May for review.

**Library Committee:** Maïke Frye reported on the latest donations/acquisitions of books & 1 DVD (On The Levels). The library now contains 64 books. The latest contributions were made by the following members: Gretchen Sienicki, Alison Hollenbaugh & Kay Sommerkamp. Future library purchases were deferred to Maïke Frye (library stipend) with Natalie Weil offering to review videos/books regarding cross country or eventing topics. It was also requested that all book/video titles be posted on the new website as a "library page" for member viewing. This was a feature available on the old website.

**Newsletter/Website:** Monica Yother uploaded new photos on the website. If you have any show photos that you would like to share, please email them to Monica. Helen Bergquist (President) discussed a "You Tube" link on the TVDCTA website. When you click on it, You Tube selects videos whose filenames and/or tags include "TVDCTA" to offer the viewer. When up[loading your TVDCTA dressage tests to You Tube, put TVDCTA in the name or tag and it will be found when selecting You Tube from the TVDCTA website.

**Meetings & Programs:** Next month Monica Yother will give an update on the new website.

**Membership:** Chris Cochrane reported our current membership is at 59. Five new members were added at the Steel Prize Stables March schooling show.

**Publicity:** Victoria Tripiano - Remember to "Like" TVDCTA on our Facebook webpage. Victoria can track how many clicks per week the website is receiving. So far we have received 389 "likes" over the past few wks. Also, be sure to share this with others in the equestrian community. Let them know that our meetings & shows are not exclusive just to members, but open to everyone. She will also be adding a monthly "schedule of events" & member benefits info section. Another new feature that is being explored is a "Meet the Board Members", a brief bio of our board members, what position they hold & info about their horse(s). Send a short bio & a pick of you & your horse to Victoria. Jane Dougert suggested expanding this to include all members in a "member spotlight" with info on where they board & why they joined TVDCTA.

Victoria will be working with Monica on adding a "scheduled clinics" calendar to the website & providing a link from the website to the Facebook page. A printed TVDCTA schedule is in the works to be distributed to area businesses such as Garvin's, Horsing Around, Tractor Supply. Members are encouraged to distribute flyers to businesses in their local areas.

Victoria suggested the possibility of using a professional photographer @ shows & posting watermarked photos on Facebook. Publicity for the photographer & some great pictures too.

On 2 May, Victoria will meet with WRAL staff to record a Public Service Announcement (PSA) about TVDCTA.

A current member list was sent to "Horsing Around" Tack shop. Members will receive a 10% discount on purchases made there; members must ask to receive the discount. Horsing Around is also requesting input on purchasing popular/requested dressage clothing & tack they currently don't stock.

**Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business to discuss.

**New Business:**

1. Plans for a way to memorialize the passing of member Donna Barnes: did the family have any ideas that resonated with them? Discussed were if Donna had a particular rescue organization that she favored, a memorial class @ future TVDCTA shows, a special award?

Helen Bergquist summarized a list of proposed ideas received to date:

A. A memorial class in Donna's honor @ 2nd Level with proceeds from the class to be donated to a local shelter in her name.

B. A high point award for any registered Arabian (half-Arabian to full Arabian) entered in a TVDCTA show to be awarded at each show and at the end of the year.

C. A year end Pas de Deux award. It was discussed that we actually had very few entries traditionally.

Natalie reported that she would connect with the North Alabama Arabian Society & will suggest to the organization that we are considering a high point award for Arabian participation in our shows.

Victoria and Natalie suggested a one-time donation of \$75.00 in honor of Donna to the Scottsboro Humane Society.

Two motions were voted on and passed: A high point Arab/Half Arab/Anglo Arab award to be designated at each show & at end year awards. A one-time donation of \$75.00 in honor of Donna to the Scottsboro Humane Society. The motion was seconded by Chris Cochrane and passed unanimously.

2. Motion that ribbons for year end awards be awarded up to 10th place, with prizes going only to champion & reserve was raised for Kathy Coviello in absentia by Helen Bergquist. The rationale provided with the motion was "if we have members competing and paying dues this more than pays for the ribbons. It gives incentives for folks to join and compete and volunteer. The return on investment well exceeds any cost." Motion seconded by Chris Cochrane. Chris Cochrane discussed that for young riders that ribbons would encourage more enthusiasm towards participation in our shows.

Discussion opposing the motion was made by Jane Dougert stating that ribbons up to 10<sup>th</sup> place amounted to "participation" ribbons and didn't reward those that worked hard for their scores. This was supported by Gretchen Sienicki. Helen suggested a vote on the issue by a show of hands; 10 were opposed & 4 in favor, therefore the motion was defeated.

**Shows & Clinics:** Natalie Weil is currently working on a venue agreement/SOP entitled "TVDCTA Horse Event Venue Agreement"

A draft was circulated amongst the members for review. The venue agreement defined the following: Responsibility of the show secretary, responsibility of the volunteer coordinator, & responsibilities of the venue. The agreement outlined what new venues and what members can expect. Input from board members & venue owners/managers on what is covered in the agreement was encouraged.

Natalie is also putting a show evaluation form on Google drive. This would provide feedback (constructive criticism/ideas) for future shows. Submission would be limited to members only. Helen suggested giving copies to venue hosts & board members for review. A timeline of 2 wks was given to put together a working copy before the next show in June. Paulette Lyons reported that TVDCTA had a set price for each venue (per previous club discussion) of a 250.00 max cost/venue. It would then be up to the club to vote on the use of the venue. The judge's fee remained negotiable.

No further new business to be discussed.

Motion was made by Judith Fiorentino to adjourn and seconded by Victoria Tripiano.

Respectfully submitted by Marsha Laitinen, TVDCTA Secretary 2016