



Show Season

It's the time of year when everyone gets to go outside and show off all the hard work they put in over the winter. No matter your discipline, bringing horses out into the fresh air is exhilarating and, sometimes, a bit intimidating. We're excited. They're excited. The other partnerships are excited. Sometimes it feels like we mix it all up and forget everything we trained for over the winter.

Don't worry. With a bit more practice you will figure out how to keep your positive focus and enjoy the energy your horse is giving you. A few things that help are to have a plan and try to visualize it succeeding. Focusing on what you can make better and remembering to breathe are also vital.

As many of you have heard, the way I do this on the show grounds is by singing a focusing mantra. It goes, "Line and speed is my job, relaxation is yours" as I visualize all the things I know we can do well together.

PS. I am not a good singer so do not listen too closely!

Calendar

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DS TREC  
Schooling Series

July 2nd

Opens 6/11

Closes 6/24

August 5th

Opens 7/16

Closes 7/29

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Mock Dressage
Show

July 30th

Opens 7/1

Closes 7/23

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Horsemanship  
Camps

are almost full.

Get your spot  
soon!

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This year's T-Shirts
are in stock.

OPENING DAY

The first day a show entry form is allowed to be submitted. Early entries are not generally accepted.

CLOSING DAY

The last day a show entry form is accepted. This can be an in-hand deadline or a post-marked deadline.

DRAW DATE

If the show is full as of the draw date a lottery will be held to see which entries are accepted.

POST ENTRY

An entry that is accepted after the closing date. Post entry fees usually apply.

Barn Notes

TREC Practice Competition

The first TREC competition of the year was held on June 4th and we had a fabulous time! This competition was designed to let the competitors have two practice rounds on the obstacle and control of paces courses to fine tune their skills before the official competition round.

It was great fun to watch the confidence of the competing teams grow as they progressed through the competition phases.

TREC Schooling Series

The TREC Schooling Series will take place on July 2nd and August 5th continuing with the first Sunday theme. There will be mounted and unmounted orienteering options as well as a walk/trot division.

Peanut Update

Peanut is maturing into a handsome chestnut gelding. He went back under saddle, averaging three days a week in work, starting at the beginning of May. He has been introduced to cantering, trotting poles, and going outside. He has had to figure out a bit more about his balance and for each minor challenge he has adjusted in his body quite quickly. Outside he has been very brave.

Peanut and Jill plan to continue with a three day a week schedule for the summer. All the 'new to Peanut' elements have been introduced for this year. His summer training will focus on building strength, stamina, and confidence in these new skills.

After School Programs

This year's After School Programs (ASP) were a great success!

Our partnership with the Hartland Recreation department continued offering four 6 or 8 week sessions open to 9 students in grades 1-5.

The wonderful program is open to all students, whether they live in Hartland or not, and includes a ride from the elementary school to the barn then back to the rec center.

This spring we opened up two Thursday ASP's that worked well with the Waldorf Schools early release day schedule.

We are planning to continue both these programs for the next school year and are considering opening a Wednesday afternoon program. If this is of interest to you, please be in touch.

Mock Dressage Show

We are delighted to host our first ever mock dressage show on July 30. This fun show will allow our students to learn the ropes of what it takes to prepare for, execute, and return from a dressage show while staying at home in their best riding duds.

Each student can ride up to two tests. There will be time set aside for the group to ask questions of the judge and learn from each other. Be sure you read this whole issue to understand the terms used for showing and how to fill out the forms!

2023 T-shirts

The DS Club has put out the t-shirt this year with a pretty little piece of clip that is Jill and Indiana turning through an S-bend



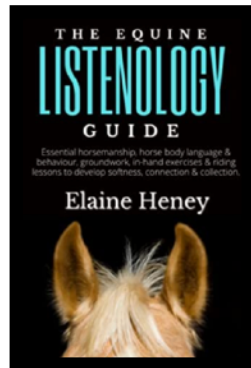
with a smile in the reins. The first order came through in a pretty purple. They have been selling so fast that we will reorder soon. \$20

Whatcha Reading?

By Laurie Hausler

Heney, E. (2021). *The Equine Listenology Guide - Essential Horsemanship, Horse Body Language and Behaviour, Groundwork, In-Hand Exercises and Riding Lessons to Develop Softness, Connection and Collection.*

In my continued quest to develop knowledge about horses in general, I picked up Elaine Heney's book, *The Equine Listenology Guide*. Initially, I felt it was more geared for someone who owned a horse, but I stuck with it as it is an easy read. Through anecdotes, case studies, short practical tips, and exercises, Heney shares her love of horses and her training philosophy.



Chapter topics include building confidence in both horse and rider, liberty work, ground work, and exercises to use your reins less, using your weight and seat more, releasing tension in your body and being more aware of your breathing. Her suggested exercises are short and accessible.

Heney expands on her love of horses and her training philosophy in a 7-part film entitled *Listening to the Horse*. You can watch it on YouTube ([Part 1 here](#)).

Overall, another interesting read that provides insight into horse behavior and strategies for riders to utilize to support their own development in concert with developing a better relationship with their horse.

Laurie Hausler is a serious student of riding and the secretary of the DS Club.

Monthly Challenge - Immobility

Purpose - To be able to place your horse so that you can move off to do something without them.

Set-up - To start find an enclosed quiet location without distractions like a round pen or indoor arena.

Ideal - The horse stands still while you move off.

Training Tip - Start by holding the lead directly in front of your horse while you are facing them. In front of their nose put up a hand signal like you would to let your dog know to stay and say whoa. Back up a step or two. If they stay put while you move away, reward them. If they move, gently place them back into position and try again. Work to increase the distance and distractions over time. Be patient. Reward often.

TREC - In the sport of TREC this is a timed obstacle. Two concentric circles are marked. The rider has 10 seconds to position the horse in the inner circle, and step outside of the outer circle. For maximum points, the horse stands quietly in the inner circle without rider intervention for 10 seconds. If the horse moves or the rider interferes the time is stopped and the score reflects the time up to the change.



The Peanut Gallery

“How do you fill in this entry form?”

The first few times filling out an entry form can be a bit confusing. Before you start, be sure to be familiar with the rules of the sport.

Once you have an understanding of the purpose of the sport you will need to read the omnibus pages or the prize list for the show you are entering. A good prize list will tell you 1) when you can enter, 2) the divisions being offered, 3) the fees, 4) the format of the show, 5) the accommodations at the show, and 6) the show specific inclusions and exclusions.

Once you have read this information you are ready to start filling out the entry form. All competitions will need the competitors information including contact information, age group, and emergency contact person. The horses' information will include their age, gender, color, breed, official name, and owner. You will have to provide proof of current vaccinations and COGGINs testing with either a photocopy or an upload of the original. There will also be a place for the owner to sign the entry.

When you enter a show, your entry is specific to this horse and rider. You may not substitute either without permission of the show management.

At some competitions you may ride more than one horse. These competitions include dressage shows, horse trails, and jumping shows. This does not include TREC competitions.

Part of the entry form will be about the division you would like to be in (e.i. open, junior, senior), the classes or levels you are entering, and the associated fees. Often there are other fees like office, grounds, incomplete entry, and post entry which you learned about in the prize list.

There will be a release of liability section that

may be very long. You will need to agree that any issues to arise during the show are your complete responsibility. If you are under 18, a legal guardian will be required to sign. The horse owner will also need to sign here.

If you are under 18 there are different considerations. An adult will need to be on the grounds that is able to act as your legal guardian. Depending on the competition the divisions that can be entered may be limited. In most disciplines there is a minimum age requirement to ride a stallion although many smaller shows do not allow stallions to enter. Be sure that your guardian is also familiar with the rules and regulations as most competitions disqualify competitors that receive unauthorized assistance and it is always so sad when this happens by mistake.

Once all the information is filled out, this form, proof of the current horse records required, and payment in full will need to be sent in by the date specified to complete your entry.

Happy Showing!

Test your knowledge - True or False

- 1) Peanut is having the summer off.
- 2) Opening day is the first day of the show.
- 3) The first Mock Dressage Show takes place this summer.
- 4) Entries are signed by the horse owner only.
- 5) Most people are nervous when showing.
- 6) Kids can enter all the same classes and shows that adults can enter.
- 7) The TREC series has two competitions this year.
- 8) This year's t-shirts have Indiana on them.

All these answers can be found in this newsletter. Enjoy!